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# WILDFLOWERS

The Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania • July 2003

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## The Next Meeting (Our First Summer Meeting) is Monday, July 14

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The next meeting will be Monday, July 14, **7:15 p.m.**, at **Kresge Theater**, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA (Oakland). Kresge Theater is on the top floor of the Grace Library and is accessed from the upper campus. Place a note on your dashboard saying "Botanical Society Meeting," or use your parking permit.

Esther Allen will present "Plants, Pioneers of the World." Esther's insightful and informative programs should not be missed. She is a self-taught naturalist, and leads nature hikes for many organizations, including the Botanical Society, Audubon at Beechwood, and Wissahickon Nature Club. Last month, she led 6 hikes in one day for 6 groups of scouts.

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## And The Next Meeting (Our Second Summer Meeting) is Saturday, August 2

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Our next summer meeting will not be held indoors and will not be held on a Monday evening. On Saturday, August 2, members are asked to meet at Pumpkin Run Community Park at 1 p.m. in Rice's Landing, Greene County, for a field trip.

See the driving directions under the Field Trip section. We will have a short business meeting at 1 p.m. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy at the riverside park along the Monongahela. Then Robert Coxe and President Mary Joy Haywood will lead us for a field trip along Pumpkin Run, a tributary of the Monongahela.

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## Eupatorium purpureum - Nature by Max Henrici

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*Max Henrici was a noted local nature columnist. This article was published in the Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph on February 17, 1944.*

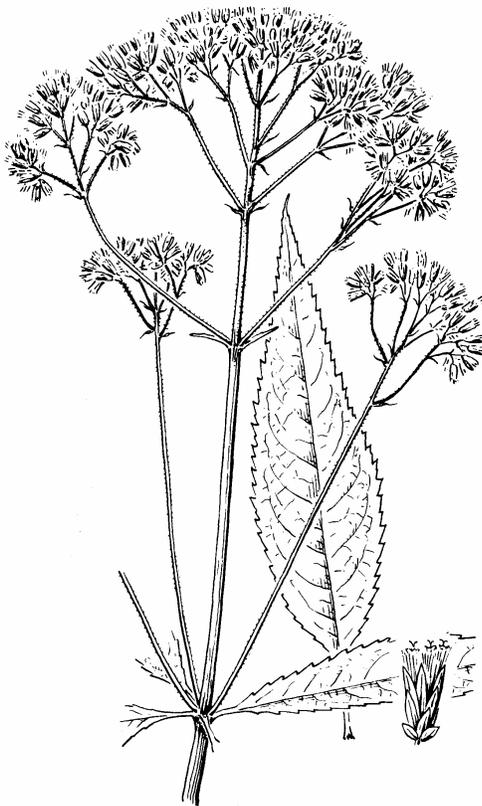
My father and my sister Ruth were members of the Botanical Society in its early days and filled a cupboard in our East Liberty home with their herbarium. Fifty-two years ago they went on a botanizing expedition to the Cheat River and took my brother Fred and me along. From Pittsburgh we went up the Monongahela River on the packet steamboat *Adam Jacobs* to Morgantown, and, from there drove in a horse-drawn rig to a country hotel on the banks of the Cheat.

The power dam which has since flooded that region was not in existence then, and the country was still primitive. The scenery was grand and the wonders of the animal and vegetable kingdoms as pointed out to a little boy by his well-informed father and loving sister, were very wonderful indeed.

Father had with him a big camera, which had to be set on a tripod. He used glass with slow emulsions—nothing else was available—and did all his developing and printing. Sometimes he would like to get into a picture, and then he would have: Fred make the exposure. This was done by removing a cap from the lens of the camera and then, after a suitable interval, replacing it. To enable Fred to time the exposure properly he would tell him to take off the lens cap, say "Ten, ten, double-ten, forty-five and fifteen," then put the cap back. Father made excellent photographs.

I still have the Gray's Manual of Botany that he had with him on that trip. Pasted inside the front cover is a photograph of father standing beside a joe pye weed almost twice as tall as himself. Underneath is written in father's beautiful small handwriting: "*Eupatorium purpureum*, Cheat River, W. Va., August 8, 1892."

*Max Henrici*



Sweet-Scented Joe Pye Weed - *Eupatorium purpureum*, illustrated by Dr. William A. Lunk in the Flora of West Virginia (Part IV) by P. D. Strausbaugh and Earl L. Core, September 1964 (p. 901).

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## A Bio-Foray Event Will Be Held at North Park

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Friends of Latodami Environmental Education Center will sponsor a mini bio-foray event for experts and amateurs to systematically survey the flora and fauna of a proposed disposal site for dredge spoils. The Friends would like to supplement data collected by the Army Corps of Engineers with independent analysis.

The event will occur at the Latodami Environmental Education Center, North Park, Allegheny County, on Sunday, July 20, 2003, from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Minimum age is 18.

To register or for more information email [contact@latodami.org](mailto:contact@latodami.org) or call Meg Scanlon, North Park Naturalist, at 724-935-2170.

Experts and amateur naturalist are invited to participate in this systematic survey of the flora and fauna of the site. Expertise in everything from slugs to small mammals, butterflies to birds, and grasses to wildflowers is welcome.

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## On Weeds

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One ecologist says that the use of the word "weed" is just a mean-spirited human attitude toward plants that don't suit us. Another would like to see the word abolished altogether for being one of the most intolerant, negative words in the English language.

In France they are *mauvaises herbes*, in Spanish *malos hierbes*, meaning "bad grasses." In German they are *unbrauts*, or "unplants."

In order to satisfy people who object to the word weed, how about referring to those in your garden as "guest plants?" And what shall we call winter weeds, "skeletal remains"?

*Reprinted from the May 29, 2003 issue of the Nature Observer News*

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## Would You Like to Learn More about the Glacial Lakes of Northwestern Pennsylvania?

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The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy is looking for volunteers to assist in the Glacial Lake Flora Project in July and August. In this five-year study, the Conservancy is documenting the flora of eight inland glacial lakes of northwestern Pennsylvania. They are surveying submerged and floating-leaved plants in the lakes, and recording the plants that inhabit the wetlands adjacent to the lakes. They will be mapping the rare species and the invasive alien species, as well as the major habitat types.

The Conservancy is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help us in the survey. Volunteers will help the botanists survey the lakes and assist in sampling. Volunteers must have the ability and desire to help paddle canoes (flat water) and record data.

This is an excellent opportunity to learn about aquatic plants and ecology, while having fun on a beautiful glacial lake. This year they will be working in Conneaut Lake in Crawford County.

If you can devote any time to this project in the months of July and August, please contact Loree Speedy at the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (412) 586-2382, or [lspeedy@paconserve.org](mailto:lspeedy@paconserve.org). Fieldwork will be conducted on Tuesday through Friday.

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### Field Trip Schedule

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Registration is not required. Everyone is welcome, including non-members. Trips are not canceled due to rain. Wear shoes that can get wet. Water and sun protection are recommended for mid-summer trips. For questions, call the trip leader or Loree at (724) 872-5232.

**Saturday, July 26, 2003**

**Moraine State Park – Northern Extension along Slippery Rock Creek, Butler County**  
**Time: 1 p.m.**

**Leader: Esther Allen (412) 366-0786**

**Directions:** From Pittsburgh, travel I-79 North to Exit 105 (Route 108/Slippery Rock). Turn left at the end of the exit ramp to take PA 108 east toward Slippery Rock. Travel a little over ½ mile to West Park Road, where there is a Dairy Queen and gas station at this intersection.

Turn right (south) onto West Park Road; after a short distance, cross a highway bridge, then turn left onto a parking lot just beyond the bridge.

Expect Featherfleece (*Stenanthium gramineum*) Turk's Cap Lily, and perhaps a woodland orchid.

**Saturday, August 2, 2003**

**Pumpkin Run County Park, Greene County**  
**Time: 1 p.m.**

**Leaders: Robert Coxe (412) 531-0137 and Mary Joy Haywood (412) 578-6175**

**Directions:** From Pittsburgh, take I-79 South to Exit 19-Ruff Creek/Jefferson. At the end of the exit ramp, turn left to head south on U.S. 19 South for a short distance, then turn left to head east or south on Route 221. Travel Route 221 for about 4.7 miles. At the T, turn left onto Route 188 east or south.

Travel Route 188 for 5.5 miles to the town of Dry Tavern and the intersection with Route 88. At this intersection, continue straight (cross Route 88) and keep left at the next fork. Continue about 1 mile down the hill. Proceed under an underpass, then turn right onto Main St., then turn left into the borough building where there is parking.

Bring your lunch to enjoy while we have a short meeting along the Monongahela River. Then we will explore Pumpkin Run.

## Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania – July 2003

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West Newton, PA 15089

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### **WILDFLOWERS - Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania**

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**President:** Dr. Mary Joy Haywood, (412) 578-6175, E-mail mjhaywood@carlow.edu; **Vice-President:** Phyllis Monk, (412) 831-2724 E-mail: uscmonk@ieeee.org; **Treasurer:** Kimberly Metheny

WILDFLOWERS is published monthly by the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania. We welcome short articles of botanical interest, drawings, and notices of botanical events and group activities. Send to the editor at the above address. Deadline for submissions is the 23th of the previous month.

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### **The Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania - Membership Information**

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The Botanical Society was founded in 1886. 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. 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, 279 Orr Road, West Newton, PA 15089. Your membership includes a subscription to the monthly bulletin WILDFLOWERS.

The Society meets the second Monday of each month, September through June, at 7:15 p.m. sharp, at Kresge Theater, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Oakland. All are welcome to the informative program and business meeting.

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### **Wildflowers of Pennsylvania – Ordering Information – 400 pages of text and 612 color photographs**

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Wildflowers of Pennsylvania can be purchased for \$20.00 (plus \$1.40 sales tax for PA residents). Forward your check, made payable to Botanical Society of Western PA, to Dr. Haywood at the address below. If you order by mail, add \$2 postage and handling for one book, \$3.00 for two, \$4.00 for three, \$4.50 for four. Send your request to Dr. Mary Joy Haywood, RSM, Ph.D., 3333 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3165 (412) 578-6175; mjhaywood@carlow.edu