Williamson County NPSOT General Meeting Minutes June 11, 2015

President Cindy Stone called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She first welcomed 3 guests and then our newest member, Judith Currier.

She informed the membership of the report submitted by Treasurer Lori Merlino which shows a total of $17,334.57 with $1200 in outstanding checks.

Kathy McCormack reported on Field Trips for June and July. On Wednesday, June 17, we will do a survey at Westside Park, Georgetown. We will also do a survey at Southwest Williamson County Regional Park in Cedar Park on Wednesday, July 15. Further details are on our chapter’s web site.

Sue Wiseman extended an enthusiastic invitation to Taxonomy Classes on July 25, August 22, and September 26 from 9a.m. to 12 noon. There is a new location: Unity Church of the Hills, Austin. Dr. Flo Oxley will be our instructor and that’s a deal at only $10/class.

Cindy reported that NLCP, Levels 1 and 2 have been well attended and thanked Randy and Stephen for their great leadership in this project. Levels 1 and 2 will be offered again in the fall. At last Level 3 is now being offered in Cedar Hill and Ft. Worth (Nov. 7). For details, go to npsot.org and then to “education”.

Cindy recognized the Bring Back the Monarchs to Texas project for donating $1725.00 to five schools in Hutto to help with pollinator gardens.

Cindy advertised the state symposium coming to Austin in October. She got an early head count of those planning to attend and/or stay at the hotel. More details of the symposium at npsot.org under “About”.

She reported that Bob Kamper had undergone spinal fusion on Wednesday and is doing well. He would like to hear from us. Also he wants members to know about smile.amazon.com, which will donate 0.5% of sales on certain merchandise. Bob is asking for volunteers to be a judge for the photography contest at the State Symposium.
Kathy Henderson reminded the membership about our Speakers Bureau and suggested members keep it in mind when other organizations they might belong to need a speaker. Christie Gardner will be speaking at The Monument this Saturday, June 13, at 10 a.m. on the topic of bats.

Kathy also announced that we still need volunteers to be on the slate of officers. We need vice president (moving to the presidency is not obligatory), treasurer, and two directors, which allows people to explore working on the Board).

Cindy introduced our speaker, Dr. Flo Oxley, adjunct professor of biology at ACC and a Fellow of the Texas Academy of Science. She is especially interested in plant reproductive ecology. Out of that interest area she brings us “Really Weird Sex in the Garden, Interesting Ways Plants Reproduce.”

Those program notes will be found at npsot.org/wp/wilco under Chapter Documents.

Submitted by Kathy Henderson

(Pat Donica, Secretary, is out of town)