



The Prairie Enthusiasts, Inc.

“TPE at 25: The Journey to Prairie Preservation” Annual Prairie Conference and All-Chapter Banquet

Saturday, February 25, 2012

UW-Stout Campus, Micheels and Jarvis Halls, Menomonie, WI

Co-Hosted by the Chippewa Savannas and St. Croix Valley Chapters of TPE!

Our Co-hosts have organized an excellent program for the annual event. The theme, “TPE at 25: The Journey to Prairie Preservation,” celebrates our growth and successes since incorporation on July 8, 1987.

We are excited to bring **Stephen Packard** to Menomonie as the keynote speaker. Stephen, editor of “*The Tallgrass Restoration Handbook*,” is the Director of the National Audubon Society in the Chicago Region. He was a major force in creating Nachusa Grasslands, 3000 acres of prairie remnants, restorations, and reconstructions. His work on restoring oak savannas led to a rediscovery of this ecosystem.

Following his opening presentation, concurrent sessions - a technical track and an animal track – will cover such topics as: dragonflies & damselflies, ear training for birding, herbicides and invasives, and prairie/savanna research.

For the first time we offer a track for beginners, the “Planting a Prairie 101” workshop. This all-day workshop offers step-by-step guidance to planting or restoring a native landscape.

There will also be ample time to see and catch up with old and new friends during a **social mixer**, followed by the **annual all-chapter Banquet**.

We are pleased to announce our banquet speaker, Dr. Doug Tallamy. Dr. Tallamy is Professor and Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology and director of the Center for Managed Ecosystems at the University of Delaware in Newark, Delaware, where he has authored 73 research articles and has taught Insect Taxonomy, Behavioral Ecology, and other courses for 30 years. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities. His book “Bringing Nature Home; How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens” was published by Timber Press in 2007 and was awarded the 2008 silver medal by the Garden Writer’s Association.

TPE Photo Contest (Jarvis Hall Science Wing Concourse)

Finalists from the 3rd Annual TPE Photo Contest will be on display during the conference. Attendees will vote for their favorite photo and the winner will be used for the cover of our 2011 annual report. Full details and contest rules are available on our website, www.ThePrairieEnthusiasts.org.

Raffle and Auction Notes (Jarvis Hall Science Wing Concourse)

Once again attendees can participate in the annual Raffle and Silent Auction. This is a fundraiser for our Chapters. Raffle and auction items, such as wine & chocolate baskets and books, are available all day.

Vendor, Chapter and Poster Displays (Micheels and Jarvis Halls)

Vendor, Chapter and Poster displays will be open all day. Contact Mandy Little, littlea@uwstout.edu for abstract submission for the poster presentation. Deadline for submission: December 20, 2011.

TPE Sales Items (Jarvis Hall Science Wing Concourse)

Visit TPE’s merchandise table offering tote bags, t-shirts, hats, books, our ever-popular Parsnip Predator, and other items. Buy on site and save the shipping and handling charge!

TPE 2012 Prairie Enthusiasts Conference Program

8:00 – 9:00 am	Check-In Registration (Micheels Hall 184) Continental breakfast Buy raffle tickets and peruse raffle and auction items Visit vendors and poster displays		
9:00 – 9:05 am	Welcome from Jack Kusssmaul, TPE President (Micheels Hall 184)		
9:10 – 9:55 am	General Session (Micheels Hall 184) Speaker: Stephen Packard, Director, National Audubon Society, Chicago Region		
9:55 – 10:00 am	Break (Micheels Hall 184) Visit vendor and poster displays and the raffle/silent auction. Check out TPE merchandise table.		
10:10 – 10:55 am	Concurrent Sessions (Jarvis Hall Science Wing Lecture Rooms 110, 112, 114)		
	<u>Lecture Hall 110</u> Animal Track	<u>Lecture Hall 112</u> Technical Track	<u>Lecture Hall 114</u> Planting a Prairie: A Workshop for Beginners
	Ear Training for Birding <u>Steve Betchkal</u> , WQOW photographer and author Learn how to identify many birds by song or call.	Herbicides and Invasives <u>Lee Shambeau</u> , 4 Control	Session 1: How to Plant a Prairie Instructor: <u>Harvey Halvorsen</u> . Analyze your site – soils, sun/shade, size, slope, sensitive areas, existing vegetations. Set goals for your planting – do you want a garden or restoration, how much diversity, what is your budget.
11:00 – 11:45 am	Concurrent Sessions (Jarvis Hall Science Wing Lecture Rooms 110, 112, 114)		
	<u>Lecture Hall 110</u> Animal Track	<u>Lecture Hall 112</u> Technical Track	<u>Lecture Hall 114</u> Planting a Prairie: A Workshop for Beginners
	Snails in Native Prairie Ecosystems <u>Matt Kuchta</u> , Assistant Professor of Geology, UW-Stout	Converting Cool Season Grass Fields to Prairie Vegetation <u>Rich Henderson</u> , Wisconsin DNR	Session 2: How to Plant a Prairie (continued) Instructor: <u>Troy Meacham</u> . Select species or seed mix, prepare site, seed and plant, and maintenance. What to expect, where to learn more
12:00 – 1:20 pm	Lunch (included in conference fee). (Micheels Hall 184) Speaker: <u>Jack Kusssmaul</u> , TPE President, TPE Update Speaker: <u>Bill Hogseth</u> , TPE Vice President, Prairies and Savannas of the Lower Chippewa River Time to network, visit vendors and poster displays, check out the raffle/silent auction.		

Afternoon Concurrent Sessions (Jarvis Hall Science Wing)

1:30 – 2:15 pm	<u>Lecture Hall 110</u> Animal Track	<u>Lecture Hall 112</u> Technical Track	<u>Lecture Hall 114</u> Planting a Prairie: A Workshop for Beginners
	Karner Blue Butterfly <u>Paula Kleintjes Neff</u> , Ph.D., UW-Eau Claire	Advanced Prairie Management; Beyond the Basics – <u>Armund Bartz</u> , Wisconsin DNR	Session 3: A Beginner's Guide to Prairie Plants Instructor: <u>Mike Miller</u> . Selecting the best grasses, wildflowers and shrubs for your site.
2:15 – 2:30 pm	Break (Jarvis Hall Science Wing Concourse) Visit vendor and poster displays and the raffle/silent auction. Check out TPE merchandise table.		
2:30 – 3:15 pm	<u>Lecture Hall 110</u> Animal Track	<u>Lecture Hall 112</u> Technical Track	<u>Lecture Hall 114</u> Planting a Prairie: A Workshop for Beginners
	Dragonflies and Damselflies <u>Robert DuBois</u> , Superior DNR	TBD <u>Stephen Packard</u> , Director National Audubon Society Chicago Region	Session 4: Prairie Planting Case Studies Example of a prairie garden, a small prairie restoration, a 1-2 acre plantings, enhancing a remnant, and a 5+ acre restoration.

3:15 – 3:30 pm	Break (Jarvis Hall Science Wing Concourse) Visit vendor and poster displays and the raffle/silent auction. Check out TPE merchandise table.
3:30 – 4:15 pm	Management Roundtable (Lecture Hall 110) Bring your questions about herbicides, restoration techniques, eradicating weeds, which weeds to worry about and general management to this roundtable of experts.
4:30 – 5:30 pm	Poster Presentations (Jarvis Hall Science Wing Concourse) Poster presentations will be given.
4:30 – 5:45 pm	Social Mixer (Cash Bar) (Jarvis Hall Science Wing Concourse) Enjoy a beverage and take a leisurely stroll through the silent auction/raffle and vendor areas. Talk with vendors; take part in the poster presentation; purchase an item at the TPE merchandise table and be sure to place your final bid on the auction and raffle items (closes at 5:00 pm). Silent Auction/Raffle winners announced at 5:30 pm. Pick up items.

TPE 2012 Banquet Agenda (Micheels Hall 184)

6:00 pm	Welcome from Jack Kussmaul, TPE President
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Banquet
7:00 – 7:45 pm	Announcements, Awards – Jack Kussmaul, TPE President
7:45 – 8:30 pm	After Dinner Speaker: Dr. Doug Tallamy Dr. Tallamy’s research goal is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities. His book, <i>“Bringing Nature Home,”</i> explores the link between healthy local ecosystems and human well-being.
8:30 pm	Pick Up Silent Auction/Raffle items.

Lodging in Menomonie, WI

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UW-Stout Campus
Micheels Hall
Menomonie WI

A block of rooms has been reserved at two motels in Menomonie under the name THE PRAIRIE ENTHUSIASTS.

Country Inn & Suites Menomonie

320 Oak Avenue
Menomonie, WI 54751
715-235-5664 (direct to motel)
800-456-4000 (central reservations)
on line at www.countryinns.com/menomoniewi
(use promotional code Prair)
RATE: \$107.10/Night plus tax
Single/Double Occupancy

AmericInn Menomonie

1915 N. Broadway Street
Menomonie, WI 54751
715-235-4800
RATE: 2-night stay: \$84.99/night plus tax
(Single/Double Occupancy)
1-night stay: \$89.99/night plus tax
(Single/Double Occupancy)
Note: If you are reserving a room for only one night, be sure to tell reservations that the motel manager, Richard Moreno, has agreed to the conference rate of \$89.99 for the single night.

To reserve a room at these rates, be sure to tell reservations you are with The Prairie Enthusiasts group. **Motel block release date is January 24, 2012.**

Alternative Accommodations: There are several other motels in the area. You may wish to consider:

Super 8 – Menomonie
1622 North Broadway
Menomonie, WI 54751
715-235-8889

Oaklawn Inn Bed & Breakfast
423 Technology Drive
Menomonie, WI 54751
www.oaklawninn.com
715-235-6155

Quality Inn & Suites – Menomonie
1721 Plaza Drive
Menomonie, WI 54751
715-233-1500
All rooms \$64.99/night plus tax
Mention The Prairie Enthusiasts for room rate

\$105 plus tax includes spacious room with private bath (shower), complimentary refreshments, a full hot breakfast and some Legacy chocolates.

Directions to UW-Stout

UW-Stout is easily accessible from the east or west on Highways 12 and 29 and from the north or south on Highway 25. Menomonie is located about 60 miles east of Minneapolis and about 260 miles northwest of Milwaukee on Interstate 94 (exit Highway 25 south).

Micheels and Jarvis Halls Parking

Use parking lots 18 or 29. There is no permit needed. To view a campus map go to www.uwstout and click on "About UW-Stout".

Registration: 2012 TPE Annual Conference and Banquet
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Attendee Name (Please Print): _____
 Attendee Name (Please Print): _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

		# of People	Total
TPE Member Conference Registration Fee (includes lunch and breaks)*	\$60.00 x	_____	_____
Nonmember Conference Registration Fee (includes lunch/breaks/TPE \$25 12-month membership)	\$85.00 x	_____	_____
Student Conference Registration Fee (includes lunch and breaks)*	\$25.00 x	_____	_____
TPE Member Saturday Evening Banquet*	\$25.00 x	_____	_____
Nonmember Saturday Evening Banquet*	\$50.00 x	_____	_____
TPE Membership (\$100 shooting star (preferred membership) \$15 student; \$25 little blue stem; \$40 big blue stem; \$65 pasque flower; \$200 blazing star)	\$_____ x	_____	_____
Late Registration Fee** (add \$10 per person after February 10)	\$10.00 x	_____	_____
		Total:	_____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2012.

*Please register as early as possible. **Early Bird Deadline Date: Friday, February 10, 2012.

Make checks payable to: The Prairie Enthusiasts Questions on Registration: Carol Winge
 (608) 577-0584 or e-mail at carolwinge@yahoo.com
 Mail Form and Check to: PO Box 1148, Madison, WI 53701-1148

I prefer registration confirmation by: _____ mail _____ email

To register on-line, using your credit card, go to www.ThePrairieEnthusiasts.org

*BANQUET ENTREE SELECTION: (write guest names next to selections—choose one for each attendee):

Half Baked Chicken _____
 Served with House Salad, Herb Roasted Red Potatoes, and Green Beans Amandine

Roast Pork Loin Au Jus _____
 Served with House Salad, Herb Roasted Red Potatoes, and Green Beans Amandine

Vegetarian Lasagna Rolls _____
 Served with House Salad and Green Beans Amandine

Mail Form and Check to:
 TPE
 PO Box 1148
 Madison WI 53701-1148

Early Bird Registration Date: Friday, February 10, 2012
Final Registration Date: Friday, February 16, 2012