

Wildflowers

THE BULLETIN OF THE
BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF W. PA.

June 1990



JUNE MEETING

For the fifth time this year, our program will be on WETLANDS...



NAEC, "Environmentally Critical Areas: Wetlands, Waterways and Watersheds"

We shall meet Monday, June 11, at 8 P.M. - at Trinity Hall, Carlow College, 3333 Fifth Ave., Oakland.

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VIOLA PAPILIONACEA

Priscilla Stoughton had this pen-and-ink sketch of the Common Blue Violet on a letter she wrote to me two years ago. It was one of the nicest letters I have ever received. Some day...if we ever have space...I'm going to print that letter in Wildflowers.

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HIKES REVISITED

On May 5th several of our members travelled to Hell and back...Hell Hollow that is. The first part of the hike, the easy part, provided us with a rich display of wildflowers. Blue phlox, trillium, blue, yellow, and white violets filled the landscape alongside Hell Run. One section of the stream had a particularly interesting rock formation resembling a flume.

For the second part of the hike, five adventuresome souls continued on down the gorge in order to follow Hell Run to where it joins Slippery Rock Creek. The ravine below the first waterfall was quite scenic with wildflowers, large boulders, and waterfalls. We found nice stands of red and nodding trillium, bluebells, and northern white violet. We also enjoyed a variety of fungus, fossils and a couple of salamanders. We all got wet and dirty scrambling over rocks and crossing the creek, but we all agreed it was worth it.

- Kate Shriver

WILDFLOWERS OF SUMMER

Here's another opportunity to enjoy one of Esther Allen's courses at Community College.

Wildflowers of Summer will consist of an introductory classroom session to acquaint the students with field guides and their use, plant characteristics to look for in field identification, habitats, etc. Following the introductory sessions there will be field trips to such natural areas as North Park, Trillium Trail, Raccoon Creek Wildflower Reserve and others.

North Park	AXJB111-1	\$20
5 sessions starting June 9	Sat. 9 a.m.-12	
Instructor: Esther Allen	North Park Pool Lot	

To find out how to register, call Esther Allen at 366-0786.

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NEW MEMBER

We welcome a new member, Dr. Shobha Jatkar, to our Society. She is a botanist from India.

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ANOTHER JOB FOR ESTHER

Our sister organization, Wissahickon Nature Club, has unanimously elected Esther Allen to be its new president.

6-23-90 - DOLLY SODS WILDERNESS AREA
Grant and Tucker Counties, W. Va.
Leader: Esther Allen

One of several possible routes: Take I-79 South to Morgantown, Route 219 south to Route 32 South through Davis, W. Va. While on Route 32, proceed through the Canaan Valley area and look for a small "Dolly Sods" sign and a road to the left. Proceed on this road, Laneville Road, to an iron bridge crossing of Red Creek. Take the Forest Road about 4 miles uphill and meet at the National Forest Picnic Grounds.

We can only hope our trip this year will be as successful as last year's wonderful visit to Dolly Sods. Hopefully, the azaleas will cooperate by being in prime bloom. Other highlights may include Clematis verticillaris (Purple Virgin's Bower) and Dicentra eximia (Wild Bleeding Heart).

6-30-90 - Please note: Meeting time of 9:30 A.M.
SLIPPERY ROCK AREA
Butler County, Pa.
Leader: Dr. Richard Medve

Take I-79 North to the Slippery Rock Exit and Route 108 East into the town of Slippery Rock. We will meet at the front entrance of Vincent Science Hall, located about the middle of the Slippery Rock State University campus.

Bring an appetite on this hike as Dr. Medve will help us collect wild edible plants, which we will prepare for our lunch! Dr. Medve has authored a text on edible plants; it is being published by Penn State Press and will, hopefully, be available by July/August 1990.

Reminders: July 28 at New Jersey Pine Barrens
August 11 at Lynx Prairie, Ohio

- Scott Shriver

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

Don't forget! Starting in June of 1990, all hikes begin at 12:00 NOON rather than 1:30 P.M. (unless otherwise noted). Any questions? Call our Field Trip Chairman, Scott Shriver, at 744-9249.

6-2-90 - POWDERMILL NATURE RESERVE
Westmoreland County, Pa.
Leader: Bob Leberman

From Pittsburgh, take Route 30 East through Ligonier, then right (south) on Route 381. Proceed on Route 381 to Powdermill and meet at the Nimick Nature Center.

We will explore some of the flora around Powdermill, which should hopefully include a nice stand of Spiranthes lucida (Wide-leaved Ladies-tresses).

6-9-90 - CHALK HILL BOG
Fayette County, Pa.
Leader: Bob Morgan

Take Route 51 South to Uniontown, and Route 40 East from Uniontown to Chalk Hill. At Chalk Hill turn left onto a blacktop road toward Ohio-pyle. After crossing the arm of Deer Lake, turn left on the first road and continue on it into State Game Lands, where you will find a parking area to the right.

Sarracenia purpurea (Pitcher Plant) and Sarracenia leucophylla (White Trumpet Pitcher Plant) both grow in this bog. Pogonia ophioglossoides (Rose Pogonia) and Vaccinium sp. (Cranberries) should be in bloom. Perhaps even Arethusa will choose this year to bloom again at Chalk Hill.

6-16-90 - WILDFLOWER RESERVE, RACCOON CREEK STATE PARK
Beaver County, Pa.
Leader: Virginia Craig

Meet at the Wildflower Reserve Parking Lot, Route 30 just east of the main park entrance.

Prepare to see the last of the spring flora giving way to summer's wildflowers. You can expect to see Liparis lilifolia (Lily-leaved Twayblade), Heraclium maximum (Cow Parsnip), Penstemon digitalis (White Beard-tongue), Conopholis americana (Squawroot), and Silene virginica (Fire Pink).