

THE Gnatcatcher

JUNIATA VALLEY

AUDUBON SOCIETY

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The Reverie of Poor Susan



At the corner of Wood Street, when daylight appears,
(Hangs a Thrush that sings loud, it has sung for three years:
Poor Susan has passed by the spot, and has heard
In the silence of morning the song of the Bird.

'Tis a note of enchantment; what ails her? She sees
A mountain ascending, a vision of trees;
Bright volumes of vapour through Lothbury glide,
And a river flows on through the vale of Cheapside.

Green pastures she views in the midst of the dale,
Down which she so often has tripped with her pail;
And a single small cottage, a nest like a dove's,
The one only dwelling on earth that she loves.

She looks, and her heart is in heaven: but they fade,
The mist and the river, the hill and the shade:
The stream will not flow, and the hill will not rise,
And the colours have all passed away from her eyes!

- William
Wordsworth

February Meeting Bill Rosevear will talk about attracting bluebirds. The meeting will be at the 28th St. Church of the Brethren at 7:30 p.m. Bill is an authority on bluebirds so do not miss an opportunity to learn more about these wonderful birds. Bring your questions!

Coming in March On the 6th a mini field trip to Lincoln Caverns (\$3 adults, \$2.50 children). Leave Pleasant Valley Shopping Center at 1:00 p.m. Contact Kreitz's (695-0126) for details.

On the 27th, a woodcock walk at Prince Gallitzin State Park. Meet at Pleasant Valley Shopping Center at 5:00 p.m.

Don't Forget Do Something Wild when you file your state income tax.

New Officers Nominations are needed for vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Elections for the two-year terms will be held at the March meeting; installation will be at the April meeting. Please give nominations (or volunteer yourself!) to Fran Burgoon, chairman of the nominating committee.

April Banquet Mark your calendars for Tuesday, April 26. Alice Goodlin, chair, and Doris Thurheimer are now working on plans for the banquet. Volunteers (new & past) are needed. More details at the February meeting. (Call Alice at 946-0150)

Winter Outing On February 12, four members braved the blizzard to travel to Prince Gallitzin State Park for a day of snow-shoeing and winter birds. The park did not have enough snow for snow-shoeing, but the hikers saw beaver dams, footprints of mice, squirrels and deer, song sparrows, chickadees, nuthatches, a pileated woodpecker, and beautiful hemlocks laden with fine, powdery snow.

Notable Birds Angeline Stout reports a palm warbler(!) eating suet at her home in Greenwood. (Note: the palm warbler was recorded on State College's Christmas count this year.) Two great blue herons were reported by Betty Jacobus. They have been seen several times at Watts' Farm pond on Route 220.

Thanks to the Newsletter Committee Thanks Beth Leslie, Janet Neely, Lynn Langer, Fran Burgoon, and Gene Root for all the folding, stamping, addressing, and sorting!

Thanks to Bill Kaylor Bill is a JVAS member who made a nice donation to the Eagle Reward Fund. JVAS has donated \$50.00 to the Eagle Reward Fund. All seventeen Pennsylvania chapters have contributed to this fund to reward people who give information leading to the conviction of the person or persons who killed four bald eagles in Pennsylvania this past fall. Isn't it shocking that some people still don't see the value of predators in the ecosystem?

Members' Night Again, our members' night was a huge success, a highlight of the year. Thanks to Wilson Kreitz for organizing the event. And thanks to all those who shared their fantastic hobbies: John Orr (rare books), Elizabeth Folk (photos of Green Gauze Nature Club), Isabel Abel (weaving), Wilson Kreitz, Dr. Swami, and Rev. Witmer (slides), Steve Campbell (photos), Bill Rosevear (preserved wildlife), Sean & Mary Burgoon (latchhook rugs & papier mache), Oscar & Frieda Heinz (deer), Anne Borland (needlepoint), Janet Deuth (nature paintings), Renata Dodson (oil paintings), Truth Close (dried arrangement), Betsy Halmo (stichery).

Bird-Flower Book The U.S. Postal Service is selling lovely hardcover books about the state birds and flowers. A sheet of the 50 state bird and flower stamps is included. The cost is \$17.00, which isn't bad at all; the stamps are worth \$10.

Announcing: a forum on hazardous and toxic waste sponsored by Blair-Huntingdon Rural Development Committee, Penn State Cooperative Extension Service, Blair County League of Women Voters, and Southern Allegheny Planning Commission. The forum is being held for citizens, industry and government.

Time: 9 - 4:00 Date: March 23rd / Wednesday

Registration: \$3 With lunch: \$10 Deadline

for registration is March 11th. Place:

Altoona Sheraton

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RD-3, Box 493
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Feb. 22nd: Attracting Bluebirds
with Bill Rosevear