

Promoting Native Plants for Natural Landscapes.

Inside this Issue:

Message from the President	2
Call for Nominations	3
In Memory of Tim Lewis	3-4
July & August Presentations Recaps	4-7
Tree & Shrub Sale	7
Book Review	8
Library Available	8
Membership	9
Chapter Calendar	9
Chapter Contact Information	10

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All articles for the October 2020 newsletter, must be submitted to: Constance@wildonesrrvc.org by September 23, 2020.

Cemetery Prairies in Northern Illinois
September 17, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.
via online Zoom program



Chris Benda will present a video program about the native prairie vegetation that can be found in old pioneer cemeteries in northern Illinois at the monthly educational program of Wild Ones: Rock River Valley Chapter on September 17. A link to the video will be posted on the chapter website (www.wildonesrrvc.org) beginning on September 17, and will also be distributed via Constant Contact.

Known as the Prairie State, Illinois has some of the most productive soil in the world. This attribute has caused the tallgrass prairie to be among the most imperiled ecosystems on the planet. In Illinois, less than 1/100th of a percent of the original tallgrass prairie remains, and much of it occurs in pioneer cemeteries, hallowed land set aside so long ago that it was never tilled. These are the last vestiges of a landscape once so vast there were eastern prairie fringed orchids as far as the eye could see. In this video, Chris Benda will show examples of the native prairie vegetation of Illinois found in cemetery prairies and where to see these beautiful wildflowers in northern Illinois.

Chris Benda is a botanist, author, teacher, and photographer. When not conducting botanical research in Illinois and around the world, he can be found hiking the woods near his home in Makanda with his wife Susan and dog Ruby. Chris can be reached via his website at www.illinoisbotanizer.com.

The program is free and open to the public.
For more information, call (779) 537.8939.

Pizzo Is Hiring

If you or someone you know is looking for a career in the environmental restoration industry, this is the opportunity you've been waiting for. Pizzo & Associates, Ltd. is currently seeking full-time permanent and seasonal help at all of their locations (Leland, Lemont, and South Barrington).

Full job descriptions are available at <https://pizzogroup.com/about/careers>. If you are interested in working for an exceptional ecological restoration contractor, contact Lucas Henkel at lucash@pizzo.info.

Message from the President Constance McCarthy



Constance McCarthy

photo by Tim Lewis

Viewing an Uncertain Future from Solid Ground

I am an optimistic person by nature, but I am not confident that we will be able to meet in person for our monthly educational programs for quite some time. I'm sure I'm not the only one to feel much disappointment about this scenario. I really do miss seeing so many of you

in person, and watching all the interactions and relationship building that takes place when we can meet in person. It always made my heart happy to see folks staying after the programs to pepper the speaker with additional questions, and leaving in such an upbeat mood after yet another inspiring presentation.

I'm holding onto these happy memories, and know that the time will come when we will be able to be together again. What a glorious day that will be!

Until then, I feel that we are in a great position to continue delivering top-notch educational programs to our members and the broader public. I feel much pride when the chapter receives emails from folks who have watched the month's video program online, and let us know how pleased they are with the high quality presentation. I've said it before, but it bears repeating: a big tip of the hat

to our chapter's program committee for doing the extra work required to line up these presenters and see to it that the video production is professional quality. An extra thanks to Chuck Johannsen for filming and editing the Lost Flora Fen video, and to Jerry Paulson for acting as the producer.

Addenda to my tribute to Tim Lewis in the July newsletter: I am grateful that Tim was able to read my column in last month's newsletter before he passed away on July 12. He meant so much to our chapter and will be truly missed. However, I apologize for omitting a few of Tim's accomplishments: He received the Atwood Award from the Rockford Park District for his long-term contributions to the environment in the Rock River Valley. Tim also mentored countless members, both informally and as part of the chapter's mentor program. I'm sure that there are even more accomplishments that I've not mentioned yet. Please be sure to read the lovely memorial in this newsletter penned by Ginnie Watson, current library coordinator and former chapter co-president. Jane Evans also summed it up so well and succinctly: "Tim really just made our area a much better place."

Final note: Due to technical difficulties (resting with yours truly), the August newsletter was not distributed either via postal mail or via email. Please accept my sincere apologies for this situation. The newsletter you are receiving today is issue 8/9 (August and September), combining the two months into the single issue you are reading now.



Call for Nominations Constance McCarthy, chapter president

Each year the chapter elects six board members: president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, plus two at-large board members. While the success of the chapter depends greatly on the dedication of the volunteers who serve on the board, the chapter is not governed by a group of selected insiders. All positions are open to any member who wishes to be on the ballot for the 2021 term.

There are six board meetings per year, at 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of even-numbered months. Meetings last around an hour and we are a pleasant bunch, if I may say so! Since the onset of the pandemic, we have been holding our meetings via Zoom.

Although all current board members have expressed that they would like to continue serving the chapter in 2021, we encourage chapter members who are interested to run for any board position.

I will be accepting nominations for any of the above positions. Please consider nominating someone, or yourself, for a position on the board. Send nominations to me by email or phone (contact information on the back page of this newsletter). The period for nominations closes on October 15.

In Memory of Tim Lewis by Ginnie Watson



Wild Ones has lost one of its most ardent advocates. Tim Lewis died on the morning of July 12, 2020. Tim was president of our chapter for four years from 2003-2007 and president of the national organization for another six. His influence on Wild Ones was great and he will be sorely missed. It is fitting, then, that we recognize him here

for all the gifts of time and talent he has given to this organization, not only on the national level, but on the chapter level, as well.

It should also be mentioned here that Tim was recognized as an environmentalist and conservationist by local officials as well, having won the Atwood Award presented by the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District and the Rockford Park District.

I asked board members and a few others who knew Tim well to offer their thoughts and memories of him.

Jerry Paulson, chapter vice president: "Tim was very committed to promoting native species and the conservation of wild areas. I first met him when he volunteered to grow prairie plants at Enders Greenhouse for planting in what is now called the Anne Meyer Prairie Garden at Nygren Wetlands. He was a great conservation leader, educator, and environmentalist, and will be missed."

Janet Giesen, chapter treasurer: "I enjoyed working with Tim as a chapter board member and booth volunteer. I'm happy to have shared his passion for the environment, nature, and native plants; his legacy will live on in all our native gardens."

Cathy Johnson, chapter secretary: "Tim was an extremely devoted advocate for nature. From big projects like the prairie and swale he created in his own yard, to the small bee houses he constructed, his attention to detail was inspiring. Even when he was not feeling his best, he always tried to do his best in representing Wild Ones and sharing his

vast knowledge with others."

Kim Lowman Vollmer, board member-at-large, youth ed. and grants coordinator: "Tim had high standards, which served Wild Ones nicely, as whatever our chapter was involved in, it was done first rate - thanks Tim. The other part of Tim that I truly enjoyed was his sense of humor and down to earth personality."

Sallie Krebs, membership coordinator, Facebook coordinator: "My fondest memories of Tim are when we'd both be taking photos at a meeting, and we would take photos of each other at the same time and email them to each other. Tim was an excellent photographer and many of his photos appeared in our monthly newsletter."

Anita Johnson, cookie procurer: "Tim was such a capable person, always sharing his talents and giving of himself. When I gave a pollinator yard tour this summer, I was able to use information from one of Tim's Wild Ones presentations on pollinators. He was always such a source of knowledge to all of us."

Bob Arevalo, past chapter co-president, current A/V coordinator: "I am saddened by the passing of Tim. He was a dedicated member of Wild Ones who spared no effort in support of that organization. His enthusiasm and dedication to use native plants in the landscape was demonstrated in his many years of leadership in the organization."

Lynda and Lee Johnson, former chairs of the program committee, found Tim to be a visionary who realized the ecological importance of transforming our yards into native landscapes and whose own yard was a great inspiration to that end.

Lenae Weichel, past newsletter editor, prairie plant sale chair: "Like so many of us, I remember the time and effort he committed to Wild Ones over the years; organizing plant rescues, serving as president, creating and managing the booth and volunteers for the booth at community events, and basically serving as a constant advocate for the organization and for landscaping with native plants. I learned so many little lessons from him over the years that have positively impacted my own use of natives, and that knowledge is spreading even further as I work with school and scout groups. His impact will ripple, ever widening, like rings on water for many years to come."

In Memory of Tim Lewis (cont'd)



Tim passing the presidential gavel to Janice Hand (left), next President of the National Office. Looking on is Donna van Beucken, past executive director of Wild Ones.

National Headquarters: “Tim was an avid gardener, photographer, conservationist, and environmentalist. Most importantly, Tim was a friend and mentor to both local chapter members and to national board members. We thank Tim for

his unyielding commitment to Wild Ones.”

Donna van Buecken, retired (first) executive director of Wild Ones at the national headquarters: “I knew all the Wild Ones presidents from 1996 through 2015, and I can say that there was no one like Tim Lewis. Tim was all about making sure the chapters worked together with a unified voice. As he once said in a Wild Ones Journal article, ‘Although the national strategy makes a huge case for pollinator habitat, getting the public to consider the guidelines important enough to undertake in their own yards and other land holdings will continue to take a huge information effort.’ Tim saw the big picture in the way natural landscaping was an important part of the Circle of Life.”

To sum it all up, Tim’s desire for unity within our organization as well as nature is expressed in his favorite nature quote:

“Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.” – Chief Seattle

Recap of July Presentation Jerry Paulson

Virtual Tour of Lost Flora Fen

Tyler Pellegrini, Guide

Restoration Ecologist, Natural Land Institute

Tyler Pellegrini, restoration ecologist for the Natural Land Institute, led a virtual tour of Lost Flora Fen for the July 16 program presented by the Rock River Valley Chapter of Wild Ones. The link to the 23-minute YouTube video is posted on the chapter’s website (www.wildonesrrvc.org). The video was filmed and edited by Charles Johannsen for use by Wild Ones and the Natural Land Institute (NLI).

The 40-acre Lost Flora Fen is nestled along Raccoon Creek, northwest of Rockton, Illinois near the Wisconsin border. Although not a true fen, a combination of saturated and peaty soil reduces the availability of nutrients to plants, which allows a host of fen-loving species to thrive.

Naming this preserve the Lost Flora Fen came naturally, as not only had the northern bog orchid (last seen in 1871) been lost to county records, but a suite of plant species first cataloged by Dr. Egbert Fell (father of NLI’s founder, George B. Fell) in 1947 had not been seen until rediscovered by NLI staff – species such as showy black-eyed

Susan, *Rudbeckia speciosa var sullivantii*, and wild sweet William, *Phlox maculata*. More than 360 native plant species, several of which are rare, threatened, or endangered fen and sedge meadow species, as well as rare and unusual butterflies and dragonflies have been inventoried on the property.

This property was acquired in May 2018 through a bequest given in memory of Veronica and Steven Cramer and a grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation. Also, with their support and other donors, NLI was able to install a sign, small parking area, and boardwalk. The area is open to the public, but is not easy to find, so call NLI at (815) 964.6666 for directions.

The fen was formed in a shallow basin carved out of the glacial sand and gravel deposited at the end of the last Ice Age by torrential melt waters rushing down the Raccoon Creek valley. Over the last 12,000 years the basin filled with water from springs and peat formed, providing the conditions needed to create the fen and sedge meadow. Dr. Fell called these peat-filled depressions “prairie bogs,” but plant ecologists classify this area as a “fen”. A fen has neutral or high pH soils, while a bog has acidic, low pH soils and a different

Recap of July Presentation (cont'd)

combination of species.

Tyler led us along the boardwalk constructed through the wetland as he pointed out many of the plants that grow in the fen. His first stop was to explain the difference between rushes and sedges. Rushes, in the genus *Juncus*, have round stems, while sedges, in the genus *Carex*, have triangular stems. Not to be confused, bulrushes, in the genus *Scirpus*, are in the same family as sedges, and have both round and triangular stems. Tussock sedge, *Carex stricta*, is the most common sedge in the fen, one of 30 species known from the area, including the rare star sedge, *Carex echinate*, one of the lost species rediscovered in the fen. Blue-joint grass, *Calamagrostis canadensis*, is the other dominant species in the fen.

Tyler talked about how blue-fruited dogwood, *Cornus obliqua*, had taken over much of the fen. A native shrub of wetlands, it forms dense thickets if not controlled by fires. NLI staff use prescribed burns to reduce the prevalence of dogwood and allow the native grasses, sedges, ferns, and wildflowers to thrive. NLI is also using controlled grazing by cattle to manage invasive shrubs and weeds on portions of the area until these can be restored. Most of the area was grazed before it was acquired by NLI.

There are 38 species of songbirds, including bob-o-link and eastern meadowlark, that have been seen in the area. There are also 31 species of butterflies, moths, and skippers, including a large population of Baltimore checkerspot butterflies, and 24 species of dragonflies, including the federally endangered Hind's emerald dragonfly. The dragonfly larvae live in cold springs, and the adults overwinter in crayfish holes, both found in abundance on the property.

Tyler pointed out a small stand of native bur oak savanna, and a grove of quaking aspen, *Populus tremuloides*, a unique part of the prairie ecosystem of northern Illinois. The aspen gets its name because the leaf petioles are flat so the leaves flutter in the wind. A stand of quaking aspen trees, although consisting of hundreds of stems, are all one plant that spreads through rhizomes. The grove is kept in check by grazing or natural fires.

NLI has developed a plan to protect Raccoon Creek, one of the highest quality streams in northern Illinois. The creek is fed by cold spring water and has many natural areas along its banks, including several hundred acres of wildlife reserves, and the Nygren Wetland Preserve at its mouth where it enters the Pecatonica River. Several rare fish species are found in the creek, according to Tyler.

Tyler Pellegrini joined the NLI team on Dec. 2, 2019 as a restoration ecologist. He assists the director of stewardship with all aspects of managing NLI's preserves, including native seed collection, invasive species control, prescribed burning, greenhouse cultivation, and developing management plans. Tyler is originally from Sandwich, Illinois. He trained as a mechanic after high school, served 4 years in the U.S. Air Force, and then obtained a degree in environmental science from Northern Illinois University. Tyler started out his habitat restoration career at Nachusa Grasslands and currently resides in Creston, Illinois with his wife Jaimie and daughter Hadley. Tyler also serves as a volunteer firefighter/EMT with the Creston Fire Department.

Again, Lost Flora Fen is open to the public. Contact the NLI office for directions and instructions for entering the preserve: (815) 964.6666, info@naturalland.org.

Recap of August Presentation

Lisa Johnson

Native, Invasive, Exotic and Aggressive Plants, What are They and Why Does it Matter

Presentation by Shannon Trimboli

After some technical difficulties, on August 19, 2020 at 7:15 p.m., Shannon Trimboli, beekeeper, author, public speaker, and owner of a native plant nursery, presented our first Zoom meeting program. Shannon owns and manages Grassy Roads Farm in Kentucky.

Shannon believes it is important to understand

some of the terms we use when we talk about using native plants to create natural habitats to avoid confusion. She went on to talk about how we define these terms.

Native is defined as something that naturally evolved in an area over thousands of years. These plants have developed relationships with other plants, soil microbes, and animals. This definition does not specify how big that area is; every plant is native somewhere. As an example, Shannon stated that sequoia trees are native to North America,

Recap of August Presentation (cont'd)

so technically you could plant a Sequoia tree in Kentucky and call it native. Shannon noted she often gets eye rolls and groans at this when she is presenting in person. So if we define something as native, we also have to define the range it's native to. When buying seeds or plants it's always best to stick with *local ecotypes*. The closer the source of the seeds or plants, they better adapted they will be to your area. Always try to find out where your seeds or plants came from.

Exotic is usually defined as something that did not evolve in an area. Again, this begs the question as to how big is an area.

The word *aggressive* refers to a native plant that can spread a lot, and is a plant that usually lives in an environment with limited resources or lots of competition. Put it in a garden setting with good soil, plenty of water, and little competition, and it can quickly take over, as there is nothing to slow it down. Cup plant is a native plant that supports a lot of pollinators, Goldfinches love to eat the seeds, and the leaf cups provide water for many species – insects, birds, even tree frogs. But it is a very aggressive species and if planted in a yard, it can quickly spread and crowd out other plants. It could be used if put in the right place with enough room. Many people are planting common milkweed to support monarch butterflies, but this is also an aggressive plant, spreading via underground runners. Either of these plants may come up in your neighbor's yard, so be considerate when choosing your plants and where you place them. Even though aggressive plants may not be the best to put in your yard, they are still native and the seed carried around by animals will only spread so far, as there are natural controls to these plants.

Invasive is a term that is often used interchangeably with aggressive, but an invasive species is an exotic species that can cause economic and environmental harm. Some species are more invasive in certain areas than others, depending on habitat. Illinois has enacted an Exotic Weed Act. This legislation was created to control the spread of exotic invasive plants, and provides that such plants may not be bought, sold or traded without a special permit.

The ecological impacts of exotic invasive plants include contributing to the decline of 40% of endangered or threatened species, and they are the main cause of the decline of many of them. Exotics can outcompete natives, as there are no natural predators or diseases here to control them. They

are regarded as out of balance because they don't have the checks and balances that our natives have and can spread without check. Kudzu vine is a prime example.

As these plants spread, they decrease biodiversity, and less diversity in plants leads to less diversity in animals. Our native insects, such as bees and butterflies, have evolved to use our native plants. Some bees are pollen specific, and can use the pollen only from certain plants. Most caterpillars are also species specific and can eat only certain host plants. As we lose those plants, we also lose the insects. No caterpillar food plants, means no caterpillars and no butterflies.

Most of our native birds depend on insects. Even seed eating birds will feed insects to their babies. Fewer insects means less food, and fewer babies survive. A scientific study on nesting chickadees in New York found that if native plants made up less than 70% of the plants in the nesting range, many chickadees were unsuccessful at raising their babies.

Exotic honeysuckle berries are eaten by many birds, which then spread the seeds when they poop them out. The berries are not as digestible as native berries, which evolved in a different environment and contain different chemicals. It takes as much energy for a bird to digest exotic honeysuckle berries as the bird gets out of them. If this is all that's left for birds to eat, they will not survive.

Less than 1% of horticultural plants are invasive, but they are less likely to be eaten by native insects and other animals, as they are not a good food source. Planting native plants will help support our native insects, birds, and other wildlife, thus supporting biodiversity. Plants are the base of food webs, and native wildlife has adapted to digest native plants.

Local ecotype native plants are adapted to bloom when their pollinators are active, and some native plants leaf out just when certain animals need them. They are adapted to being eaten; even if a caterpillar eats all the leaves, the plant will still re-sprout. Native plants are adapted to our soils and weather, and thus require less watering and care.

Plants also don't recognize political boundaries; they grow according to climate, elevation, soils, and geology. Scientists in the United States, Canada, and Mexico got together and divided North America into 15 ecoregions. Each ecoregion is divided into smaller ecoregions, becoming more specific at each level. We can define a native plant by the ecoregion in

Recap of August Presentation (cont'd)

which it is found. A plant that is common in northern Illinois might not be found in southern Illinois, as the ecoregions are different there.

Why plant natives? They are less likely to become invasive if you make sure the source of the plant material is from your local ecoregion. Natives are not so widely planted, and gardeners often feel it's cool to have something others don't. Plus, they support out local food webs.

Some plants sold as natives are actually *cultivars*, or sometimes called *nativars*. These plants have been genetically altered, so that the growth height is changed; leaf color or shape is changed; flower color

is changed; or the shape of flower or number of petals is changed. Any of these changes may make that plant harder for native wildlife to use. Added flower petals often makes it harder for pollinators to reach the pollen or nectar. Color changes can make it harder for pollinators to find the pollen or nectar. These plants are also often clones, with no genetic diversity; we don't know what effect this might have. So be cautious of using cultivars.

Shannon finished by noting that she has a weekly blog and runs virtual classes which can be found on her website at www.ShannonTrimboli.com.

Wild Ones 2020 Tree and Shrub Sale

Pick-up: September 25 & 26 at Paulson Farm

Our Wild Ones chapter native tree and shrub sale will be held this year on September 25 and 26.

Most of last year's species will be available again, with several additions: Paw Paw (*Asimina triloba*); downy hawthorn (*Crataegus mollis*); northern bush honeysuckle (*Diervilla lonicera*); white pine (*Pinus strobus*); and northern pin oak or Hill's oak (*Quercus ellipsoidalis*). Prices for both trees and shrubs will be higher this year: shrubs and vines will be \$35, while trees will be \$40.

Paw paw is a small tree that produces clusters of edible fruits that ripen in the fall. The fruit tastes like custard, banana, or papaya and is the only member of the custard apple family in Illinois, a tropical or subtropical species. It grows as far north as the town of Paw Paw, Illinois, in moist woods along streams in partial shade. If you have the right habitat, paw paw can be grown for its attractive flowers, foliage, and fruit. Wildlife tend to eat the fruit as soon as it ripens.

Northern bush honeysuckle grows commonly in the north woods of the Great Lakes region. It is low growing and spreads by underground runners to form thickets. It has attractive yellow, honeysuckle-shaped flowers in the spring that attract bees and butterflies. In the fall the dense dark green foliage turns yellow-orange, then purple. The fruit capsules are eaten by many songbirds. It prefers light shade and moist soil but can tolerate dry, rocky conditions.

Downy hawthorn is an attractive small tree of open pastures and floodplain forests throughout the Midwest. Its fragrant soft white flowers in early spring attract bees, and the bright red berries in

fall are a favorite of songbirds and other wildlife. The leaves are susceptible to cedar-apple rust. It prefers moist soils but not too wet, although it will tolerate drier conditions. Grows in full sun to part-shade. Its horizontal branching pattern invokes the prairie landscape of Illinois.

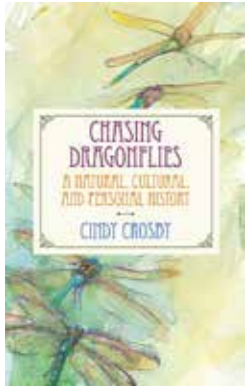
Northern pin oak, or Hill's oak, grows on dry, sandy soils with little organic matter, and is the most drought resistant of the black oaks. It occurs naturally in the sandy areas along the Sugar River. It has deep tap roots that help it survive prolonged dry periods. Its leaves have an outstanding fall color but do not persist through the winter like pin oaks. It is a good choice for dry soils.

White pine is our only native pine, once found growing on rocky bluffs and streams of the Rock River valley. Its long, soft, blue-green needles provide a beautiful backdrop for any yard, and its branches provide nesting sites for many songbirds, owls, and hawks. The trees can grow up to 80 feet tall and as wide as 40 feet, so be sure that you provide plenty of space away from houses and power lines. White pines are fairly easy to grow and prefer medium moisture in well-drained soil in full sun, but will tolerate some shade. It will not grow in heavy clay soils or in polluted urban environments.

Note well: trees and shrubs are sold *only by advance order*. There will be no possibility for browsing and shopping like at the May native plant sale.

Order forms will be available after Labor Day on the chapter website. Special orders can be made if the plants are available. Contact Brian Hale, sale coordinator, at moyogi2@gmail.com if you are looking for a particular species.

Book Review



New Book by Cindy Crosby Follows the Fascinating Lives of Dragonflies

Cindy Crosby has written a new book that introduces readers to the mesmerizing world of dragonflies. ***Chasing Dragonflies: A Natural, Cultural, and Personal History*** (Northwestern University Press, June 15, 2020) is a beautifully illustrated look at the lives of these enigmatic insects.

Drawing on her experiences as a natural history instructor, dragonfly monitor, cancer survivor, grandmother, and steward, Crosby tells the stories of dragonflies: their roles in poetry and art, their fascinating sex life, and their evolution from dark-water dwellers to denizens of the air. Their lives are fleeting and tenuous, yet they are scrappy evolutionary survivors.

In *Chasing Dragonflies*, readers follow Crosby and other citizen-scientists into the prairies, wetlands, and woodlands of the Midwest, where they observe the environment and chronicle the migration of dragonflies to decipher critical clues about our changing waterways and climate. Crosby draws an intimate portrait of a landscape teeming with variety and mystery, one that deserves our attention and conservation.

Woven throughout are personal stories: reflections on the author's cancer diagnosis and recovery, change, loss, aging, family, joy, and discovering what it means to be at home in the natural world. By following dragonflies, Crosby explains how observing the natural world has made her aware of the brevity of life and the vulnerability of the tiniest insect.

As heartwarming as it is informative, this book will interest gardeners, readers of literary nonfiction, and anyone intrigued by transformation and resiliency, whether in nature or our personal lives. Along with stunning artwork by Peggy Macnamara, the artist in residence at Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History, this book is an engaging look at the ties between human life and the natural world around us.

About the author: Cindy Crosby is the author of *The Tallgrass Prairie: An Introduction* (Northwestern University Press, 2017). She is a natural history instructor in the Chicago region who coordinates dragonfly monitoring programs at the Morton Arboretum and Nachusa Grasslands, a Nature Conservancy site.

Book details: *Chasing Dragonflies* | Cindy Crosby | Northwestern University Press | June 15, 2020. \$24.95, Paperback, 206 pages, 6 x 9 | ISBN: 9780810142305. *Chasing Dragonflies* is available at local bookstores, or by calling (800) 621.2736 or visiting www.nupress.northwestern.edu.



The Library is Available

Ginnie Watson, Library Coordinator

Just a reminder that the chapter library is available to members who need something to stir their interest for late summer and early fall plantings! The list of books can be found on the chapter website (www.wildonesRRVC.org) as follows:

Under the "Resources" tab, you will find the Lending Library. Click on the "traveling library" link to find the listing of all books. It is, unfortunately, not up to date, but most books are represented. The "Reserve Library" is not available. After deciding which book(s) you wish to read, send me an email: Vswatson47@aol.com.

We can arrange a pick up at my home, 3703 Highcrest Rd., Rockford, IL 61107. The book(s) will be due back here at my home in 30 days. Please contact me again to set up the return of your book. Books will sit for 3 days between lenders to allow any viral particles to degrade before the book will be loaned to a new reader. Covers of returned books will be wiped with surface cleaning wipes to further sanitize each book.

I hope to see many of you this summer as you enjoy the resources of our chapter library.

Membership Update Sallie Krebs, membership coordinator

A membership e-form and our membership brochure describing the benefits of membership are both available on the chapter website (www.wildonesrrvc.org). Click on **Join/Renew** under the **Membership** tab. You can renew (or join) with any major credit card through PayPal (no PayPal account required) by using our website. We appreciate your support!!

199 memberships as of August 23, 2020

Special thanks to our members who made contributions above the basic \$40 dues!

- Bob & Carolyn Arevalo, Rockford
- Kirby Doyle, Rockford
- Nancy Holstrum, Belvidere
- Cathy Johnson, Rockford
- Kim Risley, Rockford
- John & Cathy Schafman, Rockton
- Barbara & Daniel Williams, Rockford
- Christopher & Sandy Wrate, Rockford
- Jack & Joyce Armstrong, Rockford
- Shawn Choinard, Rockford
- Brett & Margret Hanson, Belvidere
- Lynda & Lee Johnson, Rockford
- Michael & Jean Maloney, Belvidere
- Bryan & Peggy Redington, Rockford
- Kathy Mielke & Jeff Stack, Roscoe

Welcome to our new member(s)!

- Christine Westman, Kirkland
- Jill Medland, Rockton

A big thank you to our July program volunteers!

Meeting Recap: Jerry Paulson
Video Production: Jerry Paulson

Anniversaries:

20 Years:

- Michael & Jean Maloney, Belvidere

15 Years:

- Carol Delheimer, Rockford

10 Years:

- Brett & Margret Hanson, Belvidere
- Allen Reed, Leaf River

5 Years:

- Jim & Theresa Hart, Rockton

In Memoriam

In memory of our former Wild Ones Rock River Valley Chapter member Timothy Lewis - Member 1996-2020

Carol Foster - Member 2007-2020

It is preferred that membership renewals be sent directly to the chapter for quicker processing and to avoid delays in receiving your chapter newsletter. Remember that your dues include membership in both National Wild Ones and our chapter. Please use the address to the right:

Sallie Krebs: Wild Ones Rock River Valley
 7492 Renfro Rd., Cherry Valley, IL 61016

Your expiration date is on your chapter newsletter above your name on the label. You will be mailed a renewal reminder from the chapter two months prior to your expiration date with a completed membership form and return envelope for your convenience.

A portion of all dues paid is returned to the chapter by National Wild Ones to support our chapter activities. National Wild Ones provides liability insurance for our meetings and events. All dues and donations are fully tax deductible.

Please send address and email address changes to the Membership Coordinator: Sallie Krebs Email: membershipworrvc@gmail.com or call (815) 540-4730 if you have any questions about membership.

Wild Ones Annual Memberships:
 Household \$40, Limited Income/Full-Time Student \$25, Affiliate Non-Profit Organization \$90, Business \$250.

Thank you for your continuing support!



2020 Chapter Programs and Events

September 17	Cemetery Prairies and other remnants	Chris Benda	Video
October 15	Common Spiders of the Midwest	PJ Liesch	TBA
November 11	Potluck/seed exchange		TBA
December 17	No Meeting		

Unless noted, programs are free and open to the public. Programs are subject to change. For more information, contact Lisa Johnson at (779) 537.8939



ROCK RIVER VALLEY

ROCK RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

c/o Pambi Camacho
1643 N. Alpine Rd., Suite 104
PMB 233
Rockford, IL 61107

Don't become extinct!

If the expiration date on the mailing label is 9/1/2020, this is your last chapter newsletter and you have received your last Wild Ones *Journal* until you renew your membership. National Wild Ones drops expired memberships the first week of the expiration month, so please don't be late! See the *Membership Update* for renewal information.

Mail your renewal to:

Sallie Krebs
Wild Ones Rock River Valley
7492 Renfro Rd.
Cherry Valley, IL 61016

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Wild Ones Mission

Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapes 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.

Rock River Valley Chapter Meetings

Regular meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Rock Valley College, Physical Education Center PEC0110 (lower level), 3301 North Mulford Road, Rockford, 61114.

Special meetings, outings, and events are scheduled periodically and sometimes replace the regular meeting. Contact any officer to confirm information about our next meeting.

Rock River Valley Chapter Board and Coordinators

BOARD

President: Constance McCarthy
(815) 282.0316 kublai Khan@mac.com

Vice president: Jerry Paulson
(815) 222.4414 paulsonjerry@aol.com

Secretary: Cathy Johnson (815) 978.0865
catjohn_22@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Janet Giesen (815) 762.5912
janetgiesen@gmail.com

Board member at-large:
Kim Lowman Vollmer (815) 397.6044
kimlowvol@aol.com

Board member at-large: Ken Kielsmeier
(815) 289.2812 jodikiels@gmail.com

APPOINTED COORDINATORS

Merchandise coordinator: Cynthia Chmell
(815) 969.7435 cynthiachmell@gmail.com

Native Plant Sale: Constance McCarthy & Jerry Paulson (as above)

External plant sale event coordinators:

Constance McCarthy (as to the left) & Jane Evans (815) 399.3787
jayevans.9985@comcast.net

Tree & shrub sale coordinators: Brian Hale (815) 289.2384 moyogi2@gmail.com & Jerry Paulson (as to the left)

Booth coordinator: [open position]

Membership coordinator: Sallie Krebs (815) 540.4730 membershwpwrrvc@gmail.com

Facebook coordinator: Sallie Krebs (as above)

Program committee: Lisa Johnson (chair) (779) 537.8939

lejohnson3804@outlook.com
Mark Luthin (815) 543.7412

m.luthin@comcast.net
Jerry Paulson (as to the left)

Publicity coordinator: Dawn Skupien
(815) 262.7864 dawnskupien@gmail.com

Youth education & grants coordinator: Kim Lowman Vollmer (as to the left)

Library coordinator: Ginnie Watson
(815) 398.0138 vsatson47@aol.com

Mentor coordinator: [open position]

Newsletter: editorial coordinator: Constance McCarthy (as to the left)

Newsletter: production coordinator: Pambi Camacho (815) 332.7637 dkcamps@aol.com

Plant rescue/seeds coordinator: Mary Anne Mathwich (815) 721.5187 mprairiedock@aol.com

Volunteer coordinator: Laura Sjoquist
(815) 298.1387 sjoquist.laura@gmail.com

Show Me/Help Me coordinator:
Linda Ricker (217) 649.3966
greencreations.leioi@gmail.com