

# Wildflowers

THE BULLETIN OF THE  
BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.

## 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 14th 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.



In the way of scientific research, there will be an exploration of the efficaciousness of Phoradendron flavescens as an osculatory stimulus. Purely fanciful mental absorption!

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.

Note: We are going to miss Edie Mock and her wild fruit beverages.



## 1993 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	_____
Renewal	Single, \$5
	Family, \$8
New Membership	Student, \$2.50

## DECEMBER 1992

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



## PSORALEA ONOBRYCHIS

For our December "Wildflowers", we always use a plant with a Christmas connection. This year our plant, sainfoin, has a double linkage.

The species name in Psoralea onobrychos means the bray of a donkey (Greek OVOS = an ass; βρυχω = to bray). A reference to the donkey in the manger?

The common name of sainfoin (sometimes saintfoin) means holy clover, because it was said to have been the hay in Christ's manger.

Now this is how a non-artist made this sketch: last July, I took a slide of sainfoin in a prairie in central Ohio. I projected the slide in a table viewer with a sheet of Saran wrap taped to the viewer. Then I traced the outline on the Saran with a permanent pen. A photoprint was made. I finished the sketch, and had a reduction made.

R. F. Bahl



## RANGER JOHN MANKA

Tim Manka's brother, John, has moved from Glacier Bay National Park in Alaska to Everglades National Park. If you get to Florida this winter, look him up.



## A WEIGHTY MATTER

The Postal Service has advised us that the maximum weight per piece for bulk mail (such as we use for this bulletin) has been lowered from 3.3367 ounces to 3.3363 ounces. That's a change of four ten-thousandths of an ounce.

So, if we use a comma in place of a semicolon, we are just watching our weight.

## AN ANNIVERSARY



Five years ago, I was on the verge of elevating a batch of Chrysanthemum leucanthemum. I had had a quadruple by-pass followed ten days later by gall bladder surgery, and it was imperative that I not sink into unconsciousness. My dear wife was desperately trying to keep me awake by asking me the botanic names of wildflowers. I didn't even know where I was, but I could remember that bluebells of Scotland was Campanula rotundifolia.

Even though I was out of it, our monthly issue of "Wildflowers" came out on schedule -- put out by my wonderful wife and daughters.



## CANDLELIGHT EVENINGS AT PHIPPS

Add brightness and beauty to a long December evening - visit Phipps Conservatory on a Candlelight Evening. There will be soft candlelight, sparkling trees, music in all the rooms, and light refreshments.

6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Dec. 4, 11, 18, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and Jan. 2  
Admission: Adults \$5.50, Children \$3.00

Candlelight Evenings are part of the Winter Flower Show, which extends from Nov. 27 through Jan. 10.

- Anne Bahl

A MERRY CHRISTMAS, A HAPPY HANUKKAH TO ALL