

New Members

We're very happy to welcome these members who joined since the last issue of our newsletter. As you see, they're from all around our Chapter area.

Way to go Wild Ones!

Douglas Henkle, Ripon
Ross Schuh, Kaukauna
Robert Ring, Sherwood
Barbara Benish, Oshkosh
Laney Diamond, Oshkosh
Doreen Hedtke, Appleton
Judy Peterson, Greenville
Bob Carlson, New London
Dennis Nagan, Appleton
Carol McIntyre, Appleton
Janelle Merry, Shiocton

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

New Topics And Activities Coming In 2014

Hope you have reviewed your notes from Doug Tallamy's wonderful, inspiring talks and you are inspired about native plant gardening when our snowy, cold winter finally ends. The February annual meeting will feature a potluck dinner and slide review of the past year. Our demonstration gardens are flourishing and the burr oak prairie is developing. In March we will hear about blue bird habitat and development of a trail where they can be seen and kept safe. Our program in May will feature Rob Zimmer from the Post Crescent to speak about butterflies in Wisconsin. If you have seen his photos in the newspaper or on Facebook, you know he spends a lot of time behind his camera lens. May will bring the annual plant sale. It's not too early to get out your Prairie Nursery catalog and start dreaming. The Program Committee has planned many yard tours for 2014. You can see them listed on page three of this newsletter.



Programs for 2014 will be building on those of past years.



Events of Wild Ones Fox Valley Area

February 15

Natural Landscapes for Tomorrow grant applications due.

February 27 | Thursday | 6-8:00 PM At WILD Center

Annual Membership Meeting & Potluck Dinner
Celebrate the accomplishments of the past year. Enjoy the company of our members and everyone's favorite dishes. Includes annual seed sharing.

March 27 | Thursday | 6:30 PM

At Evergreen Retirement Community

- Creation of a Bluebird Trail at Utica Golf Club – Dave Misterek, Winnebago Audubon and Chapter member will explain a bluebird trail, what is involved in its construction in order to keep the birds safe, and the work needed for maintenance and safety of the birds.

- Presentation of this year's Natural Landscapes for Tomorrow grant recipients and project reports from last year's recipients.

President's Message

Greetings Everyone,

I'd like to start with a big thank you to the Toward Harmony with Nature Planning Committee and volunteers for executing another successful conference. It was great to see many of you there. Please join us for the Annual Membership Meeting on February 27th for a warm evening of fellowship and fun, great food, prizes and a brief business meeting. Everyone really enjoyed the potluck last year, so it looks like this may become a new tradition. I want to extend special thanks to one of our Board members, Lucy Valitchka. She will be stepping down as program chair at the end of her term this month. Lucy has served four years (two terms) doing an excellent job, along with members of the Program Committee, in bringing us interesting programs and tours during this time. On behalf of the board, we are grateful for her dedication to the Chapter. All other members of the board will be continuing with just one minor change. Tracey Koenig, who has co-chaired the Seeds for Education Committee, will be continuing but as co-chair of publicity. We do need to fill the vice-president position and find a new program chair. Please, if you are interested contact one of us; it is important to have a full board and functioning chairs.

Board Action

The board is working on developing a guideline for monetary support for Chapter members to attend approved non-WOFVA Chapter programs. More to come on this.

Special Note

At our Annual Membership Meeting, I will step down as President. It has been an enjoyable experience working with the members of the board, committee members and many of you on various activities over the last six years. I want to thank all of you for your cooperation and support in the various activities we have undertaken. I will continue to be active in the Chapter and will remain on the board as past president. Loris Damerow, our current vice-president will step into the presidency. I know you will give her your full support as she brings new leadership to the Chapter. I also want to thank the WILD Center staff, Donna, Jamie and Joan for the terrific support they have given me and the board over this time. Thanks everyone!

Kristin Kauth, President

November Program Was A Buzzin'

Nearly 50 people attended our November program about Bees in our Backyard, which was co-hosted by Winnebago Audubon. About half of the folks were not members of either group, but interest in bees and beekeeping brought them to learn what they could from Andy Krueger. Andy is a local gardener and beekeeper whose enthusiasm for honey bees is contagious. College students, those thinking about becoming beekeepers, experienced beekeepers, and gardeners, all had lots of questions for Andy. Did you know that one honey bee makes only 1/12th teaspoon of honey in its short life? Honey bees only live six months and may travel up to six miles to visit 50–100 flowers during a collection trip. Something to think about this summer while working in your native plant garden.



Board Opportunities

Would you like to work at the heart of Wild Ones Fox Valley Area and be part of making decisions at Wild Ones? There are still two openings on the Board:

Vice-President (an elected office) – The vice-president will become familiar with all aspects of the Chapter functions and assist and assume Presidential duties as necessary. He or she serves a two-year term before assuming the presidential position. This person will work closely with incoming president, Loris Damerow.

Program Committee Chair/Board Member – This is an exciting position because of the opportunity to seek out diverse, educational programs for our members and guests. As a member of the Chapter board of directors, the program chair serves a 2-year term, attends monthly board meetings and votes on issues that come before the board.

All of the work for 2014 for this position has already been done. Each committee member introduces a monthly speaker as already planned for this year. Lucy Valitchka, past chair, will be part of the committee this year in an advisory position.

Please contact Kris Kauth, WOFVA president at 920-766-2292 or Lucy Valitchka at 920-733-0568 for more information.

Wild Ones Fox Valley Area 2014 Programs & Tours



Updates on programs and tours will be published in Chapter newsletter & on Chapter webpage.

Feb 27 | Thr | 6 pm | WILD Center

- **Annual Membership Meeting & Potluck Dinner** – Celebrate the accomplishments of the past year, enjoy the company of our members and everyone's favorite dishes. Includes annual seed sharing.

March 27 | Thr | 6:30 pm | Evergreen Retirement Community

- **Creation of a Bluebird Trail at Utica Golf Club** – Dave Misterek, Winnebago Audubon and Chapter member will explain a bluebird trail, what is involved in its construction in order to keep the birds safe, and the work needed for maintenance and safety of the birds.
- Presentation of this year's Natural Landscapes for Tomorrow grant recipients and project reports from last year's recipients.

April 24 | Thr | 6:30 pm | WILD Center

- **Wisconsin Butterflies and Native Plants** – Rob Zimmer, Yard MD staff writer with the Post-Crescent, will speak about Wisconsin butterflies and their connections to native plants. The presentation will include high quality photos and videos of butterflies and wild flowers.

May 10 | Sat | 9 – 11:30 am | WILD Center

- **Native Plant Sale & Order Pick-Up** (Order form in Apr./May newsletter & webpage) Contact: Sharon Ziebert (920) 410-6932

May 29 | Thr | 5 pm | Between Oshkosh /Omro

- Tour* – Featuring two very contrasting yards (just off Hwy 21).
 - **O'Connell's Property**, 3929 Marquart Lane, Omro, WI 54963 – see how hard work eradicating buckthorn and other woodland invasives has encouraged a beautiful spring display of natives which are augmented with shade-loving plants.
 - **Niendorf's Property**, 4024 Marquart Lane, Omro, WI 54963 – see an extensive open and sunny landscape, displaying a carpet of lupines with a sprinkling of other early natives.

June 26 | Thr | 6 pm | Menasha

- Tour – **Be Woods Wise** (Managing Your Native Woodland), Heckrodt Wetland Reserve, 1305 Plank Rd, Menasha, WI 54952 – a tour and talk, by Tracey Koenig, Executive Director of the Reserve, about how to evaluate woodland properties, recognize invasive species (plants and our pesky friend, emerald ash borer) and other problems, plus develop and implement a plan.

July 19 | Sat | 10 am | Kaukauna

- Tour* – **Sturgis/Jackels Property**, W4245 Schmidt Rd., Kaukauna, WI 54130 – a guided tour of a rural property with a ½ acre L-shaped prairie, mound system prairie, native windbreak, vegetable garden, future rain garden, and a nice mix of native and non-native plantings surrounding entire home and workshop.

Aug 9 | Sat | 10 am | De Pere | 1 pm | Green Bay

- Tour* – Our Chapter has invited the Green Bay Chapter to join us for two exceptional tours highlighting trees and shrubs.
 - **LaLuzerne Property**, 4238 Pouwels Ct., De Pere, WI 54115, 4 miles south of East De Pere – 101 species of native trees and shrubs (and dozens of native grasses, flowers and water plants) have been planted over a 36 year period on what was a barren corn field. Combined with a lake, structures and stream, this property is a living example of the recreation of a beautiful natural habitat.
 - **Mead Property**, 3283 West Point Rd., Green Bay, WI 54313 – This 7 acre property on the west edge of Green Bay has 2 acres of prairie. The prairie was planted in 1996 and is maintained by mowing each spring. There is a small wetland and creek. Native trees planted are: Tamarack, Eastern Red Cedar, Basswood, Paper Birch, Locust, Aspen, Red Maple and Red and White Oak among others. Interesting shrubs have been included. A mowed trail system allows easy access through the property.

Sept 25 | Thr | 6:30 pm | Evergreen Retirement Community

- **Plants in Winter: Surviving the Big Chill** – Dr. Jim Reinartz, plant ecologist and Director of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Field Station, will explore a wide variety of topics related to plant life in the winter, especially related to our woody plants that can't escape freezing and drought associated with extreme cold by living under the snow or soil.

Sept 27 | Sat | 9 – 11 am | WILD Center

- **Native Tree & Shrub Sale** – pre-order pick-up only (Order form in August/September newsletter and on webpage) Contact: Sharon Ziebert (920) 410-6932.

Sept 28 – Oct 4 | Sun – Sat

- **Seed Gathering** at selected members' properties. (Locations in August/September newsletter and webpage)

Oct 23 | Thr | 6:30 pm | WILD Center

- **Holiday Decorating with Native Plants** – Loris Damerow, Chapter president, leads this hands-on session. Create a swag for your home using native evergreens with prairie forbs and grasses.

Nov 20 | Thr | 6:30 pm | Evergreen Retirement Community

- **The Story of Growing Oshkosh, a Non-profit, Organic Urban Farm** – Dani Stolley, Founder/Farmer and CEO of Growing Oshkosh will present the story of how Growing Oshkosh came to be and share the successes (and some failures) from their first year of existence. Located at the Hooper Community Center, 36 Broad St. (Joint program with Winnebago Audubon)

Dec. | No Meeting

Jan. 2015 | TBA | Toward Harmony with Nature Conference

Meeting Format / Locations / Directions

- Programs/tours free (unless a fee is indicated) and open to the public (*except for tours of members' properties).
- Meetings held on the 4th Thursday of the month unless indicated differently; 6:30 PM Social, 7:00 PM Program.
- More details about programs and tours will appear in Chapter newsletter & on Chapter webpage.

WILD Center 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd, Neenah, WI 54956 (in Town of Menasha) – From Hwy 41, take Exit 136, drive east on BB to right on Northern Rd, then left onto Stroeb Rd. Off Stroeb, turn right onto Butte des Morts Beach Rd.

Evergreen Retirement Community 1130 N. Westfield Street, Oshkosh, WI 54902 – From Hwy 41, take Exit 119 (Hwy 21) and head east. Turn right onto Westfield St.

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foxvalleyarea.wildones.org

A New Look

We hope you notice and like the new heading on the Front page of the newsletter. This is part of our effort to increase awareness of our name and what it stands for. The photo will change with the seasons. The board and editor are always open for suggestions to improve the newsletter. You can email jrudolph53@hotmail.com.

Newsletter Online?

Would you like to receive only the online (color) version of the newsletter? If you like the option of reading the newsletter online and/or downloading it instead of receiving a mailed paper copy we would appreciate hearing from you. Although we will continue to mail out copies, reducing the number of issues to be mailed would help to lower printing and mailing costs. If you are interested in doing this, please contact newsletter Editor Joan Rudolph at wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com.

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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

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wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com

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Hospitality

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Angela Dodge

Newsletter Contributors

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Bob Niendorf
Carol Niendorf
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Janet Wissink



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.

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Are You Looking

for a special place to hold a surprise birthday party? Or a baby or a wedding shower? If so, think about the WILD Center. Call Donna at 920-730-3986 or e-mail wildcenter@wildones.org to get details.



Become A Wild Ones Member

A Wild Ones household membership is \$37 per year. Entire membership fee is tax-deductible. 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

