



Connecting people and native plants for a healthy planet

Wild Ones of South Central PA Monthly Meeting via Zoom Thursday, May 29, 2025 Minutes

Link to recording: [Wild Ones SCPA Monthly Meeting - Zoom](#)

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

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

Members:

Jane A. (President) – B	Deb L. - B
Lorrie P. (Membership Chair) – B	Jady C. - M
Margaret N. (Treasurer) – B	Janet L. - B
Tami H. (Secretary) – B	Angela & Leo G - M
Cindy H. (Director) – B	Kristen A. - B
Wendy S. (Director) – B	Rebecca A. - B
Arlene T. – M	Shawna R. - M
Carol B. – B	Susan Wilder - M
Cindy Hk. - M	

Other attendees: N/A

Business Meeting (6:30 pm):

Minutes of April 2025 Meeting – Minutes approved

Membership Report – Lorrie P.

- Welcome to 4 new members this month – Cheryl P., Gunhilde B., Sebastian D., and Karen B.
- We had six membership renewals. Your renewal supporting our chapter and the native plants movement are truly appreciated!
- One membership expired this month.
- After all the changes this month, we have 106 memberships, with 7 of them being group memberships, for a total of 113 members.
- After speaking with Jennifer M., native-plant enthusiast and employee at Ashcombe, Lorrie sent her the letter and info to offer her a Complimentary Membership on 5/16/25, but to date she has not signed up. Lorrie will follow up. Waiting to speak with the Highland Gardens staff until after their peak time. Kristen A. and Lorrie are in communication about the Camp Hill nature and native plant educator.
- Retention rate is up over 80%!



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Treasurer Report – Margaret N.

- Expenses – purchase of folding table, rolling tote for supplies, brochures printed (\$172.58)
- Brought in \$145. \$25 donation from Bethany Village for talk by Jane A. and donations at plant sale.
- Current balance \$4269.33
- Made \$1888 on our share from the 98 sales made that day.
- May look at dispensing some grant money.

Committee Reports:

Programs:

- Plant Sale at Diakon: Had great turnout and volunteers! Made \$1888 on our share from the 98 sales made that day. Had over 60 hours of volunteer time!

Field Trips:

- Jane reported on May 20, trip to Michaux State Park to see lady slippers and Angela den Hoed's meadow lawn conversions. Approximately 13 members attended.
- June 17 field trip: Conococheague Audubon Native Plant Garden at Norlo Park, Fayetteville, 3:00pm. To be followed by pizza for those interested. Tour this native plant garden originally developed by Conococheague Audubon members. This Penn State Extension Certified Pollinator Friendly Garden is 1/3 acre and consists of trees, shrubs, perennials, a recently constructed 16' vine trellis, and a water feature. Located within a township park. We will discuss tips for managing a public garden like this cared for by volunteers with diverse experience levels.
 - Directions: (can just put "Norlo Park" into GPS Map search). Driving east on Rt. 30, use the **second** park entrance (a wide driveway between a brick barn and brick farmhouse). Proceed down the hill and to the left. Meet on the covered porch of the community center.

Community Outreach Report (Townships, Landscapers, Garden Centers, Developers):

- Wendy S. noted Hampden township was voting on a preferred plant list – very native plant friendly. Jane A. stated she had helped make up similar list for Walden development. Cindy H. going to work with local HOA on similar task.
- Cindy H. – had table with information on WildOnes and Harrisburg Gardens (5 Senses and MLK) at Harrisburg Garden Club. Won award for it!
- Big thank you to Heather A. and Nancy W. for tabling at the Cumberland County Master Gardeners Plant Sale May 17



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- More brochures are needed to replenish supplies for folks going to tabling events. From previous events: 174 “What’s the Buzz” given out, 112 seed packets, 4 sets of gloves
- Upcoming tabling events:
 - Our “What’s the Buzz” and QR code will be at the Bee City Garden Tour in Camp Hill on June 1. <https://www.facebook.com/share/1C5cpjW3Sg/>
 - Next event is Storm Fest, Camp Hill, July 23, 5:30-8pm (Lorrie and Kristen)
- QR codes for Website and for “What’s the Buzz” created and sent to all. Posted links in meeting chat. Kevin K. is working with Ashcombes to have our QR codes posted there.

Discussion:

- Group brain storming regarding use of funds. Jane reviewed what Penn Cumberland Garden Club does to give out grants.
- Question - How much money to maintain in our account? Jane suggested at least \$2000.00 to be able to maintain supply of literature. Maybe give out about \$750 in grants or scholarships. Create a committee to investigate. Start next year. Need volunteers. Send email to Jane if want to volunteer.
- Reviewed expenses from last year. Last year spent over \$2000 on literature. Margaret suggested keeping at least \$3000.00 in account. We still should have enough to give out some grants and scholarships. Think we did more tabling events last year. Also got more literature last year. Committee to decide. Wendy asked how to communicate this out? Flyers out at Diakon, schools, garden clubs, etc.
- Still have lots of gloves. Will have gloves at seed share.
- For seed share – talked about raffling off gift certificates, but then discussed logistics of holding a raffle and whether it required license/permit.

General Membership Meeting (7:15pm):

Jane gave review of Business Meeting

Introductions and Query of the Month:

What are some of the fun/interesting wildlife encounters you’ve had since adding native plants to your yard?

Some Responses from members:

- Zebra Swallowtails (Pawpaw trees are host plants)
- Garter snakes
- Black snake
- Red salamander
- Tadpoles/frogs/toads



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- Lots of birds and butterflies
- Wasps, bees and other insects
- Lots of monarch caterpillars/butterflies
- Tree frogs
- Warblers – especially in Fall when jewelweed and goldenrod in bloom
- Red-headed and pileated woodpeckers and bluebirds
- Groundhogs, chipmunks, squirrels, fox, coyotes, deer
- Rabbits
- Leo G. - Shout out to 5 senses garden in Harrisburg. Saw red-bellied woodpeckers feeding young in garden parking lot near stream!

Upcoming Events:

- Camp Hill Garden Walk this weekend. Member Carol B.'s garden will be on tour. Planted by Ian Gardner. Get map at city hall. Sunday 1-4pm.
- Dillsburg Garden tour – June 28th, 1000 – 4pm

Deer discussion and local listing from members

If people have list of plants that seem to be (somewhat) resistant to rabbits and/or deer – please share with group on listserve!

Information: A few facts about orchids native to our area and slides of our trip to Michaux to see the Lady Slippers

Jane showed slide show on PA Native Orchids. PA has 50 species of native orchids! Mostly rare.

- Pink Lady Slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*), probably most common. May take 17 years to go from seed to flower!
- Some others: Yellow Lady Slipper (*Cypripedium paviflorum*). Can be purchased (pretty expensive)
- Showy Lady Slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*). Very rare. Tallest of all US orchids
- Showy Orchid (*Galearis spectabilis*) found in most of US
- Down Rattlesnake Plantain (*Goodyera pubescens*) is orchid. Blooms very late in season (for an orchid)
- Small and Large Whorled Pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides* and *Isotria verticillate*)
- Rose Pogonia (*Pogonia ophioglossoides*) also known as snakemouth orchid
- Crane-fly Orchid (*Tipularia discolor*) – rarity, but found in Cumberland, Perry, Adams and York counties



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Jane reiterated need for volunteers for committee investigate process for giving out grants and/or scholarships.

Attached: Minutes from May meeting, updated Calendar, Garden Tour Poster