

SWIFTLY ASHLEIGH

JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

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November 1972

I will reveal

to you a love-potion,
without medicine,
without herbs,
without any witch's

magic;
if you want
to be loved,
then LOVE.

Hecaton of Rhodés

(Quote from Springs of Greek Wisdom)

The November Meeting

TIME: 7:30 P.M. PLACE: Children's Theater of the Altoona Public Library

DATE: Tuesday (Last Tuesday) November 28th

This will be the last meeting in the library this year. In December our Christmas Bird Count covered dish supper at the Skelp Grange in Sinking Valley substitutes for the regular meeting.

Planned as a program next Tuesday is a practical workshop on winter bird identification. All members are urged to bring bird guides with them to what should be a very informative informal study group. This will serve as a prelude to the December count (See article below). What is a Christmas Bird Count? What birds have been seen on the three previous local counts? What does State College see? Chambersburg, Pittsburg, Bethlehem and other local western Pennsylvania groups. What does Dallas see - meaning here Dallas, Pa. and Dallas Webb? Ravens? Or just crows? What could be expected species - those never before counted but known to appear in winter here? Do you know what new body of water now lies within our count area? A new bird book on striped bird identification will be available for preview. Also copies of all past local counts, bird guides, charts, bird count map (our giant local map), and possibly slides or films. Bring your friends. Learn something new. All are welcome.

Al Richardson's October Program

Many thanks to Al for a very colorful and informative program on plants of Puerto Rico. Another fine program by one of our own members.

Subscription to Gnatcatcher

Those who are not members of National Audubon may receive 9 issues of our newsletter by sending \$1.00 to the Gnatcatcher at 3001 4th Ave. / Altoona, Pa. 16602. This charge covers our expenses of printing the publication.

Contributions are needed for the newsletter. Please send them in - anytime, anykind. Not monetary contributions but the other printable kind. Let's work together on our Gnatcatcher.

Gift Memberships

Membership to National Audubon makes a fine gift at Christmas. Just write to National Audubon Society / 950 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022 to Membership Dept. Student memberships are \$6.00 - a real bargain. Regular single memberships are \$12.00 (per year). Excellent and worthwhile gifts!

State College Film

Tuesday, December 5th, 1972. Presented by State College Bird Club.
State College High School Auditorium - Westerly Parkway. 8:00 P.M. \$1.00.

"Our Unique Water Wilderness & The Everglades" by William A. Anderson.
This is a film we had in Altoona - in fact, was the very first one shown - three years ago.

Fourth Christmas Bird Count

We just received the instructions for conducting our annual Christmas count. The dates are as follows: Saturday, December 16th, 1972 through Monday, January 1st, 1973. We can choose our day anywhere in this two week period. Sunday has always been the ideal day - since few work on Sundays - so, that gives us Sunday, December 17th and Sunday December 31st to choose from. A two week difference can make a significant difference in what is seen but just exactly how great is not known. The chances of heavy snow and great lowering of temperature coming around the 31st are probably greater than around the 17th.

The 31st will no doubt be the date most suitable for all - since it comes after Christmas, but we can decide next Tuesday at our meeting on final day for counting.

Get ready. Attend the meeting Tues. Nov. 28th. Get out into Sinking Valley. Call John Orr (943-5629) our bird count compiler for details. Plan to get out on the day - either all day or part of the day. At least plan to take a late afternoon drive through scenic Sinking Valley to the Skelp Grange Hall for the always popular supper and tabulation party. Winter can show you some surprises - if you go out for them. Check the Gancee Creek State Park dam for ducks and other birds. This is a new water spot for us.

Residents Telephone Number:

Call Earl Higgins - a local call - at 684-0350 for information on what is happening in our group. Communicate.

Winter bird feeder information

Let us know what good birds you are seeing at your feeders. Set up a feeder for a bed-ridden friend - it will give him or her a great deal of pleasure seeing beautiful birds - counting them, identifying them, at close hand.

The Gnatcatcher
3001 7th Avenue
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To obtain more information visit our office at the following address:
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