The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with 58 people in attendance, including 11 guests. President Cindy Stone and others presented announcement slides. The slides are summarized below.

**New Members:** Two new members were announced. Welcome!

**Reports:**

*Treasurer:* Presented by Lori Merlino. The checking account balance is $8,482.02 and the savings balance is $5,058.43 for a total of $13,540.45. Checks of note are: $200 to Southwestern University for a Native Plants = Healthy Habitats Garden Grant, $120 to Sue Wiseman for taxonomy class expenses, and a $100 honorarium for tonight.

*Natural Plants = Healthy Habitats:* Presented by Kathy Henderson. Kathy presented a $200 grant to Southwestern University students Eleanor Siff, Sam Guess, Ben Galindo and Adrienne Dodd. Ben and Adrienne accepted on behalf of the university. The grant will be used for native plants for the Pollinator Garden.

The *Southwestern University Garden Club* is an ongoing activity throughout the year. Volunteers are welcome. Winter club hours are Thursdays 4-6 pm and Saturdays 10 am-12 noon, at the greenhouse on the Southwestern University campus. Contact Eleanor Siff or Sam Guess.

**Volunteer Opportunities:** Presented by Marilyn Perz. Signup sheets were at the back of the room. For further information see the new Volunteer! tab on the chapter website.

- February 25 - Landfill Pollinator Garden Workday. Needs 6 to 8 volunteers. Winter maintenance with weeding, trimming back the plants, mulching, labeling the plants, and working on the trellis. 8:00 am-12:00 pm. Contact Marilyn.
- February 25 and 26 - National Invasive Species Awareness Week. Berry Springs Park & Preserve. Ligustrum removal then Chinaberry. 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Contact Susan Blackledge or Charles Newsom.
- March 2 (rain date March 9) - Georgetown Public Library. 2-3 volunteers needed. Relocating and replanting some of our favorites. 9:00 am-12:00 pm. Contact Agnes Plutino.
- March 28 - Taylor Expo. Work in a Monarchs and Milkweed booth discussing the needs of Monarchs in their fight for survival. 2 to 4 volunteers needed. Divided into two shifts covering 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Contact Marilyn.
Field Trips: Presented by Vicky Husband. For further information see the Field Trips tab on the chapter website.

- March 14 - “In Search of Early Bloomers”, Brushy Creek MUD's Community Park Trail, 16318 Great Oaks Drive, Round Rock, Texas. Time TBD.
- April 25 - “Travel to the Edge” of easternmost Williamson County. Time TBD.
- May 16 - “Discover the Trails”, Hutto, Texas. Time TBD.
- June 14 - Plant Survey 3 of 12 Southwest Williamson Regional Park. Time TBD.

Taxonomy Classes for 2015: Presented by Sue Wiseman. The next class is February 28th. Taught by Dr. Flo Oxley. Bethany United Methodist Church, 10010 Anderson Mill Road, Austin, Texas. 9:00am to 12:00pm. Class fee is $10.00 per class. Lesson: Rosaceae. There was a signup sheet at the back of the room. Contact Sue Wiseman for information.

Speakers Bureau: Presented by Cindy Stone for Kathy Henderson. Dennis Perz gave a talk about native plants to the Sun City Kiwanis Club with approximately 60-70 attending. Kathy Henderson will speak on "Starting to Go Native in Your Yard" to the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Saturday, February 21, 10:30am, at Independent Bank on Wolf Ranch Parkway, Georgetown.

Winter Monarch Population Report: Presented by Cindy Stone. Cindy shared a bar graph from monarchwatch.org, titled "Total Area Occupied by Monarch Colonies at Overwintering Sites in Mexico." The chart had bars for the winter seasons from 1994-95 to 2014-15. The population peaked in 1996-97 occupying 18.19 hectares (~44.9 acres). The lowest number was 2013-14 at 0.67 hectares (~1.7 acres). For 2014-15, they occupy 1.13 hectares (~2.8 acres).

Website Committee: Presented by Bob Kamper. A new Volunteer! tab has been added to the main menu. The website committee is addressing a redesign of the website structure

Native Landscaping Certification Program: Presented by Stephen Brueggerhoff. Stephen presented information about the NLCP courses. Levels 1 and 2 will be taught in February. Last Fall, classes for both levels were full with a wait list. The February classes are full with a wait list. The classes might be taught again in May. Courses for Levels 3 and 4 may be coming soon. Chapters who teach NLCP receive a 10% rebate from the course fees in addition to the community exposure they receive. Go to the state site to register for classes. Contact Stephen for information on volunteering to teach, lead plant walks, or assist at the class in other ways.

Spring Plant Sale at Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center: Announcement by Randy Pensabene. Volunteers needed. The sale is April 10-12. Setup is April 9. A sign up sheet was at the back of the room.

Other Upcoming Events:

Pollinator Pow-Wow, February 28, 2015. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, LBJWC Auditorium, 8:00am-5:30pm. Birds, bats, bees, butterflies, and more. Register at npsot.org.

From the Floor

Charles Newsom is looking for photos for the Berry Springs website. There are 8 native species of frogs and toads. If you have photos he could use, please contact Charles.

Kathy McCormack announced the free class for Texas Well Owners, and provided information at the back of the room.

Tonight's Program

Gardening for Wildlife with Native Plants, by Andrea DeLong-Amaya.

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Minutes submitted by Pat Donica