Monday, September 14, 1987
MONTHLY 7:30PM
MEETING United Methodist Church (basement)
Franklin and Maple Streets
Slippery Rock, PA

Our fall kick-off meeting will feature a slide presentation by Mr. Jim Egli of Slippery Rock. His topic will be "Moraine State Park" and will highlight the development of the park utilizing slides from the last 19 years. Also included will be the birds, animals and plants that make up this special area.

Jim is a member of B.A.S., and he is active in the local photography club. The program will be approximately 45 minutes long, followed by a question and answer session.

After the program we will have a short business meeting, followed by a social hour highlighted by refreshments from our famous hospitality hostesses.

Please come, and bring a friend!
THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH ----

Summer is drawing to a close and fall activities are being planned as we move forward into another year with the Bartramian Audubon Society.

Over the summer the main activity was numerous letters regarding the restructuring of the National Audubon Society. In May, the N.A.S. board of directors met and finalized the budget for the new fiscal year, which began July 1st. The board made changes that affected every department, and in a move that shocked many Audubon chapter leaders, voted to reduce and dramatically restructure Audubon's field staff in order to balance the budget.

Audubon had nine regional offices and six state offices. The new plan called for ten field offices. Although some of the affected field staff would move into new or vacant positions, Audubon would be losing some of the most effective and dedicated professional conservationists in the country.

Quite a shock to us was the closing of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office in Camp Hill, PA, which included Mr. Walt Pomeroy, who was our banquet speaker in May, and has been such a great help to B.A.S. over the years of its existence.

Since many chapters were displeased with the National Audubon's actions, a special meeting was called on June 27, in Connecticut, requesting the presence of Mr. Peter Berle, National Audubon President, and the board of directors.

As a result of the meeting, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office will stay at Camp Hill, with Mr. Walt Pomeroy as the director. Mr. Paul Zeph will be seeking new employment.

Another meeting was held on July 11, to formalize the PA Audubon Council. A steering committee will meet on Aug. 8, to draft a constitution and by-laws for this group.

The biennial convention will be held in the Pacific Northwest on Aug. 24-29, at Bellingham, WA, where this restructuring problem will certainly receive top billing. Watch carefully for the next issue of "Audubon Activist" to get the convention results.

On June 18, 1987, a sign was erected to identify the BRUCKER SANCTUARY, near Green- fill, PA, which is a haven for Great Blue Herons. A group of us attended this event with the hope of B.A.S. having a field trip in the spring to see the herons raising their young.

The B.A.S. board of directors met on Aug. 17, and each committee chairman is looking forward to a successful year for B.A.S.

Please keep in mind we can always use more people on our committees, and we need new ideas. If there is a committed you would like to serve on, or there is some way you can help the Audubon cause, please let me know. An organization can only be as strong as the sum of its members.

P.S. A special committee of the National Board met with some chapter leaders to create a process whereby the Society's chapters can be assured of representation on the N.A.S. board of directors. This meeting was held August 7 and 8.

Two decisions were unanimously reached. The first was that the existing policy of assigning members to a chapter, and sharing a portion of the membership dues with the chapter, will remain in place. If that policy is to be reexamined in the future, it will only occur after a procedure to elect board members by the chapters has been implemented, and then any such proposals will be pursued in accordance with the Chapter Policy requiring chapter consultation and involvement.

The second agreement was that a procedure will be implemented this year through which the chapters will select one Board member for each of the nine N.A.S. regions, thereby providing the chapters with nine members of the Board, or 25 per cent of the Board membership.

The details of the process will follow later. We need to think about potential nominees who are highly qualified individuals with chapter involvement and experience, who could make a major contribution to the Board of National Audubon.

As a result of this meeting a new election process has been initiated and a new relationship between National Audubon and its chapters has begun.

" Helen Ferguson
UPCOMING EVENTS, OUTINGS & DATES OF INTEREST

SEPTEMBER 1987

1 - 3  Community Days at Clearview Mall, Butler, B.A.S. will have a membership table

4 - 7  Family Vacation Camp, Pocono Environmental Education Center, Dingmans Ferry, PA

7    LABOR DAY; Full Moon

11-13 Hawk Watch Weekend, Pocono Environmental Education Center, Dingmans Ferry, PA

13    B.A.S. Field Trip: Fringed Gentian Fen Walk, at 1:30PM, led by Priscilla Stoughton, 368-8865

14    B.A.S. Monthly Meeting; DEADLINE TO SUBMIT MATERIAL FOR OCTOBER UPLAND INFORMER

21    B.A.S. Board of Directors Meeting

21-25 Nature Photography Workshop in the Adirondacks, cosponsored by Rochester Institute of Technology and Eastman Kodak

22    New Moon

23    Autumn Equinox, 9:46AM, E.D.T.

26    B.A.S. Field Trip: Canoeing on Conneaut Marsh, at 7:00AM, led by Brad & Becky Sheeler, 924-2375

For further information about B.A.S. Field Trips, check "Field Trip Details" on page 4, or contact the trip leader directly.

For details on other events, contact Becky Sheeler, 924-2375.
FIELD TRIP DETAILS:

Sunday, September 13, FRINGED GENTIAN FEN WALK. Priscilla Stoughton will lead this walk through the smallest holding of the Western PA Conservancy, to see the beautiful fringed gentian, which should be blooming at this time. Grass-of-Parnassus also grows here, and should also be blooming. Bring your camera! Meet at 1:30PM in Harlansburg at the corner of the intersection of Rts. 108 and 19. You may also plan to meet us at the site at 2:00. From Forbes Drive Inn, at the intersection of Rts. 108 & 388, proceed south on Rt. 388 for 1½ miles; turn right onto Frew Mill Road; proceed ½ mile. The Fen is on the left, marked by an orange AT&T cable marker (L-12-W) (#106). Park along the side of the road.

Saturday, September 26, CANOEING ON CONNEAUT MARSH. Brad & Becky sheeler will lead this leisurely trip through the marsh in early morning. Space on this trip is limited to 10 persons, so please call ahead to reserve your spot. We should see various types of waterfowl at this time of year, especially in the early morning. The marsh is located near Geneva, PA, just off I-79, at the Conneaut Lake exit. For further details, and to make reservations, please call 924-2375. (Some canoes will be provided, along with padding equipment, for those who need it.)

LAWN CHEMICALS AND RIGHT TO KNOW

Before our lawns have had a chance to recover from the snow and mud of winter, virtually every home in the country has been hit by a multimillion-dollar ad campaign. It is easy to be drawn in by the bright spring colors and images of barefoot children frolicking across perfect carpets of green.

The chemical lawn treatment industry does more than $1.5 billion dollars worth of business each year, selling a "system" of lawn care involving as many as six lawn "treatments" per season. Their marketing strategy deliberately avoids discussion of the potential risks of pesticides. In fact, many of the ads don't even mention the use of pesticides or fertilizers. They talk instead about "specially-blended nutrients" and "insect, weed and disease controls." One company even argues that their product is so safe that eating 300 cups of grass clippings is as chemically dangerous as drinking one cup of coffee.

Until regulations governing pesticide use and safety catch up with the health and safety risks posed by pesticides in our neighborhoods, we should proceed with caution. It is safest to assume that these chemicals, designed and used specifically for their toxic properties, may be dangerous, and to consider steps to minimize their use and our exposure to them.

As is the case with many other environmental problems, increased public awareness of pesticide problems and alternatives are essential in order for progress to be made.

In Maryland, Clean Water Action has just helped win passage of the first statewide pesticide right-to-know law in the country. It requires that treated property be posted, consumers be notified of chemical use—including health effects and suggested safety precautions—and professional pesticide applicators be certified. Maryland has also just passed tough new restrictions on the use of chlordane, a highly-toxic termite poison. These new laws will help concerned citizens to protect themselves, their families and pets from unnecessary exposure to pesticides.

--taken from The Alternator, newsletter of the ALTER Project, Slippery Rock Univ. 8/87
PEREGRINE FALCON UPDATE

Since 1984, the Appalachian Trail Council and its Trust for Appalachian Trail Lands has been working with local landowners to protect the spectacular view from Holts Ledge in Lyme, New Hampshire. Located near the top of the Dartmouth Skway, the popular vista is visited by many local and long-distance hikers.

Until the mid-1950's, peregrine falcons nested in the rocky cliffs below the vista point. These spectacular birds of prey were extirpated in the East by pesticide poisoning, but the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and private groups have made a big effort to reestablish a breeding population. This spring, a pair of peregrines was spotted at Holts Ledge for the first time in 30 years and is believed to be nesting there.

Ron Joseph, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist in Concord, spotted the pair on a routine scouting trip to the area in April. Later he met with ATC's New England vice chair, Earl Jette, and field representative, Kevin Peterson, to look at the nesting site and discuss how A.T. hikers could affect the birds' nesting habits.

An existing fence will be repaired and additional snow-fencing will be placed near the viewpoint to keep hikers away from the cliff edge. Informational sign telling about the presence of an endangered species will be posted. Visitors will be encouraged to leave the site alone until mid-summer, when the young birds should be leaving the nest.

Local Trail managers have been very cooperative and even offered to temporarily relocate a short section of A.T. if necessary to give the peregrines a large buffer zone. As it turned out, though, the birds chose a nesting spot that did not require a Trail relocation.

A.T. Project Manager Dave Richie expressed his support for the Fish and Wildlife Service's peregrine efforts. He has encouraged Trail managers to cooperate as necessary to help the falcons repopulate some of their historic nesting areas such as the one at Holts Ledge.

from THE REGISTER (Newsletter of the Appalachian Trail), May 1987

JUNE 11, 1987

LAST DUSKY SPARROW DIES

Lake Buena Vista, Fla. — The dusky seaside sparrow is extinct today, the last pure one having died in captivity, but the tiny animals' heart and lungs will be frozen for possible use in cloning experiments.

The death of the last survivor, Orange Band, ended a steady drift toward extinction by the brown, 6-inch birds, whose demise was guaranteed in 1980 when all that remained were five males.

The seaside sparrows were so stubborn they never left their habitat, a 10-mile stretch of eastern coastal marshes near Titusville, even as the space program at nearby Cape Canaveral brought man increasingly into the area.

Orange Band collapsed in its dish in its special cage on Discovery Island at Walt Disney World, said Charles Cook, director of a program to perpetuate as pure a species as possible.

The bird, named for the colored band used to tell it from the four other males, was about 12 years old, and died apparently of old age, Cook said.

A program under which dusky seaside sparrows were cross-bred with the similar Scott's seaside sparrow at Discovery Island produced one healthy male and four healthy females, Cook said.

"The offspring look identical to the dusky," he said. "A relative like that would be an acceptable surrogate species to populate the wild. The porgeny are fertile and we are hoping to breed a new population."

The surviving offspring at Discovery Island include one male, which is 75% dusky, and four females, which range from 25% to 87.5% dusky.

from an AP article which appeared in the CHILLOCOTHE (OHIO) GAZETTE, June 17, 1987
TAKE PRIDE IN PENNSYLVANIA
AWARDS PROGRAM

The purpose of the "Take Pride in Pennsylvania" campaign is to promote grassroots involvement in the stewardship of our public resources and to recognize individuals and groups that conduct outstanding public land and resource stewardship activities. This campaign will help generate renewed awareness of the outstanding public resources in Pennsylvania and reduce careless and abusive activity such as litter, vandalism, theft and wildlife poaching. Individuals, businesses and citizen, civic, trade and professional groups are being encouraged to speak out, write articles, "adopt" a park or trail, organize cleanup and outdoor education efforts and generally get involved in caring for their public lands and resources.

The "Take Pride in Pennsylvania" awards program is open to any individual and to public and private sector groups that have contributed to increased awareness and wise use of public recreational, cultural, natural or historical resources. Twelve award categories have been established to encourage broad participation. The winners from Pennsylvania's statewide competition will be submitted to the Take Pride in America National Awards Program to compete with winners from other States for the national awards.

All nominations for the 1987 "Take Pride in Pennsylvania" awards program must be received by November 1, 1987. To obtain nomination forms or for additional information about the awards program, please contact:

Take Pride in Pennsylvania Campaign
Department of Environmental Resources
P.O. Box 1467
Harrisburg, PA 17120
(717) 787-2316

SCHRIVER FEATURED

Master Falconer Earl Schriver, Jr. was the featured speaker at Beechwood Farms Bature Reserve, Aug. 26.

from the ASWP's Bulletin, Aug., 87

CLEAN AIR "???????

Seventeen years after the passage of the Clean Air Act, more than 100 million people in the United States still live in areas where the act's standards for breathable air are not met! By the end of 1987, at least 35 cities will fail to meet the act's health standards for ozone and carbon monoxide—the primary components of smog. The long-overdue reauthorization of the act, our nation's first line of defense against unhealthy air, is one of the most important pieces of environmental legislation that Congress will tackle this year.

The Clean Air Act expired in 1981, but its provisions remain in effect until the law is reauthorized. The Reagan Administration—and its allies in industry and in Congress—has delayed its renewal in the face of mounting evidence that the act must be strengthened and expanded to handle problems not effectively addressed by the current act. Our organization believes that the Clean Air Act should be reauthorized promptly and strengthened to: combat urban smog; halt the emission of toxic substances into the air; reduce acid rain; protect the atmospheric ozone layer, and prevent the degradation of national parks and wilderness areas due to air pollution.

This direct quote is taken from a pamphlet now available from National Audubon, entitled "Warning: Breathing in these cities may be hazardous to your health." Call or write for your copy, which also suggests how you can help!

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
801 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20003
(202) 547-9009

ANNOUNCING: PENNSYLVANIA BIRDS ---
a new quarterly publication dedicated to the who, what, where, of birds in PA. The emphasis will be on recording sightings from throughout the state, on a county by county basis. For further information concerning subscription rates, etc., contact your editor.
CONSERVATION UPDATE

CONSERVE—REUSE—RECYCLE, these are the words that our new president, Helen Ferguson, used to describe the main theme she hopes to pursue with B.A.S. I think that we will all agree that these ideas are at the very heart of conservation. Somehow, though, it's easier to talk about saving the rain forests, or to send money to re-introduce puffins, than to actually do something ourselves, on a personal level. But that is truly where all conservation has to start - at home, with individual commitments.

This month I'm going to offer three suggestions that each of us can do individually, that will help achieve Helen's ideals. First of all, we would like ideas for a group project that would further the "conserve—reuse—recycle" themes. Anyone who has a suggestion should jot it down and submit it to either Helen Ferguson, or myself. All ideas will be considered, and one or more of them will be brought before the membership.

The second suggestion has to do with that recycling monster, plastic. Plastic makes up so much of modern day garbage that it is frightening. Even more frightening is the fact that a lot of it will probably still be here for generations to come. And we are using more of it every day. My suggestion is to try to keep track of the plastic you throw away. One easy way is to separate all plastic items into a separate bag, so that you will be able to see exactly what your "plastic output" is. Once you become aware of what types of plastic you use, then make an effort to cut down on the purchase of merchandise contained in plastic. If you have a favorite product that only comes in plastic packaging, write to the manufacturer and ask for alternative packing. Better yet, tell us, and several of us can write to the manufacturer. Some plastics are bio-degradable, meaning that they break down biologically in a landfill, or can be burned safely. Search out that kind of packaging, it's not easy.

The third suggestion is simply a listing of recycling centers available within our area. This list is incomplete, and if you know of a place or organization not listed, please let me know so that it can be added. Please post this information so that it can help you plan your recycling more effectively.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>MATERIALS ACCEPTED</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>DAYS/HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Rescue Mission 658-8327</td>
<td>newspaper, cardboard, cans, glass,</td>
<td>PICK UP New Castle, north &amp;</td>
<td>M-W-F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>clothing, furniture, appliances</td>
<td>west</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(FOR HOME PICK UP YOU MUST CALL TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE AND LEAVE YOUR ADDRESS.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>PICK UP New Castle, south &amp; east</td>
<td>T-Th</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PICK UP Ellwood City</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PICK UP Butler</td>
<td>every 2nd Thur.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PICK UP Slippery Rock</td>
<td>1st, 2nd, 4th Fri.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PICK UP Grove City</td>
<td>same as Slip. R.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DROP OFF Grove City U. Meth. Ch.</td>
<td>4th Sat.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DROP OFF Mercer, 4-H Grounds</td>
<td>5th Sat.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DROP OFF Sharon, behind Walden's Meats</td>
<td>24 Hrs.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DROP OFF Butler, North St.</td>
<td>M-T-W</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Christ. Ch.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DROP OFF Ellwood City,</td>
<td>24 Hrs.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Christie's Plaza</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>E.G.O.Z. 452-6533</td>
<td>newspaper, glass, cans</td>
<td>DROP OFF Zelienople, Rt. 19</td>
<td>Mon-Fri 8-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>will buy—newspapers, glass,</td>
<td>North from Northgate Plaza</td>
<td>Sat. 8-12</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>alum, cans, scrap alum,</td>
<td>DROP OFF Butler, Quarry St.</td>
<td>T &amp; Th 9-4:30</td>
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<td></td>
<td>will accept—clean alum foil,</td>
<td>under</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>bimetal cans, tin cans, car</td>
<td>Main St. viaduct (bins avail. 24 hrs.)</td>
<td>Sat. 9-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>batteries, office &amp; computer paper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>J &amp; L Metals 654-9669</td>
<td>will buy—alum, copper, radiators,</td>
<td>DROP OFF New Castle, 2000 Old</td>
<td>M-F 9-5</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>alum cans, all metals.</td>
<td>Butler Rd.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aluminum Can Recycling Ctr.</td>
<td>will buy—clean, dry alum cans</td>
<td>DROP OFF Wampum, N. Rt. 18</td>
<td>Wed. 1-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>335-7847</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sat. 10-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminum Can Bank</td>
<td>will buy—alum cans</td>
<td>DROP OFF New Castle, Bus Rt. 422</td>
<td>24 Hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have any information which should be added to this list, please call Brad Sheeler, Conservation Chairperson, at (412) 924-2375.
Bartramian Audubon Society
P.O. Box 264
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL
The UPLAND INFORMER is the official newsletter of the Bartramian Audubon Society and is published 10 times per year. Free to members, friends may receive three consecutive free issues on request. Subscription rate is $4 per year.

THANKS!

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPPED

BY YEAR.

$1,500 profit from the broghton thus
that we have resigned approximately
It was reported at the board meeting

FROM YOUR EDITOR

GOOD WORK!

WANTED out along the parade route.
Literature and applications were also
written our name and emblem were displayed.
A drove her car on which magenta signs
of community parade in Grove City. Helen
Heaton, Pemberton participated in the
canoe, and on August 4 , Mattion and
coaches, and the members, right side of the
leading some of the various
skil at handpicked some of the various

tour of duty, the members, right side of the

MARTY JOHNSON, our Membership

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HELP--
Monday, October 12, 1987

MONTHLY
7:30PM

United Methodist Church (basement)

MEETING
Franklin and Maple Streets
Slippery Rock, PA

THE SIXTH SENSE: A SENSE OF WONDER

Our guest speaker for the October Meeting will be Mr. George Ramig of Butler. He will encourage us to explore our sixth sense through the medium of photography. His slides will take us to three different types of environments: woodland, desert, and swamp, to show us the wonders of nature.

Mr. Ramig is a perceptive nature photographer who has given talks and workshops on his specialty, including a four-session workshop at Audubon's Beechwood Farms.

Please come and make him welcome. We currently have more than 400 members in the four-county area. Come out and meet some of your neighbors! Feel free to invite non-members, also. The public is always invited to share in our meetings.

Don't forget to stay for our famous refreshments!
FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

In my last article I wrote of the restructuring of the National Audubon Society and the fact that nine candidates selected by the chapters (one per region) will be placed on the ballot. Under this new system the chapters in each region will select one nominee who will be placed directly on the ballot as part of a single slate. The full slate will consist of nominees from the regions together with other nominees designated by the board nominating committee, who will be nominated to fill the remaining vacancies. It will be submitted to the membership at large for election, in accordance with NAS standard procedures.

Of the nine chapter-selected directors, three will stand for three-year terms, three for two-year terms, and three for one-year terms. As the term of each regionally selected board member expires, chapters from that region will either renominate the incumbent, or select another candidate to serve a full three-year term. This will insure that there will always be nine members of the board who have been selected by chapters.

Length of the first terms, by regions, have been chosen by lot at the NAS national convention August 24-29. The results are as follows:

- 3-year terms: Great Lakes, Mid-Atlantic, Western
- 2-year terms: Northeast, Rocky Mountain, Southeast
- 1-year terms: Alaska, Southwest, West Central

This means that the person elected from our region will be serving a 3-year term.

The Bartramian Chapter is extremely proud to nominate Dr. Gene Wilhelm, one of our founders, as a candidate to the National Audubon Board of Directors from the Mid-Atlantic Region. We have only one vote per chapter, so you members must spread the word to any of the other forty-eight chapters in the region, of his very capable abilities and knowledge of board procedures. He was a member of the board at one time. It will be a difficult campaign since there is little time, and nine other candidates. The chapter will be sending information to the other forty-seven chapters, but please, do all you can for his election. We certainly wish him the best of luck!

The statewide weekend Council meeting will be held on November 6-8 at Hartman Center, on Route 322, in Milroy, PA. It is about one hour southeast of State College. Lodging and food for the entire weekend (Fri. night to Sun. Noon) will be less than $40.00. You are welcome for all or part of the weekend. The host chapter, Appalachian Audubon Society, will have more details later.

Joan Wilver has graciously accepted the position of corresponding secretary for BAS, with the help of her husband, Ed, on newsletter mailing dates. Thanks so very much to both of you.

We would like the services of a typist in the Ellwood City or New Castle Area. It would be a great help to our editor if you could assist.

We also desperately need a field trip chairperson. Brad Sheeler and Priscilla Stoughton kindly came to our aid for September.

We trust everyone received their newsletter on time, but in order to try to keep our mailings in line with the constitution, news must be in the hands of the editor on the night of the meeting each month. So, chairmen, or anyone who wishes to submit news, please have it ready on the regular meeting night.

We have been informed that our former president, Dr. Earl Houts, has undergone surgery at Greenville Hospital. We certainly wish him a speedy recovery.

(Editor's Note: Dr. Houts is now recovering at home. Please send all cards and letters to 105 Oak St. Plaza Ests.
Slippery Rock, PA 16057)

Please remember to give us suggestions for programs, field trips, newsletter items, refreshments, or anything that will help us improve our operations.

Helen R. Ferguson
OCTOBER
UPCOMING OUTINGS, EVENTS
AND DATES OF INTEREST

1 World Vegetarian Day

2-4 Hawk Watch Weekend II, Pocono Environmental Educational Center, Dingmans Ferry, PA

2-4 Joint meeting of Ohio & PA Wildlife Societies at Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology, Linesville, PA. Call Cal DuBrock (717) 787-1570.

7 Full Moon

9-12 PEEC Family Vacation Camp, Pocono Environmental Education Center

11 B.A.S. Field Trip: 1:30PM
Hell's Hollow Walk, led by Becky Sheeler. Hell's Hollow is a small hollow resulting from the action of Hell's Run, a tributary of Slippery Rock Creek, and is part of McConnell's Mill State Park. It is a short, easy walk through some interesting rock formations, to an old iron furnace, and a waterfall. We will meet at the Canoe Adventures parking lot, on Rt. 422, 7 miles east of New Castle, 4 miles west of I-79, and carpool from there as there is limited parking at the site. For info, call (412) 924-9314 or 924-2375.

12 B.A.S. Monthly Meeting; Columbus Day observed.

15 Chesapeake Bay Workshop, Lewisburg, PA. Contact Cindy Adams Dunn, Citizens Prog. Ches. Bay, 121 South St., Harrisburg, PA 17101 (717) 236-8825.

17 B.A.S. Field Trip: 8:00AM
Lake Arthur Birding Walk, trip leader to be announced. Meet at the Bike Shop on the North Shore at 8:00AM. For more info, call Shirley McCarl (412) 748-3433.

19 B.A.S. Board Meeting
20 Orinoid Meteors best on this, or one of the next few mornings.

22 Chesapeake Bay Workshop, Harrisburg, PA, same contact information as Oct. 15.

23 Swallows leave Capistrano

30-31 Hawk Watch Weekend III, Pocono Environmental Education Center, Dingmans Ferry, PA.

31 Halloween

BITS & PIECES

Bill Sarver has accepted the position of Field Trip Chairman for B.A.S., with the help of Shirley McCarl and Loraine Weiland. If you have any suggestions for field trips, or if there is a trip which you would like to lead, please contact Bill at 4830 Scott Dr. Hermitage, PA. (412) 346-5862.
Thanks, Bill, we are pleased to leave this position in your capable hands!

Corrections ----
Our Recycling list in last month's newsletter included the name of the center in Zelienople, E.C.O.Z.. We have been informed that the name of this facility has been changed to Tri-County Recycling.
Also, some of you may have noticed that last month's U.I. was incorrectly numbered.
This issue is correct.
Thank you Dr. Wilhelm!

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!
AVES is cordially inviting subscribers, readers, and friends of BIRD WATCHER'S DIGEST to participate in its eighth year of Birding Workshops for Beginners.

Workshops are intended primarily for beginning birders, stress bird identification in settings noted for their natural beauty and prolific bird life, and are strictly limited as to number of participants. The intention of AVES is for each person to have a personalized quality birding experience while leisurely exploring some of the world's most unique natural environments with an ornithological expert.

In 1988 visit some of the most outstanding birding areas in the world:

Tanzania, East Africa II: Feb 26-Mar 14: 300 bird & 40 mammal species
Northwestern Indiana: Mar 24-27: sandhill cranes by the thousands
Valley of South Texas: Apr 15-24: migrating hawks & shore birds
Assateague-Chincoteague I: May 5-8: land & water birds par excellence
Southeastern Arizona: May 14-28: owls, hummingbirds, & trogons
Maine-Grand Manan Island I: Jun 25-Jul 4: crossbills, puffins, & whales
Kenya, East Africa: Jul 8-24: ostriches to weaver finches
Ecuador-Galapagos Islands: Aug 2-16: Andean condor, penguins, & boobies
Maine-Grand Manan Island II: Aug 26-Sep 5: migrating pelagic birds & whales
Assateague-Chincoteague II: Sep 15-18: peregrines, merlins, & shore birds
Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, PA: Sep 30-Oct 2: migrating hawks par excellence
Australia-New Zealand: Nov 1-27: unique land, birds, & mammals

AVES has gained a fine reputation among hundreds of participants for its quality workshops which are both learning experiences and fun. A high percentage of former participants are BWD subscribers and repeaters, attesting to the excellence and personalized attention received in the workshops since 1980.

References from current BWD subscribers are available for all workshops upon written request. AVES also has the capacity to plan and organize birding workshops for individuals or organizations in your home area or anywhere in the free world. Finally, AVES will present color slide programs at cost on any birding destination for your organization with advanced notice.

For complete information, please contact:

AVES, c/o Dr. Wilhelm
R. D. 3, Box 8, Slippery Rock, PA 16057
(412) 794-2434
CONSERVATION NEWS & VIEWS

"Contrary to popular opinion, the most challenging mountain on Earth isn't Mount Everest or some other far-flung and obscure Himalayan peak. The toughest one of all to conquer is the mountain of solid waste that each of us generates at the rate of a ton a year."

Jack Hubley, editor, PA Wildlife and Outdoor Digest

Not only are our landfills overflowing, we are depleting our natural resources. The best way to stop this viscous cycle is to stop buying items which cannot be reused or recycled. As a small start in this direction, I suggest, if you are coming to our monthly meeting, or a board meeting, that you bring your own cup and napkin for the refreshments. This will save the club the money used to purchase paper or plastic items, and will save trees, and reduce landfill problems. To be sure, it will be an inconvenience on your part, but you will know that you are furthering BAS goals.

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST:


"Coryi," newsletter of the panther recovery effort in Florida. Write the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Office of Informational Services, 620 South Meridian St., Tallahassee, Fla. 32399-1600. No cost.


A Matter of Degrees, a World Resources Institute study on the 'greenhouse effect.' Write W.R.I. Publications, Box 620, Holmes, PA 19043-0620. Cost is $10.00.

Organizing Outdoor Volunteers, a book devoted to creating, supporting, and revitalizing volunteer organizations to accomplish outdoor projects. Write AMC Books, 5 Joy St., Boston, Mass. 02108. Cost is $5.95 plus $2 postage.

"Paddle Pennsylvania," a 36-page booklet describing trips which can be made on PA's rivers and streams, arranged by river drainage. Write Publications, PA Fish Commission, P.O. Box 1673, Harrisburg, PA 17105-1673. Cost $1.00.

For more information contact Conservation Chairperson, Brad Sheeler, R.D. #1 Box 358-D, Ellwood City, PA 16117 (412) 924-2375.
MORE ABOUT FALCONS!!!!

In addition to the 17 Peregrines released at two remote hack sites in the Adirondacks in 1986, four were raised and released in downtown Albany. These bring to 148 the total number released in New York since 1974. This year also found five pairs nesting in the state, including two that nested on bridges leading into New York City. from PA Game News

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service recently made arrangements with the Carolina Mtn. Club, Appalachian Trail Council, USFS, and Bald Mtn. Development Corp. to reroute the A.T. off Big Bald for two weeks this past June to accommodate the hatching of peregrine falcons. Also, the pair of falcons that was nesting below Holts Ledge this spring was not successful in hatching eggs. According to USFW, visitors to the area may have caused the birds to leave the nest for periods too long to permit adequate incubation. Greater efforts to protect the area next year are anticipated. from The Register

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LEAD POISONING CLAIMS EAGLES

Four bald eagles recovered earlier this year in North Dakota, Michigan, Minnesota and Kentucky were found to have died from lead poisoning, bringing the total number of documented bald eagle lead poisoning nationwide now to 129. There are now 31 states with confirmed cases of fatal bald eagle lead poisoning. Also last winter three endangered Aleutian Canada geese found in California died of the same cause. The most likely source of lead was lead shotgun pellets that the birds ingested. from PA Wildlife & Outdoor Digest

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SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE

The E.P.A. started a hotline to provide current information on its drinking water regulations. Its primary purpose is to help the public understand EPA programs. The Hotline will operate weekdays 8:30AM to 4:30PM EST. The number is 800-426-4791.

OFF ROAD VEHICLE THREAT

In a letter to the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors, Robert Anderson, the former board chairman of the Atlantic Richfield Co. and now chairman of the Aspen Institute, wrote, "As we look at the next 20 years of outdoor recreation, I believe that the single most dangerous and damaging use of our public lands will be off-road vehicles." Keystone Trails Association's All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Task Force has been very busy accumulating documentation of incidents, studying other states' policies on ATV's, and suggesting policies on ATV regulations for PA. For more information, contact Jean Aron, 227 Kimport Ave., Boalsburg, PA 16827.

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FOOD IRRADIATION????

In the United States, the FDA has approved irradiation of fruits and vegetables with levels as high as 100,000 rads (equivalent to 4 million chest X-rays.)

Sensing that consumers might not buy such foods, the food industry pushed for obscure labeling, some segments even wanting no labeling.

In the United Kingdom, however, food irradiation has been rejected because of a lack of evidence about its safety.

Although producers of fruits and vegetables were given the green light by the FDA to use irradiation a year ago, there is no detectable rush to use it, partly because it strips away the color of most green vegetables.

Bills have been introduced into the House and the Senate concerning food irradiation. The Senate Bill, introduced by Senator George Mitchell of Maine, is called S.461. The House Bill, introduced by Rep. Doug Bosco of California, is called HR956. Both bills call for more research before food irradiation is allowed and extending the labeling requirements to irradiated ingredients used in restaurants and in processed foods. from The Alternator, Aug., 1987

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POLLUTED PARKS

This summer, 6 northeastern states and 5 environmental groups, including Audubon, sued the EPA for failing to control air pollution in the national parks.

from The Audubon Activist, Sept/Oct '87
ECOLOGICAL GOOD NEWS *****

NEW MACHINE BREAKS DOWN HERBICIDE WASTE

Washington (AP) The government is testing a new machine that breaks down herbicide wastes into harmless byproducts, a USDA scientist says.

Chemist Phillip C. Kearney of USDA's Agricultural Research Service said the machine uses a two-step process in which wastes pass first through a 55-gallon, stainless steel drum, creating ozone that bubbles through the liquid and breaks down the pesticides chemical bonding.

The waste then enters the second drum, containing sand and soil, where microorganisms finish the job of breaking them down.

The machine is aimed at changing atrazine and alachlor, the two most commonly used herbicides in the country into "readily degradable byproducts."

"If your method can prevent the dumping of pesticide wastes into landfills or leaky disposal pits, we feel that we've gone a long way toward preventing pesticide residues from polluting groundwater," Kearney said.

"This is the least expensive, most thorough method we know of," he added.

Thus far the machine also has been shown to be effective for the herbicides metribuzin, trifluralin and bentazon and the insecticide coumaphos.

The device, which can be carried in a pickup truck, can be constructed at a cost of less than $8000 and needs about as much electricity as an air conditioner, according to Kearney.

Butler Eagle Sept. 9, 1987

FUELING FOOD

Micro Organic Fuel Incorporated of Carmel, California has refined an enzymatic process that breaks down the molecular structure of cellulose in agricultural waste materials, such as rice hulls, wheat chaff and leaves, and transforms the cellulose into a kind of biological plastic that can be formed into an astonishing variety of materials.

Essentially, they have found a way to change garbage into fuel, building materials and big business. And they're hoping that MOF technology will be the beginning of a biotechnology that could eventually transform the economic foundations of society.

MOF's most developed product is a solid fuel made from wheat and coal, that burns far more efficiently than wood or charcoal, cont. next col. ---

is competively priced, burns much cleaner than pure coal, does not require scarce raw materials or sophisticated technology to make and can be produced almost anywhere.

from The Alternator, Aug., 1987

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FIELD TRIp REPORT:
FRINGED GENTIAN FEN WALK

Trip leader, Priscilla Stoughton.

Fifteen people braved unsteady and swampy walking conditions on Sunday, September 13, to observe the Fringed Gentian, Grass of Parnassus, Nodding Ladies' Tresses, Lobelias, Narrow Leaved Cat-tails, forget-me-nots, and many Bidens, that stuck to our clothing. There were numerous other plants and weeds on this most interesting hike.

We saw a few winged friends, such as the killdeer, mourning dove, cedar waxwing, mallard ducks, a g reat flock of Canada geese, downy woodpecker, a turkey vulture, and one of the flycatchers.

Several spiders also intrigued us with their interesting webs on various plants.

It was a great afternoon, and we met some new friends.

submitted by Helen Ferguson

Grass of Parnassus or Bog Star

One of the elegant plants that grows in the Fringed Gentian Fen is Grass of Parnassus (parnassia glauca). This plant, sometimes called a bog star, is not related to grasses at all, but is a member of the sand-frage family. The flower, which is beautifully white with green lines, is a thrill to locate in a bog or swamp, from July to October.

PMS.
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE BARTRAMIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY

(Underlined words are additions proposed; lined-through words are deletions.)

ARTICLE IV.

Section 4. The term of office of newly elected Officers shall begin the day after the June membership meeting.

Section 5. If by reason of resignation or death, or for any other reason, an office shall become vacant, the SOCIETY shall elect, by majority vote, such Officer to fill the vacancy, and the Officer so elected shall serve until the next annual meeting of members following June, when newly elected Officers begin their terms of office. When, for such purpose, an Officer has been elected for less than a full term, such part term shall be disregarded with respect to his qualification for re-election for a full term or for additional consecutive terms, as set forth in Section 2 hereinabove.

The sections presently numbered 5 through 10, shall be renumbered 6 through 11.

PLEASE SEND US A PROXY. We are asking for proxies from those who will not be coming the October meeting, to ensure that we will have a quorum for the vote on the amendment. (If you have a family membership, two members of the family may send proxies. Each should write and sign his own.) The wording should be as follows: "I hereby authorize the presiding officer to cast my vote on all matters brought before the membership at the October 12, 1987, meeting of the Bartraman Audubon Society." The member should sign and date his proxy. If you intend to come, but possibly may not make it, please send us a proxy anyway, but add before your signature, "If I attend the meeting, I reserve the right to cast my own vote."

Send proxy to B.A.S., c/o Helen Ferguson, 14 Ritter Drive, Butler, PA 16001
To order, please use this form and enclose it with your check made payable to the Bartramian Audubon Society, c/o Robert Walczak, 3556 Ellwood Road, New Castle, PA. 16101.

NAME ___________________________________ ADDRESS ___________________________________

CITY __________________________ STATE ______ ZIP ______ PHONE ____________________________

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING HIGH QUALITY SEED FOR ME:

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<th>Price/Bag</th>
<th>No. Bags</th>
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TOTAL SEED ORDER: _______________________

I would like to donate $1.00 to help with handling .......

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _______________________

Phone: 656-0201 for any questions !

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS: October 24, 1987
PICK-UP DATE: November 7, 1987
(Noon- 2:00 p.m.)

Pick-up will be in parking lot across from the United Methodist Church in Slippery Rock !!!
MONTHLY
Monday, November 9, 1987
7:30PM
United Methodist Church (basement)
Franklin and Maple Streets
Slippery Rock, PA

AUDUBON ECOLOGY CAMP REPORT

Our November program will feature Sally Walbert and Virginia Huston, two teachers from Ford City, PA, who attended an Audubon Ecology Workshop this summer. Ms. Walbert was the recipient of a B.A.S. scholarship, and Ms. Huston received a scholarship from National Audubon. The women both teach at the Len-ape Elementary School, which was enrolled in our Audubon Adventures Program.

Audubon Ecology Camps are designed to help teachers understand the importance of the interrelationships that exist among living things, through field trips, discussions and workshops. Ms. Walbert and Ms. Huston will report on their experiences at the camp, and tell us how these experiences will enable them to become more effective educators.

After the program we will hold our usual short business meeting, followed by a social hour, highlighted by refreshments. (How our Hospitality Hostesses can equal or surpass last month's buffet is beyond your editor's comprehension!)

This is a great opportunity to learn how effective our national programs are, so please come, and bring a friend!
FROM THE PRESIDENT’S PERCH ... 

In my last article, we promoted Dr. Gene Wilhelm, as a nominee for the National Board of Directors from the Mid-Atlantic Region. The ballots were counted on Oct. 2, 1987, and Dr. Leigh J. Altadonna (Wyncote, PA) was the nomination. Since then I have received information from the Ohio Audubon Council requesting that we distribute their proxy ballot.

Ohio Audubon Council, hopes to get twelve directors elected instead of nine to the National Board of Directors through their proxy ballots. They feel their candidates are very knowledgeable about chapter operations and have expertise in various fields. They have great concern about the following ideas of National Audubon:

1. "A "two-tier" membership system designed to channel a larger share of membership revenues to New York, less to the chapters, remains on the National agenda."

2. "Will the National offices be re-staffed, or gradually phased out? There already has been a shifting of states to eliminate one or two regions."

3. "Will the society's historic emphasis on education be restored, or replaced by television "specials" and other media gimmicks?"

You will receive in the mail the week of Oct. 19th, the proxy ballot from the National Audubon Society. I urge you to participate in the Ohio Audubon Council Proxy ballot by completing and mailing the Proxy Form enclosed in this newsletter. For more information, please read "Proxy Rebellion."

Joan Wilver and I plan to attend the fall Audubon Council of Pennsylvania meeting Nov. 6-8, 1987 in Milroy, PA.

The Brucker Great Blue Heron Sanctuary reported the following information: Total Nests 201; Active Nests 150; Adult Population Breeding 300; Non-Breeding Adults and Sub-Adults 45; Estimated Fledglings 310.

The sanctuary is open to the public from Sept. 1 – Jan. 31, 1988. While the herons are gone, you could check out the habitat under the nests. It is recommended you take a compass or call one of these number for a guide: Edward Brucker (216) 448-8911. Jack Schaaf (412) 588-8690. Robert Ross (412) 588-2482

The sanctuary is still hoping for funding from the PA Wild Resource Conservation Fund, but in the mean time, are planning to build an "observation shelter" and path from the shelter to the service road. Volunteers are needed for this most worthy project. Call any of the above numbers, if you can volunteer.

The sanctuary is located on Rt. 18, south of Greenville, PA, near the Agway. There is a sign along Rt. 18 directing you to the sanctuary.

The "Audubon Adventure" program is a bi-monthly publication of the National Audubon Society for grades fourth - sixth. This year the topics will be Marine Mammals, Spiders, Endangered Species, Weather, Microclimates, Songbirds and Fish. As a chapter, we like to sponsor classrooms for this project or have individuals or other groups sponsor. The cost is $25.00 per classroom.

If you have any classrooms to suggest, please give me the teacher's name, grade, school, school address and phone number immediately.

Dr. Earl Houts, our past president, is improving following surgery and may be able to attend meetings very soon. We are very happy to report this encouraging news.

We do hope that you will support our bird seed sales this year. Orders must be in by Oct. 24, to Robert Walczak, 3556 Ellwood Rd., New Castle, PA 16101.

In hopes of developing a program suitable for children about birds, I would appreciate any bird slide you might be will to give to B.A.S.

In keeping with our conservation theme, please bring your own cup and napkin to the meeting to cut the cost of refreshments and reduce landfill problems.

Please remember to give us suggestions for improvements in B.A.S. activities.

Helen R. Ferguson

Editor's Note: Dr. Houts was in attendance at our October Meeting. We were all glad to see him looking so well.

continued next column
FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

Conneaut Marsh Trip—Shortly after 7AM on Sat., Sept. 26, fifteen canoeists were on the marsh in 8 canoes. We saw the eagles' nest still intact, but no sign of the eagles. We also saw a group of 15 or 20 coots partially hidden by marsh weeds, several great blue herons, hundreds of Red-Winged Black Birds, many ducks, and of course Canada Geese. We heard a very noisy wren in a bush near the shore, which was not a house wren. (Shirley McCarrl identified the chatter as a Carolina Wren.) Submitted by B. Sarver

Editor's Note: Honors awarded to this group included: Most Improved Paddlers, Helen Ferguson and Marilyn Johnston; Most Adventurous, Drew Orient and Joan Gableman; Best Swimmers, Bill Sarver and Shirley McCarrl.

Hell's Hollow Walk—The cool temperature and threat of a shower did not deter the 7 Auduboners who accompanied me on Sun., Oct. 11. We found Witch Hazel in bloom, and many ferns, including the Christmas Fern and the Walking Fern. The hollow is a lush environment for plants that thrive on limestone soil, and we saw some of the largest Hepatica and Wild Ginger leaves I'd ever seen. At the end of the trail stands the Lawrence Furnace, one of the most unusual iron furnaces built in the area, and a 15 foot waterfall. Zack, Josh and Aaron Orient were a delight to have on the trip as we saw many things we might have missed without their energy and curiosity. While looking at a group of mosses on the way back we spotted a Ribbon Snake, who obviously didn't want our company. Special thanks to Priacilla Stoughton for helping, and to Chris Calhoun from Butler Community College, who supplied me with information about the iron furnace.

Submitted by Becky Sheeler

Lake Arthur—Blue skies and fall foliage enhanced this trip on Sat., Oct. 17. Thirty different species were identified on this trip, but there were no shore birds due to the high water level, meaning the absence of mud flats. There was an unidentified green scum over the entire surface of the lake. Among the species noted were Ruddy and Ring Neck Ducks, Bluebirds, Widgeon, and a Black-Mallard Hybrid. Submitted by Don Rote
W. PENNSYLVANIA'S FIRST
MULTI-MATERIAL RECYCLING CENTER

Early in August, Allegheny Recycling Corporation, a subsidiary of Glenshaw Glass Company, opened the first major multi-material recycling center in Western Pennsylvania. Located on Route 8 in Glenshaw, the center is open from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

The center will pay for clean glass (free of metal and sorted by color), aluminum cans, and newspapers. The price will vary according to the market. Also accepted, but not paid for, will be bi-metal cans and computer paper.

To promote "family appeal," the center is designed as a barn-like structure and will occasionally feature attractions such as a petting zoo. For people in a hurry, the center offers drive-through service.

D.J. Orient, manager of the recycling center, said the recycling center is an attempt to encourage more people to recycle glass, needed in the manufacture of glass containers, while supporting recycling in general to help solve growing solid waste problems.

from ASWP Bulletin, Sept. 1987

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IMPORTANT

B.A.S. MEMBERSHIP ALERT

PROXY REBELLION

B.A.S. recently received a letter from Charles H. Callison, former Executive Vice President (retired) of N.A.S. and John F. Gallagher, longtime Audubon Chapter and Ohio Audubon Council leader. They are concerned about the direction of actions taken by the N.A.S. Board of Directors, including the attempt to disband the regional offices, and the apparent growing disregard for local chapters. They are waging a proxy campaign to elect twelve (12) directors from the chapters to serve on the N.A.S. Board of Directors, instead of the nine (9) that the board proposes. They also seek the restoration of regional offices, and the prevention of revenue cuts to chapters. Roger Tory Peterson has written a letter of support for their campaign. They feel that the candidates they have chosen are knowledgeable concerning chapter operations, and have expertise in various fields of environmental issues. Our own Dr. Gene Wilhelm is included on their ballot.

Within a week or two all Audubon members will receive a proxy ballot from N.A.S. If you sign and return that form the process of limiting chapter participation on the Board of Directors will become part of N.A.S. Bylaws.

The BAS Board of Directors voted unanimously to support the Ohio Audubon Council's attempt to make the board more responsive to chapter needs. We urge all our members to sign and return the enclosed proxy form, and to ignore the form you will receive in the the mail from N.A.S.
HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL IS A CONCERN OF BUTLER CHAMBER

Butler County Chamber of Commerce will make the treatment and disposal of hazardous waste a major priority in the coming year.

That announcement was made by Chamber President Patricia Lee Bell at a press conference held before the group's annual awards dinner.

The Chamber is pursuing the problem of hazardous waste disposal because new federal and state regulations make smaller-quantity generators of hazardous materials responsible for documenting the disposal of their waste products, Bell said.

Bell also noted that the last facility in the state licensed for disposal of hazardous waste closed down operations last June.

"The lack of a licensed site in Pennsylvania necessitates substantially increased costs for Pennsylvania industry which now must ship their wastes out of state," Bell said, adding that there is a risk that certain states could close their borders to the transport of out-of-state waste.

Bell said that the Chamber will be a "vocal advocate" of the implementation of the state Department of Environmental Resources "Hazardous Waste Facilities" plan which includes the licensing of two disposal sites in the state—one in the east and one in the west.

Making certain to emphasize that it was her own view, and not necessarily the position of the Chamber, Bell said that she favors a hazardous waste disposal site in Butler County—a facility in which materials would be recycled and operations strictly overseen. She said such a facility is in operation in Lowell, Mass., and represents a partnership of the public and private sector.

Bell also said that the private sector cannot manage the problem of hazardous wastes alone—it must have the help of government, she said.

from Butler Eagle, Oct. 9

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COUNTY HAS SLOW START IN RECYCLING CONTEST

New Castle and the rest of Lawrence County are falling behind in the solid waste race.

The City of Franklin in Venango County is currently considering acceptance of a $48,000 state grant. That grant would be used to develop a three-year experimental program to eventually make recycling in that city mandatory.

Franklin is far ahead of New Castle where trash is concerned. The community promoted a voluntary recycling system last year, and officials were pleased with the results. Now the city must go even farther.

Governor Robert Casey proposes that many municipalities in the state be required to make recycling mandatory. Legislation is pending on that request.

Although mandatory recycling may not be approved in 1987, its time is definitely coming. As landfill space dwindles, the state has fewer and fewer alternatives.

Seeing the handwriting on the wall, some Franklin officials aren't waiting for the state to act. By getting deeply involved in recycling now, that community can take advantage of grant money to help with its program. In future years—when hundreds of communities will be fighting for recycling funds—that kind of money probably won't be available.

Unfortunately, officials in Lawrence County don't seem to be taking much of an interest in the solid waste crisis. The attitude appears to be one of letting the state do all the work. By waiting until the last minute to get into recycling, however, communities eliminate many of their options.

Local officials should sit up and take notice of what's happening with the garbage crisis. This is one instance where it's much better to be a leader than a follower.

from Editorial, New Castle News Oct. 2

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CONSERVATION NEWS & VIEWS:

Hotline—An Audubon Hotline has been established to help us all keep up with environmental issues. Call (202) 547-9017 and hear a recorded message, which is updated weekly, giving you background information and the current status of Audubon's priority issues.

Recycling—New Castle Junk Co. paid 40¢ per pound for aluminum beverage cans last week. The following companies do not package their beverages in recyclable cans: Pepsi, including Mountain Dew; Laurel Springs; Iron City Brewing, some cans only.

McToxics campaign—McDonald's, the world's largest fast-food chain, is being pressured to change their packaging from styrofoam to a biodegradable replacement. Consider:
1. That the styrofoam from a single day's worth of McD's sales would take up 50,000 cubic feet of landfill space.
2. That toxic waste products result from manufacturing this petrochemical plastic.
3. That the ozone layer is being damaged by fluorocarbon gas, the same gas used to make styrofoam.

Any one of these reasons warrants a change to more acceptable packaging. The B.A.S. board of directors are unanimous in their support of the campaign being waged against McDonald's by the Citizens' Clearing House for Hazardous Wastes, Inc. Letters are being sent to the McDonald's Corporation, to Joan B. Kroc, widow of the founder, and to managers of local franchises.

We strongly urge you to support this effort by conducting a personal boycott against McDonald's until they decide to act responsibly.

For more information on any of these topics, contact me at (412) 924-9314.

Brad Sheeler, Conservation Chairperson

CHAPTER BITS & PIECES

**Dr. Gene Wilhelm will lead a trip to N.W. Indiana, March 24–27 to see the 15,000 Sandhill Cranes which pass through that area. If you are interested in going along, contact Dr. Wilhelm at (412) 794-2434.

**Mary McKinnis of Butler has accepted the position of Education Chairperson, recently vacated by Dr. Lawrence Calhoun. Mary is already hard at work on increasing our Audubon Adventures classrooms. Thank you, Mary, and welcome aboard!

**Shirley McCarci reminds everyone to sign up for the Christmas Bird Count. We need feeder watchers as well as field workers. You can sign up at the meeting, or by calling her at (412) 748-3433.

**Don Rote reports sighting a Monk Parakeet twice during the week of Oct. 18, at his home in Shenango Township, Lawrence County. He asks everyone to be on the lookout for this bird at their feeder this winter. The Monk Parakeet is about the size of a Mourning Dove, with a long tail, and bright green color. Its voice is a parrotlike squawk. These birds escaped near New York City in the 60's, and have been spreading west ever since. If you spot this bird, let us know at the meetings, or call Don at (412) 654-8015.

**Dorothy Taylor from the Wyncote Audubon Society has read in our newsletter of our interest in Peregrine Falcons, and therefore reported to us that a group from her society sighted about 50 Peregrines on a trip to Cape May, N.J. on Sat., Oct. 7.

**Cover artwork is by Ed Wilver, Witch Hazel drawing by Priscilla Stoughton. (You've seen both their work several times lately.)

**Special thanks to Lynn Laderer who helped with all the typing for this edition.
NAS PRIORITY ISSUES

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY HAS identified five high priority issues for intense and immediate focus:

• Safeguard the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, which is under threat of oil development.
• Conserve ancient, virgin forests, especially in the Northwest, where they are rapidly disappearing.
• Preserve wetlands, which this country continues to lose at a rate estimated to be 450,000 acres per year.
• Fight the spread of toxics, including acid rain.
• Protect the Platte River ecosystem in central Nebraska, home to many species and migratory habitat for sandhill and whooping cranes.

Of course, we will continue to work on the dozens of other important issues, but these five are being attacked in coordinated campaigns that involve every facet of the Society as well as the grassroots membership.

Chapters have their own priority issues and can draw on the huge reservoir of talent, energy, and expertise contained in National Audubon Society.

HYDROPOWER CENTER MOVES TO SAVE WHOOPING CRANES

One of American Rivers Center for Hydropower Policy's first actions was to file a formal intervention with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) when operators of Kingsley Dam on the Platte River in Nebraska filed for a license renewal. "The intervention seeks the imposition of suitable downstream water flows below the dam to protect habitat for rare and endangered birds," said John D. Echeverria, American Rivers' Hydropower Director.

The operation of the Kingsley project along with a series of upstream dams is of enormous importance to the long-term protection and recovery of the critical habitat of the Platte River. This 200-mile long segment of the River, called the "Big Bend," is an essential resting and feeding point along the migration routes of a variety of bird species, notably the whooping crane, the bald eagle, the piping plover and the least tern. All are on the federal threatened and endangered species list. Despite American River's motion, the FERC issued annual licenses on the facilities without imposing new requirements. American Rivers has now filed a motion for rehearing on the granting of the annual licenses.

from American Rivers, Sept. 1987
**********

Membership Application
(circle one)

New Member ($20) Renewal Individual ($30)
Sr. Cit. ($21) Sr. Cit. Fam. ($23) Student ($18)
BARTRAMIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City, State Zip: ________________________

Amount Enclosed: ________________________
Make checks payable to National Audubon

Mail to: Marilyn Johnston
107 Greenhill Dr.
Butler, PA 16001
Bartramian Audubon Society
P.O. Box 264
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING PROXY

1. Insert Date of Signing.

2. Print Name exactly as membership is carried and shown on your magazine label. (e.g. - John Doe -- John and Mary Doe -- John Doe & Family -- Mr. & Mrs. John Doe)

3. The Proxy is to be signed by the person whose name membership is carried. If carried in two names or as Mr. & Mrs., either party can sign. (Only one person can sign.)

4. Show current address and zip code.

5. SIGN ONLY THIS PROXY FORM. DO NOT SIGN ANY OTHER PROXY FORM YOU MIGHT RECEIVE. To sign more than one form invalidates all forms you may have signed.

6. Return signed Proxy to: OHIO AUDUBON COUNCIL
23 South Center Street
Springfield, Ohio 45502

7. Mail the form immediately as all forms must be received by November 10.

NOTE: BEFORE SIGNING THIS FORM PLEASE READ THE SECTION ENTITLED "PROXY REBELLION" ON THE PRECEDING PAGE.
Monday, December 14, 1987
7:30PM
MONTHLY MEETING
United Methodist Church (basement)
Franklin and Maple Streets
Slippery Rock, PA

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL & SING-A-LONG

Once again this year our December meeting will feature a "goodies" buffet, and a Christmas sing-a-long. Each family attending the meeting is asked to bring a "goodie" for the table. Beverages will be supplied, remember to bring your cup.

This year, Virginia Lytle will lead our songs, accompanied by her omnichord. Mrs. Lytle has conducted sings at Sunnyview Home for several years.

In addition to all the other festivities, Dr. Gene Wilhelm has promised us some special "tweets".

You won't want to miss this event! Bring a "dish", bring your voice, and enjoy the season, and company.

The Best of the Season to All from B.A.S.
FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

I sincerely hope you have sent in your proxy ballot for the election of National Audubon Board Members on Dec. 4, 1987, in New York City. The new board members will definitely create changes in the National Audubon Society.

Joan Wilver, Corresponding Secretary, and I attended the Audubon Council of PA meeting on Nov. 6-8, 1987 at Milroy, PA. The main objective was to pass a constitution and a set of by-laws. This objective was accomplished and the council intends to meet in April and October of each year in the central part of the state. The first meeting will be April 23-24, 1988.

The following officers were elected to serve until the April meeting, at which time an election will be held.

President: Paula Ford
Juniata Valley Chapter

1st Vice Pres.: Cliff Hense
Wyncote Chapter

2nd Vice Pres.: David Howes
Seneca Rocks Chapter

Secretary: (Vacant) *

Treasurer: Barb Warren
York Chapter

* If you would be willing to serve as secretary, please let me know.

This organization will give the chapters of PA a more formal structure and more efficiency in dispersing information.

Several people present were at the National Audubon Convention in Washington in August, and they both expressed the idea that by the end of the convention a very positive attitude was displayed by all. They sincerely felt that the National Board will earnestly try to keep communications open between chapters and the National Audubon Society. The next National Audubon Society Convention will be in Tucson, AZ.

The Mid-Atlantic Region Office is open and functioning with Walt Pomeroy and one Secretary. The Mid-Atlantic Region has an opportunity to cooperate with the PA Game Commission on a number of projects, with a grant from the Wild Resources Fund. We will hear more about this in the future and have an opportunity to select some projects that we, as a chapter, can achieve.

(continued)

Mr. Rick Carlson, Director of Planning, of the DER spoke to us briefly. Mr. Carlson expressed forth coming improvements within the DER with Mr. Art Davis, as the new Executive Secretary. Mr. Davis has developed a four-year plan and is encouraging more cooperation with the DER office. Mr. Carlson feels that public confidence will be restored in DER under the leadership of Mr. Davis. Another very positive note is that Governor Casey is strongly committed and very interested in enforcing laws related to DER activities and environmental issues.

The following is an update given on the Osprey Project in PA:

Osprey Returned: 25+
Nests Built: 8
Nests Produced: 4
Young Birds Produced: 7

The National Audubon Society is offering Acid Rain Kits at the price of $20 per kit. This is a way individuals can help monitor acid rain in their own backyards and report their findings to a national center. If you are interested in participating in this most needed project, let me know.

The television program, "Outdoor Penna." has been aired on Channel 13. Try to see it! The reports are most favorable on its contents and presentation.

The National Audubon Society and the Mid-Atlantic Region are updating their computer programs with such devices as TCN and phone modems. It will make it easier to get immediate information from the chapter level to the New York office.

A big thanks to all of you that purchased bird seed from our bird seed sale.

Last month we published a list of officers and committee chairpersons, so please take time to express your thanks for their hard work on your and the chapter's behalf.

Please take an active part in our upcoming Christmas Bird Count, Dec. 19, 1987, even if it is only counting the birds in your backyard that day.

Please remember to give us suggestions on BAS activities. This is your chapter and we need everyone's ideas to make the chapter successful.

Helen R. Ferguson
DECEMBER

UPCOMING OUTINGS, EVENTS AND DATES OF INTEREST

1  World's first drive-in gas station opened in Pittsburgh, PA, 1913.

5  Full Moon; Jupiter is the brightest that it has been for 10 years or will be for another 12. It is possible to see one or two of its moons with field glasses.

9  E.P.A. Luncheon with George Frampton, Jr., President, The Wilderness Society, 12:00 Noon to 2:00 PM, Philadelphia, PA (215) 597-0356.

13 Geminid meteors this morning and next, before moonrise.


15 Sitting Bull killed in South Dakota, 1890.

16 First day of Chanukah

19 Christmas Bird Count; see article on right.

20 New Moon

22 Winter Solstice, 4:47AM, EST

25 Christmas Day

29 Battle of Wounded Knee, South Dakota, 1890.

31 New Year's Eve

NOTE: The will be no December Board Meeting.
FIELD TRIP REPORT:

Sagulla's Pymatuning Bird Walk—Saturday, Nov. 7 gave us sunny skies and moderate to warm temperature for our field trip. First stop at Sagulla's yielded Ruddy Ducks, Pie Bill Grebe, Coots, Bufflehead and Kingfisher and forty some Mute Swans with their usual pleasing gracefulness. At Willow Pond we viewed Green Wing Teal and Ringneck Ducks.

At Pymatuning, in addition to the hosts of Ring Bill Gulls, Mallards and Canada Geese, Widgeon, Great Blue Heron, all three Mergansers, Pintail, eleven Godwall Black Ducks, Common Loon and a Rough Legged Hawk were sighted.

While we were watching the Immature Bald Eagle, we were able to also see a deer and a Red Fox in the field at the museum. On the way home, a Red Tail Hawk, a Cooper's Hawk and a Kestrel rounded out the day.

submitted by Shirley McCarl

WINTER GREENERY -- CLUB MOSSES

The club mosses we see are usually about 6-12 inches tall. Several species look more like miniature trees than they do like mosses. They may be found growing in extensive colonies where there is a layer of duff on the forest floor and the ground is not too dry. Once a plant has become established, it sends out long, rhizome-like stems that creep on or just below the soil surface in that layer of decomposing leaves. New plants appear about every six inches along these underground stems. In a few years, an extensive patch or carpet can result from this method of vegetative reproduction.

Like their relatives, the ferns, the lycopodia do not produce seeds but rely on very small vegetative particles called spores to reproduce. The spores are yellow, almost microscopic in size, and light enough to be dispersed considerable distances by the winds. Great numbers are produced in the strobili in late summer. Unlike seeds, spores are incapable of directly producing a new plant resembling their mother plant.

Upon germination, the spores produce a microscopic form of plant life known as the gametophyte. The gametophytes of most lycopodia live underground in the decaying leaves and contain no chlorophyll. Since they can not produce food of their own, they are believed to be saprophytic, living off dead or decaying matter.

The gametophyte ultimately gives rise to another kind of plant, which grows into the familiar club moss we see. Because of their minute size, not much is known about the life-cycle of the gametophyte, but it is believed that the spores may take as long as seven years to develop, and the gametophyte may live an additional ten years.

The club mosses are not as common as they once were. One modern reason is that, earlier in this century, market-gatherers denuded entire areas of the plants. Now a number of states have laws prohibiting picking.


**Editor's Note: If you are picking "ground pine" for Christmas decorations, please pick sparingly. What you take may take as long as 20 years to replace.
CONSERVATION NEWS & VIEWS:

Governor Casey seems to be committed to conservation. The following are excerpts from his speech before the joint session of the Pa. House and Senate in Philadelphia, on the 200th year Anniversary of the Constitution.

...We are now paying the price of years of neglect of the natural environment which is Pennsylvania's greatest heritage.

Pollution caused by toxic waste, waterborne diseases, and leaking landfills threaten every one of us. Some 2,000 abandoned waste sites exist in communities throughout our Commonwealth. Two and a half million of our people drink from unfiltered water systems. Over 5 million people live in communities with substandard sewage disposal systems.

In the past 8 months, we have begun, at last, to face up to the problems that have been growing with each passing day.

We have begun the long battle to clean up hazardous waste, purify our water, and solve our solid waste crisis.

We will put the health and safety of our people first...

...Our own Pennsylvania constitution states: "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment... As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all people."

Governor Casey will need help with this. Let your representatives know how you feel on issues.

Did You Know:

Tropical rain forests are one of the most threatened ecosystems in our world today. We have already destroyed half of the original rain forest.

Logging is a major cause of rain forest destruction. The U.S. annually imports 800 million pounds of paper from Brazil.

Cattle raising is the number one factor in Latin American rain forest demise. Three quarters of the beef produced in Latin America is consumed in the U.S. as convenience foods. (e.g. fast-food chain hamburgers)

from Earth Care Paper Co. Cat.

So not only do the fast food chains flood us with additional waste problems (paper products and styrofoam), and terrible commercials, but they are also major contributors to global rain forest destruction. Think about this when you order your next 2-Min McWhopper with cheese.

CLEAN AIR UPDATE:

In the U.S. Senate, committee action is winding up on a clean air bill that contains important provisions on acid rain, air toxics and urban smog. In the House, hearings have been held on acid rain and urban smog. If we want action on clean air in this Congress, now is the time to write your representative and two senators.

Please write or mailgram your representative and two senators as soon as possible. Your message can be very simple: Let them know you want action this year on clean air amendments. Clean air has been waiting for congressional action for six long years.

Lists of both the House and Senate Standing Committees will be available at the December meeting.

For more information on any of these topics, contact me at (412)924-9314.

Brad Sheeler, Conservation Chairperson

CAVE OWNERS ALERT!

The N.S.S. (National Speleological Society) has recently formed a PA Cave Law Conservation Task Force which seeks to amend the PA Recreation Use of Land and Water Act to include cave protection.

If you own land which includes a cave, or are interested in learning more about this proposed legislation, contact your editor, Becky Sheeler, (412) 924-9314.
VALUES OF WETLANDS EMPHASIZED

At the March 3 general meeting, Richard McCoy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service presented a film on the reasons why wetlands are important.

Though wetlands look like worthless decaying areas, they do have many valuable functions in our environment.

1. Wetlands can be breeding grounds for waterfowl.
2. Wetlands provide an irreplaceable habitat which supports many species of wildlife.
3. Wetlands purify water before it enters the ground water.
4. Wetlands replenish groundwater supplies.
5. Wetlands help maintain moisture in the soil and lessen the impact of drought.
6. Wetlands curb soil erosion.
7. Wetlands, when drained, increase the incidence of flooding. When retained, wetlands delay the flow of water by storing floodwaters which gradually find their way to the rivers and streams.
8. Wetlands provide spawning areas for the fish industry.

How are wetlands determined? They must be areas that are wet long enough during the growing season to support certain vegetation (ferns, cattails, dead standing trees, trees with unusual bulbous bases, and a leafy succulent shrub layer). The soil of such areas is saturated, acidic, and low in nutrients. Last of all, wetland areas are periodically covered by water.

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act requires anyone who wants to fill wetlands to acquire a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. As of July, 1987, the Game Commission has been able to enforce laws against wetland filling. from C.A.T.S., Inc., Oct. 1987

CHAPTER NEWS**CHAPTER NEWS**CHAPTER NEWS

Ferg reported that the "protein enriched" bird seed we received from Agway has been distributed. Seeds were given to: Sunnyview Nursing Home, Butler; Orchard Manor, Grove City; HarMer Elementary School, Harrisville; Connoquenessing School, Butler Summit Twp. Elementary School, Butler; Clearfield Twp. Elementary School, Butler; Laurel School, New Castle; Jennings Nature Reserve; board members.

B.A.S. now has 29 classrooms signed-up for Audubon Adventures programs. Mary McKinnis reports that two of these were donated by our own Bessie Burd. (A subscription for an Audubon Adventures Classroom makes a great Christmas gift for a grandchild, niece, nephew or special child. Contact Mary McKinnis at (412) 287-5425 for details.)

The bird seed sale was a great success, due to our V.P. Bob Walczak, and his helpers the Wilvers, Ferg and Marilyn. We sold 6680 lbs. of seed for a profit of $403.92. The seed was purchased from a new source, The Feed Bin, in Poland, Ohio. If you like the new seed, and would like to reorder it directly, you can by calling (216) 757-0282.

The Board has recently formed a Finance Committee which will be responsible for adopting a fiscal policy for the Chapter. The committee is comprised of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Conservation Chairperson and Education Chairperson. All future requests for donations from the society will be handled by this committee.

Do you know how many Audubon Chapters there are in PA? 23
2 boxes

This is using rough cut (cedar) smooth on 1 side only and produces matched side. Two rough sides.

If you use both sides smooth or don't care about 1 side rough & 1 side smooth, they layout below can be cut from 6' board.

nominal 1x10 board

6' 2x4

27° 27° 45° 27°

~26"
RECOMMENDATIONS MADE ON MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

A public hearing on the proposed regulations for municipal waste management was held on August 20, 1987. Dick Eidam and Steve Stevens presented recommendations to the EQB (Environmental Quality Board), Dick as a representative for CATS and Steve as a private citizen.

After studying the proposed regulations they presented these suggestions to the EQB:

1. Because home hazardous waste is disposed of in municipal waste landfills, the sections of geology and slope and landslide prone areas from the Criteria for Siting Hazardous Waste Facilities should also be included in siting municipal waste landfills.

2. The document proposed prohibiting a municipal waste landfill within 1/4 mile upgradient and 300 feet downgradient of a water supply. The recommendation by Steve and Dick was for a 1/2 mile distance.

3. They also recommended that the seasonal high groundwater table factor be considered not only in the section concerning composting, but also in the section about areas prohibiting siting of municipal waste landfills.

4. The proposed document uses the term "important wetlands". To avoid future questions and conflict, they recommended striking the word "important". All wetlands are important.

5. A final suggestion was made to include a barrier (such as wire mesh) to prevent burrowing animals from tearing the plastic liner.

Both men complimented the DER on the proposed regulations as a step in the right direction for protecting the citizenry. However, Dick ended by stating that CATS does not endorse landfilling but rather supports efforts that implement recycling programs.


**************

THE PETERSON BLUEBIRD HOUSE

The Peterson house is certainly not the only kind that will attract bluebirds, but over 20 years of experience by dedicated bluebirders here have led to the preferred design of the Bluebird Recovery Program. While a 1 1/2 inch round hole is common, the elongated, oval hole 1-3/8 x 2-1/4" has far-reaching advantages (watch how they slip easily into it!), and yet extensive testing shows it to be the best deterrent to starlings. Heavy construction (meaning fairly thick wood) is preferable over houses of less than 3/4" tops and 1/2" sides. Light-weight houses, milk cartons and plastic jugs have been found to literally "cook" the young when the hot sun beats down upon them. Detailed studies show a 9° critical difference in temperature between houses constructed of thick wood with adequate (but not too much) ventilation and those of thin construction. The better insulation of thicker wood is also critical when that late April blizzard hits and the female is desperately trying to keep her naked brood warm.

The large, overhanging roof with a deep slant gives maximum protection from sun and predators; the drop front provides easy access for quick checking and for the essential cleaning between nestings. The narrow sloping floor (which should have no drainholes) is preferred by bluebirds and helps discourage other birds with large broods.

Houses need not be painted, but should remain light in color for less heat absorption.

from Bluebird Recovery Program
PO Box 566, Minneapolis, MN

Full-sized plans for this bird house are included in this issue.
**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

An Audubon Membership
Makes A Great Gift Idea

Membership Application
(circle one)
New Member ($20)  Renewal Individual ($30)
Sr. Cit. ($21)  Sr. Cit. Fam. ($23)  Student ($18)
BARTRAMIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY

Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
City, State Zip: ____________________

Amount Enclosed: ____________________
Make checks payable to National Audubon
Mail to: Marilyn Johnston
107 Greenhill Dr.
Butler, PA 16001

Bartramian Audubon Society
P.O. Box 264
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

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PRESIDENT'S PERCH

We are hoping to have a great membership participation in the Christmas Bird Count on Dec. 19. We certainly wish to express our heartfelt thanks to Shirley McCarroll and Dr. Gene Wilhelm for planning and executing the big day. A big thanks to those who participated, particularly those who had to bear the cold weather.

At our January meeting, we will have bluebird boxes for sale to get prepared to help our feathered friends when they return for spring.

Students and recent graduates may wish to consider an internship with the National Audubon Society. They usually last three months and are available throughout the year at participating sanctuaries in Maine, South Carolina, Florida, Kentucky, Connecticut, Arizona and California. For additional information write to the National Audubon Society, 93 West Cornwall Rd., Sanctuary Dept., Sharon, CT 06069.

The Audubon TV Specials now have a companion book entitled Life in the Balance. It is published by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, written by David Rains Wallace and available at local book stores. Lavishly illustrated with more than 1,000 photographs, the book also includes color maps, line drawings and charts. It is a breathtaking portrait of our global environment. Also available are cassettes for the Audubon TV Specials for educational purposes. The purchase price is $30.00 or four (4) for $100.00, but chapters can also borrow a videocassette without charge by contacting Mr. Christopher Palmer, 6801 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20003; (202) 547-9009.

Walt Pomeroy, our Regional Vice President, has notified me that at the annual meeting of the National Audubon Society of Friday, Dec. 4, the full slate of regional board members nominated by chapters were elected, including Dr. Leigh Altadonna, our Mid-Atlantic nominee. President Peter Berle cast 106,629 proxy ballots which he had received from members. Charles Callison and John Gallagher had collected 5,112 alternative proxy ballots. Mr. Callison offered his congratulations to the new Board, and told them it was "their duty to protect the Chapters and regional offices."

On behalf of the Bartramian Audubon Society, we wish each and every one of you a most happy and prosperous new year.

Helen R. Ferguson

WHICH BIRDS EAT WHAT?

The following is a partial list of the preferred foods of some of our common birds so that you can plan your feeding to attract the birds of your area:

- Sunflower seeds: grosbeaks, cardinals, chickadees, and others
- Thistle seed: goldfinch, redpolls, pine siskins
- Millet: doves, finches, sparrows
- Suet: woodpeckers, chickadees, nuthatches, titmice

from Senaca Rocks Drummer Sept. 1987
NEW YEAR'S DAY

3  Presque Isle Outing: Cross Country Skiing - Land of Lakes - LuAnn Reiners (814) 398-3298

3  Jennings: Late Prehistoric Archaeology of SW Penn., slide presentation by Dick George of Carnegie Inst. (412) 794-6011

4  FULL MOON

8-10  Pocono Environmental Education Cntr., Dingmans Ferry, PA: Weekend in Search of Eagles

10  Presque Isle Outing, Dingmans Ferry, PA: Gulls - Sam Stull (814) 796-2070 or Jerry McWilliams (814) 833-3169

11  BAS Monthly Meeting

15  Martin Luther King's Birthday

15-18  Pocono Environmental Education Cntr., Dingmans Ferry, PA: Family Holiday Weekend (717) 828-2319

17  Presque Isle Outing: Snowshoeing Cross Country Skiing at Eric Natl. Wildlife Refuge - Bob & Jean Tracy (814) 899-2571 or Jerry McWilliams (814) 833-3169

18  BAS Board Meeting

24-29  Pocono Environmental Education Cntr., Dingmans Ferry, PA: Elderhostel

30  Presque Isle Outing: Cross Country Skiing at Presque Isle Genny Volgstadt (814) 838-3938

30  McKeever Snowshoe Outing, 9-5pm intro. to snowshoes, winter bird, tree and animal track ident., children's program also available (412) 376-7585

NEW JOB FOR PAUL ZEPH

Regional Vice President, Walt Pomeroy, has announced that Paul Zeph has been hired by the PA Dept. of Environmental Resources as their "Community Relations Liaison" in the Office of Public Liaison. His chief responsibility will be to work with environmental and conservation organizations throughout Pennsylvania. Congratulations, Paul, and best wishes in your new role!

1. How many owls species are regularly seen in PA?
2. What is the smallest PA owl?
3. What is the average weight of a great horned owl?
4. Which are the only brown-eyed owls in PA?
5. Which of our owls is considered an endangered species in PA?
6. Which owl is believed to mate for life?
7. Which owl is considered the most nocturnal?
8. Which owls are protected by PA Game Laws?

(answers pg. 3)
Acid rain is one of the most critical issues facing our nation and the world. National Audubon has initiated a Citizens Acid Rain Monitoring Network to keep track of the status of this problem.

The volunteer network, which is scientifically testing and reporting on the acidity of rainfall nationwide, has been in operation since July. The program has 94 active monitoring sites around the country and plans to increase the network’s number to more than 200 active monitoring sites.

The latest figures show that acid rain is falling in many locations across the country. Even in October, when rain is generally less acidic, we’re seeing pH levels in many of the states that are dangerous to the environment.

In October, 46 stations in 20 states reported rainfalls with average pH values below 5.0. Rain with pH values below 5.0 is always attributable to air pollution. States recording some of the lowest average pH values in October include: Indiana, 4.24; Maine, 4.48; Michigan, 4.02; and Pennsylvania 4.08.

The Citizens Acid Rain Monitoring Network works to increase public awareness about acid rain pollution, which is damaging lakes and forests, and eroding buildings, statues and other man-made structures. In addition, the airborne pollutants that cause acid rain create respiratory problems for millions of Americans. Audubon will use the data gathered by the network to impress upon Congress the need to pass legislation to control the pollution that causes acid rain.

Write to Elaine O’Sullivan in the New York office for information or call the acid rain HOTLINE 1-800-832-RAIN.

For more information, or to enroll in the network, contact: National Audubon Society, Citizen Acid Rain Monitoring Network, 950 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022.

Brad Sheeler
Conservation Chairman

---

“SUPPORT SOMETHING WILD”

Help Reintroduce the River Otter
Donate on Line 10C or 19C of the State income tax form to the
Wild Resource Conservation Fund,
Pa’s Tax Checkoff.

Write for information:
Wild Resource Conservation Fund
P.O. Box 1467
Room A1-85, 3rd & Reily Streets
Harrisburg, PA 17120

DO SOMETHING WILD
MONTHLY MEETING
Monday, January 11
United Methodist Church
Slippery Rock, PA

Our January meeting will have an African flavor! Ronald Fodor, B.A.S. member and District Manager of the Butler County Conservation Dist. will speak and show slides of his recent visit to South Africa. Ron was the recipient of a Rotary Group Study Exchange Scholarship for six weeks of study in Johannesburg, South Africa. He stayed with ten host families and toured major corporations, governmental bodies, schools and parks.

Come and get some first hand information about a country that is currently in the international news. The meeting will begin at 7:30pm.

Bartramian Audubon Society
P.O. Box 264
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

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EDITOR: Becky Sheeler
COVER ART: Ed Wilver
TYPIST: Lynn Laderer

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage
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Slippery Rock, PA
Permit No. 59
PRESIDENT'S PERCH

The National Audubon Board Election was held on Dec. 4, 1987. There were nine chaptered-elected nominees added to the Board for the first time. The Mid-Atlantic candidate, Dr. Leigh Altadonna, was elected. We were very happy to hear this since we met him personally at the Audubon Council of PA formation meeting in November.

The Ohio Audubon Council proxy vote cast 5,111 votes. Three of the nine directors elected were on their proxy slate. They were Bart Cadbury of Maine; Jan Burch of Nebraska; and Wilma Anderson of Texas.

Mr. Charles H. Callison, from the Ohio Audubon Council, feels it was a watershed change in the government of the National Audubon Society. There are problems, such as representation. Alaska, as a region, with only five chapters and some 2,600 members, has the same (elected) voice on the Board as other regions having scores of chapters and tens of thousands of members.

The success of the change will depend on whether the nine regionally elected Directors can make themselves heard on the Board. The chapters themselves must insist on being heard in New York. They must not tolerate the point of view that they are merely expensive and non-essential appendages of an organization made up of a national Board of Directors, national staff, and a body of magazine subscribers.

The nine chapter-nominated board members are:

Leigh J. Altadonna, Wyncote, PA
Mid-Atlantic Region
Wilma Anderson, Dallas, TX
Southwest Region
Janice E. Burch, Lincoln, NE
West Central Region
B. Bartram Cadbury, Cushing, ME
Northeast Region

Charles G. Evans, Anchorage, AK
Alaska Region
Robert Y. Grant, Kenmore, WA
Western Region
Janet C. Green, Duluth, MN
Great Lakes Region
Harriet M. Marble, Chester, MT
Rocky Mountain Region
Leah G. Schad, West Palm Beach, FL
Southeast Region

Thanks to all of you that sent in your ballots to help keep democracy in the National Audubon Society.

Mr. and Mrs. Norris Crook, have sent us several articles on the panther situation in Florida. One was the "Coryi" the official newsletter of the Florida Panther Interagency Committee. The long-term goal of this committee is to undertake a coordinated, cooperative effort to restore the Florida panther to non-endangered status in the wild.

The Ft. Myers newspaper reported on Dec. 16, 1987, a 126lb. male panther, between 6 and 8 years, was killed by a tractor trailer truck. It was wearing a radio collar and was known as No. 13, and had been tracked since Feb. 1986.

Traffic accidents are the main cause of death for the Florida panthers.

The Christmas Bird Count on Dec. 20, 1987, was quite successful even though weather conditions were unusual, particularly the wind and rain. Thanks so much to all of you who participated. The final results will appear elsewhere in this issue.

Due to a change in our printer and costs, the "Upland Informer" will be smaller than some issued in the past, but we will try to keep you informed on Bartramian activities.

Remember, if you have any suggestions, please let me, or any chairman of the various committees, know.

Helen R. Ferguson
Full Moon

5-7  Pocono Env. Ed. Cntr. Workshop
"Nature in Winter," Dingmans Ferry, PA (717) 828-2319

6  Presque Isle Audubon Field Trip:
Night Cross Country Skiing/Snow Shoeing at Land of Lakes. For
info. call Jerry McWilliams (814) 833-3169 or Bob and Jean
Tracy (814) 899-2571

8  B.A.S. Monthly Meeting

12-14  Pocono Env. Ed. Cntr., Family Holiday Weekend, Dingman's Ferry
PA (717) 828-2319

13  B.A.S. Field Trip: Cross Country
Ski Outing at Oak Tree Country Club, West Middlesex. Ski rental
is available on a first come, first served basis at $7.50 per
person. If you have your own equipment, trail fee is $4.00
per person. Meet at the Pro Shop at 9AM. For info. call
Becky Sheeler (412) 924-9314. (Lack of snow will postpone outing until Feb. 20)

14  Valentine's Day

15  B.A.S. Board Meeting

17  Ash Wednesday: New Moon

19-21  Pocono Env. Ed. Cntr. Workshop:
"In Search of Eagles," Dingmans Ferry, PA (717) 828-2319

20  Presque Isle Audubon Outing:
Annual Party at Uncle Charlie's Pizza Pub, Edinboro. Call Lee
Ann or Bob Reiners (814) 398-8298

26-28  Pocono Env. Ed. Cntr. Workshop:
"Winter Wildlife Workshop," Dingmans Ferry, PA (717) 828-2319

Meet at 10AM at Park Headquarters, or meet at 8AM at
the Boron Station at the intersection of Rt. 208 and
I-79 to carpool or caravan. For info. call Bill Sarver (412) 346-5862 or Shirley
McCarl (412) 748-3433

THE OSPREY IS BACK!

We need your Continued Support.
Donate on Line 10C or
19C of the State income tax form
to the
Wild Resource Conservation Fund,
Pa's Tax Checkoff.

Write for information:
Wild Resource Conservation Fund
P.O. Box 1467
Room A1-85, 3rd & Reily Streets
Harrisburg, PA 17120

NEW COORDINATOR

The PA Breeding Bird Atlas has announced a new Regional Coordinator for Lawrence, Mercer and Northern Butler counties. He is:
Dr. Robert Ross
Biology Department
Thiel College
Greenville, PA 16125
(412) 588-2482 (pm)
1987 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT HIGHLIGHTS

December 20, 1987 was Butler County's day to hold the Annual Christmas Bird Count. Butler County's area is centered at Moraine State Park and is a circle with a 15 mile diameter.

This 88th Christmas Count had 35 participants: 21 field counters and 14 feeder watchers.

The tally for the day was 71 species and 6,655 individuals.

Extension of the Deer Season this year was unexpected and caused a number of people to forego the count due to the change of dates (from the 19th to the 20th).

Natural food sources were poor and birds were scarce.

Most frequently sighted species:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>1987</th>
<th>1986</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mallards</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Waxwings</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock Doves</td>
<td>1141</td>
<td>1166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mourning Doves</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring-billed Gull</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-breasted Nuthatch</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark-eyed Junco</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europen Starlings</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>15,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Finch</td>
<td>1367</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(399 in 1985; 181 in 1984)

House Sparrow         | 661  | 1897 |
American Crow          | 277  | 515  |
Black-capped Chickadee | 193  | 466  |

There were no Northern Pintails, Tundra Swans, Eastern Meadowlarks, White-crowned Sparrows, Fox Sparrows, Field Sparrows, Chipping Sparrows, Rufous-sided Tohees, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Yellow-rumped Warblers, Northern Shrikes, Water Pipits, Brown Thrashers, Northern Mockingbirds, Screech-Owls, Common Snipes, Killdeer, Wild Turkeys, Rough-legged Hawks, Red-shouldered Hawks, Goshawks, Greater Scaups or Canvasbacks, all of whom have been included in previous years.

Great Blue Herons sighted jumped from only 2 last year to 28 this year, and Hooded Mergansers from 2 in 1986 to 26. Other large increase in numbers were noted in Ring-necked Pheasants, American Coots, Brown Creepers, and Pine Siskins.

Species showing large drops in number since last year include American Goldfinch, Brown Headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Red-winged Blackbird, White-throated Sparrow, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Horned Lark, Blue Jay, Tufted Titmouse, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin and Northern Cardinal.

The 1987 participants were: Harriett Bauer, Helen Beck, Ruth Cooper, Ruth Crawford, Barbara Dean, George Dean, Mary Dean, Eli Egli, Jim Egli, Helen Ferguson, Joe Frazier, Ruth Frazier, Marguerite Geibel, Earl Houts, Katheryn Houts, Marilyn Johnston, Mark Krenitsky, Sandra Linabarger, Fred Lochner, Shirley McCarl, Don Rote, Bill Sarver, Becky Sheeler, Priscilla Stoughton, Helen Taggart, Bob Walczak, Lorraine Weiland, Gene Wilhelm, Joanne Wilhelm, Kevin Wilhelm, Jean Willis, George Wilson, Ed Wilver, Joan Wilver and CORKY.

88th CBC: Dec. 20, 1987
71 species, 6,655 individuals, 35 participants
87th CBC: Dec. 20, 1986
84 species, 32,833 individuals, 41 participants
86th CBC: Dec. 21, 1985
63 species, 10,304 individuals, 25 participants
85th CBC: Dec. 22, 1984
58 species, 9,649 individuals, 17 participants

Information supplied by Shirley McCarl

BLACK FERRETS
FOR THE FUTURE

"A litter of six blackfooted ferrets was born at the Wyoming Game & Fish Department's captive breeding facility last June, marking the first successful attempt at breeding the animals in captivity."

The blackfooted ferret is considered the rarest mammal in the world; the only ones known to exist are all at the Wyoming facility. Researchers are optimistic that their captive breeding program will eventually enable them to release ferrets back into the wild."

from "The Pennsylvania Game News"
Oct. 1987
MONTHLY MEETING
Monday, February 8
United Methodist Church
Slippery Rock, PA

Mr. William R. King, of Kittanning, will present our February program, "Where the Mountain Laurel Grows." This slide program features wildflowers through the season along with rural Appalachian landscape, and uses the two projector, dissolve unit technique. A number of the slides have won awards in photographic competitions.

Bill King is a former member of the Penn State University Staff, having served as county agent and extension director in Armstrong County. A Penn State graduate, he received both a bachelor's and master's degree in animal science. He is past president of the PA Association of County Agricultural Agents and received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents in 1977. He is active in community affairs and is president of the Armstrong County Camera Club. His special photographic interest is nature photography and the rural landscape.

Please come and enjoy the beauty. There will also be a brief business meeting followed by refreshments. The meeting will begin at 7:30PM.

Everyone is welcome!
PRESIDENT'S PERCH

I have received an appeal from Walt Pomeroy, Vice President of the Mid-Atlantic Region, for contribution to continue the work of the region in the following manner:

1. Publicize and help coordinate the National Society Citizens Acid Rain Monitoring Network results in Pennsylvania and other Mid-Atlantic states.

2. Republish our popular Acid Rain Activity Guide, which we authored and published last summer. Our last 500 copies went to Canada at the request of their national acid rain coalition.

3. Increase our educational work with public officials who need to continue to hear about acid rain problems and specifically how it is affecting wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Recent findings on acid rain by Audubon volunteers show rainfall to be at least 300 times more acidic than normal rainfall. The Mid-Atlantic region is working with the 23 local chapters to alert the public as a way to increase citizen pressure to prevent the pollutants that create acid rain.

Acid rain has been doing much damage for many years. The past few years have produced plenty of talk, but no action by the administration and decision makers.

The Federal Administration has continually stalled and discouraged action on this silent Environmental cancer, calling instead for "more studies". The National Academy of Sciences estimated that acid rain causes over $2 billion in damages each year to buildings and monuments. Here in Pennsylvania, our state capitol building required $2 million to repair acid rain damage.

Increasing financial support for environmental work in Pennsylvania has to come from local sources and members. Please support these activities by sending a tax-deductible contribution to the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, Mr. Walt Pomeroy, Mid-Atlantic Region, 1104 Fernwood Ave., #300, Camp Hill, PA 17011.

On Jan. 30, 1988, Shirley McCarl, Joan Wilver and myself presented a program on bird identification at McKeever Env. Ed. Cntr., Sandy Lake, PA. Although attendance was low, we had a very enjoyable time.

I wish to thank Dr. Earl Houts for the loan of his beautiful bird slides and slides of some of the nests which we used in the program. I also want to thank Shirley and Joan for participating in this program.

Thanks go to Bob Walczak, Vice President, for handling the recent bird seed sales. Thanks to all of you that purchased bird seed. Remember, the profits from the bird seed sales goes to our "Audubon Adventures", the program for school children in grades 4 to 6. Currently, we have 29 classrooms.

BAS has started a scrapbook and would appreciate any pictures or articles you might have to contribute. We would like information on the formation of the chapter, pictures of members participating in field trips or other projects, pictures of people involved in the CBC or just socializing at the meetings. Please give the material to me until we find a chairman. If anyone likes to do this type of activity, please let me know.

Does searching for peregrine falcon nests in the red-rock canyon country of southeast Utah sound like your idea of a great vacation? A research team led by two scientists from Brigham Young University is calling for volunteers to help survey the canyons, where virtually no work on raptors has been done. There will be two expeditions: June 11-20 and June 24-July 3. The cost for each is $790 and participants are responsible for their own transportation to Monticello, Utah. For information contact Janet Ross, East Route, Monticello, UT 84535 (801/587-2859).

With the following quote, I will close: "In everything we ought to look to the end." Jean de LaFontaine

Helen R. Ferguson
March
Outings & Events

3 Full Moon
3 Partial Eclipse of Moon
(not visible in Western PA)
5 PA Wildlife Federation Conf. on Acid Rain at Shippensburg University
5 A.S.W.P. Field Trip: Harrison Hills Nature Outing, Natrona Heights, 10AM (412) 963-6100
6 B.A.S. Field Trip: Raptors, Cambridge Springs Pheasant Farm, with Tim Kimmel. This is a joint outing with Presque Isle and Seneca Rocks Societies. Meet Tim at the Public Library in Cambridge Springs at 1:30PM. Take I-79 North to Meadville Exit. Follow U.S. Rt. 6 East toward Meadville then stay on Rt. 6 and Rt. 19 going North through Saegertown and Venango to Cambridge Springs. The Library is a new red brick building near the North side of town on the right side of the road. Questions? Call Bill Sarver (412) 346-5862 or Shirley McCarl (412) 748-3433
6 A.S.W.P. Program: "How Does Your Sap Flow?" Slide presentation at Beechwood Farms, 2PM (412) 963-6100
12 A.S.W.P. Field Trip: A Day at a Maple Sugar Camp, Meyersdale, (412) 963-6100
13 A.S.W.P. Workshop: Woodworking for Wildlife, Beechwood Farms, 2PM (412) 963-6100
14 Monthly Meeting, B.A.S.
17 New Moon
17 Annular Total Eclipse of Sun
(not visible in our area)
19 Presque Isle Field Trip: Signs of Spring, Presque Isle State Park, Jerry McWilliams (814) 833-3169
19 Swallows return to Capistrano
20 A.S.W.P. Workshop: Solar Electricity, Beechwood Farms, 2PM (412) 963-6100
20 Spring Begins, 4:39AM (E.S.T.)
21 B.A.S. Board Meeting
23 A.S.W.P. Program: Journey to Olympic National Park, slide presentation, Beechwood Farms, 2PM (412) 963-6100
26 B.A.S. Field Trip: Shenango Lake with Marty McKay. Meet at "The Cookery" Restaurant at 8:30AM. The restaurant is located on the east side of Rt. 18, 1 mile north of Business Rt. 62 and the Shenango Mall. (It will be open at 6AM for breakfast.) Cars left in the parking lot should be parked at the north side of the building. For info, call Bill Sarver (412) 346-5862
27 A.S.W.P. Program: Flight, Beechwood Farms, 2PM, (412) 963-6100
27 Palm Sunday

Membership Application
(circle one)

New Member ($20) Renewal Individual ($30)
Sr. Cit. ($21) Sr. Cit. Fam. ($23) Student ($18)
BARTRAMIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY

Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City, State, Zip: ________________________________

Amount Enclosed: ________________________________
Make checks payable to National Audubon
Mail to: Marilyn Johnston
107 Greenhill Dr.
Butler, PA 16001
"RECYCLING: ANOTHER BIRD-BRAINED IDEA?"
(continued)

It will certainly be the first to include such knowledgeable speakers.
This is your opportunity to learn the facts and to question the experts. We anticipate a
crowd so we advise arriving early.
As usual, the program will be followed by
a brief business meeting and refreshments.
Bring your friends. Let everyone know B.A.S.
is involved in conservation issues.
See you there!

EDITOR'S NOTE

This month's newsletter is printed on recycled
paper, a conservation milestone for BAS. Paper
is one of the easiest materials to recycle and
the use of recycled paper means a reduction in
landfill problems, and a savings of trees and
woodlands.
Costs for printing on this paper remains very
similar as the price of buying paper is offset
by a reduction in printing costs because we
are supplying our own paper.
I urge you to continue the process. When you
have finished reading the Informer, recycle the
paper. We have initiated an action that will
tell all our readers and friends that BAS is
committed to conservation, that we do more
than talk about ways to better the environment.
To find out more about recycling, attend our
March meeting. The panel discussion will focus
on recycling, and our panel members are just
the people to answer all your questions. I
urge everyone to come, but more than that,
bring a guest. It should be a good time to
introduce a friend to BAS.
I welcome comments and suggestions from any
and all of you. Please address correspondence
to:
Becky Sheeler
Editor, Upland Informer
RD #1, Box 358-D
Ellwood City, PA 16117

CONSERVATION UPDATE

* Gov. Casey has proposed a D.E.R. budget of
$398 million, an increase of $44 million over
last year. It includes $18.3 million for
water systems, sewage treatment, sewage treat-
ment, emergency response to spills and solid
waste management and $14 million for a special
Hazardous Site Clean-up Fund.

* Art Davis has announced a 4-year environment-
agenda for D.E.R. It includes the following
topics: clean-up hazardous sites, increase
waste management capacity, improve clean
water, revitalize state parks and forests,
control nonpoint source water pollution,
integrate toxics management, speed abandoned
mine reclamation, improve water resources
management, improve groundwater quality manage-
ment, preserve natural heritage, abate radon
exposure, improve dam safety, and abate acid
rain.

Brad Sheeler, Conservation Chairman

“SUPPORT SOMETHING
WILD”

Help Protect Native Wild
Plants. Donate on
Line 10C or 19C of the
State income tax form
to the Wild Resource
Conservation Fund,
Pa’s Tax Checkoff.

DO SOMETHING
WILD

Write for information:
Wild Resource Conservation Fund
P.O. Box 1467
Room A1-85, 3rd & Reily Streets
Harrisburg, PA 17120
"Recycling: Another Bird-Brained Idea?" will be the subject of a panel discussion at our March Meeting. In view of the fact that SB 528, PA's recycling and municipal waste bill is currently awaiting legislative action, our subject could not be more timely. Our forum will provide an excellent opportunity to hear expert testimony on the pros and cons of this vital issue.

The panel members include representatives of the recycling industry, landfill services and state and local government. Drew Orient is the manager of Allegheny Recycling in Glenshaw. This facility handles glass, newspaper and cans and is a subsidiary of Glenshaw Glass. Douglas Vogel is the owner of Vogel Disposal Service and a landfill operator. He is also an owner of Tri-County Recycling in Zelienople. Guy McUmber is a D.E.R. Resource Recovery and Planning Coordinator in the Meadville office. Prior to this position he was a Solid Waste Specialist.

James Green is a Butler County Commissioner who is currently the Vice Chairman of the Southwest Pa. Regional Planning Commission.

Mr. Green was involved in the 70's when Butler County operated a pilot recycling program for the state. Our program may well be the first public forum in the area on the subject or recycling.

(continued on page 3)
AUDUBON ECOLOGY WORKSHOP SCHOLARSHIP

Once again this year, B.A.S. has offered a scholarship to the Audubon Ecology Workshops in Connecticut to an Audubon Adventures classroom teacher. This year’s recipient is Charles Muelbroner, from Harrisville. Mr. Muelbroner teaches at the Washington Elementary School in Parker. Congratulations! We look forward to hearing your report in the fall.

B.A.S. Makes the News!

Our March Recycling Panel was reported on by Wendy Hawthorne in the March 15 edition of the Sharon Herald, complete with photo! Radio station WBZY in New Castle also reported it, with an interview with Wendall Wagner, a Lawrence County Commissioner who attended the program. We appreciate the publicity! It lets people know that we’re here, and that we care.

THANKS!!

Our recycling program went so well last month, and was so well attended, thank yous are in order. First to our panel members, Guy McMumber, Drew Orient, James Green and Phyllis Smeltzer, for a great job of providing us with information (a special thanks to Phyllis who was a stand in for Doug Vogel, who was unable to attend); to Brad, who metered out the time; to Dr. Medve for the use of the timer, and its delivery; to Dr. Houts for finding the projector; and to Dr. Chase who tried; and to Rosalie and Sandra, who outdid themselves, as usual!

Nominating Committee Report

B.A.S. Nominating Committee consisting of Becky Sheeler, Dr. Earl Houts and James Egli, announces the slate of officers for the upcoming election:

President: Helen Ferguson, incumbent
Vice President: Robert Walczak, incumbent
Recording Sec.: Leslie Hubenthal
Coresp. Sec.: Sarah McElhaney

CONSERVATION UPDATE

We have two projects presently in the works for interested Bartramian members. National Audubon has organized a "Volunteers for Wildlife" program. A bat survey, an '88 Contest to find the largest, active Martin, and Bank Swallow Colonies in Pa., Barn Owl Trails and Wetlands Slide Contest are among the possible projects. We also need to monitor purple martin houses for use or non-use annually to keep track of their future.

The second project involves beverage can collection. We were asked by Cooper's Lake Campground if we would want to collect the cans generated by the Medieval Festival (4,000-5,000 people x 7-10 days). We would need to provide containers and transportation to the collection center in Zelienople. Gas expenses will be paid, the rest of the proceeds go to the Chapter.

Looking for a project/need to get involved? Call me!

Brad Sheeler
924-9314

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

B.A.S. has received several crates of Peruvian dafodill bulbs from an anynnonomous donor to use as a fund raiser. The bulbs may be planted after the last frost, and will provide a brilliant display of white fragrant blooms, this summer. Bulbs may be ordered by calling Bob Walczak at (412) 656-0201. Price is 25¢ each or 5/$1.00. Bulk prices are also available.
The Committee to Preserve Assateague Island, Inc., requests you send letters to the following to preserve the Piping Plover nesting area at Assateague: Senator George J. Mitchell, Chairman, Senate Subcommittee on Environmental Protection, Room 458, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515; Representative Gerry J. Studds, Chairman, House Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and Environment, 1334 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515; and please send a letter to your Senator and Representative. (The Honorable ______, The Senate, Washington, DC 20516; The Honorable ______, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.)

Remember May 14! Our Bird-A-Thon! If you can't participate in the field, please help by securing ads from local businesses, sponsoring one of our teams or making a donation to the effort. This is our big money raising effort so we can make the 1988-1989 budget.

I will close with the words of Gifford Pinchot, "Conservation means the wise use of the earth and its resources for the lasting food of men."

Helen R. Ferguson

---

"SUPPORT SOMETHING WILD"

Help Protect the Giant Swallowtail.

Donate on Line 10C or 19C of the State income tax form to the Wild Resource Conservation Fund, Pa’s Tax Checkoff.

DO SOMETHING WILD

Write for information:

Wild Resource Conservation Fund
P.O. Box 1467
Room A185, 3rd & Reily Streets
Harrisburg, PA 17120
5th ANNUAL BIRD-A-THON

Plans are moving forward for the 5th Annual Spring Bird-A-Thon to be held on Saturday, May 14. Teams will again be seeking sponsors to pledge per species recorded, hoping to surpass the record $2125 raised in 1984. In past years, the Bird-A-Thon has been the primary fund raising effort for our Bartramian Chapter supporting specific programs like the Audubon Adventures in local schools, as well as, other projects furthering the Audubon cause.

To encourage chapter members, other than team counters to participate, recognition will be given to the top three non-counters securing business ads or patrons for the Bird-A-Thon Booklet. Again this year we are trying to draw support more equitably from our 4-county area. We particularly need members from Oil City, Franklin, Greenville, Sandy Lake, Mercer, Sharon and New Wilmington to solicit sponsors and ads.

If every member would choose one of the following ways to contribute to the Bird-A-Thon, the success of our "thon" will be assured.

I will solicit ads and business patrons in the ______________ area. Please contact me to discuss the solicitation material.

I am donating (circle) $3  $5 other ______ toward the publishing cost of the Bird-A-Thon Booklet. My check, payable to BAS Bird-A-Thon, is my receipt.

Name: ____________________________
Address: ________________________
Phone: __________________________

Mail completed form to:

Ruth Crawford
RD 1, Box 385
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
(412) 794-5688
For our April program we are fortunate to have Ruth and Bob English return to present one of their wonderful slide shows. This year's program is entitled, "The Gaspe and the Gannets," and features the special society of water, fish, birds and humans which make up the Gaspe Peninsula in Quebec. The photographs are the result of four trips to the area and capture the life cycle of gannets, surrounded by kittiwakes, murres, razorbills and black quilemots, with on location sound recordings. A short subject will focus on intimate close-ups of the life cycle of Culix, the mosquito, with the script in rhyming couplets.

The English's are from Fairview Park, Ohio, and specialize in nature and travel photography. They give 30-40 programs a year, in 11 states. They have photographed in the U.S., Canada, Europe and China, and their photoessays are beautiful, as well as thought provoking.

Last year's program on Iceland was incredible, and this year's should be the same. Come and catch the scenery!
ELECTION RESULTS

B.A.S. Annual Election of officers was held at the April monthly meeting. President, Helen Ferguson, Vice-President, Robert Walczak, and Treasurer, Russell States, retained their posts, and two new faces were elected.

Leslie Hubenthal will be our new Recording Secretary, stepping into the job Shirley McCarl has held for two years, and Sarah McElhaney will become Corresponding Secretary, taking over from Joan Wilver who had volunteered to complete the term of Nora Bickel who was forced to resign for reasons of health.

Congratulations to our new officers, and thanks to those who have served so well.

(A listing of the current Board of Directors appears to the right for your convenience.)

Membership Application
(circle one)

New Member ($20) Renewal Individual ($30)
Sr. Cit. ($21) Sr. Cit. Fam. ($23) Student ($18)

BARTRAMIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY

Name:
Address:
City, State Zip:

Amount Enclosed:
Make checks payable to National Audubon
Mail to: Marilyn Johnston
107 Greenhill Dr.
Butler, PA 16001

BARTRAMIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:
Helen Ferguson
14 Ritter Dr.
Butler, PA 16001
(412) 287-2800

Recording Secretary:
Leslie Hubenthal
Box 268, R.D. 5
New Castle, PA 16105
(412) 654-9001

Conservation Chairperson:
Brad Sheeler
R.D. #1, Box 358-D
Elliwood City, PA 16117
(412) 924-9314

Hospitality Co-Chairperson:
Sandra Linberger
107 Rural Dr.
Butler, PA 16001
(412) 283-2633

Publicity Chairperson:
Robert Walczak
3556 Ellwood Rd.
New Castle, PA 16101
(412) 654-0201

Vice President:
Robert Walczak
3556 Ellwood Rd.
New Castle, PA 16101
(412) 654-0201

Corresponding Secretary:
Sarah McElhaney
230 Holyoke Rd.
Butler, PA 16001
(412) 282-2757

Library Chairperson:
Katherine Brydon
201 Mulberry Lane
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
(412) 794-8536

Hospitality Co-Chairperson:
Rosalie Snyder
121 Seneca Dr.
Butler, PA 16001
(412) 287-3820

Newsletter Editor:
Becky Sheeler
R.D. #1, Box 358-D
Elliwood City, PA 16117
(412) 924-9314

Treasurer:
Russ States
24 East Fifth St.
Oil City, PA 16301
(814) 676-6320

Membership Chairperson:
Marilyn Johnston
107 Greenhill Dr.
Butler, PA 16001
(412) 287-4886

Program Chairperson:
Priscilla Stoughton
R.D. #2
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
(412) 368-8865

Field Trip Leader:
William Sarver
4830 Scott Dr.
Hermitage, PA 16148
(412) 346-5862

AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Breeding Bird Atlas
Gene Wilhelm
(412) 794-2434

Awards Bancue:
Gene Wilhelm
(412) 794-2434

Consultant:
Genevieve Twardy
(412) 458-7770

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF N.A.S.?

HAVE YOU RENEWED THIS YEAR?

The benefits are many, the cost is small, the fellowship is friendly, but, more than that,

THE ENVIRONMENT NEEDS YOU!!!
The Pennsylvania Wild Resource Conservation Fund, supported with your voluntary income tax return donations, is beginning a new Volunteers For Wildlife program so people throughout Pennsylvania can participate as a volunteer in their community.

The volunteers will be coordinated through the Pennsylvania staff of the National Audubon Society. Working with the wildlife staff of the Game Commission, all of these projects have been selected and designed in such a way that long-term trends of species and habitats will be measured.

You can help by volunteering some time to assist with one or more of the projects. You can devote as little as one hour this year or as much time as you have. You can work alone or with others near you on a single project or as many projects that interest you. I sincerely hope some of these projects will appeal to you. All projects will assist the Pennsylvania Game Commission in their efforts to protect birds and mammals of Pennsylvania.

There will be awards, prizes and recognition of all volunteers and participating organizations.

Please select one or two projects from the following column and please let me know by May 9, 1988, so I can record it for the Bartramian Chapter. Please include the project name, your name, address and phone number. Send to Helen R. Ferguson, 14 Ritter Dr., Butler, PA 16001.

I have received the following information from The Brucker Great Blue Heron Sanctuary.

There are 16% more nests this year than last. The observation shelter is now a reality. It is located just outside the No-Entry signs and 500 ft. from the nearest tree with a nest. It is located at a spot that provides a good vantage point for observing several active nests. The best time to view the herons is March, April, and early May before the leaves obscure the view.

On Feb. 26, 1988, five herons were seen flying into the Sanctuary and examining the nests. The big bird migration from the south arrives the middle of March.

New signs have been erected on Route 18 North from Greenville indicating the location of the Brucker Sanctuary.

The sanctuary has received money from the Wild Resources Conservation Fund and the Pennsylvania Game Commission.


In keeping with the recycle idea from the past month, I would like to have a display at the May meeting of things you have made from recycled materials. Things, such as, stationery, rugs made from rags, bird houses from coconut shells, bird baths from garbage can lids or anything at all made from used materials.

Please remember to bring some of your favorite "goodies" for the refreshments at the May 9th meeting. This is the same idea we used at the December meeting.

In closing, I will quote Ralph Waldo Emerson, "A life in harmony with nature, the love of truth and virtue, will purge the eyes to understanding her text."

Helen R. Ferguson

VOLUNTEERS FOR WILDLIFE PROJECTS

A. Breeding Bird Trend Survey
You are assigned a specific route. At every 1/2 mile you count all birds seen and heard for 3 minutes. You travel 25 miles. You must be familiar with bird songs.

B. Summer Bat Trend Survey
On an annual two evenings effort, 1 hour per evening at twilight, count all bats over a predetermined area. Knowledge of bat identification is not necessary.

C. Creating Windows to the Outdoors for Shut-Ins
Install one or more feeders, bird boxes, an evergreen or two or shrub on the grounds of a senior citizen home.

D. Creating a Purple Martin Trail
Find 10 existing Purple Martin houses and keep track whether or not they were used by purple martins. All records will be supplied to the national "Purple Martin Conservation Assoc."

E. The 1988 Find-It-Contest
To find the largest, active purple martin and/or bank swallow colony in Pennsylvania. For this project, agency personnel will verify, observe and confirm the largest colonies.

continued on page 5
### EXPENSES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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**TOTAL EXPENSES**

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### RECEIPTS

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**TOTAL RECEIPTS**

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**BALANCE**

4528.11
May Outings & Events

1  P.I.A. Field Trip: "Spring Wildflowers," Dick Clark (814) 833-9955
   Full Moon

5  Eta Aquarid Meteor Showers peak

6-8  Pocono Env. Educ. Center, "Warbler Weekend," Dingmans Ferry, PA (717)
     828-2319

7-8  P.I.A. Field Trip: "Presque Isle/Pymatuning Weekend - Birding Saturday
     from Presque Isle State Park Nature Center; Banquet Saturday evening;
     speaker Robert Criswell, film "Return from Forever," reservations necessary.
     (814) 683-4050 or (814) 863-5677; Sunday field trip to Hartstown Marsh

9  B.A.S. Monthly Meeting

13-15  Pocono Env. Educ. Center, "Watching Bird Behavior," Dingmans Ferry, PA
       (717) 828-2319

14  B.A.S. BIRD-A-THON

15  Canoe Fest, Cooper's Lake Campground; B.A.S. will man an information booth; New Moon

15  Canoe Fest, Cooper's Lake Campground, B.A.S. will have an information booth; New Moon

18  P.I.A. Field Trip: "Night Prowl," Genny Volgstadt (814) 838-3938

27-30  Pocono Env. Educ. Center, Family Holiday Weekend, Dingmans Ferry, PA
       (717) 828-2319

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THE EAGLES FLY

In 1985 the Oklahoma Wildlife Department launched a bald eagle restoration project
and since then 23 have been released. Unlike most other eagle projects, however,
in which young birds are taken from their nests, Department biologists collect eggs
instead (from Florida). They incubate them and raise the chicks through the
nestling and fledgling stages until they are old enough to be released. The pro-
cedure seems to be working well and the Department is planning on releasing up to
75 eagles in a single year. They think such a strategy will more likely result
in the establishment of a breeding pop-
ulation than releasing small numbers of
birds over many years.

from The Pennsylvania Game News, Jan. 1988

---

McKEEVER NEEDS HELP

McKeever Environmental Education Center, in Sandy Lake, needs a B.A.S. volunteer to
lead a bird walk in June. If you are able to give a few hours in June to do this,
please contact Helen Ferguson for details.
This could be a golden opportunity for
some of you who aren't usually able to
lead a field trip, to share your know-
ledge with visitors to our area.
(Pres. Ferguson - (412) 287-2800)
Bird-A-Thon Pledge Form
(it's not too late!)

I will solicit ads and business patrons in the __________ area. Please contact me to discuss the solicitation material.

I am donating (circle) $3 $5 __________ toward the publishing cost of the Bird-A-Thon Booklet. My check, payable to BAS Bird-A-Thon, is my receipt.

Name: __________________________
Address: __________________________
Phone: __________________________

Mail completed form to:
Ruth Crawford
RD 1, Box 385
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
(412) 794-5688

P.S. Ruth could use volunteer help on all aspects of the Bird-A-Thon as she is a little under the weather at this time. If you can give some help, please call her.

VOLUNTEERS FOR WILDLIFE PROJECTS cont.

F. A Snag in your Backyard:
The Vertical Birdbox

The vertical bird box (VBB) (optionally 2-10 ft. Long) with various sized openings at different elevations is a man-made snag. You can have fun experimenting with this wildlife "condo". Prizes will be awarded for the VBB used by the most species or with most nests.

G. Finding Concentration Sites for Migrating Shorebirds

We are looking for key migrating stopover sites in Penna. Such sites will be registered in Penna.'s shorebird reserve network.

H. Grassland Bird Index

This requires qualified birders to listen and visually scan for target species at specified points along a predetermined route. Survey stops are sampled four separate times throughout the breeding season.

I. Slide Contest 88: Wetlands

A chapter submits a series of 10 "members best" (5 on wetland wild resources and 5 on problems faced by these resources) to a panel of statewide judges.

J. Wild Resources Workshops

An individual or group will conduct a workshop of their choice. (Examples: a woodworking for wildlife; winter bird feeding; identifying common wild plants and animals; how to make your backyard more attractive to wildlife.)

K. A Barn Owl Five Trail

Build, place and monitor the use of 5 barn owl nest boxes.

RECYCLING CENTERS

<table>
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<th>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>MATERIALS ACCEPTED</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>DAYS/HOURS</th>
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<td>City Rescue Mission</td>
<td>newspaper, cardboard, cans, glass, clothing, furniture, appliances</td>
<td>New Castle, north &amp; west</td>
<td>M-W-F</td>
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<tr>
<td>658-8327</td>
<td></td>
<td>New Castle, south &amp; east</td>
<td>T-Th</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ellwood City</td>
<td>Tue-Fr</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Butler</td>
<td>every 2nd Thu.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Slippery Rock</td>
<td>1st, 2nd, 4th Fri.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Grove City</td>
<td>same as Slip. R.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(FOR HOME PICK UP YOU MUST CALL TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE AND LEAVE YOUR ADDRESS.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Grove City U. Meth. Ch.</td>
<td>4th Sat.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mercer, 4-H Grounds</td>
<td>5th Sat.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sharon, behind Waldman's Meats</td>
<td>24 Hrs.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Butler, North St. Christ. Ch.</td>
<td>M-T-W</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ellwood City, Christie's Plaza</td>
<td>24 Hrs.</td>
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<td>Zelenocop, Rt. 19 North</td>
<td>Mon-Fri 8-4</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>across from Northgate Plaza</td>
<td>Sat. 8-12</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Butler, Quarry St. under</td>
<td>T &amp; Th 9-4:30</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Main St. viaduct (bins avail. 24 hrs.)</td>
<td>Sat. 9-12</td>
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<td>will buy--newspapers, glass, alum, cans, scrap alum.</td>
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<td>will accept--clean alum foil, bimetal cans, tin cans, car batteries, office &amp; computer paper</td>
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<td>Tri-County Recycling</td>
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<td>654-9669</td>
<td>will buy--alum, copper, radiators, alum cans, all metals.</td>
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<td>535-7847</td>
<td>will buy--clean, dry alum cans</td>
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<td>Aluminum Can Bank</td>
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<td></td>
<td>will buy--alum cans</td>
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<td>J &amp; L Metals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aluminum Can Bank</td>
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</table>

DAYS/HOURS

| PICK UP New Castle, north & west | M-W-F |
| PICK UP New Castle, south & east | T-Th |
| PICK UP Ellwood City | Tue-Fr |
| PICK UP Butler | every 2nd Thu. |
| PICK UP Slippery Rock | 1st, 2nd, 4th Fri. |
| PICK UP Grove City | same as Slip. R. |
| DROP OFF Grove City U. Meth. Ch. | 4th Sat. |
| DROP OFF Mercer, 4-H Grounds | 5th Sat. |
| DROP OFF Sharon, behind Waldman's Meats | 24 Hrs. |
| DROP OFF Butler, North St. Christ. Ch. | M-T-W |
| DROP OFF Ellwood City, Christie's Plaza | 24 Hrs. |
| DROP OFF Zelenocop, Rt. 19 North | Mon-Fri 8-4 |
| across from Northgate Plaza | Sat. 8-12 |
| DROP OFF Butler, Quarry St. under | T & Th 9-4:30 |
| Main St. viaduct (bins avail. 24 hrs.) | Sat. 9-12 |
| DROP OFF Wampum, N. Rt. 18 | Wed. 1-4 |
| Satellite | Sat. 10-1 |
| DROP OFF New Castle, Bus Rt. 422 | 24 Hrs. |
MONTHLY MEETING, MONDAY, MAY 9, 7:30 PM
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SLIPPERY ROCK, PA

Slide Presentation:
"The Sonoran Desert - Its Beauty and Abundance"

You will want to attend the May program when Dr. and Mrs. Earl Houts will present a slide show on their recent trip to the Sonoran Desert. The show will use a two-projector dissolve technique and features original music composed by Kathryn, and performed by the Houts'. The show will also include actual desert sounds and narration.

Come see giant sugaro, the water tank of the desert, and the wildflowers, birds and animals that exist in its environment.

Refreshments for the May meeting are to be provided by the membership, so bring your favorite snack to share, see a great show and join in the fellowship.

Bartramian Audubon Society
P.O. Box 264
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

The UPLAND INFORMER is the official newsletter of the Bartramian Audubon Society and is published 10 times per year. Free to members, friends may receive three consecutive free issues on request. Subscription rate is $4 per year.

Editor: Becky Sheeler
Cover Art: Priscilla Stoughton
Typist: Lynn Laderer
EDIBLE SKUNK CABBAGE

For years I've been reading that the young shoots (not the hoods) of the skunk cabbage are good to eat. One magazine article admitted they sting the mouth and temporarily affect the vocal chords, and the authors of Edible Wild Plants (Harper Bros.) warn that some are pretty peppery, but none put them down as harmful.

This morning I collected a dozen tightly rolled cones of new skunk cabbage leaves that were poking through the soggy leaf mulch along Cummings' Swamp and, surprisingly enough, they did look appetizing. Even more surprising, they exuded a trace of unpleasant odor while they were being cooked. We made them with cheese sauce, changing the water several times to keep them mild, and found they tasted much like Brussel's Sprouts - for a while, that is. Then, before the second bite was swallowed we became aware of a prickling sensation in our mouths. Soon our tongues began to burn, and as we discussed this discouraging turn of affairs, it became increasingly difficult to speak in normal tones. Instead of the intended sounds our vocal chords rattled out strained, croaking syllables.

The burning and croaking soon passed but Marie now draws the line at skunk cabbage. The authors of Edible Wild Plants say "our experience indicates that the plants vary, sometimes being quite mild, sometimes peppery. If one is lucky he will cook only the former." Needless to say, we weren't lucky, but the initial taste was so agreeable I'm tempted to try it again - but with shoots from another locality.

from Gone for the Day, Ned Smith

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Beechwood Farms Trip, April 16
Many birds were sighted during the B.A.S. trip to Beechwood Farms, including house finch, purple finch, gold finch, pine siskins, downy woodpeckers, rufous-sided towhee, cowbirds, several sparrow species, cardinals, and others. Bill Sarver reported driving 154 miles that Saturday. Bob Walczak noted a gull from the Rt. 528 bridge over Lake Arthur. The gull had black wing-tips, separated from its grey back by a white stripe. He felt it was a Franklin's Gull.

from material submitted by Bill Sarver and Shirley McCarr

Conneaut Marsh Canoe Trip, April 30
The canoes glided silently toward the huge full moon. Night sounds were everywhere, and the water melted into the sky at the horizon. A bittern pumped to the left and was answered by two others. Sora rails whinnied to each other and the moon. The air was full of other unidentified sounds. When we arrived at the parking lot, it seemed another world. We had watched eagles, seen yellow warblers, common galinules, red-winged blackbirds by the hundreds, spotted sandpipers, barn swallows, tree swallows, many ducks and geese, and more. Attendees were: Bill Sarver and his trusty companion, Shirley McCarr, Ferg, Brad and Becky Sheeler, and guests Glen and Debbie Withrow and Shirley Haggart.

submitted by Becky Sheeler

******************

** Indian Wild Rice (Zizania Aquatica), a shallow pond-growing species listed as "Rare" in PA, has been rediscovered at Presque Isle.

reported in Keystone Wild Notes Winter 1988

HAVE A SUPER SUMMER !!!!!!!!!!
PRESIDENT’S PERCH

Shirley McCral, recording secretary, and I attended the Audubon Council meeting in State College on April 23. There are seventeen chapters on the council, but not all were present. Leigh Altadonna was elected secretary. He gave a report on the two N.A.S. Board Meetings he has attended. He felt the nine elected board members representing chapters were well received. They were put on various committees. He reported on the following ideas:

1. Each chapter could adopt a national board member and send that person newsletters and other information.

2. Councils should be strengthened so they can act in a more efficient manner.

3. There will be no change in the chapter dues split at this time. He will be giving a report after each board meeting, which will be included in the Mid-Atlantic Region mailings.

Some chapters reported on sponsoring field trips as a money making idea. Some of the trips that have been taken were whale-watching in New Jersey and elk-watching in PA.

A great deal of the meeting was spent discussing the PA Volunteers for Wildlife Program on which I elaborated in the last newsletter. They have had a wonderful response to this program. The leading choices were: Snag in Your Backyard, Summer Bat Trend Survey and Barn Owl Five Trial. Jerry Hassinger, PA Game Commission, Frank Fedbaum, Wild Resources Conservation Fund and Walt Pomeroy, NAS Regional Office, were involved in the Volunteers for Wildlife presentation.

Liz Raisbeck, NAS Vice President for Governmental Relations and Director of Audubon’s Washington D.C. office, reported the following: loss of habitat is the big problem everywhere; the Clean Air Act has a good chance of passing, if we all write our senators; the Bush campaign invited environmental groups to a meeting and expressed basic interest; Dukakis has an environmental platform which expresses concern on NAS issues; the Endangered Species Act passed the House but there is trouble getting it on the floor of the Senate; quantity of letters is really important when writing to Congress; NAS seems stronger since the reorganization, but has a long row to hoe, financially.

Walt Pomeroy reported there is a close working relationship with the Washington D.C. office. The main thrust at present is the Wetlands Campaign and Habitat Protection.

New officers for the Audubon Council of PA are:

President - Paula Ford
V. President - Clifford Hense
David Howes
Secretary - Leigh Altadonna
Treasurer - Barbara Warren
Delegates - Willis Johnston (East)
Carolyn Baxter (West)

The following committee chairmen were appointed:

Fund-Raising - Barbara Warren
Conservation - Leigh Altadonna

The Conservation Committee discussed several issues and decided the chairman would compile a list and send it to the various chapters for the final decision.

It was a very interesting and informative meeting, and Shirley and I both enjoyed representing B.A.S.

As this is the last newsletter for this year, a lot of thank-yous are in order. First a big thank you to the officers, and especially Shirley McCral, who has been our faithful recording secretary for the past few years. We really appreciate your hard work, Shirley. Bob Walczak we thank for handling bird seed sales, bulb sales and publicity for our meetings. Your work was greatly appreciated by all, Bob.

Russ States, we thank for handling our treasury and making the financial report. Russ, we thank you for your support in all our endeavors and the ideas you have expressed at board meetings.

Joan Wilver deserves a medal for mailing the newsletter each month

(continued on page 3)
PRESIDENT'S PERCH (cont.)

and checking the mailbox for us. As we thank Joan, we also wish to thank Ed Wilver for his help with delivering bird seed and mailing the newsletter.

Marilyn Johnston we thank for being at each meeting to greet us and keep track of our membership list.

Brad Sheeler we thank for keeping us posted on conservation ideas, and for moderating our panel discussion. Becky Sheeler we thank immensely for editing the newsletter and keeping us informed on vital issues.

Kate Brydon we thank for selling bird houses and bumper stickers, and for keeping the library in order.

Priscilla Stoughton did a superb job in arranging for our programs. We thank you, Priscilla, for all your time and effort.

Sandra Linaberger and Rosalie Snyder, our hospitality chairpersons, tempted our appetites with something different every month. The array of food and the beautiful table decorations were unbelievable. We thank both of you most sincerely.

Mary McKinnis we thank for contacting our Audubon Adventures classrooms and helping select our ecology scholarship wimmer.

Bill Sarver, our heartfelt thanks go out to you for arranging our field trips. It was interesting to visit some new spots this year.

Ruth Crawford is in the middle of our Birdathon at this time, and, thanks to her efforts, we will have Audubon Adventure Classrooms next year, and money to meet other expenses. Ruth, thank you so very much for carrying out this important task.

To our consultants, Dr. Gene Wilhelm, Dr. Earl Houts, Dr. Craig Chase and Dr. Genevieve Tvrlik, we express our deepest appreciation for their past efforts on behalf of B.A.S., and the guidance they were all willing to offer.

To you, the members, we express our thanks for your attendance at the meetings, your donations and the fellowship you offered each month.

To our officers-elect, Leslie Hubenthal, recording secretary and Sarah McElhaney, corresponding secretary, and Gail Baker, scrapbook chairman, we extend the hand of friendship and look forward to working with each of you next year.

Have a pleasant summer and enjoy the outdoors, keeping in mind the following quote from Henry David Thoreau, "that man is the richest whose pleasures are the cheapest."

Helel R. Ferguson
JUNE

3 - 5  Presque Isle Audubon (PIA) Field Trip: Allegany Nature Pilgrimage, Allegany State Park, N.Y., Genny Volgstadt, (814) 838-3938

3 - 5  "Plants of the Poconos," Workshop, Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC), Dingmans Ferry, PA (717) 828-2319

13  B.A.S. Monthly Meeting, 6:00pm Board Meeting, 7:00pm


11  PIA Field Trip: Canoe trip on French Creek from Saegertown to south of Meadville. Meet at 9am at Elby's parking lot on Rt. 322 east of I-79. Leader Lee Ann Reiners, (814) 398-8298

20  Summer Solstice, 10:57pm (EST)

25 - 7/1  "Eldershostel," PEEC (717) 828-2319

29  Full Moon

JULY

1 - 4  Family Holiday Weekend, PEEC

3 - 15  NSTA Computer Camp, PEEC

11 - 15  Family Vacation Camp, PEEC

17 - 29  NSTA Computer Camp, PEEC

23  B.A.S. Field Trip: Fern Walk at McKeever Environmental Education Center, Sandy Lake, PA. Priscilla Stoughton, leader, (412) 368-8865

25 - 29  Family Vacation Camp, PEEC

28  Full Moon

29 - 31  Peter's Valley Craft Weekend, PEEC

30  Delta Aquarid Meteor Shower

31 - 8/4  C.E.A. Conference, PEEC

AUGUST

7 - 19  NSTA Computer Camp, PEEC

8 - 12  Family Vacation Weekend, PEEC

10 - 13  Perseid Meteor Showers

26 - 28  "Amazing Anthropods" Workshop, PEEC

27  Full Moon, Partial Eclipse of Moon

GERANIUM ON A STICK

Take a geranium cutting that looks as though it will soon have a bud, (not one that has buds already), and tie the cutting onto a stick which is 1 or 3 feet high, and has been driven into the ground on St. John the Baptist Day, June 24, before 11:00 in the morning. The cutting won't grow, but it will flower and grow leaves and will exist until frost. Use soft cloth and tie the cutting at several places so it won't twist on the stick.

This information was supplied by our own Shirley McCarl, who has done this successfully (and has witnesses to prove it). Try it yourself and let us know your results.

Reducing Bird Numbers on Airport Runways
(or Grandma what big eyes you have!)

A new approach to controlling avian traffic — long a major hazard at airports — is being tested by Japan's All-Nippon Airways. In a year-long experiment, the airline tried painting huge eyes on the turbines of 26 of its Boeing 747s and 767s. The result has been a dramatic decline in bird-aircraft collisions. Apparently the painted eyes deceive the birds into believing that the airplane is a huge predator, causing them to disperse in fright. All-Nippon Airways now plans to have eyes painted on all its aircraft. (From International Wildlife, NWF)

— as noted in Bird Watchers Digest, Nov/Dec '87

The Audubon Activist

From the outside, conservation issues often seem complicated and impregnable. Many Audubon members want to help stop pollution and the destruction of wildlife habitat, but do not know where to begin. Whether you are new to the environmental front lines or a savvy veteran, the Audubon Activist is your ticket to greater effectiveness. This bimonthly newspaper, published by National Audubon Society, gives you background information on important conservation issues, the latest legislative picture, and advice from other Auduboners who are fighting the same battles.

As a member of Audubon's Activist Team, you will also receive occasional "Action Alerts," which are one-page summaries of issues that need your urgent attention. This system works; your voice will be heard.

For a free sample issue of the "Activist" (subscriptions are $9 a year), write: Audubon Activist, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.
CONSERVATION UPDATE

**Last call for recycling volunteers! B.A.S. is holding a can collection August 7-25 at Cooper's Lake Campground near New Castle, during the national medieval celebration there. We will pick up aluminum cans from designated containers and haul them to the closest (top dollar) recycling center. B.A.S. will reap any financial benefits, volunteers get the satisfaction of doing something worthwhile for conservation.

We need staffers for the pick-up crew and a truck to haul the cans. (Gas will be paid for from the proceeds.) Recycling works, but locally it lacks direction. We can provide some of the push through this project. CALL ME NOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE ON THE CREW! Remember EARTH FIRST!

**National Audubon has established wetlands preservation as one of its high priority campaigns. Wetlands are being lost at an alarming rate. The fertility of the soils makes them attractive to farmers. Often the only low-cost, still undeveloped areas near urban populations, wetlands are economically attractive as sites for commercial, industrial and residential development. Valuable deposits of oil, gas, and other fuels (such as peat) can underlie the Audubon has historically been in the forefront of efforts to preserve wetland habitat, on a national as well as a local scale and has led campaigns to protect the integrity of the federal wetlands permitting program and the effectiveness of the federal acquisition programs, and to achieve change to the federal tax code and farm subsidy programs.

More than half of the nation's original wetlands has been destroyed. A hundred years from now there will be no naturally occurring waterfowl breeding habitat in the contiguous United States. Wetlands are also lost through contamination. Intensive agricultural practices have caused soil erosion, water quality degradation, salinization, siltation, and chemical contamination of wetlands.

Your membership in Audubon, and any donations you make to it, support this vital campaign, as well as many others, equally vital. We do more than look at birds!

Brad Sheeler, Conservation Chairman
(412) 924-9314

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLERS

Chestnut-sided warblers used to be rare. During his explorations early in the 19th century, renowned ornithologist John James Audubon saw only one. A hundred years later, however, chestnut-sided warblers were among the most common warblers in eastern North America. The second growth forests that sprang up after the logging boom of the late 19th century were much to its liking. Look for this bird in the same areas where grouse are found - brushy areas, thickets and aspen groves, for example. At this time of year, males are likely to be seen singing from treetops. Winter finds the chestnut-sided warbler in Nicaragua and Panama.

from PA Game News, May 1988
MONTHLY MEETING, MONDAY JUNE 13, 6:00PM, COOPER'S LAKE CAMPGROUND
ANNUAL PICNIC AND "COME MEET THE STARS" PROGRAM

The final spring meeting will be held at Cooper's Lake Campground. Bring your bag lunch to eat under the trees, or in the lodge in case of rain. Hiking, bird watching, flower walks or socializing can occupy your time until the stars emerge. Then amateur astronomers Karen Weir and Andre DeBardelaben of Wilkensburg will introduce us to a few of our local heavenly bodies. Karen and Andre, who are commercially involved as designers and builders of Middle Path Boats, crystallized a life-long interest in astronomy in 1985 in preparation for Halley's Comet. These folks will make an enlightening contribution to our last meeting of the season. In case of rain, slides will be shown. Cooper's Lake Campground is located ½ mile north of Rt. 422, between Rt. 19 and I-79, Exit 29. For more info call (412) 368-8710. A short Board Meeting will follow the picnic.

Bartramian Audubon Society
P.O. Box 264
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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