



Connecting people and native plants for a healthy planet

Wild Ones of South Central PA Monthly Meeting via Zoom THURSDAY March 27, 2025 Minutes

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

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

Attendance (B – Business Meeting, M-Membership Meeting:

Members:

Jane A. (President) – B	Barbara D. - M
Tami H. (Secretary) – B	Barbara P. - M
Cindy H. (Director) – M	Jady C. - M
Wendy S. (Director) – B	Karen R - B
Angela G. – B	Nancy S. - M
Leo G. – B	Nancy W. - B
Arlene T. – B	Shawna R. - M
Deb L. – B	Susan W. - M
Klarissa H. – B	Susan Z. - M
Kristen A. - B	

Other attendees: N/A

Business Meeting (6:30 pm):

Minutes of February 2025 Meeting – minutes were approved

Membership – report prepared by Lorrie P. (Membership Chair), read by Jane A.

- It was a very busy membership month!
- We welcomed five new members this month – Welcome to Jessica L., Fred R., Carol B., Anne B., and Rebecca A. One new member joined as a result of hearing about us through another native plant organization; 2 learned about us through Facebook; and two joined through word of mouth from existing members. Thank you, members, for helping us spread the word!
- Sixteen existing members renewed their membership. Thank you to all renewing members for continuing to support our chapter and the native plants movement. It is truly appreciated.
- Six memberships expired this month. Lorrie will be following up with members who have not renewed when she gets back from traveling.
- After all the changes this month, membership numbers remain the same at 104 memberships, with 7 of them being group memberships, for a total of 111 members.
- At the National Wild Ones level, at the end of February, they report that there are 96 Chapters, 36 Seedlings, in 36 states, for a total of 12,266 members.



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Treasurer's report – prepared by Margaret N., read by Jane A.

- Current balance to \$4,908.40 (Just \$5 change from last month – for gloves)
- Jane discussed purchasing more literature for upcoming tabling events –
 - ~1000 “What’s the Buzz”
 - ~500 WildOnes Brochures
 - ~25 “Going Native”
 - Group talked about adding QR code to literature. Tami H. made one for Chapter Website – sent to Jane. Jane to see how National handles that.
 - Also discussed use of business cards. National has template for those.

Social Media and Google Docs progress – Kristen A.

- Kristen posting on Facebook and Instagram
- Social Media helping to bring in new members

By-laws updates – Jane A.

- National has updated the By-laws to make verbiage more understandable

Committee Reports:

- *Programs:*
 - Plant Sale Date: May 10. Need volunteers in March and April to prepare for the sale, plus day of sale. Sign up on [Diakon's website](#) – please make sure you state you are volunteering for WildOnes
 - Heather A. working on late Spring get together in person and plant swap – Probably May or June. Date and time still to be determined

Field Trips: Next field trips:

- April 26, 10:00 am Joint Appalachian Audubon and Wild Ones SCPA trip to Mt. Cuba Center – Meet in parking lot. Jane working on getting a tour
- *Another change* - May 20 (PA Native Plant Day), 4:30pm to Michaux State Park to see ladyslippers
- *Community Outreach Report* (Townships, Landscapers, Garden Centers, Developers):
Wendy S. – discussed activities in Hampden Township
 - Commissioners approve 1 ½ acre meadow
 - WildOnes public outreach at two community events
 - Wendy consulting on plantings for walking path at golf course
 - Reviewing township codes to make more friendly towards native plantings



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- *Schools Outreach:* Jane A. discussed working with teacher at West Shore School District to help with native plant garden. Members could volunteer some plants.
- *New Initiative:* Legislature outreach for PA Native Species Day and HOA bill. Originally intended to give “What’s the Buzz” pamphlets to legislators, but since the literature is very centered on South Central PA, thought that writing a letter would be better. Jane to work on draft.
- *Upcoming tabling events:* *Should have volunteers for all upcoming events, but more are welcome!*
 - April 26 (Same day as our Mt. Cuba field trip) *5th Annual Earth Day Celebration* downtown Carlisle, 12-4pm (arrive 10-11);
 - April 26, the Wetlands Festival at Wildwood
 - April 27 *New Cumberland Earth and Arts Festival*. Jane will be there and would welcome another helper.
 - May 17 *Cumberland County Master Gardeners Plant Sale*

Business meeting ended early (~7:05pm), had brief discussion regarding what plants are currently coming up in their yards. While Jane was in Florida, she planted about 40 native trees, shrubs and groundcovers including Yaupon Holly.

General Membership Meeting:

Jane gave recap of the Business Meeting (see above).

Jane provided some interesting facts about Spring Ephemerals from a presentation last week by Judy Semoc sponsored by Western Reserve Land Conservancy (check out [Youtube channel](#))

- Invasives like Norway Maple shade out natives
- Insects time emergence with flower blooms – weather fluctuations can really have negative impact
- Temperature on garden/woodland floor impacts bloom time
- Some natives, like trilliums, can take up to 7 years to bloom
- Skunk cabbage can live for 200 years
- Many ephemerals attract ants and are dispersed by them

Introductions and Query of the Month: *Spring Ephemerals – do you have any in your garden? Successes and issues (Mt. Cuba field trip on April 26 is a great chance to see beautiful spring ephemerals blanketing the forest floor).* Some responses:

- Dutchman’s Breeches
- Bleeding Heart
- Trout Lily



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- Spring Beauty
- Virginia Bluebells
- Toothwort
- Shooting Star
- Trillium
- Twin leaf
- Rue Anemone
- Golden Ragwort
- Hepatica

Jane reviewed Insect and Bird Reports 2025 - Xerces and Audubon

- Recent declines over last 20 years:
 - Butterflies - 22% decrease
 - Forest Birds – 27% decrease
 - Shorebirds – 33% decrease
 - Grassland birds – 40% decrease

Short 10 min video "[Gardenside Chat](#)" with Doug Tallamy and Wild Ones viewed

Next meeting is: Monday, April 28, 2025

For list of upcoming native plant sales see [PA Native Plant Society Plant Sale Calendar](#)

Attached: Minutes from March meeting, Updated Calendar