

Dues

Active Member \$10
Family Membership \$15
Sustaining Member \$15
Junior Member \$5

Dues: Yearly membership dues start in September. Dues may be paid at a meeting or sent to the treasurer: Jane Wolfe 3326 Pricetown Road Fleetwood, PA 19522.

Officers and Directors

Ryan Woolwine	President (484-883-6461)
Peter Wolfe	Vice President
Karl Gardner	Secretary
Jane Wolfe	Treasurer
Jim Eckert	Director
Stan Kemp	Director
Todd Underwood	Director
Jill Kemp	Director
Kathy Grim	Past President

Web Page

For more information on our programs visit
"[www.berkscountynature.org/
pagemengel.html](http://www.berkscountynature.org/pagemengel.html)"

The dues form and this brochure are available
from the above page.

For our field trips download
Butterfly - Bird - Botany walks
www.berkscountynature.org/bwalks2027.pdf

MENGEL NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Mengel Natural History Society originated as the Natural History Hikers in the 1930's, was renamed the Mengel Natural History Society in 1941, and incorporated as a non profit organization in 1956.

The By-Laws state: "**The purposes of the Society are the stimulation of interest and study in natural history in all its branches, the promotion and diffusion of scientific knowledge, and the creation of the scientific spirit.**"

The Society meets once a month from September through April at McConnell Hall at Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center. Usually the fourth Friday of the month. Except in November we meet jointly with the Berks Mineralogical Society (on the second Tuesday at the Reading Museum) and in December we meet jointly with the Baird Ornithological Club (on the second Friday). In May we meet at a local restaurant for a dinner meeting. We also sponsor field trips.

The public is welcome to all activities.

For information 484-883-6461
(rwwoolwine@gmail.com).

In case of inclement weather you may call
about cancellation.

Updated 9-18-2026

MENGEL NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Meets at **McConnell Hall**

Nolde Forest

Environmental Education Center

located on PA-625 south of Reading

2 miles south of PA-724.

(3025 New Holland Road, Reading, PA.)

Programs & Field Trips

2026 - 2027

Public Welcome

(All meetings and field trips are open to
the public and are free.)

- ✓ Monthly Meetings with Lecture
- ✓ Field Trips for Wildflowers,
Butterflies, Dragonflies etc.
- ✓ Annual Wildflower Exchange
and Give-aways
- ✓ Annual Seed Exchange
- ✓ Show & Tell plus Members'
Night for your participation
- ✓ A place to meet other people
interested in the natural world

2026 - 2027 MEETING DATES

September 25, October 23, November 10,
December 11, January 22, February 26,
March 26, April 23, May 14.

Check our Field Trips!

Programs for 2026 - 2027

Programs begin at 7:30 pm at McConnell Hall
at Nolde Environmental Education Center
(3025 New Holland Road, Reading, PA.)

September 25, 2026 Friday 7:30 PM
"Bats Hanging in the Balance" by Karen Waltemyer ,
Naturalist for Lancaster County Parks Department for 20
years. Karen has been a lover of the natural world her
entire life with a soft spot for the misunderstood
underdogs like bats. She is an avid camper, hiker,
rockhound and gardener who loves observing all parts of
the natural world.
Program followed by **Fall Native Plant Exchange and
Give-away.**

October 23, 2026 Friday 7:30 PM
"Patrolling the Paw Paws" by member Robert Noll.
Robert has had an interest in butterflies since a
presenter brought his collection to his kindergarten class
for a display. He captured his first butterfly at the age of
12, a Black phase Tiger Swallowtail. He continues to
collect, photograph and design host plant habitats for
various species. His primary interests are the Zebra
Swallowtail and the Giant Swallowtail. Followed by
Fall Seed Exchange and Give-away.

November 6, 2026 Friday 5:30pm – 9:00pm Banquet at
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Reading. Best Selling Author
Scott Weidensaul Presents: "The Return of the
Oystercatcher".(Questions? Call Baird at 610-858-6005.)

November 10, 2026 TUESDAY 7:30 PM
At the Reading Museum
"Archeology of Syracuse, Sicily" Join Alena
Woolwine, a graduate of the American University in
Rome, Italy as she takes us through the unique history
and archaeology of Syracuse, Sicily.
Joint meeting with the Berks Mineralogical Society
with BMS hosting the program. Enter at the back of the
Museum on South Parkside Drive.

December 11, 2026 Friday 7:30 PM
"Birds and Other Nature, Near and Far" by Armas
Hill, retired nature guide for Focus on Nature Tours, and
formerly voice of the Philadelphia Birding Hotline, a
weekly telephone recording of noteworthy bird
sightings. He will have many interesting birding and
nature stories.

January 22, 2027 Friday 7:30 PM
"Members' Night" Members' opportunity to present.
Program will consist of three or four short programs by
members. See an officer if you have a program to share.

February 26, 2027 Friday 7:30 PM
"Local Science Students Symposium" Programs to be
announced closer to February.

March 26, 2027 Friday 7:30 PM
**"The surprising benefits of spotted lanternflies to
honey bees and (humans?)"** by Dr. Robyn Underwood,
Penn State Extension's Educator of Apiculture
(beekeeping). As phloem feeders, spotted lanternflies
ingest much more sugar and water than they need. As a
result, they produce copious amounts of honeydew, a
sugary waste product. Honey bees collect the honeydew,
bring it back to the hive, and process it into honey.

April 23, 2027 Friday 7:30 PM
"Common Herps of Southeastern PA." by Rudy Arceo
founder of the Keystone Herpetology Institute. He will
describe them and some of their life histories and why
they are unique. Program followed by our annual **Spring
Wildflower Exchange and Give-away.**

**May 14, 2027, Friday. 4 PM "Indoor/Outdoor Social
Event"**. Joint meeting with Baird Ornithological Club.

Field Trips for 2026 – 2027

Most trips last under 2 hours.. You may call the leader or
(484-883-6461, rwwoolwine@gmail.com) to confirm the
trip, other information or weather cancellation status.

March Herp Helper Night for Spotted Salamanders.
Contact Lori Soraparu (sallyrallyvolunteer@gmail.com) to
volunteer and get on e-mail contact list. Emergence is
weather dependent. Often a windy or foggy night,
always rainy. This migration only occurs on a few nights a
year at scattered locations.

April 24, 2027 Saturday 10 AM
Neversink Mt. - Butterflies, Birds, and Botany. (BOC)
Meet at S 10th St. & South St. in Reading. Park on South
St. Leaders: Ryan Woolwine 484-883-6461 and Karl
Gardner 610-987-3281.

June 5, 2027 Saturday 10 AM
Butterfly Identification Walk: Blue Marsh Lake.
(BOC) Meet at the Blue Marsh Visitor's Center off
Palisades Drive. Leaders: Karl Gardner 610-987-3281 &
Ryan Woolwine 484-883-6461.

June 12, 2027 Saturday 10 AM
**Dragonflies & Damselflies at Hay Creek-Birdsboro
Reservoir** (BOC) Meet at Old 82 Parking Area at 2000
Hay Creek Rd, Birdsboro, PA. From traffic light at Rtes.
568 and 724 in Gibraltar, take 568 west about 1.5 miles
and turn left on White Bear Rd. Drive 4 miles through 2
stop signs and turn left on Hay Creek Rd. Drive to the
dead end and park on the shoulder. Coordinators: Mike
Slater paplantings@gmail.com, Todd Underwood
(underwoo@kutztown.edu), Karl Gardner 610-987-3281.

July 10, 2027 Saturday 8:30 PM to ?
**Moth Night at Nolde Environmental Education
Center.** (BOC) "Introduction to Moths" Presentation
starts at 8:30 pm followed by moth watching. Bring
flashlight and camera. Meet at main parking lot. Leaders:
Jim Eckert 610-401-1695 and Ryan Woolwine.
484-883-6461.

July 24, 2027 Saturday 10 AM
Wildflowers and Pollinators: Union Meadows West,
(BOC) A meandering path through this former ball field
converted to a pollinator meadow provides good access
for observing and netting a variety of species. Route 724
(East Main St., Birdsboro). Turn opposite St. Michael's
Cemetery, parking in the ball field lot. Coordinators:
Mike Slater & Linda Ingram (610-621-7473).

July 31, 2027 Saturday 10 AM
**Butterfly Identification Walk at Green Hills
Preserve** (553 Gunhart Rd. Mohnton, PA) (BOC) Take
PA-10 south to PA-568. Turn right (west) for 1/2 mile to
Gunhart Rd. Turn right. Park on right in about 1/4 mile.
Leaders: Karl Gardner 610-987-3281 & Ryan Woolwine
484-883-6461.

August 14, 2027 Saturday 10 AM
Butterfly Identification Walk at Angelica Park (BOC)
Take PA-10 south from Lancaster Avenue 1-1/4 miles.
Turn right at the park entrance road at the big masonry
sign for Alvernia University. Park at the first parking area
on the right. (575 St. Bernardine Street) Leaders: Karl
Gardner 610-987-3281 & Ryan Woolwine 484-883-6461.

(BOC) means joint event with Baird Ornithological Club