Saturday, April 15th  Shenk’s Ferry Wildflower Preserve  Lancaster Co., PA

This is an annual trip to one of the most extensive natural displays of native wildflowers in SE Pennsylvania. We will meet at the parking area just below the railroad tunnel between 10 AM and 10:30 and proceed down the road and then onward at our own pace on a good path.  https://www.lancasterconservancy.org/preserves/shenks-ferry-wildflower/; https://www.lancasterconservancy.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/ShenksFerryHikingMap2019.pdf

Parking is no longer possible at the bridge near the base of the trail. If you have attended one of these trips before you know how fantastic this site is. If you haven’t attended but can join us this year, you will be in for a treat!

Directions:  Coordinates- 39.902012, -76.366648 Go to Google Maps, enter these coordinates and obtain directions to the Preserve from your home or departure point. Or, in Google Maps just search for “Shenk’s Ferry.” You can also use your driving app on your cell phone or car. There is a casual restaurant in Conestoga where you can get a cup of coffee before the hike, or lunch afterwards.

Friday May 12th  Secret Springs Turtle Rock Preserve  Upper Black Eddy, Bucks Co.

This will be our second attempt to visit to this 10-acre native plant and animal preserve in rural northern Bucks County that is operated by John Barry. Our planned trip last year was thwarted by the drought. Here is a short video that shows the preserve: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiYbUL9aYEs&t=68s. John describes his preserve in this way: “the property is crossed by numerous trails that visit the different micro climes. With the loss of many ash trees, we are now expanding the areas exposed to more sunlight. One notable thing is the continuing effort to rescue areas from the big three: stilt grass, multiflora rose and barberry and their replacement with native plants. Almost the entire area is deer fenced and yes, there are secret springs on the property with their attendant wetland plants and animals. We are surrounded by large wooded areas and next to the Ringing Rocks Park. The township has just bought a 110-acre property of a wooded and abandoned quarry that borders our property.”

Directions:  1755 Highview Lane, Upper Black Eddy, Pa 18972.
Friday, June 9th    Northview Gardens by Jenny Rose Carey

This is our second attempt to visit these Gardens, as our first attempt several years ago was foiled by the Covid outbreak. Our enthusiasm for a visit has only increased! Jenny Rose Carey was our speaker at the luncheon meeting at Charlotte’s Restaurant recently, as many of you will remember she gave a very inspirational talk. Here is the website for her garden: https://jennyrosecarey.com/northview-gardens/

Directions:  40.178081 -75.191786; 1650 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA. Enter at the driveway for Twin Springs Farm. There is a sign at the entrance. On Google Maps this driveway is shown as Orchard Drive. Jenny’s phone number is 215-896-0204. Please pre-register with David Lauer (DML1000@comcast.net,  215-357-2646 so that we can ensure adequate parking spaces. A small donation is requested for either Northview Garden or another botanical organization of Jenny’s choosing.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions: DML1000@comcast.net

David