

Wildflowers

THE BULLETIN OF THE
BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.

OCTOBER MEETING

The October meeting will be on Monday, the tenth at 8:00 P.M. at our usual location -- Trinity Hall, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland. Free, safe parking.

Dan Paterak, the orchid florist at Phipps Conservatory, will give the program, "Potpourri of Orchids for Homegrowers". Dan has been growing orchids for many years. His plants are outstanding and prize-winning. His techniques are innovative and successful.

SLIDE SELECTION MEETINGS

All members are invited to participate in our slide selection sessions. Help pick the illustrations for our book, "Wildflowers of Pennsylvania".

We meet at Trinity Hall, Carlow Campus. Here is October's schedule -- starting time 7 P.M. --

Tuesday, October 4
Tuesday, October 18
Thursday, October 27

We need one more participant. All these tie votes are driving Dr. Mary Joy batty.

If you wish to know which families we will be judging on any particular night, call Bob Bahl at (412)921-1797.

FIELD TRIPS

Our field trips are finished for the year. Once again our chairman, Esther Allen, has done an outstanding job. If we were scoring for the Olymoics, we would give her a 10.0!

FT. NECESSITY PRAISES

The folks at Ft. Necessity still appreciate the wildflower project we did for them.....

August 15, 1988

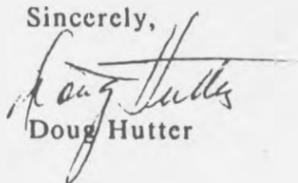
Mrs. Esther Allen
107 Idaway Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Dear Esther, Hersch, Laura, and members of the Botanical Society,

We were delighted to attend your field trip to the Markleysburg Bog last week. Thanks to Hersch's attention to detail and persistence, we added three new plants to our master plant list at Fort Necessity. I was extremely happy to hear Hersch confirm my previous identification of mountain oat grass, *Danthonia compressa*. The abundance of *D. compressa* in our one-acre deer enclosure may be chemically inhibiting tree regeneration in our fallow fields surrounding the historic core.

And your other contributions are not going unnoticed. For example, we have prepared a display of the color prints of wildflowers taken by several members. In addition, a graduate student from Penn State studied and continues to study the survey conducted by you in 1985. Our thanks continue to be extended to you for your time and professionalism.

Sincerely,



Doug Hutter

MONET HAD TO START, TOO

At an Elderhostel program on Jekyll Is., GA., one of the courses was on Water Colors. Neither Anne nor I had ever done anything in water colors, but we gave it a shot any way.

On the way down through South Carolina, we came across a stand of beautiful Yellow Fringed Orchis..... in a ditch right along the highway.....so I chose the Yellow Fringed Orchis for my first subject.

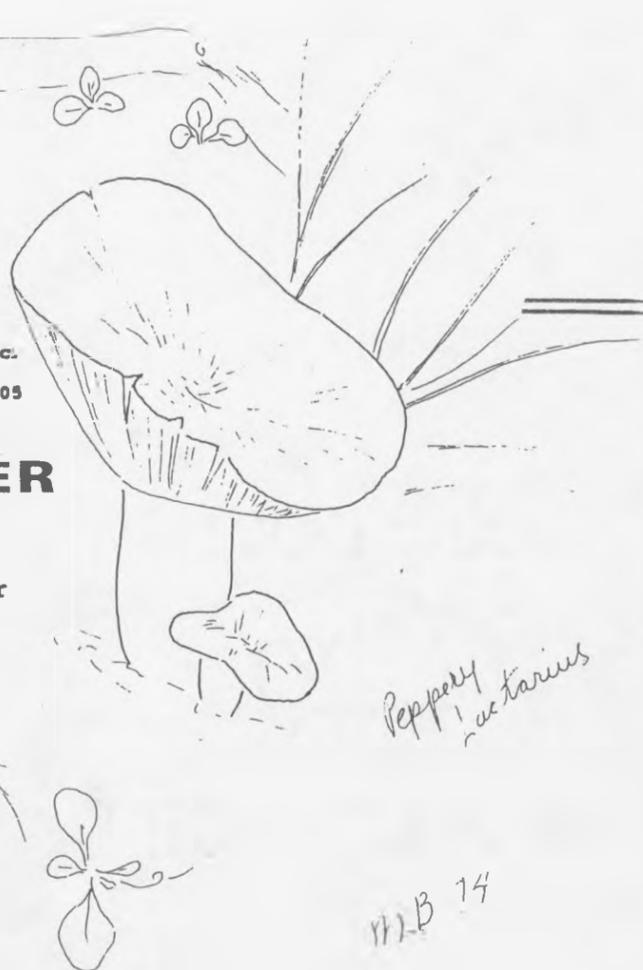
I thought I had done a pretty good job on it. The instructor thought so, too. She said it was a very good rendering of Joe-Pye-Weed. Ouch!

Robert F. Bahl, Sec.
401 Clearview Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412)921-1797

OCTOBER

1988

Our 102nd Year



Peppery
Lactarius

112-B 74

LACTARIUS PIPERATUS

The sketch of the Peppery Lactarius was made by our member, Mary Lou Brown.

EDE MOCK WINS AGAIN

For the third year in a row, Ede Mock is a prize winner in the AGWAY Magazine photo contest. She has received an award check for \$25.00, and her winning slide, "Geese Flying", will be published in the magazine some time in 1989.

HUNT EXHIBIT

Hunt Botanical Library, on the Carnegie Mellon campus, will host a traveling show of prints from the Kew Gardens collection of Curtis Botanical Magazine, which is celebrating its 200th anniversary. These are the original plates.

This show will open on October 13 and will extend until December 16. It is open to the public. Hours are from 8:30 AM to noon and 1:00 PM to 5:00 pm on weekdays.

GO WEST, YOUNG LADY

Virginia Phelps has just returned after botanizing for 29 days in our western states. She visited -- among other places -- Petrified Forest, Zion, Bryce Canyon, north and south rims of Grand Canyon, and Colorado National Monument. She was not alone. She had her two cats with her.

STACEY MOCK

On our way to an Elderhostel on Jekyll Island, Anne and I had the opportunity to visit with Stacey Mock. Stacey is at the Federal Law Enforcement Training School in Glynco, Georgia, where she is preparing for her position with the Border Patrol.

FIELD TRIP REPORT - AUGUST 27 - CEDAR CREEK PARK

Mark Bowers led us on a most remarkable trip. We saw many aconitum (monkshood) - the unusually shaped flowers in muted shades of blue & lavender. This vine-like plant was growing on very steep hillsides along the Yough. Last year we saw just one plant, so we were in luck this time. Also, close to the river were monkeyflowers, scarlet lobelia, ditch-stonecrop - and wild sunflowers & green headed cone-flowers, which also grew along the railroad track. A very special sighting was of the small green heron. Last year we saw the great blue heron.

I checked out the odors of flowers - up above, near the tracks. Loveliest fragrance was from evening primrose, Bouncing Bet & Virgin's bower, with hairy wood-mint giving off a refreshing aroma. The delicate lavender knapweed smelled of autumn. Blue lobelia was very prevalent in the roadside ditches and contrasted with the goldenrods.

Bob found a baby ribbon snake & we all examined it closely before setting it free. The northern poinsettia, lanceolate euphorbia, was a surprising find.

- Ede Mock