



Henry Way, right, a graduate student at KU, is learning about Kansas by traveling with lawmakers to their homes. Way recently traveled to Wilson County with Rep. Forrest Knox and included a tour of the Citizen back shop on his visit. Citizen photo

First-hand knowledge helps Way in study of geography

When you're studying geography in a country other than your native country, books aren't the best way to learn about a new place. Especially about a country that is enormous in terms of what you're used to.

That is what Henry Way, now a graduate student at the University of Kansas, is discovering. When it comes to the geography of the United States, it's most effective to study it first hand.

Way came to the United States two years ago, and he is spending time examining the widely varies geographic details of the area. He was already familiar with the geography of his homeland, having studied the details of his home in Bristol, England. But while England is certainly interesting, when it comes to geography, Way decided that the United States had an interesting variety of geographical locations.

And so he traveled to this country on a trek to bring geography to life in a way the classroom never could. He's been studying it ever since. Right now he is involved with seeing and learning the formations that make up Kansas. He has been studying the state from corner to corner. And he chose a most efficient method of doing so.

Way has been making appointments with the state's elected representatives and spending time with them, hoping to get to every district in the state. This past weekend, he visited with Rep. Forrest Knox, and got to know his district, which includes Wilson County.

Way commented that southeast Kansas reminded him a good deal of his home in Bristol, the terrain being similar. But life in southeast Kansas is significantly different from his home, and he enjoyed getting to meet some Kansas natives, learn about their ways of life and thus add excitement to his studies. He was happy to be greeted so warmly by southeast Kansans, and said he hoped to make a return trip, sometime during his studies at KU.

If he spends enough time here, Way may change a great deal. He might even turn into... gulp!...a KU Jayhawk!

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