

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

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



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 Stroebel Rd. From Stroebel, turn right onto Butte des Morts Beach Rd.
Hours

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

wildones.org

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.

Good Fellowship, Good Food in February



Everyone attending the Annual Membership Meeting enjoyed a bounty of good food and good conversation. Loris Damerow, incoming-president, put together a great power point program highlighting the Chapter's activities of the past year. Board and Special Committee reports were handed out with brief highlights given. This included the recognition of important partnerships with other organizations. The financial report noted the Chapter is in good financial condition with total assets of \$27,754, which allows the Chapter to carry out its many programs. In addition, \$3,200 was donated to Wild Ones to support four programs nationally.

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



Award Recipient:
Lucy Valitchka

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.



Kris Kauth accepting Aldo Leopold bench



Award Recipient:
Dave Edwards



Incoming President
Loris Damerow



Award Recipient:
Janet Wissink

2285 Butte des Morts Beach Rd.
Neenah, WI 54956

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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
Sharon Ziebert

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



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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Organization
US Postage
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— Remember —
**Native Plant Sale orders
are due April 23**

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

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



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

