

Communication for Science Activists



Kansas Citizens For Science

www.kcfs.org

Facebook

Involvement

- News carried story about creationist threat.
- Testified at next BOE meeting.
- Met others who were becoming activists.
- My concern was separation of church and state (and still is).

Birth of KCFS

- 70+ activists met at KU to form an organization.
- Eventually, a core group formed KCFS.
- KCFS became a 501(c)3 with Bylaws.
- Monthly meetings in Topeka, the first Sunday after the first Wednesday (after the BOE meeting)

KCFS Early Activities

- National science activists' meeting
- Activists from seven states
- Genie Scott, Rob Pennock, others
- No tangible products of that meeting, but meeting other activists face-to-face was important.
- KCFS has been helped by New Mexicans for Science and Reason, for example.

KCFS Purpose Statement

- Kansas Citizens For Science is a not-for-profit educational organization that promotes a better understanding of what science is, and does, by:
 - Advocating for science education
 - Educating the public about the nature and value of science
 - Serving as an information resource

KCFS Activities

- Testifying at monthly BOE meetings
- Staging events
- Darwin's Birthday parties at KU and in KC
- Scopes Week – Events in 5 Kansas towns around 75th anniversary of Scopes Trial. Flyers, news releases, volunteers.
- Evolution 101 class by KCFS Pres. Jack Krebs

KCFS Activities (cont'd.)

- Coalitions and volunteers are important.
- Scopes Week sponsors included KCFS, Mainstream Coalition, and Kansas humanist groups.
- Volunteers in each Scopes Week town distributed flyers, appeared on radio, gave news interviews and organized appearances.

KCFS PR

- As media/PR person for KCFS:
- Gathered list of media contacts
- Wrote a weekly, then monthly, email newsletter distributed to news outlets and others interested
- Had an article in NCSE Reports
- The first Darwin Day book included an article by me.

KCFS Today

- Sponsoring Science Cafes in several Kansas towns – Well attended
- Facebook: We post Sci Café and other events on our FB page, as well as interesting articles on science and/or education.
- Staying in touch with BOE members and knowing what's going on at BOE meetings

KCFS Today (cont'd.)

- KATS Kamp: Kansas Association of Teachers of Science. We do presentations there.
- KATS Kamp: Also award scholarships to teachers and their mentors to attend.
- We continue to meet, now every other month. We stay in touch via a listserve in between.

Questions?

- How to
 - Why to
 - When to
 - ??
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- Thank you.
 - Liz Craig, liz@lizcraigwriter.com

KCFS



**Kansas
Citizens For
Science**