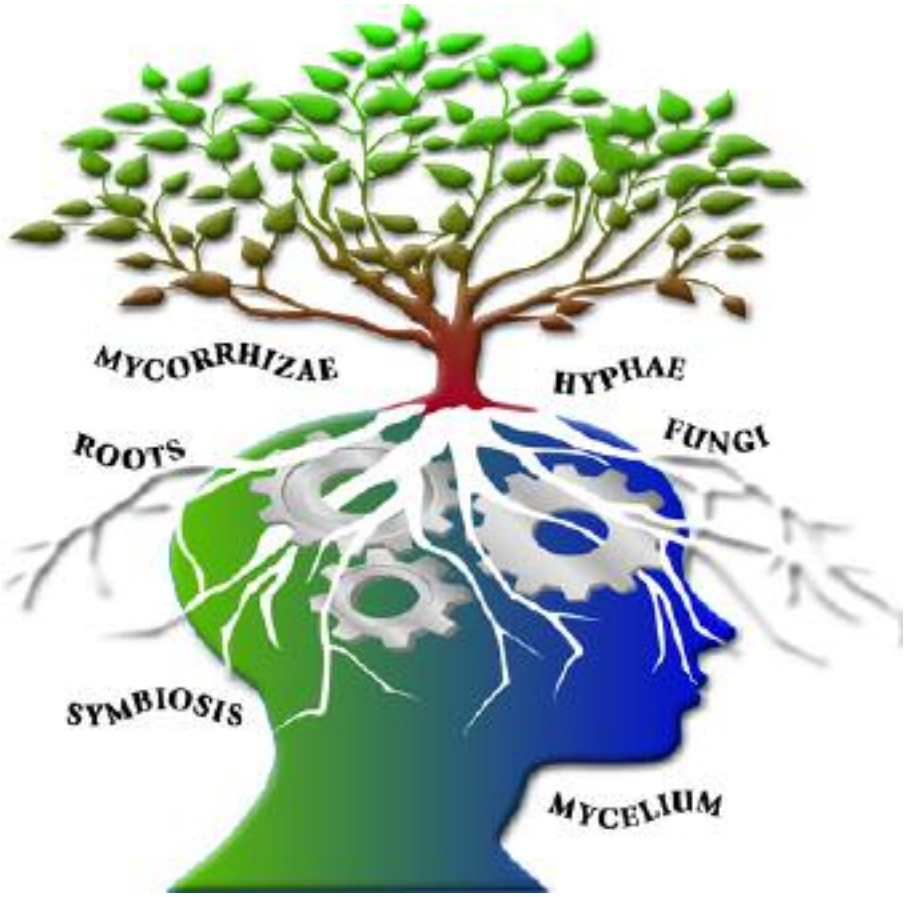
a voice for the natural landscaping movement

Wild Ones
NATIVE PLANTS, NATURAL LANDSCAPES

JOURNAL
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009
VOL. 22, NO. 1

inside

Working toward our next 25 years restoring native plants and natural landscapes.



THINKING ABOUT MYCORRHIZAE
and Roots, and Fungi, and Hyphae, and How Plants Really Get Their Nutrients

A MYSTERY EXPLORED: PART 4

By Maryann Whitman

Most of us believe we know certain things about plants. One of those indisputable facts is that the roots of plants are the organs that take up water and nutrients from the soil. We're not entirely sure where we came by this wisdom, but there it is.

It turns out that this is not strictly true. It is true, to some extent, for some plants, but our understanding is undergoing an injection of new information that is increasing our appreciation of underground life. *We have learned that, for the vast majority (probably more than 95 percent) of plant life, the actual organ of nutrient uptake from the soil is not the root of the plant, but rather a fungus that forms a very special, symbiotic relationship with the plant.* This relationship is in fact symbiotic because both partners in the relationship benefit.

Because these relationships are so prevalent, especially in old, stable, native soils, it is very likely that they play a significant role in determining **native plant communities** and **plant succession**. The presence of these relationships also plays an enormous role in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Winter Greetings to all our Wild Ones members and friends

I have good news to share. The number of applications for Seeds for Education (SFE) grants that Wild Ones received for 2009 reached an all-time high of 100 applications from 36 states. When the program began in 1997, we received applications from only three states. Interest in Wild Ones' Seeds for Education grants to plant native landscapes has grown dramatically, and the caliber of the grant requests has been excellent.

In 2008 we had $4,000 to give out in grants. Many of the grant requests had to be turned away. Can you imagine how much more we could do with $8,000 or $12,000 per year in funds to give to educational plantings? These grant funds come primarily from donations from you, our members, along with a small amount of interest from the SFE endowment fund established in Lorrie Otto's name in 1996.

Our SFE grants provide the seed money needed to start outdoor-learning areas that many schools could not otherwise begin to contemplate. Recent passage of the "No Child Left Inside" legislation will provide further encouragement to get kids outside and into the wild – great news, but so many schools have no natural place to go.

Wild Ones' partnership with the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and their Schoolyard Habitats Program can be expected to further increase demand for financial assistance, in addition to the expertise that many Wild Ones members already provide to schools and non-profit organizations. Would you be willing to help grow our SFE capacity? Donations of any amount are gratefully accepted, either to the SFE grant program or to the endowment fund. We hope we will have at least the same amount to give out in 2009 as we did for 2008.

Natives in Winter. Photo by Tim Lewis.

These donations also make great gifts. We will send letters to gift recipients letting them know that your donation on their behalf will help the next generation learn a better way to live not only *on* the Earth, but *with* it. Of course Wild Ones memberships also make great gifts. And, if you are 70-1/2 or older, note that Congress has renewed authorization of charitable gifts from IRAs, allowing you to give up to $100,000 to charity without taking a taxable distribution from your IRA.

You can find more information about the SFE program, and the grant program specifically, at www.for-wild.org/seededuc.html.

Thank you in advance for your continued support of Wild Ones educational goals. Our best wishes for a safe and enjoyable winter. ❄

Carol Andrews, Wild Ones National President
president@for-wild.org

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

Wild Ones Journal (ISSN 1551-9155) is published bimonthly by Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes. Views expressed are the opinions of the authors. *Journal* content may be reproduced for non-profit educational purposes as long as the *Journal* is credited as the source. Individual articles that carry a copyright are the property of the author and cannot be reproduced without the author's written permission. No artwork may be reproduced, except to accompany its original companion text, without written permission of the illustrator or photographer. Contact editor if in doubt about use rights. Manuscripts and illustrations are welcome; Wild Ones does not pay for articles, photos or illustrations. For guidelines for submitting material, contact editor or see Wild Ones web site. Advertisers: Contact National Office for rates and schedule.

WILD ONES JOURNAL EDITOR
Maryann Whitman • 248-652-4004
journal@for-wild.org
(Please indicate topic in subject line.)

WILD ONES JOURNAL STAFF
Barbara Bray, Contributing Editor
Celia Larsen, Contributing Editor
Mandy Ploch, Contributing Editor
Janet Allen, Contributing Editor

Wild Ones recommends that you patronize businesses that support our policies regarding species provenance and habitat preservation. The appearance of advertising in the *Journal* does not constitute an endorsement by Wild Ones of any organization or product.

Printed on recycled paper.

Writers & Artists

Barbara Bray is a Contributing Editor for the *Journal*, and a member of the Oakland Chapter (MI) of Wild Ones.

Janet Allen is a Contributing Editor for the *Wild Ones Journal*, and President of the habitat Gardening of Central New York (NY) Chapter.

Richard Ehrenberg, of the Madison (WI) Chapter, is a landscape architect and former student of Darrel Morrison.

Don Mays lives in Iowa.

ECOSCAPER

Somewhere between a prairie and a formal planting lies the fertile potential of native plnts in an ornamental design, the domain of the Ecoscaper – which is a brilliant synthesis in language of the two concepts, landscaper and ecologist. With this in mind, Wild Ones has developed the Ecoscaper Certification Program. Enhance your knowledge and get credit for your accomplishments. Visit www.ecoscaper.org for more information or to enroll.

Wild Ones Honorary Directors

Wild Ones' primary goal is to advocate for native plants, for the restoration of natural ecosystems, and for environmental education. We do this by influencing others through networking, educational programs, our Seeds for Education Program, chapter activities, and other events. But we do not wish to presuppose that we are the only people with these goals and the ability to influence, and we feel it is important to recognize people who have contributed greatly to our cause either through their personal contributions in healing the Earth, or through their personal contributions toward advocating for Wild Ones. One way we can recognize these people is to award them the title of Honorary Director.

We extend our thanks to outgoing National Honorary Board members, **Craig Tufts** and **Andy & Sally Wasowski**. Craig is the Chief Naturalist at the National Wildlife Federation – while Andy and Sally are authors of several books, including *Requiem for a Lawnmower* and *Building with Nature*.

Continuing on as Lifetime Honorary Director is **Lorrie Otto**, naturalist and our inspirational leader – a pioneer in the natural landscaping movement. Lorrie continues to serve by teaching, lecturing, acting as witness and advisor in legal matters, and communicating through TV, radio, and publications – and has received many awards for her efforts. Lorrie has planted the seeds of natural landscaping in the hearts of thousands.

Also staying on is **Darrel Morrison**, Landscape Architect and Professor Emeritus in Landscape Architecture from the University of Georgia. Darrell has shown that both naturally-evolving landscapes, and designed-and-managed landscapes can be ecologically sound and experientially rich. Darrell uses native flora to draw people into his created plant communities so they might appreciate the beauty of native, wildtype landscapes, and to perpetuate a "sense of place."

Meet Our New Honorary Directors

Guy Sternberg, Adjunct Professor of Biology at Illinois College, arborist, landscape architect, writer, and photographer, owns Starhill Forest Arboretum in Petersburg, Illinois. The author of several books, including *Landscaping with Native Trees*, and *Native Trees for North American Landscapes From the Atlantic to the Rockies*, he was the first president of the International Oak Society, and is a member of many other organizations related to forests. He is a frequent lecturer for horticultural and natural resource organizations.

Gardening and environmental author **Lorraine Johnson** has given us such books as *Grow Wild! Low Maintenance – Sure Success, Distinctive Gardening With Native Plants*, and *Green Future: How To Make A World Of Difference*. She has a regular column and has contributed to numerous programs on radio and television. A former member of our National Board, she lives in Toronto, Canada, and is a director of the Canadian Wildflower Society.

Bonnie L. Harper-Lore, Landscape Architect and Restoration Ecologist for the Federal Highway Administration, serves as the Native Wildflower/Grass Program Manager, and Vegetation Management Technical Resource for all state DOTs. Bonnie is editor of *Greener Roadsides*, *Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants*, *Roadside Use of Native Plants*, and *Roadside Weed Management* – and is a former grade school teacher and college professor.

Professor and Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware in Newark, **Douglas W. Tallamy** is author of *Bringing Nature Home*, and many research articles. He has taught insect taxonomy, behavioral ecology, and other subjects. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants, and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities. In his free time Doug enjoys photography (particularly of insects and birds), hiking and backpacking in remote places, swimming, and canoeing.

Naturalist **Neil Diboll**, President of Prairie Nursery, in Westfield, Wisconsin, is a pioneer in the native plant industry, and is a recognized expert in native community ecology. Neil has dedicated his life to the propagation and promotion of native plants as beautiful, low-maintenance alternatives. His love of wild places and their floral players is contagious, especially if you have had the opportunity to witness one of his unique lectures or broadcasts. Neil's philosophy is that we, as stewards of the planet, must work to preserve and increase the diversity of the native plants and animals, with which we share our world.

The protection of our Earth's natural heritage and our soil and water resources is essential to maintaining a high quality of life for today, and for the children of future generations. With the help of our Honorary Directors, Wild Ones will continue moving toward these goals. ❁

survivability of native plants in undisturbed soil – another reason we can say that our native plants can take care of themselves.

The Fungal Partner in this Symbiotic Relationship

We are accustomed to thinking of fungi as mushrooms or toadstools – yeasts, mildews, the multicolored stuff that grows on food left too long in the fridge, the yuckum on shower curtains – but this is a very small part of the picture.

The organisms called fungi produce **spores**, which, when they have food, water, and the necessary environmental conditions, will produce **hyphae** – hair-like threads that are tubules with rigid external walls. A very large proportion of a fungus are its hyphae, which may be thought of as analogous to roots of plants, though that is not strictly correct. Fungi make up a separate taxonomic kingdom of life, separate from plants. Their body parts are quite different, and work differently from those of plants. Hyphae are about as thick as a human hair – they take up nutrient-carrying fluids from the soil, and transport these fluids. A mass of hyphae will intertwine to form a **mycelium**, which is the body of the fungus.

Fungi are capable of both asexual and sexual reproduction – through spores. The mushrooms that we see are actually the fruiting body of that particular species of mycelium. Other fungi produce no fruiting body that is visible above ground. Some fungi have lost their ability to reproduce sexually, and exist as clumps of mycelia. Undisturbed, these mycelia may live for thousands of years, and occupy hundreds of cubic acres of soil.

Unlike plants, fungi cannot produce their own food. Like mammals (such as humans) they are **heterotrophs**, and must depend on other organisms for their carbon source. If the food is not in readily absorbable form, like wood (lignin, cellulose and pectin), then it must be digested. Various enzymes, that can be both substrate- and species-specific, are produced by the hyphae, and the food material is broken down until it can be absorbed through the hyphal cell wall.

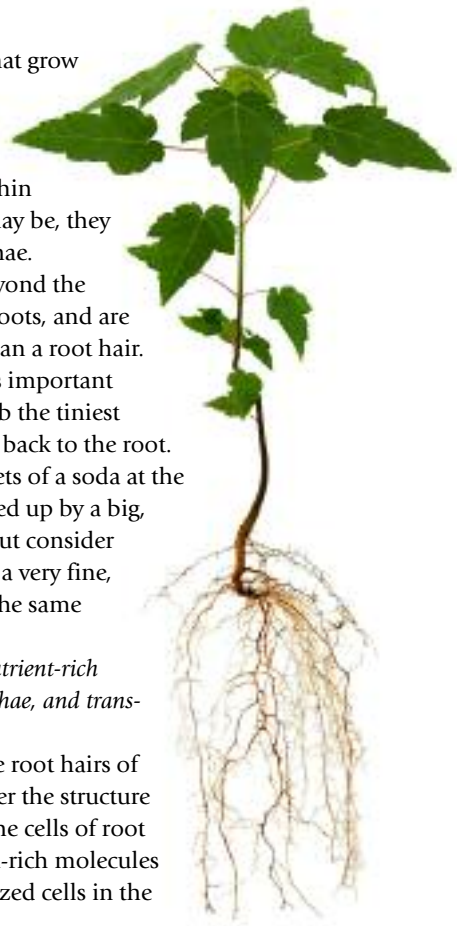
The ability of fungi to produce external digestive enzymes makes them major **decomposers**, breaking down refuse. Think of fallen trees in the forest, the pile of wood chips waiting to be spread in your garden, or any other vegetable matter that slowly breaks down and disappears into the soil. A large part of this conversion happens courtesy of fungi. The meat that turns green after a couple weeks in your fridge also is experiencing this process of decomposition.

If the available molecules are already small they will be absorbed directly through the cell wall of the hypha. Hyphae have access to all the dissolved minerals and nutrients that are suspended among the particles that make up the soil.

As for life supporting carbon molecules, the hyphae of some species of fungi have found an easily accessible carbon source – plants. **Indeed, 95 percent of plants**.

The Plant Partner in this Symbiotic Relationship

The plant partner has roots that pass life-supporting nutrients on to the rest of the plant that is green and capable of photosynthesis. Another, more important function of roots is the storage of the products of photosynthesis. These carbon-based molecules are stored in specialized cells (cortical parenchyma) within the roots proper and within the **root hairs**.



Thin, fibrous root hairs that grow out of the main roots are the parts that are actually capable of absorbing water that bears nutrients. But, as thin and extensive as root hairs may be, they are no match for fungal hyphae.

The hyphae extend far beyond the region of access of a plant's roots, and are probably **20** times thinner than a root hair. This difference in diameter is important because the hypha can absorb the tiniest droplets of fluid and bring it back to the root. Think of the very final droplets of a soda at the bottom of a glass being sucked up by a big, fat straw – it can't be done. But consider what happens when you use a very fine, thin straw – you don't have the same problem.

Most of the absorption of nutrient-rich fluids is done by the fungal hyphae, and transported to the plant root hairs.

Being much finer than the root hairs of plants, some hyphae can enter the structure of the root, passing among the cells of root hairs, in search of the carbon-rich molecules that are stored in the specialized cells in the root hairs.

The hyphae of some fungal species can go a step farther and actually enter into the cells of root hairs. The plant maintains its own identity, as do the hyphae. There is tissue between them – the respective cytoplasms do not intermix. The point of this incursion is friendly (in the great majority of cases). The plants cooperate. Everyone is there for a good reason – to exchange goods. The roots make their carbon-rich sugars and carbohydrates available to the hyphae, in exchange for the nutrient-rich fluids and water that the hyphae bring from afar.

Mycorrhizae

Mycorrhiza (plural mycorrhizae, adjective mycorrhizal) is a word that started appearing in the vocabulary of gardeners about 30 years ago, but there wasn't much information to be had. We understood that somehow mushrooms or fungi were involved, but weren't sure if this word, that was impossible to spell, was just another word for a kind of fungus. The word has come back into use recently in reference to the organic fertilizing of plants.

Mycorrhiza is the word that covers the entire mechanism of a working relationship between a plant root and fungal hyphae. It refers to the structure, the function, and the members of this symbiotic relationship.

There are seven or eight types of mycorrhizae. They differ structurally and functionally – and arose at different times in evolutionary history.

Many of the trees that dominate temperate forests, members of the oak *(Fagaceae)* and pine *(Pinaceae)* families especially are mycorrhizal. Most grassland species form mycorrhizae with a different set of fungal species. These various fungi may play a role in determining the number of plant species that occupy a particular

Most of us believe we know certain things about plants. One of those indisputable facts is that the roots of plants are the organs that take up water and nutrients from the soil. We're not entirely sure where we came by this wisdom, but there it is. It turns out that this is not strictly true.

site, contributing to the high species diversity seen in some grasslands and forb-lands.

Members of the blueberry family *(Ericaceae)* often occur in bogs and other nutrient-poor soils. One reason for this preference may be that the fungi that form their **mycorrhizae** are capable of extracting mineral nutrients from peat and other organic materials. Conversely, plants with woodland and grassland mycorrhizae are rare in bogs. The specificity of mycorrhizal relationships is likely related to the **specificity of the enzymes** produced by fungi.

Mycorrhizal relationships are anything but straightforward. A plant may form one type of mycorrhizae in the upper reaches of the soil, and different mycorrhizae deeper in the soil. And hyphae from one mycelium can form mycorrhizae with several plants at the same time. In fact, *we have evidence that the hyphae can transport sugars and carbohydrates from one plant to another plant that is under stress.*

As a bottom line, it is largely because of mycorrhizal relationships that we can say that our native plants can take care of themselves. Our native plants have worked within these relationships since time immemorial. This underground system serves to bring nutrients and water to our native plants, while adding to and maintaining the underground stores of carbon. Every time we do something to strengthen this relationship, or to help it survive, we are supporting soil biodiversity, helping stabilize self-sustaining systems, while decreasing the size of our own carbon footprint on the Earth.

Next issue we'll explore further various types of mycorrhizae and how they work with and within our native plants. ❄

My sincere thanks to Sandy Scheine of the Oakland (MI) Chapter, who checked the accuracy of my statements and made suggestions for this article. She is the Education Committee Chair for the North American Mycological Association.

Wild Ones Legacy Program

Wild Ones
NATIVE PLANTS, NATURAL LANDSCAPES

Get Involved, Stay Involved, With Wild Ones

There are many ways to help Wild Ones promote environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration and establishment of native plant communities.

Annual Support: Wild Ones Champions provide dependable income for Wild Ones programs by making their annual gifts through convenient monthly deductions via credit card or direct debit from a designated financial account.

Bur Oak Circle: Donors who make annual gifts of $1,000 or more.

Oak Savanna Circle: Members who have loyally supported Wild Ones for at least 15 years or more.

Employee Matching Gift Program: Many companies and organizations will match employee contributions.

Special Gifts and Heritage: The Wild Ones Legacy Program provides the opportunity to gift appreciated stock, real property, in-kind gifts, IRA-rollover gifts (option through December 2007 per the Pension Protection Act of 2006) and multi-year commitments. Bequests, charitable gift annuities, trusts and other planned giving vehicles provide significant support to Wild Ones while also benefiting the donors and their families.

Volunteer: More than 4,000 people annually volunteer their time and energy for land conservation, and community garden plantings and for the Wild Ones EcoCenter.

Lifetime Members: Long-term commitment to Wild Ones mission and its goals.

For more information on supporting Wild Ones through the *Get Wild Stay Wild Program*, please contact Donna VanBuecken, Executive Director, Wild Ones, P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, Wisconsin 54912 877-394-9453 execdirector@for-wild.org, or check us out at our web site: www.for-wild.org/legacy/.

NEXT GENERATION

Under the Pines

By Barbara Bray

Wispy branches reach out to me with clumps of long, thin needles waving gently in the breeze. I can't resist the urge to stroke the branches. The needles are clumped five together along every twig, and feel like the dangling silk fringe on an antique lampshade. It's not only the sensation of touch that draws me to white pines – it's also the fascinating environment around the tree.

Every October, just after the temperatures plummet at night, the white pine trees growing in the center of my backyard seem to magically transform themselves from a uniform green color to a mixed palette of green and yellow. The slender yellow needles gently drop to the ground over several days, creating a blanket-like covering. If you were to carefully pull away the newly deposited needles from the ground, you would find last year's fallen needles still largely intact, but now faded to a brownish gray. Digging a bit deeper reveals partially decomposed, broken needles – and below these are even smaller bits and pieces. Seven years of falling needles has produced a top layer of organic matter about an inch thick. Walking under the pines is like being a child again – every step is like walking across a plush, springy mattress. But watch where you step. This same layer sometimes holds surprises.

Eastern White Pine *(Pinus strobus)*
Zelimer Borzan, University of Zagreb.
After Hempel & Wilhelm, 1889. Bugwood.org

Five years ago, sprouting from the new bed of pine needles, a beech tree appeared. Perhaps it was planted by a fox squirrel in our neighborhood, or maybe a blue jay up in the pine accidently dropped it below. The sprout grew two leaves that first year. Each year after that it grew a tiny bit more, seemingly happy under the shade of the white pine. Last year it died.

I suspect that the dry summer of 2007 caused severe water stress for the tiny beech tree which was growing in sandy soil. Even the soft layers of pine needles couldn't hold enough moisture to keep this tree alive. But where one living thing dies, others often thrive.

On a hot summer day, something deep in the soil began to claw its way up toward the sunlight. It reached the soil's surface and climbed up the side of the pine tree. Once it was about 3 feet off the ground, it stopped moving and sat there. That's when it was discovered. My son, Ben, yelled to me that he had found a strange-looking frog ,or maybe a mushroom, or a weird bug. He wasn't sure. It had small eyes, pink-tipped legs, wrinkly wings, and a green body. What was this creature from the depths below?

It was a cicada – emerging from its exoskeleton. We watched it stretch its back legs several times. A half hour later its crumpled wings unfolded and became clear. The body changed from a greenish color to brown with pinkish parts. Golden spots appeared between the eyes on its head. After an hour, the wind jostled the cicada like a small kite. It dropped its wings along its body and began to stretch its legs sideways. A few minutes later, as a fully mature adult, it flew away.

Never underestimate the surprises that nature can bring. Watch for the yellow clouds of pollen pouring out from the staminate (male) cones in the springtime. Look for clusters of 20 needles woven together with silk in the winter. These are the homes of pine tube moths overwintering as pupae. Try to spot chickadees plucking seeds from the 5-inch long cones. Yellow bellied sapsuckers are known to visit white pines for a sip of pine sap.

This tree provides food and shelter for many animals, but for me it is a delight just to touch the needles or walk beneath it. I encourage everyone to go exploring under the pines and see what they can see. ❄

Congratulations to Our Newest Lifetime Members

Wild Ones®
NATIVE PLANTS, NATURAL LANDSCAPES

Patricia and Chuck Armstrong
Greater DuPage (IL) Chapter

Thank you for your support and your dedication to Wild Ones.

You Can Be a Lifetime Member

The Wild Ones National Board is pleased to be able to offer this special way to show your support of Wild Ones and its mission.

$1,200 per household, payable over three years. Not inheritable.

Applies to household, which includes children under 18 years of age.

Local chapters will still receive their annual dues reimbursement for lifetime members. One address per membership.

Contact the National Office, toll-free at 877-3944-9453 for details.

JAPANESE BARBERRY

By Janet Allen

INVASIVES ON THE HORIZON

Last summer, we stopped to camp in a state park just north of the Blue Ridge Mountains. It had been a long day's drive, so we were ready to stretch our legs and see a bit of the natural world in an ecoregion different from our own. In one way, though, we felt right at home. As we strolled through the campground we spotted a multitude of Japanese barberries. In our suburb, they're planted intentionally. Here, they marked an unintentional, but continuing invasion of our natural areas.

Japanese barberry *(Berberis thunbergii)*, an Asian native, was introduced to the United States in the late 1800s as an ornamental shrub and successor to the less ornamental common barberry *(B. vulgaris)*, which had also been introduced from Europe by early settlers. (A native barberry *[B. canadensis]* grows in the eastern and southeastern U.S. but is not abundant.) In addition to spreading by creeping roots, birds and other wildlife eat the berries and disperse the seeds in their droppings. Japanese barberry now forms dense stands in a variety of habitats, including forests and woodlands, wetlands, pastures and meadows, and wastelands. It is especially common in New England, but it extends westward to Wyoming, south to Georgia, and north to Quebec.

It displaces native plants, reducing wildlife habitat and forage, and its prickly stems impede the movement of wildlife. It can alter soil characteristics, such as pH, and can reduce the depth of the litter layer in forests.

Despite its negative impact, Japanese barberry is a popular – and lucrative – landscaping plant. Annual sales of the shrub are estimated to be $15 to $20 million in Connecticut alone. And the reasons for its popularity are often the same reasons it's problematic in natural areas. It thrives in a variety of soil and moisture conditions, it can grow in shade (like the forested areas in our campground), and it's deer-resistant – giving it a decided advantage over native species.

Ads promote Japanese barberry as "…everywhere respected as a dependable, versatile shrub" and "...known for producing excellent hedges." Some ads claim that "...these attractive berries last all winter long, sustaining birds and other wildlife," but in reality, barberries are a last resort food and a poor substitute for the native plants they displace.

It's perhaps understandable that businesses would promote such a profitable plant, but it's perplexing why other institutions do. On a visit to a botanical garden in Pennsylvania, I was astounded to see it included in the home landscape demonstration garden. But it's especially ironic to see extension services suggesting this plant for home landscaping, even while the same states' departments of natural resources list it as an invasive plant. For example, the University of Illinois Extension includes barberry in its "Selecting Shrubs for Your Home" web site, and the Virginia Cooperative Extension suggests that since it tolerates severe pruning, it's "one of the better plants to use as a dense hedge."

As always, it's recommended that you don't plant invasive plants like barberry, but if you already have one, there are a number of ways to get rid of it. Since I had only three small barberries (yes, in my pre-Wild Ones days, like everyone else in my neighborhood, I had some, too) I just dug them up, being careful to get all the roots. Wear thick gloves. Ten years later, I still remember how viciously thorny they were. Alternative methods are to use shrub removal tools, or to repeatedly cut them down. If necessary, use a systemic herbicide.

But other "solutions" are in the works. Some researchers are developing a seedless form of the plant, while others are searching for cultivars that aren't invasive. Planting sterile barberries is surely better than planting fertile ones, but is "less bad" good? As Douglas Tallamy points out in *Bringing Nature Home*, the plants we use in our gardens will determine what nature will look like in the future – and he stresses that native plants are essential for preserving biodiversity. As any Wild One knows, the best solution to invasive plants like Japanese barberry is planting native plants. ❁

Native Alternatives to Japanese Barberry

Check to see which of the following are native to your area.

Red chokecherry *(Aronia arbutifolia)*
Black chokeberry *(Aronia melanocarpa)*
American beautyberry *(Callicarpa americana)*
New Jersey tea *(Ceanothus americanus)*
Sweet pepperbush *(Clethra alnifolia)*
Silky dogwood *(Cornus racemosa)*
Hearts-a-bustin' *(Euonymus americana)*
Wild hydrangea *(Hydrangea arborescens)*
Inkberry *(Ilex glabra)*
Winterberry *(Ilex verticiliata)*
Mountain laurel *(Kalmia latifolia)*
Spicebush *(Lindara benzoi)*
Northern bayberry *(Myrica pensylvanica)*
Ninebark *(Physocarpus opulifolius)*
Swamp rose *(Rosa palustris)*
Pasture rose *(Rosa carolina)*
Highbush blueberry *(Vaccinium corymbosum)*
Arrowwood *(Viburnum dentatum)*
Mapleleaf viburnum *(Viburnum acerifolium)*

National, state, and small urban parks, in the East and Upper Midwest, are experiencing invasion by Japanese barberry.

Grapevine

By Maryann Whitman

Nature Lovers Livid Over Missing Words

Robert Bateman, Canadian environmental artist, naturalist, lecturer, and self-admitted old-fogey is reported to be horrified. David Suzuki, zoologist and Canadian environmental activist says he is mystified. Both are responding to revelations of an editorial decision on the part of the Oxford University Press. The *Oxford Junior Dictionary*, intended for use by children aged 7 and up, has dropped a number of words in order to make room for some newer ones. Beaver, fern, dandelion, lobster, heron, and blackberry are among the words that have been replaced by others like Blackberry, broadband, celebrity, dyslexic, and biodegradable.

"It's another nail in the coffin of a whole generation we seem to be training to not go outdoors, and to lose touch with nature," rants Mr. Bateman.

The Head of Children's Dictionaries at Oxford University Press says that, "When you look back at older versions of dictionaries, there were lots of examples of flowers, for instance. That was because many children lived in semi-rural environments and saw the seasons. Nowadays, the environment has changed." In other words OUP is "getting with it."

So what is it with these opinionated Canadians? There are 1.8 billion children between the ages of 1 and14 – if all of them suddenly got interested in nature, can you imagine the damage they could do? Indoors and plugged-in they will be safe, and so will we. No one has ever been mugged by a couch potato. If we don't tell them what's out there they won't "get involved."

On the Other Hand

Research shows how reducing emissions from deforestation cannot only help in combating climate change, but can also help the conservation of biodiversity, from amphibians and birds to primates, and the maintenance of major carbon sinks. Other benefits from investing in forests' ecosystem "infrastructure," span a range from stabilizing soils to conserving and boosting local and regional water supplies.

Consider the above paragraph, pieced together from recently published reports of the United Nations Environment Programme. On first reading you probably assumed the research was referring to some tropical rain forest, and the conservation of biodiversity had something to do with orangutans or endangered chameleons. I know I did.

Now take a step back, shrink the scale of reference to something you know very well, bring it closer to home, and you can see that the "research" can apply just as well in upstate New York, the parks system in Ann Arbor Michigan, or the Smoky Mountains in Tennessee. Its elements can apply to your own back/front yard, to the bit of conservation land that you steward on weekends, to the ditch planting you participated in when the Road Commission came through with their bulldozers, to the bundle of grey-dogwood that you gave to a friend because it reproduces so readily in your fence-row, to the donation you made to the Environmental Classroom being planned in your local elementary school.

And what does it all come down to? Every thinking one of us can participate in the grand effort to conserve biodiversity, to maintain carbon sinks, and to help stabilize our soils – if not through direct hands-on action then through support of the ideas, or through monetary support and the education of the next generation.

We are not irrelevant cogs. What we say and do counts. The effects of our activities are cumulative.

What do you think? You have my address. ❁

WILD ONES STEWARDS

Our new home at the WILD Center has brought with it a renewed interest in our organization by the local Fox Valley community. Recently, we were invited to participate in a Town of Menasha's Sustainability Committee meeting (WILD Center is located in Town of Menasha), and we were pleased to learn that there are several communities in the Fox Valley with similar committees. We were even more pleased to learn that several Wild Ones members are participating on these committees.

If you participate in a local municipal sustainability-type committee, or any committee which affects our environment, we'd like to hear from you about your participation. E-mail the National Office at execdirector@for-wild.org, and bring us up to date on what you're doing. It's really important that landscaping and biodiversity be included in these committee discussions.

Wild Ones wants to help you with these committee deliberations, so if there is something we can do, please don't hesitate to ask.

Amateur botanist the victim of phytoballistic barrage: Yosemite Sam in Iowa

By Don Mays (wearing safety glasses)

Quietly enjoying my post-Thanksgiving Friday afternoon, I was playing the role of amateur botanist. I had the house to myself, seated at my favorite seed-cleaning spot – a glass-topped patio table in our sun room – with a batch of wild petunia *(Ruellia humilis)* seeds collected from my garden.

I could see remaining patches of frost in shaded areas outside, while reveling in the warmth of the sunshine streaming into the sun room. No noise. No distractions. It was just me and my little pile of freshly gleaned seed capsules – also basking in the sun.

Having just finished stripping all the seed capsules from their stems, I was enjoying a cup of coffee, and dreaming of little *Ruellia* seedlings poking their green cotyledons up through potting soil in the months to come. Suddenly, it was as if Yosemite Sam had entered the room, pistols a-blazing. Shrapnel bounced off my glasses, and ricochets were flying everywhere.

It was the seed capsules exploding. Yikes! My meticulously collected seeds were thrown about the room, leaving me with only a pile of duff and empty *Ruellia* "cartridges." I quickly slid the remaining seed capsules into an old wire food strainer, and covered the top with paper, thereby containing my "petunia popcorn."

A little online research quickly discovered that the seeds of *Ruellia humilis* are described as "explosively dehiscent." (Now you tell me.) In fact, a plant cousin is named *Ruellia strepens* (*Strepens* is the Latin word for rustling or making a loud noise, presumably referring to the explosive fruit.) The perils of obtaining your botanical pleasure. ❁

SEEDS FOR EDUCATION

This year we attracted 69 percent more grant requests than we did in 2008. If our Seeds for Education Program draws a proportional increase in requests for money in 2010, we will need a much larger pool of judges, and we will need much more money to donate to these very deserving educational programs.

E-mail SFEDirector@for-wild.org to find out more about being an SFE judge.

The National Board and SFE Committee will be reviewing guidelines and goals for the SFE program during the year to find new and better ways to complete the review process and locate nursery partners.

If you'd like to be part of this committee, please contact the National Office at execdirector@for-wild.org, or call 877-394-9453.

Special Thanks to All Who Recently Contributed:

SFE Grant Program funding

Serena Schwartz-Larson
Ann Arbor (MI) Chapter

Paul Knoop Jr, **Gretchen Kumlien**
Columbus (OH) Chapter

Beth Coleman, **Clifford Orsted** of Door Landscape, Door County (WI) Chapter

Harold Clark
Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter

Martha & Ray Bright
Greater DuPage (IL) Chapter

William Carroll, **Jean & Jim Dehorn**
North Park Village Nature Center (IL) Chapter

Peter & Colleen Bell, **Melanie Costello**, **Michael & Jean Maloney**, **Carla S. Womack**
Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter

SFE Endowment

Lewis Tripp, Ann Arbor (IL) Chapter

Paul Knoop Jr., Columbus (OH) Chapter

Rich & Janet Carlson, **Jim Lincoln** of Outagamie County Housing Authority
Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter

Anne Houle, Greater DuPage (IL) Chapter

Judith-Kay Chase, **Larry & Barbara Ross**
Kalamazoo Area (MI) Chapter

Libby & Roys Ellinas
Menomonee River Area (WI) Chapter

William Carroll
North Park Village Nature Center (WI) Chapter

Patricia Otto, Partner-at-Large (WA)

Carla Womack, Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter

Claire Anderson, St. Louis (MO) Chapter

SFE – Lorrie's 89th Birthday

Marty & Jeff Rice, Twin Cities

This brings the total for Lorrie's Birthday remembrance to $841. This is down considerably from the $2,544 given last year.

WILD CENTER *Wish List*

Many of you have been asking about things we might need at the The WILD Center – besides money for the remodeling – so we've put together a list for you.
First aid kit • Gardening tools (trowels, shovels, pruners, pruning saw(s), etc.) • Garden tractor and small trailer • Benches for outdoor seating • Ladder (16-foot extension and five-rung step) • Trailer for hauling debris with car • Heavy-duty shredder or chipper • Rain barrels • Conference-type table(s) • Conference-type stackable chairs • Double bed or twin bed or better yet, one set of bunk beds • Dressers (two each).

Next spring we'll be looking for small maple and oak trees.

Contact the National Office (execdirector@for-wild.org) or by phone at 877-394-9453 if you have these or other items which may be suitable for use at The WILD Center.

We now have someone at The WILD Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Or, you can call for an appointment 877-394-9453. ❁

Journal Is Now Online. Business Card Templates, Too

Some people have expressed an interest in reading the *Wild Ones Journal* online, rather than receiving a print version. And others have wanted to have a way to print their own (officially approved) Wild Ones business cards and name tags.

OK. You asked for it – here it is. To access these great new resources, just visit the Wild Ones web site at www.for-wild.org, and click the "Member Login" button near the upper-right corner of the page.

If you're not already registered on our web site, you will arrive at the "Wild Member Login" page. Just follow the applicable instructions to get access to the "members-only" section of the web site.

Once you're registered, logged in, and on the "Wild Ones Member Page," just click the "Business Cards Template" link to see the business card and name tags templates and instructions – and to view online versions of the *Journal*, just click the "Online Journal" link. If you like the online version of the *Journal*, let us know so we can remove your name from the mailing list. ❁

Could your gift be the one that saves the Earth?

A Wild Ones Gift Membership

If you're tired of handing out loud neckties, plaid socks, and wooly underwear, why not give something fun that also shows how much you care about the future of our planet?

Can't think of anyone who would enjoy a Wild Ones membership? How about those new neighbors down the street who aren't sure what to do with their yard? Or maybe those relatives who keep borrowing your lawnmower. And what about the local "weed inspector" who keeps eyeing your prairie? Better yet, just think what a Wild Ones membership will do for the kids at your neighborhood school.

Those neckties and socks will just end up in the back of a drawer, and those underwear – well, we don't even want to know. But your gift of a Wild Ones membership might be the start of a journey that leads someone to saving the Earth, or at least a small part of it.

Three levels of membership are available, and each new gift membership gets one or more Wild Ones promotional items along with the standard benefits and a subscription to the *Journal*. We'll even send them a letter so they'll know it's from you.

Helping to save the Earth, and your favorite Wild organization, has never been so easy. The journey starts at www.for-wild.org/joining.html. Go there now.

The view of the lake from the house is picture perfect, framed by judicious pruning and transplanting.

A neighbor's storm-downed tree, left undisturbed, now serves as a small wildlife sanctuary, and is a more attractive view than the neighbor's lawn.

Green Gables
An american landscape designed with nature in mind: Lakeshore Shade

By Richard J. Ehrenberg

Part 5 of a series.

One of the reasons for purchasing the land I now call Green Gables was to be able to enjoy the ambience of a lakeshore homestead. A real estate agent who had been showing me properties for a year said he had a rather run-down house and garage to show me, located right in town, on the shore of Trippe Lake. The two structures I saw were in desperate need of repair, paint, and reroofing. However, when I looked out the rear window of the house, past the lush green lawn, toward the lake – the deal was clinched in my mind.

Looking past the lawn and into the future led me to the second reason for purchasing the property. Here was an opportunity to actually create the type of natural landscape environment I wanted. As a landscape architect, working for others, one is always constrained by a client's likes and dislikes, wants, biases, budget, and mostly reluctance to consider non-traditional approaches. My own unrestrained imagination, and my confidence in what could be done, embraced the future possibilities with excitement. Here was the chance, as Frank Sinatra would say, to "do it my way."

Some of the existing vegetation would be incorporated, and the rest completely redone. The lakeshore area was to be defined by the existing trees; two multi-trunk black willows *(Salix nigra)*, one Asian weeping willow, two American elms *(Ulmus americana)*, and two silver maples *(Acer saccharinum)*. The extent of their shade would naturally dictate where the prairie garden would end and the forest planting would begin.

Approximately 500 bags of leaves, collected by the city, were dumped in the yard and, as in the process employed in the front yard forest (that was discussed in a past issue of the *Journal*), were emptied and spread onto a 100-foot x 60-foot area during the fall of 1993. By the following spring all leaves were compacted by winter's snow, and all the lush grass was dead. No trees were planted. I wanted to see what would emerge out of the leaf mulch. The thick layer of leaves and the partial shade discouraged sun-loving Eurasian lawn weeds from germinating. Instead, the rich seed bank of tree seeds which had come with the leaves produced a great quantity of tree seedlings.

The variety of native trees reflected the random collection of leaves with which the seeds had travelled: Wild black cherry *(Prunus serotina)*, American linden *(Tilia americana)*, white ash *(Fraxinus americana)*, and black walnut *(Juglans nigra)* were the initial volunteers, and this selection has remained intact for 14 years. These trees have grown very slowly over the years, probably because of their density, and definitely because of existing shady conditions. With the advantage of full sun exposure, the front yard forest trees, in comparison, have reached four times the lakeside trees' heights in a shorter period of time. Nature has seen to it that the existing large trees are not overwhelmed by the 200-plus volunteer trees. The volunteers appear to be "waiting" for a time when one or two of the large trees die, fall by wind or lightning, and additional sunlight will set off a competition to occupy the newly opened space. Nature adjusts to its own environment. A beautiful process to behold; no pruning or thinning is required.

There are unfortunate exceptions to the "no-pruning provision": The need to control growth of exotic plants such

Looking past the lawn and into the future led me to the second reason for purchasing the property. Here was an opportunity to actually create the type of natural landscape environment I wanted.

as Russian mulberry, honeysuckle, buckthorn, Norway maple, and native ash-leaf maple (Acer negundo). All tolerate shade so well they overtake all other trees in a shady situation. All of these are removed or cut to the ground during each year's growth. Native grape vine *(Vitis amurensis)* and Virginia creeper *(Parthenocissus quinquefolia)* are kept in check by annual selective cutting or removal. Both provide valuable bird food and shelter. In addition, removal of native trees and shrubs is needed when they block a view or interfere with the path to the lake. A few years ago 60 volunteer trees had to be cut down to maintain a narrow lake view from the house. It was hard to believe so many volunteers had grown into such a limited space.

Native woodland wildflowers and shrubs have surprisingly also volunteered over time: Violets *(Viola sp.)*, anemone *(Anemone canadensis)*, asters *(Aster sp)*, ground cherry *(Physalis sp.)*, white snakeroot *(Eupatorium rugosum)*, fall phlox *(Phlox paniculata)*, common milkweed *(Asclepias syriaca)*, hepatica *(Hepatica sp.)*, sedge *(Carex sp.)*, iris *(Iris sp.)*, black raspberry *(Rubus occidentalis)*, gooseberry *(Ribes sp.)*, juneberry *(Amelanchier sp)*, red-osier dogwood *(Cornus sericea)*, and cranberry viburnum *(Viburnum trilobum)*. I am beginning to seed in other wildflowers for more diversity. The volunteers have become part of the lakeside scene. Each one adds to the texture, color, and interest of the natural environment at the edge of Trippe Lake – a vivid contrast of the once lawn-dominated setting.

Another interest which nature, as well as Kim and I, have added to the lakeside setting is sculpture. Metal wildlife creatures by a local artist and friend of Lorrie Otto, Kaaren Wiken (xn-trix@centurytel.net), provide interest throughout the year, and especially surprise guests who look out onto a winter scene to see full-sized turkeys, sandhill cranes, and a 5-foot tall woodpecker attached to the large weeping willow trunk.

The turkey and woodpecker sculptures are particularly striking after several snowfalls.

The sculptures which nature adds, apart from everything that grows, are various massive tree trunks, some fallen, some leaning spectacularly, some simply stretching their majesty skyward. These artistic, living and dead sculpture pieces are left where they fall. Branches and twigs of dead limbs are removed to highlight and clean up the monumental accents. Shrubs, volunteer trees, and vines grow among the fallen artifacts. Birds benefit from the insects and invertebrates which take advantage of the decaying wood.

Enough light still filters through the tall trees to maintain a 4-foot wide grass path that leads to a patio of flagstone, and to an outdoor fire pit with a grass seating area. The path continues past the fire pit, and ends at the very edge of the property where a small boat dock is located. The out-of-sight location, away from the central view of the lake, enhances a feeling of being in a wilderness setting. When sitting on the patio or walking the path along the shore, it's very difficult to see the house or garage or any other sign of urbanization – especially when leaves are on the trees. Away from the house one may stroll past a prairie, then into a secluded lakeshore forest, and away from the city of Whitewater. It's a short trip to the country.

Trunks of large trees, standing, tilting, and fallen, stabilize the water's edge, while lending a wild feel to what is a suburban lot.

If the tall trees had not existed near the lakeside, it might not have occurred to me to plant any. After all, when one thinks of lake property it's natural to imagine sunbathing and a full view of the water. I have discovered shade to be a very welcome amenity during the hot and humid days of summer. During the cool days of early spring and late fall, a lack of leaves on the trees makes the sun's warmth available. As for the ubiquitous mosquitoes, we have a screened gazebo on hand to deal with one of nature's nastier aspects. ❁

BUSINESS MEMBERS

RENEWING BUSINESS MEMBERS

EarthWild Gardens
1479 Potawatomi Rd
Grayslake IL 60030-3531
(842) 287-7477
info@earthwildgardens.com
www.earthwildgardens.com
Lake-To-Prairie Chapter

Edge of the Woods Native Plant Nursery LLC
2415 Route 100 Orefield PA 18069
(610) 395-2570
stantsits@edgeofthewoodsnursery.com
www.edgeofthewoodsnursery.com
Partner-at-Large

Kickapoo Mud Creek Nature Conservancy
1919 Limekiln Rd PO Box 38
Oregon IL 61061-0038
(815) 973-0756
kentkathy@sbcglobal.net
www.kickapoomudcreek.org
Rock River Valley Chapter

Prairie Restorations Inc
31922 128th Street PO Box 327
Princeton MN 55371-0327
(763) 389-4342
info@prairieresto.com
www.prairieresto.com
St. Croix Oak Savanna Chapter

Red Buffalo Nursery
10502 Seaman Rd Hebron IL 60034-8822
(815) 648-4838
kaskel@mc.net
www.redbuffalonursery.com
Lake-To-Prairie Chapter

Tree of Life Nursery
33201 Ortega Hwy PO Box 635
San Juan Capistrano CA 92693
(949) 728-0685
debevans@treeoflifenursery.com
www.treeoflifenursery.com
Partner-at-Large

Windstar Wildlife Institute
10072 Vista Ct Myersville MD 21773
(301) 293-3351
Wildlife@windstar.org
www.windstar.org/wildlife
Partner-at-Large

NEW BUSINESS MEMBER

Taskforce on Waukegan Neighborhoods
128 N West Street Waukegan IL 60085
(847) 917-8310
finnnada@waukegan.com
Lake-To-Prairie Chapter

I like these cold, gray winter days.
Days like these let you savor
a bad mood.
Bill Watterson

Fake Lawns Painted Green Are Pushing Out the Lawn Sprinklers in Some Parts of the Country

An iconic sight almost everywhere, the common lawnsprinkler *(Sprinklora hydrowastea)* is on its way to being an endangered species in some parts of the country.

An interesting phenomenon is playing out in drought-stricken Southern California, where water bills can approach or exceed $200 per month, 70 percent of which is spent on landscaping.

Some residents are opting to remove their lawns and replace them with…fake grass. Some communities are offering customers $1 rebates for every square foot of real lawn removed, and 30 cents per square foot of fake grass installed. In the 1990s residents of Santa Barbara made news by spray painting their dead lawns green when watering was prohibited. Other communi-

A few communities are actually encouraging the use of native plants, once derided as "shaggy weeds."

ties are issuing fines, not only for installation of fake grass, but for grass that is not kept lush and green.

The requirement of a green lawn in front of every house is the one thing all sides have in common.

One municipal water district manager says that judging by population projections over the next 20 years, when it comes to the disappearance of real lawns, it is not a matter of if, but when. It seems that a lot of sifting through and changing of old ordinances will have to happen. A few communities are actually encouraging the use of native plants, once derided as "shaggy weeds."

All this in the face of some figures put out by University of Kansas researchers: Fresh water pollution by phosphorus and nitrogen fertilizers costs government agencies, drinking water facilities, and individual Americans at least $4.3 billion annually. ❁

CHAPTER NOTES

From the communications we've seen here at Wild Ones headquarters, we know many of the chapters have either held holiday parties and annual meetings, or are planning to do so with the coming year. This is the time of the year to plan to refresh your chapter's goals, elect new officers, and establish new friends and allies. When someone from your chapter calls upon you for assistance, we hope you'll be able to lend a hand.

Wild Ones has a new headquarters and a demonstration site. We're doing some new strategic thinking. We're trying to capitalize on this opportunity. We hope you are able to lend a hand to these efforts through your chapter participation or through National's endeavors.

Letter From a Member

Wild Ones is one of my favorite organizations along with Madison Blues Society (I am an avid blues music fan). You can feed a third bird too with one plant. The third bird is that native plants in the community-at-large put them in the public eye and thus self-advertise their beauty and sense of place that they give to those that pass by that native plant(s) day in and day out. I'm proud that Mt. Horeb, in this regard, decided to plant many native plants, bushes and trees and creatively used limestone in creating a very natural landscape in a 2-mile stretch of medians and roundabouts in the main gateway in and out of town.

We have five roundabouts, believe it or not. Every roundabout is planted differently, many with native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and trees. One roundabout center island is planted in nothing but a grouping of about a dozen aspens which was ablaze in yellow this fall and the medians have real thorned, bush variety cockspur hawthorn. They are very beautiful right now with the conspicuous and abundant red fruit and long spurs. And to think I was the only one who planted cockspur hawthorn.

Lynn Steiner, for her new book, is planning to visit next spring to take some pictures of the small space plantings on the small residential lot on which I live (1/3 acre) that includes a small oak savanna in the front yard (the birds are lovin' all those seeds right now); an oak woodland in front of the house (north side and shaded) leading up to the front door next to recently installed limestone outcroppings; a "row" prairie (100 feet long by about 10 feet wide) along the top of a limestone wall in the backyard (faces south) and next year, the start of a native berry hedgerow along the back lot line (I border a county park) as the late Sara Stein recommended in the back of her book, *Noah's Garden*. The birds and wildlife are anxiously awaiting the start of that project. I am also planning on showing Lynn all the natural landscaping and plantings that I described above in the community. If you are ever in the Madison area, come see for yourself too.

Jack Saltes, Madison (WI) Chapter.

At The Wild Ones Store

Long-Sleeve Roots T-Shirts The roots of native plants grow deep, and here's a great way to show off that important fact. Show off your "wildness" with "Roots" on front, and the Wild Ones logo on the back. Cool and unique. Several colors available. **$14**

Wild Ones Denim Shirts

Spread the word about Wild Ones with this eye-catching shirt. Professionally embroidered with the Wild Ones logo **$44**
With the famous "Yesterday's Lawn, Tomorrow's Habitat" **$55**

Have Fun – Wear a Wild Ones Sweatshirt If you want to be warm and comfy, and have fun at the same time, put on one of our eye-catching Wild Ones sweatshirts. Available in lots of colors: Hunter Green, White, Copper, and Ivy, and with different graphic designs and several sizes. Prices include shipping and handling, and start at just **$18**

WILD Center Mug
In connection with the opening of our new headquarters, this 14-ounce mug has a drawing of the building on one side, and the Wild Ones logo on the other. Color is white with green screen print. **$10**

Celebration of Nature Tote
Made from 100% recycled fabric, this waterproof tote has Joan Rudolph's graphic, along with "In Celebration of Nature" silkscreened on both sides. Colors are red/black, blue/black, and white/black. **$8**

Order Online
For more information, contact the National Office at 877-394-9453. Checks payable to Wild Ones at: Wild Ones Merchandise, P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, Wisconsin 54912. Prices include shipping and handling. *For maximum convenience, order online at www.for-wild.org/store/.*

The Meeting Place

Chapters, please send your
chapter contact information to:
Meeting Place Coordinator Mary Paquette
N2026 Cedar Road • Adell, Wisconsin 53001
920-994-2505 • meeting@for-wild.org
Chapter ID numbers are listed after names.

Meet us online at www.for-wild.org/calendar.html

CONNECTICUT

Mountain Laurel Chapter #78
Kathy T. Dame 860-439-2144
ktdam@conncoll.edu

ILLINOIS

Greater DuPage Chapter #9
Pat Clancy 630-964-0448 pjclancy@yahoo.com

Lake-To-Prairie Chapter #11
Karen Wisiol 847-548-1650 kawisiol@pcbb.net

Macomb Chapter #42 (Seedling)
Margaret Ovitt 309-836-6231 card@macomb.com

North Park Chapter #27
Wilma McCallister
bug788@gmail.com

Rock River Valley Chapter #21
Constance McCarthy 815-282-0316
kublaikhan@mac.com

INDIANA

Gibson Woods Chapter #38
Joy Bower 219-844-3188 Jbower1126@aol.com

KENTUCKY

Lexington Chapter #64
Linda Porter 859-936-1927 prairiegirl7@mac.com

Louisville Metrowild Chapter #26
Rick Harned 502-897-2485 r.harned@insightbb.com
wildones-lou@insightbb.com

MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor Chapter #3
Susan Bryan 734-622-9997
susanbryanhsieh@yahoo.com

Calhoun County Chapter #39
Carol Spanninga 517-857-3766
spanninga8@hotmail.com

Central Upper Peninsula Chapter #61
Jeanne Rose 906-789-1442 jeannerose@chartermi.net
Tom Tauzer 906-428-3203 ttauzer@chartermi.net

Flint River Chapter #32
Thomas Enright taenright@comcast.net

Detroit Metro Chapter #47
Connie Manley 248-538-0654
cmanfarm@mich.distance.net

Houghton-Hancock Chapter #60 (Seedling)
Kristine Bradof 906-482-0446 kbradof@mtu.edu

Kalamazoo Area Chapter #37
Dave Wendling 269-624-6946 davewndlng@aol.com
Tom Small 269-381-4946 yard2prairy@aol.com

Michigan's Thumb Area (Seedling)
Diane Santhany dsanthany@hotmail.com

Mid-Mitten Chapter #80
Judy Packard 989-686-1231
jpwild1s@limitlesspath.com

Oakland Chapter #34
Barbara Bray 248-601-6405
brayfamily@netscape.com

Red Cedar Chapter #41
Sue Millar 517-675-5665 smillar@hughes.net

River City Chapter #83
Carol Phelps 616-233-0833

MINNESOTA

Arrowhead Chapter #48
Carol Andrews 218-529-8204 candrews@barr.com

Otter Tail Chapter #25
Brad Ehlers 218-998-3590 frostbit@prtel.com

St. Cloud Chapter #29
Brian Johnson 320-356-9462 bjohnson@csbsju.edu

St. Croix Oak Savanna Chapter #71
Diane Hilscher 651-436-3836
hilscherdesign@comcast.net
Roger Miller st.croix.wild.ones@mac.com

Twin Cities Chapter #56
Marty Rice 952-927-6531 jcrmfr@msn.com

MISSOURI

Mid-Missouri Chapter #49
Susan Melia-Hancock 573-442-3670
susan.meliahancock@gmail.com

St. Louis Chapter #31
Marilyn Chryst 314-845-2497 tchryst@swbell.net

NEW YORK

Habitat Gardening in Central New York #76
Janet Allen 315-487-5742
hg.cny@verizon.net

Niagara Falls & River Region Chapter #87
Michelle Vanstrom 716-913-5324
vanshel400@aol.com

Niagara Frontier Wildlife Habitat Council Chapter #82
Joan Johnson 716-297-6953
pinetreestudio@earthlink.net

OHIO

Greater Cincinnati Chapter #62
Chris McCullough 513-860-4959 gordchris@fuse.net

Columbus Chapter #4
Jann Offutt joffutt@columbus.rr.com
Sam Pathy pathy.sam@gmail.com

Toledo Chapter #77
Erika Buri 419-882-8313x29
wild.ones.toledo@gmail.com

Western Reserve Chapter #73
Barb Holtz 440-473-3370
bph@clevelandmetroparks.com

PENNSYLVANIA

Habitat Resource Network of Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter #79
Maureen Carbery 484-678-6200
pahabitat@comcast.net

WISCONSIN

Central Wisconsin Chapter #50
Dan Dieterich 715-346-2849
dan.dieterich@uwsp.edu

Door County Chapter #59
Peter Sigman 920-824-5193 peter@sigmann.net

Fox Valley Area Chapter #8
Kris Kauth 920-766-2292 kkauth@sbcglobal.net
Kay Lettau 920-836-3330 lettau@new.rr.com

Green Bay Chapter #10
James Havel jhavel@releeinc.com
Veronique VanGheem vangheem@releeinc.com

Lake Woods Chapter #72
Gladwyn Doughman 920-684-9483

Madison Chapter #13
Laurie J. Yahr 608-274-6539 yahrkahl@sbcglobal.net
Barb Glassel 608-819-0087 bglassel@gmail.com

Menomonee River Area Chapter #16
Jan Koel 262-251-7175
Diane Holmes 262-628-2825 di.holmes@charter.net

Milwaukee North Chapter #18
Message Center: 414-299-9888x1

Milwaukee Southwest-Wehr Chapter #23
Message Center: 414-299-9888x2

Root River Area Chapter #43
Nan Calvert 262-681-4899 prairiedog@e-3.cc

Sheboygan Area Tension Zone Chapter #43
Sarah M. Johnson 920-627-3183
sarah@landmarklandscapesinc.com

Wolf River Chapter #74
Mary Kuester 715-526-3401
Sue Templeman boosue@frontiernet.net

For meeting and activity information, call the chapter contact person or check the chapter web site.

Welcome New Chapter

Niagara Falls & River Region Chapter of Wild Ones

Their educational efforts will encompass primarily communities within the Niagara Falls & gorge areas of New York state.

COMING EVENTS

WILD ONES NATIONAL QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS

All members are invited and encouraged to attend the quarterly meetings of the National Board of Directors. If you'd like to participate in the meeting by conference call, please contact the National Office (toll-free) at 877-394-9453 for instructions.

The Stewardship Network Conference January 23 and 24, at the Kellogg Center, East Lansing, Michigan. The science, practice, and art of restoring native ecosystems. Contact: Lisa Brush at 734-395-4483.

13th Annual Toward Harmony With Nature Conference January 24, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Sponsored by Fox Valley Area Chapter of Wild Ones. Keynote speaker, Professor Robert J. Jeske, Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Archaeological Research Laboratory at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Contact: Karen at 920-987-5587 or e-mail harmony@for-wild.org.

Wild Ones 2009 Spring Expo Saturday, February 21st, 2009, 8:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Radisson Hotel Roseville, 2540 Cleveland Ave N, Roseville, Minnesota. "Thumbs Up For The Environment: Native Landscaping for Clean Water" Wild Ones 8th Annual Spring Expo partners with the award-winning local "Blue Thumb – Planting for Clean Water" program, and will highlight the importance of landscaping with native plants to protect the quality of our lakes, rivers, and ground water. Learn how native gardens offer an attractive, low-maintenance and eco-friendly alternative for our landscapes. Full-day event includes keynote speakers, workshops, exhibit hall, and buffet lunch. Wild Ones members $35, non-members $40. Pre-registration only, by February 13. Register early to guarantee your seat at this popular annual event. For information on the Expo, e-mail to WOExpo@gmail.co, call 612-695-5510, or visit www.for-wild.org. For information on the Blue Thumb Program, go to www.bluethumb.org. Contact: Julia Vanatta, juliakay@scc.net, 12-382-2800.

The "Invasive Species of Grasslands" Conference February 21, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin. Held in conjunction with the annual Prairie Enthusiasts Banquet. Anone with an interest in grassland stewardship should attend. Contact: www.ipaw.org or www.theprairieenthusiasts.org.

Wildflower Assocation of Michigan March 8 and 9, at the Kellogg Center at MSU, East Lansing, Michigan. For registration information go to www.wildflowersmich.org and find "Wildflower Conference."

Wild Ones Sweatshirts and Long-Sleeve T-Shirts Look Great, Keep You Warm, Are Fun to Wear, and Make Great Gifts

For those cool nights, we recommend these Wild Ones Sweatshirts or Long-Sleeve T-Shirts. Available in Hunter Green, White, Copper, and Ivy, and with different graphic designs and several sizes, you'll always be cozy and warm in these eye-catching shirts. Prices start at just $18, which includes shipping and handling.

To place an order, and for full details, check out the Wild Ones Store at www.for-wild.org/store.

(414) 358-2430
Fax: (414) 358-3004

Home based in northwest Milwaukee

LaceWing Gardening, Consulting & Design Services

Remember, Life Begins in the Garden — Creating Habitats for 9 Years

Naturalized & Habitat Gardens that Attract Butterflies, Hummingbirds, Beneficial Insects & Pollinators; Create a Whole Ecosystem

Garden Consultation, Construction, Designs

Habitat Gardens • Prairies
Woodland Gardens • Shade Gardens
Stream, River & Lakeside Habitats & Restorations
Ponds & Water Gardens • Organic Maintenance • Pest & Disease Controls

Winter Services
(Nov. - April)
Landscape habitat designs
Garden talks
Exterior & interior Xmas decorations

Bluestem Farm
Native Plants

Great selection, including Wood Lilies, Yellow Star Grass, and Grass Pink Orchids.

Local genotype.

Competitive prices.

Potted plants ready to go.

Come and see us at the Dane County Farmers' Market in Madison.

No mail order sales!

Farm visits by appointment only, please.

S5920 Lehman Road
Baraboo, WI 53913
608-356-0179

Join Wild Ones Get Something Free

Prairie Directory of North America

This fabulous directory of North American prairies is yours free when you join or renew your Wild Ones membership **at the $75 level or higher**. Normally retailing for $25 (including shipping and handling), this directory not only locates prairies for you, but also gives you quick facts about each one. Former *Journal* Editor-in-Chief, Mariette Nowak, said, "Prairie lovers everywhere, this is the book for you!" The *Prairie Directory of North America* is a must-have for your travel reference collection. Join or renew now!

Wild About Wildflowers

Are you wild about wildflowers? When you join or renew your Wild Ones membership **at the $50 level or higher**, you will receive, at no extra charge, this highly acclaimed video. Covering everything from how to choose, plant, grow, and enjoy native American wildflowers and grasses in your own yard, this item sells in the Wild Ones Store for $30, but now you can get it almost for free. Join Wild Ones or renew your membership today!

Possibility Place Nursery

Trees
Shrubs
Perennials

Purveyor of Native Plant life

Phone: 708-534-3988
Fax: 708-534-6272
www.possibilityplace.com

Wild Ones Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Annual Dues:	Wild	Wilder	Wildest
Household	☐ $30	☐ $50	☐ $75+
Business	☐ $200	☐ $500	☐ $1,000+

Limited income/full-time student household: ☐ $20/year

Lifetime ☐ $1200 (Or payable in three annual $400 installments.)

I am joining/renewing at the
☐ $50 or higher level. Send Membership Premium Video.
☐ $75 or higher level. Send Membership Premium Book.

Please check: ☐ new ☐ renewal ☐ new contact info

Amount enclosed $ _____ for _____ years.

Chapter preference _____

Chapters listed in "The Meeting Place."

If this is a Gift Membership:

My Name _____

Occasion for Gift _____

Entire Membership Fee Is Tax-Deductible.

Wild Ones • P.O. Box 1274 • Appleton, WI • 54912-1274

Wild Ones
Native Plants, Natural Landscapes
P.O. Box 1274
Appleton, WI 54912-1274
www.for-wild.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO 90
OSHKOSH, WI

Is your membership OK? How about your address?
If the imprint above is dated **3/1/09** or **4/1/09 or before**, your membership is about to expire.

Money Going Down the Drain! If you are moving, either temporarily or permanently, please let the National Office know as soon as your new address is official. Returned and forwarded mail costs Wild Ones anywhere from $.77 to $3.77 per piece. *Each issue this adds up to a lot of money that could be used to support our mission.*

How You Can Help. When planning a long vacation, or a move, please mail your address information to Wild Ones, P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, Wisconsin 54912, call toll-free at 877-394-9453, or go to the Wild Ones members-only pages at www.for-wild.org. Click on item 2 (Update Personal Membership Info) and enter the appropriate changes. *Thanks!*

THANK YOU

Matching Donations

David Hapman, Kalamazoo Area (MI) Chapter. 1:1 match from **Pfizer Foundation**.

WILD Center: Purchase of Site

David West, Partner-at-Large, (CA)

WILDCenter ADA Remodel

Twin Cities (MN) Chapter, $500

Patricia Stephenson, Central Wisconsin (WI) Chapter

Jim & Joy Perry, **Walter & Bev Wieckert**, Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter

Barbara & Robert Boyer, Green Bay (WI) Chapter

Gail Walter, Kalamazoo Area (MI) Chapter

Dorothy Danak, Louisville MetroWild (KY) Chapter

Mike Anderson, Madison (WI) Chapter

Chris & Dave Abresch, **Mary & John Paquette**, Menomonee River Area (WI) Chapter

Anna Campbell, **Rita Olle**, Milwaukee-Southwest/Wehr (WI) Chapter

Jean & Jim Dehorn, North Park Village Nature Center (IL) Chapter

Michael & Jean Maloney, Rock River Valley (IL) Chapter

Commissions

Amazon.Com commissions for last two months: $62.10.

GoodSearch commissions for past year: $46.69.

In-Kind Contributions

Equipment and Remodeling

Marta Manildi, **Nancy Stoll**, Ann Arbor Chapter

John & Esther Mosher, Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter

Joe & Diane Powelka, Madison (WI) Chapter

Mandy & Ken Ploch, Menomonee River Area (WI) Chapter

Steven Brondino of Know the Value Inc, **Ney Collier**, Milwaukee-North (WI) Chapter

Nan & Jeff Calvert, **Gary Geest**, Root River (WI) Chapter

Dan Bouchette of Bouchette Electronics Wolf River (WI) Chapter

Dan Utschig of Federal Security Wolf River (WI) Chapter

Site Cleanup and Raingarden Development

Asplundh Tree Expert Co for **WE Energies**, **Don Borsos**, **Janet Carlson**, **Ann Drzewiecki**, **Dave Edwards**, **Nancy Graham & Dan Mitchell**, **Doug Grant**, **Bill Hartman** of GW Partners LLC, **Katie Larabell**, **Robert & Carol Niendorf**, **Dave & Sue Peck**, **Lisa Picconi**, **Jesse Rose** of Environmental Services Plus, **Joan Rudolph**, **Curt Solberg**, **Karen Syverson**, **Sandy Vander Velden & teachers**, **students & parents of the Fox River Academy**, **Donna VanBuecken**, **Bob VanZeeland**, **Dave Wherry**, **Rich Winter**, Fox Valley Area (WI) Chapter

Diane Olson-Schmidt, Menomonee River Area (WI) Chapter

David West, Partner-at-Large (CA)

Terry Marvel, Sheboygan Area Tension Zone (WI) Chapter

We're Sorry We Missed You in Our Annual Thank You Insert: Oak Savanna Circle Members

Don Pardonner & Judy Reninger, Door County (WI) Chapter

Sue Barrie, Green Bay (WI) Chapter

Oak Savanna Circle includes members who have loyally supported Wild Ones for 15 years or more.