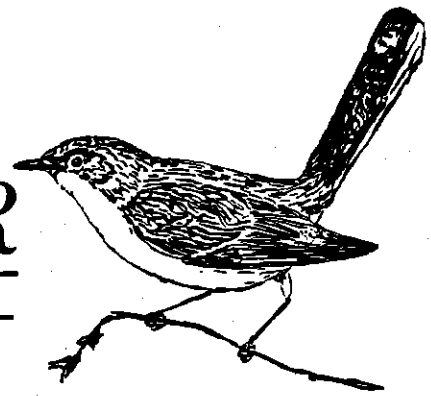


# THE GNATCATCHER

Juniata Valley Audubon Society

March 1985



Landscapes and Natural History

Field Trips  
by Bob Keppler

March 26, 1985 at 7:30  
28th St. Church of the Brethren

Jack Troy of Juniata College will give a slide show and talk about his trip to New Zealand.

April's field trip will be to King's Gap Environmental Center on the 13th. Director Hilary Vida will lead a tour of the Environmental Center, the mansion, an 1850 log cabin, and a hike on the Allegheny Ant Mound Trail. Leave Pleasant Valley Shopping Center at 7:30 am. Take a lunch. Stop for dinner on the way home.

May's field trip will be to Beechwood Farms and Trillium Trail on May 4. Leave PVSC at 7:00 am. Take a lunch. Plan to eat dinner on the way home.

If you have questions about field trips, call Bob Keppler at 695-0742.

Reminder:  
Annual Dinner

The annual dinner will be held on April 30 at 6:30 at the 28th Street Church of the Brethren. Walt Pomeroy, our regional Vice President, will speak on Alaska: America's Last Frontier.

The dinner will be family style, and the menu includes your choice of stuffed chicken breast or stuffed pork chop. The cost is only \$5.50.

Make your reservations as soon as possible by sending a check and your meat preference to

Colette Heller  
425 Bellview Avenue  
Bellwood, PA 16617

## ON MARCH 21, THE "WORLD OF AUDUBON" BRINGS THE OUTDOORS IN

This Spring, Audubon Brings Your Television to Life Once Again. You'll be Immersed in Nature's Rare Beauty and Get Closer to our Most Vital Environmental Issues:

- Puffins
- Loggerhead Turtles
- Robert Redford's Institute for Resource Management
- Acid Rain
- Profile of Rachel Carson
- Clean-up of Cleveland's Cuyahoga River
- Interview with Walter Cronkite



CLIFF ROBERTSON IS THE COMPELLING HOST  
IN THIS SECOND OF THE SERIES "WORLD OF AUDUBON"

PRODUCED BY THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
AND SUPERSTATION WTBS.

MARCH 21, 8:05 PM Eastern  
MARCH 24, 6:05 PM Eastern  
MARCH 30, 4:05 PM Eastern  
APRIL 1, 9:05 PM Pacific

Check cable listings for channel

## Report Sightings of Banded Geese

## NAS National Convention

An effort is underway to determine why Canada Geese have changed their migration patterns along the East Coast. Ten thousand geese have been marked with three-inch long yellow collars bearing identification numbers in bold black script that should be readable through binoculars at 100 yards. The birds are also tagged with aluminum leg bands for further identification by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who are in the second year of a three-year study. States along the Eastern Seaboard are cooperating in the study.

While North and South Carolina have been traditional nesting areas for Canada Geese, the change in migration has seen a significant decrease in population in these states and an increase in populations to the north in Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey.

If you spot one of the Canada Geese with the yellow band, write down the identifying code letter and number and where and when the bird was seen. Send this information to

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New York Cooperative Wildlife  
Research Unit  
Fernow Hall  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY 14853

### PAC Meeting

Wendy Reimold will attend the Pennsylvania Audubon Council meeting on March 30 at Hawk Mountain.

### Scholarship

The Altoona Campus of Penn State will offer a course for children 9-12 years old on geology and biology. If you know of a child who would not otherwise be able to attend, contact John Lennox, because JVAS has agreed to sponsor two children for the course. Details at the March meeting.

For the first time in over a decade, the National Audubon Society's National Convention will be held east of the Mississippi.

The convention will be held at Silver Bay, a YMCA Conference Center on the shore of Lake George in New York's Adirondack Mountains. Dates for the conference are June 16-21, 1985.

An exciting program will be presented. Nationally known conservationists from government agencies and the private sector will participate. On Sunday and Wednesday of the conference week there will be field trips including half- and full-day hikes into the Adirondacks, canoe trips, Lake George Steamboat excursions, visits to historic sites, and, of course, birding.

Workshops will highlight Audubon activities in research, education, and environmental action. Evening programs will include a skit about the life of John James Audubon, folk singing, a barbeque, contra and square dancing, and a musical gala with the Paul Winter Consort.

The convention will be a good family vacation, because while the adults' workshops are in session, Audubon naturalists will conduct special programs for children in grades K-6.

Added attractions include a book and gift shop, silent auction, exhibits by NAS chapters and government agencies, and an art show.

Make your plans soon for a memorable week. For more information contact John Lennox (946-1584).

### Notable Birds

Angeline Stout reports seeing the following birds at Canoe Creek State Park on March 10: tundra swans (100+), Canada goose, redheaded ducks, hooded mergansers, and ring-necked ducks.

Budget Cuts  
Would Hit Wildlife

The Administration's fiscal year 1986 budget would cut huge chunks out of federal programs that benefit wildlife, according to the Wildlife Management Institute.

Under the President's proposed budget, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service would lose \$64.1 million in FY 1986, down to \$355.5 million. The reductions would be across-the-board. Habitat protection, endangered species, wetland acquisition, fisheries management, and land acquisition programs would receive major cuts. The Bureau of Land Management's wildlife habitat management program would be reduced by 15%, to \$13.5 million in FY 1986. That would cripple the agency's already seriously underfunded program and stifling efforts to restore the rare bighorn sheep to its former habitat on public domain lands. BLM's management program, and in fact all its renewable resource programs, would be reduced significantly. Only energy and minerals development in the agency would receive an increase in spending authority.

Trees and minerals are the only national forest resources apparently of concern to the Administration. The President's budget proposes that the overall U. S. Forest Service account be lowered by \$147 million, to \$1.4 billion in FY 1986. Every activity on national forest lands would be curtailed, except mineral production and reforestation, which would get considerable increases.

The Forest Service's wildlife budget would be cut from \$36.6 million to \$36 million. Its range management and soil conservation accounts would also lose more than one-half million dollars each. The recreation program would be reduced by \$4.3 million, and fish and wildlife research would diminish.

The President's budget calls for a three-year moratorium on federal land acquisition. This prohibition includes the Fish and Wildlife Service, Park Service, Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management. Only \$15.3 million in Land and Water Conservation Fund money would be available to the agencies in FY 1986, and that would be only for "deficiencies, emergencies, and administrative costs."

The budget would eliminate most soil conservation efforts. It would kill all Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service cost-sharing programs, and reduce Soil Conservation Service activities by two-thirds over the next two years.

The National Park Service would lose about one-fourth of its funds under the FY 1986 budget. Park operations, historic preservation, construction, and acquisition would be the big losers.

--Wildlife Management Institute

Brown Pelicans  
Off Endangered List

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service says that the number of brown pelicans is increasing across much of the southeastern U. S.; therefore, several populations of the birds will be removed from the federal endangered species list. This marks the first time that populations of a species devastated by the effects of DDT have been removed from the list.

The pelican in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina, and points northward along the Atlantic coast no longer will be considered endangered. However, brown pelicans in Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, California, Mexico, Central and South America, and the West Indies will remain on the list of endangered species.

Slide Shows Available

Action Alerts:  
Chesapeake Bay and Acid Rain

Are you concerned about acid rain here in the Mid Atlantic states? Are you worried about the environmental abuse of the Chesapeake Bay? Do you want to work with other Audubon members to help influence clean up efforts?

If you are interested in either topic, write a postcard or letter to National Audubon's Mid Atlantic Regional Office and ask to be placed on their new regional action Alert mailing lists. You will receive timely information on what you can do to help solve these environmental problems.

Action Alert Mailing Lists  
Mid Atlantic Regional Office  
National Audubon Society  
1104 Fernwood Avenue, #300  
Camp Hill, PA 17011

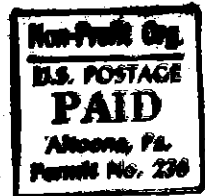
JVAS has bought two slide shows that are available to schools and other organizations. Please help us spread the word.

The first is the North American Bluebird Society's slide program that was shown at last month's meeting. Our chapter bought the slideshow last year after several members saw it at the Cavity Nesters Conference and raved about it to the Executive Board. We've already shared it with several garden clubs. Contact Paula Ford (832-2462) if you know of an organization that would enjoy learning about the life history of one of America's most beautiful songbirds.

We recently bought the National Wildlife Federation's slideshow on soil. Wendy Reimold (695-0679) can fill you in on the details and schedule a showing for your group.



**JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
P. O. Box 2378  
Altoona, PA 16603



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