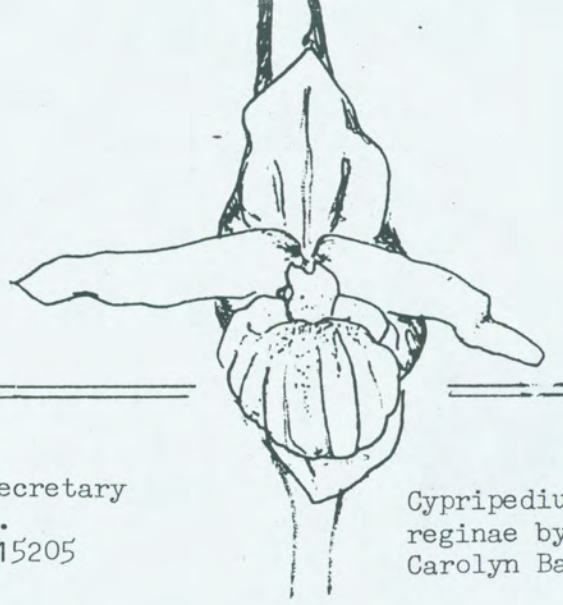


Botanical Society of W. Pa.



Cypripedium
reginae by
Carolyn Bahl

APRIL CALENDAR...AND A LITTLE BIT OF MAY

Saturday, April 5 - We would have had a field trip, but it is the day before Easter.

Saturday, April 12 - Our first field trip of the year... to Beechwood Park in Monroeville. Co-leaders will be Emily Johnson and Dr. Ann Robinson. We expect to see various species of amelanchior, also snow trilliums (snow trillia?)

From Pittsburgh, go east on Business Route 22; go south (right) on Route 48, which is Moss Side Boulevard; at 2nd red light, bear left onto Haymaker Road; go 1.1 miles, and turn left on Old Concord Drive; in 1 short block, turn right on Harvest Drive, which is a dead end street; go to end and park.

Trip starts at 1:30 P.M.

Monday, April 14 - Our monthly meeting at Mellon Bank Auditorium, 5th and Craig, Oakland -- 8:00 P.M.

Chris Metelmann will present a program on Israel. It will include scenic, cultural, and religious aspects of the country as well as its wildflowers.

Thursday through Sunday, April 17-20 - Earth Week at Carnegie Institute. The Botanical Society will be an active participant. At our April 14 meeting, we would like to work out a schedule of members to ~~man~~ person our display.

This will serve as our Saturday field trip.



Saturday, April 26 - Esther Allen will be our leader at North Park. We will be on the trail of epigaea repens.

Meet at the Pie Traynor Ballfield near the swimming pool.

Trip starts at 1:30 P.M.

Saturday, May 3 - A first-time field trip to Wolf Creek, a recent acquisition of the Conservancy. Our leader will be Howard McIlvried. Howard owns property adjacent to the Conservancy lands and is well-acquainted with the area.

From Pittsburgh, go north on 79; at Slippery Rock exit, east on Route 108, toward the town of Slippery Rock; proceed about 1 mile to first crossroad; park here at dairy store.

Trip starts at 1:30 P.M.



WHAT WILDFLOWER WAS NAMED FOR A TOWN?

Here's the answer to Bob Morgan's question in last month's bulletin. It's Jimsonweed, datura stramonium.

You've never heard of the town of Jimson? It's a corruption of Jamestown in Virginia, the first English settlement in America. This plant was particularly abundant in the area, and some of Capt. John Smith's settlers were poisoned by it.

APRIL, 1980

Robert F. Bahl, Secretary
401 Clearview Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15205
921-1797

ERIN GO BRAGH

March and St. Patrick's Day have come and gone, but the controversy over the shamrock's identity is still with us. Steeped in folklore, it will probably never be known for sure which plant is meant by the name shamrock, for species in Medicago, Trifolium, and Oxalis have all been so designated. Also, it is not known whether St. Patrick chose a shamrock-like plant as the symbol of the Trinity; although we do know that it, and not the harp, is the national emblem of Ireland. It is also not generally known that the four-leaved clover, being a mutant, will not come true from seed, but must be propagated by cuttings. The true clover is three-leaved, and its association with the Trinity is therefore quite clear.

(Maxim E. Armbruster)



WHEELING CREEK WATERSHED PROJECT

Our member, Robert L. Buckbee, is down in Florida right now, but he has informed us that he will be back in Wind Ridge on April 9.

He is very much concerned about the proposed Wheeling Creek Watershed Project, which would result in the destruction of two high quality streams, Enlow Forks and Dunkard Forks and ~~Dunkard Forks~~. He enclosed a brochure put out by ARC - Association for Rural Conservation. We reprint the portion of the brochure that tells about the botany of the area--

TREASURE OF WILDFLOWERS The valleys to be flooded contain a profuse aggregation of native wildflowers. In Enlow Fork Valley, as many as 26 different plants are found blooming in the spring. Cascades of flowers cover the steep slopes, carpets of Blue-Eyed Marys spread over the valley, and mantels of trillium drape the woodlands. The twin-leaf is generally found in clusters, but in Enlow Valley it grows by the acre. Other uncommon plants such as the twayblade, one-flowered conner-root, golden-seal, and netted chain-fern are found within the proposed floodpool on Dunkard Fork. In the face of increasing developments and industrialization in Western Pennsylvania, such areas are becoming rare. Their preservation alone offers enough incentive to prevent the irreversible destruction that would result from construction of the dams.



TOWNS NAMED FOR WILDFLOWERS

Anne Bahl has suggested two more towns with botanical names --

AMARANTH, PA.
MAGNOLIA, DEL.

She passed through both of them on a recent trip east.



JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE

We bring this up now because of Chris Metelmann's forthcoming program on Israel.

Helianthus tuberosus is not an artichoke and is not a native of the Holy Land. The name is derived from the Italian word "girasole", which translates "turning to the sun". The pronunciation is very close to Jerusalem.