

Wildflowers

THE BULLETIN OF THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.



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1986

OUR 100th YEAR

JULY						
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JULY FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

All field trips are on Saturdays, and the rendezvous time is 1:30 p.m. If you have any questions, call our Field Trip Chairman, Esther Allen, 366-0786.

July 5 - No trip scheduled.

July 12 - Renfrew Road, Butler County

We will be exploring a new area together. Meet at Route 8 and Renfrew Road a few miles south of Butler (just north of McBride Station restaurant on left). Leader, Laura Wirkkala.

July 19 - Markle's Farm

Meet at Howard Johnson restaurant on Rt. 51 at intersection with I-70. Passiflora lutea is one of the main attractions here. Leader, Mark Bowers.

July 26 - Allegheny River at Parker

Meet along Highway 268 just north of Parker. From there we will go on to check on the Sabatia a few miles away. Leader, Esther Allen.

August 2 - North Park

Meet at the Pie Traynor Field parking area (behind swimming pool). In conjunction with a trail project day we will be identifying and placing labels by plants along a portion of a new trail system being planned by the Volunteers for Outdoor Allegheny (VOA). VOA is an organization of volunteers formed in January, 1986, under the sponsorship of the Appalachian Mountain Club's National Volunteer Project. Its purpose is to sponsor outdoor public service projects in our local parks and natural areas. Projects for 1986 are concentrated in North Park and include a "Marshall Lake Recovery Day", June 28, and "Trail Project Day", August 2. Leader, Esther Allen.

(Esther Allen)

NO MEETING IN JULY

As always, there are no monthly meetings scheduled for July and August.

HIGHWAY WILDFLOWERS OF OHIO

As soon as we entered Ohio from Indiana on Interstate 70, we were thrilled to see the medial strip a solid mass of color....wildflowers. Then we stopped at a roadside rest near Buckeye Lake, and the display was even more dazzling. This has to be the most beautiful rest stop in the whole country.

We understand that the moving force behind this beautification program is Mrs. Richard Celeste, wife of the Governor.

We had the pleasure of meeting horticulturist Harold M. Dambaugh, the man who actually sowed the seeds and now takes care of the plantings. A commercial wildflower mix was used. Seeds were sown just seven weeks earlier.



BOTANICAL WATERCOLORS BY ANDREY AVINOFF

Carnegie Museum of Natural History now has an exhibition WONDERFUL WILDFLOWERS: BOTANICAL WATERCOLORS BY ANDREY AVINOFF.

Most of the paintings on exhibit were done by Avinoff in 1941 and 1942 to accompany the two-volume botanical text, Wild Flowers of Western Pennsylvania and the Upper Ohio Basin, written by Otto E. Jennings. Dr. Jennings for many years was secretary of our Botanical Society.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the gift shop will be selling a selection of prints from the book. These prints are the overruns from the original printing of the book and thus are limited in quantity. The prints are being sold for \$10-\$15 each, and a portion of the sales is supporting research and collections in the Section of Botany.

ASCLEPIAS TUBEROSA

The sketch of the Butterflyweed, complete with butterfly, is from our member, Arabelle Wheatley. As glorious as any garden flower, how can this be called a "weed"?

SUMMER WILDFLOWER WEEKEND

Members of the Botanical Society are invited to explore the summer wildflowers of the beautiful high plateau country around and about Terra Alta, West Virginia.

Brooks Nature Center is sponsoring a Wildflower Weekend August 22-24 at its camp in Terra Alta. The weekend package is \$35 per person including meals (delicious!), program, and tent lodging.

Leader of the field trips will be the very best. It will be that premier botanist, Allison Cusick, of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. He is also a member of our own Botanical Society. With Allison leading the forays, we are going to get our own applications in right away.

I, Bob Bahl, have a supply of application blanks (412/921-1797) or you may call the Brooks Nature Center (304/242-6855).

OUR BOTANICAL TOUR

Some high spots of a 9500 mile trip across the country and back....discovering the brilliant scarlet snowplant, Sarcodes sanguinea, in the high Sierras.... looking over a snowbank at Crater Lake and seeing the western pasqueflower, Anemone occidentalis, in bloom....watching the vegetation make a comeback on Mount St. Helens....finding beargrass, Xerophyllum tenax, in the unlikeliest of places, the middle of the woods, but not seeing it at all on the mountainsides, where it belongs....seeing the delicate one-flowered wintergreen, Pyrola uniflora, growing on fallen Sitka spruce logs in the rain forest....seeing the Columbia lily, Lilium columbianum, growing among the redwoods....enjoying the white bitterroot, Lewisia rediviva, against the black lava at Craters of the Moon National Monument....finding western coralroot, Coralorrhiza mertensiana, in Olympic National Park after the ranger had told us there were no orchids in bloom....combing the slopes of Mount Washburn for dozens of tundra plants including yellow fritillary, Fritillaria pudica....sending our daughter into ice cold water to get a close-up photo of the cobra lily, Darlingtonia californica, not a lily at all but a pitcher plant....marveling at whole fields of wildflowers with the Grand Tetons as a backdrop....trying to photograph the mariposa lily, Calochortus gunnisonii in 50 mph winds in Montana....finding twinflower, Linnaea borealis, named for the great Linnaeus.... seeing an abundance of both the western rhododendron, Rhododendron macrophylla, and the western azalea, Rhododendron occidentale....finding a pond in South Dakota almost covered with white water buttercups, Ranunculus aquatilis.

(Anne and Bob Bahl)