



*Black Cohosh (Actaea racemosa)*

July 2018

# SEEDLINGS

## WILD ONES

**Kalamazoo Area Chapter News**  
*Native Plants, Natural Landscapes*

**What more substantial service to conservation than to  
practice it on one's own land?--Aldo Leopold**

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**Plant of the Month: Black Cohosh**

Black cohosh (*Actaea racemosa*)--also known as bugbane, for its properties as an insect repellent; black bugbane; fairy candles; black snakeroot (used by native Americans to treat snakebite); black baneberry. A potent herbal medicine, black cohosh was thought to be a primary ingredient of witches' brew--perhaps because of its uses to treat "female complaints." Any woman found with black cohosh in her possession could be condemned and burnt as a witch.





*Above: Ilse Gebhard and Tom Small from the Nancy Small Memorial Fund assist students at the Northglade Montessori School, Kalamazoo*

## **A Nancy Small Memorial Fund Update**

By Tom Small

[The Nancy Small Memorial Fund](#) has had a very active year so far, but this may be the last year for operation of the Fund, which provides small grants to support public native-plant gardens in southwest Michigan.

The Fund, established by Tom Small in 2014, has provided support for a wide variety of plantings in the Kalamazoo Area. [Read More](#)

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## **Wetland Flowers Field Trip with Sue Hodapp**

***Saturday July 21***



Sue Hodapp will lead us on a marshy Wetland Flower excursion on the Kal-Haven trail. We'll see many native wetland plants, in various stages of summer growth and bloom. Some Wild One's members discovered the beauty and value of this land years ago, at the time the railroad was converted to a trail.

[More Info and Directions](#)

White Lettuce Plant (*Prenanthes alba*)

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## **Native Plant Gardens Tour with Mike Klug**

***Tuesday August 14***

Join Mike Klug on a summer evening tour of the KAWO sponsored Native Gardens of three local conservation organizations: Kellogg Bird Sanctuary, Kellogg Forest, and the Gilmore Car Museum. [More info and Directions](#)



*One of the Gilmore native gardens first year in Fall 2017; it is glorious this summer!*

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## Volunteer Opportunities

As a non-profit, educational and community-based organization, we offer a lot of great opportunities to give back. Here are a few:

We are in need of a **Website volunteer** to do monthly updates to our web content. Some layout experience helpful, along with willingness to do light editing. 1-2 hrs./month. [Contact Mike](#) if you can help.

Alternatively, if being outdoors and getting into the dirt with friends old and new sounds good to you, come join us at these upcoming volunteer events. Wear clothing appropriate to the weather, and [see our website](#) for more specific info on tools, where to meet, etc.



*Jeff Weiss of Wild Ones assisting students from Northglade Elementary School*

**Thursday, July 26, 9 to 11 a.m.** - Axtell Creek streambank planting behind Paris Cleaners, 508 Crosstown Blvd. at S. Westnedge Ave. - Continuation of the July 12 actions

**Thursday, August, 9 to 11 a.m.** - Kalamazoo Public Schools Administration Building, 1220 Howard St. - Weeding, maintenance

**Thursday, August 23, 2 to 4 p.m.** - Tom and Ruth's house, 2502 Waite Ave, Kalamazoo - Helping to prepare for the Fall Plant Exchange (on Sunday, Sept.16)

**Thursday, September 25, 2 to 4 p.m.** - Kalamazoo Public Schools Administration Building, 1220 Howard St. - Fall clean-up

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## **Annual Fall Plant Exchange 2018** *Sunday August 26, 1 - 5 pm*

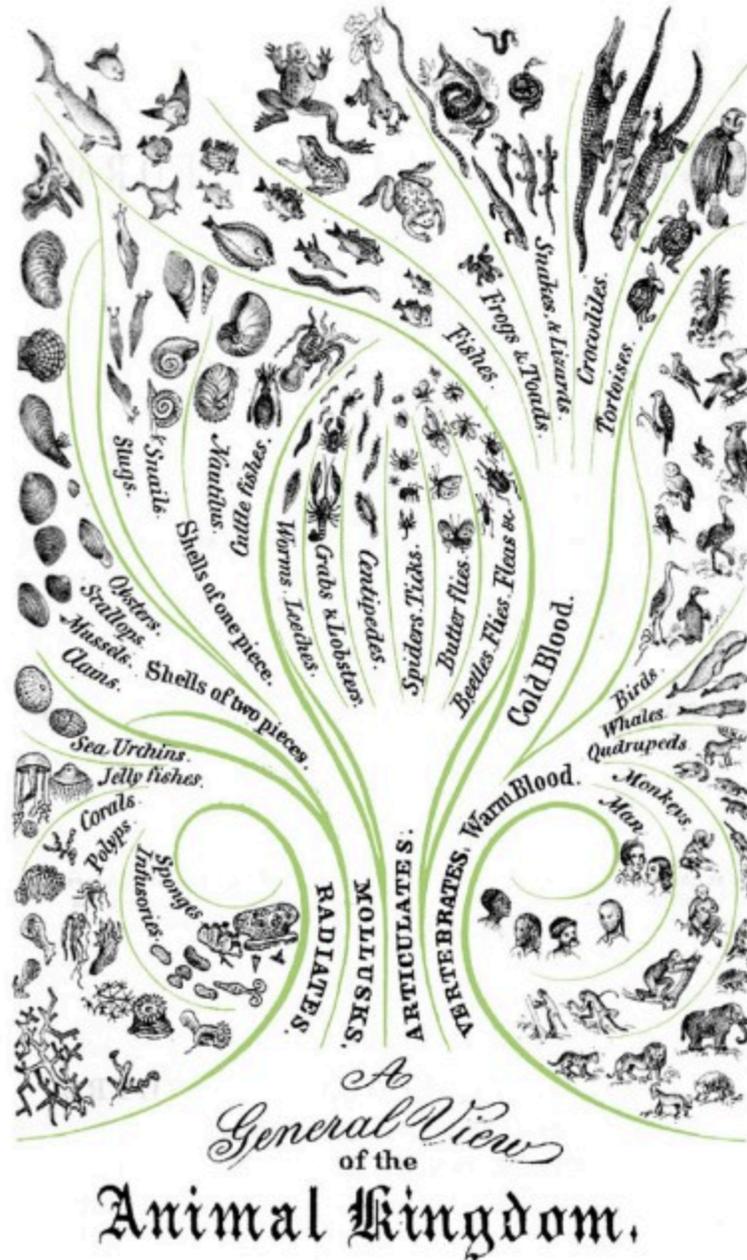


*Butterfly Weed (Asclepias tuberosa)*

Shown w/Pearl Crescent butterfly

**Tom, Ruth, and the Wild Ones invite you to the Annual Fall Plant Exchange!** Held at Ruth and Tom's house, 2502 Waite Ave., Kalamazoo, on Sunday, August 26, from 1 to 5 p.m. The exchange will offer numerous plants from Tom and Ruth's gardens, as well as plants brought by other Wild Ones members and supporters. In keeping with principles we've always emphasized, it's not necessary to bring a plant in order to take one; and no plants will be for sale.

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The soil is the great connector of lives, the source and destination of all. It is the healer and restorer and resurrector, by which disease passes into health, age into youth, death into life. Without proper care for it, we can have no community, because without proper care for it we can have no life.

--Wendell Berry

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[Community Events of Interest to Wild Ones](#)

**August 8-Sept.12, 6-8pm, 6-wk [Field Botany Class, Kellogg Bird Sanctuary](#)**

Registration required by August 1.

**August 16, 18 - [Native Grass ID class, Kellogg Bird Sanctuary](#)**

Registration required by August 10.

**Sept.8, 10 AM-1 PM, [Mosses and Ferns Field Trip at Dowagiac Woods](#)  
*Rescheduled from June***

**Sept.22 - [Bailey Fall Conference, 9am to 4pm, The Bailey Museum in South Haven.](#)** Douglas Tallamy as the keynote speaker. Also Steve Keto, Tyler Bassett, Tom Springer, and Ladislav Hanka.

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**SEEDLINGS** is edited by Tom Small and Kim Patrie. It appears five times a year, with a few additional brief supplements. The next regular issue will come early in October. **Deadline for submission is September 15.** Please send submissions to Tom at [yard2prairie@gmail.com](mailto:yard2prairie@gmail.com) or Kim at [safiraraks@gmail.com](mailto:safiraraks@gmail.com)

**To share comments and suggestions, simply reply to this email. We look forward to hearing from you!**

Find more information and news at [www.KalamazooWildOnes.org](http://www.KalamazooWildOnes.org)  
and [www.Facebook.com/KalamazooAreaWildOnes](http://www.Facebook.com/KalamazooAreaWildOnes)



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