



Return flight: the view over the oak-dissected loess hills and Loup River just north of Palmer, Nebraska.



Rally Workshop Presenters
Bill Whitney (left) and Kelly Kindscher

**Prairie Plains
represented at
Land Trust Alliance
Rally 2009**

The conference took place in Portland, Oregon, October 11-14, with over 1,800 people representing hundreds of land trusts across the United States and Canada. The Land Trust Alliance was created in 1982 for the purpose of sharing policy, information and training - thereby strengthening the work of land trusts everywhere.



October, 2009

Prairie Plains executive director Bill Whitney and Kelly Kindscher, board member of both Prairie Plains and the Kansas Land Trust, presented a two-hour workshop entitled "Land Stewardship and Ecological Restoration." Bill and Jan Whitney also led a workshop entitled "Connecting People to Land through Educational Programming." Written supplements provided to workshop participants can be found on our website, prairieplains.org, under "Restoration" and "SOAR and Other Education."

SAVE THE DATE:
Prairie Plains Resource Institute
30th Anniversary Celebration Kickoff & Fundraiser
Saturday, January 23rd, 2010
UNL East Campus Union - University of Nebraska-Lincoln
5:00-9:00 p.m.
Featuring **Joel Sartore** sharing slides and stories from his 20+ years as a photographer.
Official invitations will be mailed out in December, but mark your calendar today and plan to join us for a fun, festive evening celebrating 30 years of Prairie Plains.



Service Learning Day

Service learning is an education strategy that integrates community service with instruction. Lindsay Vivian, educator, conservation education volunteer, and University of Nebraska-Kearney graduate student, suggested that we try a service learning project involving students in seed harvesting. So on a damp and foggy morning, October 20th, we met with Aurora teacher Amy Wilson's students at the Marie Ratzlaff Prairie Preserve and had a great time collecting leadplant seed heads. The students learned a few things about prairie and prairie restoration, and sharpened their plant identification skills, having to distinguish leadplant colonies from all the other surrounding vegetation. As for Prairie Plains, we gained a few more gallons of seed for next year's restoration projects - and maybe even some future interns!



Above - Aurora teacher Amy Wilson, also on our SOAR staff, involves her students in outdoor learning as much as possible throughout the school year. Below - Service learning enthusiast Lindsay Vivian, pleased with the day.



Top - A few of our harvesters take a break for this service learning poster shot. Next - Three demonstrate how it's done, using scissors to snip just below the seed heads.



While service learning lasted part of a morning, the Prairie Plains crew, including Amy Jones, has been occupied for months harvesting in prairie remnants - including road ditches - throughout central and eastern Nebraska.



Approaching Event:

Bader Park Walking Tour
Saturday, Nov. 7
9:00 a.m.

(Re-scheduled from Oct. 17)

PrairiePlainsLink
 is a publication of



-An educational land trust incorporated in 1980 as a non-profit, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt membership organization based in Aurora, NE.

MISSION:
Maintaining and restoring
Nebraska ecosystems -
Creating opportunities for
education, research,
stewardship and
community development.

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