



Western Reserve Wild Ones

“a voice for the natural landscaping movement”



A Year in Review *by Barb Holtz, president*

The end of the year always catches me by surprise. It's the time for end of the year reports and looking ahead. If I had to say what was our greatest accomplishment in 2009 it would be our native plant sale—hands down!

This was quite an undertaking and thanks to a great supplier (yea! Ohio Prairie Nursery) and many hands on deck the days of the sale, we done good! It was a pleasure sending a nice size check from the fruits of the sale to national in support of Seeds for Education.

Another high point for me was spending time with folks from our neighbor chapter in Akron. I hope we can be a support to them as they grow.

I believe those who could come to listen in on the national quarterly meeting at Look About Lodge walked away with a better sense of all the hard work the larger circle does. It was interesting to here about national triumphs, struggles and just plain business.

In terms of frustrations from the year past, I have only one. Participation. I am struggling with how to get members to come to meetings. As someone who speaks in front of groups, I will tell you it is awkward to talk to a “crowd” of three. As someone who hosts WRWO speakers, it is awkward and disappointing to host a speaker for a crowd of three. I am considering instituting

meeting registration/RSVP. If I cannot get a decent size group to attend, I'll need to cancel the meeting.

I fully understand that our plates are full and sometimes decisions about attending this or that need to be made. That said, my wish is that you enjoy our time together and find it educational as well as fun.

As always, I will come to the group for program suggestions. Don't ever hesitate to give me a call or shoot me an e-mail with an idea. We're a creative group!

Thanks for your dedication to native plants and their importance in the natural and designed landscape. Our message makes a difference!



What's the Buzz?

December
No meeting

January 21 7:00 pm 2
Natural Landscaping in the City

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Native Ground Covers

Mary Slingluff of Avalon Gardens spoke to us in October about native ground covers. Here are just some of the favorites Mary shared with us...

SHADE Loving

Wild ginger
Sensitive fern
Lady fern quite pretty

Royal fern
Bunchberry
Wild geranium - many cultivars
Pachysandra (*procumbens*)
Iris (*cristata*)
Virginia bluebells
Mayapple
Jacob's ladder
Foamflower

SUN Loving

Geum (*trifolium*)

Evening primrose (*Oenothera fruiticosa*)
Phlox (*subulata*)
Sedum (*ternatum*)
Blue-eyed grass - not actually a grass
Little bluestem
Prairie dropseed
Fox sedge

Avalon Gardens (440) 286-2126
12511 Fowlers Mill Rd. Chardon

Treasurer's Report

Begin. Balance 1009.38

Income (+) \$652.91

(membership disbursement,
plant sale)

Expense (-) \$604.42

(SFE donation, speaker fees, Nat'l
board meeting/misc. food)

Total \$1057.87

Upcoming Programs and Activities

Happy Holidays!!



Thursday, Jan. 21 @ 7:00 pm

Natural Landscaping in the City

Can native plant landscaping align with city weed ordinances? Join us for a round table discussion to share your trials and triumphs of natural landscaping in suburbia. Bring a copy of your city's lawn and weed ordinance. Pictures of your yard on a flash drive are welcome.

Thursday, Feb. 18 @ 7:00 pm

Name That Plant

Ever wonder why a plant has a certain name? Are there rules to naming plants? Common name or Latin, many have a story to tell.

**All programs/meetings held at
Look About Lodge
37374 Miles Rd. Bentleyville**

2010 Dates to Remember

Plans are already underway for 2010. Please mark the following on your calendar so spend time with other Wild Ones next year!

- January 21 @ 7:00 p.m. = meeting @ Look About Lodge (LAL)
- February 18 @ 7:00 p.m. = meeting at LAL
- March 18 @ 7:00 p.m. = meeting @ LAL to plan native plant sale—**IMPORTANT!!**
- April 17 from 10 a.m. – noon = Go to Barb Kahn's house to collect skunk cabbage and mayapples
- April 24 from approx. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. = North Coast Nature Festival @ Rocky River Nature Center; **west side WRWO Native Plant Sale**
- (April 25 = ditto above; not sure yet if running native plant sale two days @ Rocky River NC.)
- May 1 (time TBD) = **east side WRWO Native Plant Sale @ LAL**
- End of May/early June = project – overhaul wildflower gardens around LAL
- June 5 = Farm & Garden Day @ Garfield Park Nature Center (host table; sell plants?)
- Mid-July = Ohio Prairie Nursery Open House (an assumption on my part but OPN has hosted this fine event for several years now and it's usually in July)
- September 11 = Monarch Magic @ North Chagrin Nature Center – host table/activity

I believe we will partner again with the Northeast Ohio Native Plant Society in hosting a speaker next year. I will also share with you throughout the year any additional educational opportunities in the sustainable landscaping community (ex: see page 3).

It would be great to get a group of us to go to the national meeting next year!

Sustainability Symposium 2010

Saturday, February 6 | 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Members: \$90; Non-members: \$99

Please register by February 3rd online (www.cbg.org)
or by calling (216) 721-1600 ext 100

You will learn:

- How to make your garden and community greener while protecting natural resources
- How to combine horticulture with principles of sustainability -- and how to lead a more eco-friendly life
 - How to increase your growing power, even on a small scale

Included in this full day:

- Informative exhibitors
- A scrumptious vegetarian lunch
 - Free parking
 - Raffle prizes
- Networking with like-minded folks

Keynote Speaker: Joe Lamp'I, Host of PBS Television's GardenSMART Greening Your Garden While Protecting the Planet

This presentation is based on Joe's popular book, "The Green Gardener's Guide; Simple Significant Actions to Protect and Preserve our Planet". Gardeners enjoy a connection with the earth unlike anyone else. Ironically, as we create and maintain beautiful gardens and landscapes, many unknowingly are doing so in a way that is harmful to our environment. Joe will entertain and stimulate your thinking in new ways as he shares seven significant concepts we all can do right now to make our gardens and community 'greener' while protecting the planet too.

Featured Speakers:

Victoria Mills, Executive Director, Doan Brook Watershed Partnership
Backyard Stewardship

Brad Masi, Executive Director, The New Agarian Center
Permaculture Basics

David Beach, Director, GreenCityBlueLake Institute
The Climate is Already Changing: Adapting Your Garden

Charles Behnke, Retired, OSU Extension Service
Making Your Soil Work For You: There's More To It Than You Think

Shawn Belt, [Green Corps](#) Farm Supervisor, Cleveland Botanical Garden
Starting From Seed: Sustainability Begins With Your Wallet

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Look About Lodge
37374 Miles Road
Bentleyville, OH 44022



Wild Ones: Native Plants, Natural Landscapers promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices to encourage biodiversity through the preservation, restoration, and establishment of native plant communities.

Wild Ones is a not-for-profit, environmental, educational, and advocacy organization.