



**Bowman's Hill**  
WILDFLOWER PRESERVE  
Where Mind, Heart and Spirit Bloom



## Twinleaf Newsletter Spring 2016

Volume 23, Number 1



### News From the Native Plant Nursery

Hi Folks. With spring right around the corner, it's time for updates and planning. At present we are in the process of preparing to open the Nursery for the Spring season for the annual spring plant sale. In addition to our standard "all-things-native" offerings, we will be showcasing 150 species of natives that are new to us for 2016. We've also been busy acquiring additional species of shrubs and forbes - all in all, 30 new species will be planted on the grounds this year! Our end goal is to propagate them for future plant sales. A sincere thank you to Jason Ksepka and the Collections Committee - these valuable acquisitions would not have happened without your passion and commitment. Jason will share the inside story of his work in the field to acquire new species at our Members' Day Preview II lecture on Friday, May 13.

Speaking of Members' Day, it is always a struggle to have all of our spring ephemerals looking their best for the annual May Members' sale; many of them are at their peak a few weeks earlier. So this year we've

*continued on page 7*

### Preserve Partners with Native Plants in the Landscape Conference at Millersville

The Preserve is pleased to announce a new partnership with the Native Plants in the Landscape Conference at Millersville as organizers prepare for its twenty fifth year. The Millersville conference continues to be an important voice in the native plant movement and has served as a gathering point and networking opportunity for professionals and home gardeners alike. It was founded by the late FM Mooberry, long time native plant advocate and Preserve Trustee from 1998 until 2003.

The stated purpose of the conference is: to increase the knowledge, propagation, cultivation, and use of native plants in the Mid-Atlantic and New England regions; to promote methods of land management and design that respect "sense of place" by preserving and restoring native species and natural processes; to engender an appreciation of regionally appropriate landscapes that are harmonious for people and nature. While the subject of the conference pertains to native plant communities, the spirit of the conference is to build human communities among a broad range of participants by designing a conference affordable to all; encouraging formal and informal exchanges of information, and providing opportunities for social interaction.

*continued on page 5*



### Native Plant Nursery to host 2 Member Preview Sales this Spring!

*Free events for PRESERVE MEMBERS ONLY.\**

#### New Early Season Members' Sale Sunday, April 17

**Preview Lecture:** noon - 1:00 p.m. "Woodland Wonders" with Miles Arnott

**Preview Shopping:** 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

#### Members' Preview Sale II

**Friday, May 13**

**Preview Lecture:** noon - 1:00 p.m. "Nature to Nurture: Native Plant Collecting, Propagation, and Production at the Preserve" with Curator Jason Ksepka

**Preview Shopping:** 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.

*\*Guest Passes can not be used for admission to Members' only events.*



Bowman's Hill  
Wildflower Preserve Association  
PO Box 685 . New Hope, PA 18938  
(215)862-2924 . [www.bhwp.org](http://www.bhwp.org)

## Twinleaf

Published three times per year as a benefit of Preserve membership.

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The Preserve is located 2 ½ miles south of New Hope, PA at 1635 River Road (Route 32). Open year-round.  
The grounds are open from 8:30 a.m. – sunset daily. Visitor Center and Twinleaf Shop are open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, Memorial Day, and Labor Day; closed Thanksgiving Day and 12/24 through 1/1.

### Admission:

Preserve members: FREE

Non-members: Adults - \$6; Seniors (65+) - \$4;

Full-time students - \$4; children 3 through 14 - \$3; children under 3 are free.

### Preserve Staff:

A. Miles Arnott, Executive Director  
Rick Fonda, Grounds Manager  
Angela Jacobsen, Director of Development  
Kelly Joslin, Education Coordinator  
Jason Ksepka, Curator  
Liz Poole Lamb, Visitor Services Coordinator  
Bob Mahler, Nursery Manager  
Sue Owens, Bookkeeper  
Jennifer Pennington, Membership & Communications Coordinator  
Maggie Strucker, Pocket Meadow Coordinator

Botanical illustrations by Heather Lovett.

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve inspires the appreciation and use of native plants by serving as a sanctuary and an educational resource for conservation and stewardship.

Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve is managed by the Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve Association, Inc. in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling 1-800-732-0999.  
Registration does not imply endorsement.



**Bowman's Hill**  
WILDFLOWER PRESERVE  
P.O. Box 685 New Hope, PA 18938

## Message from the Director

2016 promises to be a busy and productive year for the Preserve in so many ways. We are due to submit our reaccreditation self study to the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) in March of 2016 and expect the visiting audit committee to arrive sometime in June or July. The reaccreditation process serves as a "Good Housekeeping" seal of approval and is a process we engage in every 10 years to make sure our organizational practices in education, finance, and stewardship meet the highest professional standards.

We are very pleased to be taking on the responsibility for organizing and presenting the silver anniversary of the Native Plants in the Landscape Conference June 15-17 2016. This will be a major undertaking for the Preserve and represents a new and exciting way to reach even more people and teach them about the importance of native plants to all life. We continue to work on the details of a management agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources since the Preserve property was transferred from the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission late last year. We look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship with DCNR as their mission and focus closely matches our own.

All of this will happen on top of a full Calendar of Events, an expanded summer camp, a newly added Members' Day preview sale for early spring ephemerals, and a growing Pocket Meadow program designed to reach outside of our fence. This amazing growth would not be possible without you -- our members and volunteers -- supporting the Preserve's dedicated staff. Thank you for your generosity, your inspiration, and for caring so deeply about this special place!

- Miles Arnott, Executive Director

## In Memory of Jane and Ian McNeill

It is with a very heavy heart that I share the news that our dear friends and supporters Jane and Ian McNeill were killed on December 8, 2015 in a tragic car accident on route 202 in Solebury Township.

Jane and Ian were both active volunteers generously giving their time and energy to the community they loved. Jane was deeply involved at the Preserve as a Gala Committee member, Sponsorship Chair, Auction Chair, and served spectacularly as the overall Gala Chair during the Gala's 4th year. Jane would drop in occasionally to say hello and give the staff an encouraging word during our busiest time. She was one of our shining stars on the register during our native plant sale often working the entire weekend and lifting everyone's spirits.

Ian was a long-time Board member, served as Treasurer, was a key member of the Marketing, Property, Planning and Finance Committees, and was the current Chair of the Plant Sale Committee. Most recently, Ian focused his volunteer efforts in the Preserve's native plant nursery helping to construct a new greenhouse and sales plan as part of his vision to keep the Preserve energetic and relevant in people's lives. It is difficult to overstate the impact these two amazing volunteers had on the direction and daily operation of the Preserve.

In addition to their tireless work on behalf of the Preserve they both volunteered for many other non-profit organizations including Trinity Episcopal Church in Solebury Township, the Phillips Mill Community Association Art Exhibition, and the Bucks County Audubon Society at Honey Hollow. Jane and Ian both embodied the true spirit of volunteerism – giving selflessly to make the world a better place.

Jane and Ian were actively involved here right up until their passing. As you read through this newsletter you will see their faces on several of the pages; a reflection of both their legacy of service and the good times we all shared. Memorial gifts made to the Preserve in remembrance of Jane and Ian will be used to hire a seasonal greenhouse assistant in order to help realize their dream of a vibrant and growing Native Plant Nursery.



## Welcome to our Newest Trustees



We are pleased to welcome Jim Bray and Karen Budd to the Board of Trustees! Jim Bray first got involved at the Preserve when he completed the Naturalist training program about 12 years ago. He enjoys spending time here as a “getaway from the cares of everyday life. The Preserve “is a place of great natural beauty where one can pass time quietly in surroundings that foster inner peace.” Jim’s career at U.S. Steel Corporation spanned 31 years during which time he worked as an Industrial Engineering Supervisor and Industrial Relations Specialist and Supervisor. He is a skilled negotiator and has been involved as an expert witness in countless Labor Relations Arbitration proceedings.



Jim and his wife Jeanne are long time residents of Lower Makefield. As a member of the Lower Makefield Township EAC Jim was instrumental in passing a Low Impact Development (L.I.D.) Stormwater Management Ordinance that won a best in class national award from the U.S.E.P.A. as well as a Native Plant Ordinance that received commendations from NWF and Sierra Club. His favorite volunteer activity is, “leading people on native plant tours. It is always a positive experience being outdoors in beautiful surroundings sharing a love of nature with like minded people.” Jim is an eloquent advocate for the Preserve as can be seen by his appearance in our new Orientation Film.

Karen Budd has been deeply involved in conservation for her whole career, including both professional and volunteer conservation work. Her professional experience includes fifteen years on the staff of The Nature Conservancy in PA, specializing in preserve management, exotic invasive species, and fire management. She is one of the original founders and past president of the Tinicum Conservancy and has worked to help it grow over the past twenty years. She continues to volunteer on their Board and is in charge of land protection. She enjoys bringing her grandchildren to programs at the Preserve and has been coming to the native plant sale for years. This winter she joined the Preserve’s naturalist training program. Of the Preserve she states, “the fact that [we are] conserving such a repository of native plants and sharing it with the public through all the education programs is my favorite thing.”

## Special Thanks to our Outgoing Trustees

Thank you to outgoing Board Trustees Allison Hamilton, Trey Wilson, Doug Kale and Don Parlee. Each gave their special talents, time, and resources to help guide the Preserve over the last 6 years.

Allison served as the Chair of the Board of Trustees for two years and was responsible for taking the lead on much of the planning work for the organization. Her leadership has been a tremendous benefit as we shape our relationship with the Commonwealth. She has truly served with distinction and her ability to build consensus helped the organization to accomplish so much during her tenure. During his time as a Trustee Trey served as co-Chair for the amazingly successful 2012 Spring Wildflower Gala. He has been an active participant in the Marketing and Membership Committee and has consistently pushed the Preserve to reach out and welcome new people into the Preserve’s fold.

Doug Kale has lent his expertise and guidance to the Property Committee and his generous gift of time and equipment was instrumental in helping to build the new Native Plant Nursery. Don Parlee served on the Development Committee where he helped guide our philanthropic outreach and set an example by encouraging so many people in the birding world to visit the Preserve and become a part of this special place.

On behalf of everyone here at the Preserve, thank you all again for your generosity and thoughtfulness. I look forward to seeing you active and involved here at the Preserve for years to come!

## 2016 Trustees

Pat Ludwig, Chair  
Betsy Falconi, Co-Vice Chair and Development Chair

Mark Gallagher, Co-Vice Chair  
Mark Brownlee, Treasurer and Finance Chair  
Sue Eveland, Recording Secretary

Deborah Agnew,  
Marketing & Membership Chair

Jim Bray

Karen Budd

Michael D. Glenn, Collections Chair

Robert Goodwin

Jacqui Griffith, Nominating Chair

Alison Hargreaves

Michael Lacey

William (Bill) MacDowell, Endowment Chair

James Newbold, Property Chair

Pamela Newitt, Education Chair

Lauren Pregmon

Naudain Sellers

### Trustee Advisory Council:

Bruce Barbour

Melissa Calvert

Michael Fleischacker

Roger Latham

Tama Matsuoka-Wong

Leslie Sauer

### Trustee Emeritus:

Sandy Ryon

### Honorary Trustees:

Mrs. Lester Minkel

Carolyn LaVere

Mrs. Robert Pillsbury

## Stay Connected Through Social Media

Tweeting is no longer reserved for our bird friends! Stay up-to-date by following us:

[@Bowmans\\_Hill\\_WP](#)

On Instagram: [@wildflowerpreserve](#)



## People & Events

### Celebrating our Volunteer Corps

Volunteers are at the core of our mission and each fall we throw a party to celebrate our amazing team. Our volunteers donated an impressive total of 12,620 hours in 2015, helping the staff achieve goals, keeping the property looking pristine, greeting the public, and fundraising.



We certainly have a lot to be grateful for! For the first time our event was held at Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church which held the crowd of 75 volunteers, staff, and board members quite nicely. Using a mint theme we celebrated our Accomplish”mints”, Achieve”mints” and “Commit”mints”. As the music played we enjoyed a bountiful meal of salads, cheeses, fruits and gourmet sandwiches. We had a great time to sharing stories, connecting with other volunteers and saying thank you. We are able to support this event with the help of our community. Appreciation gifts were donated or discounted by the following: Lambertville Station, Riverside Symphonia, Fields without Fences, REI Princeton, Grounds for Sculpture, oWowCow, and Woodn't U Want One, LLC. - Trish McGuire



**Top 5 Board Members:** Ian McNeill, Allison Hamilton, Jim Newbold, Michael Glenn, Naudain Sellers

**Top 5 Volunteers by Hours:** Mary Ann Borge, Dave Horne, Betsy Falconi, Monica Flint and Chris Dewaghe.

**Volunteers with 200 - 300 Hours:** Jean Barrell, Teri Dabrowski, Nancy Putnam, Stephanie Lovenguth, Tom Sandusky

**Volunteers with 100-200 Hours:** Pat Saunders, Margie Rutbell, Blanche Anderson, Naudain Sellers, Barbara Sheinmel, Catherine Williams, Lynn Holzner, Barbara Bailes, Dolores Labrum, Ed Carpenito, Pam Newitt, Paul Teese, Sue Eveland, Kathy Vanozzi, Sue Hurst, Leah Hight, Mary Ellen Sibley, David Lauer

**Volunteers with 50-100 Hours:** Rob Barrett, Gudrun Alexander, William Tregaskis, Mary Anne Zupeck, Joyce Koch, Carl Homnick, Elaine Whitaker, Pat Coleman, Kay Reed, Emily Grace, Ellen Stryer, Susan Vigilante, Stephanie Pavona, Rekha Mehta, Tom Potterfield, Marna Elliott, Nancy Quanstrom, Janice Rockmore, Dave Shanno, Kathie Shanno, Jim Bray, Kathy DiTanna, Roberta Hurley, Tim Abbott Melanie Kavanaugh, June Bitzer, Pat Ludwig, Deborah Agnew, Ericka Bonner, Mary Nogami, Rick Anderson, Jean Falconi, Maggie Strucker, Jane McNeill, Eric Rieders

*Pictured: 1. Staff and Volunteers take the stage together 2. Trustees Michael Glenn, Allison Hamilton & Ian McNeill 3. Marne Dietrich Photos by Gordon Neiburg*



### New in the Twinleaf Shop

Be sure to come and take a look at our new Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve Sweatshirts and T-shirts. They feature a beautiful photo of our very own Parry Trail and the breathtaking Virginia bluebells we see there every spring time. In 1936, the trail got its name when the Countryside Gardeners voted to name and sponsor a trail in honor of Mrs. Mary K. Parry, who was also one of the Preserve's founders. Stop in the shop to learn more and purchase one of these unique shirts while you are there!

We also have a wonderful display of umbrellas featuring butterflies, dragonflies, and more. These well made and durable umbrellas have an easy open and close button. Why not pick one up and go for a walk in the rain at the preserve? Looking for a good book for the young ones in your life? Check out *On Meadowview Street* by Henry Cole. It's the story of a young girl named Caroline who moves to Meadowview Street, but there is no meadow there, only lawn! Follow Caroline as she discovers nature and finds a way to create meadow and habitat in her neighborhood. See page 6 for details on our special Community Read program based on this book.

- Liz Poole Lamb

## Notes from the Curator - Twinleaf Rescue!

Shortly after I became Preserve Curator we received a message explaining that a site on River Road just south of New Hope had a population of Twinleaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*). The message was left because this site had been surveyed recently and marked with the location of a house to be built by the landowner. Upon surveying the site, Miles Arnott and I found many clumps of adult plants, interspersed with many juvenile plants. We decided to set out to identify the landowners and obtain permission to rescue the plants. After a few attempts to locate the owners came up empty one of our Trustees was finally able to make a connection. During this time, Paul Teese, Volunteer Curator, referred to "The Flora of Bucks County" (1932) by Walter M. Benner and found this description for the species: "Rich soil woods and thickets; rare. New Hope." This is significant because it shows that the population at this site is very possibly the type population for Bucks County.

With that in mind, not to mention that *Jeffersonia* is the plant featured in our logo and the namesake of this publication, we felt the need to intervene. This plant population is significant both to the Preserve and to the floristic history of Bucks County and the surrounding region. I wrote the landowner and received a response within a week. I was elated to receive permission to go in at any time, to rescue as many plants as possible. Unfortunately, this permission was received late in the season, and the *Jeffersonia* had already gone dormant and been completely overgrown by Mile-A-Minute Vine!

David Lauer from the Delaware Valley Fern and Wildflower Society helped me locate and dig about a dozen plants and relocate them to the Preserve's Nursery. They sat in there for several months as I wanted to be sure they were completely dormant for the season before placing them out in the Preserve. I inspected the plants periodically to make sure they were healthy, with clean white resting buds just below the soil surface, and healthy white roots.

A site along the Evergreen Trail was selected as a permanent home because the light, soil and moisture conditions there are a good match for what *Jeffersonia* prefers to grow in. On a warm winter day, these plants were re-homed at our Preserve in a couple of spots along the trail. This spring, as the original site begins to grow again, I will return to rescue as many *Jeffersonia* as I can find. Come by to learn about these beautiful spring bloomers and watch the progress as they grow into their new home over the seasons.

Special thanks to Donald C. and Eleanor O. Ruddy, of Solebury Township, for allowing us this amazing opportunity to save some very special plants and a part of our floristic history.

- Jason Ksepka, Curator



Jason holds up a clump of Twinleaf just before planting it on the Evergreen Trail. Note the small winter resting buds at the top of the clump.

## Farewell to Trish, Susan, and Dave

Trish McGuire, the Preserve's Volunteer Coordinator retired in February 2016. Trish expressed her need to spend more time with her family and did not feel that she could give the Preserve the time that her job required and still meet her family obligations. While we are sad to see her leave, we certainly understand that family always comes first. During her time here, Trish was the Preserve's Volunteer Coordinator extraordinaire, always working to improve the volunteer experience. She worked tirelessly in pursuit of everything from volunteer recruitment and training to making sure each and every volunteer felt appreciated. Whether it was organizing the Do It Yourself crew or scheduling Plant Sale volunteers, Trish always displayed a special talent for making our volunteers feel welcome and connected. Trish has been gracious and thoughtful, even during those occasions when it felt like the sky was falling. Her people skills and her "all-in" dedication earned the respect and admiration of her fellow staff members and the many volunteers who worked with her over the years.

Susan Rowles, the Preserve's Gift Administrator and one time Business Manager, also resigned in February and she too cited her need to be there for her family during a transition in their lives. Susan came to the Preserve with a wealth of business management skills which she quickly set to work to professionalize the organization. She has been instrumental in updating our human resource function, raising our awareness of risk management, and working with various state and federal agencies to make sure the Preserve is in compliance with the latest laws and regulations – no small task! Susan also made great progress in organizing and managing our people database to ensure that our donors were recognized and thanked. Susan's tremendous work ethic and her attention to detail earned her the respect and admiration of staff and volunteers alike.

Dave Offerdahl, the Preserve's Facilities Maintenance Coordinator also retired in February 2016, and like Trish and Susan, Dave expressed his need to spend more time with his family during an important time in their lives. Dave joined the staff at a critical juncture in the care and maintenance of the Preserve's physical plant, and from day one he started making a list and set to work repairing the Preserve's aging structures. He was the leader in renovating the lower restrooms for use during special events, repaired the leaking roof, installed countless new electrical switches, and was the point of contact for nearly every bit of work done on the building by outside contractors, from a new deer grate at the exit gate to updating the Preserve's security system. His skill set and problem solving skills seems to have no bounds. On a personal level Dave has been a joy to work with – always willing to lend a hand in good spirits. His can-do positive attitude and his sense of humor have lifted all of us here at one time or another during some challenging times.

Thank you Trish, Susan, and Dave for all you have done for the Preserve, for caring so deeply about this beautiful place, and for leaving it better than you found it. We will miss you very much.

- Miles Arnott

## From the Education Desk...

This January, we welcomed 17 wonderful individuals to our Naturalist Training Program. While their backgrounds vary, each person shares the same passion for the natural world and they are eager to gain new knowledge about native plants and the fauna they support. We welcome each of them and look forward to seeing them leading a guided walk in the not-so-distant future.

Our spring calendar is **jam-packed** with so many educational opportunities that we only have space to list a sampling here. Check out these new programs and be sure to visit our website for perennial favorites like our Knowing Native Plant series, the Frog Slog and Walk When the Moon is Full. Call (215) 862-2924 to register.

### **NEW! Sketchbook Escapes: Explorations from Nature**

Three Wednesdays: March 30, April 6, & April 13, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Members: \$45; Non-members: \$50 Advance registration with payment required by March 25.

The sketchbook is a powerful tool to observe and develop the artistic eye. In this three-part series, artist Danielle Cargas shows you how to explore springtime's bounty of color, texture, shape, and line. Bring a sketchbook, pencil, eraser, and your choice of medium to add color.

### **NEW! Watersheds and Macros: Stream Creature Investigation**

Sat, April 2, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Members: \$5; Non-members: \$7

Do you ever wonder what lurks beneath the surface of the stream? Come learn about what makes a watershed and how the critters that live in streams can tell us about stream health. We'll start with a classroom presentation covering the basics of watersheds and how to monitor stream health using chemical tests and by looking at the creatures that live there. Then we'll use microscopes and other magnifiers to check out these critters up close and personal. A fun and interactive introduction to stream health for all ages.

### **NEW! Community Read: On Meadowview Street**

Sat, April 9, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
Members: \$5; Non-Members: \$8

Join us for a special Community Read - a program designed to foster a connection between people and the natural world. We'll read Henry Cole's book, *On Meadowview Street*. The book follows a young girl who starts a meadow in her own backyard, marvels at the wildlife that come to share it with her, and inspires her whole neighborhood to re-think their own yards. We'll then explore ways to create habitat and attract wildlife in our own backyards when you make your very own hummingbird feeder. This program is presented as part of a Community Read initiative led by Longwood Gardens. In March and April 2016, over 40 different activities are planned at public gardens and nature centers throughout the region.

### **NEW! Whimsical Birds - ages 7 to 12**

Sat, April 16th, 2:00-3:30 p.m.  
Members: \$13; Non-members: \$17

Space is limited, register with payment by April 12.

The sweet song of a robin singing is one of the beautiful sounds of spring! Discover birds of PA and the winged visitors of the Preserve. Children will create a whimsical artwork based on these birds as they learn the art of the Zentangle. All materials included.

### **NEW! Backyard Habitat for Birds, Butterflies, Dragonflies, & More**

Sun, April 24, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Members: \$45; Non-members: \$50. Registration and payment due by April 22.

Backyards are critical wildlife habitat for nesting, migratory, and wintering birds, as well as frogs and toads, butterflies, dragonflies, and other beneficial insects.

Life-long naturalist Pat Sutton will showcase native trees, shrubs, vines, wildflowers, and even weeds that are most beneficial to birds and



photo by Tom Potterfield

other wildlife. She will share countless common-sense garden maintenance techniques that will help property owners avoid common practices that actually harm rather than benefit wildlife. This program is packed with the "how's and why's" of attracting birds, butterflies and other wildlife to your backyard, no matter how small. *Patricia Sutton, in her long-time capacity as Naturalist and Program Director with the Cape May Bird Observatory, researched and wrote the New Jersey Audubon Society booklet, "Backyard Habitat For Birds, a Guide for Landowners and Communities in New Jersey."*

### **NEW! Approaching Nature with Photography**

Two Tuesdays, May 3 & 10, 2016, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Members: \$45 ; Non-members: \$50

This two-part class for naturalists and nature-lovers looks at photography as a tool for learning and communicating about the world of plants. Session 1 will focus on shooting, including time spent out on the trails (bring digital camera, macro and landscape lenses, and tripod). Session 2 will cover image handling and collection management, including color correction, metadata, and web posting. Creating a meaningful body of work will be emphasized over crafting perfect images. Participants should be familiar with the basic operation of their cameras. Home computer with internet access recommended. *Tom Potterfield is a volunteer naturalist and photographer at the Preserve and Longwood Gardens. He has a master's degree from the Annenberg School of Communication at the University of Pennsylvania and spent over 20 years making television documentaries.*

### **NEW! Bluebird Conservation Workshop**

Sat, June 18, 2016, 10:00 a.m. - noon

Members: \$10; Non-members: \$15

Discover who calls our nesting boxes home "tweet" home. Join Education Coordinator Kelly Joslin, Volunteer Nest Box Monitor Margie Rutbell and Ray "Mr. Bluebird" Hendrick as we learn about bluebirds and other cavity nesters at the Preserve. You'll learn to ID nests by nesting material and explore our boxes to help collect data, count baby chicks, and contribute to our larger study on nesting birds. For an additional fee you have the option to build a nest box to take home (limited quantity). Indoor and outdoor format. Bring your binoculars and be prepared for walking in tall grass and briars.



## Film Screening - "Trail Magic: The Grandma Gatewood Story" with Director's Q & A

Tuesday, May 3, 7:00- 8:30 p.m.  
Members: \$10; Non-members: \$12  
Advance registration required by May 1

Join us for a screening of the new documentary on Grandma Gatewood, "Trail Magic." Emma "Grandma" Gatewood became the first woman to solo thru-hike the Appalachian Trail in 1955 at the age of 67. The film follows the twists and turns of Emma's historic walk and is augmented by key interviews with family, historians, and experts commenting about the amazing events that led up to that journey and her ability to overcome nearly insurmountable obstacles along the way. Director and producer Peter Huston will be in attendance and will lead a Q & A after the screening. Grandma Gatewood is also featured in our book discussion on May 12. (see below)

## NEW! Book Discussion: *Grandma Gatewood's Walk* Thursday, May 12, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Members: \$8, non-members: \$10

Like so many women of her generation Emma Gatewood did not have many choices or opportunities during her life. The natural landscapes that surrounded her family farm were often her only comfort in a bleak existence. In 1955, aged 67, she was finally able to achieve a huge unspoken dream when she trekked the full length of the Appalachian Trail, the first woman ever to do so. She did it alone, without any modern equipment, without pre-planned accommodation or even a tent, but she did it triumphantly, completing all 2015 miles. Her inspirational journey is chronicled in Ben Montgomery's critically acclaimed book "Grandma Gatewood's Walk". The Preserve invites you to join our community read on this topic. Read the book, available from our shop, and join a group book discussion led by Naturalist Monica Flint. After the discussion we'll take a guided walk through the Preserve to see some of the trees, shrubs and flowers that Grandma Gatewood enjoyed on her journey.



spring beauties,  
*Claytonia virginica*

# Welcome New Naturalists!



*Pictured - Back Row (L to R): Emily Grace, Donna Shumpert, Mary Heaton, Trey Wilson, Jeff Buckwalter, Les Swartley, Marty Kolbach. Front Row (L to R): Deborah Woodard, Karen Budd, Martie Kyde, Mare McClellan, Carol Welsch, Priscilla Hayes, Julie Davies. Not Pictured: Betsy Falconi, Bill Hastings, Barbara Sheinmel*

In January we welcomed a new and enthusiastic group of students into the Naturalist Training program. Throughout the coming year the class will learn about everything from the geology of our site and its impact on the ecology to how to engage the public and lead a successful tour. Naturalists connect with our visitors and bring the Preserve to life with discussion of the importance of biodiversity, preservation of native habitat, ecology of flora and fauna and the history of Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve. In addition to leading tours, Naturalists assist with education programs, events and fundraisers at the Preserve and participate in group activities such as field trips, lunch and learn programs, potlucks and more. We thank this group for their dedication and wish them a fantastic year of learning and camaraderie.

## Nursery News (continued from front page)

added an early season Members Event to give YOU a chance to scoop up some of the earliest treasures while they are still in bloom. This event will be held on Sunday, April 17. Miles Arnott will start things off with a lecture at noon.

When you shop with us this season you'll notice something new on our pots! We've created a quality seal that we're proud to place on every plant that began its life in our Native Plant Nursery. When you purchase our plants you're taking a piece of the Preserve home with you. Know that it was grown with love and care by our amazing crew without the use of neo-nicotinoids or other harmful chemicals. Our pollinator friendly plants are inspected for healthy root systems before they are made available for purchase. If planted and established properly, each one should offer years of enjoyment plus ecological value to the insects, birds, and other wildlife that share our landscape.



I'd just like to end with a special thank you to all of my volunteers. Our needs are greater this spring due to some stellar new additions to the nursery - a NEW greenhouse, a NEW dirt box, and NEW ends on the hoop houses, etc. We've grown tremendously over the last year, but have also suffered some significant losses. There are no words to convey the overwhelming sadness and void we all feel with the absence of Ian McNeill and Pete Barrell. It's my honor to complete the projects that Ian and Pete started. If you would like to contribute, we are looking for volunteers to assist in minor construction and in planting.

Peace -  
Bob Mahler, Nursery Manager

# Membership

## Welcome New Members

*Special thanks to all of you who have joined the Preserve Family in the late summer of 2015 through early winter 2016.*

John Albert	John Hagan	Rekha Mehta	Michael Siglag
Kevin Allen	Bill Haldeman	Melissa Mertzman	David Snope
Sarah Arnone & Zachary Johnson	Tom Halterman	Hazel Monk Montgomery	Jennifer L. Sorrentino
Samuel Baldridge	Maryann Hamer	The Mora Family	John Spear
Samantha and Mark Bean	Rosanne and Dave Hansel	Hope LaNorah Morante and Alex	Denise Spence
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## Millersville Conference (continued from front page)

Through the many years of its existence the Millersville Conference has been organized by a dedicated volunteer steering/program committee. The volunteer group operated under the umbrella of Millersville University, without maintaining its own 501(c)3 non-profit status. Due to recent changes to Pennsylvania law that governs Pennsylvania State Universities, Millersville University is no longer permitted to host groups that do not have non-profit status or are not incorporated. Without a 501(c)3 designation the conference was in danger of becoming extinct.

In late 2015 conference volunteers sent out an S.O.S, seeking a solution to help keep this beloved event alive. Attendance was not the issue – there were nearly 300 participants last year. The issue is that the few volunteer organizers who remain cannot do it themselves anymore, and even if they could, they lack the non-profit 501(c)3 status that the University requires. Enter the Preserve.

It seems only natural that the Preserve take the lead in finding an answer to the Millersville Conference dilemma. We met with the volunteer organizers to learn more about the logistics of the Conference and what role the Preserve might play. The solution we arrived at was the proposed adoption of the Conference by Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve. This adoption of the Native Plants in the Landscape Conference at Millersville University is a tremendous opportunity for all of us here at the Preserve to fulfill our inspiring educational mission and extend our geographic sphere of influence. To be sure the Conference will present new challenges for our staff and volunteers as we work with the current organizers to pass the torch and present the 2016 Conference. The Conference has a long history, a loyal following, room for growth, is pure mission, and will serve as a source of inspiration for thousands of people in the years to come.

I encourage you to become part of that history by attending the 25th year of the Native Plants in the Landscape Conference at Millersville University. The steering committee has put together another outstanding slate of workshops and speakers to run from Weds., June 15 through Fri., June 17. Find the complete schedule, registration details, and more on our website at [bhwp.org](http://bhwp.org). We look forward to seeing you there!



# Special Events



## *Spring Wildflower Gala* 2016

### “Wild About Meadows”

Please join us for the 13th annual Spring Wildflower Gala that will take place on Saturday, April 30th! This year's Gala builds on the 2015 effort to celebrate the beauty and ecological value of meadows. The event will help us build a broader reach for our Pocket Meadow Educational Initiative and extend the program to more community partner sites.



Gala guests will have the opportunity to explore the stunning spring wildflower beauty of the Preserve through an intimate evening woodland walk along the trails, enjoy a menu featuring locally grown and organic selections by Max Hansen Caterer and participate in spirited live and silent auctions. Members will receive an emailed invitation to this event. If you prefer to receive a mailed invitation, please email your name and address to [Jacobsen@bhwp.org](mailto:Jacobsen@bhwp.org).

Deborah Agnew and Susan Vigilante will return as co-chairs of this year's Gala with the support of our talented and enthusiastic Gala Committee and the Preserve staff.

Committee members include Denise Bancroft, Stacy Buck, Dee Dee Bowman, Carol Church, Janet Eshleman, Sue Eveland, Betsy Falconi, Michael Glenn, Jacqui Griffith, Allison Hamilton, Alison Hargreaves, Sally Henriques, Nancy Heyrich, Lynn Holzner, Lori Hoppmann, Sue Hurst, Julia Klossner, Nancy Kovacevich, Donna Lacey, Stephanie Lovenguth, Bill MacDowell, Ruth McMonigle, Anastazja Panek-Tobin, Catherine Savitsky, Naudain Sellers, Sue Shaffer, Lynn Stoner, Francine Verwiel, Patricia Whitman, Jane Yeuroukis and Jane McNeill, who was also on the committee.



We extend our sincere gratitude to our generous sponsors.

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## Special Thanks To Our Generous 2015 Annual Fund Donors

Thank you for your generous donations to the 2015 Annual Fund. Your annual fund gifts provide support for our educational programs, renovation and maintenance of our trails, and help us provide hands-on activities and special programs for members and visitors of all ages. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, our staff and volunteers, thank you for including the Preserve in your philanthropic giving and for supporting our mission. Your support recognizes the importance of what we offer to the community and to the region. Thank you for inspiring us with your generosity.

Warm regards,

*Miles Arnott, Executive Director*



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**Bowman's Hill**  
WILDFLOWER PRESERVE  
P.O. Box 685 New Hope, PA 18938

# Summer Nature Camps Are Back!

Registration forms can be printed from our website: [bhwp.org/education/Nature-Summer-Camps.htm](http://bhwp.org/education/Nature-Summer-Camps.htm)



## Nature Rangers

Session 1 (Ages 8 - 11) - July 11 - 15

Session 2 (Ages 6 - 7) - July 25 - 29

Members: \$275; Non-members: \$325

Each week-long session of Nature Rangers Summer Camp includes games, hikes, experiments, art projects, and observations of animals and plants. Camp is staffed with experienced educators with a passion for & knowledge of the natural world. Parents will need to fill out a camper registration form and print out a copy of the parent handbook (see below). Nature Rangers sessions are Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Space is limited so register early!

*\* To register, please submit registration form and \$75 deposit. Full balance is due 3 weeks before the start of camp.*

## Magical Fairy Gardens Mini Camp

Monday & Tuesday, June 27- 28, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Members: \$65; Non-members: \$75

Art inspires whimsical fairy gardens in this special 2-day camp. Explore the outdoors as you collect natural objects like pinecones, moss and branches to attract your fairies. Learn to plan and sketch a design, then execute it by planting, building and painting. Materials included. For ages 7-12 years. Bring a water bottle and wear sneakers.

*Registration with payment required by June 17th.*

## Insectmania! Mini Camp

Weds. - Fri., June 29 - July 1, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Members: \$165\*; Non-members: \$195\*

What has six legs, three body parts, and can be found just about everywhere you look? Insects! This special, 3-day camp is full of insect discovery as we investigate the different habitats of the Preserve. Each day will be packed full with fun activities, explorations, art projects, stories, and much more! For children entering grades 1-5.

*\* To register, please submit registration form and \$75 deposit. Full balance is due 3 weeks before the start of camp.*

