

Newsletter

*FNHA is dedicated
to preserving the natural areas
in and around Fayetteville
and its environs
for future generations*

Doug Tallamy Talk

For the second time, FNHA co-sponsored a talk in Fayetteville by Douglas W. Tallamy, author of *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*. The lecture, which featured Tallamy's striking wildlife photography, was held on August 20 at the Global Campus on the Fayetteville Square.



Photo by D. Tallamy

Alien buddlejas (butterfly bushes) are touted as an excellent nectar plant. Unfortunately, not a single species of butterfly in North America can reproduce on them.

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FNHA Founders Feted at Fall Fundraiser

More than 100 members and friends gathered at the home of Denise and Hershey Garner on Sunday, September 26, 2010, to sip wine, savor hors d'oeuvres and desserts, and celebrate FNHA's founders: Dr. Peter Heinzelmann, Duane Woltjen and Kay DuVal. Proceeds from the fund-raiser will help to endow the FNHA Founders Scholarship Fund, which will pay tuition for children who could not otherwise attend summer programs at the Ozark Natural Science Center.



FNHA Founders Duane Woltjen, Kay DuVal, and Pete Heinzelmann

The event was held in a poolside pavilion set amid a lovely shade garden at the Garner's home. A crackling blaze in the outdoor fireplace at one end of the pavilion warmed guests on a cool autumn afternoon until the gathering crowd, good wine and lively conversation lent their own warmth.

President Bob Caulk welcomed guests, thanked our hosts and introduced the three Founders. Jason Kindall, Education and Research Director for the Ozark Natural Science Center, thanked FNHA for establishing the scholarships, which he said were very much needed and appreciated.

Pete Heinzelmann raised a toast to FNHA and recounted some of its many accomplishments since its beginning in 2002.

Once again, Bob Caulk performed his renowned cooking feats, with some assistance this year from Barbara Boland, Deborah Coody, Dot Neely and Barbara Taylor. Dot located the source for this year's invitations, which featured tree-free handmade paper from an environmentally sustainable business in Nepal that uses leftover materials from the regular trimming of the Lotka bush while providing much-needed employment for local women in the Kathmandu area.

Into the Public Eye:

Green Infrastructure Planning Project Linking Arkansas Communities

The Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association has completed its initial work on a regional strategic conservation plan. The Green Infrastructure Planning Project was conducted in partnership with Beaver Water District and funded by a grant from the U.S. Forest Service through the Arkansas Forestry Commission's Urban Forestry Program. The result of more than two years' work has now been made public.

In addition to the Planning Project report and a number of detailed GIS maps, FNHA created a video entitled "Green Infrastructure in Our Communities" narrated by several FNHA members and friends.

The Green Infrastructure Planning Project was featured in a September 9, 2010 interview by Jacqueline Froelich with Barbara Boland and Chris Wilson on (continued page 2)

Green Infrastructure Planning (continued from Page 1)

"Ozarks at Large" on KUAF. The interview can be heard in the KUAF audio archive at www.kuaf.org/ozarksatlarge.

Conferences and workshops sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Forest Service have showcased the Green Infrastructure Planning Project. An August EPA conference, which drew a large audience, combined Regional Water Quality issues with Green Infrastructure. The Changing Roles program of the USDA Forest Service Southeastern Region sponsored a workshop on techniques for education and public involvement concerning Green Infrastructure.

Katie Allen of The Conservation Fund's Conservation Leadership Network presented the Green Infrastructure Planning project as a case

study during recent Green Infrastructure training at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV. She received many comments and questions from people impressed by the progress and process of our plan.

FNHA gave a major presentation on the Green Infrastructure Planning Project to City of Fayetteville staff. John Goddard, the GIS coordinator, wrote to Barbara Boland, saying, "I really think that our history as a City and a Region will show this work as a significant turning point and catalyst for change."

FNHA representatives met with the staff of the Northwest Regional Planning Commission to discuss expanding the Green Infra-

structure Planning process to the entire Northwest Arkansas region.

Additional presentations will be made to the University of Arkansas Community Design Center, the Geosciences Department, and the Biological Sciences Department.

All participants in the planning process, including the Stakeholders Group and the Working Groups, were invited to attend a presentation on the completed Green Infrastructure Planning Project. Project Coordinator Barbara Boland summarized the study results on October 6th at the Pat Walker Center for Seniors, on the Washington Regional Medical Center campus in Fayetteville.

Article by Karen Rollet-Crocker

Board News



Kennametal in Rogers presented FNHA with a check for \$1,500 as part of their corporate celebration of community volunteers. In the photo above Jon Bitler, Krista Smalley and Gary Martineck of Kennametal present the check to Bob Caulk, second from left, and Karen Rollet-Crocker, center.

On July 30 Margo and **Dr. Peter Heinzelmann**, founder and Board member, were recognized at a press conference called by the City of Fayetteville at the Underwood Lindsey pavilion in Mt. Sequoyah Woods for their establishment of a Fayetteville Natural Areas Foundation Fund which will help the City preserve more natural areas in perpetuity. Pete was also featured in a profile in the August issue of *Cityscapes*.

The Board of Directors of FNHA contributed more than \$600 to the Arkansas Audubon Society in honor of **Doug James'** 85th birthday on July 25th. Congratulations, Doug!!

Bob Caulk is serving on the interim Board of Directors for the newly-formed Beaver Watershed Alliance and **Barbara Taylor** is chairing the Education Committee.

Chris Wilson has continued to work on clearing nonnative invasives from the prairie remnant near Lake Fayetteville and restoring some of the original native prairie grasses and forbs.

Wade Colwell has been featured in a newspaper article about his work on area trails including the Fayetteville trail system and the Ozark Highland Trail.

Chris Wilson and **Barbara Taylor** were on hand for the annual Secchi Day at Prairie Creek on Beaver Lake with a table of information about FNHA and maps from the Green Infrastructure Planning Project.

Streamside Protection Ordinance Process Addresses Riparian Buffer Areas in Fayetteville

"It is much more cost-efficient to prevent pollutants from entering stormwater than it is to remove pollutants once they are in the system." This statement made by the Environmental Protection Agency underscores the economic reasoning behind efforts taking place in the City of Fayetteville. With assistance from the Environmental Action Committee, the Green Infrastructure/Land Use Committee of the Fayetteville Forward Economic Accountability Council, and the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension, the City of Fayetteville has begun the process of developing an ordinance that would address the land, rich in ecological services, found alongside streams throughout

the watersheds of our community.

Ecological services are processes such as water filtration, temperature management, flood management, erosion control, flow attenuation, wildlife habitat, and aesthetic beauty. These services are provided by intact ecosystems, such as those affiliated with healthy riparian zones. When riparian zones are depleted and water is piped directly into streams, disconnecting stormwater from the riparian zones, communities spend more money on flood control, water filtration, and bank stabilization projects as a result of increased erosion and pollutant levels.

Water districts around the country see the value in preventing pollution within the watershed. The Beaver Water District (BWD), for example, helped to fund the City of Fayetteville's Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) in order to reduce sediment and nutrients contributed by non-point source pollution to the White River and eventually Beaver Lake, our drinking water source. One recommendation from the NMP was that the City of Fayetteville create legislation that would protect the water supply. More than 250,000 people in the Northwest Arkansas region consume water from Beaver Reservoir in the White River Watershed (BWD, 2010).

(continued p. 4)

Fayetteville Community Wildlife Habitat Project

The Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association is partnering with the City of Fayetteville Environmental Action Committee to have Fayetteville designated the first *National Wildlife Federation Certified Community Wildlife Habitat™* in the state of Arkansas.

A *Community Wildlife Habitat™* supports wildlife in individual yards and in public areas such as parks, school grounds, community gardens, places of worship and businesses. Each certified habitat provides food and water sources, places for cover, nesting sites, and employs sustainable gardening practices.

The Environmental Action Committee will be the project leader in certification, education, community projects and the other required steps for achieving community certification with the *National Wildlife Federation®*.

The Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association will provide additional expertise

and resources, including information about the role of green infrastructure in securing a place for wildlife in the community.

A *Habitat Team* of representatives from 17 other local groups including non-profit conservation groups, industry leaders, city administrators and educators will work on public education, community outreach and the "Ready, Set, Certify!" campaign.

Several Fayetteville Public Schools are working toward creating Certified *Schoolyard Habitats* that will be used as outdoor science classrooms. The city has identified 25 Fayetteville parks and trails that may be eligible for certification.

To certify their properties, residents can go to the NWF website at www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife. The application fee is \$20 and signs (not required) are an additional \$30. The NWF will track cer-



tified properties by zip code and credit them toward community certification.

For more information, visit www.nwf.org, or contact Terri Lane at 479-966-4780 or treehuggerlane@cox.net

Article by Terri Lane

**Have a question?
Need more info?
Want to Comment?**

**Fill out the contact form at
www.fayettevillenatural.org
or contact us directly**

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Please help us to continue making exemplary natural areas accessible to everyone by supporting our conservation, stewardship, policy, and education efforts.

Join FNHA or renew your membership today

Annual membership dues are:

(☒ Please check one)

☐ Landmark \$1000

☐ Steward \$500

☐ Sustaining \$250

☐ Supporting \$100

☐ Family \$40

☐ Single \$20

The current status of your membership is
above your name on the mailing label

Use your PayPal account on the web at www.fayettevillenatural.org "Join Us"

or

Make your check payable to **Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association (FNHA)**
and mail to **PO Box 3635, Fayetteville, AR 72702-3635**

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FNHA is a nonprofit corporation comprised of a group of citizens dedicated to conserving natural areas of Fayetteville and its environs for the benefit of present and future generations

Streamside Protection Ordinance Process Addresses Riparian Buffer Areas in Fayetteville (continued from page 2)

BWD understands that keeping pollutants from entering the water supply is cheaper than removing them later through engineered filtration processes.

There are also legal and federal policy reasons to address pollutant reduction through riparian zone protection. The City of Fayetteville and the rest of Northwest Arkansas under the watchful eye of the Region 6 EPA as a result of high levels of phosphorus in the Illinois River Watershed. Fayetteville is located within the headwaters of this watershed. The headwaters are the most sensitive to pollutant contributions.

Phosphorous comes from point sources of pollution, such as water treatment facilities, as well as non-point sources of pollution, such as lawn fertilizers, parking lot contaminants, animal manure, golf course fertilization, construction sites, and mining operations.

Currently, the Region 6 EPA is focused on the point source polluters which are more easily regulated through the permitting process. However, our communities continue to grow, in land use, as well as population, and

therefore, the effects of non-point source pollutants on our watersheds will continue to be amplified. The community will continue to be penalized through requirements for expensive water treatment facility upgrades unless efforts are made to prevent them from entering streams on a watershed scale, not only a point source scale.

In response to ecological and economic concerns, City of Fayetteville staff developed a project team, reviewed scientific literature, and reviewed riparian zone ordinances from other communities throughout the nation to develop the Streamside Protection Ordinance for Fayetteville. Karen Minkel, Strategic Planning and Internal Consulting Director for the City, John Pennington, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Agent, and Sarah Lewis, Ward 4 City Council Member, led two workshops to help citizens understand the science of riparian zones and the policy goals of the ordinance. The City conducted an online survey to gather further citizen input.

The proposed ordinance, a best management practices manual and a streamside protection zone map are on the City of Fayetteville website. A question and answer session for property owners who might be affected will be held on October 12, 2010, at 5:30 pm in Room 111 of the City Administration Building. The Planning Commission will review the ordinance at its October 25, 2010, meeting and the ordinance will then go to the City Council.

- article by Dr. Sarah Lewis



Sarah Lewis discusses proposed streamside ordinance benefits



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