

GNA TO CAT HER

 JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol 6 No 2

February 1974

A Statement of Audubon Philosophy

We believe in the wisdom of nature's design.

We know that soil, water, plants, and wild creatures depend upon each other and are vital to human life.

We recognize that each living thing links to many others in the chain of nature.

We believe that persistent research into the intricate patterns of outdoor life will help to assure wise use of earth's abundance.

We condemn no wild creature and work to assure that no living species shall be lost.

We believe that every generation should be able to experience spiritual and physical refreshment in places where primitive nature is undisturbed.

So we will be vigilant to protect wilderness areas, refuges, and parks, and to encourage good use of nature's storehouse of resources.

We dedicate ourselves to the pleasant task of opening the eyes of young and old that all may come to enjoy the beauty of the outdoor world, and to share in conserving its wonders forever.

Third Annual Banquet

DATE: Tuesday, February 26th
TIME: 6:30 P.M.

PLACE: Twenty-Eighth Street Church
of the Brethren
2800 Union Avenue / Altoona

Joan Stern, writer and artist will be our guest speaker at this informal annual banquet. Joan is from Roaring Spring and is the author of a weekly column in the Morrison Cove Herald. Her talk will be on "Art and Nature." Everybody is invited to this affair, so don't worry if you haven't been able to get out to regular meetings in the past - come to this one for a good talk and good food. We have been most fortunate in having such a nice new meeting facility. Our thanks go to Rev. and Mrs. Burriss and the church for having us the last Tuesdays of each month.

We'll have a full course turkey dinner prepared by a group from the church. And - homemade pie! Bring your friends. Fill out the slips and send them into Margaret Chonko at 2316 11th St. / Altoona, Pa. 16601 as soon as possible. She needs a count to turn in by Friday, February 22nd. You may call her, too, if you wish: 942-8070.

Installation of New Officers

Four new officers were selected by the nominating committee and elected unanimously at the January 29th meeting:

Mike Chonko - President - 2316 11th St. Altoona, Pa. 942-8070	President
Mary Slippey - Box 142 A, RD 2, Duncansville, Pa. 16635 695-5200	Vice-President
Betsy Vogel - 201 Cedar Blvd., Hollidaysburg, Pa. 16648 695-1636	Secretary
Martha Sullivan - Treasurer - 1008 Allegheny St., Hollidaysburg, Pa. 16648 695-0052	Treasurer

These four officers will be installed formally at the annual banquet. They have already been working hard in getting off to a new year, a new era in the life of our small Audubon group. We can help them plenty in helping ourselves and our community!

March Meeting - Al Burd and Pennsylvania Wildflowers

Al Burd will be presenting another program of slides and commentary on the wildflowers of our state. This is one of the big programs of the year for us - it one of those rare events - rare like the flowers in their beauty are - an artist's own work and the work of nature brought together in a stunning combination.

Contributions to the Gnatcatcher

Any and all contributions from members and friends are most welcome material for our small newsletter. Remember: a subscription can be had for anyone not a member - at the small rate of \$1.00 per year. Send items to John H. Orr, 3001 4th Avenue, Altoona, Pa.16602. Or call in: 943-5629

Winter Birds Seen

Bill Murray has a turkey coming into his yard from the hill above his house. It feeds there and can be seen a close range. He had a nice flock of 20 some cedar waxwings again this year. They eat the privet berries on large hedges along his drive. A couple years ago - in two years - Bill has seen pine grosbeaks at his place in Point View.

Agnes Casselberry reports a pileated woodpecker at the Mt. Etna Iron Furnace on Jan. 28, 1974. Her area is one we have never covered in the Christmas Bird Count. Next year is the year for Mt. Etna!

Reservoirs and Migrating Birds

Let us know where the good places are to sight migrating waterfowl and shore birds. The Horseshoe Curve and Mill Run reservoirs are great places to go starting now - or when the ice is opening - - you'll be rewarded with some nice ducks if you have the patience and time to spend there. Often the birds can be seen from the car.

Articles on Conservation and Birds

See:	<u>Pennsylvania Mirror</u>	Sunday, February 17th for article on us and the State College Bird Club.
	<u>Time</u>	February 11, 1974, page 10 - a small article on coyotes that mentions the Audubon role.
	<u>Time</u>	February 18, 1974, page 87 - article on the new nomenclature for several species of birds in America.

The Gnatcatcher
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