

Wildflowers

THE BULLETIN OF THE
BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.



NOVEMBER MEETING

Our next meeting will be Monday, November 9*, at 8:00 P.M....at our usual place, Trinity Hall, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Ave., Oakland.

Paul M. Brown will present a program on "Alpine Wildflowers".



*That's Anne's birthday....but please don't bring any cake to the meeting. We'll be down Mexico way looking for orchids.



PENNSYLVANIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

The third annual meeting of the PaNPS will be held at:

H. R. Stackhouse Training School
Bellefonte, Pa.
November 14, 1987
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

The purpose of the meeting is to exchange ideas and information about rare plants in Pennsylvania. All species presently on the Plants of Special Concern in Pennsylvania (POSCIP) List will be evaluated, and additions, deletions, or changes made.

The afternoon and evening of the 13th will be given to informal discussions, socializing, and whatever. If you have some photographs of interesting field work, rare plants, or just good pictures, bring them along. There will be a projector and screen.

For those coming on the 13th, there will be a limited number of rooms available at the Stackhouse Center. Cost is 10.00/person/night. This will be on a first come first served basis. If you want to stay at the Stackhouse, please call Paul Wiegman at 412-288-2774 before November 11.

Call Paul, too, if you need directions or any other information...also to reserve a \$4.00 lunch on the 14th.

Anne and I have wanted to go to these meetings, but again this year we shall be away. It would be nice to have the Botanical Society represented. Anybody interested?



WILDFLOWER CALENDAR

My 1988 Western Pennsylvania Conservancy Wildflower Calendar was in the morning's mail. This one is special. It features previously unpublished watercolors of Andrey Avinoff, a Russian-born artist and scientist, who was director of the Carnegie Museum from 1926 to 1945.

In 1940-41, Avinoff worked with Otto Jennings, Secretary of our Botanical Society, to record the wildflowers of Western Pennsylvania.

You can get a copy of this calendar for \$6.00. Order it from Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, P.O. Box R, Mill Run, PA 15464. A better idea! Join the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Members have been receiving these valuable calendars every year for the past 10 years.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY MEMBERS

We invite all members to submit illustrations for Wildflowers. Size doesn't matter; we can always reduce to fit. Use any medium. We point out that pencil drawings should be done with firm, dark lines. Thin lines and fine shading are lost in reproduction.

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(412)921-1797

NOVEMBER
1987

Our 102nd Year

SOLIDAGO ALTISSIMA

Tall Goldenrod was sketched by Sister Constance Bahl at Touchstone this September.



SEPTEMBER 19 FIELD TRIP - CEDAR CREEK PARK

This was a most interesting trip - with some rare sightings & not just of flowers. As we walked along the bank of the Youghiogheny, a Great Blue Heron flew up & headed upstream, turned & flew back past us. It was bluer than any other Gr. Bl. Heron that I have ever seen.

As we walked along the RR tracks we saw many blue lobelia, yellow jewelweed, white snakeroot & goldenrod. Mark showed us an aconitum flower growing on a steep bank with the Yough lapping at the bottom of the hill - a good fast current here. Two of us scrambled & slithered down to get pictures. We found a white lobelia growing in the shallow ditch along the tracks - first time seen by many of us. There were lots of bur cucumbers flourishing. Their fruit, if gilded, would make handsome Christmas tree ornaments. We also saw eclipta growing on the very shore of the river. It is a dainty little composite.

There were many fungi growing on the steep, slippery trails above the tracks - coral, hickory-nut, brown cup, dead man's fingers & one white fungus which looked orange because of another fungus growing on it. It surely helps to have Esther along to identify these strange mushrooms. Virginia & Ruth are also very knowledgeable about fungus.

6 members, including our excellent leader, Mark Bowers, enjoyed the outing.

- Ede Mock



SEPTEMBER 26 FIELD TRIP - ROCK POINT PARK

The road to Rock Point Park passes through the most scenic, peaceful farm country that we have seen this summer.

We met at Mr. Nasta's home & he showed us the great collection of poultry that he raises - including rare peacocks, doves, geese, ducks & chickens.

Lavender & white asters & wreath goldenrod were about the only flowers that we saw at this once very elaborate & popular park.

The buildings are long gone, but foundations & some old stone stairways can still be seen. Mr. Nasta's family now own the land & visitors must get permission to hike on it. The trails through the woods & by the Conne. Creek show the effects of its glacial past - huge boulders & precariously balanced rocks.

Mr. Shilling told us about the people who once visited this park - among them Presidents Garfield & Zach. Taylor. The Beaver River was a part of the Pgh.-Erie Canal. Visitors to the park came by rail, water or buggy (hacks). A fascinating, nostalgic glimpse of the past!

This would be a great place to hike during the last week of April to see the many & varied spring wildflowers.

Our thanks to Mr. Nasta, Mr. Shilling, & Priscilla Stoughton.

- Ede Mock