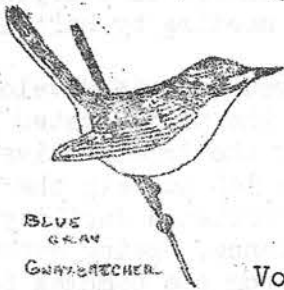


THE

# GNATCATCHER



JUNIATA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

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## ONE KEY NOT WORKING!!!

Even though my typewriter is an old model, it works quite well, except for one or two keys. I have wished many times that it worked perfectly, but it is true that there are 46 keys that function well enough, but just one key, not working makes the difference. Sometimes a group or society is somewhat like my typewriter - not all the people are working properly. You may say to yourself, "Well, I'm only one person, I won't make or break the group." But it does make a difference because a group like the Juniata Valley Audubon Society, to be most effective, needs the active participation of every member. Say to yourself, "I'm a key person in this organization, and I am needed very much!"

### The First Fall Meeting

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

DATE: September 27th - Tuesday

PLACE: 28th Street Church of the Brethren - Union Ave. & 28th St., Altoona, Pa.

PROGRAM: "Reptiles and Amphibians"

The State Fish Commission has a treat of a different sort for us next Tuesday in their brand new slide/tape program on Pennsylvania reptiles and amphibians. It is just recently that the protection of these animals came under the Fish Commission. Many species of reptiles and amphibians are not seen too easily or often - in some ways as holds true for birds or any other group of animals. This should be a fine opportunity for us to learn what is being done to protect them. What are the endangered species? The seldom seen species? One of our members - Harold Yoder - has done a lot of research on Pennsylvania reptiles and amphibians and has found at least one very rare salamander in the state. A great book for identification is Roger Tory Peterson's Field Guide to the Reptiles and Amphibians.

It will be good to get back together and a number of people, groups, committees, etc. will have news to report on various projects our group is working on. The Fort Roberdeau nature center project is underway and Al Burd is sure to have a report on it.

Spread the word about this fine program and ask a friend or two to enjoy it with you. For those of you who have not been to our meetings - please come to a few. At least pick out a good one that catches your interest. The meetings are easy-going and afford members and friends (and the general public) a chance for good entertainment, enlightening programs and tasty refreshments. Parking is behind the church as is the entrance.

### The Keystone Festival

Audubon was part of the annual Lakemont festival the very first year it was held and again - only the second time - this year. Our booth was located in the roller skating rink - the flea market of the fair! We talked to a lot of people and sold some nature books and cards. The over-all profits were not more than \$30 or so clear but actually this is not a great cause for concern since we wanted mostly to talk to anyone interested in conversation. Our brochures and complimentary magazines went quickly and already we have a few new members from the two days' effort. Perhaps next year it would be better to locate outside with a table and a chance to see more and different people. A good number of

our members helped man (an old sexist term!) the booth: Fran Burgoon, Martha Sullivan, Phyllis Uebelacker, Mary Slipney, Collette Heller, Al Burd, Claire White, Ann Borland, Cal Folk, and John Orr. Special thanks go to Mary who brought in our large wooden back-drop on her truck - and to Martha Sullivan who was overall in charge of everything. The exact money details - profits, etc. - will be reported at the meeting by Martha.

#### Fort Roberdeau Project

Al Burd has been directly involved on this developing outdoor ed facility. Initially the trail system is to be set up with county crews doing the work and our society making the interpretive brochure for the public and schools on field trips, etc. Al has done a lot to help the center and it is hoped that from these beginnings a much used and appreciated facility will evolve - one that all can learn from in an out of doors experience. Being set up right next to the fort it is a natural for anyone visiting to move from one complex to the other. Al will have some interesting comments on all of this work and our group should be involved right on into the future.

#### Audubon Officers

President: Bill Rosevear - RD Box 63A Patton, Pa. 16668  
V-president: At present Bill is acting as president until elections to fill Don Wharton's place. Bill was Vice-president.  
Secretary: Clarie White RD 2 Box 336A Altoona, Pa. 16601 943-4516  
Treasurer: Martha Sullivan 1008 Allegheny St. Hollidaysburg, Pa. 16648

#### Committee Chairpersons:

Conservation: Bill Rosevear Finance: Martha Sullivan 695-0052  
Education: Martha Sullivan Newsletter, Publicity & Christmas Bird  
Social: Claire White Count: John Hunter Orr  
(943-5629)  
Program: Phyllis Uebelacker 620 Walnut Street H-burg; Pa. 16648 695-7175  
Membership: Fran Burgoon RD 2 Hazel Drive H-burg, Pa. 16648

#### Local Conservation Questions

There is a small committee of our members working now on the Bellwood mine drainage problem. Contact Collette Heller who will fill you in and get you in touch with that effort. Her telephone number is 742-7481.

A newer concern is the Mill Run stream as it runs through our area from the reservoir to the Juniata River. Especially bad is the polluted stretch lying within Altoona. Definite health hazards are present there and a group is being formed to take some action on cleaning up. Call John Orr - 943-5629 - if interested.

#### Miscellaneous Notes

1. A senior citizen membership is available with National Audubon. Please contact them when renewing if you want to take advantage of the reduced membership fee.
2. Hawks may be seen now at the Loop fire tower on the road running from Williamsburg over the mountains towards Huntingdon. You have to park the car along the road - there is a small space near the gate - and then walk up a road about 15 minutes to the tower. It is great for the beautiful view and the hawks now flying by. Go between 10:00 and 2:30.

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