
WILDFLOWERS

The Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania • February & March 2005

Next Meeting is February 14

The next meeting will be Monday, February 14, **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. Detailed directions follow inside the newsletter.

Esther Allen will present "Trees of Pennsylvania." She will discuss the native trees of the commonwealth. Esther's insightful and informative programs should not be missed. She is a self-taught naturalist and leads nature hikes for many organizations. She was recently voted an honorary member of the Botanical Society.

And the Next Meeting is March 14

The meeting for the month of March will be Monday, March 14, **7:15 p.m.**, at **Kresge Theater**, Carlow University, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA (Oakland).

Member **Tim Manka** will present "Mother Nature's Believe It Or Not: Plants, Part II. After exploring the nation's parks and natural history museums, Ranger Tim returns home to share his adventures with scouts, astronomers, and adults hungry for knowledge. Tim is a former science teacher and volunteer at the Carnegie Science Center. Be prepared to enjoy an energetic hour of the best botanical natural history stories.

Japanese Knotweed Feast!

On **Saturday, April 16**, the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania and the Western Pennsylvania Field Institute will again sponsor a Japanese Knotweed Feast! From 2 to 5 pm, in Pittsburgh's Highland Park, we will cook heaping helpings of this rhubarb and buckwheat relative, serving up several fine recipes from naturalist "Wildman" Steve Brill. The day's menu includes Knot Soup, Steamed Knotweed Sesame, Apple-Knotweed Pie, as well as other wild edibles recipes. There will also be short hikes to see and harvest samples of Japanese knotweed in its wild habitat, while learning about the plant and why it has spread so dramatically since coming to this country.

Too many botanists won't spoil the knotweed soup! Members of the Botanical Society are needed to forage, cook, and show others how to identify this and other nasty invasives. Members who volunteer for any period of time will not be required to pay an admission fee.

Call or e-mail Sean Brady at (412) 255-0564 or sbrady@wpfi.org to let him know that you will attend and help out. Let him know how you can help, or ask him how you can help. Sean is also looking for recipes using wild edibles that might be available at that time of the year.

Pennsylvania Rare Plant Forum will meet at Bear Run Nature Reserve

The Pennsylvania Rare Plant Forum will be held Saturday, April 2, 2005, at Bear Run Nature Reserve in Mill Run, PA. All people interested in the distribution and abundance of plant species in Pennsylvania are encouraged to attend

this meeting. The Rare Plant Forum serves, indirectly but effectively, in an advisory role to the Bureau of Forestry for issues related to the conservation of the native flora of Pennsylvania.

The primary task will be discussion of proposed changes to the list of Plants Of Special Concern In Pennsylvania (POSCIP). In addition to a few presentations, excursions and forays will be scheduled.

This is also an excellent opportunity to socialize with other people, amateurs and professionals, who share your interest in the flora of Pennsylvania. For detailed information about the Forum and suggested overnight accommodations, contact Steve Grund at the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Telephone: (412) 288-5401; e-mail: sgrund@paconserve.org

Catskill Botany Then and Now is Theme of 2005 Joint Field Meeting

The 2005 Joint Field Meeting is scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend, May 27 through 31, 2005 and will be held in the heart of Catskill Park, Ulster County, New York. The Catskill Botany: Then And Now theme will feature 18th/19th century botanical exploration and 21st century rediscovery. There will be visits to sites originally documented on late 1800's and early 1900's Torrey Botanical Society trips for then and now comparisons. Evening programs will feature the geology, ecology, and cultural history of the Catskill Forest Preserve.

Housing options include three reserved motels and separate men's and women's open dormitory-style bunkhouses at the Ashokan Field Campus. Campgrounds and full-service chain motels are nearby.

The registration fee is \$365.00 per person double occupancy. This includes eleven meals from Friday evening through Tuesday breakfast. Those opting to stay in the Ashokan dormitories will pay a reduced fee. Campers and day trippers are welcome at a lower no lodging, meals-only

rate. Space is limited and reservations are required. Joint Field Meetings are sponsored by the Botanical Society of America, Torrey Botanical Society and Philadelphia Botanical Club. For additional information, contact Chairperson Frank Knight, 9 Willowbrook Lane, Cohoes, NY 12047-2011; (518) 233-0025 evenings; frankknight@earthlink.net.

Directions to Our Monthly Meetings

Clip and save these detailed directions to the monthly meetings.

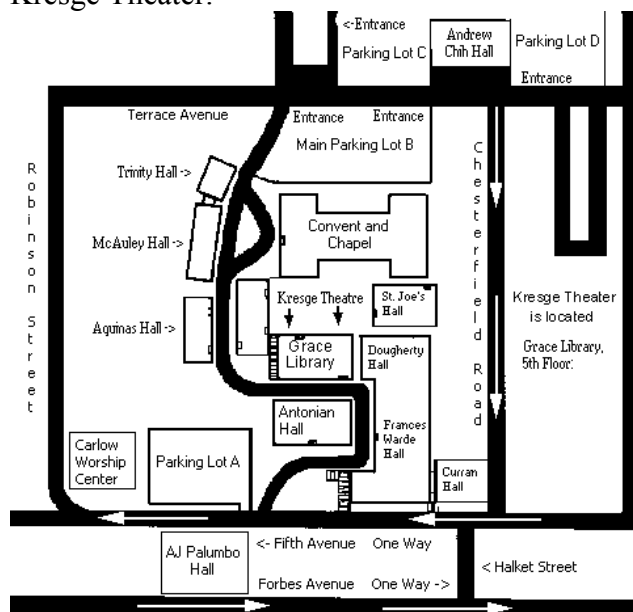
From the East - Follow I-376 West into Pittsburgh. Take Exit 3B/PA 885 N/Oakland. Travel up a hill to the first light, and turn left onto Boulevard of the Allies. At the first light on Boulevard of the Allies, turn right onto Halket Street. Drive to end of Halket to Fifth Ave. Turn left onto Fifth Ave. Move to the right lane; you will soon turn right at the entrance to Carlow.

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 I-376 East, Monroeville. This puts you on the Boulevard of the Allies. Do not exit the Boulevard at the I-376 ramp. Stay on the Boulevard toward Oakland. Take the exit immediately following I-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.

From the South, and West - Follow I- 279 North through the Fort Pitt Tunnel into the city. Follow signs for I-376 East. Take Exit 2A/Forbes Ave/Oakland. Travel Forbes Ave to the 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.

Once you turn right at entrance to Carlow University, proceed all the way to the top of the

hill to a large parking lot. Park in Main Parking Lot B or cross the street to Parking Lot D; 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.



Field Trips in 2004

Thank you to those who led field trips in 2004.

Esther Allen -	Raccoon Creek St. Park (6/12) Butler Freeport Trail (3/20, 5/29) Forest Trail (4/25) Moraine St. Park (10/30)
George Bercik	Chapman Dam State Park (6/19)
Marci Brissett & Luise Davis	Plain Grove Fen (11/20)
Mark Bowers	Ackermann Reserve (2/14) Cedar Creek Park (3/28) Randall Reserve (5/16)
Robert Coxe	Friendship Hill Historic Site (4/24) EverGreen (5/1) Pumpkin Run County Park (7/31) Stavich Bike Trail (9/25)
Dennis Hawley	Crooked Creek ELC (4/18)
Rita Hawrot	The Glades (8/7)
Mary Joy Haywood	Enlow Fork Natural Area (5/2) Ralph Bell's Farm (5/8)
Jim & Mary Murdy	Murdy Woods (7/24)
Tom Pearson	Boyce Park (6/26)
Lee Ann Reiners	Erie NWR (10/17)
Loree Speedy	Bear Run Nature Reserve (7/10)
Scott Speedy	Yellow Creek St. Park (7/17, 8/28)
Mike Vacca	Buffalo Creek Valley (9/5)

Thanks to all who led and to all who learned!

Field Trip Schedule

Registration is not required. Everyone is welcome, including non-members. For questions, call the leader or Loree at (724) 872-5232.

Saturday, March 26, 2005
Sewickley Creek, Westmoreland County
Leader: Mark Bowers (724) 872-5232
Time: 1:00 p.m.

Directions: Take the PA Turnpike to Exit 67 - Route 30/Irwin/Greensburg. Take the Route 30 East/Greensburg ramp. At the first stoplight on Route 30, turn right. Travel 0.5 mile to the first stop sign and turn right. Travel this road 3.7 miles to a T. Turn right at the T. Continue 0.9 miles to a stop sign. Turn right. Travel a very short distance to turn left at the street just before Mayers Maytag. Continue on this road to the next intersection. There will be a CITGO on your left. Cross the street and park in the John C. Bruno Memorial Stadium parking lot.

We will hike an old railroad grade about two miles from Hutchison to impressive cliffs along the Sewickley Creek.

Upcoming Field Trips

These trips have been scheduled for Spring 2005. Many more trips will be scheduled and listed in the upcoming April newsletter. If you would like to lead or sponsor a field trip, please call Loree at (724) 872-5232; mousemapper@verizon.net. (Sponsoring field trips simply involves settling property permission issues, if applicable, providing directions to a parking area, and being present.)

Wilmore Dam: April 24
Trolley Trail, Erie NWR: May 7
Cedar Creek Park: May 28
Ginseng Mini-tour: July 9

Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania – February & March 2005

279 Orr Road
West Newton, PA 15089

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WILDFLOWERS - Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania

Editor: Loree Speedy, 279 Orr Road, West Newton, PA 15089, (724) 872-5232; E-mail: mousemapper@verizon.net.
President: Dr. Mary Joy Haywood, (412) 578-6175, E-mail mjhaywood@carlow.edu; **Vice-President:** Phyllis Monk, (412) 831-2724 E-mail: uscmonk@ieee.org; **Treasurer:** Kimberly Metheny; **Recording Secretary:** Bonnie Isaac

WILDFLOWERS is published monthly 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 above address. Deadline for submissions is the 23th of the previous month. WILDFLOWERS is printed on recycled paper.

The Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania - Membership Information

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. 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, 279 Orr Road, West Newton, PA 15089. Your membership includes a subscription to the monthly bulletin WILDFLOWERS.

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.

Wildflowers of Pennsylvania – Ordering Information – 400 pages of text and 612 color photographs

Wildflowers of Pennsylvania can be purchased for \$20.00 (plus \$1.40 sales tax for PA residents). Forward your check, made payable to Botanical Society of Western PA, to Dr. Haywood at the address below. If you order by mail, add \$2 postage and handling for one book, \$3.00 for two, \$4.00 for three, \$4.50 for four. Send your request to Dr. Mary Joy Haywood, RSM, Ph.D., 3333 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3165 (412) 578-6175; mjhaywood@carlow.edu