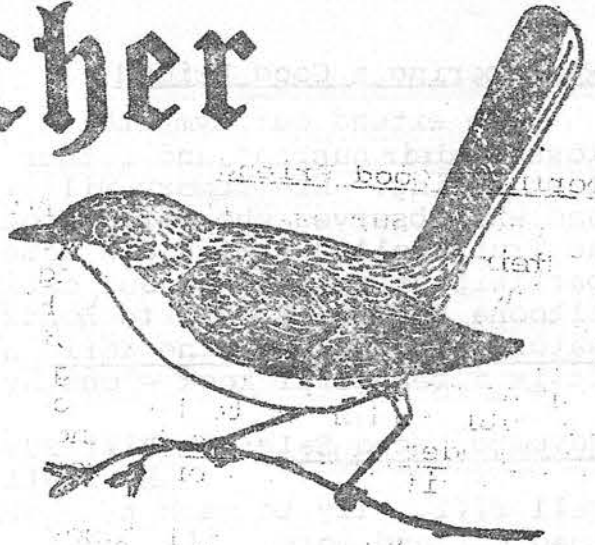


THE **Snatcher**

JUNIATA VALLEY
AUDUBON SOCIETY



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If the day and night are such that you greet them with joy, and life emits a fragrance like flowers and sweet-scented herbs - that is your success.

All nature is your congratulation.

- Henry David Thoreau

The Start of a New Season - The September Meeting

DATE: September 27th

DAY: Tuesday

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

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

Program: Jeff Schmidt of the Sierra Club will detail his experiences as lobbyist for his organization in the state capital. His talk is titled LOBBYING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT. Jeff is a young person with a lot of enthusiasm and creative energy. He will update us on all that is happening in Pennsylvania on all fronts. A most knowledgeable person, Jeff will share many of the current events as he sees them. We are most fortunate to have such an outstanding lead-off speaker and program. Bring yourselves and some friends for a very informative evening and the start of another year.

Also: all members are urged to bring along anything of interest relating to the natural world. Bring some neat things found over the summer or now early in September. If it is an item unknown, bring it in for the rest to identify (or try to). Several long tables will be set up to lay out any and all items offered up for display. If you wish, before the meeting starts, you may tell others what you've found. It might be a plant - perhaps an unidentifiable leaf of a tree - or it could be an arrowhead, a rock, an insect, an "anything!" Just bring it along! This should be a lot of fun and a good way to informally share small talk early in the evening. And - if you forget or can't dig up anything, just remember to bring yourself along - that's what really counts.

Items for sale We have some items for members' purchase. Some Audible Audubons, a few bird nest guides (Peter-son series), our patches, and more. All will be laid out for easy viewing, at the meeting.

October 15th Field Trip Craig & Paula Cameron will lead this trip - a hike - through the Little Juniata Water Gap Natural Area. (The name is as long as the trail!) The beautiful riverside area is a sight not many know yet. It is said, too, to be the only Pennsylvania water gap that does not have a road through it. Hard to believe. The group will leave the Pleasant Valley Shopping Center (Sylvania side) at 8:30 a.m. or the Water Street Flea Market at 9:00 a.m. Bring a lunch. The hike will be moderately strenuous. Call Camerons for more information if needed: 832-2462. (Note some of the new programs had this hike with an Oct. 22 date. They should all read now Oct. 15th. Change them if it says the 22nd.)

Remembering a Good Friend

We extend our sympathies to Truth Close and her family for the loss of their husband and father. Our good friend John Myers Close died last spring. His memory will long be with us. A quiet, studied man, one who observed the world about him with a keen eye, John (or Myers as Truth called him as did some of us) was a member of Audubon and a participant on many of our outings. We have purchased a book for the Altoona Public Library to honor our friend and member. It is titled Nature's Wonders of the World and is a National Geographic publication. It is a beautiful book - one Myers would certainly have appreciated.

November Seed Sale Bill Rosevear is in charge again this year. He really needs help working the sale. See or call Bill. Try to mark time off then to pitch in with Bill selling, loading, and more.

New Audubon Societies Is it possible that Bedford, Johnstown, Huntingdon, Dubois and State College might soon be full fledged new Audubon groups? Dubois probably is one at time of publication of this letter. The others all have people trying to get one going. We'll see. Maybe it's a coincidence but that would be something if so many closeby would be set up.

Naturefest / Ft. Roberdeau October 2nd this fall. Call Peggy Goodman (942-5763) if you wish to help. She can tell you what they need. Or perhaps you have some specialty. Last year a lot of Audubon members participated.

Environmental Education Workshop October 15th, in conjunction with Fort Roberdeau and with Peggy Goodman as coordinator, Bill Rosevear and Dr. Paul Risk will present a one day workshop at the Nature Center in Sinking Valley. Bill we know. Dr. Risk is a professor from Penn State. The course will be non-credit and be handled through Continuing Ed of Penn State. Call Peggy for information (see number above).

JVAS Committees Try to give some support to committees. Check the new program on the back and then talk to or see the chairpersons. They can use your help. It would not be too time consuming and members would feel good contributing even if in a small way as a committee person.

UFM Petion Common sense prevailed. The Altoona Mirror gave it best coverage September 21, a Wednesday in their front page article and inside editorial. The Conservation Committee thanks all in our group who helped in any way to make this effort a success.

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