

THE

# Gnatcatcher

JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY  
Vol 11 No 7 November 1979



## I Am One

I am only one,  
But still I am one.  
I cannot do everything,  
But still I can do something;  
And because I cannot do everything  
I will not refuse to do the something  
that I can do.

- Edward Everett Hale (1822-1909)

### The November Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, November 27th

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: 28th St. Church of the Brethren - Union  
Avenue & 28th St., Altoona, Pa.

PROGRAM: Yellowstone Concerto

Come out Tuesday for a beautiful film on Yellowstone National Park and the Yellowstone River. The 30 minute film is a chronicle of Montana's Yellowstone River - America's last great, mighty river. It is an absorbing work that details the crucial relationship among water, wildlife and man. A beautiful travelogue. A fascinating nature study. An import environmental message.

A few other bits of interesting business will be dealt with at this meeting. The Christmas Bird Count must be discussed and plans made for participation in it. Parking is ample and free right behind the church. Enter from the lot and meet in the basement social hall. Refreshments will be served.

Calendar Notes: No regular meeting in December. Covered dish supper and Bird Count are on December 16th. No regular meeting in January. Annual banquet in April. Wild foods banquet/dinner in June.

Remember: all regular meetings at the church are always the last Tuesday of each month they are scheduled.

The Second Seed Sale Quite a success! Over 5 tons sold. \$1,900 in seed bought wholesale for sale. \$2,500 total sales. \$141.00 for ads. \$140.00 for taxes. \$300.00 profits. Plans are now being made to have the Third Seed Sale next year in November.

Pennsylvania Bottle Bill Their is legislation to be considered soon on a returnable items plan. Rep. Rick Geist is in charge of a committee that is now taking testimony and evidence on the matter. There are many pros and cons being offered for this issue. If anyone, specifically, wishes to pick up the file on this and do more research, please contact John Orr (94305629). Industry is really lobbying against any possible bottle bill in Pennsylvania.

Feeders, Books and Magnifying Boxes We still have for sale (at Nov. meeting) a small number of bird books, some beautiful feeders (station and tube types) and the little bug boxes. The last would be good stocking stuffers. The small, wooden peanut-butter feeders are now reduced to \$1.00.

PAC Meeting - December 8th - Harrisburg, Pa. - William Penn Museum - 9:30 a.m. - Anyone is welcome to attend. This quarterly meeting is hosted by the Greater Wyoming Valley Audubon Society and there will be a concurrent Membership Committee workshop. We would like to have 4 or 5 people attend as JVAS reps, so call Bill Rosevear if you are interested in going down Saturday for the day. We'll car pool it. Should be back home by 6:00 or earlier.

"Audubon and His World" In celebration of its 175th birthday, the New-York Historical Society is opening a show on Tuesday, November 20th entitled "Audubon and His World." The society is well known as the repository of the original watercolors of "The Birds of America" by John James Audubon. This show represents only a portion of the watercolors (other material will focus on his influence on the culture of his time), but the remainder will go on display De. 6th and the entire

selection will remain on view until Feb. 29th 1980.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT All Day December 16th. Dawn to dusk. Covered dish supper at dusk at Skelp Grange Hall in Skelp just over mountain from Bellwood. Counters register intentions to count with compiler, John Orr. The count circle needs good coverage. John will set up teams. Experienced counters will lead teams in specific areas. See December Gnatcatcher for all major and minor details. Call 943-5629 to get involved now. Note: a special bird census workshop will be held at John's (3001 4th Ave., Altoona) on Monday, Dec. 3rd. Items to be worked on include difficult species, unusual species and procedures for having them accepted, territories and habitats, special teams, and more. It is important to study now your areas and your possibilities - especially as regards the habitats.

New Filing Cabinet Finally, our group purchased a filing cabinet for the storage of the many hundreds of items pertaining to our work. Al Burd got a good buy on a cabinet and it will be used by the president as a working file.

Alaska Lands Issue A weakened Senate bill is considered by Audubon to be undesirable and a substitute bill is now being worked up. Call the Alaska Coalition for the latest advice: 1-202-547-5550. Call after 11:00 p.m. for a \$.40 charge. Call the night you receive this newsletter. This is a fast breaking item so keep informed and take action. Pa. senators should be called or written to.

Christmas Gift Possibilities

1. Audubon Membership. See November Audubon magazine for membership cards. National Audubon Society will send a gift card if asked to. See Fran Burgoon at Nov. meeting for new brochure.
2. The Pennsylvania Naturalist. A beautiful new nature/magazine put out bi-monthly at \$6.00/year or \$11.00 for two years. They, too, provide gift cards. Write to: The Pennsylvania Naturalist / P.O. Box 1128 / State College, Pa. 16801. Enough cannot be said about the value and readability of this publication.
3. Bird Watcher's Digest. Also a new publication. \$7.50 per year. / six issued a year. Write to: Bird Watcher's Digest / Box 110 / Marietta, Ohio 45750. This is a magazine with high interest articles aimed solely at the bird watcher. Each issue has 25 or so short, highly readable articles.

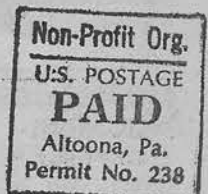
Gnatcatcher Subscription Rate: \$1.00/year. ----- For any non-members who would like to get it. The charge is made to cover our mailing fees. Send to John H. Orr, 3001 4th Ave., Altoona, Pa.

Membership Drive: Now Underway JVAS is trying to get 20% more members by June 30th 1980 to qualify for a bonus incentive offered by National in their current all-out membership drive. We have 144 total members (as of June 30th 1979), so 20% would figure out to 30 new members. Our group would be given a \$5.00 bonus for each member plus any more over 30. Won't you try to enlist a new member? The time is right for a great gift. Remember this important fact: to get credit, we must have "Juniata Valley Audubon Society" written on the application blank - on both top and bottom. In this current drive, National is sending out many appeals at a pretty good cost - so if they do get a reply it does not give us any dues split the first year. (It would be split for us the second.) If we are signing up new members we will benefit from that dues split. Single student and senior citizen (over 65) are low rates: \$13.00 each. Family senior citizen is \$15.00. If you need more details or help, please call Fran Burgoon at 695-5357\*. He'll give you brochures, etc.

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The Gnatcatcher  
3001 4th Avenue  
Altoona, Pa. 16602

943-5629



Nature Center  
Prince Gallitzin State Park  
RD #1  
Patton, Pa. 16668