



South Central PA Chapter

Wild Ones of South-Central PA Monthly Meeting via Zoom October 24, 2022, Minutes (Submitted by Lorrie Preston, Secretary)

Attendance (13)

Members: Arlene Taylor (Dauphin), Cindy Hogeman (Dauphin), Jane Allis (Perry), Jane Shull (Perry), Jill Zdunczyk (Cumberland), Keri Oram (Cumberland) Kerri Thauby (Cumberland), Kristen Acri (Cumberland), Lisa Emig (Cumberland), Lorrie Preston (York), Margaret Naguski (Cumberland), Maryann Skubecz (Cumberland), Tami Harnish (Cumberland)

Non-Members: None (Jill and Keri became members during the meeting or immediately after!)

Welcome and Introductions: Those attending introduce themselves and note the county where they reside

Minutes of September Meeting: Approved unanimously

Reports

Membership – Kerri Thauby – We added 1 new member prior to the meeting. Welcome to Tamara Trostle of Adams County, who was referred by Jane Allis, The Bower. Two new members were added during the meeting and/or immediately after. Welcome to Keri Oram and Jill Zdunczyk, both of Cumberland County. This brings us to 67 active members. (65 memberships)

Treasurer – Margaret Naguski - We had one expense this month - \$12.71 for the seed packets. But members donated a total of \$19 toward the seed packets, which brings our account balance to \$1,025.28. Margaret read a nice thank you note from Horn Farm thanking us for our \$100 donation after our Sept. field trip there.

Activities/Events:

1. **October 23rd Field Trip Report** – 7 members enjoyed the Letort Spring Garden Preserve in Carlisle. It was a self-guided tour, but we helped each other with plant ID, etc. It was a nice outing and participants think a future visit here to see spring ephemerals would be good. The property includes many native plant species in a natural setting. (Photos attached separately)
2. **Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed Committee meeting** was held Oct. 20th. Jane was unable to attend due to conflict, but other attendees reported to her that *Euonymus alatus* (Burning Bush) and Privet was banned. Her contacts did not report which plants are up for consideration in January, so more info will follow in the future.



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3. **Seed Swap: Saturday, November 12th, 1:30 (to 4 p.m. at the latest) at Camp Hill Giant, 3301 Trindle Rd., Camp Hill.** Please note that the time and location have changed from what had been publicized in past correspondence. Save any extra seeds you collect to share and swap! Come whether or not you have seeds to swap. Jane Shull will demonstrate her milk jug seed germination techniques. Refreshments will be provided, so it will be a social gathering, as well. Label seeds with Latin name and growing info or write out the info clearly once so those who take your seeds can take a photo of the details. A limited number of small seed envelopes will be available, if needed, and you hopefully can pick up new brochures about our Wild Ones chapter to give away.
4. **Ohio State Univ. Pollinator Webinar Series** in progress Fridays at 10:00 a.m. <https://u.osu.edu/pollinators101/> to register, watch previous webinars in the series, and see readings, links, and resources. Douglas Tallamy and Harland Patch webinars are available now to watch, next up is Heather Holm, with Matthew Shepherd and Shana Byrd coming up. The Harland Patch webinar was especially interesting with lots of info presented that several of our members had never heard and it is worth checking out once or more than once!
5. **Volunteers requested for Member Garden Tours for next Year** – Jane Shull has agreed to give us a tour of her butterfly-attracting gardens on July 23rd. Lorrie Preston agreed to a possible June visit to her gardens. Anyone else willing to host our group in your gardens? These visits are to share ideas, celebrate successes, discuss problems you are having, showcase your hard work, etc. (The Habitat Gardening in Central NY Wild Ones chapter calls these “Show Me-Help Me Tours”. Hgcny.org)
6. **Ideas for field trips for next year** (and/or future years, depending on timing)
Field Trip dates during the growing season should be Sunday afternoons so the Allis’s can participate. The Bower is open on Saturdays and they need to be there.
 - a. Shenks Ferry Wildflower Preserve (Conestoga, PA) April? *(Lorrie to check on timing)*
 - b. Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve (New Hope, PA, Bucks County) May?
 - c. Five Senses Garden (Along the Greenbelt, Harrisburg) June? *(Cindy Hogeman)*
 - d. Ft. Indiantown Gap to see Regal Fritillary butterflies – *(Maryann Skubecz)* (usually held the first two weekends of July)
 - e. Appalachian Trail Museum native plant garden (Gardners, PA) August? *(Lorrie)*
 - f. Penn State Pollinator Test Gardens “Bees, Bugs, and Blooms” (Manheim, PA) as discussed by Connie Schmotzer. *(Shawna possibly consult w/ Connie to find out a good time of year?)*
 - g. Diakon Wilderness Greenhouse (Boiling Springs) Director Kim Patton wishes to add more of an educational component to their offerings. *(Jill Zdunczyk to follow-up)*



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- h. Jenkins Arboretum
 - i. Appalachian Trail at Scott Farm to see spring ephemerals in the future (*Lorrie*)
 - j. Other field trip ideas always welcome!
7. **Extending more into the community:** Helping with existing native gardens; talks with garden clubs, working with HOA's and township/borough officials, other ideas?
- a. The Five Senses Garden – (Along the Capital Area Greenbelt in Harrisburg)
Member Cindy Hogeman is very involved with this public garden and talked about some of the needs that the gardens have. Volunteer maintainers are always welcome and needed. There are more gardens than just the sight, sound, taste, smell and touch gardens. Adopting a particular area of the garden is highly encouraged and creativity is welcomed to put your stamp on it. Deer have been a problem in the gardens and solutions are sought. Please contact Cindy Hogeman for more info at Chogeman@gmail.com
 - b. Jane Allis has reached out to Hampden Township and offered to do a community presentation on native plants as part of their Recreation Dept. offerings. Margaret Naguski thinks S. Middleton Township would be interested, as well. Members discussed getting involved with township Shade Tree Commissions so we can have input on what trees are selected to plant in our communities. Camp Hill has an active one. Hampden Township does not, and Jill is interested in getting involved in one there. She will contact Camp Hill to learn more. It was suggested that we create a packet of information that could be distributed to townships and Jane Allis is interested in working on this over the winter.
 - c. Presenting programs for garden groups is another idea for outreach. PA Home and Garden Show returns to PA Farm Show Complex on March 2-5, 2023 and program could be presented there, and/or possibly have a table. Camp Hill just held environmental education event “Stormfest” and venues like that would be appropriate. Lorrie suggested our chapter possibly offer a half day community-based educational event, perhaps for a nominal fee as a fundraiser for our chapter, which would be heavily promoted and located in a well-populated, easy-to-get-to location where several presentations are offered at one gathering so we can reach many attendees. Our chapter has many experienced people who could present. We could have coffee/donuts, maybe vendors, etc. We talked about what time of year to host something like this – winter just before gardening season starts? August before fall planting? Also discussed possible venues – classrooms, community buildings such as in Camp Hill or Hampden Township? School auditoriums are another option. If we want to explore this, we will want to set up a committee with chairs and participants. *Consider if you would like to be involved on this committee and we will revisit it and possibly set up a committee at our November meeting.*



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- d. Native Plant Rescues are another way some Wild Ones chapters get involved with their communities, but they are not as simple as they sound. We would have to look into this more.

8. **New brochure for our Wild Ones Chapter** – Jane Allis has been working on a new brochure that more directly promotes our local chapter. *The draft of this brochure is attached separately for all to view, and she wants our input and suggestions.* jane_allis@yahoo.com It is a color brochure and may cost approx. 50 cents each to produce. Cindy will check with the Capital Area Greenbelt to find out where they have their brochures printed economically. If you know of a printer with reasonable prices, we may wish to compare. National Wild Ones is still working on their rebranding, and it may not be until sometime in 2023 before they come out with their new look, so we will print a limited number of our own brochures and then change as necessary with the new national Wild Ones icon or artwork to make it appropriate when it is available. Business cards have run out and we may want to get more of those, too.

9. **Elections** – National Wild Ones currently requires all chapters to hold elections prior to the end of the year to name a new slate of officers to begin their terms on January 1 of the new year. Our current officers: Jane Allis – President, Heather Andrews – Vice-President, Margaret Naguski – Treasurer, Lorrie Preston – Secretary. Jane, Margaret and Lorrie all indicated they would serve a second term. Jane will check with Heather. The updated slate of officers will be presented at the November meeting and we will vote on them at our December Zoom meeting.

10. **Year-End Reports** – Jane Allis and Margaret Naguski will have to submit year-end reports for our chapter.

11. **Other – For the Good of the Chapter**
 - a. *Jane Shull passes on the info that “10 Million Trees” is giving away a variety of native trees and bushes through Friday of this week at 112 Newport Rd., Duncannon. They have all been donated and they are free. 10 a.m. to 2 pm and 3-6 p.m. until Thursday and 3-6 p.m. only on Friday.*

 - b. Jane Allis sent a link to an interesting website on ways to work with HOA's and local officials, as per our meeting discussion.
<https://purplepollinator.com/get-started/>