The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with 46 people in attendance, including 4 guests. President Cindy Stone and others presented announcement slides. The slides are summarized below.

**Reports:**

*Treasurer:* Presented by Cindy Stone for Lori Merlino. As of March 9, the total is $13,120.49, which includes a $200 check from Waste Management to create a garden for Sterlin Barton. Outstanding checks that are not deducted from that balance are $32.37 for Taxonomy class refreshments and $42.56 for NLCP refreshments.

*Field Trips:* Presented by Vicky Husband. For additional information and directions, see the Field Trips tab on the chapter website, [http://npsot.org/wp/wilco/field-trips/](http://npsot.org/wp/wilco/field-trips/)

- March 29 - “In Search of Early Bloomers”, Brushy Creek MUD’s Community Park Trail, 16318 Great Oaks Drive, Round Rock, Texas. 1:15pm- 3:30pm. Field trip begins at 1:30. RSVP not required.
- April 25 - “Travel to the Edge” of southeastern Williamson County. 9am-1pm, arrive at 8:45am. See the website for information.

*Speakers Bureau:* Presented by Cindy Stone for Kathy Henderson. Various chapter members are speaking at these upcoming engagements.

- March 18 – Stephen Brueggerhoff, "Rain Gardens"
  - Rockdale General Store, 1201 W. Hwy 79, Rockdale, Texas
  - 6:00pm
  - Requested by Texas Master Gardeners, Little River Basin Chapter, Milam County
- April 11 – Lori Merlino and Bob Kamper
  - Home Depot parking lot, 600 W. Hwy 79, Hutto, Texas
  - 10:00am “Wildlife Habitats with Native Plants”, Lori Merlino
  - 11:00am “Drought Resistant Natives”, Bob Kamper
- April 11 – Kathy Henderson, “Starting to Go Native in your Yard”,
  - Monument Café, 500 South Austin Ave, Georgetown, Texas
  - 10:30am (This time is an update of information at the chapter meeting.)

*Volunteer Opportunities:* Presented by Marilyn Perz.

- March 28 - Taylor Garden Expo “Monarchs & Milkweeds”. 9am – 3pm. Old Taylor High School on SH 95. Volunteer slots are filled but excellent opportunity to acquire experience
- April 9-12 - WFC Spring Plant Sale
  - Thursday April 9th setup 8:00 – 10:00 am
  - Friday April 10th members only sale 9am – 5pm
• Saturday April 11th 9am – 5pm
• Sunday April 12th  12pm – 5pm, then take down

• TBD - Pollinator Garden Workday - a collaborative project with Good Water Master Naturalists
  o Cancelled twice due to weather conditions.  Marilyn will send an email when a new date is determined.
  o 101 Landfill Road, Hutto Texas, corner of CR 1660 and Landfill Road

• Southwestern University Garden Club.  Thursdays 5-7pm, Saturdays 9am-11am. At SU greenhouse on Southwestern Drive.  No volunteers during spring break.  Must sign a liability waiver to participate.  Contact Eleanor Siff or Sam Guess.

Native Landscaping Certification Program Level 2.  March 14.  AgriLife Extension Building, 3151 SE Inner Loop, Georgetown, Texas. 8am-4:30pm.  Bring your lunch.  Register at https://www.npsot.org/wp/nlcpc $37.00 for members/$52.00 non-members.  Must have taken Level One Course.

Website Committee:  Presented by Bob Kamper.  Under the Galleries Tab see Brushy Creek MUD Greenbelt - photos by Rachel Hagan and “How to submit Photos to the Blog for Publication”.  Under the Calendar Tab see Scrapbook – photo archive of events.

Taxonomy Classes for 2015:  The next class is April 25th.  Bethany United Methodist Church, 10010 Anderson Mill Road, Austin, Texas.  Room D203-204.  9:00am to 12:00pm.  $10.00 per class.  Lesson: Rosaceae.  Contact Sue Wiseman for information.

Other Upcoming Events:

Habitat Hutto Community Class, March 14, 2015, 8am-12pm, Hutto Lutheran Church, 402 Church Street, Hutto, Texas.  Free. Open to all members.  Contact Cindy Stone. Guest speakers: Kelly (Bender) Simon, Texas Parks & Wildlife Urban Biologist, “Gardening for Wildlife” and Cathy Downs, NPSOT Chair Bring Back the Monarchs to Texas, “Monarch Butterflies”

Good Water Master Naturalists, March 26.  AgriLife Building, 3151 SE Inner Loop, Georgetown, Texas.  Free. Open to the public.  6:30pm for a short business meeting; 7pm presentation. Guest Speaker: Jim Hailey, “Sparrows of Williamson County”.  www.jimhailey.com

Spring Symposium.  Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, March 28, 2015.  8:45am-3:15pm. Register at www.npsot.org/springsymposium $55.00 for members.  $65.00 at the door if space available. Cost includes a light breakfast, box lunch and full access to the Wildflower Gardens.  See NPSOT website for information.


Tonight’s Program

Oak Wilt and Drought by Emily Driscoll, Staff Forester for the Texas A&M Forest Service.

Minutes submitted by Pat Donica