

Lorrie Otto Appreciation\Celebration

Co-Chairs
Annette Alexander
Carol Chew
Bret Rappaport
Rochelle Whiteman

Dinner Committee

Jane Carpenter
Margot Fuchs
Barbara Glassel

Dean Klingbell
Jan Koel
Marlette Nowak

Mandy Ploch
Chris Relchert
Rae Sweet

Honorary Committee

Richard Barloga
Tom Dawson
Dr. Martyn Dibben
Neil Diboll
Kenneth Druse
Mark Felder
Linda Foss
Anne Fitzgerald
Lisa Geer
Betty & Bob Greaves
Bonnie Harper-Lore
Dr. Hugh Ittis

William Jordon
David Kopitzke
The Honorable Douglas LaFollette
Paul G. Hayes
James L. Hodgins
Andy Larson
Schomer Lichtner
Isabel Lillit
Irena Macek
Susan Mudd
Darrell Morrison
Molly Fifield-Murray

Dr. David Northington
Fred Ott
Patricia Otto
Donald Quintens
Margaret Roach
Sara Stein
David Stokes
Craig Tufts
Sally & Andy Wasowski
Charles Wurster
Donald L. Vorpahl
Dr. Allen Young

The newly-created Lorrie Otto Education Fund will grant an annual award to an educator or an educational institution, such as a school or nature center, working to instill "a sense of appreciation of humankind's proper role within the web of nature though the use of native plants in a natural landscape."

Wild Ones - Natural Landscapers, Ltd. is a non-profit, educational organization with a mission to share information with members and others at the 'plants-root' level and to promote biodiversity and environmentally sound practices. We are a diverse membership interested in natural landscaping using native species to develop regionally appropriate plant communities which foster a sense of place.



In Honor of Lorrie Otto

My glorious garden is so perfect for me, and it measures up to the aesthetic and environmental standards that I care about passionately.

Its summer appearance is unusual for a suburban yard. Slender perennial sunflowers, high wands of *Coreopsis tripteris*, and square-stemmed cup plants tower over my head. Milkweeds and Joe Pies add dusky pinks to these sunny yellows. All these forms are knit together by the winged activity of pollinating insects, especially butterflies—monarchs, vanessas, swallowtails, and fritillaries. As seeds form, goldfinches and chickadees add song and movement. In evenings, lovely moths replace bumblebees.

Spring here is as beautiful as romantic love songs proclaim it to be. In shady spots, wild geraniums dominate among the clones of ginger, bloodroot, assorted anemones, various violets, May apples, and meadow rue. Trilliums and hepaticas find places too. Where the sun shines in late spring, the wild roses, blue baptisias, and irises announce to my neighbors that the prairie show is beginning. In September, the asters and *Physostegia* echo the earlier pastel hues. White rounds of boneset, yarrow, and *Aster umbellatus* change the rhythm, while the purple and gold of asters and *solidago* join in the final crescendo. Snow drifts among my winter bouquets, adorning seedheads with white stocking caps. The grey-headed coneflower gives a staccato pulse in all kinds of weather. Purple coneflowers have the largest seed heads of *Echinacea* family while the *Rudbeckia triloba* have the smallest balls at the ends of their finer branches. Rigid goldenrods and flat-topped asters are as pretty with sepals of snow as they were with colorful petals. This symphony of color, form, and texture enables my garden to pass its first test, that of being satisfying aesthetically.

The second test is, "Does it belong in this part of America?" The eastern deciduous forest and the western prairie meet in Wisconsin. My property reflects a sense of place because the plantings identify it as Midwest.

The third criterion for judging my garden may well be how it affects the rest of the earth. It appears to be the American way to arrive ignorant into a new landscape, to denude it and replace it with a hodgepodge from other climates and even other countries, and then to squander energy to artificially maintain vegetation. The application of chemicals to grow ornamentals is surely unconscionable.

My yard grows naturally with its diversity of native plants protecting themselves and replacing their losses. Moreover, because it is undisturbed, new soil is created. Low-lying "submersible gardens" trap runoff water and filter contaminants. Rain barrels store water I need for transplanting; native plants thrive on our annual rainfall without needing any of our drinking water. Juncos feed under the finches and siskins as they scatter seed from wild forbs and grasses. Dry flower stems quiver as feathered creatures explore for dormant insects. On a bitterly cold, winter day, an insectivorous shrew startles the quiet scene by darting from hole to hole in the snow. Mowed lawns beyond my yard appear so naked, bleak, cruel—and absent of all life.

It pleases me enormously that I have designed a yard in harmony with the natural world. For me, that kind of beauty has no equal and is the final, most important reason for the garden that nestles around my little chalet in Midwest America.

—Lorrie Otto

Wild Ones - Natural Landscapers, Ltd.

request the pleasure of your company
at a dinner in honor of

Lorrie Otto

on Saturday, April Twenty-Seventh
Nineteen Hundred Ninety-Six
Milwaukee Yacht Club
1700 North Lincoln Memorial Drive

Reception at half past five o'clock
Dinner at half past six
Program

Wild Ones - Natural Landscapers, Ltd.

Welcomes You to an

Appreciation - Celebration for

Lorrie Otto

Milwaukee Yacht Club

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

April 27, 1996



Lorrie Otto, recently recognized as the "Godmother of Natural Landscaping" by *National Wildlife Magazine*, is a teacher, naturalist, activist, and inspiration to thousands. The natural landscaping movement has taken root and grows ever more vigorous. Lorrie, one of its first and foremost cultivators, deserves thanks, and it is for this reason we gather tonight.

Significant accomplishments have made Lorrie unique:

- * Catalyst for the ban on the use of DDT in the United States.
- * Member of Milwaukee County Pesticide Committee.
- * Instrumental in saving Fairy Chasm, a haven for rare native plants, from development and bringing it under The Nature Conservancy protection.
- * Inspiration for the creation of national organization of Wild Ones - Natural Landscapers, Ltd.
- * National Director of Wild Ones.
- * Program Chair for Wild Ones, Milwaukee Chapter.
- * Defender of people willing to challenge existing weed laws.

- * Past president and current vice president of Citizens Natural Resources Association, Inc.
- * Nationally respected lecturer on the use of native plants.
- * Gifted author of numerous environmental preservation articles.
- * Host of *Earthcare*, a cable series on native landscaping, 1984 - ongoing.
- * Recipient of the Margaret Douglas Medal for Conservation from the Garden Club of America, 1991.
- * Creator of "one of the 32 most beautiful gardens in America" selected by *The American Woman's Garden*.
- * Featured in numerous local and national publications, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *Newsweek*, and *The New York Times*.

In Lorrie's words, "If suburbia were landscaped with meadows, prairies, thickets, or forests, or with combinations of these, then water would sparkle, fish would be good to eat again, birds would sing, and human spirits would soar."

PROGRAM

RECEPTION

DINNER

GREETING

Bret Rappaport, Esq.
National President, Wild Ones - Natural Landscapers, Ltd.
Attorney, Schwartz, Cooper, Greenberger & Krauss, Chicago

TRIBUTES

Charles Wurster, Ph.D.
Founding Trustee, Environmental Defense Fund, Long Island, N.Y.
Professor Emeritus, State University of New York at Stony Brook

Tricia Otto, M.D.
Bellingham, Washington

Andy Wasowski
Writer and Broadcast Producer
Dallas, Texas

Fred Ott
Conservationist
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Lorrie's Legacy: Children's Tribute

Annette Alexander
Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin

Lorrie's Work in Color

Rochelle Whiteman
Artist, Educator, National Director of Wild Ones
Glendale, Wisconsin

G. Andrew Larsen, Executive Director
Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg, Wisconsin

David Kopitzke
Bureau of Endangered Resources
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Citizens Natural Resources Association

Mariette Nowak, Director
Wehr Nature Center, Franklin, Wisconsin

Allen M. Young, Ph.D., Curator of Zoology
Vice President for Collections, Research, and Public Program
Milwaukee Public Museum

Karen Smith-Winicki, Principal
Indian Hill School, River Hills, Wisconsin

Martyn Dibben, Ph.D., Executive Director
Schlitz Audubon Center, Bayside, Wisconsin

The Honorable John O. Norquist
Mayor
City of Milwaukee

The Honorable Douglas La Follette
Secretary of State
State of Wisconsin

Letter and book from Vice President Gore
United States of America
Presented by Linda Foss

LORRIE OTTO SEEDS FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

To recognize Lorrie's tireless work teaching young and old to make this world a better place, Wild Ones has created the Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Program and Endowment as a legacy for future generations.

Starting in 1997, the Seeds for Education Program will select a deserving place of learning, a place of worship, or an educator whose efforts reflect Lorrie's life-long message of creating natural landscapes and using native plants in order to foster and promote a greater appreciation for humankind's proper place in the web of Nature. The recipient, selected each winter by a volunteer panel of educators and naturalists, will be awarded funds as well as native plants and seeds, generously donated by our Seeds for Education Partners.

Seeds for Education Program Selection Committee

Else Ankel

Director, Riverside Urban Environmental Center
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Martyn Dibben (Chairman)

Executive Director, Schlitz Audubon Center, Bayside, Wisconsin

Neil Diboll

Prairie Ecologist, Westfield, Wisconsin

Babette Kis

Architect, Naturalist, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

G. Andrew Larsen

Director, Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg, Wisconsin

Molly Fifield-Murray

University of Wisconsin - Madison Arboretum

Mariette Nowak

Director, Wehr Nature Center, Franklin, Wisconsin

Bret Rappaport

National President, Wild Ones - Natural Landscapers, Ltd.

Donald L. Vorpahl

Landscape/Environmental Planner, Hilbert, Wisconsin

Seeds for Education Partners

Randy Korb

Biophilia

Appleton, Wisconsin

Daniel Boehlke

Boehlke's Woodland Gardens

West Bend, Wisconsin

Anne Meyer

Enders Greenhouse

Cherry Valley, Illinois

Connie Ramthun

Kettle Moraine Natural Landscaping

Campbellsport, Wisconsin

Barb Glass

Little Valley Farm

Spring Green, Wisconsin

Melody Moore

Nature's Way

Mazomanie, Wisconsin

Randy Powers, Wendy & George Walcott

Prairie Future Seed Source

Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin

Neil Diboll

Prairie Nursery

Westfield, Wisconsin

Joyce Powers

Prairie Ridge Nursery

Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin

Wild Ones also expresses deep appreciation to the Edmond & Alice Opler Foundation for their generous gift and continued support for the project.

TRIBUTE BOOK

Prepared by Barbara Glassel

Presented by Don Vorpahl

LORRIE OTTO

Lorrie Otto Appreciation - Celebration Committee

Co-Chairs

Annette Alexander
Carol Chew
Bret Rappaport
Rochelle Whiteman

Dinner Committee

Jane Carpenter
Margot Fuchs
Barbara Glassel

Dean Klingbeil
Jan Koel
Mariette Nowak

Mandy Ploch
Chris Reichert
Rae Sweet

Honorary Committee

Richard Barloga
Tom Dawson
Dr. Martyn Dibben
Neil Diboll
Kenneth Druse
Mark Felder
Linda Foss
Anne Fitzgerald
Lisa Geer
Betty & Bob Greaves
Bonnie Harper-Lore
Dr. Hugh Iltis

William Jordon
David Kopitzke
The Hon. Douglas LaFollette
Paul G. Hayes
James L. Hodgins
Andy Larsen
Schomer Lichtner
Isabel Lillie
Irena Macek
Susan Mudd
Darrel G. Morrison, FASLA
Molly Fifield-Murray

Dr. David Northington
Fred Ott
Dr. Tricia Otto
Donald Quintenz
Margaret Roach
Sara Stein
David Stokes
Craig Tufts
Sally & Andy Wasowski
Dr. Charles Wurster
Donald L. Yorpahl
Dr. Allen Young

Program booklet by Carol Chew.

Ron Fintak donated photography services.

K & S donated photo processing.

Fruit from table decorations will be given to Second Harvest.



Wild Ones - Natural Landscapers, Ltd. is a non-profit, educational organization with a mission to educate and share information with members and community at the 'plants-root' level and to promote biodiversity and environmentally sound practices. We are a diverse membership interested in natural landscaping using native species in developing plant communities.