



# Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association, Inc.

## *44th Year Annual Report* September 23, 2023

### *2022-2023 Year in Review*

🍁 Thank you to WWOA's Board of Directors - President Tom Kempen, Vice President Don Hoffman, Secretary Ken Kempfert, Treasurer Arlene Roehl, Past President Randy Cooper, and Directors Dick Czaja, Kirk Dahl, Keith Dobberstein, Ralph Heiser, Ross Prior and Jack Rasmussen for their leadership.

🍁 Thank you to WWOA's Chapter Chairs and Chapter Board members for your efforts this year. Chapter Chairs were Bad Axe, Michael Roy; Black Hawk, Ken Kempfert and Lyndon Russell; Central Sands, Jim Wagener and Buzz Vahrdian; Chippewa Valley, Karen Callaway; NEWFO, Chuck Wagner; North Central, Dave Burbach; Northwest, Bobbi Freitag; Phoenix Falls, Ross Prior; West Central, Jack Rasmussen; Winnebagoland, Nancy Wirtz; and Wolf River, Anthony Rynish. More than 1,100 WWOA members belong to a WWOA chapter.

🍁 WWOA is very grateful to our special donors who annually step forward to cover WWOA's AmeriCorps member position. Our AmeriCorps member for 2023 was Häven Epstein. She worked with WWOA's Woodland Mentor Program and authored our very popular Learn Something New emails delivered to members' inboxes each Monday morning. Häven helped create and implement the Wisconsin Women's Woodland Gathering weekend at the Lion's Camp in May for more than 80 women from around Wisconsin.

🍁 The Board of Directors rescinded WWOA's May 1, 2021 guidance for in person activities under COVID-19 effective May 11, 2023, in conjunction with the President's lifting of the public health and national emergency. WWOA in person activities will follow any local COVID restrictions and WWOA encourages all participants to be healthy when attending events.

🍁 In FY 2022-23, the Board of Directors voted to direct WWOA's funds with Edward Jones be moved to Vanguard funds with the Finance Committee and Board of Directors managing the funds. The purpose of this transition is to do as well or better in terms of returns and to save WWOA money that is being spent on an advisor. The Board is currently working on amending WWOA's Financial Reserves Management policy to accomplish this. In addition, WWOA's Scholarship funds will also be moved from long-term savings accounts to Vanguard funds.

🍁 WWOA's 2023-24 UW-Stevens Point Forestry Leader Scholarship of \$5,000 was awarded to Noah Frei of Sun Prairie.

🍁 WWOA's Membership Committee in partnership with the Publications and Chapters Committee sent out more than 1,000 magazines to nonmembers within the Black Hawk, Chippewa Valley, Phoenix Falls and West Central chapters area.

🍁 The Board approved the dissolution of the Black River Chapter with Clark County reverting back to Chippewa Valley Chapter and Taylor County to North Central Chapter. It was difficult to maintain a chapter covering only two counties with a lot of public land.

🍁 WWOA was featured on Wisconsin Public Radio's The Larry Meiller Show on June 28. Thanks to Board member, Kirk Dahl and member and forester Chris Widstrand for spreading the word about WWOA and answering caller questions about forestry.

🍁 WWOA's long-time magazine printer closed in November 2022, however we were very grateful to find Inkworks in Stoughton. They have done a wonderful job with our magazine!

# 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

OSHKOSH CONVENTION CENTER, OSHKOSH  
September 14, 2022

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** President Tom Kempen called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.
2. **WWOA PURPOSE AND INTRODUCTIONS:** President Kempen read the new WWOA Mission Statement and introduced the current and new WWOA Board of Directors members.
3. **AGENDA REVISIONS AND ADOPTION: M/S/P** Motion to adopt agenda as presented.
4. **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2021 ANNUAL MEETING: M/S/P** Motion to accept the minutes of the September 18, 2021 meeting.
5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President Kempen gave an overview of the 2021-22 Board of Directors meetings and activities. Regular meetings were on September 16, 2021 in Hudson, where the board approved the Finance Committee to conduct further investigation into creating a WWOA self-controlled endowment, December 2, 2021 in Hancock where the Board voted to use the Rachel Jordan memorial fund received to purchase a new laptop computer. The Board also discussed and approved the Edward Jones investment plan.

The Board of Directors met via Zoom on January 12, 2022 to discuss the WI DNR Forest Tax Law Handbook revisions. The Board met on January 26, 2022 via Zoom to discuss potential grant proposals. Proposed grant ideas were reviewed and prioritized. Grant applications will be prepared and presented to the Board prior to submission. WWOA's Membership Committee released 2 Facebook advertisements promoting WWOA and the North Central Woodland Owners Conference. The Board held a special meeting via Zoom on February 17, 2022 to learn more about the WDNR's Division of Forestry Strategic Direction draft document. WDNR's Jim Warren and R.J. Wickham provided insight into the 5-year Division of Forestry's Strategic Direction.

The WWOA Board of Directors held their 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter regular meeting on March 3, 2022 in Stevens Point. Lee Lehrer presented WWOA with a check for \$875 from funds donated in his wife's memory. The Board met via Zoom on March 25, 2022 to review WDNR's Division of Forestry's proposed Private Forestry Handbook Chapter 1 revisions. After discussion on the proposed revisions, the Board reviewed a draft response authored by Don Hoffman which was amended and sent to WDNR Division of Forestry.

The WWOA Board of Directors held a special meeting with WDNR's Division of Forestry Leaders on May 12, 2022. WDNR leaders presented information on the Division of Forestry's 5-year (2023-2027) Strategic Direction ([dnr.wisconsin.gov](http://dnr.wisconsin.gov), search "forestry strategic direction"). Forestry leaders noted the following external WDNR priorities – climate change, Trillion Trees initiative, carbon markets, and internal priorities included diversity, equity, and inclusion considerations.

The WWOA Board of Directors held their fourth regular quarter meeting on June 2, 2022, at the Portage County Public Library in Stevens Point. The Board amended and approved the FY 2022-23 budget proposed by the Finance Committee. A new budget initiative provides funding for WWOA to mail a copy of the current *Wisconsin Woodlands* magazine to approximately 300 nonmembers per issue for this fiscal year.

WWOA has three positions open (positions were still open at the 2022 Annual Meeting). WWOA's part-time Office Assistant works in the Stevens Point office, and it is a flexible, 24 hours/week position. WWOA's independent contractor position, Advertising Sales Manager, seeks new advertisers and maintains current advertisers for *Wisconsin Woodlands* magazine. WWOA's AmeriCorps position starts in September and is a full-time position for one year through a partnership with Marshfield Clinic Health Systems.

## 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Arlene Roehl presented the Treasurer's Report for FY 2021-22 budget and actuals through June 30, 2022. She noted that the report was printed in the Annual Report in the registration packet. Roehl touched on several year-over-year trends. In summary, for FY 2021-2022, total income was \$198,479.93, total expense was \$193,392.99 and net income was -\$41,981.24. Total Liabilities and Equity was \$493,904.15.

**M/S/P-Warren Pickar/Ralph Heiser:** Motion to receive the Treasurer's report and place it on file for audit.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- A. **MEMBERSHIP:** Keith Dobberstein, Chair, recognized committee members Dick Czaja, Ken Kempfert, Jack Kucksdorf, and Nancy Bozek. The Committee has met twice this year via Zoom on March 15<sup>th</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup>. This past year, we created several Facebook advertisements and placed an ad in the Midwest Renewable Energy Fair's booklet to promote WWOA membership. A proposal to continue creating Facebook advertisements during the 2022 – 2023 fiscal year has been approved by the Board.
- B. **FUNDRAISING:** Mark Erickson, Chair, thanked Committee members Nancy Bozek, Roxanne Erickson, Jim Kingsbury, and Arlene Roehl. In 2021, members were once again able to get together for the Annual Meeting and attend the Annual Fundraiser, happy to be able to socialize, learn and have a great time. Members donated unbelievable items to the Silent Auction, and thanks to the WWOA Chapters for their wonderful basket donations. The Annual Fundraiser surpassed our expectations, raising more than the previous year. WWOA members did not disappoint the Fundraising Committee and thanks to the generosity of everyone, WWOA raised a net profit of \$22,651.79 in 2021.

These funds help WWOA continue its important mission and this organization is successful because of its members. A big thank you to everyone who bought fundraiser tickets, donated items, or cash, and helped to make last year's 2021 Fundraiser not only fun but also a huge success.

The committee has again worked hard to provide a variety of prizes for the upcoming 2022 Annual Fundraiser, so there is sure to be something to please everyone. We could not accomplish these fundraisers without the wonderful sponsors, contributors, and members, for their continuous support. If you are interested in donating or volunteering to be a part of this fun committee, please contact Mark Erickson at markerickson4035@gmail.com.

- C. **WOODLAND MENTOR PROGRAM:** Don Hoffman encouraged members to learn more about this newer WWOA program where experienced WWOA members mentor new or novice WWOA members known as "Aspens". The program is a self-paced online program that runs during the winter months from November to May of each year. It covers 10 important topics that every woodland owner should be familiar with while encouraging discussions between the Mentor and Aspen about these topics.
- D. **NOMINATING:** Arlene Roehl thanked the Nominating Committee members Randy Cooper, Roxanne Erickson, and Steven Ring for their work. At the end of the 2022 Annual Meeting, Board Members Mark Erickson, Don Hoffman, Tom Jacobs, and Tom Kempen's terms will expire. The following members agreed to be candidates for the four open positions on the WWOA Board of Directors: Don Hoffman and Tom Kempen (both running for a second term), Klaren Alexander of Glidden, Ross Prior of Coleman, and Jack Rasmussen of Baldwin.

We thank them for their willingness to offer leadership skills, time, and energy toward furthering WWOA's mission. Serving on WWOA's Board of Directors provides an opportunity to give something back to the forestry community. We encourage WWOA members to consider running for the Board of Directors, local chapter boards, or serve on WWOA's committees. If you know of a potential leader within our midst, please encourage them to consider running for a leadership position. Our volunteers often say they learn more about WWOA and things happening in the forestry community by sharing their time and talents with WWOA.

## 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

Roehl then announced the FY 2022-23 Board positions.

**2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Randy Cooper, Dick Czaja, Kirk Dahl, Keith Dobberstein, Ralph Heiser, Don Hoffman, Tom Kempen, Ken Kempfert, Ross Prior (newly elected), Jack Rasmussen (newly elected), Arlene Roehl

**2022-2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Tom Kempen, President; Don Hoffman, Vice President; Ken Kempfert, Secretary; Arlene Roehl, Treasurer

**8. ELECTION OF 2021-2022 NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** The President nominated Arlene Roehl and Randy Cooper as Nominating Committee Members. The remaining two committee members are nominated from the meeting floor.

**M/S/P-Arlene Roehl/Ross Prior:** Motion to close nominations. By voice vote, Roxanne Erickson of Medford and Steven Ring of Shiocton were elected.

**9. MEMORIAL FUND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** President Kempen stated that all WWOA members are special to us and held a moment of silence for WWOA members we lost this past year. Families establishing WWOA memorial funds were presented with plaques in honor of their loved ones. Lee Lehrer accepted a plaque on behalf of his wife, Janet (2021) and Mary Ellen Shea accepted a plaque on behalf of her mother, Lilli Shea (2020). Other plaques sent to family members were for Robert Engelhard (2021), Christy Hauge (2022), Rachel Jordan (2021), Willard Kiefer Jr. (2022), James Kissinger (2021), Harold Manhart (2021) and Albert Steele (2022).

**10. OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**11. NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**13. NEXT MEETING:** The location of next year's meeting is still being determined but will be announced soon.

**14. ADJOURN: M/S/P-Ross Prior/Chuck Wagner:** Motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ken Kempfert, Secretary



## 2022 – 23 Treasurer's Report

### Profit & Loss Statement

	July 2022 - June 2023	July 2021 – June 2022
<b>Income</b>		
ADVERTISING	15,775.00	13,909.25
AMI-ANNUAL MEETING INCOME	32,154.00	30,255.61
DONATIONS	26,109.73	28,238.29
FUNDRAISING INCOME	49,551.50	54,069.99
GRANTS INCOME	3,497.00	3,202.14
GSI-GIFT SHOP INCOME	4,469.00	2,946.65
ML-LIFE MEMBER	2,800.00	2,100.00
MN-NEW MEMBER	6,385.00	4,965.00
MR-RENEWAL MEMBER	49,080.00	51,245.00
OTHER INCOME ACCOUNTS	3,000.00	4,008.00
STANDING COMMITTEES	2,978.00	2,770.00
WORKSHOPS INCOME	3,404.77	770.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>199,204.00</b>	<b>198,479.93</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>199,204.00</b>	<b>198,479.93</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
AME-ANNUAL MEETING EXPENSE	29,372.47	23,797.58
BOARD EXPENSES	112.00	428.72
CHAPTERS EXPENSE	16.70	0.00
CONTRIBUTIONS-EXPENSE	10,000.00	5,000.00
EX. DIRECTOR EXPENSES	1,976.09	1,963.36
FUNDRAISING EXPENSE	5,361.35	4,464.49
GIFT SHOP-EXPENSE	3,987.63	1,450.06
MEMBERSHIP	380.00	630.00
OFFICE EXPENSES	9,235.30	9,266.98
OTHER EXPENSE ACCOUNTS	14,112.96	10,208.92
PAYROLL EXPENSES	128,589.97	110,008.92
PUBLICATIONS	10,183.80	23,234.70
STANDING COMMITTEES-EXPENSE	647.06	892.04
TAXES	-1320.00	-931.00
WORKSHOPS EXPENSE	3,955.45	2,978.22
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>216,610.78</b>	<b>193,392.99</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-17,406.78</b>	<b>5,086.94</b>
<b>TRANSFERS &amp; REINVESTMENTS</b>	<b>25,097.17</b>	<b>-47,068.18</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>25,097.17</b>	<b>-47,068.18</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>7,690.39</b>	<b>-41,981.24</b>

### Balance Sheet Statement

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets	500,643.98	492,676.59
Fixed Assets		
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	-8,443.00	-8,166.00
EQUIPMENT	9,393.56	9,393.56
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>950.56</b>	<b>1,227.56</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>501,594.54</b>	<b>493,904.15</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
Current Liabilities	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
MARKET APPREC/DEPREC INVESTMENT	68,628.88	56,332.97
RESTRICT NET ASSETS-SCHOLARSHIP	142,683.13	144,908.75
RESTRICT NET ASSETS-TEMP OTHERS	83,392.86	80,059.47
RESTRICTED NET ASSETS - LM FUND	90,825.79	89,005.79
RETAINED EARNINGS	108,373.49	165,578.41
Net Income	7,690.39	-41,981.24
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>501,594.54</b>	<b>493,904.15</b>

## 2022-23 Donors

*Your donations assisted us in outreach to nonmembers, expanded our educational programming, and helped us to provide technical and educational support to WWOA members.*

### WWOA Donations

#### **Acorn Donors ~ \$1 - \$10**

Rick Block, Wittenberg  
Larry Coleman, Wisconsin Rapids  
Keith Ginner, Monroe  
John & Rita Hoffmann, Viola  
Greg & Shirley Kopitske, Normal, IL  
Herbert Lundberg, Stillwater, MN  
Hugo Martin, Sarona  
Terry Moulton, Lake Hallie  
Al Neuenfeldt, New London

#### **Root Donors ~ \$11 - \$24**

George Amelse, Irma  
Craig Jungwirth, Appleton  
Edward & Jane Kyle, Colgate  
Michael Minder, Browntown  
Alfred Schrank, Glenwood City  
John Spaay, Waukesha

#### **Branch Donors ~ \$25 - \$49**

Charles & Carol Adleman, Luck  
James Albrecht, Athens  
Michael Barikmo, Cedarburg  
Rodney Bartlow, Slinger  
David Bertolino, Montreal  
Bill Briska, Elgin, IL  
Bill & Debbie Carothers, Barronett  
Ev & Glenn Charlson, Mountain  
Dale Daczyk, Iola  
Arthur Elsesser, Sussex  
Erman Gagnon, Two Rivers  
Mike Goc, Friendship  
Jim & Laura Good, Madison  
Rob & Joy Gottschalk, Madison  
Anthony Grabski & Sara Harstad, Blue Mounds  
Richard & Deborah Hall-Reppen, Geneva, IL  
Jerry Hamm, Neillsville  
Ralph Heiser, Baraboo  
Richard Horn, Brooklyn  
Frank Iwen, Madison  
Leo Janus, Fitchburg  
Lee Johnston, Oconto Falls  
John Jostad, Greenwood  
Chris & Lee Knuteson, Monroe  
Bradley Koschak, Spring Grove, IL  
David Koschak, Gurnee, IL  
David Kratzke, Plover  
Elizabeth Laack, Rubicon  
Mark & Janet Lesko, Burlington  
Lee Luczyk, Hales Corners  
Charles Ludwig, Big Bend  
James Maier, Birnamwood  
Brad Miller, Madison  
William Mueller, Sussex  
Harlow Osteboe, Wilton

Dale Parker, La Farge  
Chester Przybylo, Lincolnwood, IL  
William Rauwerdink, Oostburg  
Randy & Ann Reed, Seymour  
James, Joe & Chuck Richards, Kronenwetter  
Larry Schiedermaier, Appleton  
Rick & Janet Schulz, Waukesha  
Paul Schumacher, Lakewood  
Geary & Kay Searfoss, Ojibwa  
John Smith, Glen Haven  
Joseph Solawetz, Monroe  
Jon Steinhaus, Briggsville  
Don Strumberger, Dubuque, IA  
Richard Stumpner, Bloomington, IN  
Rick Toney, Waupaca  
Darlene Van Hecker, Janesville  
Alan Van Straten, Shiocton  
David Wagner, Crivitz  
Thomas Weizenicker, Tomahawk

#### **Trunk Donors ~ \$50 - \$74**

Brian & Mary Blakeley, Boyceville  
William Briggs, Eau Claire  
Liola Carey, Elgin, IL  
Mary Carlson, Green Bay  
Charlie Cleereman, Plainfield  
Michael DeCleene, Green Bay  
Carrie Duffield, Almond  
Bill Euclide, Adams  
Dennis & Susan Fritz, River Falls  
Robert Fuller, Stratford  
Theresa Gallagher & David Shadis, Winter  
Harold Hansen, Wild Rose  
Paul & Christina Kienitz, Merrill  
Keith Krajewski, Eleva  
Greg & Annette Krueger, Hixton  
Richard & Ann Larsen, Schwab Charitable, Appleton  
Peter Luxenhofer, Racine  
James March, La Crosse  
Richard McDermott, Chicago, IL  
John Mikrut, Lake Geneva  
Mike Mlinar, Tipler  
Michael & Kimberley Moon, Bristol  
Tracy Morland, Blanchardville  
William Murphy, Houlton  
Michael Nothom, Chanhassen, MN  
Jean Perkins, Merrill  
Richard & Kristen Plendl, Schwab Charitable, Lincolnshire, IL  
David Rabl, Portage  
Stewart & Steffan Rachwal, Weyauwega  
David Rasmussen, Eau Claire  
Ronald Rasmussen, Burlington  
Jordan & Jessica Reed, Eau Claire  
Thomas Reiss, Jr., Ixonia  
Arlene Roehl, Long Lake, MN

John & Ann Sayles, Belleville  
Dennis & Kim Schoeneck, Pelican Lake  
Jerald Schoenike, Clintonville  
Vernon & Kathryn Schroth, Stevens Point  
Susan Seresse, Fond du Lac  
Jane Severt, Merrill  
Henry Simon, Middleton  
David Stingle, Black Creek  
Jeffrey Uecker, Adell  
Gerda Weitzel, Park Ridge, IL  
Harry & Marsha Wells, Glenview, IL  
James Werner, Marathon  
Paul Wertsch, Madison  
LeRoy Wiegert, Ogdensburg  
Robert & Ellen Wing, Chippewa Falls  
Jeffrey Wittrock, Delafield  
Jerry Zaug, Sister Bay

#### **Crown Donors ~ \$75 - \$99**

Charles Ludwig, Big Bend  
John Mikrut, Lake Geneva  
William Mueller, Sussex  
Patricia Ott, Leeds, UT  
Louise Pacholik, Palmyra  
Stewart & Steffan Rachwal, Weyauwega  
Monica Robb, Brule  
Marti & Thor Sande, Marshfield  
Randy & Arlene Schacht, South St. Paul, MN  
Sandy Truebenbach, Belgium

#### **Tree Donors ~ \$100 - \$499**

Steven & Teresa Ahrenholz, Cincinnati, OH  
Daniel Amend, Madison  
Bruce Ayres, Colfax  
Jerry Backes, New Richmond  
Merlin & Georgie Becker, Manawa  
Mike Behr, Oregon  
Nancy Bozek, Stevens Point  
Allan Braun, Madison  
Daniel Breunig, La Crosse  
Tom & Margaret Culbert, Holcombe  
Dick & Mary Czaja, Pittsville  
John & Gayle DeBaun, Brookfield  
Darrel Degelau, Gays Mills  
Keith & Karla Dobberstein, Hortonville  
Mark & Roxanne Erickson, Medford  
Robert Fisher, La Crosse  
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, Inc., La Crosse  
Randall Fredricks, Wisconsin Dells  
Gordon Grieshaber, Mineral Point  
Jim & Diane Grunloh, Oshkosh  
Robert Gundlach, Arlington  
Alan Haney, Custer  
Charles Haubrich, Burlington  
Steven Hemshrot, Shell Lake

## 2022-23 Donors

Earl Hildebrandt, Mayville  
Don Hoffman, Black River Falls  
John Isselman, Newburg  
Jim Jensen, Madison  
Gerald Kann, La Crosse  
James & Susan Karpinsky, Madison  
James Kingsbury, Mountain  
Curt & Martha Knoke Designated Fund  
VII Grant, Gresham  
Ted Knorring, Wheaton, IL  
William "Biff" Kummer, Tomahawk  
Lee Laechelt / Alabama Forest Owners  
Assoc., Inc, Birmingham, AL  
Gary & Jane Larson, Wonder Lake, IL  
George Lehrer, Deerbrook  
Dale & Fay Lightfuss, Ogdensburg  
Dan Lightfuss, Appleton  
James McDermott, Leesburg, VA  
Heinz & Helen Melzl, Big Bend  
Michael Oteman, Milwaukee  
Christine Perz, Kaukauna  
Benjamin Peterson / Edward Jones,  
Aniwa  
Chuck Pogorelnik, Milwaukee  
Possum Lodge Trust, Port Washington  
Dane Rasmussen, Baldwin  
James Reiser, Neenah  
Mike & Sally Schendel, Menomonie  
Darrell Scherwinski, Plover  
Andrew & Susan Schmidt, Wausau  
Charles & Wendy Schmidt, Wild Rose  
Debra Schroeder Fisher, Appleton  
James Schwanke, Weyauwega  
Caroline Soleska, Jefferson  
Marilyn Steele, Valparaiso, IN  
John Swanson, Sturgeon Bay  
Richard & Karen Teske, Boulder  
Junction  
Steven Thaler, Chippewa Falls  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans,  
Appleton – Match on behalf of Christine  
Perz  
Sandra Tibbetts, Green Bay  
Michael Uihlein, Cedarburg  
Lois Umhoefer, Plymouth  
Richard & Kathy Wagner, Weyauwega  
Susan Wallin, Webb Lake  
Bob Wick, Wisconsin Dells  
Lyle Wuestenberg, Johnson Creek  
Lon Yeary, Cross Plains  
Jim & Marlene Zdanovec, Oshkosh  
Wayne Ziebell, Waupaca

### **Forest Donors ~ \$500+**

Richard Arnold, Eau Claire  
Kurt & Deborah Boettcher, Seymour  
Randy & Karen Cooper, New Berlin  
Barbara Gosh, Ingleside, IL  
Byron Hill, Ripon  
Tom & Mary Kempen, Greenleaf  
Dean & Kay Mehlberg, Hales Corners  
Steve & Lois Raether, Chippewa Falls  
Allan Robertson, Glendale  
Dona Schwichtenberg, Wausau  
Janette Sweasy, Bay City

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans,  
Appleton – Match on behalf of Merlin  
Becker  
Karen Wedde, Oshkosh  
David Wilson, Austin, TX

### **Life Members**

Mike Behr, Oregon  
Chris Berkers, Kaukauna  
Craig Haasl, Pittsville  
Lewis Prior, Neenah

### **AmeriCorps Member Donations**

Anonymous (1)

### **In Kind Donations**

Carl Barkow, Mosinee  
Tom Kempen, Greenleaf  
KerberRose S.C., Green Bay  
Andrew Schmidt, Wausau

### **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Robert Beaderstadt, McHenry, IL  
James Janke, Wausau  
Ronald Koenig, Sauk City  
Geneva Krahn, Arkdale  
Patricia Mathie, Wausau  
Ed Moberg, Nekoosa  
Steve Raether, Chippewa Falls  
Rhonda Richards, Shawano

### **WWOA Annual Fundraiser Donations**

Alvin Barden, Eagle River  
Nickolas Butler, Fall Creek  
Randy & Karen Cooper, New Berlin  
Kirk & Cindy Dahl, Eau Claire  
Keith & Karla Dobberstein, Hortonville  
Kenneth & Doris Eisner, Allenton  
Anthony Grabski, Blue Mounds  
Don & Jacki Hoffman, Black River Falls  
Kathleen Johnson, Neillsville  
Leroy Kazmierczak, Mosinee  
Tom Kempen, Greenleaf  
Ken Kempfert, Belleville  
Jim Kingsbury, Mountain  
Peter Kucksdorf, Marion  
Eldon Liebzeit, Waupaca  
Dean & Kay Mehlberg, Hales Corners  
Bob Menzel, Cedar Grove  
Ben Peterson / Edward Jones, Aniwa  
Arlene Roehl, Long Lake, MN  
Andrew & Susan Schmidt, Wausau  
Marilyn Steele, Valparaiso, IN  
Janette Sweasy, Bay City  
Timothy Sweeney, Green Lake  
Richard Toney, Waupaca

### **WWOA Annual Fundraiser In-Kind Donations**

Bear Butt Chainsaw Carving, Medford  
Merlin & Georgie Becker, Manawa  
Best Western Premier Waterfront  
Hotel, Oshkosh  
Bills Service Center, Stratford  
Nancy Bozek, Stevens Point  
Mark & Roxanne Erickson, Medford  
Green Bay Packers, Green Bay  
Ground Round Restaurant, Oshkosh  
Jim Kingsbury, Mountain  
Klingbeil Lumber Co., Medford  
George Lehrer, Deerbrook  
Riemer Family Farm, Brodhead  
Riesterer & Schnell, Marion  
Riesterer & Schnell, Stratford  
Arlene Roehl, Long Lake, MN  
Vortex Optics, Barneveld  
Mike & Anastasia Wampfler, Brodhead  
Karen Wedde, Oshkosh  
Bob Wick / Wick Habitat Services LLC,  
Wisconsin Dells

### **WWOA Annual Meeting Donations**

Merlin & Georgie Becker, Manawa  
WWOA Wolf River Chapter

### **WWOA Endowment Fund Donations**

Community Foundation of Central WI,  
Stevens Point  
Michael & Carolyn Hovel, Stevens  
Point  
Bonnie Jost, Manitowoc  
Lee Lehrer, Iola

### **WWOA Scholarship Fund**

#### **Forestry Tech ~ \$25-49**

Joe Adams, Antigo  
Mark Adams, Shawano

#### **Forest Ecologist~\$100-499**

Lawrence & Bonnie Paplham, Franklin  
Debra Schroeder Fisher, Appleton  
Wayne Ziebell, Waupaca

#### **Chief Forester~\$500+**

Green County Forestry Educational  
Center, Monroe  
WWOA Wolf River Chapter


### **WWOA Memorial Funds**


#### **Dave Jackson**

Nancy Bozek, Stevens Point  
Ed Moberg, Nekoosa  
Randy & Karen Cooper, New Berlin

## 2022-23 Donors

 **Jim Kissinger**  
Shirley Bargander, Marshfield


 **Nancy Livingston**  
Jim & Jackie Wagener, Madison  
WVOA Central Sands Chapter


 **Helen Moberg**  
Jim & Jackie Wagener, Madison  
WVOA Central Sands Chapter

 **Carl Mueller**  
Merlin & Georgie Becker, Manawa  
Brian & Mary Blakeley, Boyceville  
Nancy Bozek, Stevens Point  
Randy & Karen Cooper, New Berlin  
Mark & Roxanne Erickson, Medford  
Margaret Green, West Salem  
Ralph Heiser, Baraboo  
Gerald & Karen Juve, Barron  
Joseph & Karen Knutson, Holmen  
Greg & Annette Krueger, Hixton  
Robert & Dawn Mainz, Maple Grove,  
MN  
Doris Mueller, Onalaska  
Steve & Lois Raether, Chippewa Falls  
Arlene Roehl, Long Lake, MN

Mike & Sally Schendel, Menomonie  
David Langer & Patti Jo Severson, La  
Crosse  
Marilyn Steele, Valparaiso, IN  
Cedric & Linda Steine, Holmen  
Mary Van Voorhis, La Crosse  
Timothy & Karla Weihrouch, Onalaska  
John Wrobel, Chaseburg  
Jim & Marlene Zdanovec, Oshkosh

 **Bev Rosenfeldt**  
Thomas Rosenfeldt, Greenville

 **Albert Steele**  
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Skinner, Rhinelander  
Joleen Meier, Wausau  
Lindy & Deb Russell, Madison  
John & Cheryl Klemaseski, Lino Lakes,  
MN

 **Ray Steiniger**  
Karin Glasgow, Waukesha  
Robert & Janet Hoff, Altoona  
Gloria Kowbel, Racine  
Sandra Specht, Waukesha  
Thomas Specht, Waukesha  
Buck Steiniger, Irma  
Mary West, Fort Atkinson

 **Otto Waldbuesser**  
Nancy Bozek, Stevens Point  
Thomas & Paula Buchner, Roseville, MN  
Sarah & Craig Conklin, Menomonie  
Donald & Barbara Dukerschein,  
Chippewa Falls  
Wayne & Cathy Gamrath, Miles City, MT  
Carol Marin, Woodbury, MN  
Kathryn Harrington, Delavan  
Jim & Mary Joslin, Marshfield  
Doris Mueller, Onalaska  
Steve & Lois Raether, Chippewa Falls  
Arlene Roehl, Long Lake, MN  
Robert Strand, Elk Mound  
David & Martha Stratton, Menomonie  
Susan Sudbrink, Lino Lakes, MN  
Marilyn Waldbuesser, Menomonie  
William & Anita Wiese, Menomonie  
Don & Marnee Willson-Broyles, Eau  
Claire  
Janet Zitelman, Menomonie



## 2022-23 Volunteers

### *YOU are WWOA*

*More than 145 WWOA members volunteered for over 2,014 hours!*

*Your generous gifts of time and sharing of your talents allows us to achieve so much.*

*Thank you – we couldn't do it without YOU*

Shirley Bargander, Marshfield  
Carl Barkow, Mosinee  
Steve & Peggy Beaver, Cedarburg  
Merlin & Georgie Becker, Manawa  
Brian & Mary Blakeley, Boyceville  
Mike Bohman, Algoma  
Brian & Dawn Borreson, Pigeon Falls  
Allan Braun, Madison, WI  
David & Karen Callaway, Altoona  
Sara Cardwell, Menomonie  
Gary & Bonnie Christenson, Cameron  
Bill & Peg Connelly, Augusta  
Randy & Karen Cooper, New Berlin  
Richard & Mary Czaja, Pittsville  
Kirk Dahl, Eau Claire  
John & Gayle DeBaun, Brookfield  
Jim Deppeler, DeForest  
Keith & Karla Dobberstein, Hortonville  
Steve Dzubay, River Falls  
Kenneth & Doris Eisner, Allenton  
Mark & Roxanne Erickson, Medford  
Bobbi & Rick Freitag, Birchwood  
Sue & Dewey Fritz, River Falls  
Bill & Lolly Fucik, Hartford  
Carl Garske, Harshaw  
George Grimm, Redgranite  
Jim Grunloh, Oshkosh  
Felix Grutzik Jr., Junction City  
David & Evelyn Hall, Brooklyn  
Rich Hall-Reppen, Geneva, IL  
Jerry Hamm, Neillsville  
Nedra & Loren Hanson, Janesville  
Ralph Heiser, Baraboo  
Alan Henke, Fitchburg  
Don and Jacki Hoffman, Black River Falls  
Tom Jacobs, Crivitz  
Alice Kissinger, Stone Lake  
Diane Humphrey Lueck, Coloma  
Tom & Mary Jodarski, Mauston  
Tom & Mary Kempen, Greenleaf  
Kenneth & Jean Kempfert, Belleville

Paul Kienitz, Merrill  
Jim Kingsbury, Mountain  
Jim & Kathy Kjorlie, Middleton  
Ted Knorring, Wheaton, IL  
Jeanie & Betty Kramer, Madison  
Tom Kretovics, New Richmond  
Jack & Mary Kucksdorf, Random Lake  
Judy Kucksdorf, Marion  
Keith Lemburg, Sister Bay  
Dale Lightfuss, Ogdensburg  
Daniel Lightfuss, Appleton  
Colleen Lourigan, Oregon  
Kent Makela, Maple  
John Marquardt, Tigerton  
Steve McDonald, Hudson  
Dean Mehlberg, Hales Corners  
Heinz & Helen Melzl, Big Bend  
Dan & Mary Meyer, Crivitz  
Ed Moberg, Nekoosa  
Doris & Dale Moody, DeForest  
Russ Moody, Monona  
Chad Mueller, Blaine, MN  
Michael Nee, Richland Center  
Carl Nelson, Minnetonka, MN  
Carol & John Nielsen, Mount Horeb  
Mike Nothom, Chanhassen, MN  
Margaret Parsons, Junction City  
Dale & Judy Paust, Crivitz  
Roger Perrault, Gillett  
Dan Peterson, Wisconsin Rapids  
Warren & Renee Pickar, West Salem  
Russell Plagemann, Wisconsin Dells  
Chuck Pogorelnik, Milwaukee  
Ross Prior, Coleman  
Dan Pubanz, Shawano  
Lois & Steven Raether, Chippewa Falls  
Dane Rasmussen, Baldwin  
Jack Rasmussen, Baldwin  
Dennis Rezner, Menasha  
Chuck Richards, Kronenwetter  
James Richards, Kronenwetter  
Joe Richards, Kronenwetter

Gary & Jean Rienets, Dubuque, IA  
Steven Ring, Shiocton  
Arlene Roehl, Long Lake, MN  
Mike Roy, Madison  
Darrel Ruechel, Appleton  
Lyndon & Deb Russell, Madison  
Anthony Rynish, Fremont  
Randy & Arlene Schacht, S. St. Paul, MN  
Mike & Sally Schendel, Menomonie  
Darrell Scherwinski, Plover  
Jim & Jean Schiller, Verona  
Andrew & Susan Schmidt, Wausau  
Mary Beth Schmidt, Almond  
Debbie Schroeder Fisher, Appleton  
Vern Schroth, Stevens Point  
Jake Schuh, Seymour  
Geary & Kay Searfoss, Ojibwa  
Gary Senn, Beldenville  
Mary Ellen Shea, Milwaukee  
Ken & Dottie Staffeldt, Porterfield  
Violet Thielke, Waupaca  
Buzz & Marcia Frost Vahradian, Wautoma  
Roy Valitchka, Appleton  
Jim & Jackie Wagener, Madison  
Richard & Kathy Wagner, Weyauwega  
Chuck Wagner, Luxemburg  
Anastasia Wampfler, Brodhead  
Richard Warosh, Wausau  
Karen Wedde, Oshkosh  
Jon Wedell, LaFarge  
David Weigandt, Richland Center  
Robert Wick, Wisconsin Dells  
Chris Widstrand, Eau Claire  
Tom Wilhelm, Appleton  
Nancy Wirtz, Eden  
Chris Wyman, Hortonville  
Ted Zabel, DePere  
Randy Zastrow, Shawano  
Jim & Marlene Zdanovec, Oshkosh

*If your name is inadvertently missing from these lists, we sincerely apologize. Please notify the WWOA office so we can correct our records.  
If you are interested in sharing your talents with WWOA please contact the WWOA office or complete the volunteer interest form on our website.*



# Strategic Plan Updates

## 2020-25 WWOA Strategic Plan Accomplishments in Fiscal Year 2022-23

### GOAL I - Financial Stability

- ❖ Become financially independent and/or less financially dependent on one-time donors and donations by expanding membership by 25% by 2023, increasing advertising income by 0.5% per year by 2025, identifying specific expenses that could be sponsored and inform members of these (named or anonymous) opportunities by June 30, 2020; present these opportunities to the membership by December 31, 2020.

*WWOA has brought the Advertising Sales position into the WWOA office to help stabilize these sales and start reaching out to potential advertisers since we have been unable to find a competent independent consultant to do this job. Advertising rates, which had not been increased since January 2018, were increased in January 2023. WWOA continues to develop new online educational seminars and hopes to provide more online programming in the future to diversify our income.*

*A tight job market has made it difficult to recruit and fill vacant WWOA and AmeriCorps positions. The Board created a full-time, salaried, Assistant Director position by combining the Office Assistant and Advertising Sales contractor positions and adding new duties but WWOA has been unable to find someone with the right mix of skills for this position in 2023.*

*WWOA investments were moved to Edward Jones in FY 2021-22 for more timely management. In FY 2022-23 the Board of Directors voted to direct these funds to Vanguard with the Finance Committee and Board of Directors managing the funds. The Board continues to work on the framework to create a new long-term fund for the Association. WWOA greatly appreciates the Memorial Funds designated by families of deceased members. Some funds are used for special purposes such as a portion of the Helen Moberg fund went to the Women of WWOA, the Rachel Jordan fund helped us purchase a new laptop computer, the Janet Lehrer fund grew our Endowment Fund, while the Al Steele fund helped defray 2022 Annual Meeting expenses.*

- ❖ Create a long-term fundraising strategy, which does not cause donor fatigue, leveraging input from WWOA volunteers and consultants by June 30, 2025.  
*Special thank you to Mark Erickson and the Fundraising Committee for a record Annual Fundraiser in 2021-22!*

### GOAL II - Leadership

- ❖ WWOA volunteers are instrumental in achieving WWOA's mission. WWOA will design and implement a more formal volunteer program by December 31, 2023. *Through generous donors, WWOA has been able to continue to host an AmeriCorps member, Violet Thielke, in 2021-2022. As WWOA's volunteer coordinator, she led the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the WWOA Woodland Mentor Program, increasing its resources. WWOA's volunteer Board of Directors and Chapter Officers donated time to expand WWOA programming as we move out of the pandemic. The Publications Committee members continued to produce an amazing magazine. Through generous donors, WWOA has been able to continue to host an AmeriCorps member, Häven Epstein, in 2023. She created many wonderful Learn Something New emails, updated the WWOA Woodland Mentor Program materials, and assisted with the Wisconsin Womens Woodland Gathering in May 2023 for more than 80 women from across Wisconsin.*
- ❖ WWOA will annually conduct leadership training for WWOA Board of Directors, Chapter Chairs, staff and other members interested in leadership development. *WWOA Board of Directors designed and scheduled a Leadership Retreat for January 2022, however the COVID-19 rates increased significantly resulting in postponement and finally cancellation of this event.*
- ❖ Establish a subcommittee of the Chapter Chairs Committee to review the chapters' operating structure and clarify state and local membership looking for common ground and ways to streamline how chapters function within WWOA. Committee will report findings to WWOA Board at September 2021 quarterly meeting. *This has been put on hold until in-person meetings can be regularly scheduled.*
- ❖ President to appoint an ad hoc committee focused on evaluating the current and future committee structures by March 2020 quarterly Board meeting and by September 2020 report findings to WWOA Board at quarterly meeting. *This was completed at the April 7, 2020, Board of Director's meeting where the new committee structure was approved.*

## **GOAL III - Communication**

- ❖ WWOA Board will appoint a committee of select chapter chairs to create a new statewide communication plan with a goal of implementing the plan statewide by September 30, 2021. *The document was completed in Fall 2021 and is available for chapters to implement.*
- ❖ Enhance WWOA's visibility by presenting or providing WWOA displays at 10 events for other conservation groups in 2021; increase presentations 40% per year by 2025. *In person events and opportunities to exhibit continue to be limited under COVID-19 and after. Chapters and volunteers are needed to help achieve this.*
- ❖ Review and possibly revise WWOA's current mission and vision statements. *Draft was approved by WWOA Board on April 28, 2020. WWOA members approved the proposed change at the 2021 Annual Meeting on September 18, 2021. The new Mission Statement has replaced WWOA's Purpose.*

## **GOAL IV - Building Membership**

- ❖ In an effort to increase membership by 25% by 2023, complete an analysis on a variety of innovative methods and select five approaches to implement. *WWOA Board approved creating an online advertising campaign and allocated funding for this effort in 2021-22. The Membership Committee developed 5 Facebook advertisements in 2021-22. These ads reached more than 98,000 people resulting in more than 1400 clicks through to our website. This increased awareness of WWOA and grew our Facebook audience.*
- ❖ Create a 5-year marketing strategy supporting WWOA's mission leveraging an ad hoc committee of WWOA volunteers and professionals (with marketing/advertising/ communications skills) by March 31, 2020 to develop a plan. Present the plan to the WWOA Board for approval at the March 2021 quarterly meeting. *The Membership Committee has been working on ideas to create an outreach and marketing strategy.*
- ❖ Supported by the WWOA Membership Committee, develop one collaborative project with 1-2 statewide partners to increase the membership base by interfacing with a minimum of 1,000 non-WWOA, private woodland owners in Wisconsin by 2022. *WWOA applied for a grant in 2022 to work on this, however the project was not funded. In FY 2022-23, the Membership Committee worked with the Publications Committee to send out Wisconsin Woodlands quarterly magazine to nonmembers. Chapter areas selected to participate in this project were Phoenix Falls, Chippewa Valley, Black Hawk and West Central. More than 1300 nonmembers received a copy of the magazine this past year.*

*WWOA is partnering with NRCS and the U.S. Forest Service through the Joint Chief's Landscape Restoration Partnership on the Northeastern Wisconsin Forestry and Wildlife Partnership project. The Partnership provides technical and financial assistance to woodland owners in eight northeastern Wisconsin counties through EQIP funding for priority practices including addressing wildfire threats, cleaning up blowdown timber, improving water quality and wildlife habitat by replacing degraded culverts on trout streams, tree seedling planting and protection in areas impacted by the emerald ash borer or oak wilt, forest management plans, and habitat for the golden-winged warblers and monarch butterflies.*

*WWOA continues to make the regional Winter Conferences a priority for building membership and increasing our educational efforts.*

## **GOAL V – Education**

- ❖ President will appoint an ad hoc committee by January 31, 2020, to develop a sustainable plan to determine an annual meeting site by January 31 of the prior year. This will include at least one alternative to chapter sponsorship. Plan to be developed and presented to the WWOA Board for approval by December 31, 2021. *Committee was formed at the Leadership meeting on September 18, 2021 and Nancy Bozek contacted them for assistance in selecting a site for 2023. Some of these committee members have served on the 2022 and 2023 Annual Meeting Planning Committees.*

## Strategic Plan Updates

- ❖ Website Chair and committee members starting in January 2020 will gather costs, feasibility, and information related to creating a web-based interactive forum to be presented to the WWOA Board at their March 2021 quarterly meeting for approval. *The Website Committee completed a review of the existing website and met with a contractor to start updating the WWOA website. It is anticipated that the update will occur in Fall 2023.*
- ❖ Establish a volunteer committee, with AmeriCorps member assistance, in 2020, to analyze 2018 membership survey responses to identify valued WWOA services and create a plan to improve them starting in 2021. *This has been completed.*
- ❖ Continue WWOA's Growing Your Legacy project and promote use of the My Land Handbook through educational workshops and outreach materials during 2020-2025. *WWOA has continued the Growing Your Legacy project by connecting woodland owners to WDNR foresters for woods walks, providing our Growing Your Legacy brochure, and My Land Handbook to those requesting these resources. The My Land Handbook is also incorporated into WWOA's Woodland Mentor program and is available on WWOA's website under Resources.*
- ❖ Promote and grow WWOA's Forestry Leader Scholarship at UW-Stevens Point providing a minimum of one \$5,000 scholarship to a student majoring in Forest Management per academic year. *In 2023, Noah Frei of Sun Prairie was the recipient of WWOA's Forestry Leader Scholarship. WWOA sends out a postcard to eligible UWSP forestry students each autumn to inform them of the scholarship. Members continue to support this initiative through their donations and through word-of-mouth promotion of the Scholarship to family members and friends.*
- ❖ Leveraging AmeriCorps employee and WWOA volunteers create a mentoring program with a goal of supporting 50 new members by 2023; scale the program to support 100 new members by 2025. *WWOA's Woodland Mentor program continued in Fall 2022 because Violet Thielke was hired temporarily to continue assisting in the WWOA office until a new AmeriCorps member could be found. In January 2023, AmeriCorps member, Häven Epstein, was hired and she reviewed the curriculum and added online resources such as videos, podcasts, and other multi-media resources. Evaluations of the program continue to show that Mentors and Aspens feel it is a valuable experience. WWOA is currently seeking volunteer Mentors and Aspens for the 2023-2024 class starting this Fall.*

***The WWOA Board of Directors encourages members interested in working on any of these goals or sharing their talents to assist us in implementing this plan to contact the WWOA office.***



## WVOA Chapter Reports

### **BAD AXE CHAPTER, Michael Roy, Chair**

The Bad Axe Chapter consists of 9 counties, Crawford, Grant, Iowa, La Crosse, Lafayette, Monroe, Richland, Sauk, and Vernon. Officers include Michael Roy, Chair; Gary Rieniets, Vice-Chair; Rich Hall-Reppen, Treasurer; Kathy Kjorlie, Secretary; Members at Large, Warren & Renee Pickar; Directors, Jeanie & Betty Kramer. We have approximately 200 members.

#### Date and Location of Chapter Events

Oct. 15, 2022      Field Day & Annual Meeting at Jeanie & Betty Kramer      Woodland Mgmt.      25 attendees

### **BLACK HAWK CHAPTER, Ken Kempfert & Lyndon Russell, Co-Chairs**

The Blackhawk Chapter consists of 6 counties which include Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green, Jefferson, and Rock. We have 217 members. Officers include Ken Kempfert & Lyndon Russell, Co-Chairs; Carol Nielsen, Secretary/Treasurer.

#### Date and Location of Chapter Events

Aug. 22, 2022	Field Day & Picnic	Ken & Jean Kempfert - Hosts	Christmas Trees and Sharing
Oct. 1, 2022	Field Day Walnut Mgmt.	Jim & Jean Schiller – Hosts	Walnut Growing
Feb. 25, 2023	Annual Mtg. & Speakers	Turner Hall, Monroe	Grants & Christmas Trees
April 19, 2023	Tapp'n Woods	Full Mile – Sun Prairie	Sharing & Fellowship
May 17, 2023	Tapp'n Woods	Night Owl – Evansville	Sharing & Fellowship
June 14, 2023	Tapp'n Woods	Capital – Madison	Sharing & Fellowship

### **CENTRAL SANDS CHAPTER, Buzz Vahradian, Chair**

The Central Sands Chapter consists of 6 counties, which includes Adams, Juneau, Marquette, Portage, Waushara, and Wood. Officers include Buzz Vahradian, Chair; Marcia Frost Vahradian, Secretary; George Grimm, Treasurer and Jim Wagener, Past Co-Chair. We have 50 members.

Annual Meeting                      Scott Lyon, DNR Forest Products Specialist                      Verso Mill Closure Impact

### **CHIPPEWA VALLEY CHAPTER, Karen Callaway, President**

The Chippewa Valley Chapter consists of 7 counties, which includes Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, and Trempealeau. Officers include Karen Callaway, President; Jerry Hamm, Vice President; Arlene Roehl, Secretary; Sarah Cardwell, Treasurer; and Ralph Heiser, Past President. We currently have 93 members.

#### Date and Location of Chapter Events

July 23, 2022	Log Jam Picnic Hosts: Karen & David Callaway	Levis Trowe Mounds & DNR Cut
Oct. 8, 2022	Planning Meeting & Fall Field Day Hosts: Troy Berg & Brian Borreson	Reclaimed Forest, Wildlife Control Buckthorn Mowing
Jan. 21, 2023	Chapter Annual Meeting	Chapter Business, Damaged Tree Techniques
April 29, 2023	Spring Field Day Hosts: Kirk Dahl	Red Pine Regeneration

### **NEWFO CHAPTER, Chuck Wagner, Chair**

Jan. 28, 2023      Woodland Owners Conference held in Green Bay.

### **NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER, Dave Burbach, President**

The North Central Chapter consists of 9 counties, which includes Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Price, Taylor, and Vilas. Officers include Dave Burbach, President; Chuck Pogorelnik, Vice President; Roxanne Erickson, Secretary/Treasurer; and Members at Large, Karla Dobberstein, James Richards, and Rich Warosh. We have 94 members.

# WVOA Chapter Reports

## Dates and Location of Chapter Events

- Nov. 5, 2022 Fall Field Day at Andrew & Susan Schmidt's  
History of Tick Acres, surveying basics & importance, Cleary Builders, and Tick Acres easements.
- Feb. 11, 2023 Winter Woodland Owner's Conference at Rib River by Accentu, Marathon  
Recreational immunity, landowner issues, forest health, lakes & pond management, 2022 WI Tree  
Farmers of the Year, Geary & Kay Searfoss.

## **NORTHWEST CHAPTER, Bobbi Freitag, Chair**

The Northwest Chapter consists of Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Polk, Rusk, Sawyer, and Washburn counties. Board Members are Bobbi Freitag, Chair; Kent Makela, Membership & Douglas Co; Alice Kissinger, Board Representative & Sawyer Co; Bill & Lolly Fucik, Board Representative & Rusk Co.; Randy & Arlene Schacht, Board Representative & Burnett Co. We have 140 members.

The Northwest Chapter did not host any events during 2022-2023.

## **PHOENIX-FALLS CHAPTER, Ross Prior, President**

The Phoenix-Falls Chapter of WVOA covers Florence, Marinette, Menominee, and Oconto counties. Our chapter board members include Ross Prior, President; Randy Cooper, Past-President; Ted Zabel, Treasurer; Ken Eisner; Judy Paust, Secretary; Members at Large include Tom Jacobs, Dale Paust, Roger Perrault. Publicity, Jim Kingsbury; and Dan Meyer, Historian.

## **WEST CENTRAL CHAPTER, Jack Rasmussen, Chair**

The West Central Chapter consists of Buffalo, Pepin, Pierce, and St. Croix counties. Officers are Jack Rasmussen, Chair; Chad Mueller, Vice-Chair; Sue Fritz, Secretary; Steve Dzubay. We have 90 members.

## Dates & Location of Chapter Events

- Feb. 11, 2023 Chapter Winter Meeting at Molly's Restaurant, Plum City  
Conservation Easements
- March 11, 2023 West Central Regional Conference at Menomonie  
Forestry updates, fires as a forest management tool, wildlife management, school forests – student  
perspective, saving bats, management for white oak

## **WINNEBAGOLAND CHAPTER, Nancy Wirtz, President**

The WinnebagoLand Chapter consists of Calumet, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Sheboygan, and Winnebago. Officers are Nancy Wirtz, President; Pete Meyer, Vice President; and Kim Destree, Secretary/Treasurer. Current membership is unknown. There were no activities in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

## **WOLF RIVER CHAPTER, Anthony Rynish, President**

The Wolf River Chapter consists of Outagamie, Shawano, & Waupaca counties. Officers are Anthony Rynish, President; Steven Ring, Vice-President; Kathy Wagner, Secretary; Mary Kucksdorf, Treasurer; Debbie Schroeder Fisher, Communications Director; John Marquardt, Membership Chair; Chris Wyman, Event Planner. We have 215 members.

## Dates & Location of Chapter Events

- |               |                |   |
|---------------|----------------|---|
| Oct. 15, 2022 | Field Day      | Dennis Reznert's property                                 |
| Jan. 27, 2023 | Annual Meeting | Dennis Berken, Shiocton Cut Stock & Go Fast Manufacturing |
| June 9, 2023  | Youth Event    | Richard & Kathy Wagner Tree Farm                          |

### **AWARDS COMMITTEE, Marcia Frost Vahradian, Chair**

Committee Members: Merlin Becker, Nancy Bozek, Chuck Pogorelnik, Arlene Roehl, and Richard Wagner.

The Awards Committee selects the recipient(s) of WWOA's Distinguished Service Award for outstanding dedication and achievement in furthering the goals and principles of WWOA. Recipients of WWOA's Special Recognition Award are considered for special projects that have a statewide impact that may be narrow in focus. The Next Generation award is a dual award presented to an educator and a WWOA member who work together in a continuous effort to inform the next generation about the value of Wisconsin's private woodlands and sustainable forest management. The Chapter Distinguished Service Award is given for outstanding dedication and achievement in furthering the goals and principles of a WWOA Chapter(s). The nomination form is available to all members on our website with a deadline of June 1 each year. Chapters are encouraged to consider awards for their members based on chapter activities and accomplishments.

WWOA, represented by Lois and Steve Raether, is a member of the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame. This year's inductees include Michael Dombeck, Mark Martin & Susan Foote-Martin, and Byron Shaw. To learn about conservation leaders across the state that have been inducted go to <https://wchf.org>.

WWOA, represented by Chuck Pogorelnik, is a member of the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame. WWOA member, Jane Severt was inducted in the fall of 2022. Visit: <https://www.wisaf.org/wisconsin-forestry-hall-of-fame/>.

### **ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE, Ken Kempfert, Chair**

Committee members: Ken Kempfert, Chair, Merlin Becker, Craig Nienow, and Nancy Bozek.

As of June 30, 2023, the WWOA Endowment Fund held by the Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin was valued at \$89,196.35. WWOA's Board receives a grant from this fund each year to be used for WWOA's mission, to increase acreage under active management and to enhance WWOA membership. This year the Board received a distribution of \$3,497.00. In February, the Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin's Gala of Gratitude Celebration Fund donated \$2,000 to WWOA's Endowment Fund.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE, Arlene Roehl, Chair**

Committee members: Mary Kempen, Dale Lightfuss, Daniel Lightfuss, Margaret Parsons, Ross Prior, Steve Ring, Jack Rasmussen and Arlene Roehl.

We started the fiscal year with a balance of \$14,646.32 in our checkbook. The market value of WWOA's investments as of June 30, 2023: mutual funds \$278,433.31, regular savings \$54,445.04, 3-year membership savings \$22,648.72, and PayPal savings \$1,003.22. In the 2022-2023 fiscal year, WWOA's income was \$199,204.00. The money from the four new life memberships totaling \$2,240.00 was transferred from the checking account and invested in mutual funds.

At the May 5, 2023, Finance Committee meeting the fiscal 2023-2024 budget was developed with input from the standing committees, gift shop, publications, and the executive director. Committee recommendations of the proposed budget were provided to the June 2023 Board of Directors meeting for their approval. WWOA's 2023-2024 budget is projected to have an income of \$179,618.00 with expenses of \$255,182.00 leaving a deficit of (\$75,564.00). Checkbook carryover as of June 30, 2023, was \$1,962.76.

### **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE, Mark Erickson, Chair**

Committee Members: Nancy Bozek, Mark Erickson (Chair), Roxanne Erickson, Ralph Heiser, Ken Kempfert, Jim Kingsbury.

## WWOA Committee Reports

The Fundraising Committee has finished gathering prizes for this year's raffles. We feel we have a great lineup of prizes again and should have many happy winners. Thanks to Ralph Heiser, Ken Kempfert, & Jim Kingsbury for their help in making another good year.

### **GIFT SHOP COMMITTEE, Jim & Marlene Zdanovec, Co-Chairs**

Members of the WWOA Gift Shop Committee are: Nancy Bozek, Roxanne Erickson, Ed Moberg, Deborah Russell, Jim and Jackie Wagener. We sincerely thank Angeline Kamba for serving on the Gift Shop Committee. She recently retired from the committee due to health issues.

The WWOA Gift Shop Committee met on March 24, 2023 to review current inventory, choose new merchandise and brainstorm ideas to encourage sales.

It was agreed that the newer short sleeve denim shirts, a vibrant tropical blue t-shirt and green mesh hat will be featured during WWOA's 44th Annual Meeting in the Dells, September 21-24, 2023. Books for adults and kids, aluminum signs, notecards, can koozies, steel cookie cutters, wooden book marks and other popular merchandise will be stocked at the meeting, many of those items and select clothing at sale prices.

Remember – 100% of the proceeds benefit WWOA programs! If you are not able to attend the Annual Meeting in the Dells, support WWOA the easy way – shop the web at [wisconsinwoodlands.org/gift-shop](http://wisconsinwoodlands.org/gift-shop)! You'll be delighted that you shopped at WWOA's Gift Shop!

On a personal note, we are retiring as Co-chairs of the WWOA Gift Shop Committee, effective December 31, 2023. We have served as Co-chairs for the past 22 years. We are proud to have served you.

### **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

During the past year, the WWOA Board of Directors participated in several forestry issues impacting private landowners. In March 2023, the Board approved sending a letter to the Joint Committee on Finance regarding the State Budget for the WDNR, Division of Forestry budget and other forestry initiatives. The Board's letter was posted on the WWOA website for members. WWOA members were contacted via Constant Contact email and encouraged to attend the Joint Committee on Finance's budget listening sessions held in Waukesha, Eau Claire, Wisconsin Dells, and Minocqua in April to express their opinions on the budget needs for forestry.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE, Keith Dobberstein, Chair**

The Membership Committee consisting of Dick Czaja, Ken Kempfert, Jack Kucksdorf, Jack Rasmussen, Nancy Bozek and Keith Dobberstein proposed sending copies of the *Wisconsin Woodlands* magazine to woodland owners that are not currently WWOA members. We decided to use address lists from the WDNR of those persons with woodlands in various target areas.

After approval by the Board of Directors, the program started with copies of the Fall issue sent to property owners in the Phoenix Falls Chapter area. The Winter issue was sent to woodland owners in the Chippewa Valley Chapter area, Spring issue to those in the Black Hawk Chapter area, and the Summer issue to woodland owners in West Central Chapter area. Each issue contained a short introduction to WWOA written by our President Tom Kempen. We hope the magazine will reach those not familiar with WWOA and they will consider attending a local chapter event or joining WWOA to receive the magazine. As these were sent to four specific chapter areas an increase of new members, not tied to gift memberships, should be noticeable.

The Summer 2023 issue of *Wisconsin Woodlands* also includes an updated membership page encouraging gift subscriptions as these still remain an effective outreach to nonmembers.



## WWOA Committee Reports

Membership counts as of June 29, 2023 are as follows: Regular members - 1032, family members – 214, life members – 287, and student members – 2. The total as of that date was 1535 members. Year-to-date we have gained 78 new members including 36 gift members.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Arlene Roehl, Chair**

Nominating Committee members included Board members Randy Cooper and Arlene Roehl and elected from the membership at the 2022 Annual Meeting, Roxanne Erickson, and Steven Ring. At the end of the 2023 Annual Meeting, Board Members Kirk Dahl, Keith Dobberstein, and Arlene Roehl's terms will expire. The following members agreed to be candidates for the three open positions on the WWOA Board of Directors: Steven Ahrenholz of Cincinnati, OH, Tom Culbert of Holcombe, and Jake Schuh of Seymour.

We thank them for their willingness to offer leadership skills, time, and energy toward furthering WWOA's mission. Serving on WWOA's Board of Directors provides an opportunity to give something back to the forestry community. We encourage WWOA members to consider running for the Board of Directors, local chapter boards, or serve on WWOA's committees. If you know of a potential leader within our midst, please encourage them to consider running for a leadership position. Our volunteers often say they learn more about WWOA and things happening in the forestry community by sharing their time and talents with WWOA.

### **PAST PRESIDENTS COMMITTEE, Randy Cooper, Chair**

The Past Presidents Committee did not meet during 2022-2023.

### **PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON CHAPTERS, Don Hoffman, Chair**

Committee is chaired by WWOA's Vice President and is comprised of WWOA's Chapter Chairs.

The Chapters Chair's Committee met on September 24, 2022 during the Annual Meeting in Oshkosh. Chapters have resumed in person meetings and some also use virtual attendance to augment, especially for planning and Board meetings. The WWOA staff can facilitate these virtual events.

As part of our membership drive, WWOA has sent free copies of the *Wisconsin Woodlands* magazine to woodland owners in several chapter areas using a WDNR contact list. Chapters were encouraged to also send a follow up letter and invite owners to join in on chapter events.

The Black River Chapter was disbanded per WWOA Bylaws. Clark County was aligned with Chippewa Valley Chapter and Taylor County with North Central Chapter. Existing members were notified and invited to join a chapter of their choice.

The next committee meeting will be held during the 2023 Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells.

### **PUBLICATION COMMITTEE, Kirk Dahl, Chair**

The Publications Committee meets three times per year to discuss and establish content for WWOA's magazine, *Wisconsin Woodlands*. The Committee's mission is to produce an informative and interesting quarterly magazine to keep members informed of current issues and help them become better woodland stewards.

Current committee members are John DeBaun, Ed Moberg, Russ Moody, Carol Nielsen, Margaret Parsons, Dan Pubanz, Roy Valitchka, Rich Warosh, Kirk Dahl (chair), Nancy Bozek (WWOA Executive Director) and Barbara A. Schmidt (editor). Also, Kirsten Held of Wisconsin DNR joined the committee as WDNR liaison.

## WWOA Committee Reports

We are working towards including more timely and newsworthy articles specifically addressing current issues and challenges facing woodland owners in Wisconsin. Recognizing that recreation and connecting with nature are major interests of landowners, we also strive to cover a range of topics that help connect our readers to those interests.

The Committee welcomes your thoughts, article ideas, original articles, and advertising leads.

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE, Paul Kienitz, Chair**

Committee members are Jim Grunloh, Darrell Scherwinski, Charlotte and Dick Thompson, and chair Paul Kienitz. With the creation of the WWOA Forestry Leader Scholarship at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, our organization moved even closer to its educational mission by including the education of forestry students. The Scholarship Committee congratulates the 2023 recipient, Noah Frei of Sun Prairie.

Members may donate directly to this fund at any time, when renewing their membership, or through memorial funds designated to the Scholarship Fund. As of June 30, 2023, the scholarship fund had a balance of \$142,092.13.

Scholarship applications are accepted from November 1, 2023 through January 1, 2024 with the recipient announced in spring 2024. The application is available on WWOA's website at [wisconsinwoodlands.org/scholarship](http://wisconsinwoodlands.org/scholarship). The \$5,000 scholarship is awarded in payments over two semesters, and it is credited directly to the student's university account.

### **WEBSITE COMMITTEE, Rich Warosh, Chair**

The Website Committee consists of the following members: Rich Warosh – Chair, Nancy Bozek, Ed Moberg, Ken Kempfert, Roxanne Erickson and Häven Epstein.

The committee met once this year and discussed updates to the site. After discussions with the current developer, the committee decided to continue with him due to the price and promise of a new site by June 2023. However, he ran into personnel issues and has not completed work at this time.

WWOA's Facebook now has over 1,300 likes with over 1,500 followers. WWOA also has a private Facebook page for Women of WWOA.

### **Women of WWOA (WOWWOA) COMMITTEE**

Steering committee members: Dawn Borreson, Karen Callaway, Marcia Frost Vahradian, Jacki Hoffman, Judy Kucksdorf, Mary Kucksdorf, Diane Humphrey Lueck, Margaret Parsons, Arlene Roehl, Mary Beth Schmidt, WWOA's AmeriCorps member Häven Epstein and Nancy Bozek.

Women of WWOA held two gatherings this past year. On October 22, 2022, fifteen women gathered at the Boston School Forest in Plover. Karla Lockman, Boston School Forest Program Leader gave an overview of their work with school classes in the area. She later led the group on a walk highlighting some of their projects and different habitats for the students to experience. UWSP graduate student, Jeremy Natzke, taught us about Apps to Help You with Your Woodland. After lunch we hiked on the other side of the property with AmeriCorps member, Violet Thielke and Nancy Bozek pointing out noteworthy things and leading the discussion on various forest topics.

WOWWOA decided to wrap their Spring 2023 gathering into the Wisconsin Womens Woodland gathering held in May 19-20, 2023 at the Lion's Camp. WWOA's Nancy Bozek and AmeriCorps member, Häven Epstein, lead this effort in partnership with WDNR, UW-Extension, UWSP Forestry Center, and many other organizations. Over 80 women from across Wisconsin attend this successful event which offered sessions on a variety of woodland topics.

# WVOA Past Presidents & Awards

## PRESIDENTS

1979-80..... Ernest Brickner	1991-93..... Norma Belliveau	2011-12..... Joe Arington
1980-81..... A. H. Wakeman	1993-95..... Clyde Samsel	2012-14..... Charles Wagner
1981-82..... Edward Steigerwaldt	1995-97..... Ann Hockerman	2014-16..... Paul Kienitz
1982-83..... Jack Densmore	1997-99..... Jack Edson	2016-18..... Steven Ring
1983-84..... Milo Tappan	1999-2001...Virgil Kopitske	2018-19..... Richard Wagner
1984-85..... Maurice White	2001-03..... Marvin Meier	2019-21..... Randy Cooper
1985-87..... Richard Hall	2003-05..... Alvin Barden	2021-23..... Tom Kempen
1987-88..... Rachel Jordan	2005-07..... Dale Zaug	
1988-89..... LaVern Dierschow	2007-09..... Merlin Becker	
1989-91..... Marcia Frost Vahradian	2009-11..... Loren Hanson	

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

1985-86.... <i>Frederic Braun &amp; Jack Densmore</i>	1997-98.... <i>Jack Edson, A. Jeff Martin &amp; Walter Naab</i>	2007-08.... <i>Donna Johnston</i>
1986-87.... <i>H. A. Wakeman</i>	1998-99.... <i>Michael Hildebrandt &amp; Jerry Lapidakis</i>	2008-09.... <i>Al Barden, Merlin Becker, Robert Rusch</i>
1987-88.... <i>Hiram Hallock</i>	1999-2000... <i>Helen and Ed Moberg</i>	2011-12.... <i>Bill Horvath</i>
1988-89.... <i>Rachel Jordan &amp; Tom Rausch</i>	2000-01.... <i>Tim Eisele &amp; Ann Hockerman</i>	2012-13.... <i>Shirley Bargander</i>
1989-90.... <i>Gordon Cunningham &amp; Grace White</i>	2001-02.... <i>Dale Lightfuss &amp; Everett Queckboerner</i>	2013-14.... <i>Jan Lehrer</i>
1990-91.... <i>Chris Hauge &amp; Bill Seybold</i>	2002-03.... <i>Dave Downs &amp; Eugene Roark</i>	2014-15.... <i>Arlene Roehl</i>
1991-92.... <i>Richard Hall &amp; Betty Hauge</i>	2003-04.... <i>Virgil Kopitske &amp; Beverly &amp; Dale Schendel</i>	2015-16.... <i>Steven and Lois Raether &amp; Charles R. Wagner</i>
1992-93.... <i>LaVern Dierschow &amp; Maurice White</i>	2004-05.... <i>Ev &amp; Glenn Charlson &amp; Marv Meier</i>	2016-17.... <i>Paul Kienitz</i>
1993-94.... <i>Jack Bazile</i>	2005-06.... <i>Nancy Livingston</i>	2017-18 ... <i>Steven Ring</i>
1994-95.... <i>Betty Densmore &amp; Marcia Frost Vahradian</i>	2006-07.... <i>Dave Hall, &amp; Dale Zaug, &amp; Jim &amp; Marlene Zdanovec</i>	2020-21 .... <i>Roxanne Erickson, Margaret Parsons &amp; Felix Grutzik Jr.</i>
1995-96.... <i>Clyde Samsel</i>		2021-22 .. <i>Mark Erickson</i>
1996-97.... <i>Norma Belliveau</i>		

## CHAPTER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

2018.... <i>Mike &amp; Sally Schendel, Chippewa Valley</i>	2022.... <i>Jack Rasmussen, West Central</i>
2021..... <i>Gary Rieniets, Bad Axe</i>	

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD RECIPIENTS

1993.... <i>Milt Reinke</i>	2014... <i>Faithful Annual Meeting Volunteers –Judy &amp; Ted Bauer, Roxanne Erickson, Dave Hall, Ruthanne Horning, Lee Johnston, Jan Lehrer, Nancy Livingston, Sue Swanson, Jackie &amp; Jim Wagener, Rich Warosh, Marlene &amp; Jim Zdanovec; &amp; John DuPlissis, Richard Wedepohl</i>
1995.... <i>Robert Rusch</i>	2017... <i>Bill Cook</i>
2003.... <i>Gene Francisco &amp; Richard Warosh</i>	2019... <i>Daniel Lightfuss</i>
2004.... <i>Shirley Bargander</i>	2021... <i>Dr. John Kotar, Lars Loberg</i>
2006.... <i>Don &amp; Inez Krohn</i>	
2008.... <i>Joe Arington &amp; Cathy Lorang, John Czerwonka</i>	
2009.... <i>Nancy Bozek</i>	
2010... <i>Karen &amp; Randy Cooper, Ray Amiel</i>	
2012... <i>Arington Tree Farm &amp; 3-D Post</i>	

(over)

# WWOA Past Presidents & Awards

## NEXT GENERATION AWARD RECIPIENTS

2006... *Peggy Werner & Nancy Livingston*

2010... *Jodi Tomczyk & Marlene & Jim Zdanovec*

2012... *Genny Fannucchi*

2013... *Ron Shankland & John Czerwonka*

2014... *Colleen Lourigan & Joe Arington*

2015... *Barbara Krautkramer, Rachel Mroczenski & Diane & Jim Mroczenski*

2017... *Aerica Bjurstrom & Chuck Wagner and Bridget Ericksen & Steven & Lois Raether*