

2015 SER MWGL Business Meeting

Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL

March 28, 2015



Agenda

- Announcements
- 2014 Accomplishments and 2015 Preview
- Membership Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Election Results
- Upcoming Chapter Activities
- Awards

Special Thanks!

- Meeting Hosts
 - Chicago Botanic Garden
 - Northwestern University
 - Graduate program in Plant Biology and Conservation
- Annual Meeting Committee
- Local Planning Committee



Announcements: Field Trips

- Check/update RSVPs and carpool sign ups at registration desk
- Some trip has higher than anticipated interest so please be patient with guides
- Some trip occurs during restoration work day so bring work clothes if you want to help
- High profile trip has 2-3 stops and will end by 2-3pm. You must bring your own lunch.



Announcements: Student Mixer

- Hosted by the Plant Biology and Conservation Graduate Program (joint program b/w Northwestern University and the Chicago Botanic Garden)
- Following host plenary tour in Plant Science Center
- Socialization, snacks, pizza, and restoration-themed pub-style trivia with prizes for the winning team

Announcements: Student Raffle

- Only a few minutes left to buy raffle tickets
- Benefits student awards program
- \$2 for 1 ticket
- \$10 for 6 tickets



Board Members

Thanks to the 2014-2015 Board Members for dedicating your time to make us better!

- Jen Lyndall
- Young Choi
- Joe Di Misa
- Dan Larkin
- Mike Enright
- Don Tilton
- Roger Anderson
- Steve Glass
- Chris Lenhart
- Todd Aschenbach
- Dave Benson
- Pamela Rice
- Rocky Smiley
- Autumn Sabo
- Lauren Umek

New and Remaining Board Members please see Jen after business meeting

2014 Chapter Accomplishments & 2015 Preview

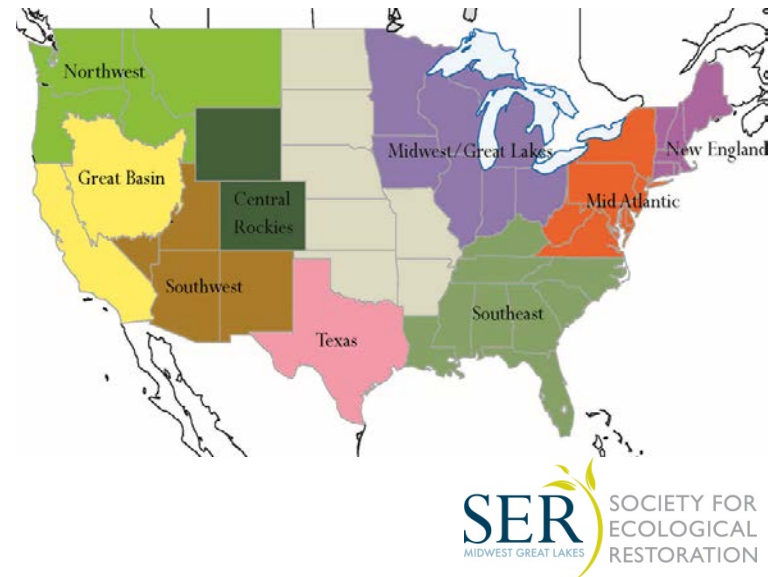
Presented by:

Jen Lyndall, President, March 2015



MWGL Chapter of SER

- SER MWGL was recognized as an SER Regional Chapter in March 2008
- **Mission:** To promote the science and practice of ecological restoration to assist with the recovery and management of degraded ecosystems throughout the Midwestern and Great Lakes region of the United States.
- We serve Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin – **and now Iowa!!**
- Special thanks to Laura Jackson, Troy Anderson, Chris Lenhart, Joe DiMisa, Leah Bregman, Lori Biederman, Daniel Miller, Thomas Rosburg, and Keith Summerville



SER MWGL Benefits

- Annual meetings
 - Members get reduced rates
- State events
- Quarterly (?) webinars
- Restoration events calendar
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Website, Blog)
 - Networking
 - Information
 - Job Alerts



2014: Year 1 of the Strategic Plan

Goal 1: Improve outreach, benefits, and services for members

- Provide two major membership events annually
 - Annual Meeting in Minnesota
 - State level event in Michigan
- Develop at least one online webinar annually on regional restoration issues, methods, practices, and/or research
 - Gotowebinar
 - Cost structure – free!
- Produce or support the development of publications (i.e., books, technical reports, peer review manuscripts) on regional restoration topics and best restoration practices
 - Supported University of Iowa Press book
- Encourage electronic networking and interaction among our diverse membership base
 - Social media

2014: Year 1 of the Strategic Plan

Goal 3. Encourage greater student involvement and recognition

- Provide mini research grants, internships, and/or travel grants
- Provide greater recognition for students at our Annual Meeting
- Highlight student involvement at the Annual Meeting in the Chapter webpage, Facebook Page, and Blog

2014: Year 1 of the Strategic Plan

Goal 4. Strengthen the overall foundational structure of the organization

- Increase membership and retention of members
- Host Annual Meetings that attract up to 200 persons
- Clarify expectations of Board members, improve orientation materials for incoming Board members, and develop strategies for recruiting new Board members
- Review and ensure active committees are fulfilling needed functions
- Increase membership involvement in active committees

2015: Year 2 of the Strategic Plan

Goal 1. Improve outreach, benefits, and services for members

- Provide at least one online webinar annually on regional restoration issues, methods, practices, and/or research
- Proactively post timely regional job links

Goal 2. Become the primary regional source of information related to ecological restoration and restoration ecology

- Collaborate with and support other like-minded organizations by developing and strengthening local/regional private and nonprofit restoration networks
- Jointly host meetings and workshops with other organizations
- Annual Meetings, state events, webinars

Goal 4. Strengthen the overall foundational structure of the organization

- Maintain good financial standing, increase sponsorships and private donations

Opportunities for You!

- We need your help!
- Blog content, member/project showcases
- Engage in social media
- Join a committee
- Help organize a webinar and/or state event

Midwest Great Lakes Chapter Membership Report

Presented by:

Joe Di Misa Membership Chair, March 2015



2014 Chapter Membership Report- Member Statistics

2014 SER MWGL Geography

Alberta, Canada	1
Ontario, Canada	1
France	1
California	2
Washington, DC	4
Florida	1
Iowa	8
Illinois	43
Indiana	21
Maryland	1
Michigan	30
Minnesota	44
Missouri	2
North Dakota	1
Nebraska	1
Nevada	1
Ohio	29
Pennsylvania	1
South Dakota	2
Wisconsin	39
Wyoming	1
Unknown State	14

2014 SER MWGL Member Affiliation

Academia-Research Institute	101
Government Agency	30
Indigenous-Community Organization	1
Non-profit-Non-Governmental Organization	23
Other	10
Private Sector	43
Unknown	40

2014 SER MWGL Member Type

Chapter Member Only	47
Employee Member	4
Individual	128
Individual-Low Income	2
Organizational	8
Organizational-Low Income	1
SER Staff	3
Student	45
Student Association Member	10
Student Low Income	2

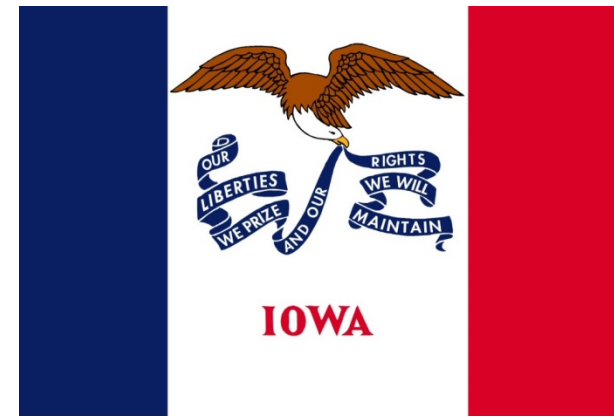
2014 Chapter Membership Report- Members Status

- *Our chapter is nothing without members!*
- We exist to serve our members.
- The MWGL chapter is one of the top three largest chapters in the WORLD!
- *Our membership is growing!*
- Members in April 2013 = 151
- Members in April 2014 = 259
- Current number of members = 289



2014 Chapter Membership Report- Member Outreach and Promotions

- Booth at the national Natural Areas Association conference
- Discontinuation of “chapter only” membership
- Issued Happy Holidays message from the chapter president
- Chapter conference 3 winners for first 50 retweet promotion
- Outreach to Michigan Botanical Symposium attendees to join
- Welcome Iowa!



2014 Chapter Membership Report- Membership Levels

- ***SER National-Individuals***
 - Individual \$50 (\$20 Low income)
 - Student \$20 (\$10 Low income)
- ***SER National-Groups***
 - Organization (up to 5 members): \$200 (\$100 Low income)
 - Additional member: \$40 per person (\$20 Low income)
- ***Chapter Affiliation***
 - Individual \$12
 - Student \$6

2014 Chapter Membership Report- How to Join?

- ***Website and Social Media***
 - <http://chapter.ser.org/midwestgreatlakes>
 - <https://restorationnewsmidwest.wordpress.com/>
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/116944704989364>
 - https://twitter.com/SER_MWGL
-
- ***Need Membership Help? Contact Me!***
 - Joe Di Misa at joe.dimisa@woolpert.com
 - <https://twitter.com/JoeDiMisa>



Midwest Great Lakes Chapter Financial Report

Presented by:

Dan Larkin, Treasurer, March 2015



SER MWGL Finances

- Income
 - Membership
 - Annual Meeting Registrations
 - Sponsors
 - Donations
- Expenditures
 - Annual Meeting
 - Student Research Grant
 - Outreach
 - Processing fees (e.g., PayPal, Eventbrite, SER)

Current State of Finances

- Finances are healthy
- String of strong years breaking even or earning money
- Challenged this year by higher annual-meeting cost, but prognosis still good
 - Costs not as high as initial projections
 - Exceeded expectations re sponsorships

Bank account balance a/o March 16th was
\$20,497.39

2014 Fiscal Year

INCOME

Description	Amount \$
Meeting Sponsorships	\$ 5,647.37
Meeting Registration Fees	\$ 5,689.90
Meeting Cash Bar and Tips	\$ 186.25
Membership Dues (Directly collected)	\$ 618.66
Membership Dues (Reimbursements from SER)	\$ 1,980.00
Student Research Award Donations and Raffle	\$ 443.46
Total Chapter Income:	\$ 14,565.64

EXPENSES

Description	Amount \$
Annual Meeting Costs	\$ 9,210.54
Student Research Award	\$ 1,000.00
Miscellaneous (exhibits)	\$ 107.95
Miscellaneous (refunds)	\$ 97.80
Processing Fees from Paypal	\$ 147.93
Processing Fees from SER	\$ 532.00
Processing Fees from Eventbrite	\$ 234.39
Total Chapter Expenses	\$ 11,330.61

2015 Income So Far...

- Registration (net): \$11,406
- Membership: Awaiting Q1 report from SER
- Sponsors
 - \$7,150 deposited
 - Additional \$900 pledged

2015 Expenditures So Far...

- Annual Meeting:
 - Deposit for caterer (50%: \$4,458)
 - Honoraria (\$712)
- Awards:
 - Student research grant (\$1,000)
 - Student practice award (up to \$1,000)
 - Student awards at the annual meeting (\$200)
- Processing fees:
 - Eventbrite (\$604.37)
 - \$431.42 + 172.95 invoice
 - PayPal (\$316.44)

Midwest Great Lakes Chapter Election Results

Presented by:

Todd Aschenbach, Board Development Chair,
March 2015



SER MWGL 2015 Election Results

- Vice President: Chris Lenhart
- Treasurer: Dan Larkin
- Indiana Rep: Rebecca Dolan
- Iowa Rep: Laura Jackson
- Michigan Rep: Todd Aschenbach
- Minnesota Rep: Julia Bohnen
- At Large Rep: Martha Holzheuer
- At Large Rep: Chris May
- At Large Rep: Mary Beth McCormack
- Student Rep: Katrina Punzel
- Student Rep: Lauren Umek

Upcoming Chapter Membership Events

Presented by:

Rocky Smiley, Annual Meeting Chair,
March 2015



Dayton Restoration Field Trip & Social

- October 2015
- Dayton, Ohio



Join us for a day of visiting a diversity of ecological restoration sites in Dayton, Ohio and an evening social

2016 Annual Chapter Meeting

- April 1 to 3, 2016
- Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

Memorial Union,
Indiana University



Eco Logic Headquarters
Field Trip Site



Summer 2015 Webinar

- Collaborating with Tallgrass Prairie and Oak Savanna Fire Consortium
- Use of fire in restoration
- Developing content now
- Look for announcement of date and speakers next month

Awards Presentation

Presented by:

Lauren Umek, Awards Committee Chair,
March 2015

