



News of the
Southeast Gateway Group
Of the Sierra Club
October/November 2014
Volume 33, No. 5

SOUTHEAST SIERRAN



A WILDERNESS ICON: UTAH'S RED ROCK CANYONLANDS

America's red rock canyonlands wilderness, located in southern Utah, draws pilgrims from across the country and around the world. It is the largest network of undesignated wilderness lands remaining in the lower 48 states – at its heart lies the Greater Canyonlands region surrounding Canyonlands National Park.

Clayton Daughenbaugh, conservation organizer with the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, will tell us about efforts to preserve this unique area at 6:30 pm on October 16, at Room 120, Biosciences Building, Gateway Technical College, Kenosha campus, 3520 30th Ave. The program includes "Wild Utah", a multi-media slideshow documenting citizen efforts to designate public lands in southern Utah's spectacular canyon country as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. This 15-minute journey through red rock splendor, narrated by Robert Redford, encourages viewers to help protect these unique lands. It was made possible through the generous donation of photos, music and words from concerned Utahans who wish to pass this heritage on to future generations.

The Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and its partners in the Utah Wilderness Coalition seek to gain local support for the "Citizens' Proposal" to protect wilderness areas in Utah's red rock canyonlands. Comprehensive legislation is pending in Congress and administrative decisions by the White House and the Department of Interior are ongoing.

Daughenbaugh also serves as the volunteer Chair of the Sierra Club's National Wildlands Committee and as Vice President for its Grassroots Network.

Help Wanted

SEGG ExCom (Executive Committee) would like to hold a small silent auction - maybe 20-25 items - at the Holiday Potluck in December. We hope one of you will think that organizing such an event would be fun, and a great way to raise some dollars for SEGG. If you would be interested, **please contact melissa.warner3@sbcglobal.net or phone 262-639-0918.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

October 2nd, Thursday 6:30 pm: ExCom meeting at UW-Parkside, Tallent Hall, vending room. Meetings are open. If you have items for the agenda, contact melissa.warner3@sbcglobal.net or any ExCom member (see p. 7)

October 10-12th, Autumn Assembly, Phantom Lake YMCA camp See <http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/Events/aa.asp> for more information and registration form.

October 16th, Thursday 6:30 pm: General Meeting and Program *A Wilderness Icon: Utah's Red Rock Canyonlands*, at Room 120, Biosciences Building, Gateway Technical College, Kenosha campus, 3520 30th Ave. For more information, see p. 1.

October 21st, Tuesday: Public Lecture by Stanley A. Temple at the Golden Rondelle: *The Passenger Pigeon's Extinction: Lessons from the Past for a Sustainable Future*. Reservations required. For more information, see p.4.

October 25th, Saturday 9:00 am: Work day at Bristol Woods (Kenosha) and Colonial Park (Racine). Dress for the weather with sturdy shoes and long pants, bring your own drinking water, and be prepared to pull garlic mustard and/or cut woody invasives. Contact Barry Thomas, bthomas6@wi.rr.com, (Bristol Woods) or Melissa Warner, melissa.warner3@sbcglobal.net, (Colonial Park) for more information.

October 25th, Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Woodlot Restoration Workshop at Pringle Nature Center/Bristol Woods. Participate in hands on activities with experts to learn how to manage and restore woodlots. Registration is required as space is limited! Contact the Pringle Nature Center at naturalist@pringlenc.org or 262-857-8008.

NOVEMBER

November 8th, Saturday 10:am - 12:00 pm. Pringle 5K Prairie and Woods Trail Run/Hike. Lace up your running shoes for a 5K run/hike through Bristol Woods to help raise money for Pringle Nature Center's environmental education programs. Register online or at the Nature Center (same day registration starts at 8:00 a.m.) Unique awards to the top three participants in each age group. Medals to first place overall male and female. *Entry fees for 5K Run/Hike: On or Before November 1st: \$15/ Race Day: \$18*

November 13th, Thursday 6:30 pm: ExCom meeting at UW-Parkside, Tallent Hall, vending room. Meetings are open. If you have items for the agenda, contact melissa.warner3@sbcglobal.net or any ExCom member (see p. 7)

November 20th, Thursday 6:30 pm: General Meeting and Program *Global Sustainability - Comparing Thailand and the U.S.* presented by Kate Gillogy at Room 120, Biosciences Building, Gateway Technical College, Kenosha campus, 3520 30th Ave. For more information, see p. 3.

November 22nd, Saturday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm Final invasive species workday of the season at Bristol Woods. Come help us as we continue to combat of European Buckthorn, Multi-Flora Rose, and many more invasive plants. Dress for the weather with sturdy shoes and long pants, bring your own drinking water and work gloves,. Tools will be provided. Contact Barry Thomas, bthomas6@wi.rr.com, for more information.

Save the Date:

December 18th, Thursday: Annual Holiday Potluck at the Bradford UU Church, Kenosha.

YES! I want to be a member of the Sierra Club and help preserve the beauty of the Earth.

FREE GIFT WITH MEMBERSHIP
(new members only)

NEW MEMBER NAME(S) _____

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (optional) _____

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From time to time, we make our mailing list available to other worthy organizations. If you prefer your name not be included, please check here.

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Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
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Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to SIERRA magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletter.

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FROM THE CHAIR



We've had a wonderful summer here at #4444...not too hot, not too dry, not too muggy. Maybe we "earned" it after last winter, although I know the universe doesn't work that way. "Our" bluebirds pulled off two successful broods (the second clutch disappeared; we wonder if a snake had scrambled eggs for dinner.) We coordinated more than 40 bat-monitoring walks in and around Racine and Kenosha, and we had fun raising monarch caterpillar larvae and

releasing adults. All three of these critters have life cycles that depend on a timed sequence of events. The milkweed needs to be growing when the monarchs arrive so the moms can lay their eggs on the tender milkweed leaves. The insects need to reach peak population for parent birds to feed their babies, and for bats to feed and raise their young. When these cycles are out of synch, disaster can ensue. And we will surely notice if the insects reach peak populations before the birds and bats are here to eat them.

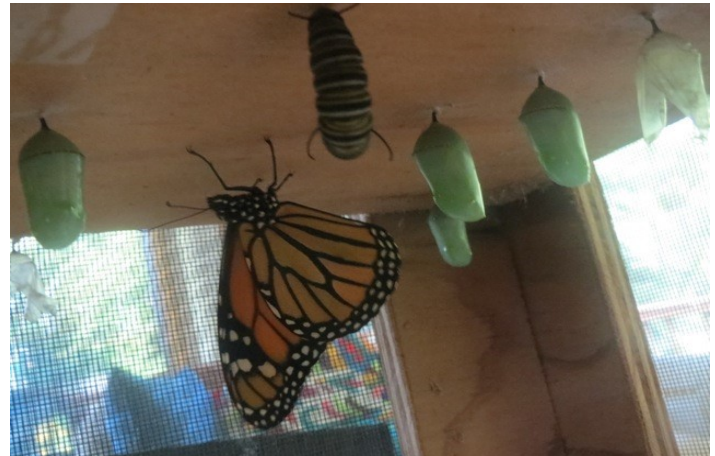
There is so much evidence of climate going awry, from glaciers melting and ice shelves breaking off to fiercer and more frequent storms of all types. The permafrost is melting and releasing methane into the atmosphere.¹ Rising sea levels are submerging parts of Norfolk, VA.² In this issue, Ross describes the impact of warmer winters on the western pines; winter no longer kills off the beetles, and the pines are dying. And still the US is beset by the lack of will to act.

I find it easy to be discouraged, and say we are screwed. Nevertheless I read Al Gore's article in Rolling Stone³, and he is unfailingly optimistic about the actions we can take, and says the worst of the disaster can be averted. As I write this, The People's Climate March is being organized; perhaps that will push our decision makers into action. But I hope that we will act...possibly even act boldly...and that the worst scenarios will be avoided.

As members of a grassroots organization, we must each act so that the collective voice is heard. One blade of grass is insignificant, but the great prairies - with many deep-rooted grasses - conserve the soil and protect the organisms that live there. Likewise we SEGGers need to take the individual actions that together will protect our planetary ecosystem. Write, phone, or email

legislators, newspapers, the president or the UN and encourage them to enact significant legislation to create a low carbon future. I think we all want to continue to enjoy the monarchs, the bluebirds and the bats.

- ¹ <http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2014/08/05/scientists-may-have-cracked-the-giant-siberian-crater-mystery-and-the-news-isnt-good/>
- ² <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/12/17/sea-level-rise-swamps-norfolk-us-coasts/3893825/>
- ³ <http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/the-turning-point-new-hope-for-the-climate-20140618>



Monarch rearing station. Photo by Melissa Warner.

Join us in November for *Global Sustainability - Comparing Thailand and the US*

Professor Kate Gilgoly will present *Global Sustainability - Comparing Thailand and the U.S.* at our general meeting on November 20th at Room 120, Biosciences Building, Gateway Technical College, Kenosha campus, 3520 30th Ave.

Kate will examine the various ways that the concept of 'sustainability' is defined, contested, and carried out in everyday practices. She will discuss analyses based on her research on farmers markets in southeast Wisconsin, watershed rehabilitation in southeast Asia and southeast Wisconsin, and neighborhood level environmental activism in Chicago. Kate will endeavor to answer the question, "How can we operationalize 'sustainability' when the idea is so diverse and diffuse?"

Kate Gilgoly is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside and the Director of the Center for International Studies. She has worked in the South Pacific, Southeast Asia, southeast Chicago, and southeast Wisconsin.

Climate Tipping Points and Climate Movement Tipping Points

By Ross Astoria

My family and I recently returned from a wonderful expedition in the Great Yellowstone Ecosystem. My elder daughter and I took an overnight float trip down the Snake River. We got to see bubbling mud in Yellowstone Park, swim (soak really) in the Boiling River, and watch moose and elk graze outside the cabin. We bumbled through the “Powell muck” up Dark Canyon where we swam in the 100 degree heat in waterfall-fed pools. We stayed up late to regard the course of the stars crossing the heavens and, as we pleased, woke early to hike the cool morning light.

Signs of global warming, however, cast their melancholy everywhere. As much as I share Edward Abbey’s distaste for Lake Powell, it was alarming to see the drop in reservoir levels. I last ran the Colorado River through Cataract Canyon in 1997. Sixteen years later, the lake levels had dropped steeply, so that upon reaching the top of the reservoir, we were floating 20 to 30 feet below the layer of sediment which had been deposited over the course of the reservoir’s (short, in geological time) life. The river guide, who had been running the Colorado for the entirety of his adult life, opined that, because of reduced flows and sediment build up, Glen Canyon Dam would be decommissioned in our lifetimes. The glint of joy associated with the prospect for floating the Glen Canyon was tinted with the knowledge that this prospect was made possible by the alterations in the hydrological cycle brought about by global warming.

During several weeks in the Yellowstone ecosystem, I did not see a single stand of pine trees that had not been ravaged by the Mountain Pine Beetle. Everywhere one observed dead stands of pines, their needles brown or fallen to the ground. The dying trees oozed sap as they tried futilely to expel the beetle from beneath the bark. In some place the Forest Service had placed packets of pheromones to repel the male beetles. These applications were few and far between, placed only in those areas where the shade of the pines was required to preserve the recreational value of the location, such as in camp grounds. These small patches of shade enhanced the impression that my generation will be the last one to walk in the West amongst great stands of shady pines.

The cumulative effect of these individual observations was to underscore the deep misalignment between present institutions and institutions that would enable humanity to mitigate greenhouse emissions and prepare for unavoidable impacts. Global warming is bringing about a climate entirely different from anything ever experienced by any species now living on Earth and at

a rate hardly ever recorded in the climate record. Global warming, unmitigated, means that everything needs to find a new home and most won’t be able to move fast enough.

There’s one thing moving even faster than global warming: while it superficially appears to be a “mass” movement, the climate campaign is a decentralized, compassionate, and smart web of networked volunteers. Outweighed by oil money, we are giving our time, our talent, our good-humor, and creativity to labor for a healthy, stable climate. We are relentless. It does not always appear to be so, but we are winning. Senator Whitehouse has likened the policy environment on greenhouse gas mitigation to a casserole dish filled with an inch of water. It doesn’t take much water splashing in one direction or the other to cause a serious disturbance. We’re winning, but we still need more of us. More time. More talent. More creativity. More humor. We need more you. If you’re interested, be in touch. Who knows, your coming on aboard might be just the thing needed to tip that casserole.

THE PASSENGER PIGEON’S EXTINCTION: LESSONS FROM THE PAST FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE (Public Lecture)

Stanley A. Temple
Tuesday October 21st,

At the SCJohnson Golden Rondelle Theatre

In 1914, the last surviving Passenger Pigeon died in a Cincinnati zoo, ending a calamitous half-century in which the pigeon declined from billions to one and then to none as a result of uncontrolled market hunting and the resulting disruption of nesting colonies. On the occasion of the 2014 centennial of this tragedy Professor Stanley A. Temple recounts the sobering story of the Passenger Pigeon and what it can tell us about the ongoing extinction crisis and our relationship with other species.

Professor Temple is the Beers-Bascom Professor Emeritus in Conservation at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Senior Fellow with the Aldo Leopold Foundation. A past President of the Society for Conservation Biology and former Chairman of the Board of The Nature Conservancy in Wisconsin, he has received numerous major awards and was recently inducted as a Fellow of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters.

Free reservations for this program may be made by calling 262-260-2154.

Green Award

The Green Award is presented each year at our annual picnic in June. Its purpose is to recognize a student or group of students who have made a significant contribution to environmental awareness.

This year the award went to Teahelahn Keithrafferty. Teahelahn has been a member of Walden's Green School since she was in eighth grade and participated in a citywide rally for 350, an international organization working on climate change. As a junior she attended the Conserve School, which focuses on environmental education, for a semester.

Teahelahn is currently one of five young people on the Racine Civilian Conservation Corps who are working on a number of local environmental issues and trainings. She has also organized two rallies related to climate change in the past year. The first, in December of 2013, was to observe the destruction in the Philippines caused by Hurricane Haiyan and to make the connection between extreme weather events and climate change. The second more recent rally, organized in conjunction with the Sierra Club, was to protest the KXL pipeline.

Teahelahn has been an active member of the Racine/Kenosha Citizen's Climate Lobby since it started in



Teahelahn Keithrafferty

January 2013. She attended the Citizen's Climate Lobby Conference and day of lobbying to promote a revenue neutral carbon tax in Washington D.C. in June. Currently she is enrolled in Kenyon College in Ohio where she plans to study environmental issues. The money from the award was used to help a student from Walden III High attend the September 350.org climate rally in New York.

CRANBERRY TIME

The Southeast Gateway Group is again offering fresh cranberries direct from a family-owned Wisconsin farm. They are packed the day they are picked up from the farm. These are the plump variety that are rarely found in grocery stores and come in a full one-pound bag. Use them fresh for the upcoming holidays or keep them in the freezer for up to 12 months. Check the website for interesting recipes.

Each one-pound bag costs \$3.75. Buying cranberries yourself, or gathering orders from friends and neighbors, is the very best way to support SEGG financially. If you will order 10 pounds or more, I will see that they are personally delivered to you anywhere in the SEGG area!

Your support enables us to publish our newsletter, tag monarch butterflies and battle invasives in both Racine and Kenosha.

Deadline for ordering is October 30th.

Delivery and pick up will begin on November 1st.

Contact Jeff Sytsma at (262)637-6845 or Jeff12759@aol.com to place your orders.

Betsy Georg and Tom Rutkowski— Candidates for SEGG ExCom

Betsy: When I first decided that I wanted to run for County Board and started attending meetings as an observer, I realized that the Board dealt with many environmental issues and that my knowledge of those issues was inadequate. I joined the Sierra Club and, when elected to the County Board, served on the Planning and Development Committee for several years. Sierra Club members were always willing to answer my questions about environmental issues that came before the Board.



More recently, I have served on the Kenosha Racine Land Trust board and have been the SEGG Political Chair.

Tom: I taught English in Racine high schools for thirty years, most recently at Walden III. At Walden, I worked with students and teachers to enhance the sustainability of the campus and raise awareness of climate change. I am also an active member of the local Citizen's Climate Lobby. I have camped and hiked in many parts of the world and favor Southern Utah and the Porcupine Mountains of the Upper Peninsula.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU ...

(an irregular feature column of this newsletter)

John (or Jack) and Lila Berge moved to Racine from Delaware in 1963 with three small children and joined the Sierra Club in 1981. They became charter members of the Southeast Gateway Group (called the Racine - Kenosha Group back then) the following year. Both had been active in scouting while growing up in Wisconsin. They met through the Hoofers canoeing group in the one semester that they overlapped at the University of Wisconsin. John, as a graduate student, was the “chaperone” of a Memorial Weekend canoe trip down the Kickapoo River and so was able to pick his canoe partner, Lila. (A recently uncovered photo of Lila in a swimsuit may explain the choice.) They still paddle together after 58 years of marriage.

So, of course, as membership in the Sierra Club offered both outings and environmental activism, they were soon making new friends in the group and becoming active. Lila was the first editor of the Group newsletter back when she ran it off on a mimeograph machine at church. She convinced John to become Treasurer to straighten out the Group’s checkbook and financial records. Lila served on the Executive Committee from 1984 - 1987, 1989 - 1991, 1983 and 2000-2001. She was Group Chair in 1987 and 2000. She also served as Program Chair for a while and hosted the Environmental Committee for years ... “If you feed them they will come.”

John has served on the Group Executive Committee from 1991 - 1996 and 2001 - 2008. He was Group Chair from 1993 through 1996. He was John Muir Chapter Chair from 1997 - 1999, after three years as Vice-Chair. He was Environmental Committee Chair for a number of years after the Group and Chapter Chair terms. Both Lila and John work to get this newsletter from the printer through the mail and to your mailbox, proof-reading and working with several editors over the years. “With all the work various people put into this newsletter, the only contact the Group has with much of its membership, we hope you read it well, use the information it contains to contact your legislators and other government leaders, and keep its calendar where you can check it during the time between issues.” The newsletter comes out six times a year, USUALLY around the first of every even numbered month.

John and Lila have been regular participants in Group outings, work projects such as Highway Cleanups and removal of alien, invasive plant species in Colonial Park, and chapter events. “The Sierra Club has become a very important part of our life and a continuous source of deep friendships,” Lila says. “Why don’t you become active, too? The first step is to show up.”

John and Lila enjoy travel. Here they are on the dinner train in Quebec.



Welcome New Members!

Burlington	Christine Mitchell, Gary Bronson, Gerald Johnson
Delavan	Maureen Kelly
East Troy	Jean Barnes
Elkhorn	Scott Schumaker, Mark Hewson, Dennis Bullock
Franksville	Karen Ross
Kansasville	Eli Hanel
Kenosha	Mary Allemand
Lake Geneva	Rudolph Sundberg
Mount Pleasant	Gerald Boutell, Laurissa Mertins, John Lee, Lynn Doe, Antoinette Schmidt, Patti Jones, Virginia Carlson, Richard Gizelbach
Pleasant Prairie	Steven Gold, June Salb
Racine	Archie Gandy, Elizabeth Kiel, Amy Jo Cagney, Betty Jensen
Union Grove	Lyle Fox
Walworth	D. Featherstone
Waterford	Barbara Vail

VOTE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT ON NOVEMBER 4TH

By Betsy Georg

The results of this year's fall elections on November 4 will determine Wisconsin's policy on many environmental issues. Among them are pollution from factory farms, the expansion of solar energy, the expansion of wind energy and other types of clean power, the future of mass transit, and the regulation (or prohibition) of fracking. For this reason it is very important that you vote for candidates who care about the environment in the upcoming election.

The candidates endorsed by the John Muir Chapter can be found online at <http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/political/Endorsements.asp>.

Please seriously consider voting for these candidates on November 4.

**WISCONSIN JOHN MUIR CHAPTER
SOUTHEAST GATEWAY GROUP
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BALLOT.**

Bring to the November 20th meeting OR mail by November 18th to Nancy Hennessy, 5216 Wind Point Rd., Racine, WI 53402

Vote for up to 4 candidates.

Second Box is for joint members only.

Deadline for voting is November 21, 2014.

Those receiving their newsletter and ballot electronically are asked to print the ballot and to validate their vote by writing their membership number below. Look for your membership number on your membership card or on the Sierra magazine label. Ballots without a valid number will not be counted. Those receiving a paper newsletter need only cut out the ballot, mark your choices and bring it to a meeting or mail it to Nancy Hennessy, 5216 Wind Point Rd., Racine, WI 53402. You may black out your name and address to yield a 'secret ballot'.

Membership Number _____

- Tom Rutkowski
- Betsy Georg
- Write-In _____
- Write-In _____



Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet

SEGG Leadership

SEGG Executive Committee

- Melissa Warner (Chair).....melissa.warner3@sbcglobal.net
- Kari Olesen (Vice Chair)262- 995-4455
- Wendi Schneier (Secretary)wendianne@yahoo.com
- LD (Red) Rockwell..... ld.jarockwell@elknet.net
- Tom Rutkowski..... natom@wi.rr.com
- Judy Rockwell..... jjrockwell@gmail.com

Other Group Leaders

- Jeff Sytsma (Treasurer)..... jeff12759@aol.com
- Betsy Georg (Political Liaison)..... bgeorg@hotmail.com
- Dana Huck (Hospitality) dhuck1105@wi.rr.com
- Mary Ann Ortmyer (Book Group) maortmayer@gmail.com
- Rebecca Eisel (Webmaster) SeggWebAdmin@gmail.com

The newsletter of the Southeast Gateway Group of the Sierra Club is published six times each year by the Group newsletter staff. Please send articles, photographs of group activities, letters, calendar items and/or corrections and comments to Dana Huck at:

dhuck1105@wi.rr.com

Check out the newsletter in color, calendar updates and much more at <http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/segg/>. Visit our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/sierraclubsoutheastgatewaygroup>.

DEADLINE FOR

DECEMBER 2014/JANUARY 2015 ISSUE IS

NOVEMBER 1, 2014

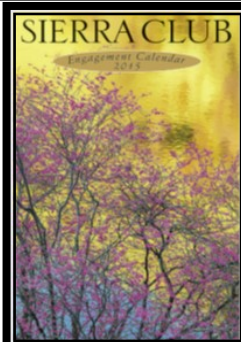
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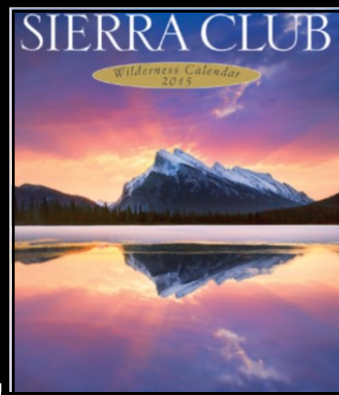
<http://www.wisconsin.sierraclub.org/segg/>

<https://www.Facebook.com/SierraClubSoutheastGatewayGroup>



Engagement, \$13

2015 Sierra Club Calendars will be available starting at the October general meeting. To place your order please contact John Berge at jberge35@wi.rr.com or Kari Olesen at 262-995-4455.



Wilderness Calendars, \$12

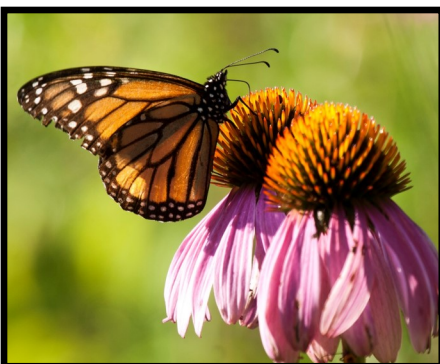


Photo by Jay Warner



Photo by Jay Warner



Stan Temple, Beers-Bascom Professor Emeritus in Conservation at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in