

SE MN Prairie Partners Chapter Newsletter
March 2023 Volume 12 issue 1



January Robin, perhaps reconsidering the plan to stay in Minnesota for the winter. Photo by Cheryl Jones



The historic picnic and warming shelter at Lac qui Parle State Park. Photo by Gary Bullemer

Palette C:

Prairie plantings for a dry and sunny site

 <p>Prairie Smoke <i>Ceanothus triflorum</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pink & red flower, blooms in early spring • 8-12" tall, 6-12" spread • Spreads by seed or rhizome, will spread and naturalize • Grows best in full sun, will tolerate light shade • Dry to mesic-wet soils • Perennial ground cover • MN Native 	 <p>Butterfly Milkweed <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinctive orange flowers, blooms June - August • 2' tall, 1-2' spread • Grows best in full sun, will tolerate light shade • Likes dry to medium-dry soil condition • Attracts multitude of butterflies, including Monarchs • MN Native 	 <p>Purple Prairie Clover <i>Dalea purpurea</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purple flower, blooms July - August • 2-3' tall, 12" spread • Grows in full sun to part shade • Dry to mesic soil conditions • Perennial ground cover • Favored by the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee • MN Native 	 <p>Blue Grama <i>Bouteloua gracilis</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reddish-purple inflorescence, blooms in late summer • 12-24" tall, 18-24" spread • Spreads freely by self-seeding • Grows best in full sun • Dry to mesic-wet soils • Perennial ground cover • MN Native
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Curb
Stepping stones
Sidewalk

- = Butterfly Milkweed
- = Blue Grama
- = Purple Prairie Clover
- = Prairie Smoke



Metro Blooms

Dry and Sunny Blvd Planting design example that provides flowers throughout the growing season - shared by Becky Rice, from Metro Blooms at <https://metroblooms.org>

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: 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Road, Neenah, WI 54956 [Wild Ones](#)

Membership: Sign up/ renew online at www.wildoneones.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.

SE MN 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://semnprairiepartners.wildones.org/>

[Wild Ones: SE MN Prairie Partners | Facebook](#)

Newsletter Committee: Lead: Ann Dybvik, Chief Photographer: Bruce Dybvik, Committee: Nancy Schumacher, 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 anndbvk@gmail.com to discuss your ideas.

Prairie Partners member involvements

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

Minnesota Native Landscapes (MNL), -
Dwayne Vosejka mnlcorp.com

Friends of Nerstrand State Park – Katy Gillispie [Friends of Nerstrand Big Woods](#)

Friends of Whitewater State Park – Joel Dunnette - [Friends of Whitewater](#)

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

Halfpint Hollow Miniature Donkeys: Rod and Sue White halfpintahollow.com

Goat Dispatch: Jake Langeslag, Faribault

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

Member-Sponsored-Native Gardens

We are offering up to 5 native garden grants, \$200 each in 2023. Members may sponsor themselves, a friend, a family member, or someone else. The garden should be in Southeast Minnesota and participants must agree how they will maintain the planting. Plants must be true natives for our area, not cultivars (no 'cultivar name' on them). Applications should be submitted by March 15, 2023 for priority selection. If additional grants are still available, more applications will be accepted. This is a great opportunity to help spread the love of native gardens to others and have a fun project.

Upcoming 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.*

March 23, 7PM – Church – Intergenerational Nature Connections – Breanna Wheeler

April 13, 6pm - Annual Anniversary Dinner Fireside in Dennison

May 13 (Saturday)- Sakatah State Park Ephemeral Tour (date may change)

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.

SURVEY - Breanna Wheeler has created a survey to help us understand what we can do better and how to help our chapter succeed and thrive into the future. We invite members to fill it out and help us improve and grow.

The survey can be completed by using the following link, via the link that was sent out in an email, or completing a printed copy and mailing it in. You are welcome to have your responses anonymous if you wish. As a thank you, a gift of a free plant from our plant sale, May 20, 2023, will be offered for members completing the survey. If you do include your email in your response, you will automatically be on the list for the free plant, to have your inputs remain anonymous, please send an email to Barb Bolan at bdbolan@hotmail.com with the subject line "I completed the survey and would like the free plant code."

Survey link: [Prairie Partners Input Survey](#)

Notes from President

Hi all, looking out at all the snow out there, it’s hard to believe spring starts in about a week! And ephemerals won’t be far behind, in fact one of the first bloomers in the state has already started flowering – Skunk Cabbage. We will be visiting Sakatah State Park this spring, but most arboretums and parks are a good place to hunt for ephemerals. And plant sales, including ours on May 20th, are fast approaching!

A Creative Native Garden by Carolyn Sanford and Chuck Carlin, October 2014

In 1997 we discovered and bought a large hilltop lot and began construction. The nearby Sibley Marsh and Prairie had pheasants, a visiting fox, skunks, snakes, a deer or two and other creatures that passed by and through our site. Even before we moved into our house, we planted Little Blue Stem in part of the front yard and pretty much decided to go “all-native” with our future landscape. We became quite familiar with several excellent sources for native trees, bushes, grasses, and wildflowers. During excavation and grading, several limestone monuments were unearthed and distributed about the lot as outcrop accents and favorite lookout posts for our cat. Our front yard became a demonstration plot for neighbors and passing strollers, bordered by grasses and ablaze with wildflowers from April to October, perhaps encouraging at least a consideration of the use native plants as ornamentals.

The backyard provided a large blank canvas for our imagination. Chuck built raised beds for vegetables along the edge of the lot to shield us from much new construction and non-native landscaping. Carolyn planted an additional vegetable plot, an herb garden, a blueberry patch, and favorite flowers. We marked out a large central prairie area to supplement the Sibley natural area and cut out a big festering patch of mowable ‘lawn’. Heavy rains would produce a temporary stream through the east edge so with help of a neighbor, we created a “river of grass” featuring Little Blue Stem, Dropseed, and Side Oats Gramma.

We are rewarded each year with crowds of monarchs (diminished lately) feasting on blazing star, leaving caterpillars to munch on

the butterfly milkweed. Hummingbirds make twice-a-day lunch runs at Cardinal flowers and Royal Catch Fly. Finches and cardinals, frogs and toads thrive where lawn mowers have vanished.

We planted more than 100 native species; some thrive, a few struggled, some vanished. They move about year by year thanks to birds and wind and surprise us with their resilience.

Update 2023 - Chuck and Carolyn were early members of our Prairie Partners Chapter of the Wild Ones. In the 1960s, Chuck studied competition between native plants in what is now the McKnight prairie and helped develop the Sibley Swale Prairie. Though a highly accomplished Organic Chemist and professor, who worked to remove lead from paint, helped develop an aerospace adhesive for NASA, and advised the US FDA on techniques for detecting impurities in food, he still found time to make native plants a big focus in his life. He and his wife, Carolyn, loved hearing people walking by express appreciation at beautiful blooming native plants and shrubs. When Carolyn took on gardening projects for themselves or others, Chuck got so excited he went out and purchased all kinds of native plants that he thought she would like to use in it.

Sadly, Chuck, 83, passed away January 2, 2023, after a long illness. He left a wonderful legacy and will be greatly missed.



Lac qui Parle State Park, Watson, Minnesota

By Gary Bullemer



Lac qui Parle Map Shelter

Growing up in South Central MN, with my hometown just ten miles from the Minnesota River, gave me a chance to observe some of the wonders of this treasure. Not surprisingly, the value of the scenic natural resources all along the length of the Minnesota River were recognized early in our state's history. The list of parks and recreation areas is long and includes one I would like to write about here. Located not far from the headwaters of the Minnesota River in the southwest part of the state, Lac qui Parle State Park was formally created in 1941. Work had already begun in prior years, with labor provided by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) workers that were busy all over the state during that era. At Lac qui Parle the WPA crew built roads and parking, and stone park buildings such as a combination picnic shelter and kitchen, restroom buildings and a unique structure called the "Map Shelter". Campgrounds were added as well, in this mostly wooded area near the confluence of the Minnesota and Lac qui Parle Rivers. A series of trails for hiking, horse riding and winter skiing allow for exploration of the floodplain forest and riverbanks.

Over the centuries, several wide basins have formed in the Minnesota River, similar to Lake Pepin. Due to sediment formed at the mouth of tributaries, a natural dam causes a deeper,

wider lake-like body of water in the receiving river. In this case it was a very long shallow lake the Native Americans named "Lake That Speaks", which the early French explorers translated into Lac qui Parle. In the more recent history of the 1900s, flooding along the Minnesota River inspired the creation of dams that were meant to allow for control of flood waters up and down the river. The Lac qui Parle dam was funded in 1936 and initial construction was by the WPA, with additional construction by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Upriver to the northwest, Marsh Lake and Big Stone Lake are similar in nature to Lac qui Parle. In the years following the building of dams, a vast system of wildlife areas were created and managed by the State of MN and the US government. The Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area is roughly 25,000 acres and the adjoining Big Stone Lake National Wildlife Refuge is over 11,000 acres. I have never forgotten my first visit to Lac qui Parle in the 1980s and hearing the calls of Canada geese that fall. At times, over 100,000 geese may congregate there, with additional tens of thousands of ducks. There was a very



Lac qui Parle view looking west.

memorable amount of "goose-speak" going on that day of my first trip to this marvelous lake!

Since those days in the 1980s, much has changed at this park and adjoining wildlife management area. For the park, flooding events have become more frequent and forceful, and have led to the closure of the

original campgrounds. A new campground, with drive-in sites, walk-in sites, and camper cabins, was built in the 1990s, on the north side of the river. These facilities are located on top of the river bluffs and afford beautiful views of the river below. At the same time, the park headquarters were combined with the wildlife area headquarters, not far from the new camp areas, which gives the public a chance to interact with all of the local Department of Natural Resources staff from both divisions. Questions about camping, hiking, biking, bird watching, hunting, fishing and more can all be answered in this one place.

Since that first visit in the 1980s, I have been back to Lac qui Parle many times, both for work and for personal recreation. Quite often the trips were for training for all of the area DNR staff that worked on prescribed fire, to refresh our skills of fire management and safety. One very memorable visit was at the request of our area DNR forester, for me to assist with suppressing a wildfire that was burning in the vast prairie of the wildlife management area. There were dozens of us that fought all day to



Prescribed prairie fire in the wildlife management area, as seen from the park beach.

at day's end...Whew! My last visit was a camping trip that Sue and I took in 2015. We had a wonderful time, camped in the new grounds overlooking the lake and valley below. I got a chance to hike some trails that were new to me, visit some historic sites, and enjoy simple pleasures such

as viewing the night sky. Bird watching is always one of my favorite activities, and this area is a birding hotspot. We always enjoy exploring the local communities on our trips, and the river towns of Montevideo and Granite Falls are quite unique and interesting. A little farther up river, the Big Stone Wildlife Refuge offers a scenic drive through the refuge that is well worth the trip. Whatever your interests are, a trip to the upper Minnesota River and surrounding parts of our great state will be one you will always remember...I guarantee it! Gary B.

MONARCHS, ROADSIDES, and the LAW

By Richard Fetterly

As most of us are aware, the monarch population has declined by about 90% in the last ten or fifteen years. With its complicated life cycle and unique migration pattern, the monarch is vulnerable to many pressures including loss of habitat, loss of milkweed plants, herbicides, and pesticides.

The monarch life cycle begins as adults that have overwintered in Mexico head north in the spring. These migrating monarchs lay their eggs on milkweeds in our southern tier of states. Within about 30 days monarchs transition from eggs to caterpillars to chrysalises to adults. These second-generation adults head farther north, with some making it to Minnesota. Each female can lay about 300 eggs, so the population can increase exponentially. However, the vast majority never become adults, succumbing instead to a large suite of predators and parasitoids as well as anthropogenic threats that include insecticides and the destruction of their milkweed hosts.

The third generation is established in the northern reaches of their range where the eggs laid will produce the fourth generation. These

fourth-generation adults fly all the way back to Mexico to overwinter and start the cycle again.

In Minnesota, many monarch eggs are laid in July and August. This is the time of year when habitat is critical. August may have our highest population of monarchs as there may be representatives of the third and fourth generations in all four stages of their life cycle. Many of these monarchs won't be flying until the end of September so will need milkweeds for caterpillars and nectar producing flowers for adults. Adults of the fourth generation need nectar supplies through September and into October for their southern migration journey.

With the loss of other suitable habitat, roadsides are one of our best remaining hopes for monarchs. Roadsides also have the added benefit of being corridors for migration and breeding, but only if they are not mowed.

Minnesota's current mowing statute, #160.232 (1985), states that roadside mowing cannot be done before July 31. Mowing can start on August 1, when the monarch population is peaking. Therefore, all life stages of the monarch, except the adult, will be killed outright. Flowers that provide adults with nectar will also be destroyed. Unfortunately, roadsides can be deathtraps for monarchs.

The practice of utilizing roadsides for wildlife habitat is called "Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management" (IRVM). The principles of IRVM are well established and are used by MNDOT and some counties. One of these principles is to not "blanket" mow but to mow only as needed for safety, weed and tree control. This results in less mowing, reduced cost and pollution, and increased habitat.

The MN dept of Ag brochure, "*Pollinator Best Management Practices for Roadsides and Other Rights-of-Way*" says "*Delay roadside mowing. Roadside laws require that mowing be delayed until after August 1st. However, waiting to mow until even later in the season will provide more food for pollinators, benefit wildlife and allow flowering plants to set seed.*"

The MN DNR and MNDOT "Roadsides for Wildlife" program, ([MN Roadsides for Wildlife](#)), would be greatly enhanced if mowing was delayed. The DNR brochure, "*Smart Mowing*", states: "*100% mowing is discouraged. Most ditch bottoms and backslopes do not need to be mowed annually except for safety and weed control as outlined above.*" The "Roadsides for Wildlife" website is an excellent resource for all things "roadside" (unfortunately as of 2/24/2023, the program is not actively funded).

The Monarch Joint Venture (MJV) organization promotes the use of roadsides for monarch habitat. The MJV, which consists of more than 115 conservation organizations from around the country, is coordinated by the Monarch Lab of the University of Minnesota. The MJV handout "*Mowing: Best practices for Monarchs*" recommends not mowing before October 1 in southern MN and not before September 20 in northern MN.

To sum up, the MN DNR, MNDOT, MN DEPT of AG, and the MJV all recommend no mowing well beyond August 1st and not allowing blanket mowing, unless necessary.

No mowing prior to August 1st was meant to protect nesting birds. Now that we know the disastrous effect any mowing can have on monarchs, pollinators, and other wildlife, it is time to go to the Integrated approach to

roadside maintenance and remove language allowing nonfunctional/ commercial mowing.

Incorporating IRVM into roadside maintenance is mostly a matter of training and willingness to participate. IRVM saves money and can be implemented immediately. We also need to find innovative ways to discourage private parties from mowing or haying ditches.



Monarch on a blazing star in native prairie roadside along old US highway 14 east of Owatonna. August 2014. Photo by Richard Fetterly.

The MN mowing statute, 160.232, is currently in a state of de facto limbo. No one is enforcing it. The August 1 date is violated by people mowing and haying all summer at their own discretion.

A current bill in the MN legislature (HF498, SF718) would require MNDOT to manage state roadsides as habitat. If passed, this would be a fantastic first step, however, it only applies to state, not county or township roads, and does not ban mowing/haying for profit or agriculture.

Monarchs and other wildlife will be at the mercy of individuals and road authorities for at least another year. Mowing before October 1st will result in killing countless monarchs and other insects/ pollinators. We can all help this effort by contacting our state lawmakers, counties, townships, and conservation organizations. The decline of the monarch was caused by all of us and needs to be resolved by all of us.

About the author: Richard Fetterly is a retired engineer living in Rice County. He enjoys doing

volunteer work for environmental organizations such as Wild Ones, the Izaak Walton League, The Nature Conservancy, the Cannon River Watershed Partnership, the MN Land Trust, the MN DNR and the MPCA. He has been working with roadsides for wildlife for about 20 years.

January 12 – “Native Garden Design and L2L”

– by Becky Rice of Metro Blooms

A group of 31 online participants joined presenter Becky Rice of Metro Blooms to learn about the Lawns to Legumes (L2L) program and about designing native gardens. L2L, a



Common Blue Violet, bi-color variant. *Viola sororia*. Host to many fritillary butterflies

Minnesota program that reimburses participants for developing native landscape plantings, was developed by the BSWCR (Board of Soil and Water Conservation Resources) and is managed by Metro Blooms and Blue Thumb.

We learned about different features of native gardens for pollinators, including planting where water runs, or in a southwest part of a yard to gain the most benefit of the sun, or converting unused areas into pollinator havens.

Always keep in mind that a true native plant species has evolved over an extended period of time to adapt to local climates and soil; native plants have become what our pollinators need. Selecting native plants from local, reliable sources will bring more pollinators to your yard and you will be providing food for wildlife, developing plant root systems that help with soil erosion and aeration, and reducing stormwater runoff. What a great working relationship!

Violet Wood Sorrel (*Oxalis violacea*) by Nancy Schumacher

Many, many years ago when I was selling plants at the St Paul Farmers' Market, I had an elderly gentleman who would frequently stop by my stall to chat and share ideas. It was about the time that I was shifting my selection more towards natives. He was likewise interested in natives and aspired to be a lifelong learner. He had a lot of knowledge and shared it generously. I learned a lot from him and like to think that he gained from our conversations as well.

One day he showed up with a tray of 38 small, beleaguered looking plants. He said they were Violet Wood Sorrel (*Oxalis violacea*) that he had dug from his own colony. His colony had originated from plants he had salvaged from a highway construction project along Highway 10 in Anoka County – an area known as the Anoka Sand Plain. He explained that the plants looked weary because they were entering summer dormancy, adding that it was the best time to lift and divide the bulbs.

In the 20 or so following years I built up stock and these became a very popular seller. I considered myself lucky to be one of the very few growers that had this plant available (Prairie Moon Nursery in Winona Minnesota now offers plants and seeds). I have come to love this plant – partly because it is both lovely and tenacious and partly because of the fond memories it invokes. It has a front row seat in the garden closest to my back door.

The genus name, *Oxalis*, is from the Greek word *oxys*, which means "sharp" and refers to the sharp or sour taste from the oxalic acid present in the plant. The specific epithet, *violacea*, is Latin for violet colored. Three other *Oxalis*



Violet Wood Sorrel Flowers and leaves open in the sunshine

species occur in Minnesota.

Common Wood Sorrel (*Oxalis montana*) is a very pale pink and flowering is sparse. It is found only in the arrowhead region of the state.

Southern Wood Sorrel (*Oxalis dillenii*) and Yellow Wood Sorrel (*Oxalis stricta*) have very small yellow flowers. Both are widespread throughout the state and are often considered weedy. They frequently occur in lawns.

Violet Wood Sorrel is a lovely, diminutive species that is present in the southern half of the state and northwards along the western border. They prefer full to partial sun and mesic to dry conditions. The soil can be rocky or loamy. Disease is not normally a problem as long as the site is well-drained. And, because of the oxalic acid content (from which the plant derives its botanical species name), many herbivores avoid it. Native bees, however, love the early nectar source. Flowering is abundant, and I have occasionally seen hummingbirds nectaring on these.

Violet Wood Sorrel makes an excellent garden plant if taller and more aggressive vegetation is kept away. In optimum growing conditions it can easily spread by runners from the bulbs to form colonies but is never overly aggressive.

Both the flowers and leaves open up on sunny days as in the top photo, but close during the evening and under cloudy conditions as shown below. And, as mentioned earlier, the plants tend to go dormant during the hot summer

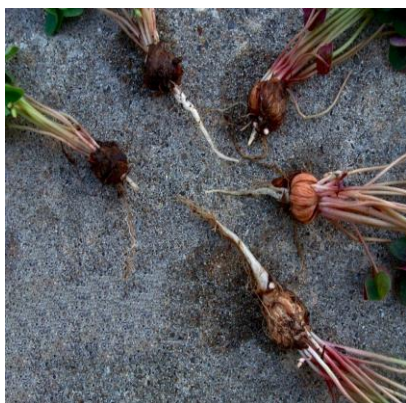
months. This can create a challenge when using Violet Wood Sorrel in a garden setting. I liked to



Wood Sorrel Flowers and leaves close in the evenings and during shady days.

fill in the empty gaps with flowering annuals. Tall red zinnias have become my favorite for this purpose. They are eye catching for humans and an amazing assortment of pollinators.

Propagation. I confess that I have never grown this plant from seeds, instead relying on the ease of bulb division. I've most often done this in the spring just as the first foliage begins to break ground. Fall is another good time for division but because the top growth has died back one must either know with certainty where the bulbs are or mark them before the plants go dormant. The bulbs are easy to separate and a well-developed clump can yield a good number of new plants.



The picture shows the results of splitting a single clump just as flowering was on the wane. The two bulbs

in the upper right could also be further divided into individual sections. They should be replanted about an inch to an inch and a half below the soil surface. Sometimes in the spring

I will find small bulbs that have heaved out of the ground. These too can be simply replanted.

The picture on the below shows naturally occurring Violet Wood Sorrel in an open woodland. Courtesy of Minnesota Wildflowers.

We plan to have a limited supply of these available at our annual spring plant sale on May 20. I hope that some of you are able get your hands on these, even though you won't have my back story and fond memories, I believe you will come to enjoy them as much as I do.



Violet Wood Sorrel. Courtesy of Minnesota Wildflowers

February 9 – “Ferns and how the make us better Naturalists” – by Joe Walewski

Joe Walewski, Author, Naturalist and Teaching Coordinator at Wolf Ridge in Finland, MN, led 44 Wild Ones members on a virtual



tour of the Northwoods of Minnesota. Joe has been a naturalist at Wolf Ridge since 1988 and has written two field guides- Lichens of the North Woods and Ferns & Allies of the North Woods. His discussion and extensive knowledge of horsetails, ferns, and clubmosses was captivating and informative.

Joe lives within a mile and a half of Lake Superior. From this intriguing and engaging vantage point he teaches students of all ages who come to learn at Wolf Ridge. Students focus on the flora and fauna and explore the natural surroundings of the lake and land.

Joe's knowledge of the plant life of the area and his ability to share information was highly appreciated. He advised us to "let yourself go into the world of ferns - the more a person becomes "part" of the landscape, the more the landscape reveals itself to us.

By closely watching changes that occur through the seasons in plants such as the ostrich fern, horsetails, or clubmoss, plants often ignored, more fascinating secrets will be revealed and we may learn to "slow down, notice, take notes, and share with others."

A final take-away from Joe was to advise us to record our observations, share and discuss them with other naturalists. Get to know your "own home" landscape. All are excellent suggestions for anyone who values the importance and the beauty of nature.

January 2023 Board Meeting

Meeting attendees: with Barb Bolan, Nancy Schumacher, Ann Dybvik, Jim Sipe, Breanna Wheeler in attendance.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of June 14, 2022 were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jim reported that at the end of 2022 we had a checking account balance of \$10,151.54 and a savings account balance of \$4,824.20. Money was moved from these accounts to create a \$10,000 CD.

Website: Jim will work on transferring our events to the new National events calendar.

Breanna: Breanna is working on a member survey with the intent of identifying ways to maintain and expand our membership in coming years. It will be released in March.

Membership: Ann will send reminder notices to members with recently expired or about to expire memberships.

Plant Sale: Nancy has the plant selection process near completion. Nancy will grow some plants and more will be purchased from South Cedar Greenhouse.

Member-sponsored gardens: The program was successful in 2022 and aligns with our goal of getting more native plants into our communities. We will aim for 5 participants in 2023 and have included \$1000 in the budget.

Newsletter: The next newsletter is scheduled for March. Ann will begin recruiting for articles.

2023 schedule plans: We agreed to wait until 2024 for Nancy to do a presentation on seed collection which will enable her to get photos and plant examples over the 2023 season.

The next Board Meeting will be April 10th. Notes by Nancy Schumacher, Vice President

Member-sponsored native garden grants.

Please make sure to get your member-sponsored garden applications in soon if you wish to participate in the program. Send me an email if you have any questions about it. Our goal is to get more native plantings out there and help get others excited about attracting more pollinators and wildlife into their lives.

Return Address:

Barb Bolan

9700 Baldwin Ave, Northfield, MN 55057



Richard Fetterly, author of
"Monarchs, Roadsides, and the Law"



A walk-in campsite at Lac qui Parle State Park. Photo by
Gary Bullemer



Carmen and Jeannette helped staff our Minnesota
Wild Ones Booth at the Pheasant/Quail Classic.
Photo by Richard Fetterly



Carolyn Sanford shared the beauty of their transitioned
yard. Photo by Bruce Dybvik, 2021 tour



Photo by Cheryl Jones



Carlín-Sanford property in '98, a blank canvas to transition