

Botanical Society of W. Pa.



Cypripedium
calceolus by
Carolyn Bahl

MAY MEETING

Our monthly meeting will be at Mellon Bank Auditorium, 5th and Craig, Oakland - Monday, May 12, at 8:00 P.M.

Esther Allen will give a program on "Trees and Shrubs."



FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Our Field Trip Chairman, Jasper Brown, has put together a most interesting schedule for the next few Saturdays. Unless otherwise specified, all field trips begin at 1:30 P.M.

May 3 - Wolf Creek

This is a repetition from last month's bulletin --

On Saturday, May 3, we have a first-time field trip to Wolf Creek Narrows, a recent acquisition of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Our leader will be Howard McIlvried. Howard owns property adjacent to the Conservancy lands and is well-acquainted with the area.

From Pittsburgh, go north on I-79; at Slippery Rock exit, go east on Route 108 toward the town of Slippery Rock; proceed about 1 mile to first crossroad; park here at dairy store.

May 10 - Plain Grove Bog

Spreading globeflower, *trollius laxus*, should be in bloom. Plain Grove Bog is the only known station in Pennsylvania for this rare and endangered species.

Drive north on I-79 to the Slippery Rock exit; turn west toward New Castle on Route 108 for about 1/3 mile; then right on unnumbered road to Plain Grove. Meet at church across from cemetery. Leader is J. S. Brown.

May 17- Bear Run

This is the Annual Meeting day for Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Most of our members also belong to the Conservancy.

So, we shall not have a separate field trip on that day. Members of the Botanical Society are invited to come to Bear Run Nature Reserve on May 17, where we can join one of the Conservancy's scheduled field trips or form one of our own.

The Conservancy has an all-day program, beginning with an 8 A.M. field trip. Come whenever it suits you.

You may bring your own lunch, or you can make a reservation for the Conservancy luncheon by calling 288-2777.

May 24 - Quebec Run

We shall be looking for both the pink and the yellow ladies' slipper, *cypripedium acaule* and *cypripedium calceolus*.

May Ashcraft will be our leader.

From Uniontown, drive east on US-40 to Summit Hotel; just past the hotel, turn right; proceed about a half-mile, where our leader will be waiting.

There will be about a 1 mile walk on a roadway into Forbes State Forest. It is easy walking, but no vehicular traffic is allowed.

MAY, 1980

Robert F. Bahl, Secretary
401 Clearview Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa., 15205

May 31 - O'Hara Riverfront

Chris Metelmann will be our leader. He wants to show us an odd iris. Maybe you can help him identify it.

Meet at the Photo Hut at the Fox Chapel Shopping Center. Use 28N from Pittsburgh or 28S from the Turnpike.

June 7 - Titus Bog

Titus Bog is owned jointly by our own Botanical Society and the Erie Audubon Society.

At this time, *arethusa bulbosa* should be in bloom. In some years we have even discovered the very rare white form.

Meet at the Pennsylvania Rest Stop where routes PA-89 and US-6 are common. This is between the towns of Elgin and Corry. Rest rooms, water, and picnic tables are available.

Bob Morgan will be our leader.



SUNCHOKES

Botanists have long been dismayed by the inappropriate and confusing names given trees and plants by commercial interests; for example: tulip poplar for *liriodendron tulipifera*, red cedar for *juniperis virginiana*, African violet for *saint-paulia ionantha*, etc. It is therefore most refreshing when these same interests come up with a suitable common name to replace a misnomer of long standing. I refer to *helianthus tuberosus*, long bearing the unconscionable name of "Jerusalem Artichoke" and having nothing whatever to do with either Jerusalem or artichokes. On produce counters of our supermarkets we now see the tubers of this plant sold as SUNCHOKES. This is a happy solution to this long-standing error, the first syllable denoting the sunflower genus to which the plant belongs, while the last syllable echoes the old name by which it was popularly known. We should all start using the new name SUNCHOKE; and in time the old name "Jerusalem Artichoke" will disappear from usage as well as from the printed page. (Max Armbruster)



BOTANIZING IN DIXIE

Anne and Bob Bahl have just returned from a trip to Northwest Florida and Southern Alabama, where they took pictures of 185 different species.

Among the rare vegetation they encountered was the *torreya* tree (*torreya taxifolia*), an endangered species that is native to an area of just 20 miles along the Apalachicola River. An even rarer tree that they photographed is the Florida yew (*taxus floridana*).

They took pictures of three different pitcher plants -- *sarracenia flava*, *sarracenia rubra*, and *sarracenia psittacina*.

They visited the William Bartram Arboretum near Wetumpka, Alabama. This is in an area where this famous early botanist did much of his exploring. The arboretum is in the first stage of a 4-phase development program. When it is completed, it will be one of the foremost nature areas in the country.