

THE GNATCATCHER

Juniata Valley Audubon Society

May 1991



MAY'S PROGRAM: Join us for an enchanting look at springtime in Pennsylvania. Marcia and Bruce Bonta will present their program "Appalachian Spring." The program will begin at 7:30 pm following the business segment which starts at 7:15 pm. All meetings are held at the 28th Street Church of the Brethren on Union Avenue in Altoona.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dave Kyler

Summer is on the way!!!! Gardens are being planted, grass is being mowed and the kids are looking forward to summer "vacation". Audubon, however, can not afford to take a summer vacation. As the leading environmental organization, in our area, we must maintain constant vigilance year round. We encourage all of you to keep up your fine efforts on behalf of our chapter and we look forward to an outstanding new Audubon year!!

- * Bird-A-Thon - Early results are in and they look encouraging. A final report and presentation of the "Migrating Trophy" will be made at our May meeting on the 28th.
- * Fort Roberdeau - A planting/work session is planned for Saturday 15 June 91 at the "fort". Bring shovels, old clothes and some energy.
- * 91/92 Program/Budget Meeting - Bring your ideas/concerns/\$ needs/thoughts to this dual annual get together at Fort Roberdeau at 9 AM on 15 June 91 (prior to the work session) coffee and donuts will be provided. Bring a bag lunch if you are staying for the planting.
- * Gnatcatcher - As many of you know Jim Winsor is stepping down from the position of editor. We wish to thank Jim for a fantastic job well done and to welcome Stan Kotala as new Gnatcatcher editor. Stan will need a lot of help in this new position and will receive it from the new Gnatcatcher Committee! Sign up sheet at the meeting.
- * Field Trip - Leaving PVSC at 7:00 AM for a trip on the Knox, Kane & Kinzua railroad. Cost: \$12.00/person + \$2.50 (box lunch) + car pool costs @ \$20.00/person, sign up sheet at the May meeting. Trip date: Saturday 1 June 91.
- * Riverside Tapes - save your Riverside/Bi-Lo register tapes and send them to Anne Borland at the end of each month. Anne's address is: 138A Larch, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. This program has returned over One Million Dollars to organizations, such as ours, let's get our fare share!!!

JVAS'S ROCKY MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE

Janet Huber

Just a brief update. Our trip to the National Convention, departing July 17, and returning July 28, now has a few more participants. However, we still could add two to three more people to this group, until June 14, 1991. This is the absolute last day we can accept any new participants.

However, the cost of this package will change now for any new members. The land portion is now \$600,000, only a \$20.00 increase due to a change in the Convention registration after June 1, 1991. Also, I can no longer guarantee the cost of the air ticket at \$270.00. It has increased by \$40.00 on May 21, and another increase is in the computer for June 15. This cost to any new people will be based on the availability at the time of booking.

If you have any questions, or are interested in joining our group, (by the way this is still an excellent package price), please call either Janet Huber at CLASSIC TRAVEL - 814-696-3558 or 800-696-8400, or Terry Wentz at 814-695-1810. If anyone books now the total cost of the package will be \$910.00. Thank you.

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Jim Winsor

The International Issues Interest Group met at the Altoona Campus on Thursday, May 16. We began by discussing some of the ongoing exchanges: Peru, Costa Rica and Venezuela. Most of the meeting, however, was spent on some exciting new developments.

Concerning the Philippines initiative, Laura Jackson reported her continued contacts with Perla and the Asian Wetlands Bureau. At last a viable mechanism for our donation of video equipment has materialized. Mark Bonta reported on the Asia Society Conference in New York, which he attended not only on our behalf but also for National Audubon. Bruce and Mark Bonta reported on the Philippine Development Forum meeting recently held in Washington.

Judy Elson, internship coordinator from the Shavers Creek Nature Center, was here to discuss plans for the internship exchange. Pending full funding, this program will be sponsored by three Pennsylvania Audubon chapters and three nature centers. Six environmental educators from Central or South America will visit us next spring, for 12 weeks between March and May. Our discussion dealt with itinerary and accommodations.

Finally, Rahul Puri and Anuradha Singh visited us from State College, where they are members of Parivarton, a group formed to support social and environmental causes in India. We had a lively discussion about environmentalism in India and the political climate, both in India and in the Indian student community in the U.S.

The International Issues summer potluck will be at Ann Borland's home on July 13.

MISCELLANY

Sponsor a Magazine Subscription: "Just read" nature magazines would be very welcome in India. If you have recently finished reading your copy of Audubon, World Wildlife, etc., don't throw it away or box it up in the attic. Instead, wrap it and send it book rate (cheap) to someone who would enjoy it. Bruce Bonta can provide addresses (684-3113).

Clothing Drive: The student organization, Parivarton (see International Issues article, above) regularly sends clothing to India and especially to Bangladesh. If you have clothing you no longer use, they need it. Don't worry about sizes or styles; the clothes are commonly modified into what is appropriate. Even sweaters are all right. The Bontas (684-3113) are coordinating this effort.

Annual JVAS Picnic: The Picnic will be a covered dish supper beginning at 4:00 pm June 9 at Canoe Creek State Park. Charcoal and beverages will be provided by the chapter.

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

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