

Wild Ones— Central Wisconsin Chapter

March 10 Chapter Meeting

- Chapter President, Paul Skawinski, called the meeting to order and invited attendees to help themselves to the pizza and salad available at the front of the room
- Paul introduced the 2020 Chapter Officers listing:
 - President — Paul Skawinski (and acting Membership Coordinator)
 - Vice President — Keri Otte
 - Treasurer — Ben Kollock (Paul S. Acting treasurer temporarily)
 - Secretary — Paul Doxsee
 - Webmaster — Karen Blaha
- Ben was not able to attend this meeting
- Paul asked for assistance this Friday for transplanting help at Farmshed Greenhouse from 1-3 at 1220 Briggs Court.
- The schedule of meetings and events was presented for the first half of the year and is available on the Chapter website page. Meeting location is going to bounce around in 2020 as we have outgrown Schmeckle. We will look for no or low cost meeting locations with the seating and video projection equipment our meetings need.
- The second half of 2020 meeting and activity schedule is still developing. Possible native garden locations for activity visits are still being sought as are guest speakers
- Volunteers are still needed for the MREA weekend event. We will maintain a booth there again this year. 4 people are already volunteered and more are needed.
- Paul gave an update on various projects he's been involved with this winter, including:
 - o Native plant germination timing by species — it varies, but generally Mid-April looks to be a good starting time for planting outdoors in late May (earlier for slow-growing species).
 - o Cold stratification could be avoided when collecting seed from seedheads outdoors in mid-winter.
 - o Plant grow lights, are the formal and expensive plant LED grow lights better than the \$75 Menards LED high-intensity shop lights? Paul got virtually identical results with both types of lights under reasonably controlled conditions
- We've invested in the new Doug Tallamy book released in February for the Chapter library. Books are available in each meeting for checkout from Paul Doxsee in each Chapter meeting and are due back at the following month's Chapter meeting.
- Anne Leton, a second grade teacher at McDill Elementary gave the formal meeting presentation on getting kids outdoors and interested in gardening. She had lots of insights to share and successes with navigating this topic through an environment driven by a standardized curriculum. The discussion in the meeting also included getting grants for development of school gardens, with Keri Otte and Paul S. also sharing experiences and successes.
- The meeting adjourned to side discussions and studying the books available in the Chapter library collection.