

Wildflowers

THE BULLETIN OF THE
BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.

December 1990



WILD PARTY

I'm sure that wild parties are frowned upon on the Carlow Campus, but this one is different.

Our December meeting, Monday the 10th at 8 P.M., will be our traditional wild Christmas party. We enjoy all sorts of things from the wild -- fruits, berries, nuts, mushrooms -- in pies, cookies, candies, jellies, beverages, etc. -- brought in by the members.

HOWEVER...and I have been asked to put this in the bulletin...don't stay away if you have nothing to bring. There is always enough to go around.

This year we again combine Members' Night with our Christmas party. Each member brings up to twelve botanical slides taken during the past year.



The party will be held at Aquinas Hall on the Carlow College Campus, just a little down from our usual meeting place, which is Trinity Hall.

ELECTIONS

At the December meeting, we elect Botanical Society officers for 1991.

100 YEARS AGO

We clipped this from the November 14 edition of the Pittsburgh Press --

IT HAPPENED

November 14

25 YEARS AGO (1965)

The state Bureau of Traffic Safety announced plans to lease 200 billboards to urge motorists to "See Pennsylvania First." The Pennsylvania Roadside Council opposed the idea, claiming drivers couldn't see Pennsylvania through the billboards.

50 YEARS AGO (1940)

The Pittsburgh Building Trades Council broke a no-strike pledge with the city Housing Authority and 1,350 workers walked off their jobs at the Terrace Village housing project over a jurisdictional dispute between plumbers and general laborers.

100 YEARS AGO (1890)

The Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania applied for a charter in Common Pleas Court. The purpose of the society was to maintain a botanical library and collection and promote the study of botany.

Compiled by Rich Gigler

BY ANY OTHER NAME

I heard on the radio that some botanist (?) in Texas wants to name one of our yellow violets for Stormie Jones.

Re-name our bridges, highways and buildings if you wish, but when it comes to the name of a wildflower, let it be . . . let it be . . . let it be.

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

POLYSTICHUM ACROSTICHOIDES

This ceramic plate, actual size about 10½", features several ferns, the second left and far right being the Christmas Fern. It was made by Sister Constance Bahl at Touchstone Center for Crafts.

The plate was decorated by using a process called Raku stenciling. Raku is an Oriental technique for firing pottery. It involves removing the hot pottery from the kiln and immediately sealing it in a chamber with combustible material. The stenciling technique was developed by a Pittsburgh artist, Jerry Caplan. This involves drawing a picture in a moist clay stencil that covers the top surface of a bisqued plate. The design is then transferred to the plate by the smoke that results from the firing process.



PUBLICATION MEETING

The next meeting on our book, "Wildflowers of Pennsylvania", will be Thursday, December 13 at 7 P.M., at Carlow's Trinity Hall as usual. All members are welcome. We would like to see some new faces.



CARNEGIE MUSEUM WILDFLOWER SLIDE COLLECTION

Due to the dedicated volunteer efforts of Herb Brueschke, the photographic slide collection of plants housed in the Section of Botany, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, is now organized alphabetically by plant family and scientific name. This collection contains photos from around the world as well as from Pennsylvania. Slides may be borrowed by Botanical Society members who are giving wildflower talks; call Section of Botany (622-3253) to make arrangements. We also welcome any donations of plant slides -- talk to Herb or Sue Thompson.

- Sue Thompson



1991 DUES ARE DUE

Bring your application and check to the December meeting. If you can't make the meeting, mail them to our Treasurer:

Walter J. Gardill
P. O. Box 226 Grosick Rd.
Ingomar, PA 15127

Please do not mail these applications to the Secretary. It just means an extra postage stamp, because I just send them right to Walter.

If you save your copies of Wildflowers and do not wish to cut out the form, that's O.K. Just put the information on a separate piece of paper.

Application for Membership in BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA	
Name	_____
Name	_____
Address	_____
Phone	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Single, \$5
<input type="checkbox"/> New Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Family, \$8
	<input type="checkbox"/> Student, \$2.50