

# ALL ABOUT THE CENTER SPREAD

by *John H. Vargo, Publisher*

The tremendous impact that the pandemic has had on our society has created dramatic shifts in all our lives! Most importantly it has forced people to use an existing wonderful asset: the Riverfront Walkway north from Scenic Hudson Park in Peekskill, south to Charles Point in numbers never envisioned when it was created.

The quiet murmur of strollers, runners, bikers and others on the Walkway proves out the fact that this is a "sea change" that will be here long after the pandemic is but a memory. People have discovered the Hudson River and open spaces once again!

The fact that Milkweed has been found growing along the two mile stretch and is struggling mightily to survive points out a value that can, and should be added to the walkway as soon as this spring. It will become a fascinating value feature for the walkers daily exercise!

Not only will the people using the Walkway enjoy the flowers and butterflies that will enhance the area but Peekskill will be setting an example for the rest of the country in a unique concept, saving the Monarch Butterfly, by saving the Milkweed plants in their area.

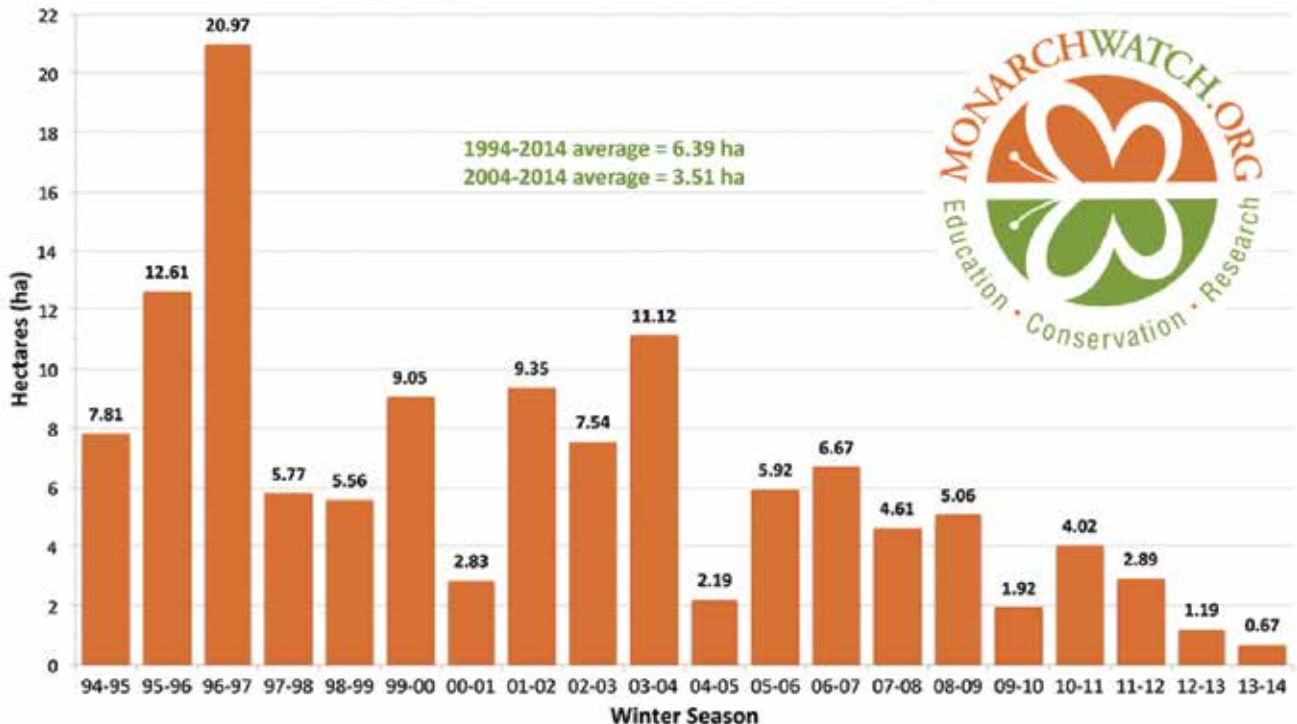
There are hundreds of organizations in the United States devoted to saving the Monarch Butterfly. Universities, private organizations, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, other government agencies, all are trying as hard as they can to save the "Monarch" from extinction.

Pollinated Pathways Corporation is the only one devoted to a single, simple concept, save the Milkweed Plant wherever it can be saved. Without Milkweed Plants to lay their eggs on there can be no Monarch Butterflies!

Journey North, a part of the University of Wisconsin Aubitorium has had a tagging program since 1997 pointing to decline in numbers of Monarchs sited each year. The dramatic decrease in these tagging programs and other organizations charts as well has given cause for alarm bells to go off everywhere.

What could be simpler than this: Just pass a motion by the City of Peekskill that Milkweed Plants be protected from the northern section at Scenic Hudson Park to the southern at Charles Point, to protect the Monarch Butterfly!

**Total Area Occupied by Monarch Colonies at Overwintering Sites in Mexico**



Data for 1994-2003 collected by personnel of the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve (MBBR) of the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP) in Mexico. Data for 2003-2013 collected by World Wildlife Fund Mexico in coordination with the Directorate of the MBBR.