

# Chapter Newsletter

Volume 23 • No. 3

2015 June / July

#### **New Members**

Welcome **new members**! We hope to see you at the upcoming yard tours and field trips.

Keebie and Randy Bremhorst, Appleton

Kendra Heckmann, Neenah

Marvette LaVaque, Neenah

Lois Menzel, Oshkosh

Ellen and Todd Needham, Appleton

Jan Smith, Appleton

Brenda VandenLangenberg, Appleton

Pete Westergard, Greenville

We're so glad you joined Wild Ones!

#### Don't Become Extinct!

See your membership expiration date on your newsletter label and follow directions for renewing.

Thanks, and we'll look forward to seeing you at the meetings!

— Bob Niendorf & Carol Niendorf, Membership Co-chairs

#### WILD Center

Wild Ones National Headquarters 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd Located in Town of Menasha

Directions: From Hwy 41, take Exit 136, drive east on BB (Prospect Ave) to right on Northern Rd, then left onto Stroebe Rd. From Stroebe, turn right onto Butte des Morts Beach Rd. Hours

10 AM—3 PM Monday—Friday Grounds Accessible & Always Open

wildones.org

## Drum Roll Please... Special Keynote Speaker 2016 Conference

In celebration of our 20<sup>th</sup> "*Toward Harmony With Nature*" *conference* **January 30, 2016**, **Darrel Morrison**, one of our country's most distinguished native landscape designers and educators will give the keynote address!

Dr. Morrison was senior designer of two of our country's most admired native landscapes, the Lady Bird Johnson Wild-flower Center in Austin, Texas, and the Native Plants Garden at the University of Wisconsin Arboretum in Madison.

Dr. Morrison's presentation, *"Rivers and Drifts: Natural Processes in Designed Places,"* will provide us with a wealth of inspiration and information we can take home to our own yards and habitats. As a long time advocate of the use of native plants, native plant communities, and natural processes in the design of landscapes, he will explore the complementary nature of biotic diversity and aesthetic richness. He will also illustrate principles he uses in designing landscapes ranging

from the very tiny to the very large.

Darrel has taught Landscape Architecture at the University of Wisconsin; the University of

Georgia; and Columbia University; and has been a visiting faculty member at the University of Michigan, Utah State University, and Conway School of Landscape Design in Conway, Massachusetts.

He is a two-time recipient of the Outstanding Educator Award from the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, and of both the national Teaching Award and the Landscape Design Award from the American Horticultural Society. He is a past Honorary Director of Wild Ones and has lived in New York City since 2005.

Be sure not to miss this special presentation in celebration of our Chapter's 20<sup>th</sup> Conference!



More details on the conference to come in early fall.

#### **Events** of Wild Ones Fox Valley Area

June 13 | Saturday | All day | Door County Tour

July 23 | Thursday | 5-8 pm | Oshkosh Tour Eiden's property (Co-hosted by Winnebago Audubon and WOFVA)

August 14-16 | Fri-Sun | WILD Center | Wild Ones (National) Annual Conference Weekend (All members are welcome.)

#### foxvalleyarea.wildones.org

## President's Message

I heard a Wild Ones member say this week, "we live for summer," as she was peeling off the black plastic cover which she had lain down 9 months ago in the effort to smother out some gout weed once planted in her yard. It was a beautiful day and the orioles were singing and the cardinals were chasing each other through the treetops. Everything was growing: her new pagoda dogwoods, the oak trees, aronia bushes, wild geranium. Three flats of native plants from the plant sale were carefully laid out in a new rain garden area.

Spring into summer, we thrill at the return of the growing season. Everything grows: lawns, dandelions, garlic mustard, buckthorn, reed canary grass. Even in a traditional garden with manicured beds, when the weather warms, there are never enough hours in the day to control our growing plants. There are always surprises and disappointments. My hepatica, from a Wild Ones dig two years ago is thriving, but the asclepias tuberosa, which looked so great last year, completely rotted out over the winter in too much clay. I am pleased that the swamp milkweed is doing fine. We assess, learn more, and try again.

Gardening, and working to restore the earth, can seem like a battle. It takes all of us working together to spread the word about natives and sustainable landscaping to make a difference. At our April program, Kelly Kerns from the DNR gave a fascinating and alarming talk about the spread of invasive species in Wisconsin.

Twenty years ago there were just a handful of identified culprits, now we have 'upgraded' to more than 64 regulated terrestrial invasive plants.

In our WOFVA arsenal we have two native plant sales, monthly programs and tours, our Chapter display, bi-monthly newsletter, annual conference, and a growing cadre of members. Our new speaker's bureau team is presenting in a dozen different venues inspiring talks about the importance of native plants, landscaping for birds, and pollinators.

Our new mentoring program has more mentees seeking help than we have mentors to fill. While the battle in own yards continues, please take a moment to attend a WOFVA program, become a mentor, volunteer at the WILD Center, or join a committee. There is nothing like joining forces!!



 Loris Damerow *President*, Wild Ones Fox Valley Area

## Know where there are unwanted natives?

Now is the time to watch for native plant sites which need to be saved from earth moving equipment. Every day someone is out there widening a road, digging a basement and making a sports field. Let's try to save as many native plants from destruction as possible.

Contact Plant Rescue Coordinator Donna VanBuecken at dvanbuecken@new.rr.com 920-730-8436 or any plant rescue supervisor listed on the back cover to report any sites in danger.



#### of our local environment.

## First Thursday at the WILD Center

You are invited to participate in First Thursday at the WILD Center. The first Thursday of every month is dedicated to volunteering at the WILD Center.

Things like weeding, planting new plants, edging gardens, pruning trees, etc need to be done in order to keep the Center looking spiffy not only for member, but non-member visitors. We want the Fox Valley community to think only the best of native plants and their benefit to our environment.

Any hours you work should be logged in so the Chapter gets credit for your work. Use of the WILD Center for our various meetings, special events and storage of materials is paid for by our volunteer hours at the WILD Center.

**SO, PLAN TO LEND A HAND!** If the first Thursday of the month doesn't work for you, stop any day you have some free time. Wild Ones HQ Staff will have a list of things that need to be done. But if you do plan to work on First Thursday, bring a dish to pass and at the end of the day, we'll network over a great potluck. Hope to see you soon at the WILD Center!



Visit us: foxvalleyarea.wildones.org

## Wild Ones Fox Valley Area 2015 Grant Recipients

Cindy Mueller *(shown below)*, Naturalist at High Cliff State Park, shares information regarding their 2014 Arbor Day Project before being awarded \$500 for this year's "Welcoming Center Renovation and Native Plant Education Project."







Luke Schiller *(shown above)*, Naturalist at Heckrodt Wetland Reserve, with son, Juniper, explains the Sensory Garden made possible through the Natural Landscapes for Tomorrow Grant Program.

Grant recipients, Ann Hornke of St. Mary Central High School and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Emilie Boots talk about Jane's Woods Bioretention Project that will be carried out and managed by high school and middle school students.

(Shown right: Ann Hornke, Emilie Boots, and Cheryl Root.)





2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd. Neenah, WI 54956 T: (920) 749-7807 (877) 394-9453 wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com

**November 1, 1994:** Fox Valley Area became chartered as a Wild Ones chapter

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

**Board of Directors** President Loris Damerow wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com Vice President Joy Perry **Past President Kristin Kauth** Secretary Lisa Sturgis Treasurer Angela Dodge **Dig Coordinator** Donna VanBuecken Membership **Bob Niendorf** Carol Niendorf Natural Landscapes for Tomorrow Chervl Root **Newsletter Editor** Joan Rudolph Programs **Rosemary Eiden** Sue Mings Publicity Janet Carlson Tracey Koenig Web Shannon-Davis Foust **Special Committee** Chairs

**County Digs** Outagamie Donna VanBuecken Winnebago Dave Peck **Chapter Display** Dave Edwards Kristin Kauth Historian/Librarian Janet Carlson Cathy Larsen Hospitality **Merchandise Coordinator** Angela Dodge **Native Plant Sales** Sharon Ziebert Wild for Monarchs Barb Gossen Tracey Koenig

Newsletter Contributors Kris Kauth Carol & Bob Niendorf Donna VanBuecken Lucy Valitchka Cheryl Root Loris Damerow



2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd. Neenah, WI 54956

Your mailing label is date coded with your membership **renewal**. Please pay your dues by that date. Send your check, **\$37.00** per household, made out to Wild Ones Fox Valley to: **Wild Ones PO Box 1274, Appleton, WI 54912**. Thank you.

#### Decals Now Available...

## **Spread the Word About the Benefits of Native Plants!**



Help promote the essential connection between native plants and pollinators with the Chapter's new decal. It is colorful and eye catching. It was designed by our members Kristin Kauth and Jamie Fuerst. And, the first photo is by our member Rich Fischer, which he submitted to the Wild Ones calendar photo contest. **The decals will be available for purchase at our monthly programs** for just a \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

#### **Newsletter Online?**

Would you like to receive only the online (color) version of the newsletter? Reducing the number of issues to be mailed helps to lower printing and mailing costs. If you are interested in doing this, please contact newsletter Editor Joan Rudolph at wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com.

Become A Wild Ones Member

A Wild Ones household membership is \$37 per year. Entire membership fee is taxdeductible. Join Wild Ones by sending your name, address and phone number to:

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

Business memberships and student memberships are also available. Call Wild Ones National at (877) 394-9453 for an application form or check out our website:

wildones.org



### Members and Non-members Welcome 2015 Ben Arnold Prairie, Mequon & Cedarburg Bog, Saukville, WI Bus Tour Saturday, September 19, 2015

Cost: \$30/person (*Paid RSVP due by Sept 5, 2015*)

Carol & Bob Niendorf highly recommend the Prairie tour saying "It is an extraordinary example of a 30-year restoration from a 20-acre farm field to a tall-grass prairie with native plants, ponds, mudflats and trees."

In contrast the boardwalk into the Cedarburg string bog will take you through seven different plant communities allowing you to see a number of insectivorous plants.

6:45 a.m.	Bus leaves: WILD Center, 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd., Neenah, 54956 — <i>Depart 6:55 a.m.</i>	1. C.
7:20 a.m	Bus leaves: Festival Foods, Oshkosh parking lot (Use outer perimeter for parking, just off Hwy. 21) — Depart 7:30 a.m.	
7:55 a.m.	Bus leaves: Schreiner's Restaurant, Fond du Lac parking lot ( <i>Use outer perimeter for parking,</i> Johnson St.) — <i>Depart</i> 8::05 a.m.	Ben Arnold P
9:00 a.m.	Guided Tour: Ben Arnold property (Bring your lunch & beverage, area provided to eat lunch outdoors) — <i>Depart</i> 12:15 p.m.	
1:00 p.m.	Guided Tour: Cedarburg string bog — <i>Depart</i> 3:30 p.m.	
3:45 p.m.	Wayne's Drive-in, Cedarburg (time permitting, ice cream treats) — <i>Depart</i> 4:15 p.m.	
4:40 p.m.	Return to: Schreiner's Restaurant, Fond du Lac	-
5:05 p.m.	Return to: Festival Foods, Oshkosh	
5:35 p.m.	Return to: WILD Center	Cedarburg St
Note	Transportation by Kobussen Times may change	Partic

Cedarburg String Bog

1 1997

**Note:** Transportation by Kobussen 27 passenger coach bus with restroom and other amenities. Times may change based on registration and pick-up sites. Participants will receive final details about a week before trip.

**Checks are payable to:** Wild Ones Fox Valley (Fees will be refunded if we do not have a minimum of 20 reservations.) **Mail to:** Lucy Valitchka, N2695 Meade St., Appleton, WI 54913 Phone: (920) 733-0568 Email: Lmvalitchka@new.rr.com

Name(s):			
Address:			
<b>Phone:</b> Home ()	Mobile ()	Total Enclosed: \$	(\$30 per person)
Email (registration confirmation):		Pick-up:	□ Wild Center



## 2015 Plant Sale – A Great Success



Although the total plant shipment never turned up on time, this year's plant sale was still quite a success!

There were many volunteers on Friday to sort and label orders. Sitting around for a potluck lunch provided a jolly time for everyone, too.