



Lower Platte River  
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE

LEAD. ORGANIZE. INSPIRE.  
The voice of the Lower Platte.

## Acknowledgements:

We would like to recognize and express our gratitude to the following individuals and organizations with whom this event would not have been possible:

### Our Steering Committee Members:

Dave Sands, Nebraska Land Trust

Rachael Herpel, Rural Futures Institute/NE Water Center/DWFI

Matt Pillard, HDR

Jessica Shoemaker, UNL College of Law

The Plattsmouth Main Street Association

The Plattsmouth State Bank

The Cass County Historical Society Museum

The Nebraska Environmental Trust & The Nebraska Academy of Sciences

The Kennedy Family

Great Plains EcoTourism Coalition

Nebraska Invasive Species Program

The Rural Futures Institute

Daugherty Water for Food Institute(DWFI)

The Nebraska Water Center

Nebraska Water Leaders Academy

LPRCA Members



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**Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance**

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## 2014 Lower Platte River Summit

Thursday, November 6th, 2014  
Camp Carol Joy Holling, Ashland, NE

### “Urban Growth-Rural Resiliency”

Thank you  
for joining us  
for today's  
events!



### Schedule of Events

- 8:30 am -- Registration  
Refreshments will be available.
- 9:00 am -- Welcome, Meghan Sittler, LPRCA Coordinator  
Keynote Address: **“Hope: The Critical Factor for Rural Communities”**  
Chuck Schroeder, Executive Director, Rural Futures Institute
- 10:00 am -- Break
- 10:00 am -- Facilitated panel discussion  
-followed by breakout session for “Plainsopoly”
- 12:30 pm -- Lunch
- 1:15 pm -- Bus tour of the Kennedy Farm and Historic Plattsmouth, NE.
- 4:45 pm -- Refreshments and final statements.  
-Light hors d’oeuvres and time to socialize
- 5:30 pm -- Event Concludes



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Presentation title:  
***“Hope: the Critical Factor for Rural  
Communities”***

**Keynote Speaker:  
Chuck Schroeder**



Charles P. “Chuck” Schroeder is a native of western Nebraska ranch country and recently was named founding executive director of the University of Nebraska Rural Futures Institute. Prior to joining the RFI, Schroeder served as president and executive director of the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Schroeder has held other leadership positions in the public, private and non-profit sectors, including serving as founding CEO of the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association; executive vice president and director of development at the University of Nebraska Foundation; and director of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

Schroeder was with the Schroeder Cattle Company for about 30 years, the last 10 as owner and president. Chuck is a graduate of the University of Nebraska with a degree in Animal Science.

Schroeder has served on many boards of business and civic organizations and has also held numerous volunteer leadership positions in various organizations.

Schroeder is an active team roper, and his interests span American Quarter Horses, art, rodeo, political history and livestock genetics. Chuck and his wife, Kathi, have one daughter, Lindsay Hastings, who is a faculty member at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and are also proud grandparents of two wonderful granddaughters.



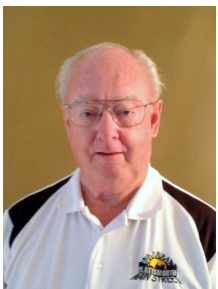
## Special Mention



Jessica Shoemaker is an Assistant Professor at the University of Nebraska College of Law. Her research and teaching interests include rural land tenure and land use (including especially Native American land tenure issues), community economic development, federal Indian law, and renewable energy development and policy. Prior to joining the Nebraska law faculty, Professor Shoemaker clerked for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit; earned a prestigious Skadden Fellowship to work for Farmers' Legal Action Group, Inc. on behalf of family farmers and rural communities throughout the country; and practiced law at a private firm representing Indian tribes, energy developers, entrepreneurs, and others. She grew up in Iowa and has also worked as a rural social worker and community organizer in both Wisconsin and Wyoming



Born and raised in Lincoln, Neb., Dave Sands' experience in conservation dates to 1983, when he was appointed by Governor Kerrey to serve on the Nebraska Environmental Quality Council, the first of several appointments by every succeeding governor since then. In 1997, Sands traded a 20-year career in business for a new one in conservation by becoming the first executive director of Audubon Nebraska, where he worked with Kathie O'Brien to preserve her ranch near Lincoln, now known as Spring Creek Prairie. In 2003, Sands accepted an opportunity to work with conservation-minded landowners full time by becoming the first executive director of the Nebraska Land Trust.



Charles Jones is the Executive Director of the not for profit Plattsmouth Main Street Association. This member organization's mission is to Protect, Promote, and Preserve the Plattsmouth downtown Historic District and assist downtown economic growth for the benefit of the entire community. Charles was an incorporating member 15 years ago and has been the director for the past four years. Over forty active volunteers assist the Board of Directors with the annual work plan.



Harlan Seyfer has been historian for the Plattsmouth Historic District since 2010. The District has 45 structures on the National Historic Register within a three-block area. A retired aerospace engineer, he works out of the former city jail in the Plattsmouth City Hall. Plattsmouth is located at the mouth of the Platte River, thus its name. In addition to local history (whatever that means), Harlan's history interests include the Platte-Missouri confluence region and the Trans-Mississippi West before Lewis & Clark.



# Meet the Discussion Panel



Mr. Yoder is the Sustainability Lead for UNO's College of Business Administration and Director of the Pollution Prevention Regional Information Center, P2RIC, one of the eight centers which comprise the USEPA-funded national information network known as the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange, P2Rx. His current focus with P2Rx is on the links between prevention, sustainability, and business strategy.

Yoder is a registered mechanical engineer specializing in HVAC, indoor air quality, energy efficiency, and water conservation, who has been working on energy efficiency and building systems since the mid-1980's. Yoder focuses on sustainable building operations and teaches an instructor-led version of the International Facility Managers Association (IFMA) Sustainability Facilities Professional (SFP) course.

Yoder serves on the Cass County Stewardship Committee, is on the board of Keep Cass County Beautiful, is a former Conestoga School Board member, and has lived in Cass County since 1992.

Rick enjoys bicycle touring and roadside oddities. He co-authored the book, "Nebraska Curiosities: Quirky Characters, Roadside Oddities, and Other Offbeat Stuff."

Willow Holoubek serves as the Executive Director for the Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska (A-FAN). Willow serves as a resource for farmers and ranchers who wish to expand or move their livestock operations in Nebraska. She provides information concerning economic impact, county and zoning regulations and how to build and maintain neighbor and community support. Willow also works with A-FAN's various agricultural commodities, Nebraska agriculture promotion and education projects and speaks at numerous engagements throughout the state, telling agriculture's story.



Born and raised on a cattle ranch in the sandhills of western Nebraska, Willow has deep roots in agriculture. Her appreciation for livestock was handed down to her from her grandfather, who taught her the importance of stockmanship, which is defined as caring for animals, while regarding the land as the lifeblood for generations. Taking those teachings with her to college, Willow earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Nebraska and is a past graduate of the Nebraska Leadership Education/Action Development (LEAD) Program (Class XXVI). Willow and her family currently reside near David City, where they operate a grain and livestock farm. They raise purebred Angus cattle, corn, soybeans and dairy quality alfalfa.



Kimberly Shafer is a Landscape Architect/ Planner and currently the National Park Service - Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program Director for Nebraska and Missouri. Kimberly assists communities and organizations working to protect rivers, develop non-motorized trails, conserve open space, and preserve our natural and cultural heritage. Ms. Shafer has also worked with the National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Program at national parks throughout the Midwest region and served as the project manager for the America's Great Outdoors

Delta Heritage Trail project in SE Arkansas. Kimberly received a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Iowa and a Master in Landscape Architecture from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design.



# Meet the Discussion Panel

Andrew Hubbell serves as the Development Operations Manager for Hubbell Realty Company's Land Development department. He plays a role in the design process of new projects, facilitates local government approval for these projects, and manages the construction process from grading through punch-list completion. Andrew has extensive knowledge of installing horizontal infrastructure in single- and multi-family developments, and he has experience in several areas of construction, including grading, storm sewer, sanitary and water mains, roads and providing access for franchise utilities. In his position, Andrew also works extensively in the design and implementation of environmentally low-impact Conservation Communities.



Alan Kolok is the Isaacson Professor of Research and the Director of the Nebraska Watershed Network, College of Arts and Sciences, UNO. He received his M.S. from the University of Washington, Seattle, and his Ph.D. From the University of Colorado, Boulder.

His research interests are varied but focus on environmental toxicology, with particular focus on trace organic water pollutants.

Dr. Kolok has collaborated with members of IS&T to merge information science with the latest developments within analytical chemistry. Recent research interests focus on equipping local communities with inexpensive, rapid detection tools to establish a role for the non-scientific community in environmental stewardship.

John Knapp is the former Sarpy County Farm Bureau President and he knows farming; after all, it's been his way of life for the majority of his lifetime. His hometown of Springfield is a rural community about ten miles southwest of Omaha. In recent years, John has played a key role in issues that the Sarpy County Farm Bureau has dealt with concerning the Learning Community and the property taxes attached to it.

Although John grew up on the farm and is farming full-time now, he hasn't always been. When John returned home from college, where he studied zoology with minors in math and chemistry, he and his dad knew there wasn't enough farm to support both of them. John took a job with the State of Nebraska for eight years and with the State of Oregon for four years before coming home again to help his father.

Today, John's farming operation consists of a small corn, soybean and alfalfa rotation. Like many farmers and ranchers, he often works side-by-side with family members to complete larger tasks during harvest and planting seasons.\*

\*This biography is an excerpt from the Nebraska Farm Bureau: Farm Meets Fork October 4, 2012 blog entry "Get to know your Nebraska Farmer: John Knapp"



## An Introduction to “PLAINSOPOLY”



During the Summit, all participants will have the opportunity to play a unique interactive land use planning game called Plainsopoly. Although experienced as a board game, Plainsopoly is really a carefully designed land use simulation tool. One of the goals of the game is to improve the way participants engage with, and understand, some of complex land and resource management issues arising across the Great Plains. Plainsopoly asks participants to respond to a series of real-life land use and land management questions set in a hypothetical landscape, and then hopefully to extend that thinking and dialogue in the future to better discussions about the desired future of the Great Plains, and the Lower Platte River Corridor specifically. Plainsopoly is fun, thought provoking, and entirely non-competitive. Comments and questions are welcome anytime and may be directed to:  
Professor Jessica Shoemaker  
([jshoemaker@unl.edu](mailto:jshoemaker@unl.edu)).

