

a voice
for the natural
landscaping
movement

Wild Ones®

NATIVE PLANTS, NATURAL LANDSCAPES

JOURNAL

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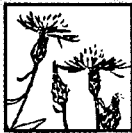


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If you, like I, were unaware of what was, and still is being done in the way of maintaining a record of native plant species, you will find this article about herbaria fascinating. Although we encourage people to do as little collecting as possible in the wild, using these techniques to collect plants from personal restorations as a means of maintaining a history or chronology of your project certainly would be appropriate. Some people use journals. Others use photos to keep a record of what is happening in their very special corner of nature. Maintaining herbaria is the way scientists keep a record of the occurrence of species for history. Donna VanBuecken, executive director

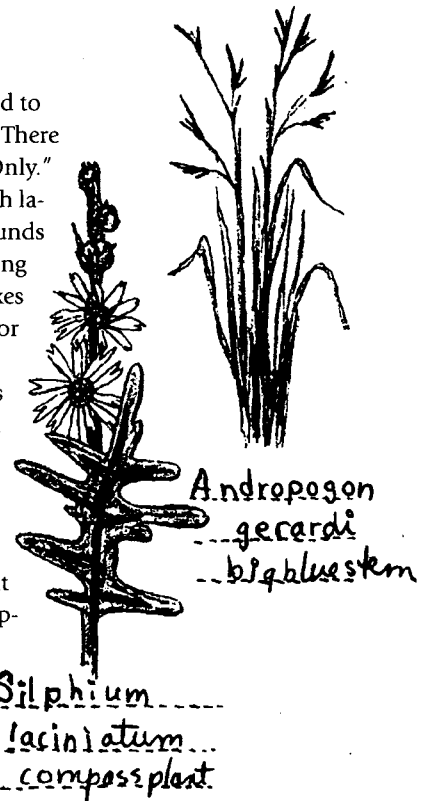
What Is an Herbarium?

Katherine D. Rill

"Dead Plants." That is the label on a box that I used to mail specimens from one herbarium to another. There is a second box labeled "Dried Plants For Scientific Use Only." I always chuckle when I see the label on the first box; both labels accurately describe the contents, but the second sounds so much more professional. Although the plants being transported are "dead," they died for a purpose. Both boxes contain plants collected for scientific study and are used for mailing to a botanist doing research.

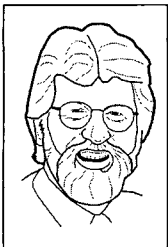
Plants are collected as a record of what was growing in a particular location at a particular time in history. They are intended to become part of an herbarium; a collection of plants, dried, pressed, and glued onto regulation-sized, acid-free paper. A label is always attached to each sheet, usually in the lower right hand corner, with the scientific name of the plant (see *Wild Ones Journal*, March-April 2003, for a description of the rules for naming plants), the habitat in which it was collected, and the name of the collector. The herbarium sheets are arranged on the shelves of tight-fitting metal cabinets that keep out light and keep the specimens free of dust and insects. They are accessible to scientists for study. The curator of the collection is responsible for their care, for mailing them to researchers and securing their return, and for helping those who want plants identified. Herbaria (plural) in Europe go back to the 1700s.

Herbaria are valuable scientific records. We know when the last passenger pigeon died and it is just as helpful to know when a rare plant disappears. Collection dates that taper off are often the first indication that there is a problem. The Endangered Species Act, which lists plants as endangered or threatened, requires recovery plans that outline steps to be taken, such as protection of habitat, to prevent further loss of rare plant species. Conversely, herbarium specimens may be used to determine if a plant is native or non-native, by showing when a plant was first collected. New plants may appear as part of the flora of a region or the earliest collection date for an alien plant can give some indication of its rate of spread and help gauge its potential for becoming invasive.



**In 2004:
Celebrating 25
Years!**

Continued on p. 3



President's Notes... Transitions ahead

Transitions are the theme of my Notes this issue. Change is inevitable and it allows us new opportunities. Transitions are occurring

within the *Journal* at this time. Mariette Nowak has stepped down as National Vice President, head of the Communications Committee (COMCO), and editor-in-chief of the *Journal*.

Mariette has overseen the implementation of the COMCO concept and the transition of editors for the *Journal* since COMCO's inception two years ago. Thank you, Mariette, for your hard work and dedication! Past president Bret Rappaport has agreed to serve as our next COMCO chair. COMCO oversees all Wild Ones publications and the Web site.

And welcome to Maryann Whitman, our new National Vice President. Maryann has been involved with COMCO since its inception as well, and writes the Grapevine column in the *Journal*. As vice president, she will also serve as the *Journal's* editor-in-chief.

As an organization, Wild Ones is also in transition. Our membership is down, as is that of many organizations. While we have many long-term members supporting the concept of native landscaping, we seem to have many transitory members seeking a bit of information and then moving on. Education may be a key element of our Mission Statement, but the turnover undermines the solid base necessary to grow the organization and advocate native landscaping.

The National Board will be investigating a number of new programs to improve membership retention and to provide more

opportunities for members to participate actively in the native landscaping movement. Two programs are under consideration: a mentoring program and a master native landscape gardener certification program similar to the Master Gardener program. Mentors would work other member households and businesses who are in need of guidance in establishing and maintaining native landscapes. Both programs can provide members with a reason to continue membership after that initial "fix" of native plant education. In addition, both programs can extend our native plant advocacy beyond the monthly meetings and out into the communities in which we live.

Next year Wild Ones will be celebrating 25 years of existence. The organization has grown from a local "garden club" advocating the use of native plants to a national organization. Some nationally-recognized landscape designers have suggested that over the *next* 25 years, native plants in naturalized landscapes will become the dominant landscape design. In the hope that this prediction does come to pass I will be asking you, the member, the reader, and the advocate, to help us define where we should be directing our resources in assisting the necessary transition. In the near future I will be mailing our annual funding appeal and asking for your opinion of and contribution to those programs and focus areas that you feel are important to our movement.

Finally, thanks to Scott Woodbury and the folks in St. Louis for a wonderful conference and for hosting our 2003 Annual Meeting. It was a great time and the fellowship was outstanding. Please plan to join us in Madison next year (August 6-8) for our 25th Anniversary Celebration and 2004 Annual Meeting.

Joe Powelka

Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities. Wild Ones is a not-for-profit environmental, educational, and advocacy organization.

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Herbarium...

from p. 1

Collection

Collect as much of the plant as is possible. The more parts of the plant available, the easier it is to identify. Often someone brings in a snippet of a plant and asks me to name it. Their faith is flattering but often the answer is, "Sorry. I need to see more to make a proper identification."

Keys are identification guides used by one trying to identify a plant. They are constructed to separate one plant from another, based on flowering parts, fruits, leaves, stem structure, and so on. Sometimes species are differentiated by as little as whether the hairs on the back of a leaf stand erect or are appressed (lying down). Certain families cannot be identified without fruits, such as those in the bean family (*Fabaceae*), carrot family (*Apiaceae*), sedges (*Cyperaceae*) and grasses (*Poaceae*). Roots are often needed to ascertain if a plant is an annual, perennial, or biennial; I carry a small geologist's hammer with which to dig out the roots and a pruner to cut off pieces of large plants that cannot be collected whole. While collecting, take notes about flower color, height, growth habit, habitat, and what else is growing in the area.

Where to collect is a touchy question. If a plant is on private land, ask the owner for permission to collect or you will be trespassing. Usually explaining the reason for collecting and promising to be careful will result in permission. The owners are often interested in what is growing on their land. Here is a great opportunity to educate and you may be invited back when other plants will be in bloom. Certain places, such as state and federal natural areas, are usually off limits to collecting. As a good citizen, enjoy these places but leave the plants alone. Find out the regulations for where you live.

What not to collect is another question that needs answering. Endangered and threatened species should never be collected. Even if the plant is not endangered, do not collect if there are only a few present. Use common sense; if there are many of a particular kind, then collect just one or two.

While in the field, place the plant inside a folded sheet of newspaper with a

piece of corrugated cardboard on either side, then put it into a portable plant press. A plant press can easily be made from two pieces of plywood held together with canvas strap or a more expensive version can be bought from a scientific supply house. If you do not

have the press in the field and will not be out very long, plants may be placed in plastic bags. Be sure to keep your collection out of the sun and do not leave it in a hot car. The importance of note-taking for appropriate labeling cannot be overstressed.

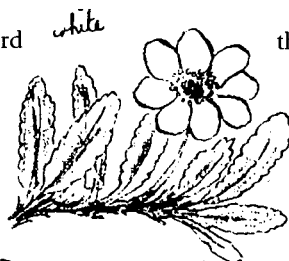
A private herbarium

So, you would like to start your own herbarium? Don't! Instead collect for a college or university herbarium. My private herbarium has close to 8,500 sheets; it is always growing, always needing more space. I did not intend to end up with such an assortment. It started, like the journey of many miles, with one step; when I started, I lived a fair distance from the nearest herbarium and had two small children so I collected plants for reference.

All my specimens are in plastic bags to keep out moisture. Most of my specimens are in metal, shelved cabinets. Being unable to afford regulation cases, I bought my cases from office supply companies. Because I don't want moth balls in the house, I bought a small freezer to keep insects at bay and rotate the herbaria sheets in the freezer.

The oldest plants in my herbarium were collected by my mother in the early 1900s. As a student in Maine, she collected plants for a class project and saved them in a notebook. When she died, I could not throw the notebook out. I saved and mounted the plants that were in good condition.

As the years have gone by certain plants in my collection have become noteworthy. On Aug. 4, 1947 near Edgerton, WI, I collected a St. John's-wort (*Hypericum prolificum*) that turned out to be a state record — the first collected in Wisconsin. Another collector and I were the first to collect on two of the Apostle Islands in Lake Superior. Once, a duplicate



Dryas octapetala
mountain dryas

that I gave to the Arizona State University Herbarium at Tempe from a picnic site was cited in a research paper. These experiences emphasize the importance of legitimate plant collection, and of communicating one's finds to local institutions.

Identification

After a plant is collected, how is it identified? There are helpful books for any part of the country. Use one that covers the area where the plant was collected. It is very frustrating to think you have matched the plant only to discover that it only grows a thousand miles away.

Bite the bullet and learn the flower parts. Learn how to use the dichotomous keys in guidebooks; at each step along the way, you must choose one "leg" of the key to be led to the right answer. With practice and (frequently) considerable missteps, in time it will become easier.

I encourage you to enjoy plants and learn how to identify them. Contact a nearby herbarium and see if the staff are interested in having you collect plants. If the answer is "yes," they will give you guidelines. They may also help you identify what you have found. Your collections will become part of a large body of information and will add to our knowledge of plants of the world. ☘

Katherine D. Rill works with the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Herbarium besides maintaining her own herbarium. She is a member of the Fox Valley Area Chapter (WI) Wild Ones. Botanist, teacher, and author of *A Flora of Winnebago County, Wisconsin*, Kay is a board member of Citizens Natural Resources Association of Wisconsin. Kay may be contacted at rferox@dbe.com.

Artwork © Patricia Armstrong. Pat is a co-founder and member of the Greater du Page (IL) Chapter.

CORRECTION

We deeply regret that we that we omitted the correct information for Foxwood Gardens in the ad which ran in the last several issues. Foxwood Gardens is now located at 8532 S. Miller Ct., Littleton, CO 80127; (303) 246-0237 or (303) 904-2782. We apologize to all for the inconvenience caused by our error. Please see the article on p. 9 to learn more about Foxwood Gardens.

Nature: Keeping a Journal

Lynda Gibson Johnson

In "journaling," which is "the act of writing in a journal," you can record the events of the day, as in "keeping a diary," or you can allow yourself the luxury of recording inspirations and connections between what you're seeing and what you're feeling.

If you focus on the interesting and intimate world of nature you can write about these direct experiences. Your responses and reflections about nature become "nature journaling."

Since you are reading the Wild Ones Journal, chances are pretty good that you already have an interest in, or a love of, native plants. I invite you to go on an adventure in nature by journaling – or writing – about your observations and your responses.

Before You Begin

Some people like to record their observations electronically on a computer. If that's what suits you – do it that way. I prefer to use pen and notebook. There's something very satisfying about the physical act of running a pen across a page. By doing this the old-fashioned way you can experience a soothing rhythm not found by pounding computer keys.

Writing tools can be pencils, ballpoint pens, or colored ink pens. There are numerous notebooks available for journaling: lined, spiral note-books, three-ring notebooks, unlined sketch books, hardcover or padded-cover books with unlined pages, or soft-cover books with poems and drawings along the edges of the pages.

The choices are endless. You could even write on separate pieces of paper of various sizes and textures and keep them in an envelope or file folder. Try different tools until you discover what you like best. I alternate between spiral notebooks purchased on sale at the beginning of the school year for 25¢ and slightly smaller but thicker sketch pads with unlined pages.

Getting Started: It's An Attitude

Almost everyone has a fear of writing! It seems so final to write something down for the whole world to judge and criticize. And deep within us, we all think that everything we write has to be perfectly polished.

These are valid feelings, but ones that we have to push aside! I invite you to jump right in. A journal is a personal log, not a school assignment.

A nature journal offers you an excuse to "just enjoy." Deliberately set aside a few minutes each day to sit in your yard – among your native plants if you wish – and look around. Take a few deep breaths to unwind from your hectic and loud 21st-century life. What do you see? Hear? Smell? Try focusing on just one flower. Does it have buds newly opening? A bug crawling on it? A butterfly visiting it for nectar? Flowers past their peak bloom?

Writing and/or Drawing

There are several different techniques for recording your observations:

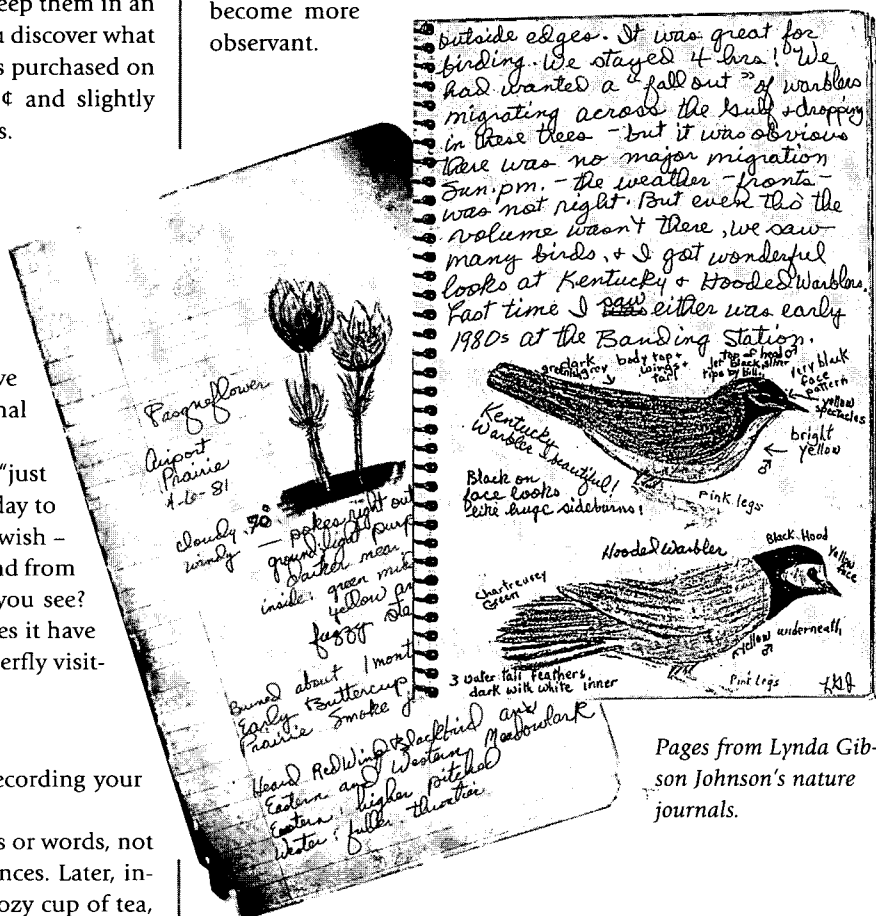
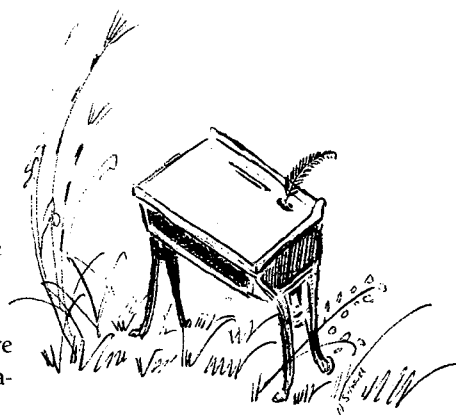
- You can jot down impressions in quick phrases or words, not even trying to make coherent, complete sentences. Later, inside in a comfortable setting with perhaps a cozy cup of tea,

you can use those quick notes to jog your memory and write more complete observations.

- Or, you can write everything while you're in the out-of-doors. Sometimes people discover that once they start the words tumble out so fast that they can barely keep up with their thoughts!
- A third way to capture what you're seeing is to try to make quick little sketches. Before you insist that you can't draw, try it. The idea is to practice looking at things in nature. The closer you look, the more you will discover how much you are learning. Remember, this is your personal journal. You are not entering it in a juried art exhibition. For some, the act of sketching is much freer and faster than writing.

Since bird watching is one of my hobbies, I like to sketch birds I see, adding details to help me remember field marks. For me, this process, along with taking notes about behavior, helps me to remember the birds much more clearly.

I also sketch new plants to learn them. Getting really close to my subject, noting details, helps me to remember. Does the flower have five petals or four? Are the leaves narrow or wide? Smooth or fuzzy? All of these exercises help me to focus and become more observant.



Pages from Lynda Gibson Johnson's nature journals.

What Else?

Sometimes when I'm outside I like to collect little bits of nature to tape in my nature journal: a teeny bit of moss, an interesting leaf, a flower to press and preserve. And, I like to add photographs and pictures cut from nature magazines. These add to my impressions and make the journals thick with "stuff" added to my drawings and words. I need to remind you, do not collect in a nature preserve or other area where this is prohibited!

Why Keep A Nature Journal?

Keeping a nature journal encourages an on-going sense of wonder about the natural world. Our writing allows us to explore and discover. If you can visualize writing as a journey instead of a performance, you will find a whole new way of looking at the world. And in the process, I hope you discover a sense of place and a connection that makes you feel a part of the natural world. With this will come a heightened appreciation for the wonder of life. Enjoy! ☘

Lynda Gibson Johnson is a member of the Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter. Author's note: I would like to thank author Scott Russell Sanders for inspiring me a writer's workshop at Severson Dells, Rockford, IL, July, 2002.

Illustration by Marilyn Stroud, Fox Valley (WI) Chapter.

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans matched employee Sharon Duerkop's donation to Wild Ones. Sharon is on the governing board of the Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter.

Thrivent also presented a check to Wild Ones following a presentation by Donna VanBuecken, executive director, to Thrivent's continuing education group in Appleton, WI. Based in Minneapolis, MN, Thrivent also has offices in Appleton, WI.

(Please remember to ask if your employer makes matching gifts to Wild Ones and other charities.)

Wild Ones has received a gift from Salomon Smith Barney Charitable Trust, Inc. Donor-Advised Fund through Carl and Carolyn (Kris) Johnson, Maumee Valley Seedling (OH) Chapter.

The Next Generation

Babette Kis

If you want your child to keep a journal...

...let her or him watch you make journal entries.

Ask your preschooler what you should write about. After you finish your entry, read it to your child. If your child is older, combine journal writing with summer camp, field trips, and nature study.

Middle and high school students often do well with small notebooks like those adults use, but for younger children, ages 6 to 11, an 8-1/2 x 11 spiral bound notebook often works better. Younger children I have worked with don't like to draw on lined paper. If your child doesn't, consider buying a spiral bound book that has lined paper and drawing spaces on each page.

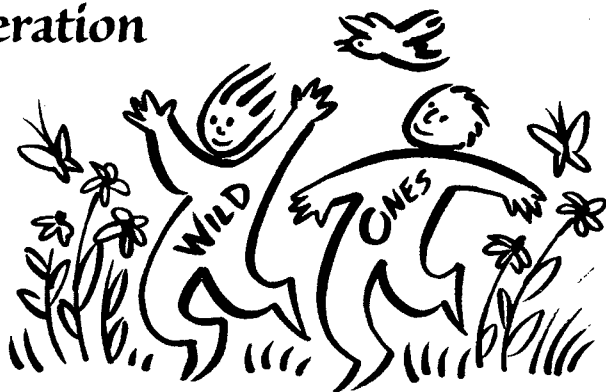
You can also make a personalized journal for your child. On the cover, include your child's name, the year, and a description such as "Summer Journal," "Nature Journal," "Summer Adventure," "Plant and Animal Stories," etc. Let your child help choose the title of the journal and the color of the cover. Calculate the number of pages your child's journal will have by multiplying the number of times per week your child will write by the number of weeks or months the journal will be used. Twenty to 30 pages should do for a season. My summer class of second and third graders wrote in journals like these once a week. Design or buy pages that have space for your child's name, the date, the location, and observations/notes and a picture. After you finish your cover and sample page, have the journal duplicated and spiral bound at a quick-print shop.

Journal keeping is most interesting during late spring through fall, so you may want to start during this period. In your yard or a nature area close to home, ask your child to point out birds, butterflies, bees, caterpillars, flowers or other plants and animals. While you and your child are looking at plants you may ask: Do they live in sun or in shade? Are they short or tall? When do they bloom? How do the flowers and leaves feel? How do they smell? For animals: What are they doing? Is there more than one? Are they quick or slow? Are they out all the time, or only at a certain time of day? Are they hunters or are they prey? Where do you think they live?

After one or two of these field trips, the children I have worked with usually decide what they want to write, without prompting. Each time she's outside my 6-year-old writes one or two sentences and draws a picture. Give second-graders and older children note-taking rules. My third and sixth graders are required to write at least one paragraph containing at least four sentences for each journal entry. I review everybody's writing after she or he has finished an entry, or once a week, depending upon the child's age. I don't correct their sentences and spelling errors. I do ask them to explain vague sentences or logic. And, I tell them they have sharp eyes when they state little known facts. Every two weeks I require my older children to choose one of their entries and write a page about it. To do this, they may have to make additional observations or use reference material. They write a draft, correct their spelling errors and sentences and arrange sentences into paragraphs. I encourage them to include pictures, graphs, lists, sketches, or other information in their report.

At the end of the summer, I congratulate all of the children on a job well-done. We read our favorite stories out loud to each other. In fall, I store my own children's summer journals in a box in the attic. Over time these journals will weather and wrinkle, like my childhood journals did. And, when my children leave, their journals will be waiting, should they wish to take them. ☘

© 1996 Babette Kis. Babette is a member of the Milwaukee-North (WI) Chapter. This article first appeared in the November/December, 1996 issue



From Rain Barrels to Rain Gardens

Lorrie Otto

The early seventies. It seems like a long time ago when an urgent phone call awakened me. The night before, Harry Hendrickson from one of Wisconsin's governmental agencies had attended one of my lectures on healing the earth by abolishing lawns. Now he was insisting that I include "non-point-source pollution" in my next performance. The concern was understandable but it was such a mouthful of words, and would also sound quite dull on a poster. The EPA had a goal of "Fishable and swimmable waters by 1984" but after clamping down on source polluters the scientists were claiming that we were only half way there. General runoff from construction sites, farm lands and lawns were the culprits now.

Of course, I could see and understand the problem, but how could I attract an audience to come to the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center on a Saturday morning to hear me?

As I was getting out of bed, the trash collecting truck was driving down the road with a bunch of 50 gallon metal barrels. Rain barrels! This would be my hook! I persuaded some of the Milwaukee artists to decorate them for an auction at the nature center. (Schomer Lichtner, Betty Greaves, Tula Erskine and Ruth Grotenrath painted two cans. One sold for \$400.00.) Harry cut open the tops for screens and added a faucet on the bottom of each one. The morning was such a success that it touched off a spate of rain barrels much as Wild Ones members make Leopold benches today. However, we were more than surprised to discover how quickly 50 gallons can come off of the roof during a short shower. And wriggling the hoses around was a bit of a nuisance especially at night.

Next I tried terraces and swales where it was wonderful to watch birds bathe after summer cloudbursts. Then, less than 30 years ago I installed turfstone into my sloping driveway. This catches the first load of pollutants from cars which rain once rushed directly down into the ravine. Those hundreds of little squares make such a charming design especially after a light snowstorm.

Then, finally, I began constructing



Lorrie Otto (left) and her sister, Betty Larson, with one of the colorful rain barrels painted by Ruth Grotenrath.

rain gardens, the loveliest idea of all. There is one at the end of each of my downspouts plus a surprise pool which catches water from the ditch along Lake Drive. It's a surprise because the water was expected to seep away within five days but because of the fine soil under it, the pool has remained for six years! Reeds. Rushes. Sedges. I sit on my Leopold bench, peek through the Queen-of-the Prairie on the border and marvel at the shadows. However, all is not well there. Nothing ever moves in the water. I thought that I might bring back the toads, frogs, or salamanders of years past, but there is no food in that little pond; not even mosquito larvae! Lawn-care services treat the properties around me, and their insecticides rain-wash into the ditch. It troubles me to watch the migrating warblers as they bathe in the reflections of my water-plantain, arrowheads, and bur-reeds.

As I write I look out on the downspout plantings: bottle gentians, iris, Joe

Pyes, and marsh milkweeds. On the other side there are marsh marigolds, boneset, and glade mallow which provides shade for the Jack in the pulpits. These gardens which are so enchanting not only satisfy my aesthetic hunger but it so pleases me to be a good citizen, a good steward and be truly patriotic. A flag on my mail box is not enough! 🌸

See also the article "Rainy-Day Gardens" in the March/April 2003 issue of *The American Gardener* magazine featuring Lorrie Otto, and another article by Lorrie entitled "Painting a Garden" in *Wildflower* magazine, issue 18(3):10-13.


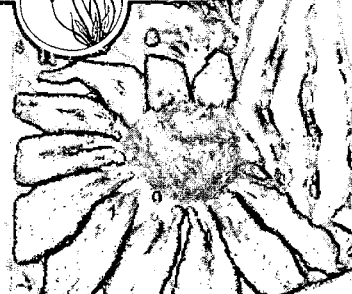
Lorrie Otto, upon whose philosophy *Wild Ones* was founded in 1977, continues to be active in *Wild Ones* and maintains her membership with the Milwaukee-North Chapter.

Remember to send us your memories of *Wild Ones'* early days. We're getting ready to celebrate our 25th anniversary in 2004.

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Rain Garden Puts Run-off to Work

Mandy Ploch

Our small vacation cabin in western Wisconsin is on a sloping site with sandy loam soil. The roof gutters are a 40-foot run to the uphill end of the cabin. In May, 2002, with a few hours work, using the local stone and some added compost, I constructed my garden which functions well through all seasons.

Because of site constrictions it has a 5-foot diameter and goes from ground level to 12 inches high on the downhill side. I scooped some soil out on the high side, mixed it with compost and added it to the low side, leaving a concave surface. There is no liner and I just firmly packed soil mix into the stone joints. The evening I finished we had a good rain and I could watch as the water level rose to the top of the stones where it held for about an hour until it seeped away. Ta da! Success even without plants!

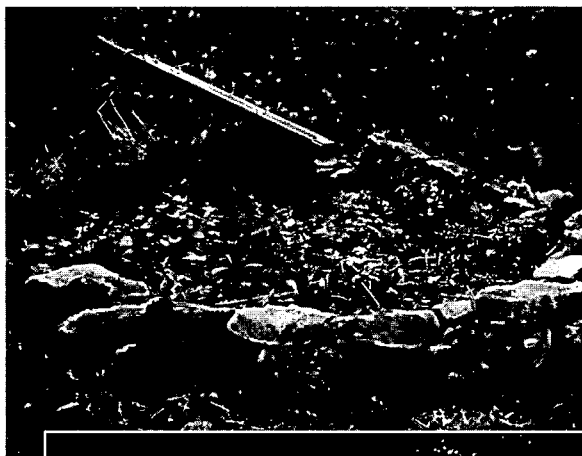
The next day I did plant swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*), boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*), and purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), all trans-

plants from home. These plants all grew well in the mostly shaded site without any more intervention on my part. During late winter there was a solid mass of ice across the garden. The next spring all the plants returned with vigor. I have since added great blue lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*), snakeroot (*Cimicifuga racemosa*), lavender hyssop (*Agastache scro-*

phulariaefolia), and gray's sedge (*Carex grayii*). Wild strawberry has found its way in to scramble around its neighbors and the rabbits seem to be dining elsewhere.

This was a simple, quick project that gives me great pleasure. During rains I can look down from a nearby window and watch the garden doing its job of slowly dispersing the water. The bonus is the habitat for lovely plants in a shady site. ☘

Mandy belongs to the Milwaukee-North (WI) Chapter, and a member of the Journal team and a national board member.



In the summer of 2002, Mandy Ploch created a small rain garden to catch run-off from the roof of her family's Wisconsin cabin. In June (left), the garden was almost bare. But by the end of the summer, below, the garden was host to a variety of healthy plants and insects.



Become a...

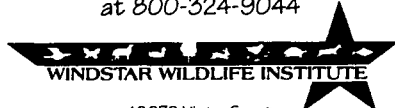


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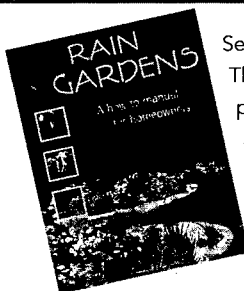
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Several publications about creating rain gardens are available. This booklet, *Rain Gardens, A how-to manual for homeowners*, is published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the University of Wisconsin-Extension. Although the plants listed are appropriate for the Upper Midwest, the basic information about constructing a rain garden will be helpful for gardeners in all parts of North America. Readers may order a copy by calling 1-877-947-7827.

Aliens in Our Midst: Spotted Knapweed

Maryann Whitman

The alien reconnaissance force has landed, taken root, and is laying the way for rest of the invasion: Chemical warfare.

When we think of alien invasive plants we usually think in terms of their displacement of native plants through successful competition for resources (sunlight, water, nutrients); they have no parasites, insect enemies, or diseases; they grow quickly, produce lots of seeds and the seeds germinate readily, or they spread rapidly by vegetative means like underground rhizomes and easily rooting leaf nodes.

While botanists and biologists have talked about allelopathy — the suppression of neighboring plant growth by the release of toxic compounds — no controlled studies using exotic invasives had been done and the discussion was speculative at best. Results published on September 5, 2003 in the journal *Science* characterize in detail the mechanism by which the phytotoxin (-)-catechin, pro-

duced by the roots of spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*), kills its susceptible plant neighbors. The toxin initiates extensive changes in gene expression (production of life supporting proteins), which lead to cell death, death of the root system, and ultimately the plant.

Furthermore, this compound accumulates in soils around roots and inhibits the germination and growth of native North American grass species that the knapweed is known to displace from their natural habitats. This effect persists even after the knapweed itself has been burned or otherwise removed. In contrast, neither the germination nor the growth of several European grasses (closely related to some susceptible native species) were affected by the same concentrations of catechin; they appear to have developed resistance to the herbicide.

This study has highlighted an important role for allelopathy in exotic plant invasion. "If species that have co-existed for long periods have coevolved to



Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*) has thin stems and branches. The flowers are pinkish-purple. This invasive plant produces a chemical which kills neighboring, native plants. The chemical lingers in the soil long after the plant itself has been killed.

tolerate each others' toxins, then only species trying to invade those communities will be susceptible to allelopathic suppression. At one level, therefore, toxins could lead to ecological stability within a plant community. However, if the invasive



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species has a toxin and the existing community lacks resistance to it, the result may be the disruption of the existing plant community. This seems to be the case with *C. maculosa*, one of the most economically destructive exotic plant invaders to have arrived in North America."

Spotted knapweed entered this continent on the west coast about a century ago. It has since appeared in all the lower 48 states and has spread across millions of acres of rangeland in the west. Cattle won't eat it. Wild elk herds have changed migration routes to avoid areas of heavy infestation. Because it displaces native grasses, which have heavy root systems, knapweed, which does not have an extensive root structure, has been implicated in serious erosion problems in the west.

Earlier this year a Colorado scientist thought that perhaps catechin could be isolated and used as a "natural weed killer." He hoped it would be available on the market in two to three years. One would hope that the EPA will put a long-term hold on approval of this potentially very dangerous herbicide. ☘

A member of the Oakland (MI) Chapter, Maryann Whitman is the Journal's editor-in-chief and serves on the Wild Ones national board of directors.

Drawing by D. Kopitzke is taken from Wisconsin Manual of Control Recommendations for Ecologically Invasive Plants, published in 1997 by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Advertisers' Corner: Foxwood Gardens

Sharyn Herian, owner and soap maker

Last November, following the birth of our first grandchild, we moved to Littleton, Colorado, taking Foxwood Gardens, our soap-making operation, with us. We continue to make fine, small, hand-cut batches of soap for customers who believe, as we do, that soap is all about plants and good health.

The past year has been a busy one! After living in the Midwest my whole life, I have come to love the challenges of bright sun and high altitudes. I've been inspired to combine alpine plants and herbs with favorite perennials to create new soaps that delight the skin as well as the nose.

Foxwood Gardens Botanical Soaps are the perfect antidote for Colorado's intense sunlight and dry air. Our soaps are popular at the Colorado farm markets where we introduced Aspen, Mountain Meadow, Patchouli & Passion Flower, Milled Lavender & Borage, Sunrise Sunset, Mile High Chamomile, Grizzly, Barnswallow, and Spot, a natural shampoo bar for dogs. Favorites of Rose Water, Tiny Bottoms for Babies, Pressed Flower, Avocado, Oak Moss, Hello Aloe, Spa La La, Nature Walk and others, continue to pamper shoppers who visit our secure Website, www.foxwoodgardens.com.

New botanical skin care "Botany Butterpats" of Vanilla & Jasmine and Patchouli & Passion Flower have joined Botany Butter. Our body/bath/massage products include botanical oils and a line of Dead Sea salt scrubs, polishes, and soaks in three scents. Of course, we still pack our own essential oils.

Coming soon: Hyssop! We are growing four varieties of agastaches in our small alpine rock garden. The hyssops smell like sassafras or root beer and are wildly attractive to butterflies, bees, and moths. To our regular Wild Ones customers, thank you so much for following us to Colorado. For those new to Foxwood Gardens, bathe every day in healthy botanicals and come to appreciate another luxurious benefit of our plant world.

And our granddaughter is a delight!

(Foxwood Gardens still has a "home" in Illinois. Barnswallow, A Wild Bird Concern, owned by Linda Breuer, a professional bird rehabilitator, will be carrying our botanical soaps and other products in Wauconda. She may be reached at barnswallow@earthlink.net.) ☘



New at the Wild Ones Library

These books have recently been donated to the library:

Scat: Pest-Proofing Your Garden by Ruth Harley

Grow a Butterfly Garden by Wendy Potter-Springer

Creating a Wildflower Meadow by Henry W. Art

The Tree Farm 'Replanting a Life' by Robert Treuer; donated by Donna VanBuecken

Northern Passages 'Reflections from Lake Superior Country' by Michael Van Stappen; donated by Donna VanBuecken

Ecoregion-Based Design for Sustainability by Robert G Bailey; donated by Oakland (MI) Chapter

The Gardener's Manifesto 'Changing the World and Creating Beauty one Garden at a Time' by Lorraine Johnson; donated by Oakland (MI) Chapter

Borrow these and more by contacting Library@for-wild.org.

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Natural Aromashpere



Shooting Star:

Donna VanBuecken

Carol Niendorf

In honor of Donna VanBuecken's leadership of the Fox Valley Area Chapter and of her fifth anniversary as the organization's executive director, our chapter presented a check for \$1,000 to Wild Ones at the annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri.

Donna truly deserves recognition as a "shooting star." As our chapter's first president, she nurtured our organization much as she now nurtures seedling chapters. Those of us who were called together in the summer of 1994 by the Winnebago County, University of Wisconsin extension horticulturist to explore the possibility of starting a new wildflower interest group remember that it was Donna's suggestion that we look into affiliating with an organization called Wild Ones. I'm not sure any of the rest of us had ever heard of this group.

At her instigation, we invited Curt and Judy Crane and Mandy Ploch of Milwaukee to tell us more about Wild Ones; that same night we voted to become the Fox Valley Area Chapter of Wild Ones. We elected officers and held our first official chapter meeting under Donna's leadership in January, 1995. It was exciting to be part of the creation of this new group and, it was sometimes very challenging too. Through it all, Donna always maintained her upbeat, positive attitude just as she does in the national organization today.

Honoring Donna gave us an opportunity to find out a few things about her that we've never had a chance to ask. She recalls that her mother loved flowers and had a special affinity for wildflowers, even though she didn't particularly differentiate between natives and non-natives. Donna shared this appreciation, and in 1986 when she and her husband, John, moved to their home in Appleton, Wisconsin, her interest soon came to the forefront.

There was a creek that would overflow into their backyard, leaving water standing in some areas. John had 80 dump truck loads of fill brought in, and Donna wanted to try planting some wildflowers. She knew she needed information that would not be easy to find. She learned about and joined the nearest chapter of Wild Ones, which at the time was Milwaukee North, about 100 miles away. She managed to attend a few meetings, yard tours, and a seed exchange or two. She also got acquainted with some other Appleton-area members. Donna says that it was these people and those she met at Milwaukee meetings who were most influential in her early learning experiences.

As busy as she is with national duties, Donna also participates in, and takes special pride in, our chapter's many projects. These include the chapter handbook; organization of spring and fall native plant sales; the Natural Landscaping for Tomorrow grants program; the continuing education credits for teachers who attend our annual natural landscaping conference; the identification of receiving areas, such as schools and nature centers, to whom we donate a portion of all native plants from our plant rescues; and the prairie identification project.

She is very pleased that many of these ideas have been adopted by the national organization. Donna is particularly proud of all the members who make our chapter what it is. And what does she dream of for the national organization? Donna quickly answers: "30,000 members instead of 3,000!"

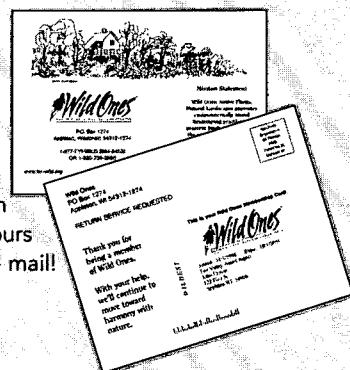
Carol is a founding member and past president of the Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter.



Membership I.D. Card

On June 1, 2003, Wild Ones began sending membership identification cards to new and renewing members. The card identifies you as a Wild, Wilder, or Wildest member and includes your chapter affiliation and your membership expiration date. Besides acknowledging receipt of membership dues, the card is the perfect size to use in plastic insert name badges.

We've also learned that a couple of the chapters have already begun using them to obtain discounts from local nurseries and related environmental vendors.



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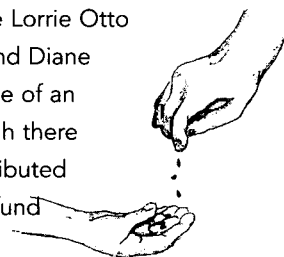
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Richard & Sally Luell
Kay E. B. MacNeil

Education is important to members of Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes, and members have demonstrated just how important it is by giving to the recently-completed effort to raise funds for the Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Program (SFE). Special thanks to Joe and Diane Powelka of One Plus Inc. who provided the challenge pledge of an additional \$2 for each of the first 500 contributions. Although there were only 353 donors, Joe and Diane very generously contributed the full \$1,000, bringing the total raised during this special fund drive to \$8,880.



Each year, Wild Ones, through SFE, provides grants to schools, churches and other institutions which are developing native landscapes to be used for educational purposes. Because of the nature of the grant application process, the grants fund not just the landscaping itself, but also the critically-important educational efforts which come before a single native plant or seed goes into the ground. And, of course, education continues as students, their teachers, parents and others work to maintain the native landscape.

Since its beginning in 1996, when the Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Program was created in honor of naturalist and Wild Ones inspirational leader, Lorrie Otto, SFE has processed 166 applications from 34 states and awarded 63 grants totaling \$18,127. In addition, Wild Ones has established 61 nursery partners throughout the states in which the grants have been awarded.

SFE grants for 2004 will be awarded in February, 2004.

**Thank you to all whose gifts are planting
the seeds for native landscaping!**

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It's not too late to contribute to the Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Fund.

If you would like to contribute to the Seeds for
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P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, WI 54912-1274.

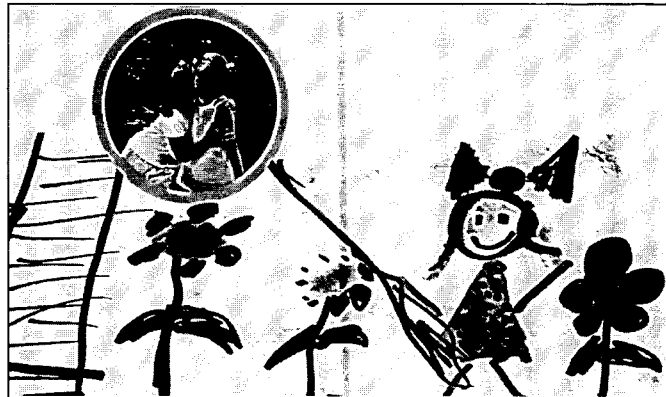


Seeds For Education Project Report: Montessori School of Lake Forest, IL

From a letter written by Mary Kelly, former Director of Advancement, and updated by Lissa Hektor, Executive Director, Montessori School of Lake Forest, Illinois.

The Montessori School of Lake Forest (MSLF) received a \$400 cash award from the 2001 SFE Grant Program for a project entitled "Outdoor Learning and Discovery." Phases I and II have been completed and the school's children are the primary stewards of a community garden which yields vegetables, flowers and fruit, and of a restored woodland, from which students and staff removed loads of buckthorn. Whether they are tending the garden, jumping on the German step chimes or simply walking on the paths to listen to and enjoy nature, the children are enriched by this beautiful environment that friends like the Wild Ones are helping make possible.

In October 2002, MSLF hosted "Prairies in our Midst," a workshop jointly sponsored by several Lake County organizations and conservation groups. The first-of-its-kind conference drew a wide range of participants, from experts on the whys and how-to's of prairie restoration to suburbanites interested in developing properties suitable for the soil and climate conditions of Illinois.



This conservation is now being sponsored by the Liberty Prairie Conservation Organization. The MSLF teachers who attended this workshop worked diligently to introduce prairie studies to children in their classrooms.

On behalf of the children, faculty and staff, MSLF sends renewed thanks for Wild Ones members' support, as well as best wishes and warm regards. ☘

Annual Meeting, 2003: Business, Fellowship, Fun

Maryann Whitman

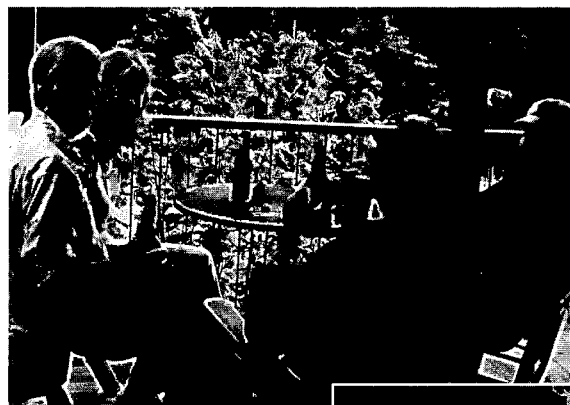
This past September, the Wild Ones Annual Meeting took place under the auspices of the St. Louis Chapter, at the Shaw Nature Reserve, some 30 miles west of St. Louis, MO. We stayed on the grounds of the Shaw Nature Reserve and enjoyed two great days of conference and tours. It was a wonderful place to hold a meeting, with its historic stone cottage and post-and-beam and log buildings, and a 2,800-acre reserve that has been owned by the Missouri Botanical Gardens since the 1920s serving as conference facilities.

We came away refreshed and made stronger by the knowledge that there are others like ourselves in a part of the country where *ageratums* are native, (or at worst adventive), in the ditches and the cicadas sound different from those we hear farther north.

Mary-Clare Holst (MN) said she "Learned as much as my brain could learn. Wrote down some more. Know where to go for even more! It was really worth coming to get Wild-refreshed." Mary-Clare is organizing a new chapter that will serve the area northeast of the Twin Cities.

Sharon Pederson, a first-year member of the St. Louis (MO) Chapter "particularly enjoyed the camaraderie and free exchange of information among people who, under different circumstances, would be strangers."

Mandy Ploch, Milwaukee North (WI) Chapter, wrote: "I was impressed by the vibrancy and interest in the attendees." And, as a board member she added on a more serious note, "So far as the business meeting goes, members need to be aware that Wild Ones has many challenges to meet and many dedicated volunteers willing to help the organization. That is both daunting and encouraging."



Mandy's comment brings us back to the reason for the annual meeting. The board of directors makes every effort to advertise its quarterly meetings, and move these to member states like Michigan, Illinois, and Missouri to heighten the chances for all members to attend.

Those on the board of directors are all volunteers who represent the membership. Members have an unequalled opportunity to address the board at our 25th anniversary meeting in Madison in August, 2004. The board has the sense that Wild Ones is on the cusp of great things, but needs the voice and suggestions of the membership to support them.

Write to the members of the board at board@for-wild.org or mail your thoughts to Donna VanBuecken, executive director, PO Box 1274, Appleton, WI 54912-1274. ☘



The Grapevine

Maryann Whitman

Confrontation with Dow's Confront

While compost is usually seen as a natural alternative to chemical fertilizers, many communities were surprised to find that their local compost supplies were contaminated with the herbicide clopyralid, making compost toxic to many plants, including asters and goldenrods. Clopyralid, the active ingredient in Dow Chemical's herbicide Confront, is mobile in soil and water, allowing it to persist in the environment.

To address this issue, the Washington State Department of Agriculture banned the use of the herbicide on lawns and turf.

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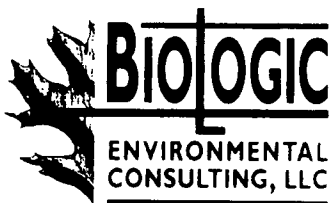
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Science and Stewardship

Holiday gift ideas

From *Horticulture* magazine... DecoColor Permanent Paint Markers – with extra fine points – are recommended as the only garden marking pens that are resistant to water and ultra-violet rays.

I can vouch for severe fading of printing by a Sharpie Permanent Marker, after about a year. Something I have found that works very well is wax pencil on plastic markers and 2B (soft) pencil on matte metal. I get my metal markers from Paw Paw Everlast Label, P.O. Box 93-T, Paw Paw, MI 49079; sales@everlastlabel.com.

Recycling

Recycle vinyl mini-blinds for marker sticks. Cut to desired length and with a point at one end, they last indefinitely except if fire is used as a management tool. The ink in Sharpie pens does not last on mini-blinds either, but perhaps DecoColor does. Five years after planting and marking with the miniblind, when a prairie plant at last made its presence known, I knew it was my planting by the stick next to it, even though the script had long faded.

Think twice about wild grape

There is no question that a strong, thick grapevine can kill a tree by shading the leaves of the tree. But consider this: the death of mature trees is part of a natural process, allowing sunlight to reach the ground level through a dense canopy, and making room for young trees.

Consider also the birds that feed on the fruit; the shelter the vines provide, and the birds that use the shreds of grapevine bark to build their nests.

It takes a number of years of growth before a grapevine starts producing fruit. Consider leaving a few that are not climbing your favorite trees.

Read in fall, 2003 issue of *The Nature Conservancy*

In his recently published book, *Win-Win Ecology: How the Earth's Species Can Survive in the Midst of Human Enterprise*, author Michael Rosenzweig makes the case that traditional reserves, parks refuges and other designated natural areas, will, at best, secure roughly 5 percent of the world's species. In a review of the book, renowned Stanford conservation biologist Gretchen Daily writes, "A world in which conservation effort is sequestered in a minor fraction of the earth's surface will be a biologically inhospitable world. Save biodiversity in a hostile sea of development? You bet.



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However absurd or offensive this idea might seem, it is the only option."

I wonder if she knows about Wild Ones' philosophy and efforts.



Fire has cleansing properties

University of Florida researchers say that fire may be a key to dogwood anthracnose resistance. They've found that trees in the wild survive the disease better in areas that have been previously subject to forest fires. Results of further research may lead to controlled burns to help protect the trees, which have been threatened by the anthracnose epidemic. It's estimated that the disease has killed 90% of the native East Coast *Cornus florida* populations since the late 1970s. For more info go to <http://extlabl.entnem.ufl.edu/PestAlert/dogwood.htm>.



Something else we need to think about

We Wild Ones members have long been aware of how appropriate and useful fire can be in the management of some ecosystems, like prairies, savannahs, woodlands and even forests. (There are notable exceptions to the usefulness of fire in some parts of the country.) Among other beneficial effects, it helps control the incursion of invasive aliens, and it reduces the density of non-fire tolerant species (both native and non-native), thereby promoting the rehabilitation of shade intolerant species. By understanding the benefits of fire we are able to perceive the resulting blackened earth and dead and dying trees as part of a natural and necessary progression of events that benefits the ecosystem and promotes biodiversity.

I recall the shock that rippled through the nation in 1988 when the land management people of Yellowstone National Park opted toward the end of the summer of that year to let the fires "burn themselves out." That may have been the first time this generation had heard of such a thing. We had grown up with Smokey the Bear and the notion that fire was the enemy and here was a National Park letting the enemy win. The action bordered on un-American activity. However, those of us who listened to the

rationale behind this decision and subsequently followed the recovery in Yellowstone learned how useful the 'enemy' could be when handled with care. Foresters have been educated about the benefits of fire since the late 1960s.

It seems now that the education needs to reach the ears of the public who only see the immediate aftereffects of a burn or fire. Just as we Wild Ones members have been instrumental in spreading the word about the deleterious effects of invasive aliens, about the benefits of using native plants in our landscapes, and about the benefits of reducing the amount of mowed lawn in our landscapes, we need also to spread the word about the benefits of fire to ecosystems and to biodiversity.

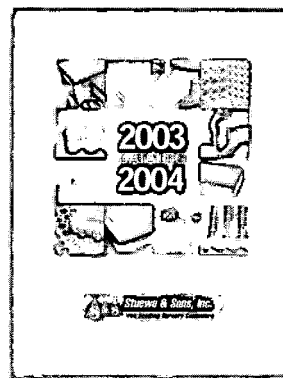
Recently the Wisconsin DNR was ordered to remove dead trees left behind by a permitted, controlled burn. The public did not understand the natural progression that was being incited, and saw only the "ugly" carcasses that spoke of death and invoked thoughts of disease.

It is possible that we who burn and promote the use of fire as a tool need to take into account the sensibilities of a public that does not "see with our eyes," a public whose perceptions are based on another set of lessons. Just as we have been working to educate ourselves and our neighbors on the writing and interpretation of weed ordinances, and the visual acceptability of naturally landscaped yards we now need to do the same regarding the benefits of fire in some ecological circumstances.

Mandy Ploch, Milwaukee-North (WI) Chapter, was fortunate to be able to horseback ride in the Bob Marshall Wilderness (MT) two years after the big fires. The beauty was surreal with the sun shining silver and grey off the standing burned tree trunks and the floor carpeted entirely in magenta fireweed. "It was a lovely two-color composition I will always remember. I look forward to returning there in 2004 to see the changes time has wrought."

I'd be pleased to hear from other *Journal* readers about this subject. Feel free to e-mail me at editor@for-wild.org.

Maryann Whitman is a member of the Oakland (MI) Chapter and the Journal's editor-in-chief.



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Landscaping with Native Trees, Shrubs

Mariette Nowak

Notes from Jens Jensen

Jens Jensen, a visionary landscape architect of the early 1900s, was inspired by the beauty and composition of native landscape around him. With a philosophy akin to that of Wild Ones, his selection of trees and shrubs for landscaping was dictated by his keen observations of the plants in their natural settings. Below are short excerpts from his book, *Siftings*, written in 1939, in which he lovingly describes various woody species and their value for landscaping. They're sure to give you ideas for landscaping your own property. (The species Jensen describes are common to wide areas of the country, but readers will want to check to see which are native to their particular localities. Also, although Jensen does not give the scientific names of the species in his book, they are included here for your convenience.)

White Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)

"Birches and moonlight are real companions. No other tree speaks so beautifully as the birch in full moonlight. The reflected light of moonbeams playing on the white bark of the birches illuminates the woodlands with a surprising clearness. A group of birch trees placed outside a window, so that they receive the full light of the moon, will lighten up a room in a most startling manner."

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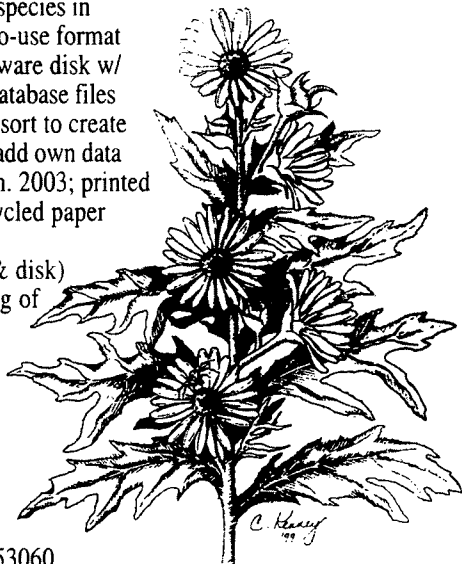
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Aspen (*Populus sp*)

"In groups upon the woodland border it gives the landscape a decided musical note...There is always a feeling of spring in the aspen..."

White Oak (*Quercus alba*)

"Soft gray branches against a wintry sky, rose and silver buds in May, a rich foliage in summer with a strong character - this is my vision of the white oak."

Hawthorn (*Crataegus sp.*)

"Their horizontal branches are always outstanding. Some varieties carry their scarlet-red berries far into the winter, and when snow has covered the ground with a white mantle, they add a brilliant touch of color. Hawthorn branches thatched with snow under a canopy of a multitude of red berries surpass the winter charm of the much praised coniferous friends."

Plum (*Prunus americana*)

"Its sweet-scented blossoms, changing from pure white to different shades of cream or pink, or even rose, are charming indeed. The native plum loves company and speaks most eloquently when in a group. In river bottoms its blossoms appear like clouds of snow drifting through the shady bottomlands. In the woodlands its blossoms appear like fleeting notes in a mighty symphony."

Prairie rose (*Rosa setigera*)

"Wherever it grows it is a lovely bouquet, and its red berries over the snow in winter are as colorful as the rose in June."

Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)

"We were astounded by the attraction this simple plant possessed. The secret of all was its yellow catkins against the threatening purple clouds in the west, bringing out their exquisite beauty...From that time on a hazel bush, backed by the purple branches of our native plum, has graced a corner of my garden and every spring I wait for the spring song of its catkins."

Witch-hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)

"When all of its companions have lost their autumn glory and have steeled down for their winter sleep, the witch-hazel, like a golden mist drifting through our woodlands, brings a new beauty to the late autumn. Have you seen the delicate blossoms of the witch-hazel in an atmosphere of purple? This pleasing shrub unfolds new beauty each day as its foliage disappears, until all that is left to sing the requiem are its lacy branches with their delicate autumn blossoms."

Implicit in the above descriptions is Jensen's basic approach to landscaping: "Every plant has its fitness and must be placed in its proper surroundings so as to bring out its full beauty. Therein lies the art of landscaping." And I might add the challenge of landscaping - may you successfully find the "proper surroundings" for the native plants you choose in your own landscaping efforts. ♻️

(For more information, see "Guidelines for Selecting Native Plants" on the Wild Ones website at <http://www.for-wild.org/land/ecotype.html>.)

Mariette is the out-going editor of the Journal, serves on the national board of directors, and is a member of the Milwaukee-Southwest/Wehr (WI) Chapter.

Introducing: Maryann Whitman, Editor-in-Chief

Mariette Nowak

It is my great pleasure to introduce Wild Ones' new national Vice-President and Editor-in-Chief of the *Wild Ones Journal* – Maryann Whitman. Maryann, of course, really needs no introduction. Her popular and informative column, "The Grapevine," has appeared in each issue for nearly two years.

Maryann discovered Wild Ones in 1995 and was the founding president of the Oakland Chapter (MI) in 1999. Besides her continuing work with her local chapter, Maryann has served on the *Journal* team for the last two years, helping to edit each issue, in addition to writing her column. She has been a pleasure to work with – dedicated, reliable, and full of good humor. And all this despite serious health problems for part of that time. Happily, she has now regained her good health and is ready to devote her full energies to her new office.

I have also found Maryann to be incredibly knowledgeable and well-informed, the result of her extensive reading in the fields of biology, botany, chemistry, physics, and ecology. As Editor-in-Chief, she will undoubtedly make sure the *Journal* reflects "the state of the art" in natural landscaping.

I will continue to serve on the national board. But unfortunately, other commitments have made it impossible for me to devote sufficient time to the position of Vice-President and editor. However, I leave this position with the confidence that Maryann Whitman will do a superior job in this position. We are very lucky to have found her – or perhaps, I should say, lucky that she found us in 1995. ☘

Welcome Business Members

Wild Ones is pleased to welcome Adkins Arboretum to our membership. Adkins Arboretum, located on the Tuckahoe Creek on Maryland's Eastern Shore, is home to the native flora of the Delmarva Peninsula. It is a 400-acre preserve that includes forested wetlands, as well as various stages of maturing forests and meadows.

We are pleased also to have One Plus Inc., continue its business membership. One Plus Inc. is an architectural firm specializing in sustainability.

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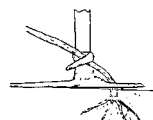
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WILD ONES NATIONAL QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS

All members are invited and encouraged to attend the quarterly meetings of the national Board of Directors.

Jan. 31, 2004: 8:30 a.m. Conducted via conference call. To participate in the toll-free meeting, please contact Donna VanBuecken, executive director. Complete contact information is listed on p. 2.

May 22: Hosted by Lake-to-Prairie (IL), Prairie Crossing in Grayslake, IL.

Aug. 6-8: Madison, WI. In conjunction with Annual Meeting and 25th anniversary celebration.

Oct. 2: Hosted by Lexington (KY) Chapter.

Information about quarterly meetings is available from the executive director or the hosting chapter's contact person listed in "The Meeting Place."

OTHER CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

Jan. 24, 2004: All day. "Toward Harmony with Nature," 8th annual conference semi-

nar about native landscaping, Hilton Garden Inn, (new location), Oshkosh, WI. Lunch on premises. Expanded room for vendors. Teachers may earn DPI clock hours for attendance. Sponsored by the Fox Valley (WI) Chapter; Contact www.for-wild.org/chapters/foxvalley/fvconf02.htm or Janet Wissink, (920) 589-2602.

Keynote speaker, Richard Henderson, ecologist with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will discuss "Letting Nature Take Its Course."

Other speakers and their topics are: Bettie Harriman, Director of the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas, "Birds of the Prairies."

Jim Heinrich, co-owner of Oak Prairie Farm, "Practical Landscaping with Native Plants."

Alice Thompson, Thompson & Associates Wetland Services, "Wetland Restoration Techniques and Evaluating Your Land for Wetland Restoration Potential."

Dan Boehlke, naturalist, "Woodland/Shade Gardening."

Carmen Wagner, Shoreland and Floodplain Zoning Specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, "Wetlands, Wonderlands."

Scott Weber, owner of Bluestem Farm, "Wisconsin's Native Orchids; Their Ecology and Cultivation."

Patricia Armstrong, ecologist and owner of Prairie Sun Consultants, "Joys of a Totally Native Yard."

Darrell Kromm, owner of Reeseville Ridge Nursery, "Native Woody Plants for Fox Valley Landscapes."

Gary Van Vreede, biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, "Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program."

Feb. 14: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Milwaukee Audubon Society's 24th annual Natural Landscaping Conference, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Union, 220 E Kenwood Blvd, Milwaukee, WI. Contact: Linne Petri (262) 375-8964.

Mar. 7-8: Wildflower Association of Michigan's 17th annual Michigan Wildflower Conference, East Lansing, MI. Contact: Marilyn Case, (517) 630-8546 or mcase15300@aol.com; or www.wildflowerers.mich.org.



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The meeting place



Chapter ID numbers are listed after names.

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BOB PORTER: (312) 744-5472
bobporter@cityofchicago.org
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ROCK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER #21

TIM LEWIS: (815) 874-3468
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usually at Burpee Museum of Natural History,
737 N. Main St., Rockford.

IDAHO

PALOUSE CHAPTER #65

BILL FRENCH: (208) 883-3937
prairiedoc@moscow.com
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INDIANA

GIBSON WOODS CHAPTER #38

JOY BOWER: (219) 989-9679
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jbower1126@aol.com
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KENTUCKY

FRANKFORT CHAPTER #24

KATIE CLARK: (502) 226-4766
katieclark@vol.com
Second Monday, 5:30 p.m.,
Salato Wildlife Education Center
Greenhouse #1 Game Farm Rd, Frankfort
off US 60 W (Louisville Rd.).

LEXINGTON CHAPTER #64

SUSAN HOFMANN: (859) 252-8148
sillyserpent@wildmail.com
Usually first Wednesday, 7 p.m.,
McConnell Spring. Schedule & location vary.

LOUISVILLE METROWILD CHAPTER #26

PORTIA BROWN: (502) 454-4007
wildones-lou@insightbb.com
Fourth Tuesday. Location varies.
Woods Saturday Work Day:
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ward@wwilson.net


MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR CHAPTER #3

SUSAN BRYAN: (734) 622-9997,
susanbryanhsieh@yahoo.com
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GINNY KNAG: (810) 694-4335
mtknag@ameritech.net
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Woodside Church, 1509 E. Court St., Flint

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MINNESOTA

ARROWHEAD CHAPTER #48

CAROL ANDREWS: (218) 727-9340
carol_andrews@hotmail.com
Fourth Thursday, 6:00 p.m. Location varies.
For details: www.d.umn.edu/~wildones.

OTTER TAIL CHAPTER #25

KAREN TERRY: (218) 736-5520
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MISSOURI

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LESA BEAMER: (573) 882-6073
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NEW YORK

NEW YORK CAPITAL DISTRICT #69 (Seedling)

MELINDA PERRIN: (708) 579-5695
BlueCloudM@aol.com

NEW YORK CITY METRO /LONG ISLAND CHAPTER #30

JENNIFER WILSON-PINES: (516) 767-3454
jwpines@juno.com
Members Room, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens,
1000 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn

OHIO

GREATER CINCINNATI CHAPTER #62

Roberta Trombly: (513) 751-6183,
btrombly@fuse.net
Chris McCollough: (513) 860-4959,
gordchris@fuse.net
Monthly meetings or field trips; see web site.

COLUMBUS CHAPTER #4

Marilyn Logue: (614) 237-2534,
mlogue@sprintmail.com
Second Saturday, 10 a.m.,
Innis House, Inniswood Metropolitan Park,
940 Hempstead Rd., Westerville

Maumee Valley CHAPTER #66 (Seedling)

JAN HUNTER: (419) 878-7273,
naturallynative@buckeye-express.com

PENNSYLVANIA

NE PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER #70 (Seedling)

Nathaniel Whitmore: plants@plantsavers.org

SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY AREA

CHAPTER #68 (Seedling)

ANGELA EICHELBERGER: (717) 793-8440,
wild_ones@earthlink.net

SOUTH CAROLINA

FOOTHILLS CHAPTER #58

KAREN HALL: (864) 287-3294
kcarlso@clemson.edu
Third Saturday, Red Caboose,
State Botanical Gardens, Clemson University

WISCONSIN

CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHAPTER #50

PHYLLIS TUCHSCHER: (715) 384-8751
toosch@fibernetcc.com
Fourth Thursday, 7 p.m., Rooms 1&2,
Portage County Extension Building,
1462 Strongs Ave., Stevens Point.
Times, places vary in summer. Check web site.

COULEE REGION CHAPTER #67 (Seedling)

CHUCK LEE: (608) 785-2205,
speakbobo@aol.com
First Thursday, 7:30 p.m., LaCross Main
Branch Public Library

DOOR COUNTY CHAPTER #59

JUDY RENINGER: (920) 839-1182,
jreninger@dcwis.com
Time & location vary; check web site.

ERIN CHAPTER #57

BOB & BEV HULTS: (262) 670-0445
twowildones@juno.com
Third Thursday, 7 p.m., Erin Town Hall,
1846 Hwy. 83, Hartford

FOX VALLEY AREA CHAPTER #8

Karen Syverson, (920) 987-5587,
ksyve@core.com
Sharon Duerkop (920) 734-1419,
sduerk@execpc.com
Indoor meetings: 7 p.m., either at Memorial
Park Arboretum, 1313 E. Witzke Blvd., Apple-
ton, or Evergreen Retirement Community,
1130 N. Westfield St., Oshkosh

GREEN BAY CHAPTER #10

HAL SUNKEN: (920) 469-0540
hdsunken@cs.com
Usually third Wednesday. Most meetings at
Green Bay Botanical Garden, 2600 Larsen Rd.,
except in summer.

MADISON CHAPTER #13

SUE ELLINGSON: (608) 259-1824,
ozzie@chorus.net
See web site for meeting info; no December
meeting.

MENOMONEE RIVER AREA CHAPTER #16

JAN KOEL: (262) 251-7175
DIANE HOLMES: (262) 628-2825
Indoor meetings: second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.,
teachers' lounge, Valley View School,
W180 N8130 Town Hall Rd., Menomonee
Falls.

MILWAUKEE NORTH CHAPTER #18

MESSAGE CENTER: (414) 299-9888
Second Saturday of month, 9:30 a.m.,
Schlitz Audubon Center,
1111 E. Brown Deer Rd., Bayside.

MILWAUKEE SOUTHWEST-WEHR CHAPTER #23

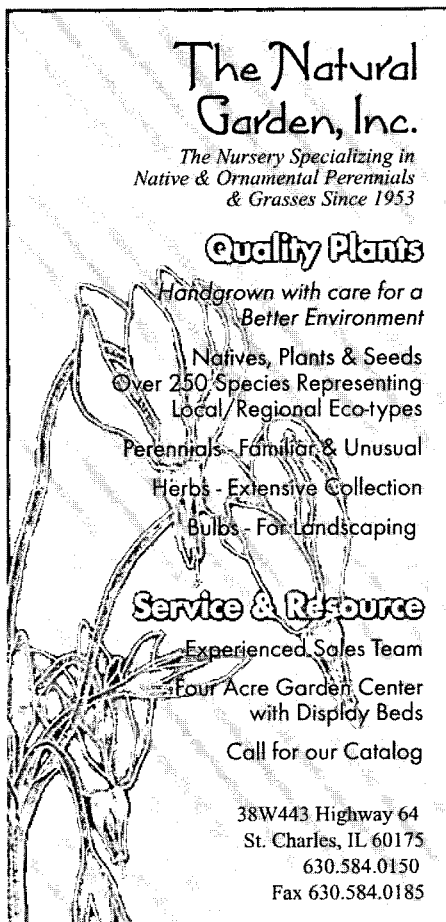
MESSAGE CENTER: (414) 299-9888
Second Saturday, 1:30 p.m., Wehr Nature
Center, 9701 W. College Ave., Franklin

NORTHWOODS OF WISCONSIN #63

DIANE WILLETTE: (715) 362-6870
diane@bfm.org
Fourth Monday of month,
Fireside Room, Univ. Transfer Center at Lake
Julia Campus of Nicolet Area Tech. College,
Rhineland area

ROOT RIVER AREA CHAPTER #43

NAN CALVERT: (262) 681-4899
prairiedog@wi.rr.com
Sept-May, first Saturday, 1:30-3 p.m.,
Riverbend Nature Center, Racine.



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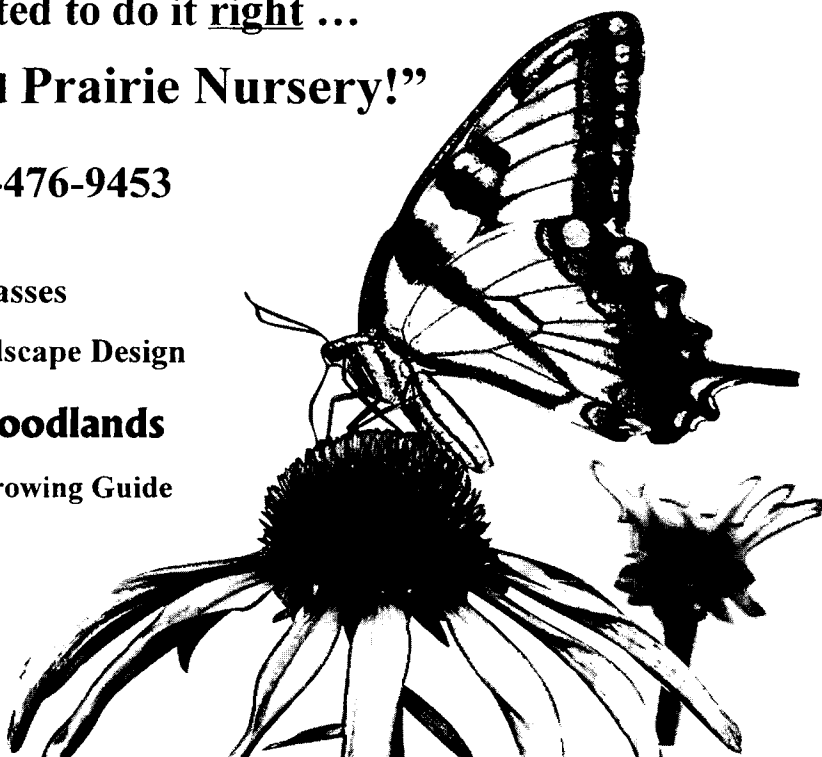
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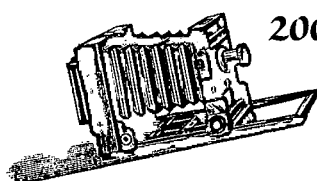
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Above, "Chinese Fog," the first-place, grand prize photograph taken by Mary Kuller, Rock River (IL) Chapter.

Below, taken by Jon Arthur and Pamela Deerwood, Twin Cities (MN) Chapter, is the second-place grand prize photograph, "Whitefaced Meadowhawk on Liatris."



2003 Photo Contest

And the Winners Are...

Wild Ones held its first annual photo contest in conjunction with the 2003 annual meeting. More than 24 photographs were submitted and displayed during the annual meeting and conference.

Grand prize winners were: First place, Mary Kuller, Rock River (IL) Valley Chapter; second place, John Arthur and Pamela Deerwood, Twin Cities (MN) Chapter; and third place, John Everett, partner at large, Florida.

Winners in the various categories are listed below:

Native Insects & Bugs: First place, John Arthur and Pamela Deerwood; second place, John Everett; third place, Donna Brunet, Mid-Missouri (MO) Chapter.

Flora: First place, Marilyn Stroud, Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter; second place, Joe Powelka, Madison (WI) Chapter; third place, Donna Brunet.

Scenery: First place, Mary Kuller; second place, Kathy Bildner, St Louis (MO) Chapter; third place, Joe Williamson, St. Louis (MO) Chapter.

Landscaping with residences in background: First place, Bret Rappaport, Lake-to-Prairie (IL) Chapter; second place, Liz Jones, St Louis (MO) Chapter.

Children: First place, Carol Niendorf, Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter.

All winning photos will be used in Wild Ones' publications. We are also thinking about producing a calendar featuring the 12 winning photos and selling it in conjunction with our 25th anniversary celebration next year. Any suggestions regarding publishing the calendar will be appreciated. (Send them to Donna VanBuecken, executive director. Contact information on p. 2.)

Special thanks to contest committee chairperson Diane Powelka, Madison (WI) Chapter and committee members Carol Andrews, president of Arrowhead (MN) Chapter, and Mandy Ploch, Milwaukee-North (WI) Chapter. ❀



"A Tiger Becomes Prey," taken by John Everett, partner-at-large, Florida, earned third place in the grand prize category.