



The Rhode Island Wild Plant Society
PO Box 414
Exeter, RI 02822
(401) 789-7497
www.riwps.org

Dear RIWPS member:

In March 2010 our new year of operation will begin. Your new Board of Trustees will be in place, and a number of committee chairs are already hard at work. I have the privilege of serving as your President once again. For those of you who may not know I was the RIWPS President from 1999 to 2001.

Through the years, RIWPS has been a typical non-profit organization, in that a relatively small number of our membership does the large percentage of the administrative work of the organization. I won't single them out, but a number of our members have been hard at work almost since the inception of RIWPS. It's time for them to get a well-deserved break.

A lot of new faces have already emerged this year; but we need more. We hope that all of you enjoy our walks, lectures and workshops, and we hope that you will consider giving something back to RIWPS by volunteering some of your time. We need help from all of you to be able to continue to carry out our mission. In my experience by getting involved in your organization, you will meet a lot of nice folks and have a lot of fun.

We have restructured RIWPS this year and have many tasks of small magnitude that need folks to handle them. Typically our members' schedules are busy and they cannot always help with major chores; so we have activities of all sizes available. You can pick volunteer opportunities that work for you. At the end of this letter, I have listed a number of them.

As I perused our membership list I found that there were many names that were new to me. I warmly welcome all our new members and encourage them to get involved.

I plan to call a number of you to ask you to pitch in. If you are already involved – perhaps as a docent at the Flower Show or some other activity, please email or call me and let me know so I don't pester you unnecessarily. We are now trying to keep track of this work – so we don't ask too much of you.

Areas where we could use help are:

- Speaker recommendations & recruitment
- Speaker program arrangements – food/drink
- Walks and workshops administration; also leadership
- Youth and other education programs
- Photographers for a new “Shutterbug” group
- Flower Show docents and planters; plus general help
- Plant Sale workers
- Fall fund-raiser committee
- Audit Committee member

We can put all of you to work in some capacity; and you'll have fun. Please call or email me if you are interested, and want to know more. Don't hesitate; we have plenty of nice folks to help you learn how to do these things. Please join us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jules".

Jules Cohen

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