THE

SNATCHER

JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol 4 No. 5 September 1972

Song of the Sky Loom

Oh our Mother the Earth
Oh our Father the Sky
Weave for us a garment of brightness
May the warp be the white light of morning
May the weft be the red light of evening
May the fringes be the falling rain
May the border be the standing rainbow

That we may walk where birds sing
where grass is green

- Tewa American Indian poem

First Fall Meeting

DATE: September 26th (last Tuesday of the month)

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: Childrens' Theater of the Altoona Area Public Library

Earl Higgins, our president, will present a slide program at the first fall meeting. Earl will show us the way west - an accounting of his five week trip this summer - a portrayal of city and country from Pennsylvania to Mississippi to California to include scenes of the Grand Canyon, the Painted Desert and the Petrified Forest. Attend the meetings of your organization. Support Earl and the other officers. Not just JVAS members but anyone interested in the Audubon cause is always welcome to attend these monthly meetings. Monthly programs are scheduled. Field trips are planned and in the works. The Christmas Bird Count is a traditional meeting of members. Bring your ideas to the group.

Earl has announced an unprcedented event for the September 26th gathering: An original sketch will be raffled at 25¢ a chance, all proceeds going to our treasury. It is a Higgins original! Get your chances at the Theater.

FIRST FALL FIELD TRIP

October 1st, our group will meet at 2:00 in front of the ranger's building of Colerain State Park (Spruce Creek) for a guided tour of a forest clear cut program. Earl will conduct this trip. The 1st is a Sunday. Hawks could well be sighted at this time and place. Also, fall flowers will be abundant then.

Earl will explain his work in even age management and time permitting, will lead us to Indian Lookout. Look for his blue van at the ranger building.

Hawk Mountain Trip

A group tour of the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary is being planned now for sometime in late October. Located near Kempton, Pa. north of the Krumsville exit of Rt. #22, the sanctuary is famous throughout the world as a hawk/osprey/eagle flyway. It is a pleasant part of our state. Those intrested in going should contact one of the officers.

New Meeting Place

Can anyone suggest a place for JVAS - either a monthly meeting room or a building owned by us? We've been hoping to obtain an office - room or building - so as to give a permanent headquarters to the group. Please give this some thought.

May 1972 Banquet - An Afternote

Everybody enjoyed a nice Chilcoat meal and a chance to see and talk to Alan Miller, our field representative, at the first annual Audubon banquet last May. Many members have said that it would be nice to continue the tradition of meeting for an annual dinner. Alan gave us some helpful advice.

State College Film Series

Watch the paper for news on the films coming to State College in the Audubon Wildlife Series. Forty miles is not too far to go for a good film. Some of us traveled there for the films before our own series began and some of us will continue to do so. Later Gnatcatchers will advertise these film-lectures.

Our Officers

President	Earl Higgins	RD #1 Box 100, Tyrone/16686 684-0350
Vice-President	Al Richardson	Box 39, Sylvan Dr., Hollidaysburg/16648*
Secretary	Margaret Chonko	2316 11th St., Altoona, Pa./16601 942-8070
Treasurer	Truth Close	1016 23rd Ave., Altoona/16601 942-7886

* Al's phone number is 943-7640

American Birds

This publication carries periodic data on birdlife in the U.S. and Canada. It includes the Christmas Bird Count issue - which we receive as a group. See John McCall or John Orr for copies of the count. We are, of course, in it under the geographical title of Culp, Pa.

The Gnatcatcher

Our periodical is named after a great little bird that inhabits our area. Keep in touch with it. Send your ideas and comments for inclusion in it. Just mail in to the address below. If you see any gnatcatchers in the wild let us know about them. Report them to us. Here is, then, a double challenge in reporting!

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