

# Wissahickon Nature Club

## GUEST SPEAKER

**OCTOBER 24, THURSDAY, 7:30 P.M. DO YOU HAVE AN ALIEN IN YOUR BACKYARD? BY PIA VAN DE VENNE, FRIENDS OF MURRYSVILLE PARKS.** THIS POWER-POINT PRESENTATION IS ABOUT COMMON INVASIVE PLANTS IN SW PA. PIA STARTED SHOWING SOME GOOD PLANTS AND SHE ENDED BY SHOWING WHAT PLANTS ARE GOOD SUBSTITUTES FOR INVASIVE ORNAMENTALS. SHE ORGANIZES VOLUNTEERS TO REMOVE GARLIC MUSTARD AND JAPANESE KNOTWEED FROM THE PARKS. PIA IS VERY INVOLVED AT THIS MOMENT WITH TRYING TO REMOVE THE INVASIVE CALLERY PEAR FROM BUSINESS PROPERTIES.



Great Horned Owllet by Chuck Tague

**DON'T MISS OUR NEXT MEETING. NOVEMBER 7, THE NATURE OF ALLEGHENY ISLANDS, BY JESSICA ROHRDANZ, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SPECIALIST AT POINT STATE PARK.** LEARN ABOUT ALLEGHENY ISLANDS STATE PARK, INCLUDING HOW THE ISLANDS IN THE PARK FORMED AND WHAT SORT OF FLORA AND FAUNA CAN BE FOUND ON THEM NOW. THE ISLANDS ARE UNDEVELOPED AND CAN ONLY BE ACCESSED BY BOAT. THEY ACT AS A REFUGE FOR WILDLIFE, PARTICULARLY BIRDS AND WATERFOWL.

[HTTP://WWW.DCNR.STATE.PA.US/STATEPARKS/FINDAPARK/ALLEGHENYISLANDS/INDEX.HTM](http://WWW.DCNR.STATE.PA.US/STATEPARKS/FINDAPARK/ALLEGHENYISLANDS/INDEX.HTM),

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TREASURER'S REPORT

ACCORDING TO TREASURER

**DIANNE MACHESNEY:**

PREVIOUS BALANCE: \$673.15

DEPOSIT: 72.00

CURRENT BALANCE: \$745.15

### ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE IN SEPTEMBER

INDIVIDUAL \$7.00

FAMILY \$10.00

### MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WISSAHICKON NATURE CLUB

MAIL TO:

DIANNE MACHESNEY,  
TREASURER

105 LINDLEY LANE,  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15237-1805

### WORTH REPEATING

THERE IS SOMETHING HAUNTING IN THE LIGHT OF THE MOON; IT HAS ALL THE DISPASSIONATENESS OF A DISEMBODIED SOUL, AND SOMETHING OF ITS INCONCEIVABLE MYSTERY.

~JOSEPH CONRAD

## Bloggers

**Chuck Tague** Read the Nature Observer blog at <http://ctague.pairserver.com/Natureobserver/Welcome.html>

**Kate St. John** <http://www.wqed.org/birdblog/>

**Tom Pawlesh** [www.blurb.com/bookstore/search?search=pawlesh&commit=Search](http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/search?search=pawlesh&commit=Search)

**Steve Gosser** <http://home.comcast.net/~sgosser/>

Cool Video; Fox Calls

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J6NuhlibHsM>



CELEBRATE NATURE !

**Botanical Society of Western  
Pennsylvania**

**Loree Speedy** 724.518.6022  
mousemapper@verizon.net  
<http://www.botsocwpa.org/>

**Meeting**

**November 11, Monday, 7:15 p.m.**  
**Cyperaceae of Southern Assam  
with Ethnomedicinal and  
Economical Uses, by Himani Pal.**  
The Cyperaceae are a  
large family of monocots known  
as sedges. Assam is a northeastern  
state of India in one of the  
richest biodiversity zones in the  
world. Ms. Pal holds a B.S., M.S. and  
M. Phil. in Life Science (Botany)  
from Assam University, India.

**Outing**

**October 26, Saturday, Native  
Plant and Sustainability  
Conference, Phipps Garden  
Center Mellon Park** highlighted by  
**Jim McCormac** [http://  
jimmccormac.blogspot.com/](http://jimmccormac.blogspot.com/)  
For details visit  
[phipps.conservatory.org/exhibits-  
and-events/](http://phipps.conservatory.org/exhibits-and-events/)



Green Lynx Spider

**Three Rivers Birding Club  
Jim Valimont, President**

412.828.5338  
[www.3rbc.org](http://www.3rbc.org)

**October 27, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.**  
**Moraine State Park - Picnic** This  
outing will be their 12th annual  
3RBC picnic and bird walk. Meet in  
the **Moraine State Park day use  
area** (south shore) in the first  
parking lot on the right. After the  
morning outing, birders will have  
the pot-luck picnic at  
one of the park pavilions near the  
McDaniel's boat launch. Please  
bring a dish that will serve 4-6  
people to share.

**November 2, Saturday, 8:00 a.m.**  
**Yellow Creek State Park** joint  
outing with the **Todd Bird Club**.  
Meet **Margaret Higbee** at the park  
office located on Route 259 just off  
Route 422 east of Indiana. Allow an  
hour and 30 minutes from  
Pittsburgh.

**November 17, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.**  
**Moraine State Park day use area**  
(south shore) in the first parking lot  
on the right. Leaderless.

**Environmental Book Club**

**Kim Metheny**

[kmetheny@hotmail.com](mailto:kmetheny@hotmail.com)

**Chriss O'Lare**

[colare@comcast.net](mailto:colare@comcast.net)

Meet at the Panera on  
McKnight Road.

Upcoming Book

**November 18, Monday,  
7:30 p.m. Darwin's  
Ghosts: The Secret  
History of Evolution** by  
**Rebecca Stott.**



**Sam McClain-Capezzuto, Director**

**412.741.6136**

**April Claus, Naturalist**

**412.741.7536**

**Thad Jones, Sewickley Heights**

**Borough Park Ranger**

**412.716.5520**

**<http://www.fhnc.org/>**

**Registration required for  
programs.**

**October 26, Saturday, 2:00 p.m.**  
**Citizen Science - Project  
FeederWatch.** Join up in this  
winter-long survey of birds that visit  
feeders at backyards, nature  
centers, community areas, and  
other locales in North America.  
Count the birds you see at your  
feeders from November through  
early April and send their counts to  
Project FeederWatch. To register  
please contact **Gabi** at **Audubon  
Society of Western PA** at  
412.963.6100 x 21.



Photos by Chuck Tague