



Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania

wildflowers

April Meeting

APRIL 12. Melissa Melan's presentation is "Tomatl: the Natural History of Tomatoes".

No, Melissa is not enamored with presentation topics that have their name origins in the Nahuatl language (the chocolate talk was called "Xocolatl"). That just happened by coincidence. She hopes that this presentation will inspire us all to look forward to planting our summer gardens and maybe to try to grow some new varieties of tomatoes (yellow ones, perhaps?) this year.

Melissa currently works at UPMC in the Division of Molecular Diagnostics where she designs clinical testing to diagnose diseases in patients. It has absolutely no relation to plant biology. She did, however, receive a doctoral degree from Vanderbilt University where she studied fern spore germination. Her work as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at two institutions and a portion of her research as a faculty member at Duquesne University involved plant biology and included molecular studies in the model plant *Arabidopsis*.

Although her current work is far removed from plants she still retains a deep interest in plant topics both on the everyday and research levels. There is a rumor that fresh salsa and chips will be served to enhance the audience's tomato experience.

May Meeting

MAY 10. Phyllis Monk, a member of the Society since 1969, is presenting "Spring Wildflowers in Alaska".

Phyllis has served as BSWP Secretary and Vice-president, and was elected an honorary member this past year. She has presented a number of programs and with Dr. Haywood prepared several botanical lab experiences for our group. She prepared the page formats and most of the text, the dedication, the forward, the drawings, the glossaries, and contributed a number of photographs for our book, *Wildflowers of Pennsylvania*. She received a Bachelor of Science in Zoology from the University of Michigan, and received a Master's Degree in Secondary Education from the University of Pittsburgh.

Phyllis taught Biology and Chemistry at three South Hills high schools. She has been retired for a number of years. In earlier years, she enthusiastically led or attended many field trips. She has two sons, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Her latest project is preparing a database for her collection of 35 mm slides — a good project for a particularly snowy winter.

APRIL
MAY
2010

Meetings are held on Mondays at 7:15 p.m. at Kresge Theater, Carlow University, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA (Oakland). Kresge Theater is on the top floor of the Grace

Library and is accessed from the upper campus. Place a note on your dashboard saying "Botanical Society Meeting," or use your parking permit.

April & May

Wildflowers, Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania, is published bimonthly by the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania. We welcome short articles of botanical interest, drawings, and notices of botanical events and group activities. Send to the editor at the address below. Deadline for submissions is the 16th of the previous month. **Wildflowers** is printed on recycled paper.



Editor: Karen Sandorf; 412-885-8237
Post Office Box 97994, Pittsburgh PA 15227
E-mail: bswpnews4k@comcast.net

President: Bonnie Isaac; 412-622-3253
E-mail: isaacb@CarnegieMuseums.org

Vice-President: Dr. Mary Joy Haywood
412-578-6175; E-mail: haywoodmj@carlow.edu

Treasurer: Judy Boyer; bswpjb@aol.com

Recording Secretary: James Nusser 412-784-1234
E-mail: birdmanjen@verizon.net

Program Chairpersons: Anne & Dave Koenig
412-798-5336; E-mail: koenigatsea@yahoo.com

Field Trip Chairperson: Loree Speedy
724-872-5232; E-mail: mousemapper@verizon.net

The Society meets the second Monday of each month, September through June, at 7:15 p.m. sharp, at Kresge Theater, Carlow University, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland. All are welcome to the informative program and business meeting.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual dues are \$10 for individual and \$15 for family. Students can join at half-rate. To join, mail your name, your address, and check payable to "Botanical Society of W PA" to Judy Boyer, 211 Lee Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. Your membership includes a subscription to the bimonthly bulletin *Wildflowers*.



The Botanical Society was founded in 1886.

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.

Registration for Botanical Society field trips is not required, but let the leaders know you are coming for the May 8 Bruderhof and the May 15 Shivers Ridge trips.

Everyone is welcome, including non-members. Trips last 3 to 4 hours but one can leave at any time. For questions, call the field trip leader or Loree Speedy at 724-872-5232.

Wear shoes that can get wet or muddy. Poison Ivy can be everywhere; long pants and hand-washing can prevent the rash.

Sunday, April 11, 10 a.m.

Lichens at North Country Trail Moraine State Park, Butler County
Leader: Bryan Dolney; bdolney@pittsburghparks.org; 412-682-7275 ext. 221

Directions: From Pittsburgh, take I-79 North to Exit 99 (US 422/Butler/New Castle). Drive east on US 422 roughly 5.8 miles to the Prospect Exit, and turn left (north) onto PA 528. Travel PA 528 for 2.5 miles to the highway bridge over Lake Arthur. Continue on PA 528 for 1.7 miles to a parking lot for the North Country Trail on the left-hand side of the road. If you reach Lindey Road on the left, you have gone too far.

Notes: Bryan spoke to the Botanical Society in March about his work with lichens in various habitats in western Pennsylvania, and will join us for one of our favorite spots for lichens.

Saturday, April 17, 1 p.m.

Ryerson Station State Park, Greene County
Leader: Shane Miller; newmiller_78@hotmail.com

Directions: Travel I-79 south to Exit 14, Waynesburg. Head west on PA 21 toward Waynesburg. Travel PA 21 for 22 miles to the entrance to Ryerson Station State Park (Bristoria Rd) on the left. Continue about 1 mile to the park office, where we will meet.

Notes: This will be the first of a series of trips to learn more about the park's interesting habitats and plants.

Saturday, April 24, 10 a.m.

Wolf Creek Narrows near Slippery Rock
Lawrence-Butler County line
Leader: Richard Nugent; rmnugent@live.com; 412-487-5549

Directions: From Pittsburgh take I-79 north to Exit 105. At the end of the ramp turn left on PA 108. Travel east on PA 108 for about 0.7 miles to West Park Rd. (Dairy Queen on the right). Turn left onto West Park Rd. (SR 1015) and drive north about 1.8 miles to SR 1020 (you can see

Field Trips

some large silos on the right). Turn right on SR 1020 (Miller Rd.) and drive about 1.7 miles to the small parking lot on the right. (SR 1020 is a winding road and at an almost T intersection, turn right to stay on SR 1020.) If you reach the bridge, you have gone too far. The parking lot is just before you reach the bridge over Wolf Creek.

Notes: Wolf Creek Narrows is owned by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and consists of a scenic portion of Wolf Creek and a mature forest of hardwoods and Hemlocks. Expect amazing spring ephemerals and Golden Saxifrage (*Chrysothamnium americanum*) in spring seeps. Fallen trees are not always cleared quickly.

Sunday, April 25

Enlow Fork Natural Area, Greene County

Times: 10 a.m. for the first wildflower walk, an afternoon walk will be informally gathered

Leader: Larry Helgerman; bobolink1@earthlink.net

Directions: From Pittsburgh, travel I-79 South toward Washington and head west on I-70 West. Exit I-70 at Exit 15 (PA 40/Chestnut St.) and turn right to head east toward Washington. At the second stop light, turn right onto Franklin Farms Rd. and travel 1 mile to a T intersection with PA 18. Turn right onto PA 18 and continue a little over 14 miles to its junction with PA 231. (Note: do not take PA 221 which joins PA 18 from the right and leaves PA 18 on the left). At the junction with PA 231 (East Finley Dr.), turn right and travel for 1.8 miles until PA 231 heads north (right) at a 3-way intersection. At this point, continue straight onto Enon Church Rd. and continue for a little over 4 miles to an intersection. At the intersection, continue straight across a bridge onto Walker Hill Rd. for 1.6 miles to a sharp right turn for the game lands (Smokey Row Rd.). Continue down Smokey Row Rd. to game land parking lots at the bottom of the hill.

Notes: The Enlow Fork Total Ecology Extravaganza is a multi-organizational event with multiple leaders in all fields. There will be birding at 8 a.m., wildflower walks at 10 a.m., and much more throughout the day. Picnicking is encouraged, but food will be available. If you can help or if you have questions, contact Larry Helgerman, bobolink1@earthlink.net.

Saturday, May 1, 10 a.m.

Braddock's Trail near Irwin, Westmoreland County

Leader: Richard Nugent; rmnugent@live.com; 412-487-5549

Directions: From Pittsburgh drive east on I-76 PA Turnpike to Exit 67, Irwin. Exit onto US 30 West; drive about 2.9 miles to the top of

Jacktown hill. Just past the Subway restaurant, turn left. Drive a short distance and bear left at the first Y onto Robbin's Station Rd. Drive about 1.2 miles on Robbin's Station Rd.; bear left to stay on Robbin's Station Rd. After about 0.6 miles turn right at a T intersection (no sign) to stay on Robbin's Station Rd. Continue about 1.3 additional miles to a gate blocking the road. The parking lot is on the right.

Notes: Braddock's Trail consists of about 100 acres of woods and borders the Youghiogheny River. It is primarily known for spring wildflowers, especially Blue-eyed Mary (*Collinsonia verna*).

Sunday, May 2, 1 p.m.

Oil Creek Bike Trail, Oil Creek State Park Titusville, Venango County

Leader: Lee Ann Reiners, 814-484-3059
tidhouse@zoominternet.net

Directions: Take I-79 north to Exit 116 to head east on I-80 to Exit 29 (Barkeyville/PA 8). Travel PA 8 north about 39 miles to Titusville (You will pass southern entrances to the state park). At the traffic light just before the Oil Creek bridge, turn right toward Drake Well Museum. Go a mile or so to the Bicycle Trail parking lot on the right, before the other bridge over Oil Creek. Meet at the parking lot.

Notes: Old railroad grades are noted for a diversity of wildflowers, and the Oil Creek Bike Trail is exceptionally diverse.

Saturday, May 8, 1 p.m.

Bruderhof Community in Farmington Fayette County

Leader: Bob Burrell; 304-594-0766; bobeb@comcast.net (Contact Bob to let him know you are coming)

Directions: Head to Uniontown by US 119 south or PA 51 south to pick up US 40.

Continued on next page

Field Trips *continued from previous page*

Travel US 40 east up the mountain. At the Summit Hotel at the top, note your mileage and continue 6 miles to the junction of PA 381 North (Joe's Gas 'n Go on corner) and turn left. Continue about ½ mile and turn right into a driveway.

Notes: Member Bob Burrell has arranged a field trip with John and Gretchen McGuire of the Bruderhof community. They will show us the property and favorite botanical spots of botanist Arthur Woolston, a longtime member of the Botanical Society. For more information about this unique conservative religious community, visit <http://photovoyages.auroraphotos.com/pv/bruderhof.html>.

Saturday, May 15, 1 p.m.

Shriver's Ridge near Cumberland, Allegany County, MD

Leader: Bonnie Isaac; isaacb@CarnegieMNH.Org; 724-944-8770 cell (Contact Bonnie to let her know you are coming)

Directions: Travel east on I-76 PA Turnpike to Exit 110, Somerset. Follow signs to pick up US 219 South, and travel US 219 about 6.7 miles to the town of Berlin. In Berlin, turn left onto main drag / Main St. and continue a short distance through town to join PA 160 south. Travel PA 160 south about 19 miles through Wellersburg to MD 36 (at the bottom of the mountain). Turn left onto MD 36 and continue about 4 miles to Super Shoes on MD 36, shortly past the Sheetz, where we will meet and carpool.

Notes: Judy Stone has graciously invited us to her property to experience Shooting Stars (*Dodecatheon meadia*) and a host of other interesting plants. Please let Bonnie know that you are coming.

Saturday, May 22, 10 a.m.

Raccoon Creek State Park, Beaver County

Leader: James Nusser; birdmanjen@verizon.net; 412-784-1234

Directions: We will meet at the Park Office for Raccoon Creek State Park. From Pittsburgh, travel I-376 (new name) Parkway West and exit the Parkway to continue on US 22 for 14 miles to the exit for PA 18. Turn left on PA 18 north and travel 7 miles to the Park office on the left.

Notes: The end of the spring ephemerals brings beautiful orchids.

Sunday, May 23, 1 p.m.

Cedar Creek County Park, Westmoreland County

Leader: Mark Bowers; 4beagles@verizon.net; 724-872-5232
724-414-4012 cell

Directions: From Pittsburgh, travel PA 51 south to its junction with PA 201 (just after Bills and Willowbrook Plaza). Continuing on PA 51,

travel 2 miles to the traffic light for Concord Ln. (BP and Burger King on left) and turn left. (This traffic light at Concord Ln. can also be reached by I-70 exit 46B and continuing north on PA 51 for a very short distance). Traveling on Concord Ln., bear right at fork and turn right onto Municipal Dr. Continue about 0.6 mile. After you pass Timm's Lane, travel a short distance and turn left for the main entrance to Cedar Creek County Park (a short distance beyond the first brown park sign). Follow this road downhill, cross the bike trail, and continue through a series of parking lots; continue driving until you reach the farthest parking lot, near the Gorge Trail.

Notes: We will explore the well-drained slopes above the creek for unique limestone loving plants, so prepare for the climb above the second bridge with sturdy shoes.

Monday, May 24, 1 p.m.

Wolf Rocks Trail above Linn Run State Park Westmoreland County

Leaders: John and Paulette Zabkar
johnzabkar@aol.com; 412-364-5820

Directions: Travel I-76 PA Turnpike to Exit 91 Donegal. Turn left onto PA 31 east and continue 3 miles to join PA 381, then a short distance to leave PA 31 and turn left onto PA 381. Travel PA 381 10 miles to town of Rector where you will turn right onto Linn Run Rd. and enter Linn Run State Park. Follow Linn Run Rd. up the mountain for 7 miles to Laurel Summit Rd. and a picnic area for Laurel Summit State Park. (Rector can also be reached from US 30 by turning left on PA 381 south 2 miles outside of Ligonier.)

Notes: Sturdy shoes are a must for the boulders of Wolf Rocks Trail. After effusive displays of White and Red Trillium in earlier May, we can now enjoy the subtle surprises of Painted Trillium (*Trillium undulatum*) in the mountains. Take off work, but don't quit your job.

Special Events

PENNSYLVANIA RARE PLANT FORUM

The Pennsylvania Rare Plant Forum will be held Saturday, April 24 at Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, PA. All people interested in the conservation of Pennsylvania's native flora are encouraged to attend.

The Rare Plant Forum is a function of the Vascular Plant Technical Committee of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey. In addition to discussing proposed changes to the list of Plants of Special Concern in Pennsylvania (POSCIP), there will be a few related presentations.

The Forum provides an excellent opportunity to connect and work with other botanists, amateur and professional, who share your interest in the flora of Pennsylvania. This allows others to build upon your work, encourages collaboration and minimizes duplication of effort.

The Rare Plant Forum considers proposals for adjusting the conservation statuses of species. To review this list of recent proposals, go to www.paconserve.org/256.

Ken Klemow is hosting this year at Wilkes University. This will be the first meeting in the northeastern part of the state. If you know anyone who might be interested in attending, especially in NE Pennsylvania or adjacent parts of New Jersey and New York, please extend the invitation to them.

For more details, contact Steve Grund at the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy at 412-586-2350 or at sgrund@paconserve.org.

HUNT INSTITUTE OPEN HOUSE 2010

In conjunction with *Botanicals: Environmental Expressions in Art, the Alisa and Isaac M. Sutton Collection*, the Hunt Institute will hold its annual Open House June 27–28. Two curators' talks and displays will be presented. Archivist Angela Todd will talk about the legacy and legend of Sir Joseph Banks (1744–1820), the famed British naturalist, botanist and world traveler for whom *Banksia* is named. Librarian Charlotte Tancin will discuss examples of botanical artworks that were created by artists who were part of an expedition, were employed afterward to draw specimens for publication, or explored on their own seeking new plants to draw. There will be a guided gallery tour of the exhibition by Acting Curator of Art Lugene Bruno, overviews and displays from the Hunt's departments, a tour of the reading room and opportunities to meet one-on-one with staff to ask questions and see items in the collections. The Open House will be a good time to see the exhibition before it closes and an opportunity to have an inside look at the Hunt's collections and work.

The Hunt Institute is on the 5th floor of the Hunt Library building at Carnegie Mellon University. Hours for the Open House are Sunday, 12:30–4:40 p.m., and Monday, 1–5 p.m. The Open House and the exhibition are open to the public free of charge. For further information, contact the Hunt Institute at 412-268-2434.

EARTH DAY AT FRICK PARK

The entire family will enjoy celebrating Earth Day surrounded by the beauty of nature at the Frick Environmental Center on Saturday, April 17, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Nature lovers of all ages will enjoy a full day of free activities, including:

- Bird walks
- Entertainment
- Nature crafts
- Animal encounter
- Flowerbed planting
- Garlic mustard pull

BSWP members will lead hikes, and *Wildflowers of Pennsylvania* can be purchased at the BSWP table, where the hikes begin.

Individuals and groups can leave a lasting legacy by volunteering — choose from numerous park stewardship projects. For more information, call 412-422-6538.

WESTERN PA GARDENING & LANDSCAPING SYMPOSIUM

The 15th annual Western PA Gardening & Landscaping Symposium will be held Saturday, April 24 at Chatham University. Attendees will be treated to an entire day of presentations by nationally acclaimed educators and authors on topics including garden design and installation, new and choice varieties of trees and shrubs, tropicals, infusing your garden with personality, and sustainable landscape management. The Symposium includes breakfast and lunch as well as plenty of time to shop for plants and garden-related products at this year's newly expanded Garden Marketplace — free and open to the public as well as those registered for the Symposium, from 8 a.m. till 4 p.m. It takes place in the Athletic and Fitness Center on the Chatham University campus.

Visit www.landscapesymposium.org for further details. To register for the Symposium (by April 2 for better rate), call Phipps Garden Center at 412-441-4442.

Special Events continue on next page

ENLOW FORK TOTAL ECOLOGY EXTRAVAGANZA

This annual multi-organizational event in Greene County, beginning at 8 a.m. on Sunday, April 25, features a wide variety of guided walks with leaders in all fields — birding, botany, butterflies, fish, snails, stream study and watershed conservation. Picnicking is encouraged. Buy food from vendors or bring your own. Proceeds from all purchased food goes to help sponsoring organizations.

See directions and Larry Helgerman's contact information in the Field Trips section.

MAY 1 IS WPC MEMBERS' DAY

The Western PA Conservancy's 2010 Members' Day and Annual Meeting takes place at The Barn at Fallingwater, located on Bear Run Nature Reserve in Mill Run, PA.

The day's activities include:

- Continental breakfast beginning at 8:30 a.m.
- Hikes on Bear Run Nature Reserve throughout the day, led by WPC naturalists
- Hands-on exhibits
- 10:30 a.m. business meeting to elect WPC Directors
- Overview of program highlights and recent accomplishments
- Free tours of Fallingwater
- Barbecue lunch: \$17 per person, children 10 and under free
- Recognition of newly designated Evergreen Circle members

Go to www.paconserve.org/261/upcoming-events to register, or call 412-288-2777.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOOK CLUB

The Environmental Book Club meets at Borders Book Store on McKnight Road, North Hills, on first Mondays of the month at 7:30 pm. Look for the group hanging out at the comfy chairs behind the music section. It is not compulsory to have read the book or have bought the book there. The discussion is informal, often fun. For more information, contact Kim Metheny at kmetheny@hotmail.com.

PNPS PLANT SALE-A-BRATION

On May 1, 9–2 p.m., join the Pennsylvania Native Plant Society for a day of festivities on the grounds of the 150-year-old Rhone homestead with its landscaped gardens, many old trees, and outdoor sculpture. Many vendors of native plants, fine perennials, herbs and organically grown vegetable starts, and original artwork will be present. The self-guided "Tree Walk" will be available to visitors as well as the maze and labyrinth gardens. Light refreshments will be available. There will be a Silent Auction featuring plants and other items donated by members and vendors. Please, no dogs.

Go to www.rhoneymeade-usa.org/directions.htm for a map and directions.

WILDFLOWER PILGRIMAGE

The 49th annual Wildflower Pilgrimage at Blackwater Falls State Park near Davis, WV takes place May 6–9. This wonderful event offers a variety of outings to many great areas. Last year over 300 people attended.

Speakers, interesting programs, and exhibits will be featured throughout the evenings. All outings have flower and bird leaders.

Advance registration is required. Deadline for all reservations is April 23. To learn more, contact Vickie Hash or Emily Fleming at 304-558-2754.

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA BOTANY-NATURAL HISTORY FORAY

This trip for exploring and botanizing is scheduled for the week of May 9–14. It will include stops at Mt. Rogers for a visit to the boreal forest of Virginia and a walk among the wildflowers. Doug Ogle leads a trip to the ponds of Saltville, an area of much history, unique plant growth and geologic wonder. Another destination is Clinch Mountain Wildlife Management Area to see spectacular displays of larkspur and trillium as well as Blue-eyed Mary (*Collinsia verna*).

Trip limit is 16 participants; reservations are required. To learn more, contact Butch Kelly at butch2410@msn.com or 540-387-7429.

NATIVE PLANTS IN THE LANDSCAPE CONFERENCE

The 20th annual Native Plants in the Landscape Conference will be held June 2–5 at Millersville University in Lancaster County.

This conference provides essential information and networking for gardeners, teachers, and students, as well as landscape, nursery, botanic garden, and environmental professionals. A popular display and plant sale area features native plants, books and artwork.

Go to www.millersvillenativeplants.org for a downloadable conference brochure and online registration.

Enjoy Your Wildflowers

JACK-IN-THE-PULPIT *By Anne S. Bahl*

His Reverence

Jack-in-the-pulpit preaches today
Under the green trees just over the way....

Fair is the canopy over him seen,
Pencilled by nature's hand, black, brown, and green.

John Greenleaf Whittier

The quoted verses are the first and the last two of the poem. The second verse reveals Jack-in-the-pulpit's location, a woodland. The plant prefers one with moist, deep, rich, soil to reach its full potential. It can grow in habitats that are not its first choice, but the results are obvious. When there is too much light, its colors are paler. When the soil is shallow or deficient in moisture and nutrients, the plant may have one, instead of two leaves, no flowers or only male flowers.

The leaves and the flower stalk grow from a deeply buried, acrid, starchy, corm. The leaves have a long petiole with three leaflets, (tripartite), up to 7" x 3" each. They shelter the flower stalk.

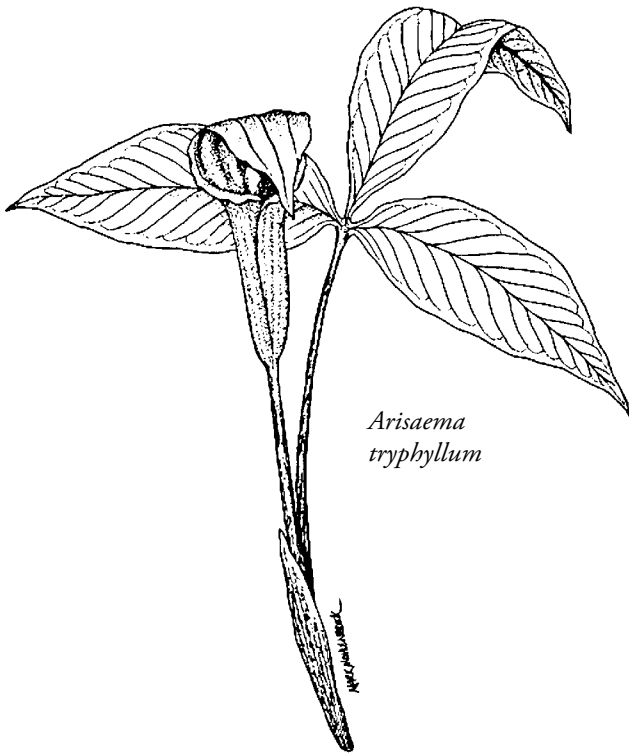
Each flower has only one floral part, either one pistil (female) or one stamen (male). Many flowers surround the lower part of a club-like structure called a spadix, usually one gender to a spadix. A modified bract, a spathe, encloses the flowers on the spadix, extends up and over the spadix, and forms a canopy that protects the flowers. The flowers bloom in spring. They are visited by gnats, mosquitoes, and small beetles.

The fruits, berries, form a tight cluster around the spadix. As they mature in summer, the leaves, the spathe, and the upper part of the spadix wither, exposing the brilliant, orange-red, poisonous berries.

Jack-in-the-pulpit and its relative, Green Dragon, are common in the same temperate habitats in eastern United States and Canada. Jack-in-the-pulpit is *Arisaema tryphyllum*, Green Dragon is *Arisaema dracontium*. Some botanists separate Jack-in-the-pulpit into three species or into three subspecies. *Arisaema* has more than 150 species, most of them in subtropical east Africa and eastern Asia. It is in the Arum family, *Araceae*.

The Jack-in-the-pulpit considered the most beautiful is the Japanese *Arisaema sikokianum*. Its spathe is 6"–8" long, deep purple on the outside with a stark-white interior and spadix.

Illustration courtesy of USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / USDA NRCS. *Wetland flora: Field office illustrated guide to plant species*. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.



*Arisaema
tryphyllum*

WILD RESOURCE FESTIVAL

Wildlife enthusiasts young and old will have a front-row seat to Pennsylvania's non-game animals and plants during a full day of fun and educational hands-on activities, sponsored by the Wild Resource Conservation Program:

- See live raptors, reptiles and much more
- Go on field trips with some of the state's leading scientists — try a birding walk or invasive plant hike.
- Learn how a closed system — aquaponics — raises plants and fish together
- Tour the native gardens
- Enjoy some great food

It all happens at Tom Ridge Environmental Center at Presque Isle State Park, Erie, PA on-Saturday, May 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For updates, visit: www.dcnr.state.pa.us/wrcp/festival10.aspx

Wildflowers

April – May 2010

Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania

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Wildflowers of Pennsylvania (400 pages, 612 color photos) can be purchased for \$20 (plus \$1.40 sales tax for PA residents). Add \$2 postage and handling for one book, \$3/two, \$4/three, \$4.50/four. Forward your check, made payable to Botanical Society of Western PA, and your request to Dr. Mary Joy Haywood, RSM, PhD, 3333 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3165; 412-578-6175; haywoodmj@carlow.edu



JOINT FIELD MEETING

The Joint Field Meeting, scheduled for June 20–24, is sponsored by the Botanical Society of America, the Torrey Botanical Society, and the Philadelphia Botanical Club. The 2010 meeting will explore the Botany of Berkshire County, Massachusetts. The meeting is based at Buxton School in the heart of Williamstown, down the street from the Clark Art Institute and Williams College. This is a lovely country setting with hiking trails close by.

Field trips, by bus, will include Mt. Greylock, the highest mountain in Massachusetts with its own unique sub-alpine boreal forest and rare plants, and Bartholomew's Cobble, National Natural Landmark, which has one of North America's greatest diversity of fern species and many interesting plants amid the unusual geology of the cobbles. Other trips will depend on the best botanical locations at the time. There will be a variety of evening lectures. Leaders are Pam Weatherbee, Berkshire

County Botanist, and Dr. C. Barre Hellquist, Biology Professor Emeritus, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

Accommodations are in the school dormitory rooms, though other options are available. The price of the field meeting includes four nights lodging and meals from Sunday night through Thursday breakfast. Buxton has the reputation of having very good meals using local produce when available.

For registration and additional information, contact Nan Williams, Chairperson, at 413-339-5598 or nnnwrowe@gmail.com.