Members Support Wild Ones Mission with Generous Gifts and Contributions

Thank you, everyone!

Thanks to you, Wild Ones has weathered the Great Recession and even managed to accomplish a lot during the 34th year of our existence. We are delighted to tell you that we have increased our membership to nearly 3,600 members as of this writing and are looking forward to hitting the 3,800 goal or even more in 2014. This growth and everything else we’ve accomplished this year could only have been accomplished because of you and your generous support toward our mission. Thank you, everyone. Your contributions towards the Wild Ones efforts in 2013 and through your membership for these many years, have moved us another step toward successfully spreading the word about the importance of native plants to biodiversity and to the well-being of our Earth. We are committed to being a good steward of all financial resources entrusted to Wild Ones.

Many wonderful things have happened this past year. First, the Monarch Committee developed the various elements of the Wild for Monarch Program which has been a huge success. Then Monarch Watch helped us increase the value of our Seeds for Education Grant Program by kicking in additional funding for grant recipients registering their Waystations. This summer, using grant monies, we finished the pollinator garden council ring at the WILD Center that has been dedicated to the good work of Citizen’s Natural Resources Association of Wisconsin and to Lorrie Otto. The circle was christened at the Annual Membership Meeting held again at the WILD Center. We’re looking forward to having people gather here in comraderie, to meditate or to converse or for a special event, but to be as one with nature. Our new website is up and getting better every week and several of our chapters have successfully developed their new websites as part of the whole website.

We’ve kicked off the Native Plants Butterfly Garden Recognition Program, which is part of the Wild for Monarch program and we’ve completed a very successful survey of Monarchs. Along the way we welcomed three new chapters, two of which are in states that we have not been in before: Blue Ridge in Virginia, Front Range in Colorado and West Cook in Illinois. We also awarded 14 Seeds for Education Grants. Finally, we have been honored to receive a bequest from one of our members who recently passed away. The bequest will allow us to “Spread the Word” about the importance of native plants to biodiversity and the very existence of this planet Earth. (There will be more on plans for this campaign in the coming year.)

So, as of this writing we have 3,572 members in 45 states and Washington DC and in two provinces of Canada.

The WILD Center continues to become better known not only as the national headquarters for Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes, but also as a public garden, having increased our visitors registration by 15% (and we know many visitors do not register because we see them walking through the gardens daily!). We’ve had visitors from as far away as California on one coast and Massachusetts and Connecticut on the other, and many of the Midwestern states in between. We hosted authors Doug Tallamy and Charlotte Adelman at the Center for this year’s Fox Cities Book Festival, which was a big help in spreading the word about the demonstration gardens at the WILD Center. And we gratefully accepted 659 volunteer hours that included Wild Ones members, local school groups and master gardeners.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the donor lists are accurate and reflect gifts made from October 21, 2012 through October 9, 2013. However, should there be an error or omission, please contact the national office at 877-394-9453 (877-FYI-WILD) or via e-mail at execdirector@wildones.org.

With your continued support, it is our goal to expand the movement during the upcoming 35th year so more people will understand the important role all of us need to play in revitalizing our own yards and our communities’ green spaces with native plants and natural landscapes to preserve our nation’s biodiversity.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHOSE GIFTS ARE PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR NATIVE LANDSCAPING.

Continued on next page.
Members Support Wild Ones Mission with Generous Gifts and contributions (continued)

Wilds Ones Legacy Program
$100,000
Estate of Elmer Krushinske

Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Grant Program
$2000 - $100
Monarch Watch
Red Cedar Chapter
Rock River Valley Chapter
Paula Wager
Fox Valley Area Chapter
Patricia M Otto
Candace Sarikonda
Clifford Orsted, Door
Landscape & Nursery
Joyce Torresani
Mack Ruffin & Kathy Carter
Dave & Joan Wendling

$50 - $3
Calhoun Chapter
Anne M Bray
C Diane Macaulay
Ruth E Marshall
Mary Ann Menek
Martha Nitz
David & Karen Edwards
Donna M Gager
Charles Heide, Brookwood
Partners LLC
Michael & Cynthia Huesbons
Linda Morgan
Valerie Reed
Lynn & Michael Steil
Elizabeth M Warner
James R Hewitt
Thelma Bergman
Betty & Lowell Edwards
Lucy Scanlon
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Bill & Barbara Graue
Barb Wolter
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Hildy Feen
Jacquelyne Gleason
Janice Steinbach
Cathy Wood
Kay & Phil Blair
Dianne J & Dennis L Stenerson
Jean Ehlke
Cathy Johnson
David Moore
Susan Johnson
Joanna Kirby
M Catherine Reglin
Christine J Reichert

General Operating Fund
$2000 - $100
Twin Cities Chapter
Rock River Valley Chapter
Addison & Deborah Igleheart
Habitat Gardening of Central
New York Chapter
Savannah Furman
Twin Cities Chapter
John & Kaye Kreutzfeldt
Dave & Sue Peck
Ruth Ann Cloonan
Dorothy Jachim
Roger Miller
Marna T Nemon
Susan Pang

$130 - $90
Charles Heide Brookwood
Partners LLC
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Sharon Bloomgarden
Ruth Ann Cloonan
Evelyn & Harley Dell
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Rosemary & Peter Eiden
Elizabeth & Heroditos Ellinas
Savannah Furman
Denise & Edwin Gehring
Judy Burnell Grimes
John Hermanson

Barb Holtz Look About Lodge
Pat & Ceci Kiever
Lucy F Pslug
C Diane Macaulay
Christopher & Martina Mann
Anne D Meyer
Alan Nass
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Gail Danto & Art Roffey
Bill Schneider Wildtype Native
Plant Nursery
Connor Shaw Possibility Place
Nursery
William A Thomas
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Lucy Chorgot
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Carla Freeman Cupstone Farm
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Pam Holy
Betty Hall
Patricia Robertson
Donald Rantala
Rhonda Deneka
Bob & Susan Grese
Arlene Kjar
Wisconsin Chapter of Retired
Educators Association

$20 - $3
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Martha F & Jeffrey Rice
Janice Steinbach
Michael Jedrezewki & Sybil
Marie Grandeen

Matching Challenge Campaign (also see Journal & Web Support)

$1200 - $130
Fox Valley Area Chapter of
Wild Ones
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Roger Miller
Marna T Nemon
Guy Smith
Stephen Windsor
Carla & Doug Salmon
Lexington Chapter
Camille Enoeder
Richard J & Janet J Carlson

$100 - $60
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Adelman
Judy Burnell Grimes
Melodie Feeley
Diane & David Fell
Donna Green
Chuck Hanlon
Alan W Hopeff
Kristin L Kauth
Sue & Bob Kinde

Patricia J Stephenson
Audrey Cullen
Catherine M Davis
Richard J Ehrenberg,
Design With Nature In
Mind
Pam Hoppe
Lynd Hyndman
Caroline Johnson
Jeanne S McDowell
Barbara Montee
Pam & Randy Penn
Valerie Reed
Guy & Edie Sternberg,
Starhill Forest
Mark Tower
Fredericka Veikley
David & Kathy Wege
Bonnie Welty
David & Nancy Wrede
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Nathaniel Dorff
Dennis Dreher
Cathy Johnson
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Paul & Bonita Vastag
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Gail Gammel
Esther Hope
Anne Gaddis Horn
Mark Isken
Ken & Mary Kuester
Debra Roe
Jack G Saltes
Jackie Scharfenberg

$50 - $3
David Mitchell
Sharon L Ostrowski
Anonymous
Arlyn Posekany
Edgar Schmidt
Janet T Schultz
Jim & Ginny Schultz
Sherrie & Bill Snyder
Karen & Mike Syverson
C Glen Walter
Virginia S & Walter Watson
Michael Head & Mary James
Sandra Ford
Betty Hall
Paula Kramer
Betty M Braun
Savannah Furman
Ann Kloubcar
Kristin Raab
Tom & Cindy Harvey

$50 - $3
Anne Coburn
Evelyn & Harley Dell
James & Sally Finzel
Emile Gameau
Denise & Edwin Gehring
Judith Graham
Charles Heide, Brookwood
Partners LLC
Tim & Janaa Lewis
Kay MacNeil
Gail Peyton
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Lucy & Roy Valtitchka
Harold & Bonnie Vastag
Annette E Weissbach
Rich & Liz Whitney
Katherine D Widin
Ruth Ann Will
Kit Woessner
Sharon Bloomgarden
We are pleased again to be able to present Dave Edwards as our Volunteer of the Year. Since we moved in 6 years ago, Dave has been a steadfast volunteer at the WILD Center (Wild Ones Institute for Learning and Development) helping with any and all chores that needed to be done. Dave often volunteers his time during the day, working on the gardens and constructing various amenities. He has been invaluable as a leader for other volunteers as well.

We have a close tie at second with Rich Winter and John VanBuecken both spending some of their free time at the WILD Center. Rich is often there during the evening or a weekend day, fighting buckthorn and restoring the site, while John has worked with Dave to keep the trails open and sapling trees watered.

It goes without saying that the progress we’ve made to date in the development of the Center would not be so far along without Dave’s, Rich’s and John’s valuable assistance.

Our special thanks go out to them, and also to the many others who have volunteered their time. Besides the Fox Valley Area Chapter members who routinely volunteer, Wolf River Chapter and Rick Webb, PAL from Pennsylvania have also spent time working in our gardens and riparian forest this past year.

Thank you all.
We are pleased that so many of our Wild Ones members have embraced this concept. We have 54 Lifetime Members, seventeen Burt Oak Members, and to-date 375 known members in our Oak Savannah Circle. Congratulations! And thank you, everyone.

To fund its important programs, Wild Ones depends heavily on private contributions from caring individuals. Donors are discovering the benefits of supporting charities through their estate plans. Through the Wild Ones Legacy Program we will work with you and your estate-planning professionals to help you help Wild Ones after you are gone.

These donations (often called planned gifts) can offer many advantages:

• Reduce estate taxes.
• Provide a life-income stream.
• Allow you to make a much larger gift than you thought possible.
• Receive a current income-tax deduction.
• Reduce or avoid capital gains tax.
• Support Wild Ones mission and work.

If you have not yet included the Wild Ones in your estate plans, the following are some of the most popular methods to accomplish that. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact National Council, Burt Kappaport, at 312-845-5116 or bkappaport@comcast.net, or the Wild Ones National Office at 877-394-9453 or execdirector@for-wild.org.

Wills
One of the simplest and most common ways to remember Wild Ones and help us carry on our mission is to leave a bequest through your will. The following is suggested language to use in wills and a variety of other estate planning tools – feel free to print this and take it to your attorney when you are discussing your estate plans.

When making a gift to the Wild Ones Natural Landscapers, Ltd., use this language:

*I give and bequeath the sum of $_______ (or _______ percent of my estate) to the Wild Ones Natural Landscapers Ltd., to be used for its general purposes.*

You may also give a particular asset (“my shares of XYZ stock . . .”) or a portion of the residue of your estate after other bequests have been paid (“50 percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate . . .”).

Trusts
There are many different types of trusts that can serve a variety of purposes. It would be impossible to give even a brief explanation of the many types of trusts in this information. The advice of an attorney and qualified financial planner is necessary to assess your situation and decide which trust might best serve your goals. Please know, however that it is easy to include a gift to Wild Ones through your trust by using the language set forth above.

Also, there are trusts (called Charitable Remainder Trusts) that can provide you or your loved ones with a life-income stream while also providing a gift to support the programs of the Wild Ones. Please check with your financial advisor to determine what is best for your situation.

Life insurance
Life insurance can be a valuable tool in estate planning. By naming beneficiaries on policies, the proceeds can be paid directly to that person or organization without having to go through probate. Life insurance also offers a wonderful way to make a charitable gift. It is possible to make gifts with “paid-up” policies, policies with premiums still due,
members provide dependable income for Wild Ones programs which includes making gifts of appreciated stock, real property, participating policy. Check with your insurance agent to see which option would be best for you.

Pay on death or transfer on death accounts

This estate planning tool can be an effective way to quickly transfer assets – such as bank accounts – to a beneficiary, because it avoids that asset going through the probate process. It also allows you to change the beneficiary at any time.

When establishing the account, tell your banking representative that you wish it to be a “Pay on Death” account. They will ask you for the name of the person or charitable organization you wish to receive the property upon your death.

Gifts of securities

While a gift of securities is not strictly an estate-planning tool, there are significant advantages to this type of donation that have allowed many donors to make gifts that will live on after they are gone.

If you have owned stock for at least one year that has increased in value, you can donate that stock to a charitable organization without having to pay capital-gains tax on the increase. Additionally, there is an income-tax charitable deduction equal to the full current market value of the securities (up to 30 percent of the donor’s adjusted gross income). Using appreciated stock to fund a gift annuity offers added tax benefits to that gift.

Note: In order to receive the most favorable tax treatment, you must donate the securities to the Wild Ones – you cannot sell the stock and donate the proceeds. If you would like more information on how to make this transfer, please contact the Wild Ones National Office.

Retirement plan assets

With the increase in the variety of retirement plan assets that people own, an important aspect of your estate planning should be making sure that the money invested in these accounts goes to the people or organizations you wish to receive them.

Examples of these different retirement plans include IRAs, pension plans, Keogh, and 401(k) accounts. If you are contemplating a charitable gift in your estate plans, using assets such as those in retirement plans can maximize your donation while allowing other property that is not subject to some taxes to be passed to your beneficiaries. Consult your financial advisor to see what is best for your particular estate plan.

There are many ways you can help Wild Ones promote environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities – including financial support or volunteering your time. You can choose to provide additional support in various ways.

Annual Support

Annual gifts, in addition to membership fees, provide critical ongoing resources to support daily operations and enable Wild Ones to carry out its mission throughout the year. Acorn Circle members 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. Any amount is greatly appreciated.

Burr Oak Circle

Donors who make annual gifts of $1,000 or more are honored through this leadership circle program, and are provided with special benefits such as special viewing days at the Wild Ones headquarters and a 10 percent discount on items at the Wild Store.

Oak Savannah Circle

Members of this circle have loyally supported Wild Ones for at least 15 years or more.

Employee Matching Gift Program

Many companies and organizations match employee contributions, greatly increasing the impact of a charitable gift to Wild Ones. Please contact your human resources office for further information.

Special Gifts and Heritage

Contact the Wild Ones Executive Director for further information about the Wild Ones Legacy Program which includes making gifts of 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. The Legacy Program (see opposite page) also can include bequests, charitable gift annuities, trusts, and other planned giving vehicles which provide significant support to Wild Ones while also benefiting the donors and their families.

Volunteer

More than 4,500 people annually volunteer their time and energy for land conservation, community garden plantings, and other chapter and national Wild Ones activities. Please consider becoming a "plants-roots" partner with Wild Ones.

Lifetime Members

Lifetime members have shown a long-term commitment to the Wild Ones mission and its goals.

Gift Memberships

One of the easiest ways to advocate and help others who are not already Wild Ones members learn about the benefits of using native plants in their landscaping is to give them a gift membership.

For more information on supporting Wild Ones, contact Donna VanBuecken, Executive Director, Wild Ones, P.O. Box 1274, Appleton, Wisconsin 54912-1274, 877-394-9453 (toll free), exedirector@wildones.org, or visit our web site at www.wildones.org. ©
Wilder and Wildest Members
Give Extra Support Through
Higher Levels of Membership

Burr Oak Circle
The Wild Ones Burr Oak Circle honors donors who contribute $1,000 or more annually to Wild Ones efforts.

Marilyn Jones
Eileen Mettress
Roger Miller
Mandy & Ken Ploch
Martha & Jeff Rice
Fox Valley Area Chapter
Gibson Woods Chapter
Greater DuPage Chapter
Red Cedar Chapter
Rock River Valley Chapter
St. Louis Chapter
Twin Cities Chapter
Citizen’s Natural Resources Association
John C Bock Foundation
Monarch Joint Venture
Monarch Watch
Wisconsin Energy Corporation
Foundation Inc.

Oak Savanna Circle
The Wild Ones Oak Savanna Circle honors members who have loyally supported Wild Ones for 15 years or more. Unfortunately, we don’t have everyone’s join date from the very early years, so if your name has been missed, please let the National Office know as soon as possible.

Christopher & Barbara Altenburg
Else Ankel
Robert & Carolyn Arevalo
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Martha & Ray Bright
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Faith & Bob Emons
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Robert & Marilyn Sutherland
Wayne Svoboda
John Tarasewicz
David & Judy Thayer
Olive Thomson
Keith M Tomaszewsky
Thomas Fitton & Eileen Udry
Will Wagner
Tom & Gail Walder
Jack & Carolyn Wallace
Hans Evers & Ann Wallace
Rud & Timmy Wasson
Richard Webb
James M Wellman
Ruth Ann Will
Karín & Klaus Wisiol
Sarah Wolf
Deborah Wolterman
Carolyn R & Foster R Woodward
Kay M Wosewick
Laurie M Young

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Higher Levels of Membership Give Extra Support (continued)