WILDFLOWERS

The Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania • July and August 2002

The Next Meeting is September 9th

There will be no monthly meeting in July and August; the next meeting will be Monday, September 9, at 7:15 p.m. Look for meeting and speaker details in the September newsletter.

Thanks to our speakers for the 2001-2002 season, and many thanks to our program chair Lou Ammon!

Suzanne Seppi Mark Bowers Joan Gottlieb

Robert Coxe Mary Joy Haywood

Joan Gottlieb
Chuck Tague
John Kocon

David Jett Liz Barrow

Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania Sweatshirts Available



The Botanical Society is selling sweatshirts with the oak leaf logo. The sweatshirts are the color of oatmeal and a rich, warm cotton. They are available in unisex sizes of small, medium, large and extra-large. To get your sweatshirt, send a check payable to BSWP in the amount of \$20.00 to:

Dr. Mary Joy Haywood Carlow College 3333 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (412) 232-8441

Let her know the number of sweatshirts desired, the size(s), and where to mail the shirts.

Stand Under a Pin Oak, and Listen...

"A German writer has said that each kind of tree has its own note or pitch produced when the wind blows through its crown. The pitch is the average of all the tones produced by the leaves on that tree. The idea that a tree can be recognized by listening to it may be new to some, but it is not so farfetched.

Stand under a pin oak, and listen to the hiss of the wind as it is 'torn to shreds' by the deeply lobed leaves and perhaps slender branches. Then stand near a poplar, and listen to the noisy clack of its many 'tongues'; the two sounds are quite different. Of course the human ear is delicate enough to sense only such extremes as the two mentioned; probably there is little difference between pin oak and scarlet oak which have similar leaves. But try this, and see how many trees you can tell by their 'voices.'"

From *Trees of the Eastern and Central United States and Canada* by William M. Harlow, 1957. Dover Publications has reprinted this one-volume guide to 140 native trees and important escapes, with full descriptions, woodlore, range, and over 600 illustrations.

Get Well to Members

A special get well to Mary Berger. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and Luc. Also, get well to George Bercik, and we look forward to seeing you back on field trips soon.

Field Trip Schedule

Registration is not required. Everyone is welcome, including non-members. For questions, call the trip leader or Loree at (724) 872-5232.

Saturday, July 20 Markle's Farm, Westmoreland Co. Leader: Mark Bowers (724) 872-5232 Time: 1 p.m.

Directions: We will meet at the West Newton trailhead of the Youghiogheny River Trail. From Pittsburgh, take Route 51 south to Route 136, which is about 6 miles from the bridge over the Monongahela River in Elizabeth. Turn east (left) on Route 136 and continue about 5 miles into the outskirts of West Newton. Just before crossing the Youghiogheny River, turn right into the well-marked parking area of the bike trail.

Expectations: Passionflower (Passiflora lutea)

Saturday, July 27 Big Sewickley Creek, Westmoreland Co. Leader: Tom Pearson (724) 864-1902 Time: 9:30 a.m.

Directions: Meet at the Bob Evans Restaurant on Route 30 in Irwin. From Pittsburgh, take the PA Turnpike to Exit 67 (Route 30/Irwin). Head west on Route 30. Stay in the right lane. Bob Evans Restaurant is on your right within one mile, near the Eat'n Park.

Expectations: Tall Blue Larkspur (Delphinium exaltatum). Please note that we are meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, August 3, 2002 Lake Pleasant Canoe Trip, Erie County Time: 1:00 p.m.

Leader: Steve Grund

Reservations Required: To reserve a canoe, call Loree Speedy at (724) 872-5232 or yoree@sgi.net.

Reservations are required for this canoe trip. Call early, as only a limited number of canoes are available. Personal canoes and kayaks cannot be accommodated.

Lake Pleasant is a spectacular calcareous glacial lake; the lake and adjacent wetlands support 24 plants species of special concern. Steve Grund, botanist for the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, is currently performing a 5-year study of the aquatic and wetland plants of 8 glacial lakes in northwestern Pennsylvania.

Directions to the lake will be forwarded when you reserve your canoe.

Saturday, August 10 Nature Reserves of the Westmoreland Conservancy, Westmoreland Co. Leader: Tom Pearson (724) 864-1902 Time: 10:00 a.m.

Directions: We will meet at the parking lot for Duff Park. From Pittsburgh, take I-376/Route 22 Parkway East past Monroeville and Route 22 to Murrysville. In Murrysville, make a right onto School Road at a red light just before the Sheetz Gas Station. Traveling about 1/8 of a mile, cross the bridge over Turtle Creek, and park in the parking lot on the right.

The Westmoreland Conservancy protects lands in Murrysville that give the community its rural character.

With the Westmoreland Bird and Nature Club, we will visit the Walters, King and Flinn reserves for Rose Pink (Sabatia angularis) and Clammy Cuphea (Cuphea petiolata). Please note that we are meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 17 South Park, Allegheny County Leader: John Doyle (412) 835-0143 Time: 10:00 a.m.

Directions: From Pittsburgh, take the Liberty Bridge to the Liberty Tunnel. Get in the right lane and go through the Liberty Tunnels. As you exit the tunnels take Route 51 South. Proceed on Route 51 South approximately 8 traffic lights to Route 88.

Take a right on Route 88 and stay on this road until you reach South Park's entrance. It is approximately 11 traffic lights to the intersection at South Park entrance. Stay in left lane and bear left onto Corrigan Drive.

Follow Corrigan Drive through the park to the circle. Head to the left at the circle (by travelling the circle for a ¾ turn and turning right). After passing the Miller Homestead on the right, turn right to park behind the Homestead in the tennis court parking lot.

Join naturalist John Doyle for a walk through the East Drive Woods. John says that interesting wildflowers have been appearing since the control of the deer population in the area. Please note that we are meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 24
Tionesta Scenic Area, McKean Co.
Leader: Ted Grisez
Time: 11:00 a.m.

Directions: From Interstate 80, take Exit 60 (66 north/Shippenville). Take Route 66 north through Marienville. Just before the town of Kane turn left onto JoJo Road. This starts out as a paved road then becomes an unpaved road (Forest Service Road 133). Follow signs for the entrance to the Tionesta Scenic Area. Meet in the parking lot.

Ted Grisez will lead us on a forest ecology outing through one of the most valuable old-growth remnants in the eastern U.S.

Please note that we are meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Note: The Friends of the Allegheny Wilderness (FAW) have invited Botanical Society members to join them for a canoe trip down the Allegheny River below Kinzua on the following day, Sunday, August 25. This trip will be an overnight and will involve camping out in the Allegheny Islands Wilderness.

Friends of Allegheny Wilderness seeks to foster an appreciation of wilderness values and benefits, and to work with local communities to ensure that increased wilderness protection is a priority of the stewardship of the Allegheny National Forest.

For further information about the canoe trip or FAW, contact Kirk Johnson of Friends of the Allegheny Wilderness at (814) 723-0620 or visit their website at www.pawild.org.

Saturday, August 31, 2002 Forest Trail, Raccoon Creek State Park, Beaver County Time: 1:00 p.m.

Leader: Esther Allen (412) 366-0786

Directions: From Pittsburgh, take the Parkway West (I-279 south/US 22-30) to the Airport

Expressway (Route 60).

Continue past the Airport entrance to Exit 7 – Clinton. At the end of the ramp, turn left and continue 1.1 miles to Route 30. Turn right on Route 30 and drive about 5 miles to the entrance for the Raccoon Creek State Park, on the left.

Travel the park road about 0.6 mile, and turn right at a sign for Lakeside Lodge. Continue about 0.7 mile to a parking area for the trail and boat launch.

Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania – July and August 2002 279 Orr Road West Newton, PA 15089

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WILDFLOWERS - Bulletin of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania

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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.

The Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania - Membership Information

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.

Wildflowers of Pennsylvania - Ordering Information - 400 pages of text and 612 color photographs

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