

## New Members

Welcome, new members AND Spring!

Kelly Helein,  
Appleton  
Susan Holtz,  
Neenah  
Elizabeth Kimbrough,  
Oshkosh  
Stephanie Meyers,  
Menasha  
Roger and Lynn Van Vreede,  
Appleton

## 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](http://wildones.org)

## 18th Annual Conference a Great Success



top left:  
People gathering to listen to Dr. Tallamy



bottom left:  
Doug Tallamy autographed copies of his book with Zaiga Freivalds' assistance

The 18th Annual Toward Harmony with Nature Conference on January 25 was attended by over 300 people. This included members from nine other chapters within the state and from the Rock River Valley Chapter in Illinois, including Wild Ones national president, Tim Lewis. Over 100 of the people attending were not members. Many of those attending were inspired by Doug Tallamy's keynote presentation and the great talks by the afternoon session leaders.

Once again, the vendor area and silent auction drew people's attention.

Many thanks to our members and vendors that donated top quality items to the auction, which raised \$1,200, the best ever. It is also important to note and thank our three sponsors:

Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, Inc.; Oshkosh Area Community Foundation; and We Energies. We

also appreciate the volunteers the Oshkosh Convention and Visitors Bureau provides for that day. The Conference Planning Committee gets an enthusiastic round of applause for again doing an excellent job in carrying out this event, as well as, all the volunteers that worked that day. Comments from attendees such as these were well deserved: "Once again you planned and carried out a great conference"; "Excellent program as usual".



Chapter president, Kris Kauth, welcomes attendees



Steve Hazell entertains the audience before the Tallamy speech

Shoppers explore the Book Table



## Events of Wild Ones Fox Valley Area

**April 23 | Native Plant Sale Orders Due**

**April 24 | Thursday | 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 | Saturday | 9-11:30 AM | WILD Center**

Native Plant Sale & Order Pick-Up (Order form in February/March newsletter & webpage) Contact: Sharon Ziebert (920) 410-6932

**May 29 | Thursday | 5:00PM | 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.



# President's Message

Wild Ones members know the value of native plants, from appreciating the history of the tall grass prairie to thrilling at the sight of woodland ephemerals in the spring. The more we discover about our natural flora and its ecological importance the more our appreciation grows.

For the past four years, and two years before that while sharing the position with Kay Lettau, Kris Kauth has served as president of the Wild Ones Fox Valley Area. When we review some of the Chapter's accomplishments, Kris' leadership clearly comes to the fore. In addition to recruiting and orienting the current Chapter board, she has brought greater consistency to the organization by securing updated job descriptions for each role. Over these past years, she often took responsibility for getting our display board out into the community, organizing materials, making community contacts, and sharing the WO message at the display. Kris was at the forefront of locating a suitable graphic designer to assist with updating the design of the Chapter logo, brochures and written materials. Kris has championed the importance of branding guidelines which bring visual consistency and greater impact to the Wild Ones image. In recent years, the national Wild Ones annual meeting has been held here in the Fox Valley. Kris wasted no time organizing volunteers and making sure that participants from all over the Midwest experienced the Wild Center in its best light. In a similar vein, when our Chapter conference, Towards Harmony with Nature (one of our most successful and influential events), was in need of leadership, she stepped up to serve as conference chair. Kris claims that she wasn't confident about her knowledge of native plants when she started, but her organizational skills have never been in doubt, and by now she can easily identify a blazingstar with the best of them. The more we know about native plants the more we appreciate them and in the year and a half I have served as vice president under Kris the more I have come to appreciate her leadership skills. At the annual meeting in February, I took over as Chapter president and Joy Perry, a WO member for many years, was voted in as vice president. With the help of the rest of the board and the membership, we hope to carry

forward Kris' legacy of service to the Wild Ones mission and have a positive impact on our environment.

*Loris Damerow  
President,  
Wild Ones  
Fox Valley Area*



## 2014 Natural Landscapes For Tomorrow Grants Awarded

Committee members Rich Fischer, Tracey Koenig, Zaiga Freivalds, Joy Perry, and Cheryl Root announced 2014 Natural Landscapes for Tomorrow Grant recipients. Four organizations have been awarded \$500 in support of their projects. They are Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve for their project "Educational Sugar Bush Planting", Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for their Pollinator Garden, Ledgeview Nature Center for an Arboretum Expansion and Upgrade, and High Cliff for their project entitled "Arbor Day Spring Tree Planting Day." We commend them on their projects and look forward to the fruits of their efforts as they work to create more sustainable habitats for the benefit of birds, insects and other wildlife—people, too!



Wild Ones home office tells us that the **video of Doug Tallamy's presentation** from our January 2014 conference should be available mid-April.

Watch for details. Anticipated selling price will be \$10 which includes shipping and handling.

**Larvae**  
top right:  
Honey Locust Moth  
bottom left:  
Big Poplar Sphinx Moth  
*photos by Dr. Doug Tallamy*

### 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](mailto:wildonesfoxvalley@gmail.com).



# Good Fellowship, Good Food in February



**2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd.  
Neenah, WI 54956**

**Phone: 920-749-7807  
Toll Free: 877-394-9453**

**E-mail:  
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

## Native Plant Sales

Sharon Ziebert

## Natural Landscapes for Tomorrow

Cheryl Root

## Newsletter Editor

Joan Rudolph

## Programs

Lucy Valitchka

## 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

## Hospitality

## Merchandise Coordinator

Angela Dodge

## Wild for Monarchs

Barb Gossen

Tracey Koenig

## Newsletter Contributors

Loris Damerow  
Kris Kauth  
Bob Niendorf  
Carol Niendorf  
Joan Rudolph  
Doug Tallamy

President Kristin Kauth recognized five members with certificates for their years of service.

- Lucy Valitchka received a Dedicated Service Certificate for her four years (2 terms) as the Program Committee chair on the board of directors. Her work and enthusiasm is greatly appreciated. For their volunteer service to the Chapter, additional members were recognized with Dedicated Service certificates:

- Joy Perry for her 8 year contribution on the Grant Review Committee

- Linda Grishaber for her 6 year contribution on the Newsletter Committee for layout.

A Distinguished Service Certificate was awarded to:

- Dave Edwards for his 14 year contribution on the Display Committee and his assistance with plant rescues and other committee work.
- Janet Wissink for her 14 year contribution on the

annual conference and her mail processing activities for many Chapter programs.

A special handout recognized members for their committee work and volunteerism in 2013, which enabled the Chapter to carry out its many programs and mission.

New board members were announced. The membership elected a new vice president, Joy Perry. It was announced Sue Mings and Rosemary Eiden volunteered to be co-chairs of the Program Committee.

Loris Damerow, incoming-president, accepted the coneflower from Kristin Kauth as the symbol of leadership transition.

Kristin Kauth, received an engraved Aldo Leopold bench in recognition and appreciation for her leadership as president over the past 6 years.

Following these presentations, all participated in a raffle drawing for gift items.

Award Recipient:  
Joy Perry



Certificates were awarded to Chapter members who have given their time in the past few years. Kris Kauth, outgoing President, received an Aldo Leopold bench.

Award Recipient:  
Lucy Valitchka



Kris Kauth accepting  
Aldo Leopold bench



Award Recipient:  
Dave Edwards



Award Recipient:  
Janet Wissink



Incoming President  
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.

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Oshkosh, WI  
Permit No. 90

— Remember —  
**Native Plant Sale orders  
are due April 23**

If you need another order  
form, go to the Chapter's  
webpage

[foxvalleyarea.wildones.org](http://foxvalleyarea.wildones.org)

and click on the heading  
Native Plant Resources and  
scroll down to Spring-Native  
Plant Sale.

See you on May 10  
at the Plant Sale.

## Earth Week Event at WILD Center

First Thursday Work Day

April 3, 2014 | 2:00–6:00 PM

A consortium of Fox Valley businesses and organizations are celebrating Earth Day by sponsoring a number of events throughout April. Our Chapter has invited people to join us for the First Thursday Work Day at the WILD Center to learn about sustainable gardening with native plants.

Come and bring friends to learn about the benefits of planting native plants in their yards and how to help bring back the monarch butterflies. If they wish, they can help spruce up the rain gardens and the pollinator garden for spring, working alongside and learning from you and other Chapter members. All are welcome to enjoy an interesting afternoon and a potluck supper at 6:00 pm.

For a complete event listing, go to

**[www.ecos-foxvalley.com](http://www.ecos-foxvalley.com)**



## *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](http://wildones.org)**

