



Connecting people and native plants for a healthy planet

Wild Ones of South Central PA Monthly Meeting via Zoom Monday July 28, 2025 Minutes

Link to recording: https://wildones-org.zoom.us/rec/share/ydVCb9dM8MGnqnO0M8zPz62HaDswBkYxkoiQBhXk-arhQIAd0c_iKM-6lw7ZWHVO.-NLDzJ233OV2Pqq

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
Heather A. (Vice President) – B	Ember J. - B
Lorrie P. (Membership) – B	Ruth S. – M
Tami H. (Secretary) – B	Michele R-H. – M
Wendy S. (Director) – B	Ruth S. – M
Cindy H (Director) – B	Arlene T. – M
Deb L. – B	Kevin K. – M
Kristen A. – B	Mary L. - M
Shawna R. - M	

Business Meeting:

West Pennsboro is looking for a speaker on native plants. Jane to follow up. Perhaps Jane or Heather could do the talk. Heather already booking for 2026.

Minutes of June 2025 Meeting - approved

Membership – Lorrie P.

- We welcomed 3 new members into our chapter this month – Michele R-H., Tracey S., and Kevin M. Kevin was the host for our July field trip to McGrath's lawn to meadow conversion. We are happy to have all three of you join us!
- We had 2 membership renewals this month. Thanks for your support!
- Two memberships expired this month.
- Mary and Paul L. became the 3rd set of members who had their garden Certified as a Native Habitat with National Wild Ones. They were also hosts of our July field trip. Congratulations, Mary and Paul! We're proud of you and your efforts certainly show!



Connecting people and native plants for a healthy planet

- Complimentary Memberships –
 - We are still working on awarding the final two complimentary memberships for this calendar year. Damek D. from Highland Gardens has not signed in to start the complimentary membership that was offered, so Lorrie will follow up with him.
 - Last week, Kristen spoke with the Camp Hill resident who is one of the leaders of Bee City and other environmental efforts in Camp Hill to see if she is interested in complimentary membership, and the offer was met with enthusiasm. Lorrie to follow up ASAP to make the offer official.

Treasurer – Report given by Jane A.

- There have been no transactions since last month's meeting.
- We just received our \$1888.00 check from Diakon a few days ago. It will be deposited this week.
- Our current balance is the same as last month: \$4,932.83. With Diakon check deposit the balance will be: \$6,820.83.

Committee Reports:

Programs: Heather A.

- Seed Share is Nov. 9, 1-3pm at the Camp Hill Giant. Talked about speaker for the event. Wendy S. suggested Kevin Kelley. Heather to take care of getting a speaker.
- Suggest bringing tools, books, etc. to give away like last year (hopefully will get donations). Put out gloves, too.

Field Trips: Next field trips:

- **August 23:** Save the date for this special field trip to **Ladew Gardens and Heartwood Nursery**. A chance to see a remarkable public garden just over the border in MD which features a native butterfly house and native nature trail in the morning. Then off to Heartwood Nursery, south of York, which specializes in a unique collection of native hollies and other native shrubs and plants for a tour of the propagation house and varieties they grow.
 - Ladew Gardens Address: 3535 Jarrettsville Pike, Monkton, MD (first exit off I-83 into MD)
 - Arrive at Ladew Gardens by **10:00 am** to tour the gardens on your own or find others at the entrance at 10:00am. Sign up at arrival for a timed entry to the Butterfly House if interested. Entry cost is \$20 per person/\$14 for seniors. No additional cost for butterfly garden. Those who might want to tour the house



Connecting people and native plants for a healthy planet

for an additional cost may want to arrive before 10:00am. Comfortable walking shoes recommended.

- Bring a picnic lunch or eat at the Café noon to 1:00 (very nice café in former stable)
 - Heartwood Nursery Address: 8957 Hickory Rd, Felton, PA 17322 (Near Shrewsbury, back some county roads, on your way back through PA on I-83)
 - 1:00 head to Heartwood Nursery, arrival at 1:45. This nursery specializes in Holly trees and has huge variety of species. We will have a guided tour of the nursery and propagation house. Perennials, shrubs, and trees available for purchase.
 - Members can attend both events or just one.
- **September 21 Member Potluck at The Bower** Bring a dish to share and enjoy the setting of this public native plant garden in Shermans Dale. Plant Exchange - bring plants to share! 3pm-?

Tabling Events:

- Lorrie P. reviewed tabling event at Stormfest (July 23rd) – Lorrie said there were a lot of people this year. Talked to about 40-50 people. Gave away some native common violets with plant information.

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

Heather A., Wendy S. – no report

Discussion:

- Cindy H. – did talk for Dauphin county master gardeners at 5 Senses Garden
- Since we've done lots of members gardens on the West Shore, suggest trying to do more gardens on East Shore and different areas. Kevin K. has volunteered (East Shore).
- Check with Manada Conservancy – any areas open to touring?
- Wildwood park has lots of natives. Suggest doing Wildwood in morning and Kevin K. garden after (for 2026).
- Ned Smith Center in Halifax – potential field trip
- Middle Creek Wildlife Preserve also a good field trip suggestion. (Good for Snow Geese and Tundra Swans – February/March time period, besides plants!)
- Great field trips in July. Pictures were posted.
- Jane A. found another native nursery – Hunters Valley (Perry County). Must make appointment. Lots of straight species natives.
- Heather A.: New master gardener garden – Snetsinger. About 5 miles from Penn state arboretum garden. Teaching garden. Would be great to get a tour.
- Arcadia Natives nursery (near Pittsburgh) – was flooded and destroyed. (from Facebook). Fundraiser on website.



Connecting people and native plants for a healthy planet

Schools Outreach: Kerri T., Karen R. – no report

Still looking for volunteers to work on a grant program for SCPA WildOnes to give to people/organizations to support native plants. Volunteers contact Jane A.

General Membership Meeting:

Review of Business Meeting (see above)

Introductions and Query of the Month: *What garden that you have visited anywhere in the world did you enjoy most and why (doesn't have to be just natives)?*

Some responses:

- Great Dixter and Wisley gardens in England
- Canada – University Victoria. Lots of native trees, tree walk (30-50ft in air)
- Longwood Gardens – love the meadow
- Mt. Cuba – great educational opportunities, more natives
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Texas
- Coastal Maine Botanic Garden
- Delaware Coastal Botanic Garden – Piet Oudolf designed main area. Near Bethany Beach. Built mounds to be able to look down on plantings
- Sissinghurst (England) – walled gardens, tower, white garden
- Member garden of Mary L. – very inspiring!
- Chanticleer – good for inspiring design
- Phipps Conservatory (Pittsburgh)
- Own garden!
- Portland Oregon Rose test garden
- Keukenhof garden – Holland, wonderful spring bulbs/tulips
- Stoneleigh Garden (Villanova, PA) – natural garden
- Pittsburgh Botanic Garden
- Buchart Gardens (Victoria, Canada) – Huge roses!
- Winterthur – less formal
- The Bower – lovely meadow
- Rest stop on way from Massachusetts to PA. Sumac and New England Aster and goldenrod swaths. Absolutely beautiful!
- Serengeti plains in Africa, wonderful plants (and wildlife)
- Member garden – Kevin K.
- Naples Botanical Garden, FLA. Specialize in Florida natives and tropics. Very community oriented.



Connecting people and native plants for a healthy planet

Jane - Did children's workshop at The Bower. Goldfinch flew over with huge green caterpillar and dropped it on the table! Was a tulip silkmoth caterpillar. Had suction-cup feet. Kids loved it!

Showed slide show of member garden tour 2025. Lorrie P. put together:

- Mary & Paul L. Sunny site but has become more shady due to tree plantings. Very densely planted. Loads of variety. Organized, but naturalistic. Signage listing the plants. About 90 different native species. Large berm with sea of woodland sunflower. Installed dry well to capture excess runoff. Lots of Pennsylvania sedge
- Kevin M. at McGrath's Bakehouse. Approx 7 acres. Lovely vegetable garden. Worked with DCNR to convert lawn to meadow. They have issue with narrow-leaf plantain – but still looks lovely. Good variety of flowers. Also planted 60 trees to create "mini forest".
- Mimi C. house in Arcona. Very densely planted. Allows self-seeding. Hummingbirds on native honeysuckle. Brought plants from former yard.
- Thanks to the hosts and to Lorrie P. for setting everything up!

Upcoming Event: Craighead house, Carlise. Heather giving talk about artist Maria Sybilla Merian who self-funded scientific discovery 200 years before Darwin. First to document metamorphosis of butterfly.

2pm this Sunday, **Aug 3rd**. Limited seating. Sign up on [website](#).

Attached: Minutes from July meeting, Calendar