

THE Gnatcatcher

JUNIATA VALLEY
AUDUBON SOCIETY

VOLUME 14 No 5 May 1982

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed - and gazed - but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

From "I Wandered Lonely As A Cloud"
by William Wordsworth



THE MAY MEETING

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

DATE: May 25th

DAY: Tuesday

PLACE: 28th Street Church of the
Brethren, Union Avenue and
28th St., Altoona, Pa.

PROGRAM: The GYPSY MOTH. This timely
topic will be presented by
Bill Rosevear. Using slides and handouts
Bill will discuss the life cycle and
spread of the forest pest. Bill will also
explain how present control methods and
the pros and cons of each method.

ANNUAL BANQUET The April Annual Banquet was a success. Over 105 people gathered

at Gullifty's to enjoy dinner and hear our guest speaker Paul Wiegman speak about
"Threatened and Endangered Plants of Pennsylvania!" Of special interest to us was
presence of rare orchids near Port Matilda and additional rare plants in the shale
barrens of Bedford County. We also learned that a rare plant, Small's Twayblade
may exist in a marshy site of the Mill Run Watershed.

NEW OFFICERS At the annual banquet we also saw the installation of our new
officers. JOHN ORR is our new president, with ANN BORLAND beginning
another term as recording secretary. DORA BROWN is our new corresponding secretary.
Wilson Kreitz, vice president and Madge Quick, treasurer, continue in their positions
for one more year.

BIG DAY IN MAY The May 15th bird count was a beautiful day and the birds were out
in full force. Preliminary reports indicate that we will probably
reach a total of over 100 species for the day. Although it was a good day for out-
side chores we hope that you took the time to spend a few minutes with our feathered
friends. If you have a list, even a short one, contact John Orr - 943-5629 as soon
as you can.

JUNE WILD FOODS PICNIC Don't forget to attend this memorable experience. It will
be held at the Fort Roberdeau Nature Center in Sinking
Valley. The date is June 27th at 2:00 p.m.. Al Burd is in charge of the wild foods.
Plan on coming early and making a day of it. The menu sounds interesting, but
if you don't want to sample nature's menu then bring your own food and share in the
comradship of this informal gathering.

NEW CONSERVATION COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON: Paula Ford Cameron is stepping down as our
conservation leader. Paula certainly
deserves our highest praise for leading us through the necessary but difficult
petition process for the Mill Run Watershed. Thank You Paula.
Filling Paula's shoes will be Lynn Langer. Lets give Lynn the support she will need
to continue the battle to conserve our natural resources here in Blair County and
throughout the nation.

MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE This important meeting will be held on June 25, 26, 27 at Shennandoah College in Winchester, Va. The Board of Directors at the last Executive Meeting voted to pay for the registration costs - \$45.25 for our president or his designee. It is important for us to attend this meeting because we will probably be asked to discuss the petition we filed with D.E.R. to have the Mill Run Watershed declared unsuitable for mining. If anyone is interested in attending this conference call either John Orr or Wilson Kreitz for more information.

RAPTOR SHORT COURSE The Cambria County Conservation District is conducting an excellent course on birds of prey. The course will begin on the 4th of June and continue through the 5th. The first day of the course will be for local conservation officers, The second day will be for educators and people like Audubon members. A variety of topics will be covered ranging from raptor identification to the care and feeding of injured birds of prey. We would like to support this course and to that end we will be accepting donations from the members at our May meeting.

OHIO-PYLE WHITE WATER RAFTING TRIP This exciting trip is the kick-off experience for our new program year. The date selected is September 19th. The cost of the raft rental will be \$30.00 and includes lunch. Car pooling arrangements and reservations are being handled by Wilson Kreitz. You can contact him at 695- 0126.

AUDUBON CONSERVATION CAMP The committee has selected Lynn Langer as the recipient for our annual scholarship to an ecology camp. Lynn has selected the Greenwich, Conn. camp as her first choice. We look forward to hearing more from Lynn after she returns.

TAGGED FISH On June 12th at Canoe Creek State Park the dam breast structure will be named in honor of State Senator D. EMMERT BRUMBAUGH. At the ceremonies officiated by Secretary of D.E.R., Peter Duncan, several thousand fish will be stocked in the lake. Among those fish will be six tagged fish. One of those fish will be tagged in our name. When the fish is caught we will give the lucky fisherman a free membership in National Audubon. Perhaps it will be one of our own members.

SUMMER HIATUS There will be no more meetings after the June wild foods picnic until the end of summer. Our first regular meeting will be on September 28th at the 28th St. Church of the Brethren. In the meantime look for

Bog flowers to bloom during the fourth week of June.
Listen for Bull frogs to sing during the first week of July.
Monarch Butterflies will be around during the second week of July.
Chickory and Day lilies will be in bloom during the third week of July.
Listen for the insect chorus to fill the nights with sounds during the fourth week of July.

During August the first week will find the Barn Swallows gathering.
The second week will reveal orb weaving spiders webs in the morning dew.
The third week will find most of the field flowers in bloom.
The fourth week will see the beginning of bird migrations and the emergence of fall web worms into our conscious minds.

So you can readily see that we have a full and interesting summer ahead.

THE GNATCATCHER
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Altoona, Pa.
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