
WILDFLOWERS

The Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania • October 2000

Next Meeting is October 9th at the A. J. Palumbo Hall

The next meeting will be Monday, October 9, 8:00 p.m., at Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA (Oakland).

Our speaker will be **Esther Allen**. She will present "Insects: Friends and Foes". This program will demonstrate the relationships, good and bad, between insects and plants.

Esther is an active member who leads dozens and dozens of field trips and presents nature and botanical programs all over the area. Do not miss her informative program!

For this month only, we will meet at the **A.J. Palumbo Hall**, located next to the campus between Fifth and Forbes Avenues. As you approach the campus on Fifth Avenue (heading toward downtown Pittsburgh), do not turn right into the Carlow Campus entrance. Instead, pass the entrance, stay in the right lane to the stoplight, and make the immediate right into the parking area. Park here and cross the street to the new A. J. Palumbo Hall.

Don't forget to place a parking permit on the dashboard of your car. Please request one at the next meeting if you do not have one. Plenty will be available. (If you don't have one before the meeting, place a note saying Botanical Society on your dashboard.)

Three Questions from the President

Members of the Botanical Society are designing a book of the area's wildflowers. The book

includes plant descriptions and color photographs by various members.

President Haywood is asking members for some hearty suggestions:

1. What should the title of the book be?
2. To whom should the book be dedicated?

To make the book affordable, the Botanical Society would like to print at least 5000 copies to keep the production cost for each individual book low. But it will cost a lot to produce 5000 to 10,000 copies. Additional fund-raising is necessary.

To raise funds, Dr. Haywood has donated a copy of *Wild Flowers of Western Pennsylvania and the Upper Ohio Basin* by O.E. Jennings and Andrey Avinoff. All members will soon be receiving a set of raffle tickets in the mail for this wonderful book. Please do your best to sell these tickets, and remember to buy some for yourself.

This two volume set contains outstanding watercolor prints by Andrey Avinoff. Dr. O.E. Jennings, master botanist, presents a descriptive flora of western Pennsylvania. This rare out-of-print treasure can now only be found at used booksellers, and usually commands \$300 to \$600.

Dr. Haywood also promises a great prize to the person who sells the most raffle tickets.

Finally, Dr. Haywood, in preparation for grant writing to raise funds for the book publishing, asks:

3. What field studies were done by individuals or small groups?

Please respond as soon as possible to these questions.

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Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3165
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Thank you for your input.

A Request from Nature Writer Evelyn Anderson

Here's a list of names that I am hoping will sound familiar to some of you. They are the names of people who have collected plants at Presque Isle. For a number of years, I have been working on the history of that 3200 acre sandspit. It has such a tremendous history that it would take volumes to do it justice. However, I do want to include some facts and human interest stories about some of the people who have been there to collect plants.

I will appreciate any information that can be provided about any of them – such as: their professions, where they lived, their interests and accomplishments, and any little human interest gems that you know or have heard mentioned by others who knew them.

They are: W. R. VanDersal, J. R. Farrell, D. H. Krouse, A. Stengel, C. K. Henlen, L. Roenpage, S. Fisherman, C. M. Boardman, G. McLaughlin, Gress, Williams, A. G. Shields, E. Siegel, R. Fulton, R. Little.

Although I have some information (much of it from *Trillia*) about Otto Jennings, and his wife Grace, and L. K. Henry, J. Bright, J. A. Shafer, W. E. Buker, H. Ammons, T. C. Porter and A. P. Garber, if you have interesting little facts about them, that would also be appreciated.

I also write a weekly nature column, so any information you can provide may be useful for that, too.

Evelyn Anderson

Directory of Fern Gardens, Nurseries and Reserves is Now Available

The Hardy Fern Foundation has published the *Directory of Fern Gardens, Nurseries and Reserves in the United States and Canada*.

This book is edited by one of our own members-Joan E. Gottlieb. The *Directory of Fern Gardens* has 206 entries, nineteen of which are in Pennsylvania.

All of the gardens and reserves are open to the public (through regular hours or by appointment). Most of the listed places have general collections or displays of native or exotic plants, but all have interesting and extensive fern holdings.

A copy of the *Directory of Fern Gardens* can be obtained for \$10. The book is free if you join the Hardy Fern Foundation for a membership fee of \$20.

Write to The Hardy Fern Foundation, P.O. Box 166, Medina, WA 98039-0166. Visit them on the web at www.hardyferns.org.

Or call Joan at (412) 242-6738 for more information or to see a sample copy.

Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio is hosting Ted Scott

Members of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania are welcome to the Annual Dinner of the Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio, to be held on Saturday, October 28, 2000 in Cleveland. Ted Scott of the Virginia Native Plant Society will present "Four Seasons, Close-up." Mr. Scott worked with Lawrence Newcomb (author of *Newcomb's Wildflower*

Guide) and has helped prepare several brochures on native plants.

For information, contact Jean Roche at (330) 562-4053, E-mail: bjroche@aol.com.

Field Trip Schedule

Registration is not required. Everyone is welcome, including non-members. Trips are not cancelled due to rain. For questions, call the trip leader or Loree at (412) 521-9425.

Saturday, October 14, 2000
Kidd's Mill in Eldersville, Washington Cty
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Leader: Carl Patsche (304) 723-0139

Directions: From Pittsburgh, travel west on I-279 Parkway West. Exit this highway to continue on Rte. 22 West. Exit Rte. 22 at the Star Lake-Burgettstown exit near Florence. Continue 4.5 miles south on Route 18 to the third traffic light in Burgettstown. Turn right onto Langeloth Road. Continue 6 miles to the small village of Eldersville. We will meet at Heritage Hall on the right side at the crossroads. (Refreshments and restrooms available at Hall.)

We are meeting Saturday at 12 p.m.!

Sunday, October 22, 2000
Leader: Esther Allen
Date: October 22, 2000
Time: 2 p.m.

Directions: From Pittsburgh, take I-79 North to Exit 28, Portersville. At the end of exit ramp, turn left and travel 0.6 miles to US 19 in Portersville. Turn north (right) on US 19, go 0.5 miles, and turn right onto West Park Road (Follow signs for "North Shore Moraine State Park"). Go 2.8 miles on West Park Road, crossing I79, US 422, and Muddy Creek. Just after crossing the creek, turn right and follow signs 0.8 mile to the bicycle concession.

We are meeting Sunday at 2 p.m.!

How to get your copy of "Nature Watch"

Members who attended the field trip to Presque Isle this July wanted to know how to get a wonderful book called *Nature Watch: Erie, Pennsylvania and Nearby Areas*. This book is by Evelyn Anderson and Jean Stull.

This is a ten-year compendium of observations, notes, and thoughts from two well-known naturalists from northwestern Pennsylvania.

To receive a copy, a check for \$10.25 (which covers the cost of mailing) should be sent to:

Presque Isle Audubon Society
c/o Jeanne Kern
6705 Haskell Dr.
Fairview, PA 16415

The check should be made payable to Presque Isle Audubon Society. All proceeds go to that organization.

Favorite Books from Favorite Members

The responses I have received so far demonstrate that we are a diverse plant-loving group. Upcoming winter newsletters will present them all.

This will be an ongoing feature, so it is not too late to drop the editor a note (as short or as long as you desire). Tell us about your favorite books:

Editor, BSWP
5837 Nicholson Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
e-mail address: yoree@sgi.net

Condolences

Members offer our condolences to long-time member Howard McIlvried upon the death of his mother Alice. She died September 14, 2000 at the age of 101.

Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania – October 2000
5837 Nicholson Street
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WILDFLOWERS is published monthly by the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania. We welcome short articles of botanical interest, drawings, letters to the editor, and notices of botanical events and group activities. Send to the editor at the above address. Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the previous month.

The Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania - Membership Information

The object of the Society shall be to bring together those who are interested in Botany and to encourage the study of this science and a knowledge of plants. Our members include both amateurs and professionals. Annual dues are \$10.00 for individual and \$15.00 for family. Students can join at half-rate. To join, mail your name, your address, and check payable to "Botanical Soc. of W PA" to Loree Speedy, 5837 Nicholson Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217. Your membership includes a subscription to the monthly bulletin WILDFLOWERS.

The Society meets the second Monday of each month, September through June, at 8 p.m. sharp, at Trinity Hall or Kresge Theater, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland. All are welcome. An informative program follows the business meeting. Visit the Botanical Society Homepage at <http://home.kiski.net/~speedy/b1.html>.