

SMART COACH

Vol. 5, No. 3

JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

March 1973

All Watched Over By Machines
Of Loving Grace

I like to think (and
the sooner the better!)
of a cybernetic meadow
where mammals and computers
live together in mutually
programming harmony
like pure water
touching clear sky.

I like to think
(right now, please!)
of a cybernetic forest
filled with pines and electronics
where deer stroll peacefully
past computers
as if they were flowers
with spinning blossoms.

I like to think
(it has to be!)
of a cybernetic ecology
where we are free of our labors
and joined back to nature,
returned to our mammal
brothers and sisters,
and all watched over
by machines of loving grace.

-- Richard Brautigam

March Meeting

DATE: March 27th (last Tuesday)
TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: County Courthouse - Hollidaysburg
"Highland Hall" annex / Penn Street
& Walnut.

PROGRAM: Pennsylvania and its Natural Resources, a color film distributed by the
U.S. Bureau of Mines. This 1972 film illustrates the richness of
Pennsylvania's natural resources while cautioning us that these riches
are not inexhaustible.

We are switching meeting places from the Altoona Area Public Library to the
main meeting room of the Hollidaysburg Courthouse Annex building on Walnut and Penn
Streets in Hollidaysburg. Entering from Lakemont/Altoona one should turn onto Wal-
nut and then turn right into the grounds of the "Highland Hall" complex (It's on the
corner). Parking is in the rear.

The changeover will be -- we hope -- for the better. This will be a trial
meeting place. The library offered a nice central location but did not cater to
our needs entirely. We have always wanted a place where refreshments could be
served and at Highland Hall this will be possible. Perhaps we might consider a
rotation of meeting places. It has been suggested by some members as a possibility.
Remember, though, that the Gnatcatcher and the Altoona Mirror will give the exact
details on meetings each month.

Many of us have thought of a place we could call our own but until someone
philanthropic comes along we must try other spots. Meeting in Hollidaysburg might
be an encouragement for the members present and future of that borough; encourage-
ment to attend and further the work of JVAS. Come next Tuesday. Bring friends.
Refreshments -- refreshments will be served!

Banquet - May - Annual

We plan to have our second annual banquet in late May. We will have a speaker
and hope we can have the same crowd that came last year -- plus more! Plan on it.
Details will be given at meetings and in next month's newsletter.

Early Spring Field Trip

A set of field trips is planned for Sunday, March 25th. Meet Earl Higgins at 8:00 A.M. or John Orr at 1:30 P.M. at the Presbyterian Church in lower Sinking Valley. Both leaders will be there to take off for birds in the Sinking Valley area. It will be interesting to see what two groups turn up at two different times on the same day. Bring binoculars and guides.

Audubon File

Our local branch has built up a small file of information on wildlife and conservation. A local office would be ideal for our group. Keep your eyes open for such a place - free or with small rent and utilities bill. The file can be enlarged by contributions by members and it may be utilized by anyone desiring information on National Audubon, the local branch, and a host of other subjects - Brigantine refuge, eg., or other conservation groups in the U.S..... maybe some day we will have this filing system operating out of the small office mentioned above.

Bird Books

Birds of Pennsylvania and Birds of the State College Region are two new books by Dr. Merrill Wood, Associate Professor of Zoology at the Pennsylvania State University. Copies of both may be examined at meetings. The first is a very useful guide for all of Pennsylvania. It may be ordered by mail at \$2.12 a copy from The College of Agriculture/The Pennsylvania State University/Box 6000/University Park/Pa./16802. The second book can be ordered from the State College Bird Club, Inc./626 West Nittany Ave./State College, Pa./16801 at \$1.25 each. We have a gift copy for use by our group. It gives the user earliest arrival -- latest departure data in the State College Region in 1950-1972, for all birds.

Membership Committee

John Orr is chairman of the membership committee. New brochures are coming in from National that are really beautiful. They may be used by members to promote new membership. Call in any leads - people interested in conservation or in our branch - to John at 943-5629. Everybody can be a member of this committee. Promote our cause and organization. We have an exhibit now in the library of the Altoona Campus and would like to send out publicity anywhere it might be useful. Members could speak at other groups' meetings too in explaining our group and its work.

Spring Reservoirs

Now is the time to get out for migrating ducks and other waterfowl - especially on the reservoirs at Mill Run and the Horseshoe Curve. Also at Bellwood, Kettle, Tipton, Tyrone, Juniata River, Glendale - and Canoe Creek State Park. The last place might be real good - let's hear some reports on it!

Bluebirds

Earl Higgins saw a bluebird at Three Springs in So. Huntingdon County March 21, and a second one earlier - two weeks before - in No. Huntingdon County.

Ecology Council

The newest conservation group - a coalition of interested non-partisan groups - is now running in gear. It is a county-wide group. Call Margaret Chomko at 942-8070 for information on what this group is doing.

The Gatekeeper
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Need a ride to Meetings?
Call 684-0350