## THE GNATCATCHER

Juniata Valley Audubon Society

October 1988

October's Program: Fall is here and winter is on the way but it's never to late to view the wildflowers of Pennsylvania. Join us on October 25 for our program with Tim Flanigan, game protector who will present a slide program on wildflowers. The meeting is at 7:30 pm at the 28th Street Church of the Brethren on Union Avenue in Altoona. The program will follow a business meeting.

#### **COMING EVENTS**

#### FIELD TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C.

Last month's newsletter was in error in listing the field trip to the Smithsonian as October 19. It should have read November 19. The trip will depart from the Pleasant Valley Shopping Center at 6:00 am with pick-up points at AMES Plaza in Huntington at 6:45 am and AMES Plaza in Burnam at 7:40 am. The bus will leave Washington for Altoona at 5:00 pm, arriving in Altoona about 11:00 pm. Cost is \$20.00, paid in advance. Seating is limited, so call Dave Kyler for reservation at (814) 643-6030 after 5:00 pm.

#### **BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, November 10, 7:00 pm in the Altoona Public Library.

#### BOTANICAL GLASS

The work of Paul Stankard, who has mastered the art of lampworking, is currently on display at the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Saint Francis College Mall. Much of Mr. Stankard's work is botanical in theme, and botanically correct. He will discuss the lampworking process and conduct a demonstration at the museum on Thursday evening, October 27. For more details call the museum at 472-6400.

#### EDITOR'S NOTE

Please submit items for the November issue before Wednesday, November 16 to Jim Winsor, 102 Halleck Place, Altoona, PA 16602 (943-8213) or Altoona Campus, Ivyside Park, Altoona, PA 16603 (949-5180).

### Birders Hail New Field Guide

The Birder's Handbook: A Field Guide to the Natural History of North American Birds is is a new book by Paul Ehrlich, David Dobkin, and Darryl Wheye. Originally previewed in American Birds, National Audubon Society's field-birding journal, the Handbook is a major new addition to every birder's bookshelf. Its 800-plus pages are a comucopia of information, yet the book is compact enough to earn the "field guide" in its title.

Species accounts appear on left-hand pages of the *Handbook*; they summarize with words and symbols the key information on each bird's biology, nesting, feeding, eggs, habitat, conservation, etc. The right-hand pages contain fascinating essays on related topics, from bird migration to brood parasitism. The curious can find out how owls hunt in the dark or about birds and the law. Extensive cross-referencing and bibliographical information make this book an invaluable resource.

The Birder's Handbook costs \$14.95 and is available in bookstores. ■

# National Audubon Society Chapter Membership Application

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