JUNE 1991

WILDFLOWERS
THE BULLETIN OF THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.

JUNE MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 10, at 8 P.M. in Trinity Hall, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland.

Dr. Jerry Chmielewski will speak on Arctic ecosystems and Antennaria (Pussy-toes).

There will be no meetings for July and August.

FIELD TRIPS

June 1 - No hike scheduled.
June 8 - TITUS BOG, HELL’S 8-ACRE BOG, AND TOPLOVICH BOG, ERIE AND WARREN COUNTIES, PA.
Leader: Esther Allen
Start Time: 12:00 Noon
Refer to May issue of “Wildflowers”.
June 15 - No hike scheduled.
June 22 - WATTSBURG AND BOLERATZ BOGS, ERIE CTY, PA.
Leaders: Jim and Jean Stull
Start Time: 12:00 Noon
Directions: Take 1-79 North and Rt. 6 East. After 8 P.M. in Trinity Hall, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland.

Roberta F. Buhl, Inc.
401 Cloughac Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412) 937-1971

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CHRYSATHEMUM LEUCANTHEMUM

The sketch of the Ox-eye Daisy was made by our member, Tammy Watychowicz.

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MAY 11 '91 FIELD TRIP TO SHALE BARRENS

It was a great day to see the wild flowers. The fantastic display started on Pa. 79. Deep purple (almost royal purple) Dame’s Rockets, daisies - Shasta I believe - wall flowers - a striking orange and a form of blue flax. We owe a debt of gratitude to Lady Bird Johnson for originating the idea of planting the wild flowers along the highways - in different states. It was a great idea & what a visual delight to all driving past.

We found Pa. pink (almost white in color), growing on the steep hillsides at the Shale Barrens - just as it does in Pa. It had adapted well to this location - just as it did in Pa. There were a few purple violets in bloom. The cinquefoil was fresh looking, as if the buds had just opened. It is always good to see the Aquilegia - these were the red and yellow variety. Among all the other flowers were the petals of the prickly pear cactus. The groundsel was nearly finished and there were seed fluffs on the pussy toes.

We even saw an Indigo Bunting - a jewel of a bird!

There were lots of nut trees - either black walnut or butternut. It is difficult to tell one from another unless you see the nuts or cut open twigs. There were a few bird’s foot violets - my favorite - but very small. The whole area looked as if it could use a good soaking rain.

We found some penstemon & small-flowered phacelia - pale lavender in color. The reindeer lichen was very dry - just laying on the ground, not rooted. Kate’s Mt. clover was a first sighting for many of us - such a minute endemic plant! The yellow sour grass looked healthier than most of the other plants.

Our thanks to Doug and Clete Smith for leading us on this rewarding hike. It always takes one or two pre-scouting trips to have a successful hike for the group.

Ede Mock

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we report the death of our member, HELEN DOMITROVICH, of Allegheny on May 22, 1991. We extend our sympathies to her husband, Joe, and to all her near and dear ones.

NATURAL WALKS AT BRADYS RUN PARK

I am still, I think, a member in good standing of Botanical Society. Rex and I have not been attending, mostly because we are giving our feet a pounding, taking lessons in, and going to DANCE - ballroom, that is.

However here is something we can get to because it is a park just ten minutes away from our house: THE BEAVER GARDEN CLUB AND THE GENEVA COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY will sponsor several nature walks through BRADY’S RUN PARK, Brighton Township, April 28 through Oct. 20. The walks are an interpretative program. All programs will begin at Shelter 6, except for those on June 9 and Aug. 11, which will begin at the Arena (ice parking lot).

Schedule is: 2 pm, April 28; 8 am, May 11; 2 pm, May 26; 2 pm, June 9; 2 pm, June 23; 8 am, July 13; 2 pm, July 28; 2 pm, Aug. 11; 2 pm, Aug. 25 (Insects); 2pm, Sept. 8 (Late Flowers); 2 pm, Sept. 22 (Photography); 2 pm, Oct. 20. Rain date for each activity is the following week. A “Hike in the Winter Woods” will be at 2 pm, Feb. 9, 1992.

I’d love to see all of you again at some of these walks. Right now, you can see all the spring wild-flowers of our region just driving through - trout lily and bloodroot by walking one block from the car.

Sabina Hilzer Walsh (April 95, 1991)

REPORT ON SWERTIA

Virginia Phelps tells us that there will be four blooming stalks of Swertia caroliniensis at Jennings this year. Normal blooming time is June 10 to 25.