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Terry Gompert

It saddens me to inform you that Terry Gompert, a long-time friend of the South Dakota Grassland Coalition, passed away on March 25th. Terry was the extension educator in Knox County, Nebraska as well as a certified educator in Holistic Management. He was involved in numerous workshops and seminars hosted by the SD Grassland Coalition including bus tours, grazing schools, pasture walks, and bird tours. With Terry's passing, we lost a true friend and mentor. He will be missed. (Please see Terry's obituary on the next page)



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For more information or other events the **SOUTH DAKOTA GRASSLAND COALITION** is involved with, please contact Kyle Schell or visit the website: <http://www.sdgrass.org>

Terry's Obituary:

Terry Lee Gompert was born October 29, 1944, to Bernard and Dorothy (Kautz) Gompert in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. On August 2, 1970 he married Constance Johnson in Newman Grove, Nebraska. Four children were born to them: Saul, Kate, Jenny and Julie.

Terry graduated from Colorado State University and received his Master's Degree from UNL in Lincoln, NE. He served with the International Voluntary Service in Laos from 1966 to 1968. He was involved in Extension Service in Colorado. They raised hogs for seven years near Mitchell, NE. Terry continued his Extension Service in Logan and McPherson Counties in Nebraska, and was involved with Knox County Extension since 1983.

Terry hosted small group bible studies for adults and youth in his home and attended Plum Valley Bible Church in Center, NE.

He was involved in holistic management training and enjoyed working with his herd of cattle.

Terry died Friday, March 25, 2011 at Faith Regional Health Services in Norfolk, NE at the age of 66.

He is survived by his wife, Connie Gompert, his children, Saul and Jenn Gompert of Center, NE, Kate and John McNutt of Silver City, IA, Jenny and Kevin Harrold of Hamilton, MT, and Julie Gompert of Lincoln, NE; 14 grandchildren, Peter, Elizabeth, Charles, Luke, and expecting #14 grandbaby Gompert; Joshua and Andrew McNutt; Noah, Constance, Lily, Joseph and Suzanna Harrold; and Nathan and David Gizaw; brothers, Kurt and Sandy Gompert of Mitchell, NE, Henry and Sue Gompert of Morrill, NE; mother, Dorothy Gompert of Mitchell, NE; and his mother-in-law, Lorraine Johnson of Newman Grove, NE.

He was preceded in death by his father, Bernard Gompert; and his father-in-law, Harlan Johnson.

Family requests memorials to Nebraska Sustainable Ag and Insight for Living (Chuck Swindoll Ministry).

Birds. At Home, On the Range.

The fifth annual "Birds. At Home on the Range" bird watching tour will be held on June 17-18 at Jim Headley's ranch near White Lake, SD. While on the tour, participants will watch and record bird species, listen to presentations from land owners and conservation experts, and learn how management practices are benefiting both birds and livestock. Some of the speakers we have scheduled this year include: Dave Steffen, retired NRCS range specialist; Jim Faulstich, vice chairman of SDGC; Dale Paulson, SDGC Board; Jim Headley, Ranch Owner; Collette Kessler, NRCS Public Affairs Specialist; Nancy Drilling, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory; Silka Kempema, SD Game Fish & Parks; Eileen Doud Strukel, SD Game Fish & Parks; Gary Morrone, Retired SD Game Fish & Parks, Dave Ode, SD Game Fish and Parks and Chris Bailey, Photographer. The cost to attend this tour is \$20 per person or \$35 per couple if accompanied by a student. Students, high school age and under, are free. This fee will include materials, shuttle, and meals. This tour will be a unique opportunity to tour the mixed grass prairie of the southern part of the Missouri Coteau, home to numerous species of birds. For more information, or to obtain a brochure, please contact Judge Jessop at 605-280-0127 or jljessop@kennebectelephone.com.



Participants from last year's bird tour

Prescribed Fire Training for Landowners

The Prairie Coteau Habitat Partnership (PCHP) has scheduled a Landowner Fire Training Workshop on April 30th for those interested in using fire as a tool for pasture and CRP management. The workshop begins at 9:00 am with check-in at 8:45 am at the Watertown Event Center. The workshop will include presentations from prescribed fire professionals covering topics including: prescribed fire benefits, burn plans, fire behavior, South Dakota fire laws, and fire equipment. Live fire and hands-on equipment demonstrations will be held afterward at Long Lake Game Production Area, west of Watertown. Please wear leather boots gloves as well as eye protection. No polyester please! Rain date is scheduled for May 4th.

*Landowners interested in applying for 2012 fire assistance should contact Cody Grewing at 605-874-8517 or e-mail cgrewing@tnc.org to request applications by June 1. Applications due August 1st.

Gamma Sigma Delta Honorees

Recently, Jim Faulstich, Vice-chairman for the SDGC, and Kyle Schell, coordinator for the SDGC, were honored at the Gamma Sigma Delta banquet at South Dakota State University. Jim was recognized for Distinguished Alumnus, graduating from SDSU in 1972 with a bachelors of science degree in general agriculture. Kyle was initiated into the organization for excellent grades while working on his graduate degree.

Gamma Sigma Delta is the Honor Society for Agriculture. Its mission is the advancement of agriculture in all of its phases, the maintenance and improvement of the relations of agriculture and related sciences to other industries, and the recognition of the responsibilities of those engaged in all aspects of agriculture to human kind. The society encourages high standards of scholarship and worthy achievements in all branches of agriculture and related sciences as well as a high degree of excellence in the

practice of agriculture pursuits. The mission statement for Gamma Sigma Delta is “The binding together of earth, the mother of all, and the practicing of agriculture, and the arts of relating thereto for the welfare of mankind.”



Jim Faulstich and Kyle Schell being recognized at Gamma Sigma Delta banquet (pictured left to right: Clint Rusk, Animal Science Dept. Head; Kyle Schell; Jim Faulstich; Carol Faulstich; Barry Dunn, Dean of College of Ag & Bio Science)

SRM MEETING - BILLINGS, MT

In last month's article about the 64th Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management was held in Billings, MT in February, I neglected to mention one additional poster presentation.

- **Eric Boyda** (Sioux Falls, SD - graduate student under Dr. Lan Xu and Dr. Jack Butler, US Forest Service) “Analyzing the effect of slope aspect and phenology on biomass production in western South Dakota grasslands using MODIS NDVI”.

Again, Congratulations to SDSU Range Club for their accomplishments at the SRM Meeting.



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Calendar of events:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
State Technical Meeting	April 26	Huron, SD	Jim Faulstich	605-852-2622
Prescribed Fire Training	April 30	Watertown, SD	Cody Grewing	605-874-8517
SD Youth Range Camp	June 6-8	Sturgis, SD	Derek Oliver	605-967-2561
Outdoor Expo.	June 11-12	Huron, SD		
SDGC Bird Tour	June 17-18	White Lake, SD	Judge Jessop	605-280-0127
State Technical Meeting	June 28	Ft. Pierre, SD	Jim Faulstich	605-852-2622
Doud's Ranch Tour	July 29	Midland, SD	Judge Jessop	605-280-0127
America's Grassland Con.	Aug 15-17	Sioux Falls, SD	Kyle Schell	605-688-6623
State Technical Meeting	Aug 30	Pierre, SD	Jim Faulstich	605-852-2622
SD Grazing School	Sep 12-16	Chamberlain, SD	Kyle Schell	605-688-6623
State Technical Meeting	Nov 13	Huron, SD	Jim Faulstich	605-852-2622

Please remit any comments, suggestions, or topics deemed necessary for further review to: Kyle Schell, SDSU Box 2170, Brookings SD 57007, kyle.schell@sdstate.edu, (605) 688-6623