



A Voice for The Natural
Landscaping Movement

Journal

Inspired

As each of the contributors to this issue knows, if we did not have access to a stimulating landscape at our doorsteps, we might never be inspired to traverse some of the more genial horizons of our own mental terrain to discover clever musings, premium insights and original inventions which are later rendered as essays, art and engineered devices for learning, work and play. As a society, we derive benefits from these imaginative explorations, such as the pleasure and insight we find in an illustration by Babette Kis, member of Wild Ones' Milwaukee-North Chapter, who has shared with us a vision of her world.



The land inspires artists, writers and engineers

Mary Lee Croatt Milwaukee-North Chapter

An Aug. 16, 2000, email to friends:

It is August on the prairie. And the war on weeds continues. For those friends and family who think we just sit and stare at the flowers, here is an update.

Some of our friends jokingly talk about our prairie as our "fields of weeds." They don't "get it" that there is a huge difference between a weed and a native plant. A weed is an introduced species of plant brought in from a foreign land. Because it is exotic, it has no controls to stop it from spreading.

On our 80 acres of land we have a prairie remnant of approximately 15 acres. It is like a virgin piece of land that has never been tilled for agriculture and possibly not even grazed by animals. I consider it an ecological gem, an antique in the true sense. It has no weeds, except the woody shrubs of Sumac (*Rhus spp.*) or Prickly Ash (*Xanthoxylum americanum*) nearby that want to march in to cover it and ultimately create a forest.

Elsewhere soil has been disturbed for agriculture or development. There weeds inhabit some of that area. So why is a weed so bad? It is bad when it becomes too aggressive and overwhelms and takes over our native plants. For us land restorationists it is not a question to weed or not to weed. It is a question of what to weed, when to weed, and how to weed. We burn. We slash. We uproot. We resort to poison. We time our attacks. We think we conquer ... until we look again.

If one has any tendency to be compulsive, like I am, weeds can make me crazy. Some calm self talk, instead of muttering and cursing helps. I remind myself of the good in weeds. Weeds

actually can be nature's band-aids. Where there is soil disturbance weeds erupt to hold down the Earth against erosion. Where some of our native plants have become endangered or extinct, some weeds may become host and nectar sources for insects, butterflies and moths, important creatures in our web of life.

With mega gardening this is a daunting task. I resort to prioritizing

rooting. After six years of work, we have decimated this aggressive weed to a fraction. We wear long sleeves, long pants and gloves as we work with it. It is always a hot and sweaty job. Its sap can get on your skin causing photosensitivity. These areas then blister and form dark skin spots which can last for a year. It is not always safe out there on the prairie!

White and Yellow Sweetclover

"For what do we have, but to make sport for our neighbours, and laugh at them in our turn?"

—Jane Austen,
1775-1817



according to nastiness. Timing is of the essence. That is why I declare the weed of the week. For most, attacking the plant when it is in flower, right before it goes to seed, is the best time.

Nasty number one for me is Crown Vetch (*Coronilla varia*). I wage a war on vetch. The very name makes my blood curdle. It brings out the nastiness in me. It is the only weed I have had to resort to with poison, using Roundup (glyphosate) when the plant is in flower. I am trying new approaches as the old perimeter becomes a new cancer colony in next year's vetch patch. I now intend to sow Annual Rye Grass (*Lolium multiflorum*) seed to the bare soil to prevent other weed infestation after my deadly deed is done.

Wild Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) has responded well to our efforts of up-

(*Melilotus alba*, *M. officinalis*) are other weeds I watch for and pull when in flower, before they go to seed. Their seeds are known to live for 40 years!

Burdock (*Arctium spp.*) also has responded to our interventions of cutting its root when in flower, before it goes to seed. We pile these and the previously named ones on a brushpile to dry and be burned.

Some of our native good plants can be aggressive and take over. Like a naughty child that needs some discipline, we will give them a whack when needed. Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*) is such a creature. When in flower we may mow stands of it to cut it back and allow other plants to get a chance.

As I write, this week's weed will be thistle (*Cirsium spp.*). Nasty! Thistle implanted a very fine thorn which ulti-

"If we are to create lands and ultimately regions woven together by interconnected, sustainable systems, it cannot be done all at once. Rather, it will be implemented in increments, by a diversity of people, in a diversity of places, learning from small mistakes, and making small progresses."

—James M. Patchett (Conservation Design Forum, Inc.) and Gerould S. Wilhelm Ph.D., research field taxonomist

Fear of Fecundity

Chris was moved to write this poem after attending a natural landscaping conference at which keynote speaker Lorraine Johnson used the phrase "fear of fecundity." Lorraine, who serves on our national board, certainly can demonstrate either meaning of fecundity—"prolific vegetation" or "intellectually productive or inventive to a marked degree."

*They're so afraid—
of plants that are grown too tall,
too green, a bit too wide.
The clippers, chainsaw, mower come out,
making short work of the innocent offenders.
It's not a fair fight.
The dust and fumes clear,
the plants looking stunted and sad,
in their proper place again.
No threat to anyone.
What a relief!*

*What is this preoccupation,
this bias against nature's lushness?
Is it so dangerous, so threatening?
Can we not enjoy the myriad green shades
of untouched prairie or woodland
rather than yet another (yawn) lawn:
where nothing of interest
or substance grows?*

—Christine L. Abresch
Menomonee River Area Chapter



*"Man is the animal
that has made friends
with the fire."
—Henry Van Dyke
1852-1933*

mately became a nodule in my hand. That nodule now inhibits one finger's range of motion. I tell you, it is a dangerous world out there!

We are still trying to figure out how to inhibit and destroy Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*). It forms a thick mat of tall vegetation that smothers other natives. We have transplanted Cupplant (*Silphium perfoliatum*) from volunteers from our urban yard. The Sylphiums seem to compete well with this alien grass.

Thank God, we do not have Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum virgatum*, *L. salicaria*) or Spotted Knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*)!

I don't even bother with Stinging Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), Queen Anne's Lace (*Daucus carota*), Chickory (*Chicorium intybus*) or Creeping Charlie

(*Glechoma hederacea*). Even I know when I'm beat! All I really know is that weeding is not for wimps!

A Nov. 8, 2000, followup email:

After writing about my "weed rage," the response I received from my friends was amazing to me. My roommate from college clearly questioned my sanity. "Is work all that you do? And why?" I reiterated my passion for the Earth and my aim in preserving wild spaces for future generations.

Even though it is hard work, we do love it. We stop to take in the scenery, which is incredible. We have a 220-foot-steep wooded ridge, a flat valley with a river running through it (a premiere trout stream), a small oxbow pond, a very small vernal pond, two feeder streams and a peninsula-shaped bluff with woods, prairie and

savanna. The spring ephemerals in the forested land make you think you have died and gone to heaven. It is located in western Wisconsin, 25 miles from the Mississippi River and La Crosse as the crow flies.

We do other things, like brush cutting, burns and seed collecting. We participate in the Coulee region chapter of the Prairie Enthusiasts, a group which saves and maintains prairies. We work together on land restoration. This week we will help on a burn in the Kickapoo Reserve and later brush burn on another member's land. We also have interesting neighbors: Amish, artists, and the locals, many of Norwegian descent.

There are a lot of interesting activities always going on out there. For instance, Norskedalen is a nearby cul-

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*"Almost always the creative, dedicated minority has made the world better."
—Martin Luther King Jr., 1929-1968*

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tural and outdoor museum. Also, there is an international ski jumping competition in February five miles from us.

I love being outdoors in the wilderness. It restores my soul and makes my heart sing. Yes, there is really fresh air! We have the fun of watching wildlife: a pair of Great Blue Herons, the Kingfishers, Tree Swallows that stealthily patrol the river, hawks circling and catching their prey, a visiting eagle, an occasional Osprey, deer, Wild Turkeys, beavers, otters, bats. The stars are really bright. The fireflies and dragonflies are awesome. We don't have mosquitoes. Amazing!

I do smell the clover and enjoy these pleasures of the Earth as I work. That's especially what happens when I collect seeds from my prairie remnant and plantings throughout the summer and fall. Nothing is more heavenly than being outdoors on a beautiful day getting lost in the rhythm of seed collecting. In the background I hear crickets' chorus, delightful birdsongs, the gurgling of the river. I feel the sun

warm my shoulders and breezes caress my face and hair. Clouds float above me in a vivid blue sky. I am at one with the colors, textures, sounds and scents of my environment. Freeze this moment of serenity! Life doesn't get much better than this.

In addition to the "weed of the week," I have a "seed of the week." When the seed is ripe, it's time to pick. I carry a few medium-sized heavy plastic bags as I walk the land and pick seeds as I see they are mature. Such profusion! Nature is generous in her insurance that the species will continue, if we don't intercept. I pick some seeds for my bag and spread some on the ground around the plant mother.

Nature's packaging of seeds is efficiently devised. There are so many clever ways she creatively wraps seeds. Monarda and Evening Primrose (*Oenothera biennis*) shake seed out of their pods like a salt shakers. I collect the pods and shake out the seeds later. Rudbeckia seeds need to be rubbed off its core with thumb pressure. Prairie Smoke (*Geum triflorum*) has seeds like nits of fine hair.

Aster and goldenrod seeds are like fur patches gathered into tight little bundles.

In autumn I wear a pair of textured, rubber-palmed gloves to strip the seeds off grasses: Big Bluestem, Indiangrass, Little Bluestem. I also wear these same gloves to clean seeds from their casings.

Each day when finished I transfer the collection of seeds into a brown paper bag which I label and date. When time allows I clean the seeds from their chaff and sort them into three groups for future planting. One is for planting on dry land, another for mesic or medium damp soil, and the last is for wetter habitat. I hang the bags on a couple of clotheslines inside my shed to keep them away from hungry rodents. Here they dry and wait until the first snowfall. Then I sprinkle them on the appropriate ground: dry, medium, or wet. Winter works her magic of freezing to crack seed shells and force them into the soil. Spring will warm our seeds into new life. It is indeed an amazing miracle, this circle of life! ☺



Each One Reach One Wild One!

Milwaukee-North Chapter member Lloyd

Croatt proselytized prairie salvation in New York City this past summer. Scavenging cardboard from his niece's Manhattan condominium basement, he had his sign. With her only marking pen, he wrote in bold letters: "Prairies Need Saving." Leaving his tour-exhausted wife, Mary Lee, in bed, he took the subway to join a crowd gathered outside ABC studios where anchors Charlie Gibson and Dianne Sawyer broadcast from the second floor above an outdoor audience. Lloyd held his sign proudly.

"Prairies need saving?" someone asked.

"Yes. Less than one-tenth of 1 percent of our original prairies exist today," Lloyd informed them.

Substitute weather reporter Rebecca Coles is "into plants." During

her gardening segment, Lloyd got behind her and held up his sign. Rebecca gave him a thumbs-up gesture. The cameras scanned the scene and Lloyd saw himself on the TV monitor.

From ABC, Lloyd went to the NBC studios and he again raised his sign when the cameras panned the crowd.

* * *

The **Fox Valley Area Chapter** has developed a creative way to promote Wild Ones. They offer a sign-up sheet at area events offering two complimentary issues of their chapter newsletter. It's a friendly, soft-sell way to introduce potential new members to the true nature of our organization and a nice public-relations gesture as well. With minimum expense, the chapter can target their mailings to people who already have a spark of interest.

* * *

The **Foothills Chapter** recently supported the second Highlands Biological Station Conference on Native Plants by donating framed artwork, a woodland collection of over 15 native plants, and two named fern collections grown from spores to their silent auction. These items sold for over \$700, and several people asked about this young chapter and Wild Ones in general. Furthermore, chapter president and fern propagator Tom Goforth was invited to give a workshop at the prestigious Cullowhee conference on Native Plants in Western North Carolina—quite an honor, as this conference is well established, quickly fills up and draws people from many areas. If plans go through as hoped, it's expected to be a good opportunity to introduce Wild Ones to the South. ☺



Part of my property is bordered with a wooded ravine, while the western edge is a deer-ravaged deciduous woodland. Heavy, wet snowstorms in winter or strong, wind-driven thunderstorms in summer scatter branches throughout the area. One can think of all the tiny creatures thriving on such available food and shelter, but at my house I also think of the charming children who come to play there. Almost all of them see the branches and twigs as building materials. Such joy!

On this winter day (January 2000) I look over the landscape at the naked structures stripped of the leaves from shrubs, vines and prairie plantings which hid them in earlier seasons. There are the adult touches such as the Leopold bench adjacent to the flooded ephemeral pond, the sundial and the birdhouses with their predator guards, as well as the woodpile composed entirely of hollow logs (I ladle cracked corn into these protected spots for birds, especially during blizzards, and for Deer Mice at night). These are all knit together with paths.

One summer day the little boy from across the street approached me with his sparkling, mischievous eyes and exclaimed, "Oh, this is such a perfect place to play hide-and-seek. Do you

CHILDREN'S NATURAL ARCHITECTURE

BY LORRIE OTTO

mind?" Such a question tickled my 80-year-old heart. We laughed together as he admonished me not to tell his friends as he crawled under a shrub where a Catbird was scolding. However, it is the children's architecture which I want to write about.

So often parents have approached me at conferences to say, "I'd really like to do this kind of landscaping after my children have grown, but for now they need a place to play." (My expletive deleted!!)

About 10 years ago the neighbor on the other side of the ravine would pack a lunch for her six-year-old daughter (Claudia) and a friend. They would climb down the ravine, each with their lunches in bulging red

want to give up that view, so I keep Claudia's hut in good repair as a piece of sculpture in my yard. Several years ago the family moved to Chicago, but Claudia's little lunch shed remains behind. On this snowy day I can see it from the dining room window.

A few yards to the south, behind a White Pine (*Pinus strobus*), there is a larger structure. Bob called it a tepee. George said that it was a wickiup. Whatever it is, it now stands in memory of a summer day when the boys gathered branches from a brushpile and assembled them as a shelter for imaginary Indians.

Another structure began as a sod house, but the garden center ran out of sod, so it became a sod fort. The children have hidden fossils, crystals and their favorite rocks between clumps of growing grass which hangs down on the north side like green hair. It's an amazing fabrication with the sundial on one side and a young Leatherwood shrub (*Dirca palustris*) next to the entrance.

One warm summer afternoon an old, dead Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) toppled down in the ravine leaving its branches pressing on the

young trees near the fort. They needed to be rescued. A helpful neighbor arrived with a power saw intent on cutting up the entire tree. Fortunately I was there to redirect him to only free the two young Beech trees (*Fagus grandifolia*) and the Hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*). Now when friends come with small sons, they invariably leap out of the car and run down the path to climb the length of that mammoth old tree. Is it just instinct which compels a boy to want to climb a tree

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handkerchiefs at the end of long sticks. On my side of the ravine there was an ancient hawthorn (*Crataegus*) with an extended lower branch. Here they would stop and lean their lunches against another tree. For the next half hour they would gather sticks and prop them in a line along the hawthorn until they had constructed quite a wonderful lean-to. Then they would sit under it, untie their big handkerchiefs and eat lunch while looking across the chasm at Claudia's house. They did this so often that now I don't

"Ah,
good taste!!
What a
dreadful
thing.
Taste is
the enemy of
creativity."
—Pablo
Picasso

NEY FRASER



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or build forts or shelters? They all seem to come so quickly to it!

Ryan made a wigwam. He learned to do this in eighth grade science class. The *Heritage Dictionary* describes it as a "North American Indian dwelling having an arched or conical framework overlaid with bark, hides or mats." Ryan's enchanting structure is woven with wild grape (*Vitis spp.*),

and in summer a living plant hides the old vines and dried leaves. People come to my yard to photograph prairie flowers, but if they have children, they never leave before getting a photo of Ryan's wigwam.

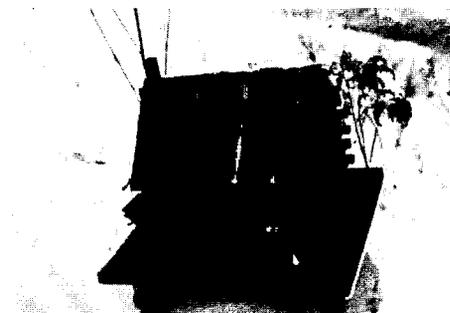
PLAYING ON

In the winter, parents and children turn indoors and often build gingerbread houses. In 1979 Dick Koel

designed a prairie plant house (11"x11"x12") using Cupplant (*Silphium perfoliatum*) stems for the logs. The adjacent fluffy tree is a goldenrod, the bare one is Gray-headed Coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*) without its seed-head. A butter churn, made from a Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*) gall cut in half, sits near the front door. This was a gift for me from Dick from the Menomonee River Area Chapter of Wild Ones. It is easily one of the most wonderful presents I've ever received. And it came from a man who was once a little boy, and now as a parent he is still making houses for play! 🌻

—Lorrie Otto

Milwaukee North Chapter



New Wasowski Book Dedicated to Lorrie

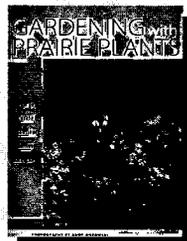
A long-anticipated book on prairie landscaping by Sally Wasowski will be available in December according to the publisher, University of Minnesota Press.

Gardening with Prairie Plants: How to Create Beautiful Native Landscapes is dedicated to Lorrie Otto and is already garnering praise from the native plant community. The late Floyd Swink (Morton Arboretum), who provided invaluable assistance to the author, said, "This book will be an anchor for prairie enthusiasts for years to come." Colston Burrell, award-winning author of *A Gardener's Encyclopedia of Wildflowers and Perennial Combinations*, remarked that "Sally Wasowski skillfully demonstrates that no yard is too small for a patch of native wildflowers. This lavish book takes us on a tour of native prairies and prairie gardens to show how easy it is to plant and maintain your own beautiful prairie garden."

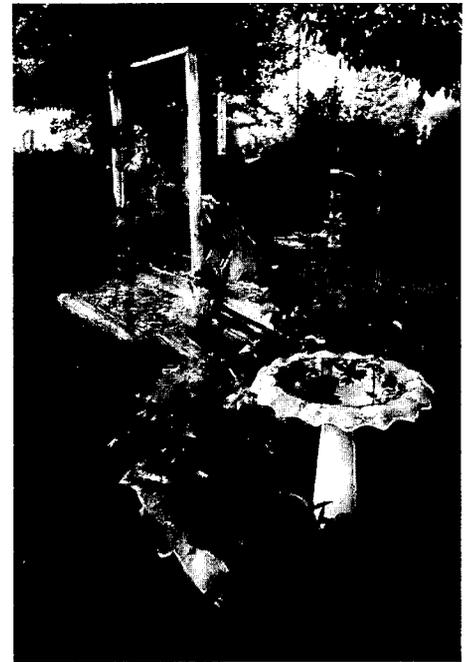
Lavishly illustrated by photographs by Andy Wasowski, *Gardening with Prairie Plants* includes descriptions of plants native to most of North America—from New York to Colorado, and from Texas north to Minnesota and the central provinces of Canada.

Written for experienced gardeners and brown-thumb homeowners alike, the book contains practical information on every aspect of prairie gardening:

- *Getting started: how to plan and install small and large landscapes*
- *Working with your space: how to adapt prairie landscapes to suburban neighborhoods and modest city lots*
- *How to find the right plants for your yard, with comprehensive listings for more than 300 species, charts addressing soil and light conditions, easy-to-use range maps and color photographs*
- *How to select recommended flowers, listed by season to ensure continuous bloom and to attract a variety of birds and butterflies.*



Sally Wasowski is one of the country's leading authorities on landscaping with native plants, and has co-authored seven other books with her husband, Andy, including *Gardening with Native Plants of the South*, *The Landscaping Revolution*, and *Building Inside Nature's Envelope*. The Wasowskis are honorary directors of Wild Ones and have been honored for their work by the American Horticultural Society, the Native Plant Society of Texas, and the Canadian Wildflower Society. 🌻



A MONGREL INVENTION

I wasn't sure what to do with the space between our semi-formal kitchen garden and our self-made wilderness. No contemplated planting seemed to complement both worlds. Then I noticed that Rainy regularly used the area as a watchdog's surveillance post. It was she who suggested the site was the perfect place to sit and see all. So I built an observation deck ... of Frankenstein-like composition.

Salvaged building materials included stone slabs, foundation rubble, massive stumps, wearied railroad ties and odd-sized landscape timbers. Working much as the builder-children

described in Lorrie Otto's article, I muscled the pieces around until they formed an exoskeleton of nondescript shape with three step-up entry points. Then my friendly public works crew delivered the core fill—a mound of woodchips.

After a few years, the foot-thick filling settled, and I topped it off with a couple cartloads of new chips to maintain the pleasant elevation. Some years from now I expect to rake back the top chips to mine rich humus and will then replenish this organic deck with fresh chips. So, you see, the structure also functions as a compost-

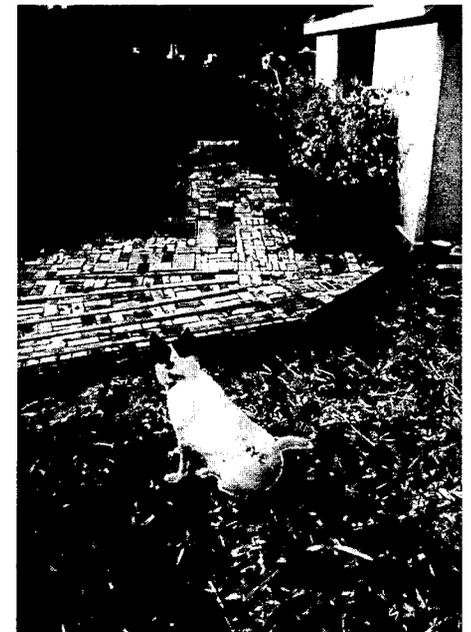
ing system. Do weeds invade it? Very rarely. The peripheral components form an almost impenetrable bastion.

No rock, brick or plank will ever be orphaned as long as I can landscape. A trail of recycled materials now flows around our pond from our first mongrel deck to a new second one (where Rainy sits below, watching a pigeon in the walkway). From here we can sweep our gaze to the farthest point of our wildest landscape.

I thank Rainy for teaching me that critters can be advisers in landscape design. ♪

—Joy Buslaff

Milwaukee SW-Wehr Chapter



To read about the installation of the pond pictured in the top photo, see the March/April 1999 issue, page 5.
Back issues and individual articles can be ordered from our national headquarters. See ad, back cover.

WHERE BIRDS

In 1983 I received a kite as a birthday present from the woman who, later that year, became my wife.

With that gift, my wife ignited my interest in kiting and I began to build kites following diagrams that I found in library books and magazines. While my wife was working as a nurse on the p.m. shift, I stayed busy working on my kite projects. I could work away at the sewing machine late into the night without disturbing the sleep of our two young diapered kids. Prior to discovering my interest in kites, I might

have spent my creative energies building furniture and other household objects out of wood. My kite projects

"We achieve a greater understanding of our world when we see it in a new way. That is why we request the window seat on airplanes, why tall buildings have observation decks, why everyone loves a Ferris wheel and why children climb trees. Attaching my camera to my kite has become for me as natural as standing on my tiptoes to see a little farther, looking into the space both outside and inside myself. After many years of traveling to places with a trunk full of kites, I now realize that it isn't so much me taking the kites, it is now the kites that take me to those places."—Craig Wilson

became much more satisfying because the fruits of my labor could fly rather than just sit around the house.

I found myself taking my kites to beautiful places to fly, relax and enjoy the world. My kite creations were showing me many new things about the world. Often while I was flying in a park or on a beach, strangers would introduce themselves, drawn out of their way to talk with the man at the bottom of the kite line. Eagles

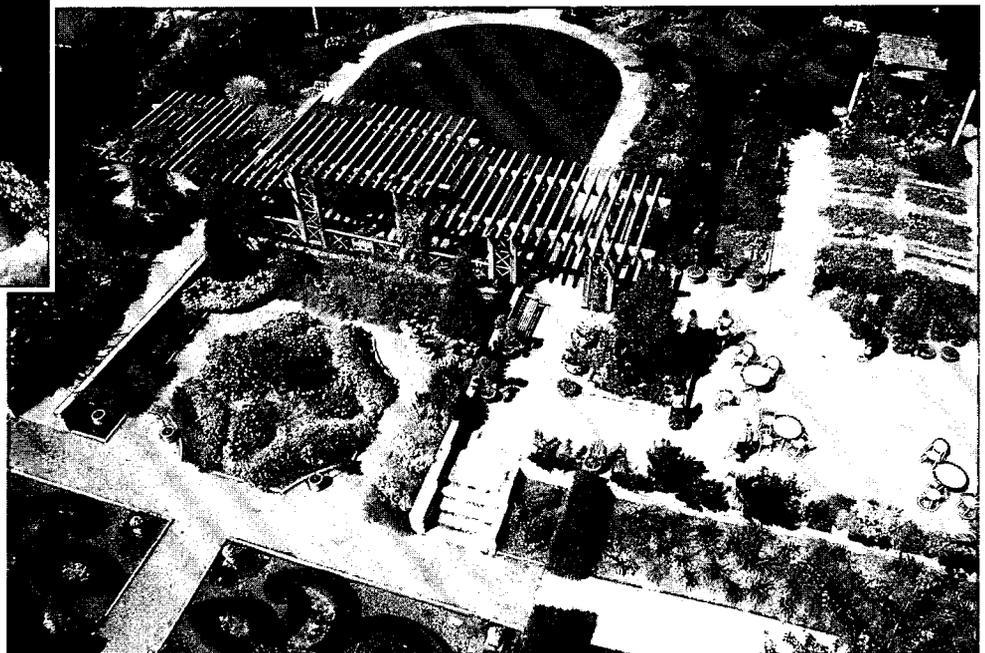
circled overhead to see what this intrusion was into their domain when I flew my kites on the Willow Flowage in northern Wisconsin. Nature revealed its beauty and power to me as I flew in varied locations. I was learning about weather, wind, how to sew; how to tie a good knot; where to find ripstop nylon, Kevlar flying line, good bamboo and graphite tubing; and much about the fascinating 2,500-year history of kites.

One afternoon I realized that my newly completed kite, flying proudly and pulling hard on the line held in my left hand, was more than powerful enough to lift the weight of the camera I was holding up to my eye with my right hand. I remember that day back in 1987. With my kite flying high in the rays of the setting sun and me standing in a meadow already deep in shadow, I remember thinking "Wow, what if?" Can you imagine what the world looks like from where the kite is? Not just this place, but all the beautiful places that I take my kite. All



It's fascinating to be able to see the extent of our obsession to work the Earth's surface into selected patterns. Doing so does not have to mean destroying habitat, but traditionally that has been the case. The water feature above does not offer solid footing for birds, the garden at right is dominated by non-native species.

Our landscapes can be multi-purposed, but planning for birds, bugs and us requires understanding a diversity of needs. It always comes down to education.—Ed.



"Indulge your imagination in every possible flight."—Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice

A N D B U G S G O

those incredible views that it is privileged to see—if only it had eyes and if only my kite could share that view.

Over the next few weeks I set in motion my dream of seeing what the kite sees. After a few evenings spent at the workbench in the garage thinking and tinkering, I had figured out how I thought it may be possible. I fashioned a way to attach a camera to the line of the kite out of some aluminum, a piece of broom handle, some eye hooks, and a variety of nuts and bolts that I culled from the many bins in the garage. However, I lacked a way to trip the shutter once the camera was airborne under the kite. I wasn't exactly sure how it would work, but thought I needed a small timer, like the one I had read about in a model airplane magazine, to trip the shutter of the camera. I planned to epoxy that timer to the back of an old camera that I had decided I could live without, a camera that I figured surely I would ruin.

I ordered the de-thermalizing timer and waited several weeks for the hobby shop to call to say the miniature timer was in. A few days later I emerged from the garage successful.

Combined with some rubber bands, a small piece of Sitka Spruce, wire, a small screw, part of a picture hanging hook, and a miniature dollhouse hinge, the camera shutter was tripped each time the timer expired.

Oh I was proud of myself. So proud of what I had built that now I wasn't sure I wanted to attach this thing to a kite and risk dashing it to bits. I decided to wait until the conditions for kite flying were perfect before trying it out, and for several months my creation sat on a shelf like a trophy. Eventually I gave in to temptation and I gave it a whirl. I spent a good part of an afternoon repeating the process of lifting the camera with the kite and waiting for the timer to expire. I then pulled the camera back down to reset the timer, advance the film, and adjusted the angle on the connecting bolts which held the

camera to the line and allowed me to change the viewing position of the camera. Then sent the whole works back up into the air to wait on the timer again and again until I had shot the entire roll of film.

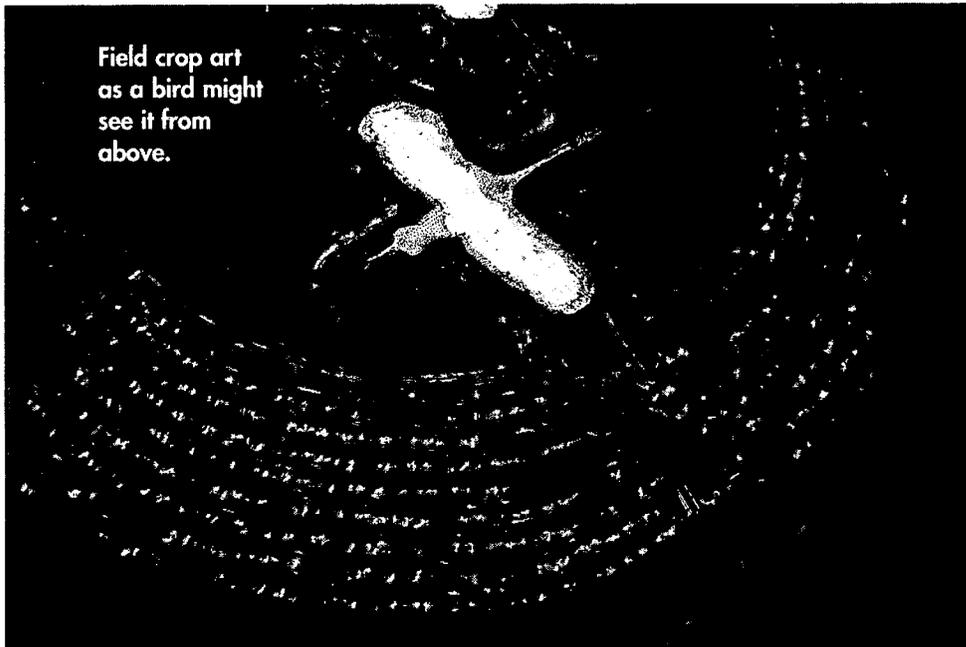
The next day, I retrieved the film from the photo lab. The images on the film were out-of-focus, poorly exposed, blurred shots of what looked like me, or at least part of me, standing in my backyard. I found them gorgeous nonetheless. I was astonished by the perspective of the camera held beneath a kite. I could clearly see, in those blurry photos, that this was not an elevated view one would get from a

tall ladder or from a nearby rooftop. The view, looking down at myself in my backyard, was clearly from a place somewhat higher than that, but not from a height that you might expect a camera in an airplane or helicopter to capture. This unusual view was more like I imagine a hovering gull, a dragonfly, or a songbird, flitting from tree to tree, might have.

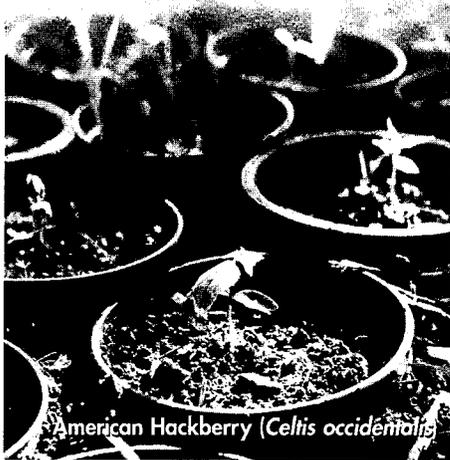
Looking at those first photographs I felt I had stumbled onto something special; a view of the world that only

birds and bugs can have. That view, from 150 feet up, captured on that first terrible roll of photographs ignited a passion in me to figure this out. All I needed was a better, faster camera, a better way to control the camera, a more stable way to attach the camera to the kite, a more interesting subject, practice and lots of film. 🐞

[Biomimicry is the pursuit of invention inspired by nature. Biomimics are those who study nature's innovations, and imitate and adapt them for new applications.]



"The law locks up the hapless felon who steals the goose from off the common, but lets the greater felon loose who steals the common from the goose."—Anonymous



HEY, BUD, YOU WANNA START SOMETHING?

Most folks don't think of November as planting time, but most folks aren't Wild Ones. This is a great time to put your seeds into flats or pots that will sit outside through winter's cold and damp. Your seeds should start to come up next year on their own, or you can move the containers into greenhouse conditions in mid to late winter to get an early start.

Many of us have grown natives with garden loam (which may contain the natural bacteria that facilitate legume growth), however, outdoor loam may contain weed seeds, diseases and unwanted insects, plus it doesn't usually drain well. If you're planting on a small scale, a commercially prepared seed-raising mix is all you'll need, but if you're getting ambitious, you'll find the recipes at right a handy reference. —Joy Buslaff



TERMINOLOGY:

■ **Jiffy Mix** is one of many brand-name "soiless" blends of peat moss and vermiculite. ■ **Native legumes**, such as the examples that follow, germinate and grow more reliably when **mycorrhizae fungi** are present in the soil or when they are coated on the plants' seeds. You can buy small quantities of this **inoculant** from many native plant nurseries. To learn more about inoculants, log on to bio-organics.com/UseNursGrnse.html. Examples: Leadplant (*Amorpha canescens*), Bush Clovers (*Lespedeza spp.*), Prairie Clovers (*Petalostemum spp.*), Indigos (*Baptisia spp.*), and Partridge Pea (*Cassia fasciculata*). ■ **Rooting hormone** (most commonly *indolebutyric acid*) is the synthetic twin of a natural plant hormone that stimulates root growth. It can be purchased from most well-stocked garden centers. ■ **Water-absorbing polymers** are gel bits that sponge up, then slowly release, water. Pre-moisten them (they expand) then add to mix if you can't be around to water your plants daily.

Growers' mixes vary, so feel free to experiment with proportions and ingredients. Some people substitute composted bark or rotted cow manure or humus for peat moss, or poultry grit for sand. You can also incorporate a slow-release fertilizer into your mix or water-absorbing polymers. The following mixes for forbs and grasses are recommended by Joyce Powers, CRM Ecosystems, Mt. Horeb, Wis.

FORBS AND GRASSES

■ **Base Mix**

This mix is appropriate for mesic (medium) conditions.

4 parts potting soil + 1 part Jiffy Mix + ½ part sand.

■ **Dry Mix**

This mix is appropriate for species of dry prairies and meadows. Start with the base mix above and add 1 part sand + ½ part Jiffy Mix.

■ **Wet Mix**

This mix is appropriate for species of wet prairies and meadows. Start with the base mix above and add 1 part wet peat.

■ **Woodland Mix**

This mix is appropriate for most of the woodland species. Start with the base mix and add 1 part Jiffy Mix + ½ part sand + ½ part wet peat.

TREES & SHRUBS

Seeds or Nuts Collected Fall through Spring

For most species, the base or woodland mixes above will serve your needs. Richard Bir, University of North Carolina extension agent, uses this recipe:
3 parts (3 cubic feet) sifted Southern Pine bark + 1 part sphagnum peat + ¾ cup dolomitic limestone.

Softwood Cuttings Taken in Spring or

Semihardwood Cuttings Taken Early Summer through Fall

Dipping cuttings in rooting hormone improves root formation. Try either of these combinations: 1 part peat moss + 1 part perlite, or 1 part peat moss + 1 part sand.

PROPAGATION BOOKS RECOMMENDED FOR YOUR LIBRARY:

Growing & Propagating Showy Native Woody Plants by Richard E. Bir, University of North Carolina Press.

Growing and Propagating Wildflowers of the U.S. and Canada by William Cullina, Houghton Mifflin.

How to Grow Native Plants of Texas and The Southwest by Jill Nokes, University of Texas Press.

Landscaping with Native Trees by Guy Sternberg and Jim Wilson, Chapters Publishers & Booksellers.

Making More Plants by Ken Druse, Clarkson Potter.

The Afterlife



Bret Rappaport and Mandy Ploch enjoying the Louisville Chapter's hospitality.

Jan Schultz, forest plant ecologist at the Hiawatha National Forest, takes us to the Marquette Interagency Conservation Center. The native plant garden and seed orchard above was initiated four years ago, after the lawn was removed by a sod cutter. "This portion of our native landscaping endeavor, a shade garden of locally native plants, is now approaching the point of no longer needing to be weeded," reports Jan. For more information, or to visit the project, contact the office at 1030 Wright St., Marquette, MI 49855; (906) 228-8491.

A NOTE FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD

Greetings, Wild Ones members! At this summer's national board meeting in Kentucky I was elected president of Wild Ones. It is a great honor for me to be able to serve the membership in this role. It is my sincere hope to be able to respond to the challenge as well as our only one-and-only past national president Bret Rappaport did. Bret will continue serving on the Executive Officer Committee as past president to provide consistency and to undertake special projects. Mariette Nowak, from the Milwaukee Southwest-Wehr Chapter, has replaced Mandy Ploch as vice president, and Portia Brown of the Louisville Chapter has stepped into my former position as secretary. Klaus Wisiol remains our treasurer. A sincere and hearty thank you to Bret and Mandy for their years of service to the organization!

As president, it is my intent to continue the Wild Ones' initiative of restructuring the organization from a localized "garden club" (excuse me, Lorrie) focusing on educating the public about the importance of utilizing native plants in our landscapes to a national organization with the same focus. The national initiative started in 1996 with Bret and Mandy taking on the primary leadership roles. Pat Brust (Wehr Chapter) was national secretary, and Dorothy Boyer (Milwaukee North) was treasurer. Since then, we have restructured the national board, initiated quarterly board meetings, hired an executive director (Donna VanBuecken), implemented recognized

accounting principals, established the Seeds For Education Program, built a website and, in the last nine to 12 months, began to establish standing committees. We've done all of this in addition to maintaining the daily operation of the organization, publishing *Wild Ones Journal* and attending to numerous other activities required to serve and educate our membership and the public in general.

As a result of this restructuring, there are several new initiatives that the board, other officers and I plan to undertake. Two of these are:

1. *Establishing a corporate membership category. Many businesses, institutions and governmental agencies have or are involved in establishing native plant settings on their properties. Currently, Wild Ones recognizes a family/residential membership level only, leaving a significant portion of the potential membership uncommitted.*

2. *Establishing an annual capital campaign to raise extra funds for special projects. Currently, we operate on a very tight budget (thus the reason for the recent dues increase) and have no extra funds for special needs, such as the improvement of our website. Through additional fund-raising efforts we can meet special needs without causing a deficit in our budget.*

I look forward to the challenge of serving as your national president. Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions you might have or, if you feel you can, to volunteer to assist as we move forward with our restructuring and/or in the operation of our organization. ♣

—Joe Powelka, Madison Chapter

seedlings

Do you want to start a Wild Ones chapter? Let us post a notice for others to join you. The folks listed here are looking for others to form a nucleus around which a chapter can grow. If you are interested in starting a chapter, request a "Chapter Start-up Kit" from Executive Director Donna VanBuecken. To add your name to our list, send your contact information to the editor. See page 13 for their contact information.

CHAPTER WANNA-BE'S LOOKING FOR MEMBERS:

ILLINOIS: Margaret Ovitt, 107 W. Kelly St., Macomb, IL 61455-2925; (309) 836-6231. Linda Stelle, 269 Stonegate Rd., Cary, IL 60013; (847) 639-4940; sirocco@prodigy.net. Linda Quiram, Bradford (Peoria area), (309) 897-2333.

INDIANA: Mary H. Kraft, 5360 E. 161st St.; Noblesville, IN 46060; (317) 773-5361; mkraft@ind.cioe.com.

Dane Ryan, RR#1 Box 76C, Cannelburg, IN 47519; (812) 644-7545;

pelryan@dmrtc.net.

MICHIGAN: East Lansing Chapter—Mark S. Ritzenhein, (517) 336-0320; mritz@acd.net.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Marilyn C. Wyzga, 267 Center Rd., Hillsborough, NH 03244; (603) 464-3530; merlin@conknet.com.

NEW YORK: Bridget Watts, Nature Study Guild Publishers, P.O. Box 10489, Rochester, NY 14610; (716) 482-6090; naturebooks@world-net.att.net.

NORTH CAROLINA: Jane Cornelius, 5429 Millrace Trail, Raleigh, NC 27606-9226; (919) 851-4644; janecornelius@prodigy.net.

Judith West, 339 Gregg St., Archdale, NC 27263-3303; (336) 431-9322; westskau@juno.com.

OHIO: Kris Johnson, P.O. Box 355, (near Toledo) Williston, OH 43468; (419) 836-7637; KRIS_JOHNSON@ecunet.org.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Peggy Lappe,

Box 91, Harrold, SD 57536; (605) 875-3214.

WISCONSIN: Sarah Boles, HC73 Box 631, Cable, WI 54821; (715) 794-2548; florabee@hotmail.com. Rolf Utegaard, P.O. Box 1092, Eau Claire, WI 54702; (715) 834-0065; bigutehort@prodigy.net. Karen Isebrands-Brown, Nicolet College, Box 518, Rhinelander, WI 54501; (715) 365-4482. Bob and Bev Hults, Hartford, (262) 670-0445.

THESE CHAPTERS NEED MEMBERS FOR MOMENTUM:

ILLINOIS: Naturally Wild of LaGrange—Judi Ann Dore, 41 S. LaGrange Rd, LaGrange, IL 60525; (708) 387-1398.

IOWA: Wild Rose Chapter—Christine Taliga, (319) 339-9121.

MICHIGAN: Calhoun County Chapter—Marilyn Case, Calhoun County, (616) 781-8470; mcase15300@aol.com. Southwest Michigan Chapter—Sue Stowell, (616) 468-7031.

MINNESOTA: Arrowhead Chapter—Carol A. Andrews, (218) 730-9954; carol_andrews@hotmail.com.

MISSOURI: Mid-Missouri Chapter—Lesla Beamer, Dept. of Biochemistry, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211; (573) 499-3749; beamerl@missouri.edu.

NEW YORK: Chenango Valley Chapter—Holly Stegner, (315) 824-1178; hollystegner@hotmail.com.

WISCONSIN: Door County Chapter—Mary Ann Crayton, (920) 854-6304; maryanncrayton@aol.com. Root River Chapter—Carla Freeman, (414) 382-6415; carlafreeman@alverno.edu.

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NATIONAL OFFICE:

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P.O. BOX 1274, APPLETON, WI 54912-1274
(877) FYI-WILD [394-9453]
(920) 730-3986
Fax: (920) 730-8654
Email: WOnesource@aol.com

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STEVE MAASSEN ¥ (920) 233-5914

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Meet us on-line at www.for-wild.org

Chapters, please send your chapter newsletters or events notices to:

Calendar Coordinator Mary Paquette
N2026 Cedar Rd., Adell, WI 53001
(920) 994-2505 • paquetjm@execpc.com

The meeting place

NATIONAL BOARD QUARTERLY MEETINGS

All members are encouraged to attend the quarterly meetings of the Wild Ones National Board. More details will be printed as they become available or can be obtained from your chapter officers. February 9, 2002 hosted by Milwaukee North Chapter; in conjunction with the Milwaukee Wildflower conference. ■ May 2002 Kalamazoo; date to be confirmed. ■ July 12-14, 2002 Columbus Ohio Chapter will host the 2002 Annual Meeting and Ohio Natural Landscaping Conference. ■ October 2002 St. Louis Chapter; date to be confirmed

You are encouraged to participate in all Wild Ones activities—even when you travel. To learn the details of upcoming events, consult your local chapter newsletter or call the respective contacts listed for

each chapter. Customary meeting information is given here, but you should always confirm dates and locations with chapter contacts.

ILLINOIS

GREATER DUPAGE CHAPTER

MESSAGE CENTER: (630) 415-IDIG

PAT CLANCY: (630) 964-0448

Clancypj2@aol.com

Chapter usually meets the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the College of DuPage, Building K, Room 161, unless otherwise noted.

Nov. 3 (Sat.): Seed Exchange, COD Building K, West Commons; 1-4 p.m.

Nov. 15: "A Burning Issue" a presentation on the ecology of fire, by ecological consultant Wayne Lampa. Leslie Berns, Natural Resource Supervisor for the

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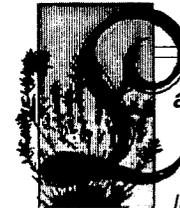
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DuPage County Forest Preserve will talk about burning in the Forest Preserve; and a short video of the burning of Pat Armstrong's prairie yard will be shown.

LAKE-TO-PRAIRIE CHAPTER

KARIN WISIOL: (847)548-1650

Meetings are usually held on the second Monday of the month at 7:15 p.m. in the Byron Colby Community Barn at Prairie Crossing, Grayslake (Rt. 45, about 1/2 mile south of Ill. 120).

Nov. 12: Seed Exchange/Toast Wild Ones: Annual seed exchange and many short slide presentations of members' endeavors will be shown. Refreshments will be served. Donations would be appreciated. For seed exchange, please bring your native seed in small plastic bags, paper envelopes or vials labeled with the scientific name, common name and habitat preferences.
December: No meeting.

NATURALLY WILD of LA GRANGE CHAPTER

MALIA ARNETT: (708) 354-3200

Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month, at The Natural Habitat Wildlife and Organic Garden Supply Store, 41 S. LaGrange Rd., LaGrange, at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Nov. 1: Regular meeting; topic to be announced.

Dec. 6: Seasonal celebration.

NORTH PARK CHAPTER

BOB PORTER: (312) 744-5472

Meetings are usually held the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the North Park Nature Center, 5801 N. Pulaski, Chicago, unless otherwise indicated. Call Bob Porter for more information.

Nov. 8: Potluck and Seed Exchange; election of new board members. Bring a dish to pass plus any native plant seeds you would like to share.

December: No meeting.

ROCK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER

SHEILA STENGER: (815) 624-6076

Meetings are usually held the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., Jarrett Prairie Center, Byron Forest Preserve, 7993 N. River Road, Byron, unless otherwise noted. Call (815) 234-8535 for information. Public is welcome.

Nov. 15: Annual seed exchange and potluck dinner at Jarrett Prairie Center.

December: No meeting.

INDIANA

GIBSON WOODS CHAPTER

JOY BOWER: (219) 989-9679

jbower1126@aol.com

Meetings are usually held the second Monday of the month, 7 p.m., at Gibson Woods, 6201 Parrish Ave., Hammond, Ind., unless otherwise noted.

November: Guest speaker, to be announced.

December: Wildlife decorations and social.

IOWA

WILD ROSE CHAPTER

CHRISTINE TALIGA: (319) 339-9121

Meetings are held the second Monday of every month, First Presbyterian Church, Iowa City, unless otherwise noted. Contact above for information.

KENTUCKY

FRANKFORT CHAPTER

KATIE CLARK: (502) 226-4766

herbs@kih.net

Meetings are usually held on the second Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Salato Wildlife Education Center Greenhouse #1 Game Farm Rd, off US 60 W (Louisville Rd.), Frankfort, unless otherwise noted.

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LOUISVILLE CHAPTER

PORTIA BROWN: (502) 454-4007
wildones-lou@home.com

Meetings are usually held the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Louisville Nature Center, 3745 Illinois Avenue, unless otherwise noted.

November: Details of Thanksgiving meeting will be sent to local members and guests on mailing list. Call or email above to be put on chapter list.

4th Saturday Work Days: 9 a.m.-noon, weather permitting, at Wildflower Woods in Cherokee Park, at the wooded triangle behind the Daniel Boone statue.

MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR CHAPTER

TRISH BECKJORD: (734) 669-2713
DAVE MINDELL: (734) 665-7168
plantwise@aol.com

BOB GRESE: (734)763-0645
bgrese@umich.edu

Meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of the month. For meeting information see www.for-wild.org/annarbor/index.html#meetings or contact above.

CADILLAC CHAPTER

PAT RUTA: (231) 876-0378
enviropat@aol.com

Meetings are usually held the fourth Thursday of the month, 7-9 p.m. at Lincoln School, 125 Ayer St., Cadillac, unless otherwise noted.

CALHOUN COUNTY CHAPTER

MARILYN CASE: (616) 781-8470
mcase15300@aol.com

Meetings are usually held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., at Calhoun Intermediate School District building on G Drive N. and Old US27, unless otherwise noted.

Nov. 27: Program on "Grassland Songbirds," presented by Jim Burns.

December: No meeting scheduled.

CENTRAL UPPER PENINSULA CHAPTER

JAMES LEMPKE: (906)428-9580
jlempke@escanaba.org

Nov. 27 (Tues.): 6:30 p.m. Weed Ordinance Workshop. Location in Rapid River to be determined.

December: No meeting.

DETROIT METRO CHAPTER

CAROL WHEELER: (248) 547-7898
wheecarol@aol.com

Meetings are usually held the third Wednesday of each month at Royal Oak Library, 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Public is welcome; \$5 fee for non-members.

FLINT CHAPTER

VIRGINIA CHATFIELD: (810) 655-6580
ginger9960@aol.com

Meetings are usually held on the second Thursday of each month at Woodside Church, 1509 E. Court St., Flint, 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

KALAMAZOO CHAPTER

THOMAS SMALL: (616) 381-4946

Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at Christian Church, 2208 Winchell. Nov. 28: 7 p.m. Chapter annual meeting and second birthday celebration. Speaker to be announced.

December: No meeting.

OAKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER

MARYANN WHITMAN: (248)652-4004
maryannwhitman@home.com

Meetings are usually held the first Thursday of the

month at Old Oakland Township Parks/Police Building, Rochester, at 7 p.m.

Nov. 1: Kim Herman of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources will speak on the importance of our natural areas.

Dec. 6: Julie Dingle will be leading members in a hands-on "Holiday Decor Workshop" to help us design outdoor holiday arrangements. Bring natural materials from your yard, pruning shears and a container or two.

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER

SUE STOWELL: (616) 468-7031
ERIN JONES & NATE FULLER: (616) 926-4691
sarett@sarett.com

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m., Sarett Nature Center, unless otherwise noted. Check Chapter web page for updates: www.for-wild.org/swmich/index/html.

MINNESOTA

ARROWHEAD CHAPTER

CAROL ANDREWS: (218) 727-9340
carol_andrews@hotmail.com

Meetings are usually held the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Location will change each month. Check website for details: www.d.umn.edu/~wildones. Open to the public.

OTTER TAIL CHAPTER

KAREN TERRY: (218) 736-5520
terry714@prtcl.com

Meetings are held the fourth Monday of the month, 7 p.m., at the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center, Fergus Falls. Visitors are always welcome.

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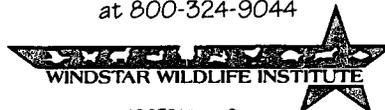


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ST. CLOUD CHAPTER

GREG SHIRLEY: (320) 259-0825
wildonesmn@home.com

Meetings are usually held the fourth Monday of the month at the Heritage Nature Center, 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 26: Regular member meeting.

TWIN CITIES

MARTY RICE: (952) 927-6531
jcmfr@qwest.net

Meetings are usually held the third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., at the Nokomis Community Center, 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy, Minneapolis, unless otherwise noted.

Nov. 20: Meeting topic: Working with weed laws, regulations, and neighbors.
December: No meeting.

MISSOURI

MID-MISSOURI CHAPTER

LESA BEAMER: beamerl@missouri.edu

Meetings are usually held the second Saturday of the month, 1:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Location varies.
Nov. 10: 10 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church, Columbia. Meeting to discuss current projects and plans for next year. Members will also tour the meadow on the church grounds. For directions call Lesa at 882-6072 or email.

December: No meeting.

ST. LOUIS CHAPTER

SCOTT WOODBURY: (636) 451-0850
swoodbury@ridgway.mobot.org

Meetings are usually held the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted; call Shaw Nature Reserve for directions and info. Public welcome.
Nov. 7: Seed exchange and potluck dinner at Earthways House.

NEW YORK

CHENANGO VALLEY CHAPTER
HOLLY STEGNER: (315) 824-1178
hollystegner@hotmail.com

For location, dates and times of meetings please contact above.

NEW YORK CITY METRO/LONG ISLAND CHAPTER

ROBERT SAFFER: (718) 768-5488
Meetings will be held in the Members Room, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, 1000 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn.

OHIO

GREATER CINCINNATI CHAPTER

KATHY McDONALD: (513) 941-6497 kmc@one.net
Nov. 17: (Sat.) - 10 a.m. Tour of Shaker trace Seed Nursery with Scott Peak. Meet at the Nursery; take I74 to Dry Fork Exit, Rt. to New Haven Rd. Rt. to Nursery.
Dec. 12: (Wed.) - 7:30 p.m. A Holiday Walk with Don Brannen; McKie Center 1644 Chase Ave., Northside.

COLUMBUS CHAPTER

MICHAEL HALL: (614) 939-9273

Meetings are usually held the second Saturday of the month (unless otherwise noted) at 10 a.m. at Innis House, Inniswood Metropolitan Park, 940 Hempstead Rd., Westerville. Meetings are free and open to the public.

Nov. 10: Leave at 10 a.m. from Inniswood Metropolitan Park parking lot to take a tour of Metro Park Wetlands. Tour led by Andrea Haslage, park naturalist.

Dec. 8: Annual election of officers, holiday potluck brunch, and seed exchange. Bring a plate, cup and tableware; coffee and tea provided.

SOUTH CAROLINA

FOOTHILLS CHAPTER, CLEMSON

KATHY KEGLEY: (864) 985-0505

Nov. 17: Planting rescued plants at the S.C. Botanical Garden. Meet at the Gwen Heusel trailhead at 10 a.m. Participants are requested to bring gloves and a shovel if possible. Refreshments served.

Dec. 15: Christmas party and plant/seed swap. Members are asked to bring plants or seeds to exchange and a potluck dish. Location and time to be announced.

WISCONSIN

CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHAPTER

PHYLLIS TUCHSCHER: (715) 384-8751
toosch@tznnet.com

Meetings are usually held the fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., in Rooms 1&2, Portage County Extension Building, 1462 Strongs Ave., Stevens Point, unless otherwise noted.

Nov. 29 (Thurs.): "Native and Invasive Plants of Central Wisconsin Wetlands" 7 p.m. at the Pineries Room, Charles M. White Public Library in Stevens Point.

December: No meeting.

DOOR COUNTY CHAPTER

MARYANN CRAYTON: (920) 854-6304 (May-Oct)
maryanncrayton@aol.com

November through April meetings are held on the first Monday of the month, 7-9 p.m. Location varies.

Nov. 5: "Pre-European Plant and Animal Communities of Wisconsin," presented by Terri Cooper, naturalist and assistant director of Door County Land Trust. Hear and see what Door County was like prior to settlement to learn what our landscape environment should include now. Location to be determined. Email above or call Nancy Rafal at (920) 839-2191 for information.

December: Watch your e-mail for details on social.

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FOX VALLEY AREA CHAPTER

CAROL NIENDORF: (920) 233-4853

niendorf@northnet.net

DONNA VANBUECKEN: (920) 730-3986

dvanbuecke@aol.com

Indoor meetings are held at 7 p.m. at either Memorial Park Arboretum, 1313 E. Witzke Blvd., Appleton, or the Evergreen Retirement Community, 1130 N. Westfield St., Oshkosh.

Nov. 29 (Thurs.): "Shoreline Restoration for Water Quality and Wildlife," presented by Paul Hlina of Leaning Pine Natural Landscaping. Joint session with the Winnebago Audubon Society. 7 p.m., Evergreen Retirement Community, Oshkosh.

December: No meeting.

GREEN BAY CHAPTER

KATHIE TILOT: (920) 336-4992

Meetings are usually held at the Green Bay Botanical Garden, 2600 Larsen Rd., except in summer.

Nov. 14 (Wed.): 7 p.m. Election of officers. "Who's Winning: Aliens or Natives?" a presentation on invasives by Paul Hartman, Brown County UW-Extension horticulture agent. Learn about the latest strategies to manage "invaders."

December: No meeting.

MADISON CHAPTER

LURIE YAHR: (608) 274-6539

yahrkahl@aol.com

Meetings will be held at Olbrich Botanical Garden, 3330 Atwood Ave., Madison, at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. The public is welcome.

Nov. 15: Potluck, seed exchange and photo contest with the theme: "Capturing the Interaction of Native Flora and Fauna."

December: No meeting.

MENOMONEE RIVER AREA CHAPTER

JAN KOEL: (262) 251-7175

JUDY CRANE: (262) 251-2185

Indoor meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at The Ranch Communities Services, N84 W19100 Menomonee Ave., Menomonee Falls. Contact Judy Crane for meeting information.

Nov. 20: "Permaculture Around the Farm," presented by organic farmer Greg David, from Prairie Dock Farm, Watertown.

December: No meeting.

MILWAUKEE NORTH CHAPTER

MESSAGE CENTER: (414) 299-9888

Meetings are usually held the second Saturday of the month at the Schlitz Audubon Center, 1111 E. Brown Deer Rd., Bayside, at 9:30 a.m.

Nov. 10: "Easy Prairie Plants and Their Companions," slide presentation by Richard Barloga.

Dec. 8: "Telling Stories on Ourselves," an informal sharing of anecdotes by various members; seed swapping.

MILWAUKEE SOUTHWEST-WEHR CHAPTER

MESSAGE CENTER: (414) 299-9888

Meetings are usually held the second Saturday of the month at the Wehr Nature Center, 1:30 p.m.

Nov. 10: "Easy Prairie Plants and Their Companions," a slide presentation by Richard Barloga.

Dec. 8: A holiday gathering with a seed exchange, videos, a photo contest and treats.

ROOT RIVER AREA CHAPTER

CARLA FREEMAN: (414) 382-6415

carla.freeman@alverno.edu

All meetings are held from September through May, the first Saturday of the month, 1:30-3 p.m., at the Riverbend Nature Center in Racine, unless otherwise noted.

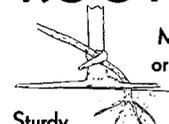
Nov. 3: Speaker on local weed ordinances.

Dec. 1: Seed exchange.

Members can contact Nan Calvert at nj@execpc.com for fall/winter activity information.



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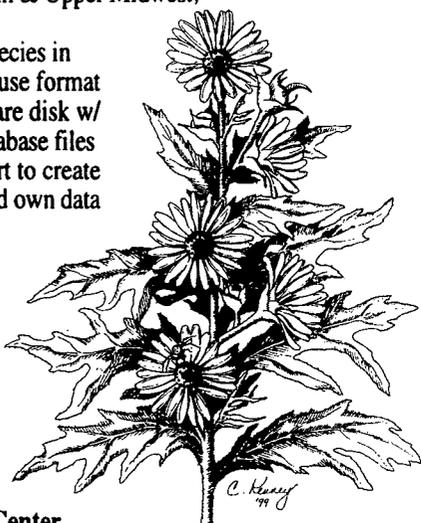
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WHAT'S A CONFERENCE?

If you're new to Wild Ones, you may not know about the many valuable conferences held across the nation. We don't have room to highlight every one, however, they are all generally similar. Let's look at one our Fox Valley Area Chapter is hosting to show you what pleasures await you. Three topics (three different speakers in three different rooms) are offered each session. Speakers usually present a slide show and offer handouts. You may choose the session of greatest interest, or you may drift in and out of sessions to find one you like. You're welcome to visit display booths and query staff about their services or products. Refreshments are available, but you may bring a bag lunch if you like. The keynote speaker is someone of renown, and she will address all attendees, putting the frosting on a memorable, life-changing day. Attend a conference—you'll never stop learning or having fun (teachers can get DPI clock hours for attending this conference).

The Fox Valley Area Chapter of Wild Ones is pleased to announce its **Sixth Annual Toward Harmony With Nature Conference** to be held **Jan. 19, 2002, at the Park Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Oshkosh, Wis.** Cost is \$18 members/\$25 non-members by pre-registration (by Jan. 15) or \$25 members/\$30 non-members at the door. A buffet lunch will be available. There will be vendor displays and a silent auction. Contact Jan Wissink at (920) 589-2602 for more info, or mail your registration to Marilyn Holmes, 1845 Indian Point Rd, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

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FIRST SESSION: 8:30 A.M.

■ Randy Maurer, Prairie Nursery—"Prairie Planting and Management."

■ Scott Craven, UW Department of Wildlife Biology—"Living With Wildlife." ■ Cheryl Bauer and Todd Miller, UW-Madison Arboretum—"Habitat Restoration and School Nature Areas."

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: 10:30

■ Joyce Powers, president CRM Ecosystems, "The Landscapes We Make."

SECOND SESSION: 1 P.M.

■ Michael Sands, Prairie Crossing—"Prairie Crossing, A Conservation Community." ■ Fred Clark, Clark Forestry, Inc. (Restoration Woodlands)—"Managing and Restoring Woodlands." ■ Roger Bannerman, environmental specialist, Wisconsin DNR—"Rain Gardens."

THIRD SESSION: 2:45 P.M.

■ Tom Arannow, conservationist, "The Lost Naturalist is Found." ■ Wendy Walcott, land manager, Schlitz Audubon Center—"Restoring Native Plants in Your Backyard." ■ Katherine Rill, UW-Oshkosh botanist—"Plants Have Families, Too."

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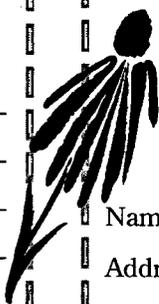
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