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 JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

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May 1970

 "Flower in the Cranried Wall"

Flower in the cranried wall,
 I pluck you out of the cranries,
 I hold you here, root and all, in my
 hand,
 Little flower - but if I could understand
 What you are, root and all, and all in
 all,
 I should know what God and man is.

- Alfred, Lord Tennyson

 The May Meeting

DATE: TUESDAY - May 26th
 TIME: 7:30 P.M.
 PLACE: Childrens' Theater, Altoona Public Library

This will be our last regular meeting of the school year - our last meeting this spring. Please make every effort to attend. This will be a good opportunity to look back over the last year in reflection upon what we have done and might do. It would be nice to remain active in some capacity during the three summer months. Let everyone offer his suggestions.

For our evening program we have a beautiful color sound filmstrip - "Vanishing Species" - produced by the New York Times Book and Educational Division. Many species of animals from all parts of the world are shown. This is an excellent film. Program begins at 8:00.

 The May Field Trip

We had a nice little trip beginning with the Kiwanis woods and ending at Cave Tituma on down the valley. A bit too much wind for real good birding but we did see gnatcatchers! Also, Johnny Orr discovered a mother ruffed grouse and her nest of thirteen eggs. The nest lay close in to the trunk of a tree and the clutch was quite precariously exposed. One couldn't help thinking of raccoons, foxes, and the like who might find this a nice meal. Many birds were seen including Baltimore orioles, scarlet tanagers, and horned larks which stay over in the valley during the summer. A solitary sandpiper was observed in a small spring pond just off the main road on the left on the way to the cave. This was the best bird of the day. The pink lady slippers were in bloom as was quite a lot of columbine high up on the wall above the cave entrance.

 Film-lecture Dates:

Our 1970-71 film-lecture program is now shaping up. We will be able soon to begin publicity arrangements. The specific titles and lecturers will be announced shortly. The dates are as follows:

1970	October 5th	Monday
1970	November 9th	Monday
1971	January 8th	Friday
1971	February 25th	Thursday
1971	April 22nd	Thursday

 "Pollution Control Center"

Call Ed McConnell, chairman of our Conservation Committee for any questions of concern or reports of pollution found in our area. (943-4243)

Note from Bedford

Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. McCallion report great winter bird-feeding success at their home in Bedford. Last fall they cleared their summer porch furniture for a 16 ft. sq. space of concrete floor, surrounded by a flower bed and red-wood fence. They gathered small scrub pine, some small dead trees, and a few 10 or 12 ft. locusts. The larger ones were stuck into flower beds, the others placed in metal containers and braced with rocks. The metal containers were placed in plastic garbage disposal bags, the cans filled with water, and the bags tied around the tops. The bag prevents rust marks on the floor. The McCallions had four feeders around the area. Their mixture is mostly pure sunflower and suet. No other seeds. From January to March 23 birds were drawn in to this feeding set-up. A daily check sheet is kept and is checked at meal times from the dining room facing onto the area. Some notable feeders have been the pine siskins, carolina wrens, eastern towhees, white throated sparrows, a mocking bird, and a screech owl. Of the starlings present Mr. McCallion notes that they eat suet only and a close examination of them will reveal more beauty and less the nuisance than most people realize.

Send News to Gnatcatcher

We've been getting some news from members near and fer. Keep the letters coming. It is our newsletter. Let's work to keep it filled with interesting items on any subjects. Write to 54 Duff Drive, Altoona, Pa. 16602.

April Meeting

It was our pleasure to have Rep. William Wilt speak to us on state and local conservation issues. He presented an interesting slide program with his talk. We hope to have Mr. Wilt back again.

Alan Miller's slide program was most informative. We are working now with the Altoona Area High School to arrange a fall lecture assembly with his talk and slides. This might be set up for other high schools too.

Washing Without Detergents

One way to avoid use of high-phosphate detergents, yet get your laundry clean, is to use soap - plus washing soda - instead. First, rinse out all traces of old detergent by running clothes through the regular wash cycle, adding nothing to the water but 1/4 cup of soda; repeat until the water is sudsless. Then wash clothes in the following manner: Put clothes in first, then add water. Put 1/4 cup to 1/3 cup of soda in and wait until it dissolves, then add soap (1-1 1/2 cups for front loading machines, 1-2/3 cups for top-loaders). If this gives more than 2 inches of suds throughout the wash cycle, cut down on the soap. For very hard water, add 1/4 cup of soda to the first rinse.

The Federal Water Quality Administration has announced its test results for phosphate content percentages in 22 detergents, some of which are listed here:

Cascade	54.5	Biz	73.9	Tide	49.8	Duz	38.3
All	54.0	Axion	63.2	Bold	45.4	Cheer	36.3
Calgonite	49.4	Salvo	56.6	Punch	44.2	Wisk	14.2

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