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**FW: DAWO founder Hope Taft; garden at the Governor's mansion**

Inbox



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| |  | | --- | | **Lisa Olsen** | | | | 8:21 AM (5 hours ago) |
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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | to Barbara | |   Hi Barb,    In addition to news of Janet’s passing, Ruth shared details about chapter founder Hope Taft that might be worth looking at for a Journal article (see her message below). There is a lot of interest among our members in getting native plants into public spaces like Governor’s mansions and the White House. If we haven’t featured that garden yet, it might be worth a look.    Best,    Lisa Olsen (she/her) Chapter Liaison [lolsen@wildones.org](mailto:lolsen@wildones.org)  [Wild Ones](https://wildones.org/) 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Road Neenah, WI  54956 Office: 920-730-3986        **From:** Ruth Bowell <[rbowell@twc.com](mailto:rbowell@twc.com)>  **Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023 6:07 AM **To:** Lisa Olsen <[lolsen@wildones.org](mailto:lolsen@wildones.org)>; Support <[support@wildones.org](mailto:support@wildones.org)> **Cc:** 'Karen Veve' <[karenveve68@gmail.com](mailto:karenveve68@gmail.com)> **Subject:** RE: Remembering Janet Lasley, DAWO's first president    Thanks, Lisa. Her passing was really unexpected and we were all shocked. Hope and Janet were really the founders although several of us were original members/officers. Seedling chapters weren’t a thing then, I don’t think. Janet remained active with the chapter after stepping aside from the presidency. As an aside, Hope is a former Ohio first lady and established a native plant garden at the governor’s mansion with plant communities representing the different habitats in Ohio. The garden is maintained by volunteers and still overseen by Hope. She and Janet became friends because of their passion for native plants. Hope remains an active member and we rely on her wisdom but she is a busy person, as you might imagine.    Ruth    **From:** Lisa Olsen <[lolsen@wildones.org](mailto:lolsen@wildones.org)>  **Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023 8:52 AM **To:** Ruth Bowell <[rbowell@twc.com](mailto:rbowell@twc.com)>; Support <[support@wildones.org](mailto:support@wildones.org)> **Subject:** RE: Remembering Janet Lasley, DAWO's first president    Thank you, Ruth, for sharing this message and letting us (and your chapter’s members) know about Wild Ones member and Dayton Area Chapter’s first president Janet Lasley’s passing. She was so young!    I have copied [support@wildones.org](mailto:support@wildones.org) to enable David to update the member database and remove any future mailings from Janet’s account.    Your message mentions Hope Taft as a DAWO founder; would Janet also be considered a founder of DAWO? Are there others who were involved in the initial launch?    I am very sorry for your loss, and sorry not to have known Janet. I don’t doubt that she brought great energy to the DAWO community.    Best,    Lisa Olsen (she/her) Chapter Liaison [lolsen@wildones.org](mailto:lolsen@wildones.org)  [Wild Ones](https://wildones.org/) 2285 Butte des Morts Beach Road Neenah, WI  54956 Office: 920-730-3986        **From:** Ruth Bowell <[rbowell@twc.com](mailto:rbowell@twc.com)>  **Sent:** Wednesday, February 8, 2023 5:28 AM **To:** Lisa Olsen <[lolsen@wildones.org](mailto:lolsen@wildones.org)> **Cc:** 'Karen Veve' <[karenveve68@gmail.com](mailto:karenveve68@gmail.com)> **Subject:** Remembering Janet Lasley, DAWO's first president    Hi Lisa,    I wanted to share some sad news from the Dayton Area chapter. The email below is what we sent to our members as many of them knew Janet.    Ruth Bowell, Membership Chair  Dayton Area Wild Ones    **From:** Dayton Area Wild Ones <[daytonareawildones937@gmail.com](mailto:daytonareawildones937@gmail.com)>  **Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2023 9:23 AM **To:** Ruth Bowell <[rbowell@twc.com](mailto:rbowell@twc.com)> **Subject:** Remembering Janet Lasley, DAWO's first president     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [View this email in your browser](https://mailchi.mp/90bf3ac30dd2/remembering-janet-lasley-dawos-first-president?e=737992fdb5) | | | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | | | |

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | In 2015, Hope Taft was approached by the Columbus chapter of the Wild Ones and asked to start a chapter in Dayton. Her thoughts turned immediately to Janet, a recently retired teacher, a naturalist, and a passionate lover of native plants to spearhead this effort. Thankfully, Janet said yes and so became the first president of the Dayton Area Wild Ones.  Janet gave the chapter the moniker DAWO, and was our fearless leader for the first 4 years. Everyone who knew Janet will not forget those fun and challenging years. Also an artist, she drew the design for the DAWO tee shirt that we wear today. We will remember her for her unfathomable love for fleabane, her losing battles with technology, and her ready hugs as if we’d known each other forever. A lover of all plants edible (and some not), anyone who hiked with her had to be prepared as she would pull a plant out of the ground and insist that we taste it.  Janet was kind, loving, and generous. She was an original and we miss her.   [https://epaper.daytondailynews.com/popovers/dynamic\_article\_popover.aspx?artguid=ca61fffb-eb91-4fda-9118-cf167992d188&utm\_source=app.pagesuite&utm\_medium=app-interaction&utm\_campaign=pagesuite-epaper-ipad\_share-article&appcode=DADANE&eguid=88b26776-a0a4-4a71-99c7-bbe2d8feb24c&pnum=76#](https://daytonareawildones.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=84da187fd773a0cea465d3e11&id=9fa322c068&e=737992fdb5) | | | |
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