



SE MN Prairie Partners Chapter Newsletter December 2022 Volume 11 issue 4



Black-eyed Susan
(*Rudbeckia hirta*)
By Sue Kirchberg

Camouflaged
Crab spider.
Photo by
Bonnie
Harper-Lore



Some camouflage better than others!



Duck carvings by local artist and Prairie
Partner's member Gary Bullemer



Hepaticas peeking out. Photo by Gail Gates



Audie searching for Monarch
caterpillars. Photo by Laura Teele



Gray Goldenrod (*Solidago nemoralis*)
flowers in Whitetail Woods Park. Photo
by Gail Gates



"Peek-a-boo" A Wild Ones photo contest
award winner. By Judith Betchum



Conk mushroom. By Laura Teele

Prairie Partners Chapter 2022 officers

President – Barb Bolan
Vice President – Nancy Schumacher
Secretary – Pat Johnson
Web Master – Jim Sipe
Treasurer – Jim Sipe
Membership Chair – Ann Dybvik
Newsletter Chair – Ann Dybvik

Wild Ones Mission: Native Plants, Natural Landscaping promote environmentally sound landscaping practices to preserve biodiversity through preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities. Wild Ones is a not-for-profit environmental education and advocacy organization.

Wild Ones National Address: 2285 Butte
des Morts Beach Road, Neenah, WI 54956
www.wildones.org

Membership: Sign up/ renew online at www.wilddoneones.org/membership.html or by mail at above address. Cost is \$40 per year for a household (family) membership. Student and other membership types also available.

Northfield Prairie Partners Mission Statement: To preserve, maintain and provide knowledge of native and restored plant communities in a way that fosters friendship.

SE MN Prairie Partners online:

<https://semprairiepartners.wildones.org/>

Wild Ones: SE MN Prairie Partners | Facebook

Newsletter Committee: Lead: Ann Dybvik,
Chief Photographer: Bruce Dybvik, Committee:
Nancy Schumacher, Jim Sipe, Gary Bullemer,
Barb Bolan

Submitting articles for the newsletter – We welcome stories about natural areas, a native garden you have visited or designed, a nature-based vacation, a special flower, bird, butterfly, etc. Please contact Ann Dybvik at annndbv@gmail.com to discuss your ideas.

Prairie Partners member local Services

(Please let us know if you have one to list)

Minnesota Native Landscapes (MNL), INC:

Dwayne Vosejпка 651-214-2357

Intergenerational Nature Connections - Breanna Wheeler -

RBNC –River Bend Nature Center, www.rbnc.org,
Packy Mader, Board of Directors

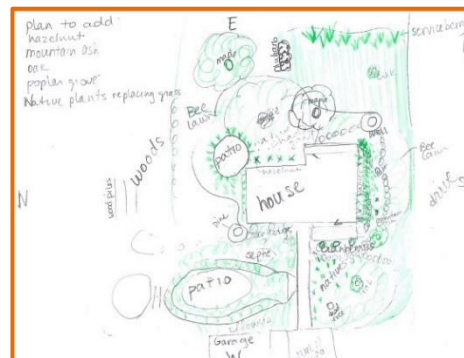
Halfpint Hollow Miniature Donkeys: Rod and Sue White, 507-263-2716

Goat Dispatch: Jake Langeslag, Faribault 507-333-5959

CRP – Clean River Partnership: Paula Corsi and Bill Jokela at [Home - Clean River Partners](#)

Member-Sponsored-Native Garden program.

We are planning to offer up to 5 native garden grants, \$200 each, again in 2023. We had three participants in 2022, including Michelle Johnson. Her design plan is below:



2023 Chapter Programs – *We will always need some flexibility in schedules due to weather and health concerns. Inside, in-person events will typically be held in the Emmaus Church at 712 Linden St. North.*

January 12, 7pm via Zoom – ***Native Garden Design and Development*** – Becky, Metro Blooms.

February 9, 7pm– Church (or via Zoom) ***Ferns*** - Joe Walewski, Wolf Ridge, author

March 9, 7PM – Church — ***Intergenerational Nature Connections*** – Breanna Wheeler

April 13, 6pm - ***Annual Anniversary Dinner***

April 27, 7pm – church – ***Seed saving - planning ahead*** - Nancy Schumacher

May 13- 7pm (Saturday)- *Sakata State Park Ephemeral Tour* (date may change) joint event with S Central Wild Ones chapter

May 20, 9am – ***Native Plant Sale*** – Emmaus Church parking lot – Nancy Schumacher

June 8, 1pm – ***Dragonflies*** - starting at church, field part at Carleton Arboretum– led by John Arthur – Wild Ones and MN Dragonfly society

July 13, 7pm – ***Spring Lake Park Bison and Restored Prairie tour*** – Hastings, MN

July 27, 7pm ***Native Garden Tour***

August 10, 6pm – ***Tour Judith's restored Prairie*** - Webster – Judith Bechtum



September 14, 6pm – ***Redwing Memorial Park tour*** led by Red Wing Park Naturalists

October 12, 7pm– church- ***Ducks and Duck Decoys*** by Gary Bullemer -

November 9, 6pm – ***Annual Meeting, appetizers, seed sharing event, and presentation*** **7pm - *Starting a prairie regeneration project*** – Jake Froyum – Forester

December 7, 11am –Luncheon – St Olaf – loft at Buntrock commons

Prairie Partners Board meetings are open to all members and are planned be held on the second Monday of each quarter. Notices will be sent out.



Ferns. By Sue White



Dragonfly. By Gail Gates



Local Prairie, by Barb Bolan



Breanna Wheeler leading fall tree identification. Photo by Bruce Dybvik



Touring until sundown. Whitetail Woods Park. By Gail Gates

October 13th, 2022 – Breanna Wheeler guided us through Hauberg Woods explaining how to identify many species of trees during fall or winter. Tree form or shape, bark patterns and color, leaf litter, fallen acorns or nuts are some of the keys to figuring out the species of tree.



Hickory nuts and leaf litter on ground under Bitternut Hickory



Breanna kept participants involved and inspired. Photo by Bruce Dybvik



Fall color. Photo by Sue Kirshberg



Black Walnut Tree (leaf taped to the trunk).



Quaking Aspen



Hackberry bark



White Oak - rounded leaves, rough bark



Red Oak - note bark, sharp points on leaves that are often red in the fall. By Barb Bolan



Kevin's Sugar Maple fall color. Photo by Sue White



Sunlight through the trees in Hauberg Woods. By Gail Gates



Aspen leaves in the fall. By Bruce Dybvik



November 22, 2022,
Bonnie Harper-Lore
shared her amazing
photography and vast
knowledge of native
plants and some of the
insect visitors with us -
fun to see how many
different species are
present in her gardens.



Some come to feast on nectar or pollen, others
eat leaves while others lunch on those that
feed on the plants. Nature builds a very
intricate web of life that keeps it all in balance.
Bonnie enjoys 'stalking' the garden visitors to
see who is there and what they are doing.

Sometimes, such as with the bumble bee and
loopers, two species will do a bit of a dance to
see if they can co-exist on the host plant or if
one as to go. Loopers are very creative at
camouflaging. They chew off bits of the
flowers they are feeding on and glue them to
their bodies.



BLAZING STAR (CAMOUFLAGED LOOPER)
GOLDENROD (COMMON GREEN DARNER)
SMOOTH ASTER (FLOWER FLY/ BEE MIMIC)
WOODS THISTLE (GRAPEVINE PLUME MOTH)
SWAMP MILKWEED (MARMORATED STINK BUG)
GOLDENROD (MONARCH)
GRAY-HEADED CONEFLOWER (EASTERN BUMBLE)
LADY FERN (DAMSEL FLIES/BLUETES/NEONS)
COMMON MILKWEED (SQUASH BORER CLEARWING)

BUMBLE AND LOOPER - A TRUCE



A twelve-spotted skimmer's lunch !



Skimmer nectarine on Indigo, but stopped for a lady beetle snack!

Mushrooms and Butterflies (an odd pairing)



Mushroom in her yard. By Sue White



Giant Puffballs snowman. Photo by Laura Teele



Oyster mushrooms. Photo by Laura Teele



Hen of the Woods. Photo by Laura Teele



Mourning Cloak. Photo by Sue White



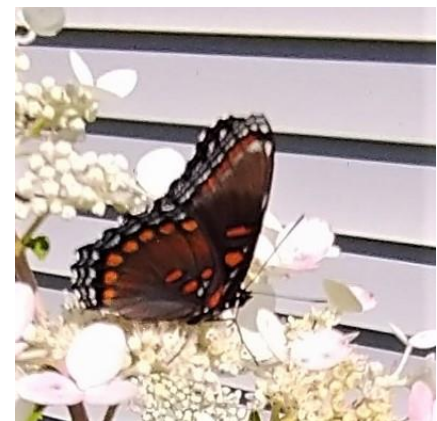
Skipper butterfly on Spotted Joe Pye. Photo by Arlene Kjar



Monarchs gathering at Carleton. Photo by Gail Gates



Sulfer butterfly on Liatris. Photo by Sue White



Red spotted Purple Butterfly. Photo by Sue White

A pair of Banded Hairstreaks ensuring the continuation of their species during the summer of 2022, their eggs will overwinter and hatch spring 2023. One brood per year. Photo by Barb Bolan

Coloration mutations. *Leucism* is a genetic mutation which inhibits melanin and other pigments from being expressed in feathers, hair or skin. Unlike albinos, leucistics have normal colored eyes but some or all feathers or fur are white or mottled white. A critter with only some unexpected white coloring is called *piebald* or *partially leucistic*. Color mutations can cause problems with camouflaging and put animals at greater risk to predation. Albinos have pink eyes and poor eyesight and often carry other multiple genetic deficiencies. *Melanism*, or unexpected black pigmentation, is the reverse of Leucism. All these pigmentation cases are believed to be due to recessive traits carried by both parents.



Leucistic House Sparrow at Arlene's feeder. Totally white feathered but has dark eye. This sparrow expresses total leucism. Photo by Arlene Kjar



Melanistic squirrel. Near Wabasha (if my memory is correct). Melanism causes black pigmentation. Photo by Barb Bolan



Partially leucistic Grackle - some white feathers, normal colored eye. Probably the 'prettiest' grackle I've seen. Photo by Barb Bolan



Partially leucistic Redwing blackbird with only one or two white feathers. By Barb Bolan



Albino squirrel - Carleton College, Northfield. Note the pink eye. Photo by Gary Bullemer

Some unique or less known native plants.



Wild Licorice (*Glycyrrhiza lepidota*) growing wild in Rapid City SD Park. Also native in Minnesota. Photo by Barb Bolan



Broad Tongue (aka Broad-leaf) Penstemon growing as a wild carpet in Teddy Roosevelt National Park, ND. Photo by Gail Gates



Showy Milkweed. Another milkweed native to Minnesota, it has larger, showier flowers. Pollinators love it.



Gray (Old Field) Goldenrod (*Solidago nemoralis*) in Whitetail Park. Gray Goldenrod is lower growing less common than others. Photo by George Watson



Wild Fuchsia in Ireland. Though not actually native to Ireland (from South America), it is well known and accepted in Ireland and not considered alien or invasive. Beautiful shrubs. Photo by Sue White



Two flowered False Dandelion, aka Two-flowered Cynthia. (*Krigia biflora*). Photo by Barb Bolan



Dwarf Liatris (*Liatris cylindracea*), and Leadplant (*Amorpha canescens*) in Whitetail Regional Park. At about 12" tall, the Dwarf Liatris can fit into small spaces in the garden. Leadplant adds attractive foliage and cool flowers.



Wild Horse in Teddy Roosevelt National Park, ND. Photo by Gail Gates



Whitetail deer buck. Photo by Gary Bullemer



Bison, Prairie Dogs and a Bobolink in Custer State Park, SD. Grazing and wallowing bison create good habitat for the prairie dogs. Seeds fall off bison's coats and may land in their deep footprints that can hold rainwater, giving seeds a better chance to grow. Prairie dogs, considered a 'keystone' species, are critical to the circle of life on the prairie. They keep grass chewed down allowing flowers flourish and making shorter grass more nutritious for the bison. Burrowing owls and others use their old holes. Many species feast on prairie dogs. Ecologists say that if the prairie dogs die out, so do their prairies, and only 5% of their range still exists. Prairie Dogs still fight the "Black death" disease inadvertently brought over on ship rats in the early 1900s. Photo by Barb Bolan



Valley Grove Church Prairie by horse and wagon. What a fun way to see the prairie! Photo by Gail Gates



Tree frog.
Photo by Gail Gates



Painted turtle probably wishing she could lay her eggs in peace. (She survived the voyeurism and even our dog deciding to pick her up after she left the nest.) Photo by Barb Bolan



Busy bees and flies on goldenrod. Photo by Bruce Dybvik



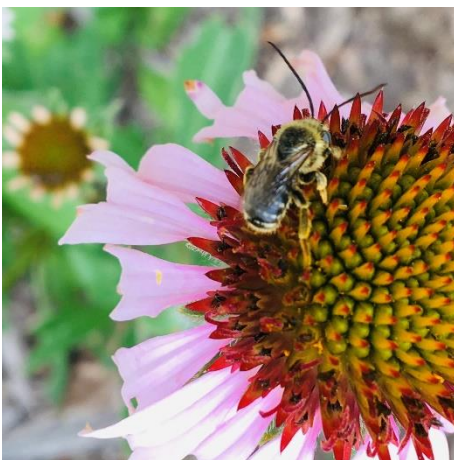
Two-spotted bumblebee on Spotted Joe-Pye weed in Arlene's yard. Photo by Arlene Kjar



'Black and Gold' queen bumblebee on native Field Thistle (*Cirsium discolor*). Native thistles attract an amazing number of pollinators and aren't as pokey as invasive thistles. Photo by Barb Bolan



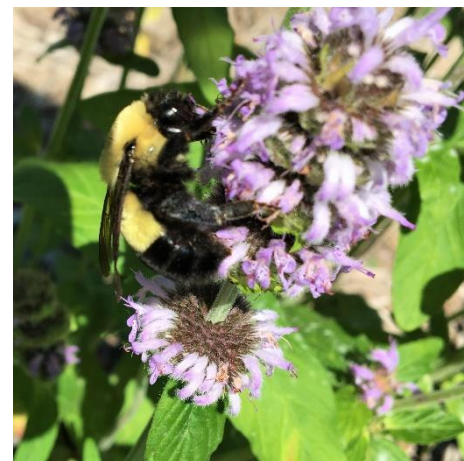
Bumblebee on Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*). Photo by Gail Gates



Furrow bee (species of Sweat bee) on Narrow leaf coneflower (*Echinacea angustifolia*). Photo by Norma Gilbertson



Photo by Bonnie Harper-Lore



Half-black bumblebee on Hairy Wood Mint. Photo by Norma Gilbertson



"Splish Splash I was takin' a bath!" Robin enjoys the bird bath. Photo by Holly Fischer



Northern Flicker shows off its Golden underside. Photo by Katy Gillispie



Hermit thrush migrating through. Photo by Gary Bullemer



Male Monarch (note dark patches on lower wings). Photo by Sue Kirchberg



Yellow warbler. Yellow warblers stay here all summer and are often parasitized by Cowbirds. Photo by Gary Bullemer



Common Redpoll February 2022, Northfield. Watch for them at your winter feeders! By Barb Bolan

Return Address:

Barb Bolan

9700 Baldwin Ave Northfield, MN 55057

Address Label



Asters. By Sue Kirchberg



Milkweed seeds blowing in the wind. Photo by Bruce Dybvik



By Bonnie Harper-Lore



Sunrise in a dew drop.
Photo by Gail Gates



Hairstreak butterflies on Rattlesnake Master flowers.
Photo by Norma Gilbertson



"Silence is Golden"
Photo by Gail Gates



Katydid chewing on a Prairie Dropseed seed head while clutching onto a Purple Prairie Clover. By Bonnie Harper-Lore



Remember to take time to sit and enjoy the world around you. It is so beautiful. St. Olaf Prairie. Photo by Gail Gates



Scarlet Cup mushroom, disintegrating back into the earth. Spring ephemeral tour at Rice County Wilderness Park. Photo by Norma Gilbertson