

Wildflowers

NOVEMBER
1990

THE BULLETIN OF THE
BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.

NOVEMBER MEETING

Our next meeting will be Monday, November 12, at 8 P.M. at Trinity Hall, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland.

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



Scott Shriver, our Field Trip Chairman for the past two years, will give the program on his favorite topic, "Pennsylvania's Wild Orchids".

Scott considers himself an "orchid freak" - one among many in our Society. Currently, he is working on his Master's degree. The subject of his thesis, as you would expect, is "Wild Orchids".

Now, take a look at the sketch of *Platanthera psycodes*, by Katya Davis. Katya's original drawing measured 9½" high. We have reduced it to postage stamp size, yet it still retains every detail.

A DAY IN JUNE

We welcome Ede Mock's reports on our field trips. We can't always print them immediately, but we never throw them away. So, better late than never, we print this even though it is 4½ months after the event.

June 16, 1990 Wildflower Reserve Raccoon Creek Park

What a great day to be out hiking in the woods along a ledge overlooking Raccoon Creek! The T wasn't in the 90's here - at least we didn't notice it.

A very special find were white violets in bloom - in the middle of June! These short stemmed violets were growing on a stout branch. The large yellow wood sorrel were blooming - growing right next to the trail. They are such very delicate looking plants.

At one place along the trail - the rock formation looked just like the core of an extinct volcano. Wouldn't that have been a great find!

The twelve people enjoying the hike were very observant & knowledgeable. Some of them noticed the corms of the Dutchman's breeches and of squirrel corn. And how would any one fail to appreciate the deep fire-red of the Indian pinks that we saw. We kept a lookout for the fungus too. The amethyst laccaria was examined minutely by every one - we did everything but take a bite out of it. Most of us had never seen the Indian pipes in the formulative stage before. There is a marvelous poem that goes with this saprophyte. The tan coral fungus were fresh and attractive. We saw a ring of small immature fungus surrounding a very large oak tree.

It was good to see new people along on the hike. Also those who don't come very often.

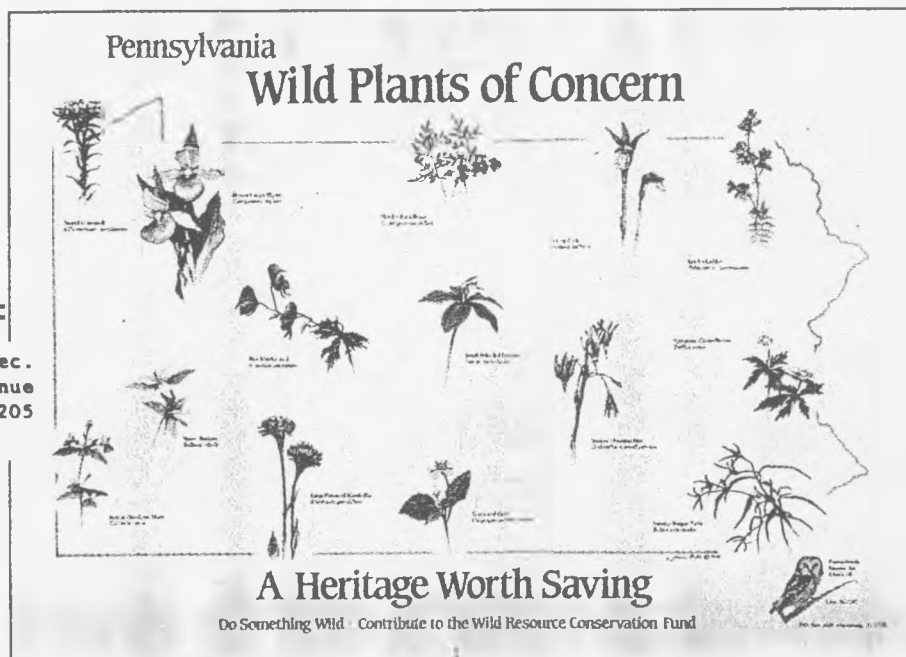
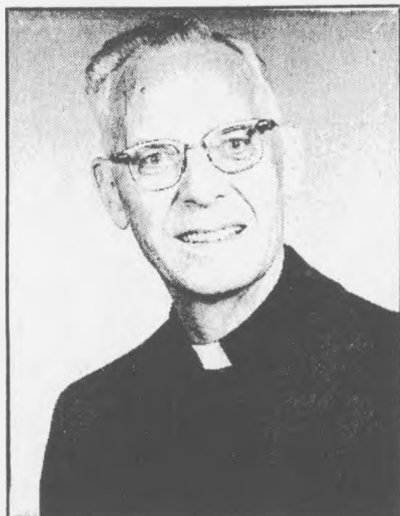
What is so rare as a day in June! Especially on a Hike with Botanical Society people.

Virginia Craig was our experienced leader.

- Ede Mock

FATHER MAX DUMAN

Rev. Maximilian G. Duman, O.S.B., for many years a member of our Botanical Society, died suddenly on October 9. Father Max was an internationally recognized Arctic explorer and botanist and former St. Vincent College president. He was 84. We particularly remember the program he gave for the Botanical Society at our June 7, 1987 meeting. His subject was "Flora of the Arctic."



PENNSYLVANIA WILD PLANTS OF CONCERN

Our member-artist this month is Jean Stull of Waterford, PA. Jean was commissioned by the Pennsylvania Wild Resources Conservation Fund to do the illustrations on its 1990 poster depicting rare and endangered plants.

The poster shows:

- Hispid Gromwell - *Lithospermum carolinense*
- Showy Lady's Slipper - *Cypripedium reginae*
- Spring Blue-Eyed Mary - *Collinsia verna*
- Large-Flowered Marshallia - *Marshallia grandiflora*
- Blue Monkshood - *Aconitum uncinatum*
- Small-Whorled Pogonia - *Isotria medeoloides*
- Green-and-Gold - *Chrysogonum virginianum*
- Slender Rock-Brake - *Cryptogamma stelleri*
- Swamp-Pink - *Arethusa bulbosa*
- Jeweled Shooting-Star - *Dodecatheon amethystinum*
- Jacob's-Ladder - *Polemonium vanbruntiae*
- Spreading Globe-Flower - *Trollius laxus*
- Swamp Beggar-Ticks - *Bidens bidentoides*
- Snow Trillium - *Trillium nivale*

For a \$5 contribution to cover postage and handling, you will receive this full color (20"x28") poster containing Pennsylvania's native wild plants of special concern and a copy of "Keystone Wild Notes", the newsletter of the "Fund". Your name will also be put on the mailing list of the "Fund". Add \$1 for an unfolded poster.

Please send all correspondence concerning the posters and "Keystone Wild Notes" to:

Wild Resource Conservation Fund
P.O. Box 1467
Room 101, 3rd & Reily Streets
Harrisburg, PA 17120

PROGRESS REPORT ON "WILDFLOWERS OF PENNSYLVANIA"

Several significant advances have been made by the committee in charge of preparing the book, Wildflowers of Pennsylvania. We have selected over 600 slides from which illustrations will be made. The selection process is not yet completed, since we lack publication quality slides for a number of plants we want included. Writing of botanical descriptions for each plant illustrated has commenced and it is anticipated that the writing will be completed in the next four months. We have made tentative arrangements with the University of Pittsburgh Press to publish the book, and we have an editor, Marcia Bonta, who will oversee the present phase of preparation. Phyllis Monk will serve as liaison between our committee and the editor and publisher. As this project progresses more updates will appear.

- Phyllis Monk

PUBLICATION MEETING

The next meeting on our publication is scheduled for 7 P.M. Wednesday, November 14, at Carlow College. All members are invited.

HOLIDAY FLOWER SHOW AT PHIPPS

New dates this year for Phipps Conservatory's Holiday Flower Show - from Friday, November 23 (day after Thanksgiving) through Tuesday, January 8.

- Anne Bahl