

---

# WILDFLOWERS

The Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania • September 2000

---

---

## Next Meeting is September 11th

---

The next meeting will be Monday, September 11, 8:00 p.m., at the Kresge Theater at Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA (Oakland).

Our speaker will be **Dr. Susan Kalisz**, Associate Professor at the University of Pittsburgh Department of Biological Sciences. Dr. Kalisz will discuss her recent work on deer herbivory at Trillium Trail near Fox Chapel, and her research on plant mating systems.

**Detailed directions** to our meeting place at Carlow College are provided in this month's newsletter on page 2. If you have never attended a meeting, save these directions and join us.

---

## What books are important to you?

---

Once the sun goes down, or the weather turns a bit cold, plant lovers look inside for their favorite book to enlighten them about the plants outside.

What has been the important book that has given you the most education or the most delight in your study and enjoyment of plants?

It could be an identification guide, a collection of essays, an atlas, or perhaps an old classic botany textbook.

Maybe you look forward to a magazine, or maybe you were moved by a novel — a novel starring a plant!

Do not assume that others know how great this book is. Share the title.

Drop the editor a note (as short or as long as you desire). Tell us about your favorite book:

Editor, BSWP  
5837 Nicholson Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
e-mail address: [yoree@sgi.net](mailto:yoree@sgi.net)

---

## Count on a Columbo Field Day on September 16

---

Virginia Phelps has been carefully researching and recording her observations of a population of the American Columbo or Monument Plant (*Swertia caroliniensis*) at Jennings State Park for almost 16 years.

Virginia is looking for interested volunteers to help her measure and count the plants. The year 2000 was another big flowering year.

On Saturday, September 16, 2000, join Virginia and others for a special work day starting at 1 p.m. Directions to the site are listed under the Field Trip Schedule on page 3.

This is not a regular field trip, but should prove to be a fun day for anyone interested in native plants. Dress appropriately for the weather, but long pants are recommended.

If you have them available, bring a tape measure that measures centimeters, a clipboard, and a pencil.

Normally registration is not required for our field trips, but please call Loree Speedy at (412) 521-9425 or [yoree@sgi.net](mailto:yoree@sgi.net) to let us know

you will be coming, and to receive a cancellation notice in case of rain.

Virginia hopes an individual or group of individuals will eventually be willing to take over this important scientific observation. This is an opportunity for someone to contribute to the botany of Western Pennsylvania, while studying in detail the life cycle of a very unusual plant.

---

## Directions to the Meeting

---

Clip and save these detailed directions to the monthly meetings.

**From the East** - Follow Route 376 West into Pittsburgh. Take Exit 7A - Oakland. Travel up a hill to the first light, and turn left onto Boulevard of the Allies. At the first light on Boulevard of the Allies, turn right onto Halket Street. Drive to end of Halket to Fifth Ave. Turn left onto Fifth Ave. Move to the right lane; you will soon turn right at the entrance to Carlow College.

**From the North** - Follow I- 79 South, then I- 279 South. Approaching the city, take I-579 South (Crosstown Blvd) and stay in left lane as you cross the Veterans Bridge. Follow signs for Rte 376 East, Monroeville. This puts you on the Boulevard of the Allies. Do not exit the Boulevard at the Rte 376 ramp. Stay on the Boulevard toward Oakland. Take exit immediately following Rte 376 ramp (this exit is not well marked). The exit puts you onto Forbes Ave. Proceed two blocks to the second light. Turn left onto Halket St., then left onto Fifth Ave. Move to the right lane; you will soon turn right at the entrance to Carlow College.

**From the South, and West** - Follow I- 279 North through the Fort Pitt Tunnel into the city. Follow signs for 376 East. Take Exit 5 - Forbes Ave. On Forbes Ave., go to second light. Turn left onto Halket St., then left onto Fifth Ave. Stay in right lane; you will soon turn right at the entrance to Carlow College.

Once you turn right at entrance to Carlow College, proceed all the way to the top of the hill to a large parking lot. Park here; do not park in unauthorized areas. A campus directory is located at the west end of the lot. Regular monthly meetings take place in the Kresge Theater.



Coneflower - *Rudbeckia* sp.  
Tammy and Janet Watychowicz

---

## Field Trip Schedule

---

Registration is not required. Everyone is welcome, including non-members. Trips are not cancelled due to rain. For questions, call the trip leader or Loree at (412) 521-9425.

**Saturday, September 16, 2000**  
**Special Work Day at**  
**Jennings Wildflower Reserve, Butler County**  
**Leader: Virginia Phelps (412) 828-6286**  
**Time: 1 p.m.**

Directions: From Pittsburgh, take I-79 North to Exit 29 US 422/New Castle/Butler. Drive east on Route 422 roughly 5.8 miles to the Prospect Exit, and turn left (north) onto Rte. 528. Continue on Rte. 528 for about 7 miles. We will meet in the Jennings Env. Center parking lot on the left (west) side of the road.

Normally registration is not required for our field trips, but please call Loree Speedy at (412) 521-9425 or yoree@sgi.net to let us know you will be coming, and to receive a cancellation notice in case of rain.

All are welcome to this group event to assist Virginia. It is not a regular field trip, but should prove to be a fun day for anyone interested in native plants.

**Sunday, September 24, 2000**  
**Dysart Woods, Ohio (near Wheeling, WV)**  
**Leader: Carl Patsche (304) 670-1601**  
**Time: 2 p.m.**

Directions: Take I-70 west to Wheeling, WV. Continue on I-70 approx. 17 miles to Exit 208 – OH 149/Belmont. Head south on State Route 149 for 2.5 miles. At the “T” intersection, make a left to travel on Route 147/149 through the town of Belmont. (Zigzag through town, staying on Route 147, not Route 149, which branches away). Continue on State Route 147 East for approximately 4 miles. Turn right at the Dysart Laboratory sign. Turn right at the next gravel road. Travel this

road approximately 7/10 of a mile, until you see a sign for Dysart Woods Parking. (Rustic restrooms are located adjacent to the white farmhouse on the left.)

Did you note that we are meeting on Sunday at 2 p.m.?

Dysart Woods is a 50-acre tract of old-growth oak forest. It is the largest known remnant of the original forest of southeastern Ohio. Many species of trees are here, but the oaks, which have developed during the last 300 years, are the most spectacular. Some are over four feet in diameter and stand 140 feet high.

### Scheduled for October 2000

Saturday, October 14, 1 p.m. – Kidd’s Mill  
Saturday, October 21, 1 p.m. – Moraine State Park

---

## Do You Want Mushroom Mania?

---

The Western Pennsylvania Mushroom Club will sponsor an all-day event it aptly calls Mushroom Mania II on Saturday, September 30, 2000 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The event includes a program by nationally renowned mushroom expert Bill Roody.

You will have an opportunity to join organized mushroom walks throughout the area. Mr. Roody and local experts will be on hand to identify mushrooms.

You can even taste various mushroom dishes, or you can gaze at mushrooms under the microscope.

The event takes place at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve in the north suburbs of Pittsburgh.

For a schedule and registration information, call Mary Woehrel at (412) 828-3266 or marigold@sgi.net.

**Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania – September 2000**

5837 Nicholson Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Permit No. 716

**Change Service Requested**

CARNEGIE MUS NATURAL HIST  
HERBARIUM  
4400 FORBES AVE  
PITTSBURGH PA 15213

15213/4080



---

---

**WILDFLOWERS - Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania**

---

---

Editor: Loree Speedy, 5837 Nicholson Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217 Telephone: (412) 521-9425;  
E-mail: <yoree@sgi.net>.

President: Dr. Mary Joy Haywood (412) 578-6175; Vice-President: Phyllis Monk (412) 831-2724

WILDFLOWERS is published monthly by the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania. We welcome short articles of botanical interest, drawings, letters to the editor, and notices of botanical events and group activities. Send to the editor at the above address. Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the previous month.

---

---

**The Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania - Membership Information**

---

---

The object of the Society shall be to bring together those who are interested in Botany and to encourage the study of this science and a knowledge of plants. Our members include both amateurs and professionals. Annual dues are \$10.00 for individual and \$15.00 for family. Students can join at half-rate. To join, mail your name, your address, and check payable to "Botanical Soc. of W PA" to Loree Speedy, 5837 Nicholson Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217. Your membership includes a subscription to the monthly bulletin WILDFLOWERS.

The Society meets the second Monday of each month, September through June, at 8 p.m. sharp, at Trinity Hall or Kresge Theater, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland. All are welcome. An informative program follows the business meeting. Visit the Botanical Society Homepage at <http://home.kiski.net/~speedy/b1.html>.