

# Wildflowers

THE BULLETIN OF THE  
BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.

MARCH  
1996

## FIRST FIELD TRIP

When--Saturday, March 30  
Where--Cedar Creek County Park,  
Westmoreland County  
Starting Time--1:00 P.M.  
Leader--Bill Kotsenas

Directions--Meet in the parking lot of Howard Johnson's  
(left side of road going south) at the intersection  
of Routes 51 South and I-70.

Expectations--If it's not too late, we will see a hillside  
bank covered with blooming Snow Trilliums (*Trillium  
nivale*). We'll also see Harbinger of Spring (*Erigeron  
altissimus*) and Walking Fern (*Camptosorus rhizophyllus*).

Jeanne Poremski - 412-343-6546  
Scott Speedy - 412-639-3517

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## MARCH MEETING

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 11,  
8 P.M., at Trinity Hall on the Carlow College  
campus, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland.

Our own Esther Allen will give the program  
on *Dolly Sods*.

And if you don't know who or what *Dolly  
Sods* is, that's all the more reason to come.

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## MAY MEETING - THE BRUCE!

February a year ago, our meeting was turned over to  
Bruce Alumni -- all of our members who had gone to the  
Bruce Peninsula in previous years. Was it ever popular!  
It was the best attended meeting in my memory.

Phyllis Monk, our Program Chairman, wants to have  
another Bruce program in May, this time using material  
from the Bruce trip last June.

If you were with the Botanical Society contingent at  
the Bruce and want to participate, give Phyllis a call at  
412-831-2724. Do it before the Ides of March (that's the  
15th). She will then be able to determine how many slides  
should be brought by each member.

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## WEEK ON THE BRUCE, 1996

Reminder! This year's *Week on the Bruce* will be from  
June 22 to 29.

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## MISTY AND THE ELEPHANTS

We once had a precious miniature poodle named Misty.  
Misty's job was to keep the elephants away. She did her job  
well. We never once saw an elephant on the property while  
she was here.

Misty has gone to puppy heaven, and wouldn't you know  
it ... we now have elephants!

One of the common names for *Spiranthes ovalis* is "little  
elephants". We learned this from Homoya's "*Orchids of Indiana*".

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## CONDOLENCES

Our sympathy to Kim Metheny, whose father, Richard  
Tomasson Metheny, died on February 4.

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## INTERNSHIP PROGRAM AT BOWMAN'S HILL

The Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve in eastern  
Pennsylvania is again offering an internship program that  
begins in May and runs for ten 40-hour weeks.

I have the information and also an application form.  
*This application must be received by March 15.*

If you are interested, see me at the March meeting  
or call me at (412)921-1797.

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## An Invitation to the 1996 Joint Field Meeting of the

Northeastern Section of the  
Botanical Society of America  
Torrey Botanical Club  
Philadelphia Botanical Club

June 23-27, 1996

State University of New York (SUNY)  
Albany, New York



The 1996 Joint Field Meeting will take place from the Sunday evening program to Thursday  
morning breakfast, June 23-27, at the New York State University campus in Albany, New York.  
Field trips will examine the nearby pitch pine barrens, the unique Hudson River ice meadows and a  
calcareous site south of Albany which supports a rich and varied plant community. All three sites  
are botanically exciting with rare plants for observation and photography (no collecting!). All  
transportation during the field meeting will be by chartered busses. The ice meadows are the  
furthestmost destination at about a one and a half hour drive. The Pine Bush is just a few minutes  
away. Evening programs will feature noted leaders in the botanical field from the Albany area.

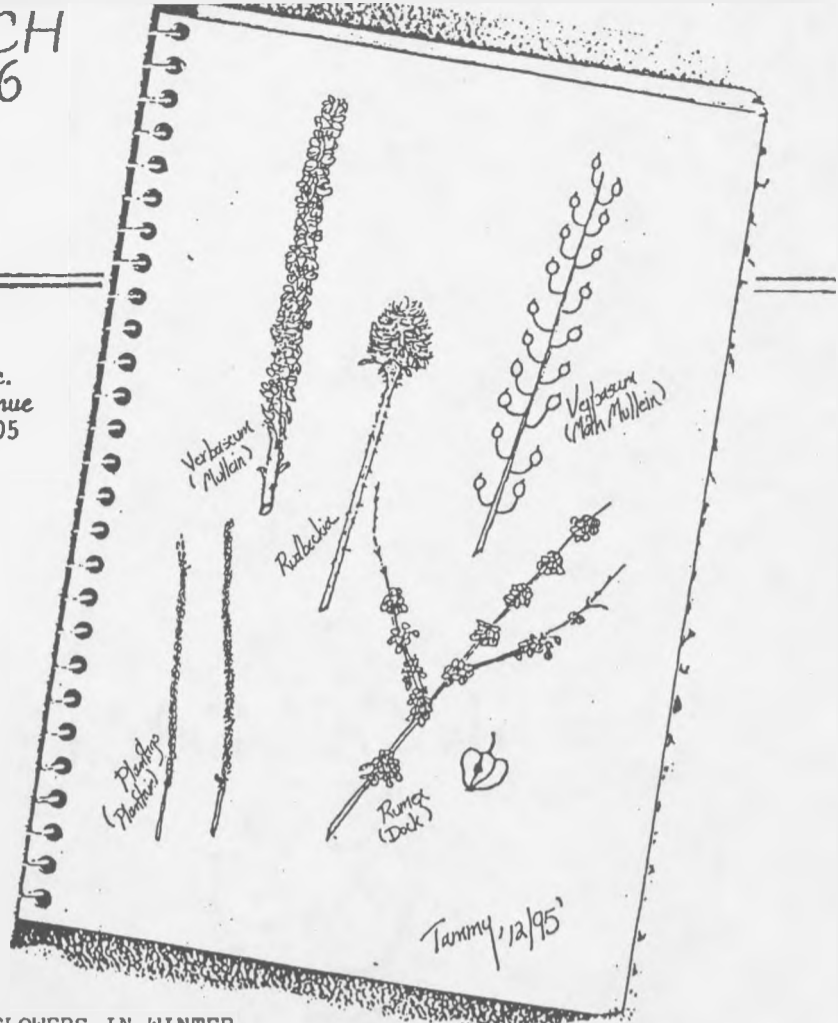
Dormitory housing for the four nights and ten meals (Monday breakfast through Thursday  
breakfast) will be provided by SUNY. All bedding and towels will be supplied. Shared  
bathrooms are on each floor.

The price for the field meeting is \$240 per person. Included: double occupancy housing,  
meals, bus transportation, trip leadership, handouts and evening programs. Single occupancy  
rooms are available for an extra \$30. (Total \$270). If roommates are not specified, they will be  
assigned. The price for participation on the day trips only (without housing or meals) is \$65 per  
person.

The deadline for registration is May 15th, but prompt registration is advised as total  
participation will be limited to 80 people.

If you have any questions please contact field meeting chairman Ed Miller,  
430 Miller Road, Rexford, NY 12148 or call him at 518-371-8834.

Robert F. Bahl, Sec.  
401 Clearview Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15205  
(412) 921-1797



## WILDFLOWERS IN WINTER

...from the sketchbook of Tammy Watychowicz!  
And here are Tammy's notes on each species --

Black-eyed Susan, *Rudbeckia* sp.

Cone-shaped, prickly like the porcupine!

Mullein, *Verbascum thapsus*

Fuzzy, Nature's torch!

Moth Mullein, *Verbascum blattaria*

Bead-like round structures! Shiny brown beads!

Plantain, *Plantago* sp.

Too many seeds to count!

Dock, *Rumex* sp.

Three wings and somewhat papery!

Frequent garden visitor!

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## WEST VIRGINIA WILDFLOWER PILGRIMAGE

The 35th annual West Virginia Wildflower Pilgrimage  
will be held at Blackwater Falls State Park, May 11-14,  
1996.

Information about the West Virginia Pilgrimage may  
be obtained by writing Catherine Knapp, Wildflower  
Pilgrimage Coordinator, 1250 31st Street, Apt. 418,  
Parkersburg, WV 26101, or call (304)428-0607.

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## Native Plants in the Landscape

Millersville University  
June 13-15, 1996

The 6th annual conference will be held at Millersville University in Millersville, near Lancaster,  
PA. The goal of this year's conference is to enhance the knowledge, cultivation and use of native  
plants with the intent to provide insight into how the use of natives will nurture our environment.  
The conference will focus mainly on the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast Regions of the USA.

Twenty four speakers will address aspects of native plant communities, urban restoration, how  
the diversity of our native flora has evolved and what will become of it, discovering creative  
connections to nature, concepts of identifying, propagating and planting natives, "surfing" the  
horticultural internet, natural gardening with magical flare and a history of invasive exotics. This  
conference encompasses a broad mix of practitioners and professionals with an interest in the  
impact on our landscapes. It includes presentations, workshops, field trips and social events.

Registration, room, and board is \$140/double occupancy, \$150/single  
occupancy. Registration limited to 400. Contact: Continuing Education, P. O. BOX 1002,  
Millersville University, Millersville, PA 17551-0302; tel. (717) 872-3742. Conference Director  
Guy L. Steucek (717) 872-3789.

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## NEW ENGLAND WILD FLOWER SOCIETY COURSES

I have a schedule of Spring/Summer 1996 courses  
offered by the New England Wild Flower Society. This is  
an 80-page booklet, and there is no way that I can con-  
dense it all here.

All of these courses are up in Massachusetts. If  
you have an interest, get in touch with me, Bob Bahl, at  
our meeting -- or call me at (412)921-1797.

## ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Rex and Sabina Walsh, who  
are celebrating 60 years of marriage.



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## THE TAXMAN COMETH

Hello, sucker!

Do you feel good about donating your state income tax  
overpayment to the Wild Resource Conservation Fund? Just  
wait until you get Form 1099-G, advising you that the amount  
has been reported to the IRS, and you have to include it on  
your federal income tax as additional income.