

THE

# GNATCATCHER



JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol 9 No 4

April 1977

## Endymion

Inscribed to the memory of Thomas Chatterton

John Keats (1795 - 1821)

A thing of beauty is a joy for ever:  
Its loveliness increases; it will never  
Pass into nothingness; but still will keep  
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep  
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.  
Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing  
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,  
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth  
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,  
Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways  
Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all,  
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall  
From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,  
Trees old and young, sprouting a shady boon  
For simple sheep; and such are daffodils  
With the green world they live in; and clear rills  
That for themselves a cooling covert make  
'Gainst the hot season; the mid forest brake,  
Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms:  
And such too is the grandeur of the dooms  
We have imagined for the mighty dead;  
All lovely tales that we have heard or read:  
An endless fountain of immortal drink,  
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.

### A Letter to the Members:

Dear Audubon Member,

I am sorry to inform you that effective on the 30th of last March, Don Wharton resigned from the office of president of the Juniata Valley Audubon Society.

I admire and respect Don very much and feel that I, as well as the chapter, have lost a great asset to the Audubon cause and a personal friend.

The reasons for Don's resignation are important and reflect directly on the club, its members and the future of the group.

It is for that reason that I most urgently need to see and hear from as many members as possible. If at all possible you must attend this month's scheduled meeting.

For the purpose of maintaining order and progression in the meeting I've decided to list the major topics which I feel we need to discuss and make decisions on.

First, a new president needs to be elected. I will not become the next president, but will preside until a new one is elected.

Second, our national charter has to be renewed.

Third, some short and long range plans and goals need to be discussed. Specifically, I am thinking of the Fort Roberdeau Nature Center, the Alaskan Wilderness Act, the status of the various committees, the needs of the club, i.e. storage cabinet, library, office space, programs for monthly meetings, birding equipment, conservation education programs, meeting dates and times.

Many of the items which you have just read may be familiar, others new. They are, I feel, important and need your considered attention. Please write down key thoughts on the various subjects and bring them with you to the meeting. If there are items which you feel need to be included on the agenda, please wait until we have tabled, approved or dismissed the above mentioned topics. I will allow time for additional topics, but keep in mind that we must keep moving with the business meeting because we have a top rate film "Birds of Prey" from Hawk Mountain Sanctuary

In closing, I again wish to express my regrets at the resignation of Don Wharton. Please come to this meeting for I need your help and advice. We are a ship without a Captain and we need one desperately.

Sincerely yours,  
William E. Essey  
Vice President

The April Meeting

TIME: 7:30 P.M. PLACE: 26th Street Church of the Brethren - Union Ave. & 28th St. Altoona, Pa.  
DATE: Tuesday, April 26th  
SPECIAL NOTE: This month only we will meet upstairs in the sanctuary. Enter the same way but go up instead of down.

PROGRAM: "Birds of Prey" - a color film of our birds of prey. This noteworthy film comes to us from the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary.

Hawks and other birds of prey are quite fascinating for a lot of reasons and they present a challenge to bird watchers because of their elusiveness - not only are they often hard to find or see but they are not easily identified when in sight. It takes time to master hawks and some owls just don't get spotted by almost anybody! A film such as this one will be great for us.

Hawk Mountain is no strange place for many of our members. It lies east of Harrisburg, about 1 1/2 hours drive and is just north of Rt. #22. The fall is the best of times to visit the sanctuary but anytime can be a treat in this beautiful section of the state. Remember: meet upstairs next Tuesday.

The Gnatcatcher  
3001 4th Avenue  
Altoona, Pa. 16602  
943-5629

April 26th: Monthly Meeting:

"Birds of Prey of Northeastern North America"

May 6th: Spring Bird Count

May 15th: Bluebird Trail Visit