

# THE Gnatcatcher

JUNIATA VALLEY

AUDUBON SOCIETY



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## Autumn Daybreak

Cold wind of autumn, blowing loud  
At dawn, a fortnight overdue,  
Jostling the doors, and tearing through  
My bedroom to rejoin the cloud,

I know--for I can hear the hiss  
And scrape of leaves along the floor--  
How many boughs, lashed bare by this,  
Will rake the cluttered sky once more.

Tardy, and somewhat south of east,  
The sun will rise at length, made known  
More by the meagre light increased  
Than by a disk in splendour shown;

When, having but to turn my head,  
Through the stripped maple I shall see,  
Bleak and remembered, patched with red,  
The hill all summer hid from me.

Edna St. Vincent Millay

November Meeting: Anyone who has ever heard a talk given by Marcia and Bruce Bonta knows that November's meeting will be special. Their subject will be the Maine ornithologist and bird photographer Cordelia Stanwood. They will show slides of her home and bird sanctuary, Birdsacre, and will feature excerpts from her unpublished journal and autobiography. Tuesday, November 30. 7:30 pm at 28th St. Church of the Brethern.

Seed Sale: The seed sale was held at Imler's Agway on Saturday, Nov. 20. Two hundred and ten orders for twelve tons of seed were filled. The gross was \$6500 - our best sale ever. The final profit should be around \$900. Bill Rosevear will have a complete report at the Nov. meeting. In the meantime, thanks to those who helped: the Rosevears, the Kreitzes, L. Langer, A. Goodlin, D. Thurheimer, C. Heller, W. Heller, B. Halmo, G. Mahon, F. Burgoon, J. Lennox, J. Perry, A. Borland, and both J. Orrs.

Christmas Count: The annual Christmas bird count will be held on Sat. Dec. 18. Once again, John Orr is coordinating the project. A covered dish dinner will be held following the day-long bird watch. Mark your calendars. John will have details at the meeting.

Speaking of Christmas: An Audubon membership makes a great gift. Other suggestions: A "Working Together for Wildlife" patch (\$2.00) or decal (\$1.00). Contributions sent to Pa. Game Comm., Box 1567, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120 will be used to support management programs for nongame species.

Making Things Happen: The Guide for Members of Volunteer Organizations by Joan Wolfe is available at a discount (\$6.75) from Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, NAS, 1104 Fernwood Ave., Camp Hill, Pa. 17011. Make checks payable to National Audubon Society. Also available from the mid-Atlantic Regional Office are Peterson Field Guides at a 20% discount: Eastern Field Guides are \$8.00 for paperback and \$12.00 for hardback. Western Field Guides are \$5.50 for paperback and \$10.50 for hardback. The Cooperative Extension Service at Cornell University has a new booklet, Wildlife Habitat on Private Lands, for \$3.95. Send a check to Cornell University Distribution Center -- WM, 7 Research Park, Ithaca, NY 14850. Since 1982 is the Year of the Eagle, why not give the Eagle Poster (\$5.00) available from National Audubon Society, 950 third Ave., New York, NY 10022. If you know someone who vacations in New Jersey, give the All Year Birding in Southern New Jersey, which includes information about Cape May, Brigantine, and other hot spots. Write Atlantic Audubon Society, Box 63, Absecon, NJ 08201. Remember the environment when you're selecting Christmas gifts.

Bluebird Boxes: What timing! Twelve bluebird boxes were made at Lennox's house on Oct. 30. They will be sold at the November meeting for \$4.95 + tax = \$5.25 total. Talk about a great gift idea! Profits go to the Osprey Fund.

Thanks, Truth Close: Truth has been compiling an illustrated history of the chapter. If you have any pictures of outings or meetings, why not share them with everyone?

Fly Ash: Penclec has filed a permit application for disposing of fly ash at a site near Williamsburg. A public hearing was held on Nov. 15. John Orr, who has been keeping abreast of the situation, submitted written testimony at the hearing. Watch the news and newspapers for the outcome.

Primacy: Conservation Chairperson Lynn Langer has been working on a statement of our concerns about surface mining primacy in Pennsylvania. Details at the Nov. meeting.

Library Window: JVAS has an informative display at the Altoona Area Public Library thanks to George Mahon and his committee, Colette Heller and John Orr. Stop in and see, now until the end of the month.

Designs Wanted: A new book, tentatively titled The Audubon Society Handbook for Attracting Birds, will include homeroade designs for bird feeders, houses, and baths. The author, Stephen W. Kress, is looking for improvements to standard models and for original designs. Novel approaches to repelling squirrels, cats, and nuisance birds are also welcome. Some of the material submitted may be used in Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's new magazine, The Living Bird Quarterly. Designers of selected plans will be acknowledged in the book and the magazine. Mail detailed plans with measurements (and photos if possible) to Dr. Stephen W. Kress, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850.

Editor's Note: What's a nuisance bird???

Wild America: Channel 3. Thursdays. 8:30 p.m.  
Dec. 2. The Wolf and the Whitetail. Witness the birth of twin fawns and see wolf pups emerge from their den. Both species are followed from birth to maturity.  
Dec. 9. Living With Wildlife. As the dominant species on earth, we are beginning to realize our impact on wildlife and to reevaluate our relationship with all the living things around us. This program illustrates how we can best live with and preserve our natural heritage of wildlife. The roles of wildlife--economic, aesthetic, scientific, ecological, and recreational--are examined.

When the turkey was introduced from America to Europe (around 1530), the word "turkey" was used to describe imported objects that were foreign, strange or exotic....the word is Tartar in origin and means "brave."  
(Edward S. Gruson, Words for Birds, p.87.)

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