NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF NORTHEASTERN OHIO
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ON THE FRINGE

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JULY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:

July 30: "Ferns of Northeastern Ohio". For a change of pace, our program chairman, Brian Parsons has put together a different type of meeting. It will combine program, workshop and field trip and will be held at two locations. The day's program will start with an instructive workshop and then on to field work until late in the day for all willing. Meet on the east side at the Holden Arboretum at the Shelterhouse near the Corning Bldg. at 9:00 a.m. Leaders will be Tom Yates and Brian Parsons. Holden is east of Rt. 306 and north of Kirtland-Chardon Road. Meet on the west side at the Brecksville Reservation at the Trailside Museum parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Leader will be Jay Beswick. Take 271S to the Macedonia exit Rt. 82, head west to Riverview Road, then south to park entrance to meeting site. Bring a lunch and spend the day learning about our native ferns.

NEWS FROM BEYOND THE FRINGE:

July 16-17: Mushroom Foray, Penitentiary Glen, sponsored by the Ohio Mushroom Society. If you wish to be involved call 256-1404.

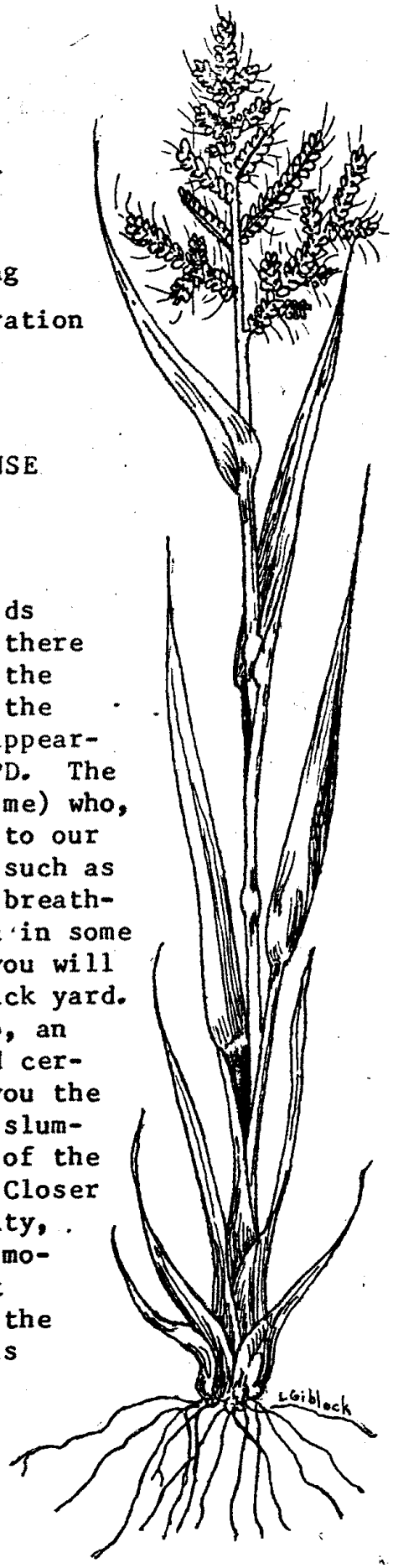
July 23: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Field study of several central Ohio prairies. Sponsored by the Division of Parks and Recreation in conjunction with the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves. Send name, address and phone no. and $ 4.00 check to ODNR, Division of Parks and Recreation, Fountain Square, Columbus, Ohio 43224.

July 29: Prairie/Fen Workshop, 8:00 a.m., Assembly Center of Bldg. E

at ODNR Fountain Square. At 9:00 a.m. the field trip will begin to fen areas near Columbus.

August 12: Prairie weekend will begin with our regular meeting, featuring Mr. William R. Jordan III of the University of Wisconsin Arboretum. He will be speaking on the topic of "Making Nature Whole: Ecosystem Restoration and Arboreta". Don't miss our 5:00 p.m. picnic with Mr. Jordan speaking at 8:00 p.m.

THE NEWSLETTER IS TAKING A VACATION AND WE WILL CONDENSE JULY AND AUGUST ISSUES.



Whilst you read this, I will be orgying thru the orchids of the UP, Manitoulin and the Bruce. There are areas there where the orchids grow like dandelions, but sometimes the price is a day knee-deep in primevil swamp. However, the subject does bring to mind an excellent article that appeared last week on the editorial pages of the Cleveland PD. The writer spoke about all the people (including thee and me) who, come the first day of summer, begin the great hegiras to our most prestigious and splendiferous national landmarks such as Yellowstone and the Grand Canyon. It is exciting and breathtaking, and we come home broke and exhausted, and even in some cases, with Montezuma's Revenge. I hope that all of you will take a brief moment this summer to explore your own back yard. In a broad sense, it can mean our lovely state of Ohio, an area that has some of the nicest scenery anywhere, and certainly some of the most diverse. I can recommend to you the great vistas of the Shawnee along the Ohio River, the slumbering prairies of Adams County, the hidden surprises of the Hocking Hills, the tranquil beauty of Holmes County. Closer to home is the Grand River, anywhere in Ashtabula County, the 3-county Metro Parks, or even Holden. Take a few moments in the next three months to walk softly and look closely at our own particular treasures. It could be the most rewarding trip you ever take. Ohio is here for us all year long, season in and season out, and look at all the money you can save!

Ann Malmquist

PENITENTIARY GLEN

by Kent L. Scott
Interpretive Naturalist/Ranger
with Lake County Metro Parks

The Penitentiary Glen Reservation in Kirtland, Ohio, opened in July 1980 to become the 18th park in the Lake County Metro Park District. This 320 acre natural area is the site of the Park District's Headquarters and the Park systems's first Nature and Program Center.

The Nature Center contains a display area with a gift shop and seating for 80-100 people. A newly created pond, a series of mixed grain wildlife food plots and a diversity of habitat with much edge bring many forms of wildlife close to the Nature Center.

During 1982, a separate building has been constructed, adjacent the Nature Center, which will house a wildlife rehabilitation facility. Under the direction of Wildlife Naturalist, Ann Bugeda, this facility will be used to care for orphaned and injured wild animals until they are well enough for release. Those animals not capable of living in the wild will be kept for educational programs sponsored by the Park District. The dedication of the Wildlife Center will be July 24, 1983.

Penitentiary Glen, Penitentiary "Gulch" to the old timers, apparently gets its name from the deep shale and sandstone gorge that divides the Park into two areas. The gorge is trailess and narrow, necessitating walking in the stream much of the time.

Diversity best describes the plant communities of the Park. Much of the area is forested including mature forests of beech and sugar maple, mixed oak (with numerous American chestnut remnants) and a small area of flood plain forest.

A number of rare or unusual plants have been found here including whorled pogonia (Isotria verticullati), stemless lady's slipper (Cypripedium acaule), trailing arbutus (Epigaea repens), long manna grass (Glyceria melicaria), long beech fern (Thelypteris phegopteris), and bulblet fern (Cystopteris bulbifera). All of these plants, with the exception of bulblet fern and trailing arbutus, appear on the Ohio Natural Heritage

Sponsored by the Holden Arboretum

Program's list of potentially threatened or endangered species.

Snow belt plants include round leaved violet, Viola rotundifolia, and the long stalked sedge, Corex pedunculata.

Programs are conducted at the Penitentiary Glen Nature and Program Center. From concerts and kite flying to workshops, these events are designed to appeal to a wide segment of the Lake County community. Schedules of these and other events are published quarterly in a newsletter entitled "A Living Heritage". This publication is available without charge upon request. For additional information call or write the Lake County Metro Park District, 8668 Kirtland-Chardon Road, Kirtland, Ohio 44094 (216) 256-1404.