MAY MEETING

Our May meeting will be Monday, May 9, 8:00 P.M., at our usual meeting place, Trinity Hall, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland.

The speaker will be Regina Bircham, Associate Professor at Seton Hill College. Her subject will be—

ALGAE: MORE THAN JUST POND SCUM

MAY FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

May 7, 1994—Fort Hill Reserve, West Virginia Shale Barrens, Mineral Co., WV; Allegany Co., MD
Starting Time: 11:30 A.M. Fort Hill Reserve
1:30 P.M. Shale Barrens
Leaders: Esther Allen, Jeanne Poremski
Directions: From Pgh. take Rt. 30 east to Ligonier. Two miles east turn right onto Rt. 381. Travel 2.5 miles to Rector, where you turn left to Linn Run State Park.
Expectations: We will see a large stand of Whorled Pogonia (Ophionia undulatum). We warned that this involves a very steep and arduous climb.

May 14, 1994—Raccoon Creek Area
Starting Time: 1:00 P.M.
Leader: Tom Pearson, Don Koch
Directions: Drive 7.5 miles to the top—Laurel Ridge St. Pk.—where we will meet at the picnic pavilion.
Expectations: We should enjoy Painted Trillium (Trillium undulatum), Yellow Clintsom (Clethra leucophylla), Starflower (Tolentino lutea), and Dwarf Ginseng (Panax trifolium) among many, many others.

May 21, 1994—Wolf Rocks, Laurel Ridge State Park, Westmoreland Co., PA
Starting Time: 1:00 P.M.
Leader: Esther Allen
Directions: Drive approximately 7 miles west of Imperial on Rt. 30. Meet in the parking lot of the Wildflower Reserve in Mineral Co. at 1:30.
Expectations: On this new hike we will see White Valerian, Clintonia utile (Clintonia loxealis), and Hawkweed (Asimina triloba).

May 28, 1994—Little Sewickley Creek Valley, Westmoreland Co., PA
Starting Time: 1:00 P.M.
Leaders: Tom Pearson, Don Koch
Directions: Meet in the parking lot on the right at the Irwin exit of the Turnpike. Expectations: On this hike we will see White Valerian, Green Dragon (Clematis vitalba), and Zizia (Zizia miraculous), and a grove of Pawpaws (Asimina triloba).

Jeanne Poremski — 412-343-6546

ARTICLES FROM MEMBERS

We welcome articles from members. We'll try our best to include in Wildflowers any notices in a timely fashion. Lately, some announcements have arrived after the bulletin was already at the printer, and there is no point in putting anything in the next month’s issue, because the event is then past history.

Deadline is the 15th of the month — in my hands!

Nature—Rare Fern Visited at Elborado by Max Henrici

Reviewing his outstanding botanical experiences of the year, W. E. Baker, of 2833 Oswego St., heads the list of anyone's garden. Although none are guaran-
teed, they will bloom for years if handled properly.

The last opportunity to buy bulbs and plants used in the Spring Show is Saturday, April 23, 9-11 A.M., or until all are sold. Bulbs and plants are bagged and will be outside the entrance to the Conservatory. Although none are guaran-
teed, they will bloom for years if handled properly.

Phipps’ annual plant sale, with a wide variety of plants and accessories for your garden, and for gifts, will be on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 6, 7, 8 (Mother’s Day weekend). The sale will be on the lawn in front of the Conservatory.

Anne Bahl

Robert F. Buhl, Sec., 401 Clearview Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15205 (412) 971-1979

AGARUM CANADENSE

The sketch of Wild Ginger was made by our member, Tammy Watychowicz.

STATE PARKS MAGAZINE

Thanks to Esther Allen, we have this information on a free subscription to Pennsylvania State Parks Magazine, Pittsburg, PA 17105-8851. Phone 1-800-63PARKS to subscribe.

14 LETTERS & CONSORANTS

Anne Bahl presents this poser, "Can you come up with a botanical word that has 14 letters, but only 4 consonants?"

Answer in next month’s wildflowers.

MAX HENRICI ARTICLES

A long time ago, Paul Brown sent us a batch of wildflower articles written by Max Henrici for the old Sun-Telegraph. We printed one, and have been looking ever since for space for another. These articles aren’t dated, but we estimate that they must be at least 50 years old.

In several States

By following the directions which had been published, I was able to locate it in several states, notably in Michigan and Iowa. In the former it was growing beneath a pine tree, on large rocks at the base of a steep rise in the latter it was on a northern facing rock slide of limestone, which was peculiar in breaking up under the action of the frost to form a number of small angular blocks.

One Thursday in September, 1941, a letter came from Miss Elsie D. Canan, of Johnstown, Pa., enclosing a bit of a fern friend. She wrote that she had been first ob-
served by Miss Katherine Schneider, of Altoona, as early as 1895, but in prehode the likelihood of vandalism, no general announcement of it was made. For the specimen seemed to agree with the book description of the Limestone Oak Fern but no one had ever suspected that it would be found in central Pennsylvania, hundreds of miles from any other park.

Drove to Altoona

"A telegram was immedi-
ately dispatched, and on Sat-
urday I drove to Altoona and we went out to see the occur-
te. There was no doubt about it. The fern was exactly like that I had studied in the more northerly and western states; and curiously enough, it was growing on a limestone rock slide of the same character as that in Iowa."

Where did it get there?

Were the spores blown by a hurricane the 450 miles from the nearest known station in Douglas County, Michigan? Or are there intermediate sta-
tions, not yet discovered? Who can say?"