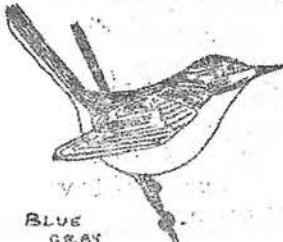


THE

# GNATCATCHER



JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

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## The Breathing

An absolute  
patience.  
Trees stand  
up to their knees in  
fog. The fog  
slowly flows  
uphill.

White  
cobwebs, the grass  
leaning where deer  
have looked for apples.  
The woods  
from brook to where  
the top of the hill looks  
over the fog, send up  
not one bird.  
So absolute, it is  
no other than  
happiness itself, a breathing  
too quiet to hear.

- Denise Levertov

### March Meeting

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

DATE: March 28th - Tuesday

PLACE: 28th St. Church of the Brethren  
Union Avenue and 28th St. / Altoona.

PURPOSE: "Working Meeting"

This early spring meeting has been set up to be a working session - a time for the group to take up a number of topics of pressing concern. Everyone is urged to attend as help is needed in meeting head on these items of business. Bill Rosevear will preside and the evening should prove to be practical and valuable.

Some of the topics Bill will farm out for group consideration will be: bird seed sales, poster contest, new constitution and nature trail brochure distribution. Other concerns of any sort may be brought up - this is a good time. Refreshments will be served. It is being called a working meeting but will, of course, be as interesting and educational as usual. Plan to attend.

### The Annual Banquet

Nearly 60 people enjoyed a fine meal and an informative talk. Frank Dunstan spoke to us about the local/national role and presented a slide show on the work of the society at the Tampa Bay Wildlife Sanctuaries in Florida. Frank has been our regional representative since last July. It was nice to meet with him on his first visit here. The banquet was again quite nice - a well planned affair. Thanks must go to all who worked on it, especially to Bill and Paulette Rosevear and to Martha Sullivan. Special thanks to Colette Heller for providing the little owl party favors.

### Regional Waterfowl Census

This annual event is scheduled for April 2nd, a Sunday - rain or shine. Count any water birds: ducks, geese, waders, etc. within a 25 mile circle (25 mile diameter) centered on Culp in Sinking Valley. Reservoirs, ponds, lakes and rivers are very good for these birds. Keep a count and submit it to John Orr at 943-5629. Call him, too, for any other information you might need. John can offer some advice on good spots to cover.

Calendar of Events:

March 28 - Working Meeting  
April 2 - Regional Waterfowl Census  
April 13 - Alaskan Slide Show - Altoona Library  
April 25 - Geology of Blair Co. - Paul Kurtz  
May 7 - Big Day in May (Bird Census)  
May 21 - Bluebird Trail at Prince Gallitzin  
State Park - 1:00 p.m. Field Trip  
May 30 - Pennsylvania Forestry - Gary Scott  
June 24 - Picnic & Nature Walk at Stone Valley  
With Naturalist Corky Potter.

Audubon Summer Ecology Workshop Scholarship The Executive Committee has received a few applications for this 1 week workshop stipend and will announce its decision at the March 28th meeting.

Bluebird Trails Bluebirds have been sighted at Prince Gallitzin and in Sinking Valley. Houses should be cleaned now. Bill Rosevear has spare parts for houses if needed. Bellwood is setting up a trail.

Water Resource Person A chairperson is needed to coordinate water related activities for Audubon. Frank Dunstan has asked us to select such a person to handle this work. Audubon is putting more emphasis on water concerns. An important meeting on the subject is slated for April 8th and 9th at the 4-H headquarters in Washington, D.C. This workshop may have President Carter or the Secretary of Interior speaking on our national water resources policy. If interested in being the "water resources person" let Bill Rosevear know. Our group plans to pay the expenses (room and board) of a member willing to attend the April workshop.

The New Bird Chart Keep your records of sightings for the new chart. Don Wharton is handling this compilation of first sightings - any birds seen within a 25 mile diameter circle centered on Culp, Sinking Valley. Write down the dates and species and pass on to Don. (695-6959)

Late Winter Birds Bill Rosevear has a barn owl and sees it regularly at his home. He saw turkey vultures on March 6th. King-billed gulls were seen at the Station Hall March 5th - quite a large flock of them: over 100 birds. Bill reports this species of gull at Prince Gallitzin at the same time. John Orr sighted a redpoll March 21st in his back yard in Altoona.

PAC Meeting The Pennsylvania Audubon Council will meet April 29th (Saturday) in Harrisburg at the William Penn Museum at 10:00 a.m. This group is now made up of 15 Pennsylvania Audubon groups or locals. It meets quarterly and has important work constantly before it. We have had 3 or 4 people going down at various times to represent us but need a few more who are willing to get involved. It is not a formal meeting but rather a working session that anyone would easily fit into.

Officers & Their Telephone Numbers: Bill Rosevear (President) - 674-5021 - Call him person-to-person collect.

Truth Close (Vice-President) 942-7886  
Secretary: Ann Borland - 695-9718  
Treasurer: Colette Heller - 742-7481

Congratulations to all four of these newly elected officers!