

JANUARY FEBRUARY 2010

THE BULLETIN OF THE

Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania

If the weather is inclement, a BSWP meeting will cancel if Carlow University cancels classes. To learn if that has happened, call the Carlow Weather Line at 412-578-6677.

January Meeting

JANUARY 11. Roy Kraynyk of The Allegheny Land Trust and Steve Quick of Perkins Eastman, an architecture and design firm, will talk about a recent ALT project involving an ecological and physical investigation of Pittsburgh hillsides.

Roy's career has involved land conservation and planning in the Pittsburgh region since 1990. Prior to assuming his position of Executive Director of Allegheny Land Trust in 1991, he held positions with the Allegheny County Departments of Planning and Economic Development and Western PA Conservancy, where he conceived and implemented a variety of conservation planning, redevelopment and community beautification initiatives. He also practiced site planning with a private firm. Roy has a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture from Pennsylvania State University with honors.

During his ALT tenure, more than 900 acres have been protected (a market value of more than \$7 million in 21 Allegheny County municipalities, including Pittsburgh). These conservation projects involved private and public funding, conservation easements, land donations and bargain sales.

Under Roy's leadership, ALT is acting as

Continued on back cover

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

February Meeting

FEBRUARY 8. Bryan Dolney will speak about *Lichen Distribution across a Landscape Gradient*. What explains the distributional patterns — pollution or habitat alterations/ fragmentations?

While attending the University of Central Florida, Brian found his true calling when volunteering with the Florida Park Service turned into a career. There he became interested and involved in exotic plant control, prescribed fire, and population inventory projects. He became a Park Ranger, and later earned a BS in Biology from Point Park University, where he was engaged in lichen research, studying the effects of urban pollution on the lichen communities in and around Pittsburgh. Now a Field Ecologist with the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, Bryan manages invasive species, erosion and restoration projects; does GIS mapping and data management; and provides environmental education. He has also been inventorying the lichens at Powdermill Nature Reserve of Carnegie Museum of Natural History.

His involvement in scientific research includes administering a PA DCNR grant to study lichens at Frick Park, Mingo Creek County Park, and Roaring Run Natural Area.

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

Blue-eyed Mary (Collinsia verna), 1981. Courtesy of Arabelle Wheatley, Illustrator.

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.

February Field Trip

Registration for Botanical Society field trips is not required. Everyone is welcome, including non-members. Wear shoes that can get wet or muddy. Trips last 3-4 hours but one can leave at any time. For questions call the field trip leader, or Loree Speedy at 724-872-5232.

February 13, 1 p.m.

Dead Man's Hollow — Boston, Allegheny County Leader: Loree Speedy, mousemapper@verizon.net; 724-872-5232

Directions: From Pittsburgh, take I-376 (Parkway East) to Exit 8A, Forest Hills/US 30. Travel US 30 west about 7 miles to PA 48. Turn right (south) on PA 48 and travel 6 miles to the Boston Bridge. Cross the bridge over the Youghiogheny, immediately turn right, then turn right again. We will meet at the Yough River Trail parking lot. Alternatively, take PA 51 south to the Elizabeth bridge over the Monongahela River. Continue about 3.5 miles to PA 48 (near Round Hill Park). Turn left (north) on Route 48, and follow it for 7 miles to a 5-way intersection in Boston, just before the bridge. Turn left, then immediately right, to the Yough River Trail parking lot.

Notes: This remote area is known for ghosts on Halloween, so we should be safe for Valentine's Day. This 3+ mile hike may be canceled due to poor driving conditions or icy trails. If weather conditions are uncertain, call 724-872-5232 for a message about trip status.

Continued from opposite page

regional partners with similar objectives. An additional large grant has been submitted to PENNVEST. PENNVEST and the Department of Environmental Protection will review a process for nontraditional projects like these at their March meeting.

If you believe that this would be an important funding source for green development, MWCDC would appreciate your assistance in letting PENNVEST know that you strongly support this project.

If you haven't yet done so, please contact Joseph Manko, Board Director, and Paul Marchetti, Executive Director, at PENNVEST, 22 S. Third Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101. If you have already written to them, MWCDC would greatly appreciate if you could please remind them of your support prior to March 2010.

For more information, please contact: 412-481-3220 x204 or imanspeizer@mwcdc.org, Mount Washington Community Development Corporation (www.mwcdc.org), 301 Shiloh Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15211.

Habitat & View Restoration GRAND VIEW SCENIC BYWAY PARK

Editor's note: This is a December 2009 update from the Mount Washington Community Development Corporation about an ongoing project that has taken place at three sites in the Pittsburgh community of Mount Washington. To find the sites, look for the View & Habitat Restoration signs near each of the two inclines along Grandview Avenue; and near Bigbee Field, off Bailey Avenue. Read on to learn about this project. And how you might help it along!

In Fall 2006, the MWCDC began an innovative habitat and view restoration program in the Grand View Scenic Byway Park to replace tall and invasive trees and plants with low growing native trees and

shrubs in prime Mount Washington view corridors. Early success has enabled the CDC, along with its partner Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc., to expand the program to cover more than 3 acres of restoration.
One sign of success is that other Pittsburgh organizations are looking to this restoration work as a model for their own programs.

2009 has been a watershed year for these restoration programs, bringing a visible and growing maturity to the planting sites. The following are some of the program's accomplishments:

- Three planting plans designed and implemented
- Nearly 1,000 native trees and shrubs planted
- Over 1,200 pounds of native grass seed planted
- Over 10,000 pounds of organic fertilizer spread
- Half a mile of irrigation installed
- 800 hours of invasive plant control in these sites
- Over 350 volunteer hours planting and restoring these sites
- Nearly 700 hours of youth employment to manage these sites
- 3 signs designed, constructed and installed at the restoration sites
- 1 restoration brochure designed for distribution
- Over 1 million visitors to Mount Washington who can now clearly see "The View"

Illustrations, courtesy of the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database, show three of the many native tree and shrub species planted at the three restoration sites. Clockwise: Cornus sericea, Cercis canadensis, and Amelanchier canadensis.



The restoration work is important both because it maintains the economically and social-ly important iconic view of Pittsburgh from Mount Washington, and because of the ecological services that healthy planted slopes provide for the City and the region. Healthy hillside forests drastically reduce the amount of storm water winding up in the region's Combined Sewage Overflows, reduce the amount of

airborne pollution (resulting in lower rates of asthma in local youth), provide temperature moderation for homes and businesses, allow for sustainable and longterm hillside stability and soil protection; and allow native plants and animals to thrive. Green hillsides are also an integral part of Pittsburgh's identity. The MWCDC has estimated that it will require

The MWCDC has estimated that it will require over \$1.5 million to adequately restore the prime viewing areas across Mount

Washington. Due to the generosity of funders like Colcom Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, The Richard King Mellon Foundation, Roy A. Hunt Foundation, and TreeVitalize Pittsburgh, MWCDC has already raised more than \$500,000 towards this goal, and is continuing fundraising efforts to complete restoration of active zones. Continued funding will allow MWCDC to complete their projects and share this successful method with local and

BSWP Constitution & Bylaws

In an effort to update the Constitution and Bylaws of the society, a committee consisting of Bonnie Isaac, Mary Joy Haywood and Judy Boyer was formed. The following suggested changes to these documents follow. Deletions from the current documents are denoted by strike through. Additions or changes are noted in parentheses. In accordance

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. The name of this Society shall be the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania.

Article 2. The object of this Society shall be to bring together those who are interested in Botany, to encourage the study of this science and a knowledge of plants, and to promote the study of the flora of Western Pennsylvania.

Article 3. The membership shall consist of persons in sympathy with (support of) the objects of this Society, and who wish to cooperate in promoting them.

Article 4. Applications for membership may be submitted at any regular meeting (or by mail). They shall bear the recommendation of two members in good standing and be accompanied by payment of the first year's dues.

Article 5. The regular meetings of this Society shall be held monthly except during July and August.

Article 6. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in January. (December).

Article 7. The officers shall be a President, a Vice President, a Treasurer, a Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and an Executive Committee (& Program chair). The Executive Committee shall consist of the President of the Society as Chairman, plus all past Presidents who are still active members of the Society.

Article 8. The officers shall be elected one at a time at the regular annual meeting. They shall hold office for one year or until their successors are duly elected and installed.

Article 9. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Executive Committee, shall appoint all committees, and, when necessary, shall call special meetings of the Executive Committee.

Article 10. The Vice-President, in the absence or disability of the President, shall preside, and act in place of the latter.

Article 11. In the event of the absence of the President and Vice-President, the members shall elect a chairman pro-tem.

with Articles 19 and 20 of this document, these changes are being published so that they may be voted upon at the next three meetings.

Article 12. The Recording Secretary shall have charge of the historical and other records of the Society. He/(she) shall prepare minutes of all meetings and render a report of the year's activities at the annual (next regular) meeting.

Article 13. The Corresponding Secretary shall send announcements of meetings and field-trips to the members. He shall havecharge of the Library and the sale of the publications of the Society. He/(she) shall send printed bills to the members for their annual dues.

Article 14. The Treasurer shall receive all membership dues and other monies accruing to the Society, giving his/(her) receipt therefore, and make such disbursements as the Society shall authorize by vote. He/(she) shall keep a full account of the affairs of his/(her) office and render a report thereof at the annual meeting.

Article 15. The Executive Committee shall have a general oversight over the affairs of the Society and shall from time to time recommend such measures as it may deem of advantage to the Society.

Article 16. The annual dues shall be (ten dollars for individuals & fifteen dollars for families), payable in advance, and dating from January 1st. No less charge shall be made for part of a year except in case of new members coming in (joining) in June or September; the dues paid-by them at that time shall be counted as payment in full for dues for the next fiscal year. Student dues will be (\$5) per year.

Article 17. Members who are more than one year in arrears for dues shall be considered not in good standing and those who are two years in arrears shall be dropped from the membership roll; except that those new members who have paid for only one year shall be dropped from the membership roll when they are one year in arrears.

Article 18. Any person who has done notable service in behalf of the Society may, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, and unanimous vote of the members present at a regular meeting, be elected an honorary member. But no more than two honorary members shall be elected in any one year, and there shall be no more than twelve living honorary members. Honorary members shall have all the rights and privileges of other members except they shall not be eligible to the office of President of the Society. They shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

Article 19. Amendments to this constitution must be proposed in writing at a regular meeting of the Society, read at this meeting by the Recording

Secretary, and they cannot be acted upon until the next regular meeting. In the meantime the Corresponding Secretary shall call attention to them in the next monthly meeting notice. It shall require a three-fourths affirmative vote of the members present to change or amend the constitution. **Article 20.** The By-laws may be changed by a majority vote of the members present at 3 regular meetings, but only if the number present is not less than ten members, and provided that notice of such intention has been stated previously in the monthly meeting notice.

BYLAWS

Section 1. Ten members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 2. The regular meetings shall be held on the second (Monday) of each month (excepting July and August) at (7:15) p.m., at Carlow (University).

Section 3. The order of business shall be: Reading of the minutes of the last meeting Nominations for Membership Election of New Members Reports of Committees Reading of Communications Deferred Business New Business (Program)

Adjournment

Yes, please renew/initiate my/our annual BSWP membership!

Name(s) _____

Street Address

City, State, Zip_____

E-mail Address

New member? Yes __ No _ OR: New mailing address? Yes __ No _

Your check of \$10/person or \$15/family is payable to the BSWP.

Section 4. The President, as Chairman of the Executive Committee, or at the request of five members of the Society, may call a special meeting of the Society for a specific purpose, which purpose must be stated on the notices issued for said meeting. The President shall be a member, ex officio, of all committees excepting the nominating committee.

Section 5. The President shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of three members at the November regular meeting, and said committee shall report first at the regular December meeting and again at the annual meeting in (December).

Section 6. Standing committees of the Society shall be Program Committee and a (Field Trip & Activities Committee).

It's that time of the year ...

RENEW YOUR BSWP MEMBERSHIP AND NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION NOW FOR 2010!

Fill out the form, detach with scissors and bring to the holiday party or mail with your check to: Judy Boyer, 211 Lee Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15237 *Wildflowers* January – February 2010 Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania Post Office Box 97994 Pittsburgh, PA 15227

Non-Profit Org US Postage PAID Pittsburgh, PA Permit No. 716

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



— Wanted — Nature Lovers!

The Fern Hollow Nature Center guides need your help. Volunteer to take school children from the Sewickley Valley on nature walks in local parks. You will be among a dedicated group of community members and parents who know the importance of a direct experience with nature.

Training will take place in February at the nature center, 1901 Glen Mitchell Road, Sewickley, PA. Contact Holly Bomba at 412-523-3782, or at bombahc@yahoo.com.

Continued from front cover

the acquisition agent to acquire privately owned properties to be added to Grand View Scenic Byway Park. Priority parcels were identified in cooperation with the Mt. Washington Community Development Corporation and various City Departments' staff. *(Also see MWCDC article on inside page.)*

Roy's major relevant projects include: Allegheny Land Trust Greenprint — A Regional Conservation Agenda Prioritizing Conservation for the Public Good; The Physical and Ecological Investigation of Pittsburgh's Hillsides; Montour Watershed Rivers Conservation Plan; and Allegheny County Greenways and Conservation Corridors.