

Educating the public about the benefits of preserving and restoring biodiversity of our native plant communities, beginning in our own yards and gardens.

# **Welcome Summer!**

# **July 2020**







Marilyn & Dottie volunteering at our pre-order plant sale at Prairie Restorations

Donated plant sale at Julia's house

Photos by Julia Vanatta, June 2020

# **HELLO WOTC MEMBERS,**

Huge thanks to everyone who participated in our 2020 Native Plant Sale! Even though we had to alter usual operations to safely hold our annual fundraiser during the COVID-19 pandemic, a team of dedicated volunteers succeeded in making it our most successful year yet! We were able to get well over 10,000 native plants into habitat gardens throughout the Twin Cities metro—and beyond!

#### **Plant Sale Committee:**

Jeremy Mayberg, Eren Sutherland, Marilyn Jones, Dottie Dolezal, Andy Scott, Bill Shy, Julia Vanatta, Holley Wlodarczyk

# Volunteers at Princeton

Jeremy Mayberg Marilyn Jones Eren Sutherland Andy Scott Julia Vanatta Laurie Bruno Moira Olson Sara Bergen Jenifer Williams Lori Andreen Joelyn Malone

#### Donated Plant Sale Volunteers

Julia Vanatta (host)
Dottie Dolezal
Bill Shy
Roz Johnson
Marilyn Jones
Leslie Pilgrim
Julia Vanatta
Bill Blood
Holley Wlodarczyk

#### **Plant Donations**

Sara Bergen Vicki Bonk Laura Brinkman Dottie Dolezal Roz Johnson Jeremy Mayberg Leslie Pilgrim Julia Vanatta Holley Wlodarczyk

# OPEN VOLUNTEER POSITION: PUBLICITY LIAISON

This volunteer position is a member of the Communications Committee and serves as the lead person in promoting WOTC activities and programs through local media, other organization's print/social media outlets, and new target audiences. Some writing/editing experience useful. Please contact us at <a href="mailto:info@wildonestwincities.org">info@wildonestwincities.org</a> if you are interested in this position. Thank you!

"Chances are you never thought of your garden—indeed, all of your property—as a wildlife preserve that presents the last chance we have for sustaining plants and animals that were once common throughout the U.S. But that is exactly the role our suburban landscapes are playing."

-DOUG TALLAMY, BRINGING NATURE HOME

#### OTHER COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Here are a few other organizations with online programs in line with our mission:

Plant Spotlight Webinar Series — UMN Extension — Thurs at 7pm (register here) August 6: Prairie Plants for Minnesota —Alan Branhagen

August 13: *Bur Oak*—Erin Buchholz September 10: *Prairie Dropseed, A Critical Native Grass* — Mary Meyer

Xerces Webinar Series — Gardening for Invertebrates (FREE, <u>register here</u>)

September 3 at 12 noon: Beyond Plants: What Else do Insects Need to Thrive?

See more on Xerces' YouTube channel!

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

While our spring and summer might not have been as filled with in-person Wild Ones chapter activities as we normally like, the current challenges present certain other opportunities to engage with each other near and far. Here are a few ways we are trying to stay connected and further our mission...

## **WOTC ONLINE PRESENTATIONS**

Watch the recent Wild Ones national program here:

# Nature's Best Hope by Dr. Doug Tallamy

Please feel free to share this program link with friends, family, colleagues, and anyone who would enjoy the great photos and wants to learn more about why we do what we do.

We hope this will encourage us all to plant even more native plants in our landscapes — if not for us, then for the birds!

Watch our May program on WOTC's new YouTube channel: *Giving Nature a Home by Liz Stanley* 

Liz demonstrates how our yards are among the last best places for birds, bees, butterflies, and other wildlife.

Here is the <u>list of resources</u>, including a species list, and **Q&A**, where Liz answered all questions posed in the chat.

# **WOTC SUMMER TOURS AND FALL PROGRAMS**

We're working on virtual tours of public restorations and planning our regular monthly programs online this fall/winter. Presentations will be available afterward for viewing on <u>our YouTube channel</u>. Please <u>check our website</u> for more details.

September 15: Ron Bowen of Prairie Restorations, Inc.— "Rewilding the Home Landscape"

October 20: Karl Kloos of Northern Natural Gardens — "The Natural Gardening Method"

November 17: Art & Nature — Naturally, a sampling of garden art made by Wild Ones members

## MEET OUR COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: LESLIE PILGRIM & ANDY SCOTT



I became interested in native plants after reading the book *Bringing Nature Home* and then walking by the Wild One's demonstration garden in Leif Erickson park in Duluth. I was so thrilled to discover that garden. Others were creating native gardens, not just me! Those breadcrumbs led me to Wild Ones Twin Cites, which was the chapter closest to my home. Since then, I have converted most of my 1/2 acre to native vegetation. I've worked on many community projects—Nokomis Naturescape, a native forest at an elementary school, monarch waystations, community curb-cut raingardens, and roadside seedings. I have Watershed Specialist and Ecological Restoration certification from

UMN, participated in the the Master Water Steward, Master Naturalist, and Master Recycler/Composter programs, and founded the non-profit Neighborhood Greening.

Andy lives in Bloomington, MN and currently works as a landscape professional running a native garden design business, ReWild Native Gardens. He grew up in Richfield and has fond memories of volunteering and exploring Wood Lake Nature Center where his fascination with nature and plant species developed. He has been a member of Wild Ones Twin Cities since 2018 and is part of the annual plant sale committee and the Design with Nature conference.

#### **WILD ONES TWIN CITIES 2020 BOARD**

President: Roz Johnson | Co-President: Holley Wlodarczyk | Secretary: Susan Tertell | Treasurer: Marilyn Jones
Membership: Joelyn Malone | Past-President: Julia Vanatta | President Emeritus: Marty Rice
Communications Co-Chairs: Leslie Pilgrim & Andy Scott | Development Co-Chairs: Jeremy Mayberg & Eren Sutherland
Education Co-Chairs: Karen Graham & Jessica Miller | Membership Co-Chairs: Barb Gibson & Maureen Fries
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