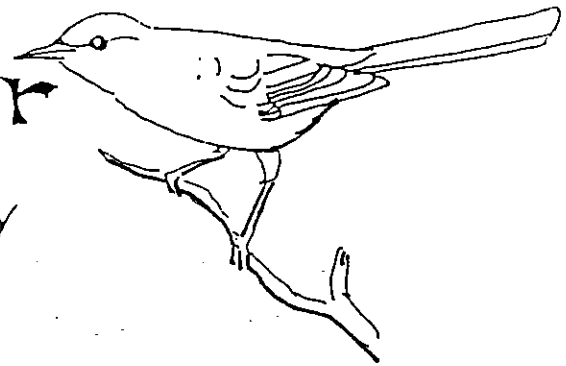


The Gnatcatcher



JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 1991

NOVEMBER PROGRAM: WILDLIFE REHABILITATION

Mike Jackson will present an exciting slide show about his trials and triumphs in the field of wildlife rehabilitation.

TIME: 26 November 1991 (Tuesday) at 7:30 PM

PLACE: 28th Street Church of the Brethren
Union Avenue and 28th Street
Altoona

AUDUBON REGIONAL HABITAT PRINT OFFERED FOR SALE TO HELP WETLANDS

Enclosed in this newsletter is a color brochure that announces the availability of a unique, limited edition Great Blue Heron lithograph print to Audubon members. This print, "Autumn Blue", was painted by Warriors Mark, Pennsylvania artist George LaVanish specifically to help the National Audubon Society, its chapters, and state councils raise money to support their work to preserve threatened wetlands. The full-color lithograph is 18" x 24" and each print will be inspected, signed, and numbered by the artist. ONLY 950 PRINTS WILL BE SOLD.

Our chapter is cooperating with the promotion and sale of the print as a way to raise money to help our chapter, the Audubon Council of Pennsylvania, and our National Audubon Regional Office work to identify and preserve wetlands. In this painting George LaVanish has captured the essence of a brisk autumn day with the graceful Great Blue Heron wading in the shallow wetland with the spread of nature's splendid fall colors on the trees in the background (the actual location was Black Moshannon State Park).

Please refer to the enclosed full color insert for more information on the print, the artist, and how to order it. When you order this large and striking print, you can choose to have it triple matted and framed to museum preservation standards for an additional charge that is far below what it would cost anywhere else. PLACE YOUR ORDER QUICKLY! WHEN ALL 950 OF THESE LIMITED EDITION PRINTS ARE SOLD, THERE WILL BE NO MORE!

GOVERNOR CASEY ANNOUNCES NEW ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Governor Casey has proposed legislation to provide \$300,000 a year in state grants to expand environmental education in public and private schools across Pennsylvania. A proposal authorizing the Department of Environmental Resources to develop a program and help schools pay the cost of environmental instruction and materials will be submitted to the General Assembly. The proposed legislation would enable DER to set aside up to 5% of penalties collected for environmental violations or to provide the education grants. "The keystone of my proposal is to get the polluters themselves to pay for environmental education in our schools," Governor Casey said.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK by Dave Kyler

As we all know from the articles appearing in "Audubon" magazine, the Federal Wetlands Delineation Manual is under a process of review. If the new classifications are adopted, the official definitions of wetlands will allow unrestricted filling of "marginal" wetlands and will, in fact, allow 50% of Pennsylvania's wetlands to disappear. The comment deadline for the proposed new manual has been extended to December 14, 1991. Most of the changes in this technical document were motivated not by sound wetlands science, but by political pressure from pro-business interests within the administration. The nation is currently losing wetlands at a rate of more than 300,000 acres per year. The administration is redefining wetlands in such a way that millions of acres will no longer be considered wetlands and will be free to be developed. We must take this opportunity to urge the President to maintain the scientific integrity of the Federal Wetlands Delineation Manual and to uphold his pledge of no net loss of wetlands.

Please write a letter expressing your dismay regarding these proposed changes. These should be addressed to;

Mr. Gregory Peck
Chief, Wetlands and Aquatic Resources Regulatory Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code (A-104 F)
401 M St. SW
Washington, DC 20460

Call Dave Kyler collect (814) 643-6030 for further information or see him at our November meeting.

PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY FOR ORNITHOLOGY

The Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology has instituted a Special Areas Project which has as its ultimate goal the surveying of the birdlife of all State Parks, State Game Lands, local parks and recreation areas, and other areas of particular interest. Birders are asked to quantify their data on forms which are available from Douglas A. Gross; Ecology III, RR 1,

Berwick, PA 18603 (717-542-2191). Many bird clubs, Audubon societies, and interested individuals are already participating in this important work. JVAS member Bill King is the coordinator for the Special Areas Project covering Canoe Creek State Park. Anyone having records of birds seen at Canoe Creek State Park in the past should contact Bill at 942-7673 or send him a copy of their records (Bill King, 3021 W. Chestnut Ave., Altoona, PA 16601). Bill requests that anyone seeing or hearing of any interesting birds at this location call him as soon as possible.



Those of you who are interested in Pennsylvania birdlife may consider joining the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology. Dues are \$10 per year and includes their newsletter, which will keep you abreast of their latest research. Membership dues should be sent to;

Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology
C/O Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
RR 2, Box 191
Kempton, PA 19529

GOVERNOR CASEY DEFENDS WETLANDS

Governor Robert P. Casey testified before the U.S. House Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment on September 16, 1991 to oppose publicly President Bush's proposal to weaken the federal wetlands delineation guidelines. Governor Casey said, "The President's compromise of his wetlands policy poses a serious threat to hundreds of thousands of acres of valuable - and vulnerable - Pennsylvania heartland. In response to this threat, I have directed that Pennsylvania not accept the revised federal wetlands guidelines. They unnecessarily and dangerously weaken the safeguards we've fought hard for, safeguards that finally protect some of our most essential ecological habitats from special interests."

CENTRAL CITY HAWK WATCH

The Central City hawk watch site on the Allegheny Front continues to yield very good numbers of raptors, breaking almost all the records from Tussey Mountain. Many thanks to JVAS members Bill King and Dave Kyler as well as the more than thirty observers from neighboring Audubon societies for the numerous hours they have invested in gathering data at the Central City site. We also extend profuse thanks to Colonel Gage, who has invited Auduboners onto his Allegheny Front mountaintop property and allowed us to use his beautiful vacation home.



FORT ROBERDEAU BIRD OBSERVATION/FEEDING AREA DEDICATED

Audubon members gathered at Fort Roberdeau on November 2, 1991 to dedicate the new bird observation/feeding area. This project commemorates recently departed Auduboners Wilson Kreitz, Al Burd, Gene Root, and Doris Thurheimer. Great thanks to JVAS members Dave Kyler, Trudy Kyler, Bill King, Amy King, Gene Zielinski, Stan Kotala, Alice Kotala, Janet Huber, Colette Heller, Jack DeMuth, Janet DeMuth, Truth Close, Barb Corle, and Laurie Corle for their help in the construction and planting at this site. We also thank Peggy Goodman and Truth Close for their work coordinating the project with the contractor.

Donations in memory of Doris Thurheimer are still being accepted and may be sent to Janet Neely, JVAS Treasurer, 8 S. Montgomery St., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. These will be used for the purchase of books and periodicals for the small nature library which will be adjacent to the observation window. Anyone having nature books that they would like to donate to this library may contact Stan or Alice Kotala at 946-8840. Thanks to Janet Neely for her donation of Peterson's Field Guide to the Birds.

BI-LO AND RIVERSIDE REGISTER RECEIPTS

Save your register receipts from Bi-Lo and Riverside and bring them to the next meeting or send them directly to Anne Borland, 138 A Larch St., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. Thanks!

AUDUBON ADVENTURES

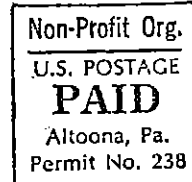
Eight 4th grade classrooms have been signed up for Audubon Adventures, four in Bellwood and four in Hollidaysburg. The cost of sponsoring this is \$30 per classroom. Please consider sponsoring it in your child's classroom. It's a great way to attract future Auduboners! Contact Colette Heller for details.

"Where are the placid landscapes of my childhood?
Where are the forests full of birds? Where is the
silence of my homeland? Where is the whiteness of
the snow? Does it live on only in paintings?
Remember! The face of the Earth is similar to that
of a human being. Don't forget you are but a traveler
on this planet and nothing belongs to you."

Ivan Lackovic Croata
(Yugoslav painter)
in Save the Earth,
by Jonathan Porritt
(Turner Publishing Co., 1991)

THE DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE DECEMBER GNATCATCHER IS DECEMBER 5th. Please
submit articles to the editor, Stan Kotala, RD 3 Box 866, Altoona, PA 16601.
HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

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



DATED MATERIAL

STAN KOTALA
RD 3 BOX 866
ALTOONA, PA 16601