Williamson County NPSOT Chapter – Chapter Meeting Minutes for Sept 11, 2014

I. Welcome: Christie Gardner called the meeting to order welcoming 33 members and 3 guests. 3 of the 33 members are new.

II. Committee Reports: no reports were presented other than news covered in announcements.

III. President's Announcements (additional details were provided in a slide presentation)


Classes

- Taxonomy Class - final taxonomy class of the year, Sept 27th, 9:00am-12:00pm, Wells Branch Library, 15001 Wells Port Drive, Austin, Texas. Cost: $15.00. Contact Sue Wiseman.
- Native Landscape Certification Classes - Level 1 7:45am-4pm September 13, 2014 (class is full); Level 2 7:45am-4pm October 4, 2014 (class has openings). Both classes meet at Williamson County AgriLife Extension Service Office, 3151 SE Inner Loop, Georgetown, Texas 78626. Contact Stephen Brueggerhoff or Randy Pensabene.

Plant Sales

- Sun City Horticulture Club Fall Plant Sale - Sept 20th, 9:00am-1:00pm, Horticulture Club Gardens, 141 Sun City Blvd near Hwy 195. Contact Randy Pensabene.
- Wildflower Center Plant Sale – 1:00pm-7:00pm October 10th (WFC members only sale), 9:00am-5:00pm October 11th and October 12th (both days open to the public), at Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse Ave., Austin, Texas. Volunteers needed for the Wilco NPSOT sale booth during sale hours and also 8:00am-12:00pm, October 9 (set up) and at 4:45pm October 12 (closing). A signup sheet was passed around. Volunteer contact is Marilyn Perz.

Education/Community

- Texas Native Plant Week - October 19-26th See TXNativePlantWeek.org for ideas, located under toolbox. Volunteers needed for our Chapter activity to deliver library books (8 libraries) & place displays (in 5 of the 8 libraries). A signup sheet was passed around. Contact Marilyn Perz.
• Habitat Hutto - See Habitathutto.org, 9:00-11:00am Sept 27th, Hutto Lake Park, 805 Estate Drive, Hutto, Texas. Volunteers needed for NPSOT and Wright’s Nursery booths, and to assist with children's activities (seed balls, planting). A signup sheet was passed around. Contact Cindy Stone.

• NPSOT Fall Symposium – Oct 16th thru Oct 19th, Texarkana Convention Center, 4610 Cowhorn Creek Road-on the Texas side of Texarkana. Registration now open. For additional information and registration visit NPSOT.org/wp/symposium2014

• Raffle tickets are available for purchase for a quilt which will be displayed at the State Symposium. Tickets are $2.00 each with proceeds going to KHS Scholarship Fund. Tickets available via Lori Merlino, Chapter Treasurer.

Field Trips

• Sept 13th Field Trip – Blue Hole Park, 9:00–11:00am, Blue Hole Park, S. Rock Street & W. 3rd Street, Georgetown, TX 78626. Optional lunch to follow at Hat Creek Burgers, located within walking distance. Additional Information: NPSOT.org/wp/wilco Field Trips. A signup sheet was passed around. Contact Vickie Husband. (Rain date Sept 21 but contact Vickie to be sure.)

Other

• Speakers Bureau - volunteers needed for the new committee. A signup sheet was passed around. See Cindy Stone.

• Website Committee – a new committee is being formed to establish criteria for a new chapter webmaster and act as a search committee. A signup sheet was passed around. Contact Bob Kamper.

• Program Leader – this position is open. The current Leader, Stephen Brueggerhoff, will plan programs through December 2014. Contact Cindy Stone.

• School Grant Program - program under reconstruction and will not be accepting new applications for 2014-2015

• Chapter Board Meeting - 2pm-4pm Sunday September 28, 2014. All chapter members are invited to attend all board meetings. Limited time will be allotted for member comments. Only board members may vote. Please RSVP due to space. RSVP to Cindy Stone.

Future Chapter Meetings:

• October 9 - "Native Plants – Native People", Leslie Bush; Austin Chapter – NPSOT
• November 13 – TBD
• December 11 - Annual Members Pot Luck and Silent Auction
• Online: npsot.org/wp/wilco/meetings/

IV. Other Announcements:
• Dennis Perz announced a new version of the chapter toolkit available on the state website, under the members section. Several documents written by chapter members are in the toolkit and also material from Ed Travis on plant rescues. See http://npsot.org/wp/ -> Members Area -> Tool Chest

• Ilse Meier announced the Tonkawa Chapter-NPSOT Plant Sale taking place at the Renewable Energy Roundup and Sustainable Living Expo, Sept 26th thru 28th, Belton, TX. Volunteers are welcome. Contact Ilse or the Tonkawa Chapter. The Tonkawa chapter website npsotcentx.org/ has a link to the Expo. (Ilse also brought four plants for door prizes. Three were plant rescues!)

• Charles Newsom talked about his experience with invasives and that he has learned how to get rid of several of the more resistant ones. He will be glad to answer questions and might even make a house call to help members with invasives. Contact Charles.

V. Tonight’s Program: Plant Rescues: Experience from the Trenches, Ed Travis, Austin Chapter-NPSOT. (See the announcement on chapter toolkits under “IV. Other Announcements”, above, for a path to related information from Ed.)

Submitted by Pat Donica, Wilco NPSOT Secretary, September 12, 2014