



*Connecting people and native plants for a healthy planet*

## ***Wild Ones of South Central PA Monthly Meeting via Zoom February 24, 2025 Minutes***

Link to recording: [WildOnes SCPA Chapter February Meeting Minutes](#)

*Note that recordings are only available for 14 days from posting.*

### **Attendance (B - Business Meeting, M- Membership Meeting)**

Members:

Jane A. (President) – B	Leo G. - M
Lorrie P. (Membership Chair) – B	Ann D. - M
Tami H. (Secretary) – B	Arlene T. - M
Wendy S. (Director) – B	Cindy H. - M
Cindy H. (Director) – M	Ember J. - M
Deb L. – B	Jady C. - M
Kristen A. – B	Janet L. - M
Deb L.- B	Jennifer K. - M
Gay B. – B	

Other attendees: Thomas B (M)

### **Business Meeting (6:30 pm):**

Only 6 members to start meeting – verified there was a quorum.

Minutes of January 2025 Meeting – minutes were approved.

Membership – Lorrie P.

- We welcome one new member this month – We are glad to have Machele L. join us.
- We had 7 members renew their membership. Welcome back to all renewing members.
- Three memberships expired this month.
- We now have 104 memberships, with 7 of them being group memberships, for a total of 111 members.

Treasurer – Margaret N. (not present, report given by Jane A.)

- Jan. 17: deposited- \$87.98 to correct inadvertent personal charge in December
- Jan. 28: Deposit- \$1622.75 our proceeds from the Diakon Plant sale
- Feb. 5: Expense- \$100.00 check to Penn State Coop Extension for Kevin Kelly's talk
- Balance as of Feb. 20, 2025 is \$4,903.40



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Report on Social Media and Google Docs progress – Jane A.

Kristen A. appointed Social Media Chair. Kristen is using files from Google Docs drive to do postings. She will work with Jane offline to further develop social media strategy.

#### Committee Reports:

- *Programs:*
  - Jane reminded everyone of Plant Sale Date: May 10th. Volunteers will be needed in March and April to prepare for the sale. We are waiting for Diakon to post volunteer time slots.
  - Planning in-person plant swap sometime in late Spring – May or June. Discussed places to have it. We'll need someone to coordinate with Heather A. Perhaps at Craighead house near Boiling Springs was suggested. Jane to email Heather to check on availability.
- *Field Trips* - refer to attached calendar, upcoming field trips:
  - April 26, 10:00 am - Joint Appalachian Audubon and Wild Ones SCPA trip to Mt. Cuba Center – Meet there (3120 Barley Mill Rd, Hockessin, DE 19707). Jane will try to arrange tour.
  - May 17, 3:00 pm - Michaux State Park to see ladyslippers (changed from May 18th)
- *Community Outreach Report (Townships, Landscapers, Garden Centers, Developers):* Heather A., Wendy S.
  - Schools Outreach: Kerri T., Karen R.  
Jane noted that WildOnes was approached through email by a High school teacher at West Shore School District. The teacher wants to make native plant pollinator garden and asked about the availability of grants through WildOnes. Jane pointed her to National Wild Ones and Native Plant Society for possible grants. There is a potential for members to donate plants. Additionally, Wendy said PPL has program called Community Roots that will provide some native plants to different community groups.
  - Wendy S. stated that Hampden Twp is looking to plant a native plant meadow. They haven't yet found a site. Working with Chesapeake Alliance.
- *Upcoming tabling events:*
  - Volunteers needed for Saturday, April 26 (Same day as our Mt. Cuba field trip):  
*5<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Celebration* downtown Carlisle, from 12-4pm (arrive 10-11);  
Have 2 volunteers - Rachel B. & Allison W.



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- Also on the April 26<sup>th</sup>, the Wetlands Festival at Wildwood. Because of multiple events on the same day, worked at arrangement with Appalachian Audubon – they will have WildOnes literature at Wildwood, and WildOnes will have Audubon literature at Carlisle.
- *New Cumberland Earth and Arts Festival* is April 27. Jane will be there and would welcome another helper. Karen R. to assist Jane.
- Storm Fest – July 23<sup>rd</sup>. 5:30-8:00pm. Lori P. to assist Kristen A.
- Lorrie to give tabling items to Heather or other member, Jane to pick up once home from Florida.
- Lorrie P. discussed the GardenSide Chat with Doug Tallamy. Talk can be found on [YouTube](#) or on the [National WildOnes site](#).

### **General Membership Meeting (7:15 pm):**

Jane gave re-cap of Business Meeting.

Talked about Mt. Cuba and the native gardens and trial gardens. They have a wonderful trillium garden.

Volunteers for plant sale – will be sending out details. 2-3 hour slots. Please make sure when you sign up that you not it is for WildOnes. Volunteers are needed in March and April to prepare for the sale (potting plants, etc.). We will also need volunteers on sale day (May 10<sup>th</sup>).

Introductions and Query of the Month: *Your thoughts on how we can get the word out about native plants and our chapter beyond what we do already? How do we help the lawn and burning bush traditional neighbors understand and appreciate native landscaped yards?*

Ideas provided by members:

- Lorrie – if have neighbors/friends with close gardens, put up signs welcoming people to gardens to discuss native plants and gardens. Get WildOnes booklets/literature and give to neighbors.
- Give native plants to neighbors
- Turning front yard into native plants – putting signs up close to road so passers by can see. Signs explaining the yard is certified pollinator or native garden go a long way to explain the look, so folks don't think it's just overgrown weeds.
- Gay B-Get involved in local government. There are a couple Master Gardeners on council in Mt. Holly Springs
- Wendy S-Greater Harrisburg Realtors Association has grants available for non-profits – suggested applying for grant to get more brochures published – distribute to realtors to give to new home owners



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- Get involved in municipal activities or your local HOA. Volunteer on environmental committees/orgs, etc.
- Janet -Dillsburg Garden Tour June 28<sup>th</sup>. Have brochures, maybe have WildOnes member there, too?
- Give talks on native plants at local community groups, garden groups
- Label your Plants. Arcadia Nursery – website – can print cards with plant picture and name
- Help local groups promote natives. Examples: convinced church to go no-mow, then planted 150 trees. Put pathways through. Give mission statement every year.
- Promote WildOnes with other organizations. Example: Garden club of Hbg - Cindy H. having table to promote 5 senses garden and WildOnes on 22, 23 May at Faith Emmanuel Presbyterian Church 1801 Colonial Rd, Hbg
- Ember – Seed swap and other events – really good to get info out. Her yard: 170 plants, over 80% native.
- Work with Master Gardeners to get them planting native & pollinator gardens.
- Continue work with Municipalities, Zoning Boards. Jane suggested bringing local officials to the Bower – her native garden open to the public. Starting May 14<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday), it is open every Wednesday and second Saturdays, 0930 – 1600. There are now over 300 different native species. Over 15,000 plants.
- Promote books about benefits of native plants. Encourage book clubs/libraries to read Doug Tallamy, other native plant books. Pursue community-wide effort with multiple libraries.
- PA Native species Day – Day is 20<sup>th</sup> May. Put out sign in yard announcing Native Species Day! Pursue book club readings around May date.

*Informative talk by:*

Wendy S. – Alliance for Chesapeake Bay Seedling Savers

2 different programs:

1. Growing native trees from seeds

2. Seedling Savers – seedlings that people don't want, the Alliance will take (in the Fall).

500-600 trees donated last year. Alliance will provide pots and seeding mix. 25 pots per tray.

Trees and shrubs. Native, straight species. Used in riparian plantings, lawn conversions, etc.

Just hit 1000<sup>th</sup> acre of plantings. Reach out to Wendy for more details. [wendyk320@yahoo.com](mailto:wendyk320@yahoo.com)

Note: March Meeting is on a **Thursday** - March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Attached: January Minutes, Updated Calendar