

Wildflowers

JUNE, 1996

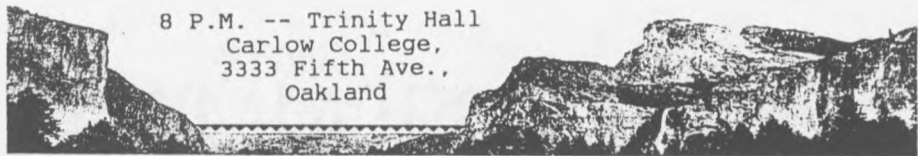
THE BULLETIN OF THE
BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.

JUNE MEETING

Our next meeting will be Monday, June 10. Phyllis Monk will present "Wildflowers of Yosemite and the Sierras." It will include Sequoia and Kings Canyon Parks.

Phyllis and Billy had hoped to see Yosemite for their 5th wedding anniversary. They made it 40 years later.

8 P.M. -- Trinity Hall
Carlow College,
3333 Fifth Ave.,
Oakland



FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

June 1, 1996--Ferncliff Peninsula, Ohioyle St. Pk., Fayette Cty.
Starting Time: 1:00 P.M.

Leader: Loree Speedy

Directions: From Pgh., take the Turnpike east to Donegal exit. Turn left onto Rte. 31 East. After 2 miles, turn right onto Rte. 381/711. Travel 18.5 miles south into the town of Ohioyle. After crossing the railroad tracks, park in the Ferncliff parking area on the right.

June 8, 1996--Titus Bog, Erie County

Starting Time: 1:00 P.M.

Leader: Jeanne Poremski

Directions: From Pgh., take I-79 north to Rt. 6N (Edinboro exit); exit and drive east on 6N through Union City. After taking the turn out of Union City, drive 5.7 miles to the intersection of Rt. 89 North, where we will meet at the Blatt Brothers Drive-in Theatre on the left. **** We can expect to see orchids--arethusa, rose pogonia--buckbean, pitcher plant, and sundew. Plan on getting wet to the knees and climbing over tree trunks. **** This is our own bog, jointly owned by the Botanical Society and the Presque Isle Audubon Society.

June 15, 1996--Jennings Prairie

Starting Time: 1 P.M.

Directions: Take I-79 North, Rte. 422 East, and Rte. 528 North to Jennings (7.4 miles). Meet at the Blazing Star parking area across from the Nature Center. We don't want to miss Virginia's monument plants.

June 22, 1996--Wattsburg Fen

Starting Time: 1 P.M.

Directions: Take I-79 North and Route 6 east. After passing through Union City, turn left on Rt. 89N and proceed about 2 miles. We will meet across from the bog in a parking area just beyond some farm buildings on the left side of the road. We will enter bog by crossing a guardrail and descending a slight grade. Be prepared to walk in wet sphagnum mud holes.

Loree Speedy



FIELD TRIPS

Due to employment opportunities, Scott Speedy is unable to coordinate field trips for the rest of the summer. Leaders are needed for July and September. Please call Jeanne Poremski at 343-6546 or Loree Speedy at 521-9425.

Loree Speedy



ERYTHRONIUM AMERICANUM

"When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host of golden daffodils"

Even though they resembled something from "Dr. Zhivago", I knew they couldn't be daffodils. The whole hillside was covered with yellow flowers, thousands of them, but what were they? Dandelions? No! I was in the car. I turned around and parked in a "No Parking" zone.

I was flabbergasted when I checked them out and realized I was looking at several acres of *yellow trout lilies*.

Where was this amazing display? Was it two hundred miles away in some pristine wilderness? Would you believe it was within the city limits?

From Saw Mill Run Boulevard, take Woodruff Ave. toward Mt. Washington. To your left going up Woodruff Ave. is a very steep wooded hillside. That is where they are, all over the place.

The trout lilies were fully in bloom on April 22. I didn't have my camera with me, and I was leaving for Philadelphia the next morning, so I couldn't go back to get a photograph.

Deo volente, I'll be there next April...with my camera.

Bob Bahl



CYPRIPEDIUM CALCEOLUS

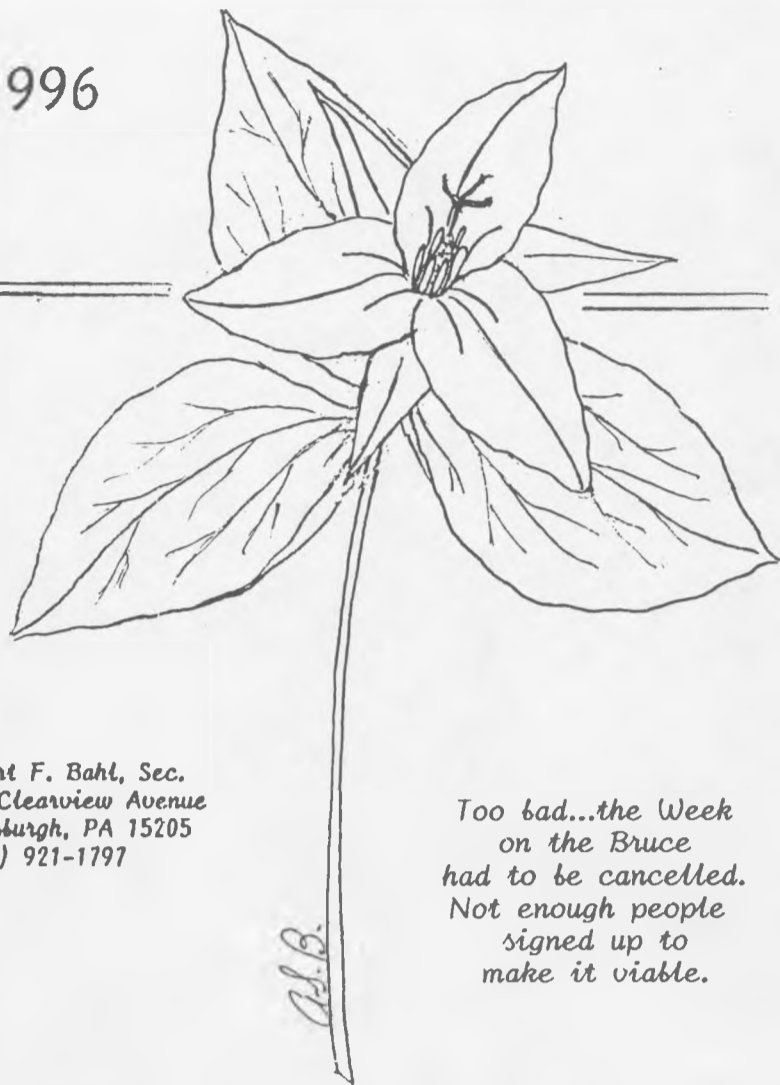
Our single yellow lady's-slipper has now increased to four. Three of the plants are in bloom (May 14). One has twins--two flowers side by side on a single stem.

This is definitely *pubescens*, but the flowers are smaller than any *parviflorum* we have ever seen. The tallest plant is only 8" tall and the smallest 6".

Anne & Bob Bahl



Sketch by
Dorothy Pearth



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Too bad...the Week
on the Bruce
had to be cancelled.
Not enough people
signed up to
make it viable.

TRILLIUM GRANDIFLORA

Anne Bahl not only made this illustration of the Large-flowered Trillium, but she also composed this Haiku* to lament the passing of so many of our trilliums --

Radiant trilliums
White beacons in the woodlands
Why are you destroyed?

There are no trilliums
White beacons in the woodlands
Gone forevermore.

(*HAIKU: A Japanese verse form based on 5, 7, 5 syllables, usually in reference to nature.)

WAYNE B. HARPSTER

The following is from a note sent by Donna Harpster, daughter of Wayne B. Harpster, to the Carnegie Museum herbarium. Condolences may be sent to Ms. Donna Harpster, 347 E. Garfield St., Shippensburg, PA 17257

Please tell Mr. B[uker] and others who may have known Dad that he died on 19 April 1996. He had been bedridden for a number of months prior to his death due to increasing weakness caused by prostatic cancer and its metastases to the bone and elsewhere. His death, when it came, was a blessing. He had been ready, if not yet able, for some time. Active men, especially, do not find "bedfastness" fun. Nor would most of us.

Sue Thompson

THE BUKER AWARD FUND

Many thanks to those who have already made contributions to the Buker Award Endowment! The formal announcement of the establishment of the Buker Award, which will provide support to persons at any level of botanical training to use the collections at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, will be made during the First Annual Native American Orchids Conference (19-21 July 1996). If you want your name to be added to the list of people honoring W.E. Buker's botanical accomplishments, please send your contribution by **July 10, 1996** to: **Buker Award Endowment, c/o Section of Botany, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213**. Please indicate if the contribution is made in memory or in honor of another person. We will present Buker with a list of all those contributing to establish this fund as well as including the names of people in whose memory or honor gifts were made. Please make checks payable to "Carnegie Institute-Buker Fund."

Sue Thompson



SWERTIA CAROLINENSIS

Virginia Phelps reports on her "babies". As of May 18, there are 40 monument plants at the Jennings Prairie station. They are expected to bloom about June 20.



DOUBLE ISSUE NEXT MONTH

The next issue of *Wildflowers* will cover both July and August.

Anne and I will be gone all during July. We'll be on a grand tour of the country...by rail. We'll take the northern route along the Canadian border, then down the Pacific Coast, and back along the Mexican border. How do you botanize from a train? You get off along the way and rent a car. We'll be at Glacier National Park for five days. There will be another stop in Oregon, and then 10 days in central California.

So, if you have anything for either July or August, it must be in my hands by June 18.