

W O N D E R F U L

# West Virginia

MAY 1997

\$2.50



Hannah Ross  
A Top Performer at the  
Vandalia Gathering, May 23-25, 1997



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W O N D E R F U L

# West Virginia

May 1997

Volume 61

Number 3



West Virginia Veterans Memorial 4  
*by Pat Hendricks*

Grafton National Cemetery 10

World War I Exhibit 11  
*by Mark Tobin Moore*

International Mother's Day Shrine 12

West Virginia Waterfalls 14

Wildlife Portraits — West Virginia  
State Wildlife Center 22  
*by William E. Vanscoy*

The Mystery Continues...  
*When will the stone face give up its secrets?* 28  
*by Robert Pyle*

The Vandalia Gathering 30  
*by Deborah Rainey-Haught*

DNR Home Page Calendar of Events 32

A Letter From Harry Price 35

*Cover: Hannah Ross, renowned West Virginia fiddler, often plays at the Vandalia Gathering with her family. (See Page 30 for Story)*

Photo by Arnout Hyde Jr.

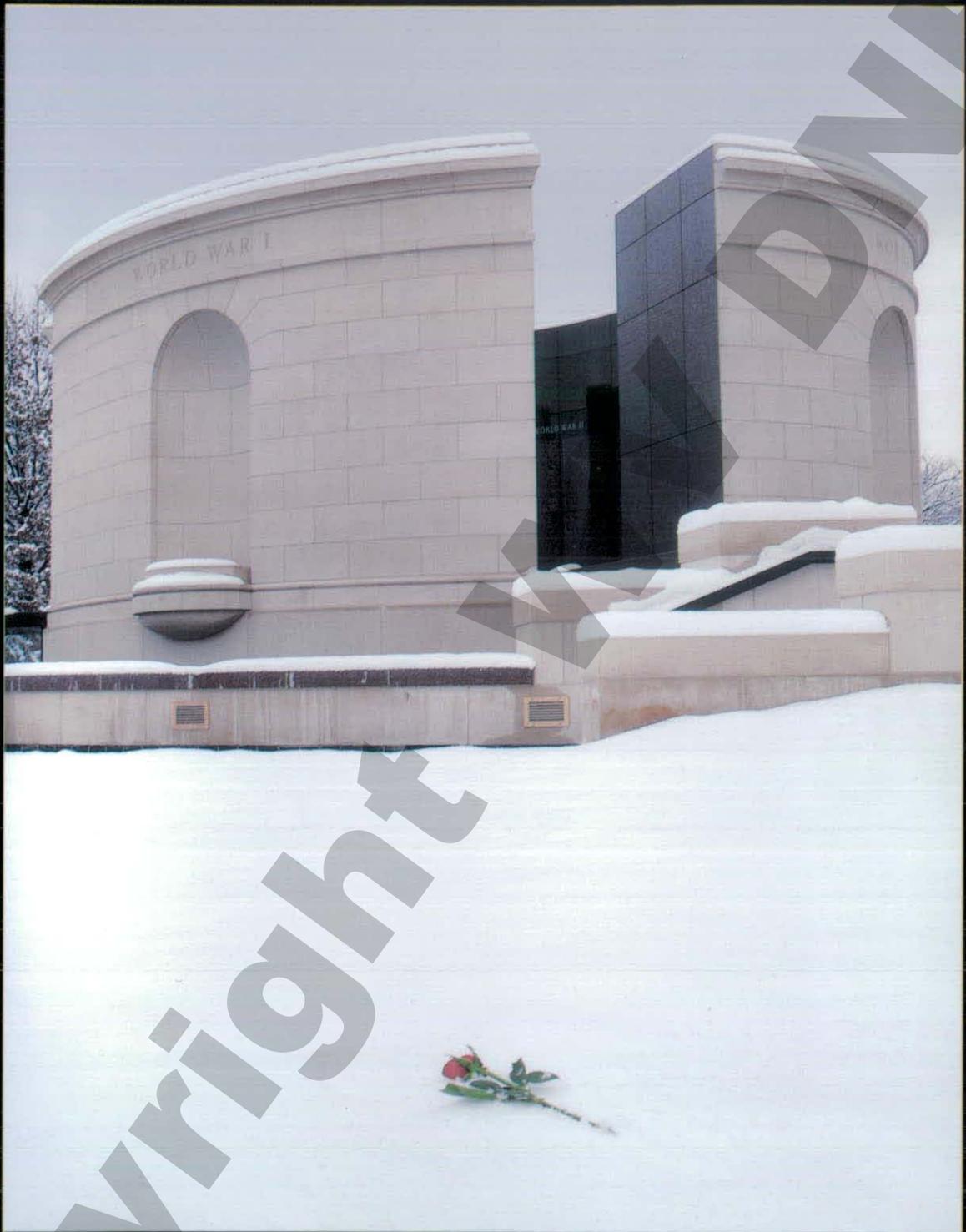
*Inside Front Cover: Waterfall at Holly River State Park In Webster County. (See Page 14 for Photo Essay)*

Photo by Stephen J. Shaluta Jr.

*Back Cover: A Screech Owl poses for a portrait at State Wildlife Center. (See Page 22 for Story)*

Photo by David Fattaleh





*A place of pilgrimage that knows no season, the Memorial drew more than 100,000 visitors in 1996. The rose in the snow typifies offerings and mementoes left by comrades, families and friends of the 10,302 warriors named within its sanctuary.*

*Photography by Arnout Hyde Jr.*

# West Virginia Veteran's Memorial

*Worth the Wait. . . Worthy of its Name.  
The new memorial exceeds a decade of expectations  
and reflects a century of pride in America's most patriotic state.*

by Pat Hendricks

This is a holy place, a shrine to West Virginia's war-dead and all who dutifully rendered military service during America's Century of Wars—a place of pilgrimage for those who survive, who mourn, who remember yesterdays fresh frozen in time, like the fading photos that crowd their mantels.

Held close within its heart are five generations of West Virginians who went to war and didn't return to their sheltering mountains and peaceful valleys. Their names stand in final formation, 10,291 white-etched upon polished black granite, 11 cast in solid bronze. Here, at last, each one has a permanent presence on State Capitol grounds and assured remembrance through ages to come.

The towering two-story oval sanctuary echoes the whispers it inspires, as all great cathedrals do. Brave men cry here. Mothers and sisters and widows weep with unceasing grief for losses that have never lessened. Children place flowers and flags for grandfathers and uncles they can never know, learning the lessons of war even before their ABCs.

West Virginia boasts America's highest per capita statistics for military service, decorations, wounds and service-connected disabilities. The state born of a war that pitted brother against brother has bred a people of fierce independence and stubborn devotion to family, God and country that spans all socio-economic differences—a populace unable, ever after, to take freedom for granted.

Again and again, its young men and women have stood against oppression, in defense of their reunited country. Again and again, West Virginians have loved liberty enough to pay its dreaded, painful price, with gallantry and pride. Nine received the Congressional Medal of Honor in Vietnam, four in Korean combat, eleven in World War II battles and seven in actions from 1900-1916.

Few families have escaped representation in this small state's magnificent \$2.8-million tribute to all citizens who served during armed conflicts of the 20th Century, from 429,616 who answered the call to arms for its four major wars to all who participate in Official Department of Defense operations, including terrorist attacks, through the year 2000.



*Viola B. Robson stands at the grave of her son, James Parks Robson, killed in action July 15, 1918, during World War I. (Taken in France in 1932, when Mrs. Robson was 68.)*



*Dramatic at dusk, the Memorial was designed to welcome visitors 24 hours a day, with complex electrical systems computerized to illuminate its sanctuary at the approach of visitors, reactivate its night-sky beacon at their departure.*

*The 7'4" bronze WWII sailor on perpetual watch, by The Arterie sculptors of Charleston, was donated by James H. "Buck" Harless.*

First proposed to Gov. Arch A. Moore Jr. as a state-wide Vietnam monument by six combat veterans of that long and divisive war, it was commissioned as such by his Executive Order 21-85, which noted that "In West Virginia as in the rest of the country, the process of healing the wounds created by that war has been difficult and painful."

Within months of its launching as the Vietnam Veterans Memorial of West Virginia, the project was changed to an all-wars concept without consultation or notification to its originators, their respective veterans organizations, its design contest finalists or the citizens expected to contribute its \$1.5-million cost.

It was a costly and ironic public relations mistake; the revised, renamed West Virginia Veterans Memorial project nearly died aborning. Loss of the inspired leadership that had brought it to life and the resultant increasing disaffection between the state's younger and older veterans robbed the undertaking of focus and momentum, dooming it to a decade of struggle and delay.

The first three years, funds trickled in. An income tax checkoff-contribution and professional regional telemarketing attempts produced disappointing results. By late 1988 state foundations, businesses and veterans groups had donated barely \$100,000 to the cause.

Shortly after taking office in 1989, Gov. Gaston Caperton appointed one of the Vietnam combat veterans originators, Kyle Workman of Logan, to the WV Veterans Memorial Commission and at site dedication, in August, announced a \$25,000 gift from Ashland Oil.

Workman was made Executive Director of the chronically-stalled undertaking January 1, 1990, and moved to a Charleston apartment near the Capitol complex with his wife Patty, to devote full time and energy to the truly monumental task. Ceremonial groundbreaking for WV Veterans Memorial Plaza that June featured news that one-third of the estimated cost had been collected, and that the state had agreed to prepare the Memorial's base.

The \$450,000 monument foundation, with intricate utility systems and oval reflecting pool traversed by four ramped bridges, was completed in late March 1991. A 29-member fund-finding committee joined forces under co-chairmen Herbert E. Jones Jr., Richard E. Northup, Senators Robert C. Byrd and Jay Rockefeller.

That May the WV Veterans Memorial Unknown Soldier Search, the project's first coordinated statewide professional multi-media campaign, was launched in all 55 counties simultaneously at minimal expense, from the Memorial's on-site office trailer. Two of West Virginia's most famous veterans, Gen. Chuck Yeager and Capt. Jon McBride, appeared in free TV spots donated by every station in the state, and one in neighboring Maryland.

Nearly every state newspaper published county casualty lists for their circulation areas, to verify spelling and listing for the 7,004 government-furnished names, to find and certify new names, obtain short biographical summaries for the dead and missing, and stimulate both local interest and donations.

With modest fund-raising success by year's end, Kyle Workman insisted on revising construction plans into phases, to get full value for hard-won donated dollars, and show significant progress that would encourage more significant gifts. He began Phase II February 11, 1992, and with unseasonal springlike weather, four block monoliths soared 20 feet above the base in just three weeks.

The structure stood raw and unclad for three full years, through two follow-up name searches that increased the engraving lists to 10,197. March 24, 1993, Herbert E. Jones Jr., awarded America's third-highest medal for conspicuous gallantry in action as a WW II submarine officer, was appointed chairman of the WV Veterans Memorial Commission.

He quickly collected pledges that propelled Phases III and IV into action, and enabled a history-making \$1.3-million One Valley Bank construction loan to the not-for-profit WV Veterans Memorial Foundation Inc., to be repaid from 1% of racetrack video lottery net proceeds voted by the 1994 Legislature.

November 11, 1995, a full decade after its inception, the awe-inspiring WV Veterans Memorial was dedicated in solemn ceremony. Its program cover featured a faded 1932 sepia photo of 68-year-old Viola B. Robson standing at the overseas grave of her son, James Parks Robson, killed in action in 1918- and the words: "A Family Album in Limestone and Granite." That says it all.

*Pat Hendricks, writer-publicist-publications,  
owner of Everything Down Pat, a one woman multi-media  
ad agency in Charleston, West Virginia.*







*Photo by Arnout Hyde Jr.*

## *Grafton National Cemetery*

*The fallen leaves of autumn  
grace the Grafton National  
Cemetery.*

**G**rafton National Cemetery is a cemetery established by Congressional Legislation in 1867 for the final resting place for soldiers who lost their lives in the Civil War. The first Memorial Day was celebrated here in 1867. When the cemetery was established, a parade was held through the streets of Grafton commemorating the soldiers killed in the Civil War. School children dressed in white marched to the cemetery to place flowers on the graves. The parade is still held today in Grafton on Memorial day, making it one of the oldest parades in America.

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Photo by Michael Keller

## *World War I Exhibit*

*August 1996 - Summer 1998*

by Mark Tobin Moore

A new area of the West Virginia State Museum, *West Virginians at War*, has opened and is dedicated to exhibiting the artifacts of this undeniably crucial part of the state's history. The current exhibition on World War One was selected for the wealth of artifacts and documents already in the state collection. Many of the uniforms, helmets, firearms, and other military items were donated by the returning veterans in 1919 and 1920 and most are in excellent condition. Some of the rifles were actually donated as recently as last year.

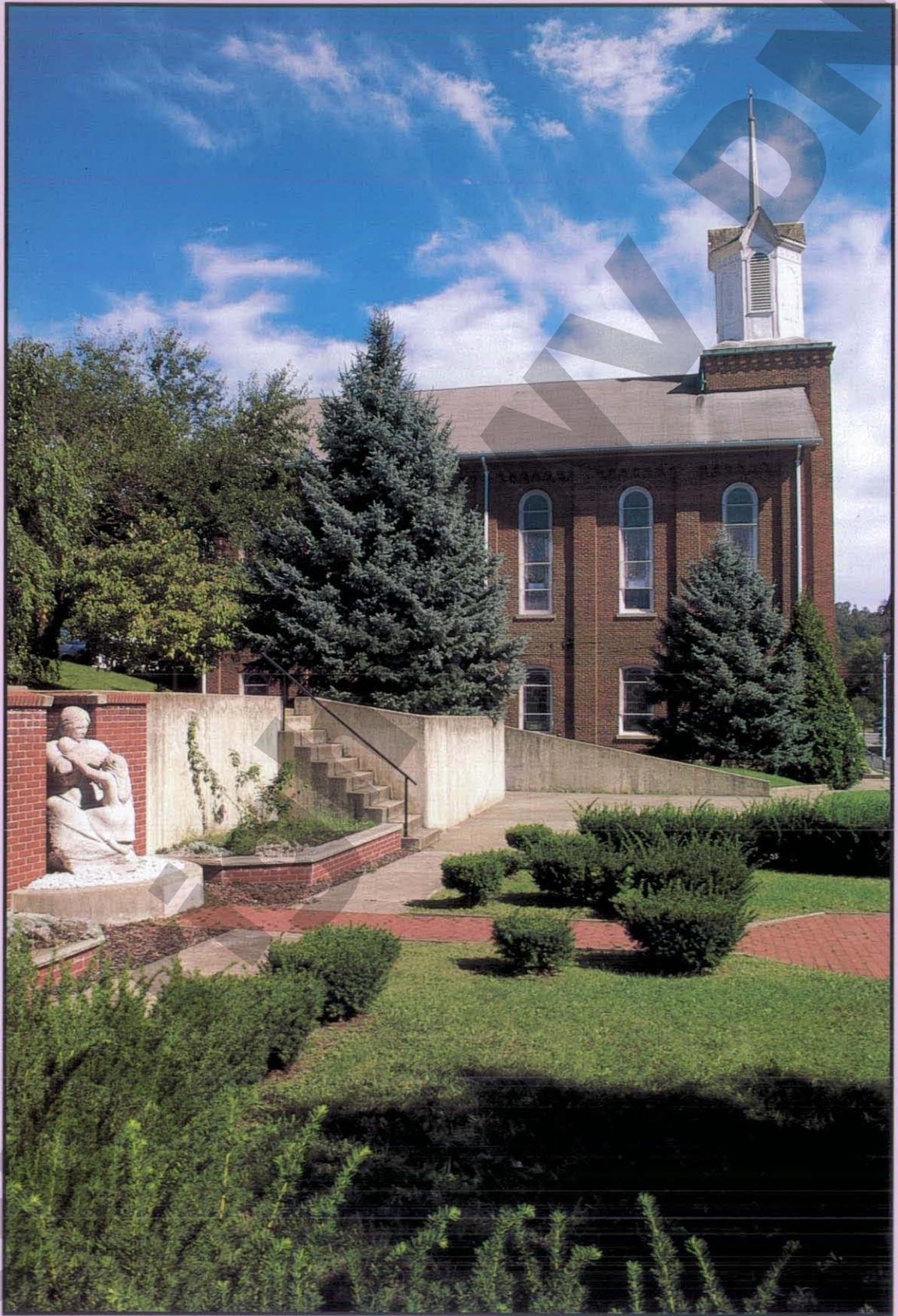
Highlights of the exhibition include a collection of large and colorful posters; five Allied and German machine guns; a panoramic photograph of the Nitro Explosives Plant in 1918 taken on Quarry Hill; ten pages from the

wartime newspaper *Stars and Stripes*; and personal letters and photographs of Private Arthur Greenlee, U.S.M.C., and his family in Marion County. The letters chronicle the hardships of war, as well as the devastating influenza epidemic at home in West Virginia.

From the time the United States declared war on Germany in 1917 until Armistice Day in November 1918, there were 1,996 West Virginians killed in training accidents, combat against the enemy, and the two worst diseases of the time, influenza and meningitis. Yet, as six men were wounded for every one killed in World War One, many more West Virginians returned home having shed their blood in far away France.

*Mark Tobin Moore is the Director of Exhibits at West Virginia Division of Culture and History.*

*International Mother's Day Shrine*



Left - International Mother's Day Shrine, home of the first Mother's Day, Grafton, West Virginia

Photo by Stephen J. Shaluta Jr.

West Virginia is the proud birthplace of Anna Jarvis, founder of Mother's Day, a custom now celebrated throughout the civilized world. She was born on May 1, 1864 and received her education in Grafton. After attending Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, Virginia, she taught in Grafton schools for seven years.

After the death of her father, the family moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where her mother died in 1905. Two years later, Anna invited friends to join in commemorating her mother's death. She chose the second Sunday in May and suggested that white carnations be worn. Anna chose the carnation because it represented sweetness, purity and endurance. It was also her mother's favorite flower.

The next year, Anna wrote to officials of the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton and suggested that all mothers be honored. Officials complied, and on May 10, 1908, the first Mother's Day celebration was held. West Virginia Governor William E. Glasscock issued a Mother's Day proclamation on April 26, 1910. Four years later, Mother's Day was given official recognition by a joint resolution of Congress which established the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. This action was approved by President Woodrow Wilson.

Anna died in Philadelphia on November 24, 1948. She left a legacy, however, that will live forever. The Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church has become the International Mother's Day Shrine.

*The annual Mother's Day Founder Festival is celebrated May 9-11 this year. Information on this event can be obtained by calling 304-265-1589 or 265-1177.*

*The Anna Jarvis Birthplace Museum, near Grafton, has recently opened for tours (April - December). For information call the museum at 304-265-5549.*



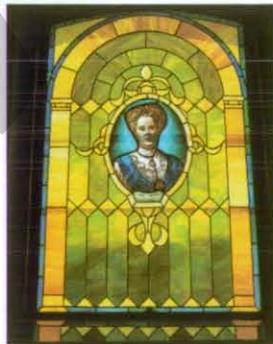
Photo by Arnout Hyle Jr.

*Above - Laura Wehrle reads a bedtime story to her children. Laura and Steve Wehrle reside in Charleston with their two children, Lyndsay Beth, six years of age and Tanner, four years of age.*



*Anna Reeves Jarvis (Anna's mother)*

*Shown here, immortalized in stained glass windows at the church, are Anna and her mother.*



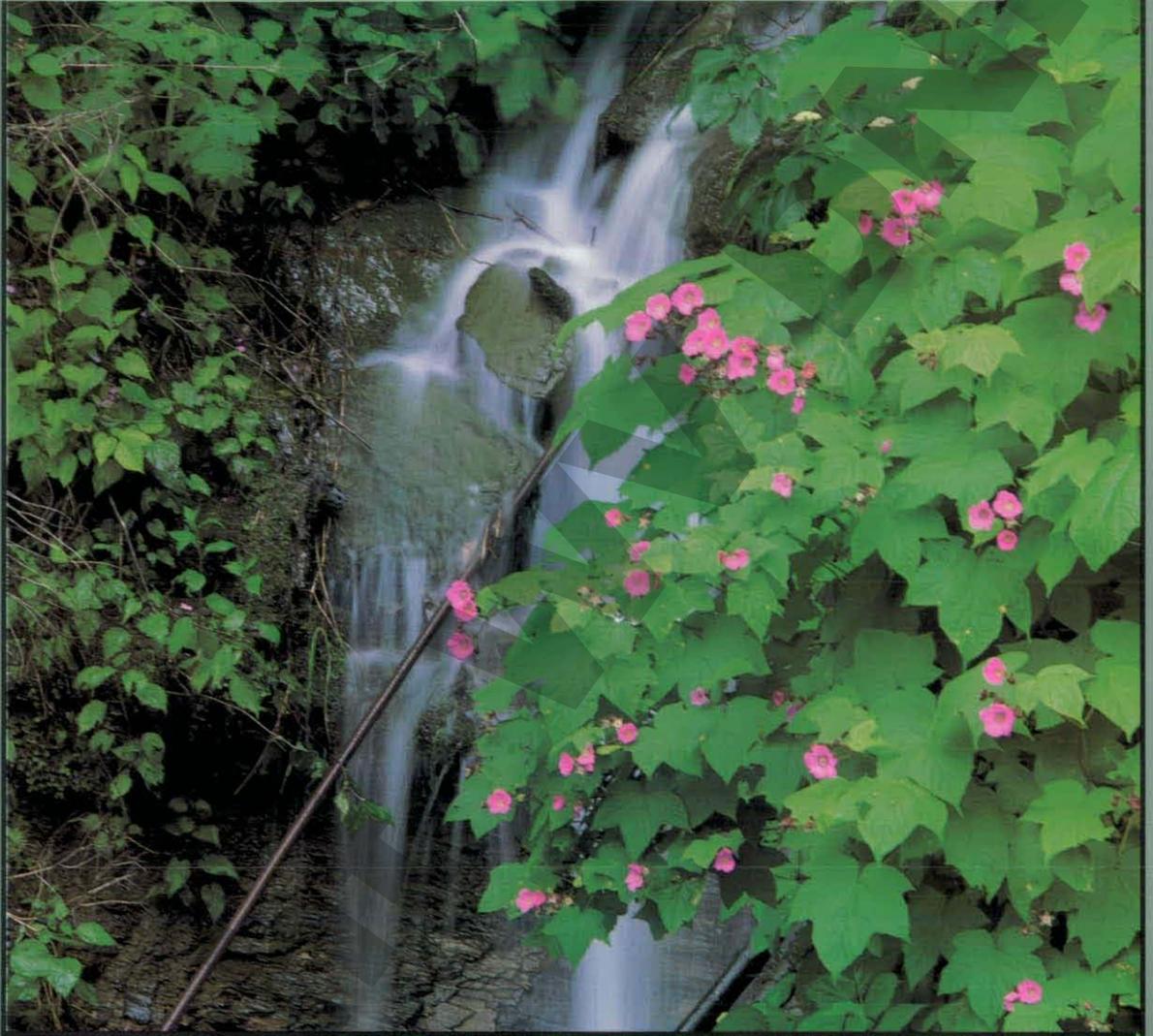
*Anna M. Jarvis*

# Waterfalls - Part of the Seasons

## Spring Scene

Photo by  
Arnout Hyde Jr.

Small unnamed  
falls in the New  
River Gorge,  
West Virginia



## Summer Scene

Photo by  
Arnout Hyde Jr.

Waterfalls on a  
mountain stream  
in Holly River  
State Park in  
Webster County,  
West Virginia



Copyright

*Fall  
Scene*

*Photo by  
Bryan Lemasters*

*Valley Falls at  
Valley Falls State  
Park in Marion  
County, West  
Virginia*



*Winter  
Scene*

*Photo by  
Stephen J. Shaluta Jr.*

*Snow and ice  
covered Pendleton  
Falls in Tucker  
County, West  
Virginia*



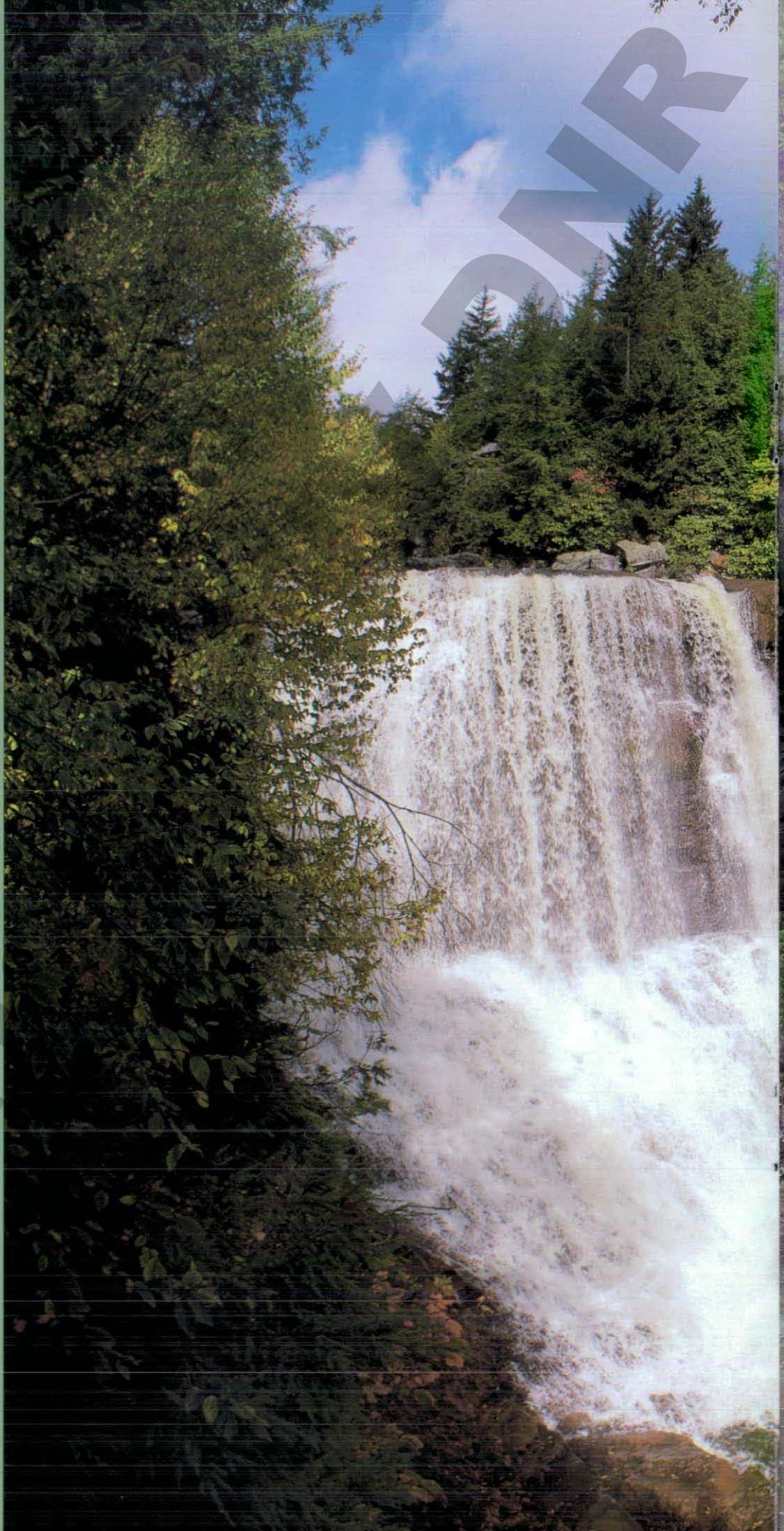
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# *Blackwater Falls*

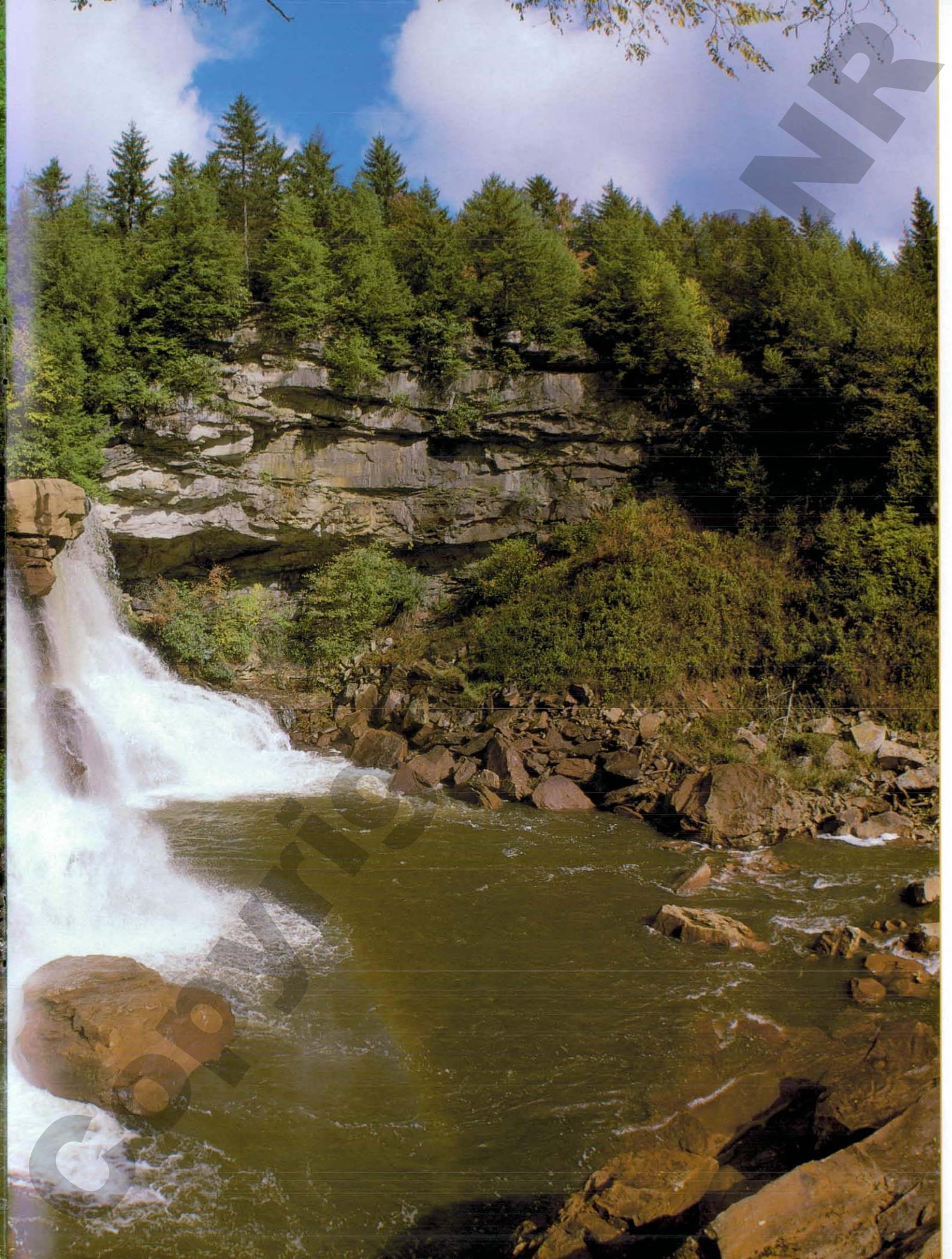
*Photo by  
Arnout Hyde Jr.*

*Blackwater Falls State  
Park, Tucker County,  
West Virginia*

*West Virginia's  
Most Photographed  
Waterfalls*



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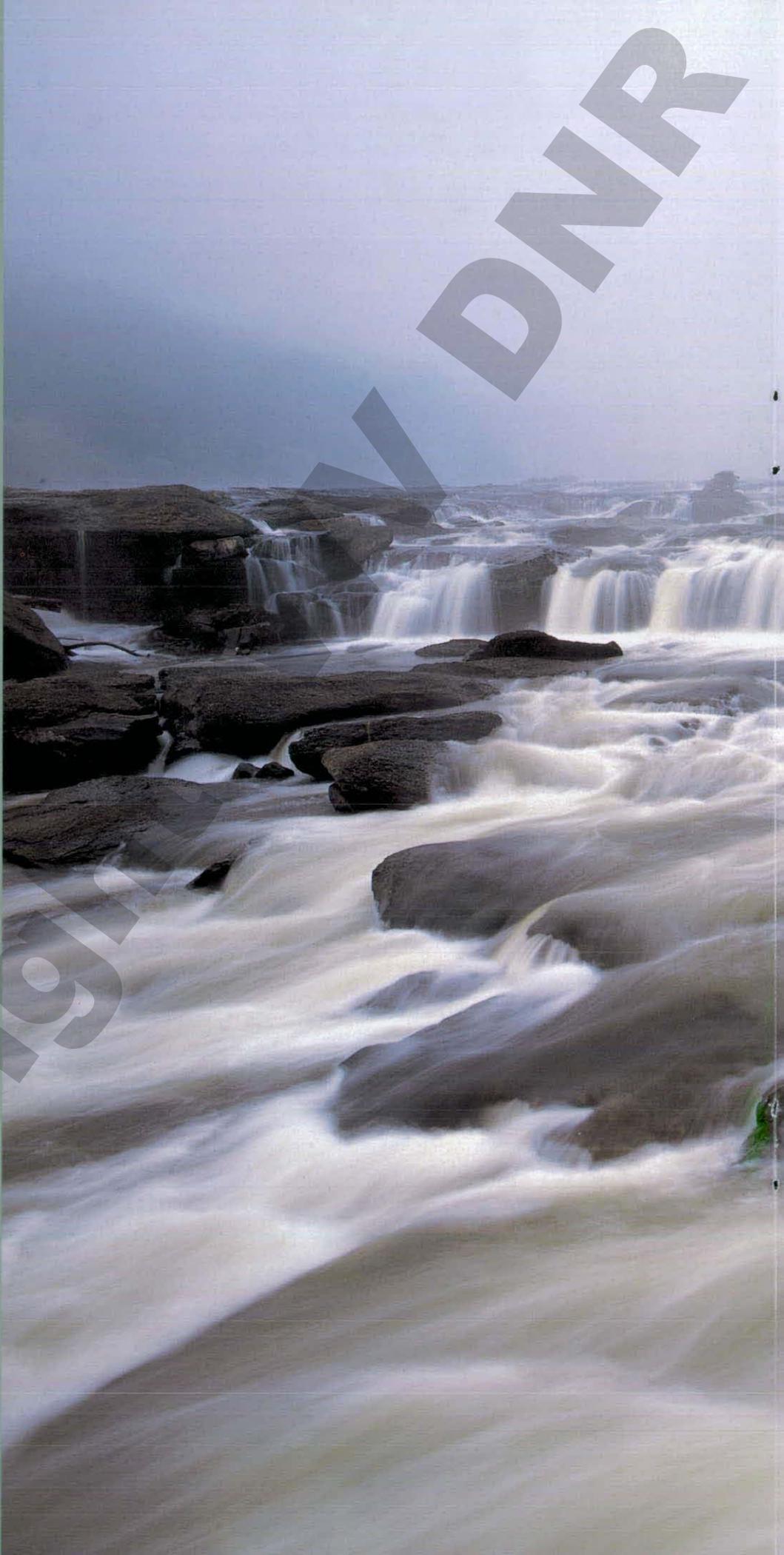


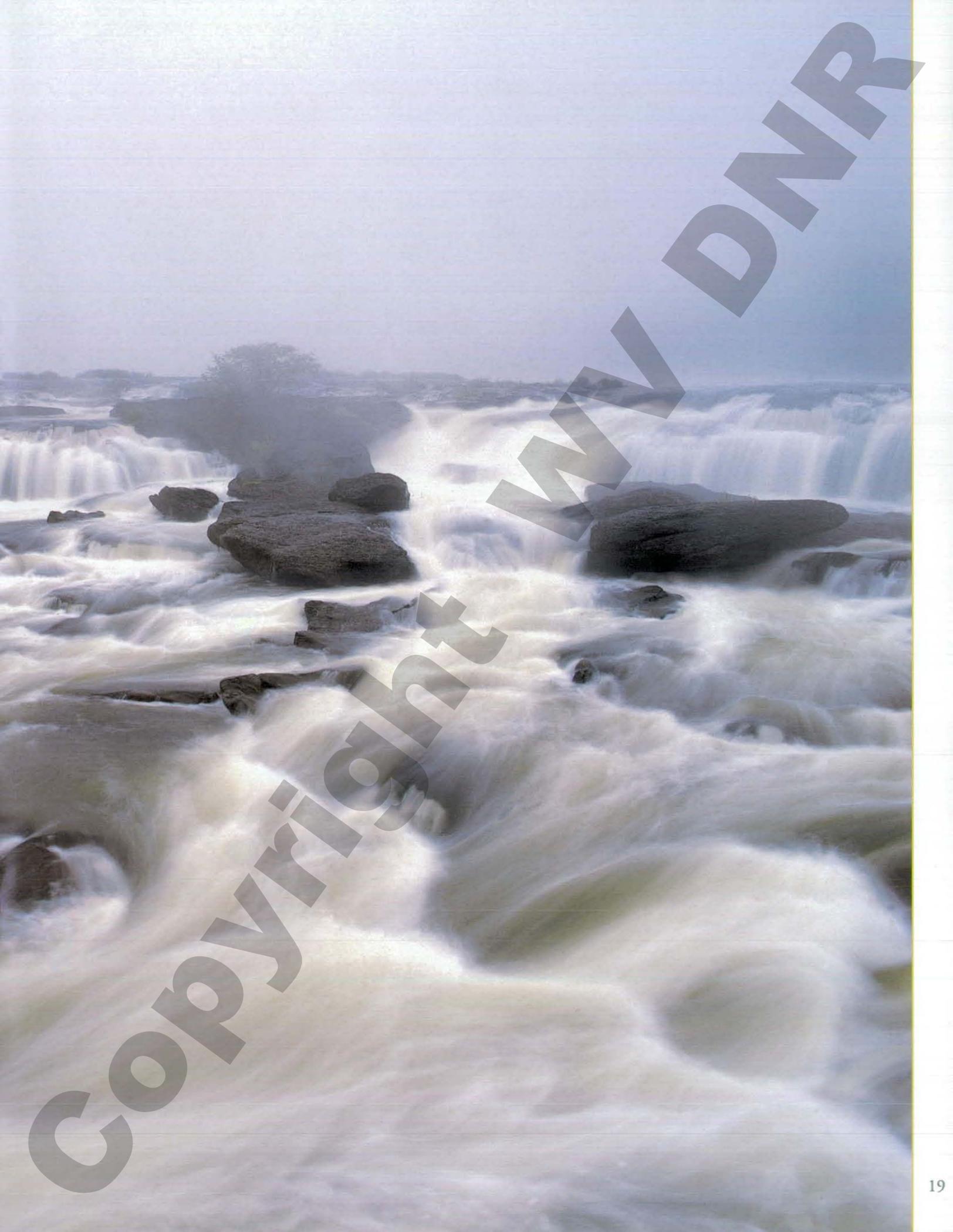
*Sandstone  
Falls*

*Photo by  
Arnout Hyde Jr.*

*Sandstone Falls on the  
New River, north of  
Hinton, West Virginia*

*West Virginia's  
Most Awesome  
Waterfalls*





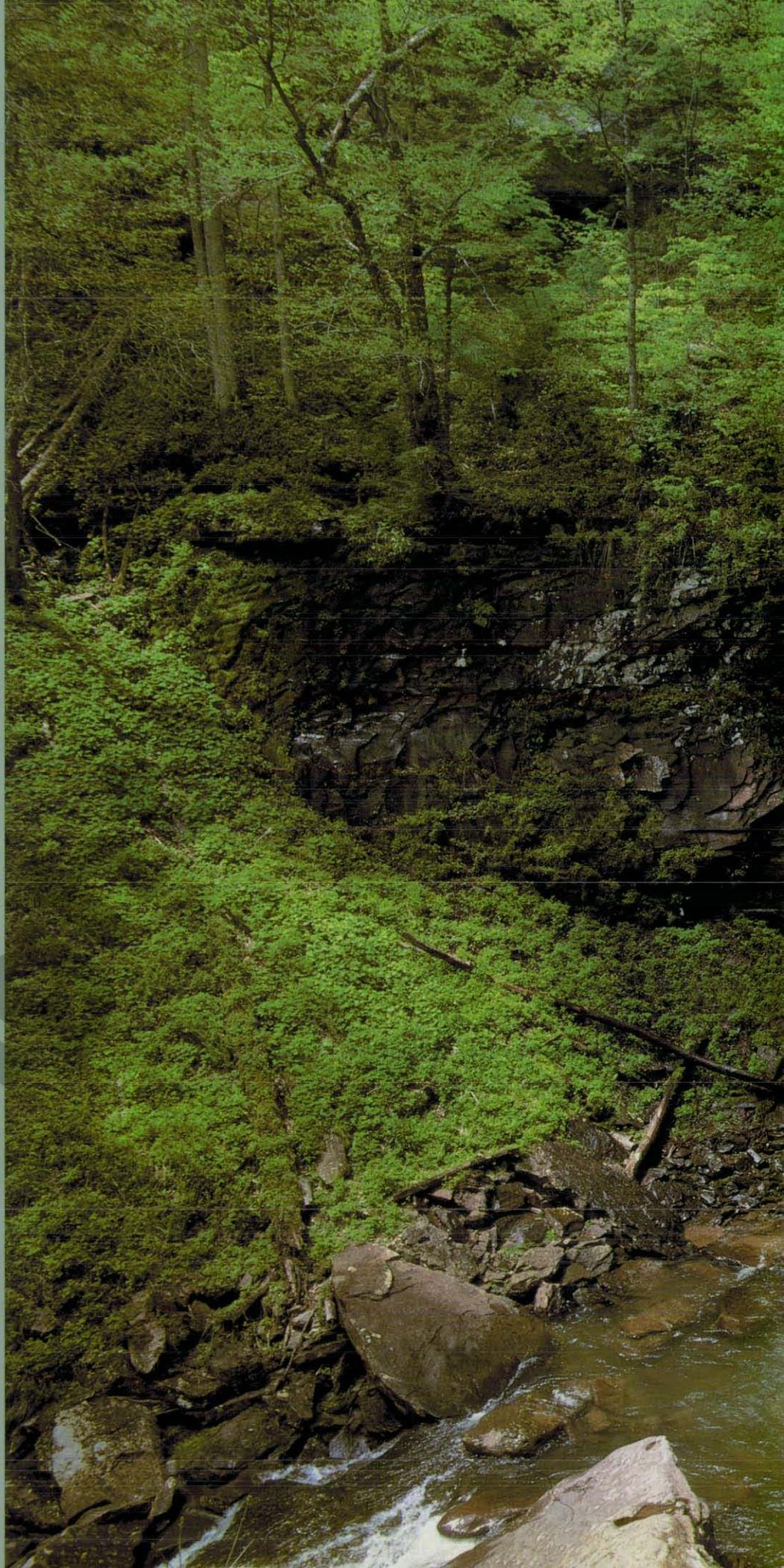
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*Lower Hills  
Creek Falls*

*Photo by  
Arnout Hyde Jr.*

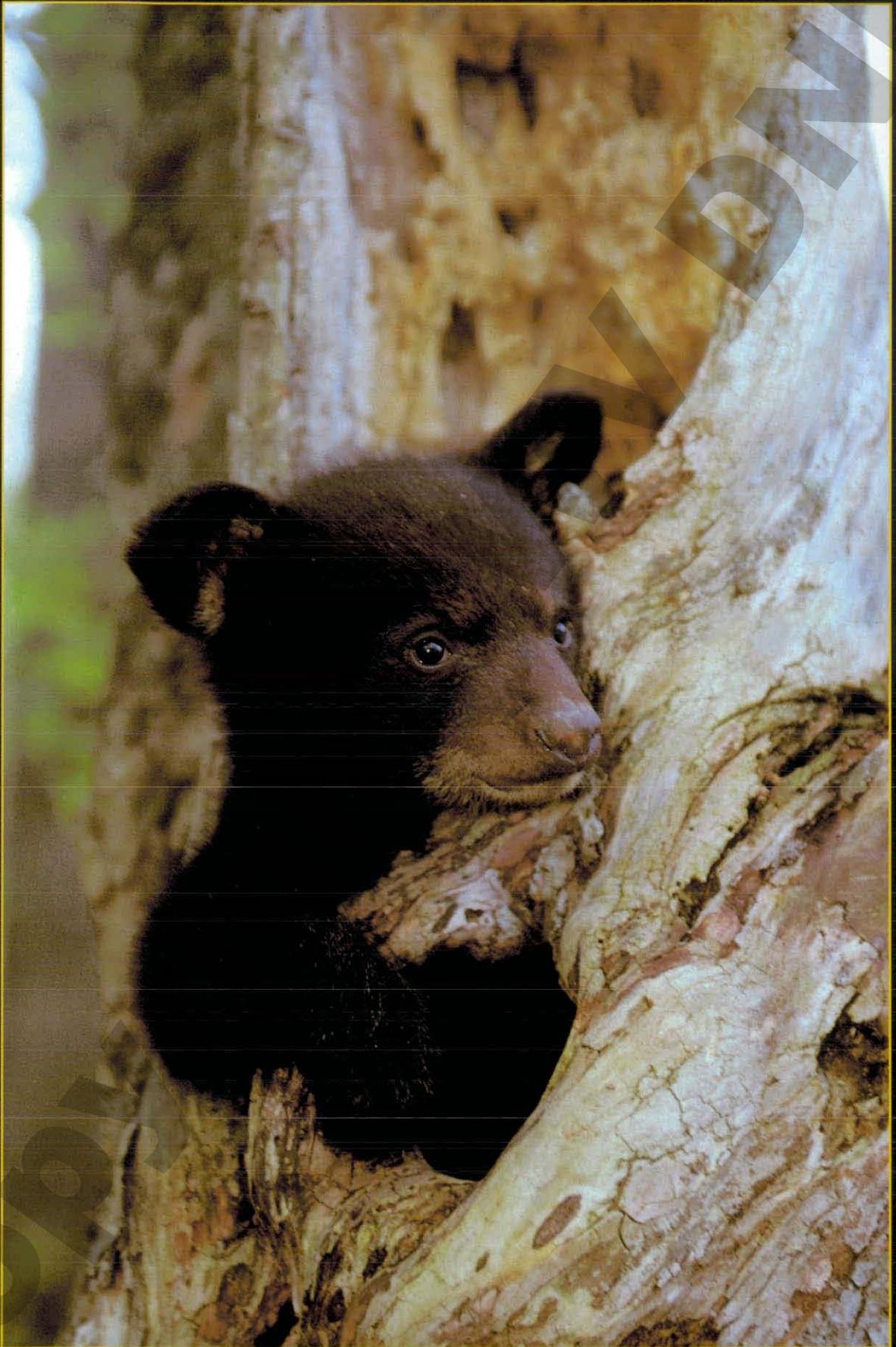
*Monogahelia  
National Forest,  
Pocahontas County,  
West Virginia*

*West Virginia's  
Second Highest  
Waterfalls*



Copyright





Black Bear

*Euarctes americanus*

# Wildlife Portraits

## *West Virginia State Wildlife Center*

*By William E. Vanscoy*

The West Virginia State Wildlife Center is a modern zoological facility displaying native and introduced state wildlife. The large natural habitat enclosures in which the animals are exhibited benefit both the animals and the public. The animals have adequate living space that is similar to their natural habitat. This greatly enhances the educational value and viewer enjoyment of a visit to the Wildlife Center.

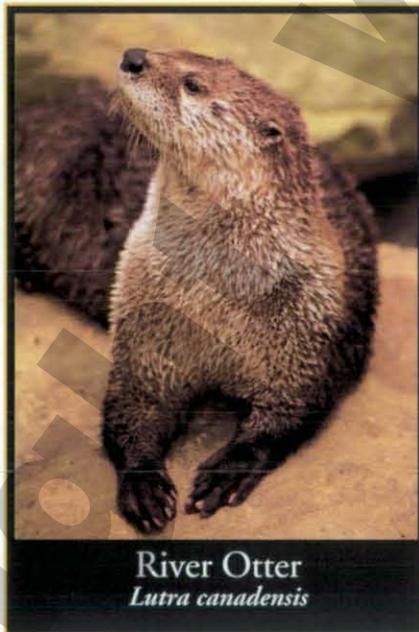
Although the Wildlife Center is a modern facility, its roots run deep into the annals of wildlife conservation. In the early 1900s, West Virginia's wildlife populations were in sharp decline due to uncontrolled exploitation and habitat destruction. Conservationists began vigorously promoting game refuges as a means of protecting diminishing wildlife.

In the 1920s, using funds derived from the sale of hunting licenses, the state began purchasing land for game refuges. A 329-acre tract near French Creek was bought in 1923. This area was named the French Creek Game Farm and for the next 29 years was used periodically to pen-raise various species of game birds and animals for restocking projects. This program was discontinued when it was proven to be biologically unsound. Pen-raised animals do not develop the survival skills necessary for life in the wild.

From the beginning, the Game Farm was a popular attraction for visitors. In recognition of this recreational and educational value, species of native wildlife were displayed. In the fall of 1926, more than 6,000 people visited the farm to view the captive wildlife displayed there. In 1954, a pair of elk and a pair of bison were obtained from Oklahoma. Elk and bison, which had previously roamed West Virginia, proved to be a major attraction. Other species of formerly native wildlife, such as the mountain lion, timber wolf and river otter, have been added over the years. The collection of exhibit animals now includes two non-native species which have been introduced into West Virginia: the European wild boar and ring-necked pheasant.

Since the Game Farm's wildlife display facilities were developed piecemeal over half a century, they lacked a complementary design. The

antiquated facilities were beyond renovation, so an entirely new exhibit area was designed and built beginning in 1984. Funding was obtained using matching federal monies from the Land and Water Conservation Fund of the U.S. Department of Interior. On September 28, 1986, the new facility was dedicated and renamed the West Virginia State Wildlife Center. The Wildlife Center is located in Upshur County in north-central West Virginia, 12 miles south of Buckhannon on



River Otter  
*Lutra canadensis*

*All of the wildlife photos in this story are by Stephen J. Shaluta Jr.*



Great Horned Owl  
*Bubo virginianus*

State Route 20. It is open year-round and a nominal fee is charged as the main source of operating funds.

Operated by the Wildlife Resources Section of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, the Wildlife Center is dedicated to presenting visitors with a realistic and factual understanding of the state's wildlife. This is accomplished by displaying each animal in its natural habitat. The spacious enclosures allow the animals to interact with their environment and, therefore, they exhibit more natural behavior patterns. Interpretive signs help the visitor to learn more about each animal's life history, biology and its relationship with humans. Group tours may be available upon request.

The large grazers, elk and bison, have acres of grass on which to roam. Woodland wildlife can be seen along a 1.25-mile loop walkway through

a mature hardwood timber stand. The mountain lion and timber wolf, formerly the state's top carnivores, live along side their principal prey, the white-tailed deer. The state animal, the black bear, is a featured attraction, and the ever popular river otters are a favorite with many visitors. Even the elusive coyote, a recent resident of the state, can be seen. Many of the state's common, and not so common, small mammals and large birds are displayed in the numerous exhibits.

The Wildlife Center's newest and most dynamic exhibit showcases the river otter. This innovative,

state of the art otter habitat complex adds a significant and exciting dimension to the Center's already impressive facilities. The exhibit allows visitors to view the animals from above and below water, revealing the powerful and amazing swimming abilities of these aquatic mammals. The exhibit houses two pairs of otter which are rotated for several hours each day in the main exhibit area and pool.

River otter were nearly eliminated in West Virginia near the turn of the century. The Wildlife Resources Section of the Division of Natural



American Bald Eagle  
*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

Resources has successfully reintroduced this animal back to several rivers within the state.

The Wildlife Center is the perfect setting for a family outing. In addition to exhibits, there is a large wooded picnic area with grills and a shelter. Look for waterfowl or fish for trout, bass, catfish and bluegill in the well-stocked pond below the picnic area. A gift shop is available to satisfy your souvenir and refreshment needs. The Wildlife Center is a facility where visitors can see, enjoy and learn more about West Virginia's rich wildlife heritage.

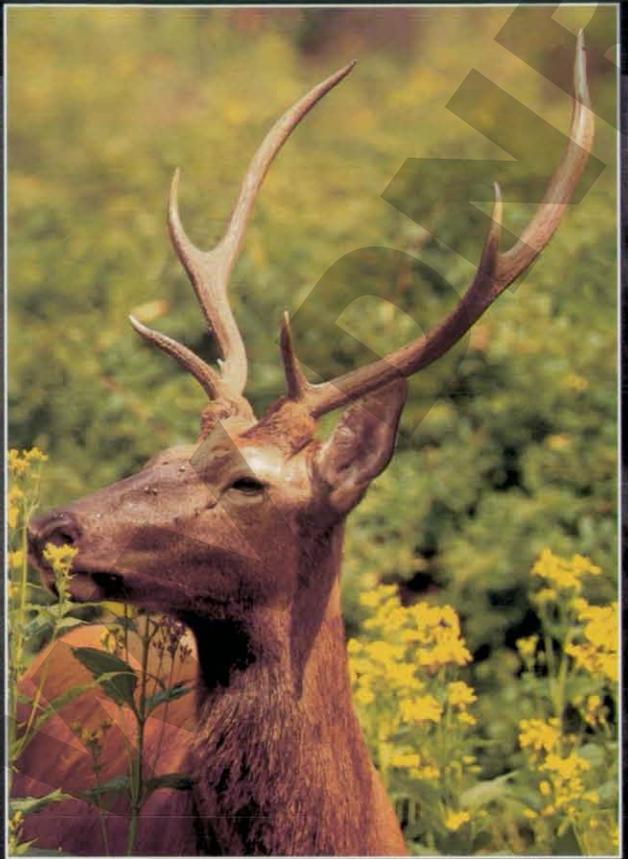
*William Vanscoy is a biologist at the Wildlife Center.*



## *King of the Mountain*

Mountain Lion  
*Puma concolor*

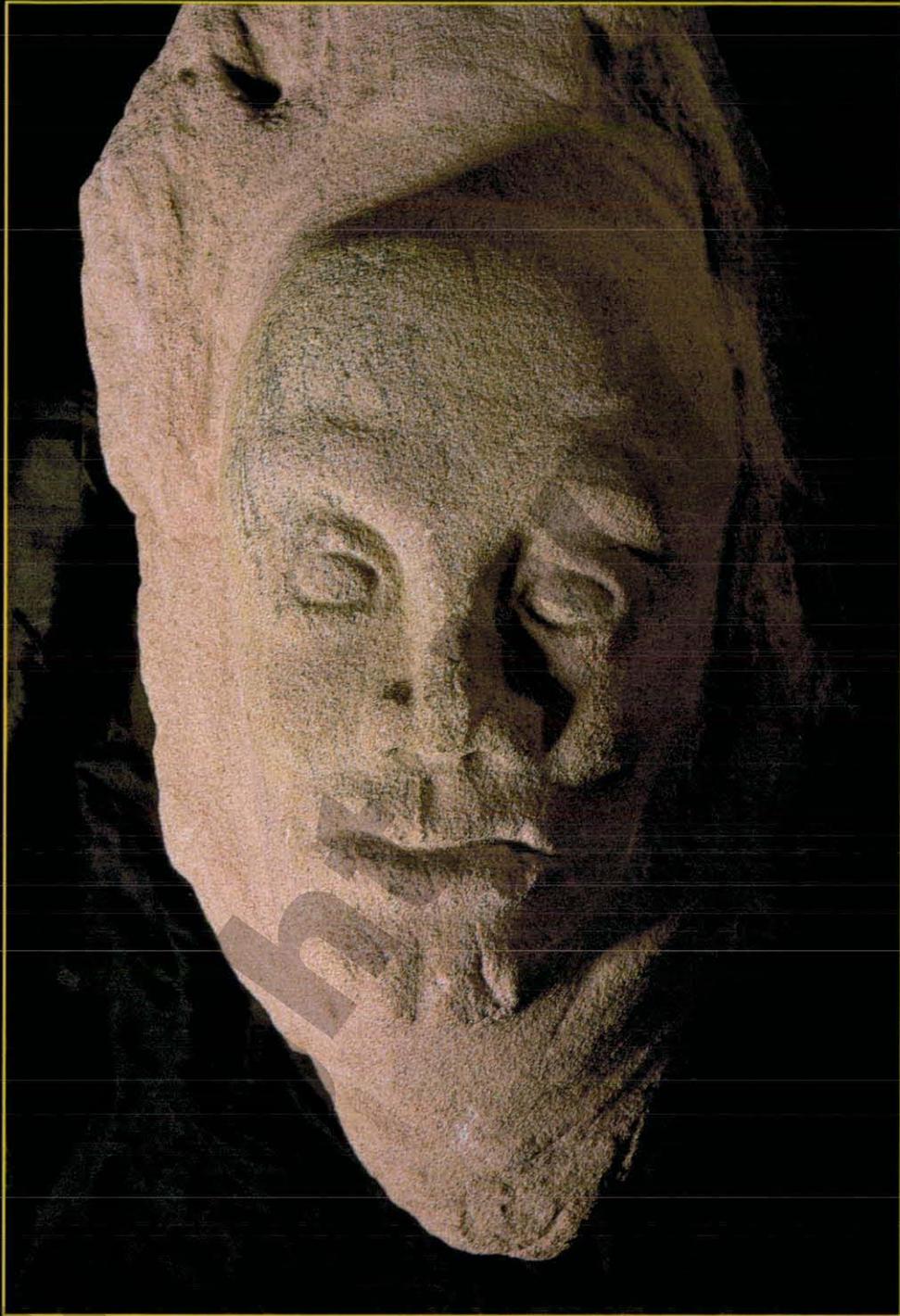
At home here at one time, the mountain lion is now extinct in West Virginia. However, there have been recent unconfirmed sightings of this magnificent cat in the mountain state.



Elk  
*Cervus canadensis*



Beaver  
*Castor canadensis*



## *The Mystery Continues...*

*When will the stone face give up its secrets?*

*by Robert Pyle  
Photographs by Arnout Hyde Jr.*

*Above - front view of the Stone Face, which measures approximately 6 1/2 by 11 inches.*

*The mystic of the remote mountain area near Maben, West Virginia, where the stone face was found, is shown in the photo on the facing page.*

**D**uring the early 1980s, in a remote wooded area in southern West Virginia near the small town of Maben, an expertly carved human face in native pinkish sandstone was pried from a nearby cliff by a group of boys. At the time, several articles were published in newspapers around the state, including the *West Virginia Advocate*.

It was hoped that the articles would spark some interest and eventually turn up a reader who could provide some information about the origin of the beautifully carved face.

Unfortunately, no information was received and the mystery surrounding the face carver's identity remains unsolved.

Two West Virginians, Edward Hall and Betty Wiley, have volunteered their help and have lent a hand with researching the artifact. After writing to the Smithsonian Institution and asking for input, the following reply was received from Richard E. Ahlborn, curator:

"I am uninformed about the stone face. Several times a year we receive inquiries about anthropomorphic representations that do not appear to relate to known artistic style or school. They seem to be naive or idiosyncratic works of individual energy, but seldom suggest a specific cultural, ethnic, or historical context.

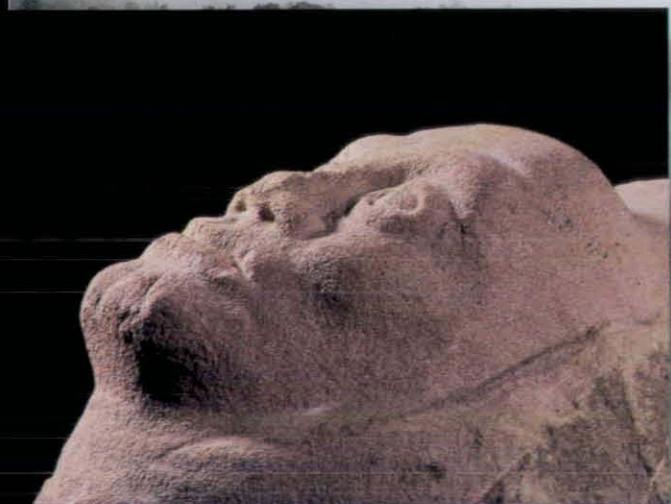
"This example suggests, however, someone with training.

The European proportions, bone structure and suggestive power of the face may result from an emigrant stone carver who turned to mining.

My sense of its style and carving technique would lead me to date it between 1800 and 1925."

Truly a work of art which represents human effort with considerable ability, the stone face exhibits features that could indicate several different cultures.

*If there are any readers who have unearthed clues or a solution to the mystery we'd like to hear from you. Address correspondence to the magazine.*



*Profile of the Stone Face*

Robert Pyle is a Federal rated archaeologist residing in Morgantown, West Virginia.



## The Vandalia Gathering

*Get in the spirit. Come on home to Vandalia.*

by Deborah Rainey-Haught

Vandalia Gathering enters its 21st year of celebrating traditional mountain culture May 23-25, 1997 in Charleston, West Virginia. Spread out comfortably over the Capitol grounds and utilizing the fine facilities of the Cultural Center, the gathering welcomes more than 45,000 visitors each year.

With all the comfort of a family reunion and excitement of a state fair, Vandalia sings, dances and tells the stories of generations who have given life to this land.

It all began as an effort to showcase the quiet teaching that had been going on in parlors and

on front porches for decades. Vandalia was a way to bring together the master musicians, storytellers, dancers and singers to share their talents and expertise with another generation. Since 1977 an entire generation of children have grown up at Vandalia.

Competitions in banjo, fiddle, lap dulcimer, mandolin and flat-pick guitar build the excitement and provide the finest traditional old-time music for the audience. Every evening ends with a free concert and awards in the theater.

Vandalia is a hands-on (or feet-on) activity. People of all ages get into the spirit with outdoor

*May 23-25, 1997  
21 Years of Celebrating Mountain Culture*

*Left - Learning how to weave a basket at the Vandalia Gathering*

Photo by Stephen J. Shaluta Jr.

*Right - Dancing in the Great Hall at the Vandalia Gathering*

Photo by Michael Keller

open clogging to live music and ethnic dancing featuring Irish, Scottish, Swiss, and Morris dancers. Find a partner for the evening square dance and hear fine traditional callers and musicians.

An Old-Time for Young 'Uns area offers today's children an opportunity to learn about work and play in their grandparents time. Little ones churn butter, play the fiddle, bob for apples and find all their fingers making Jacob's Ladder.

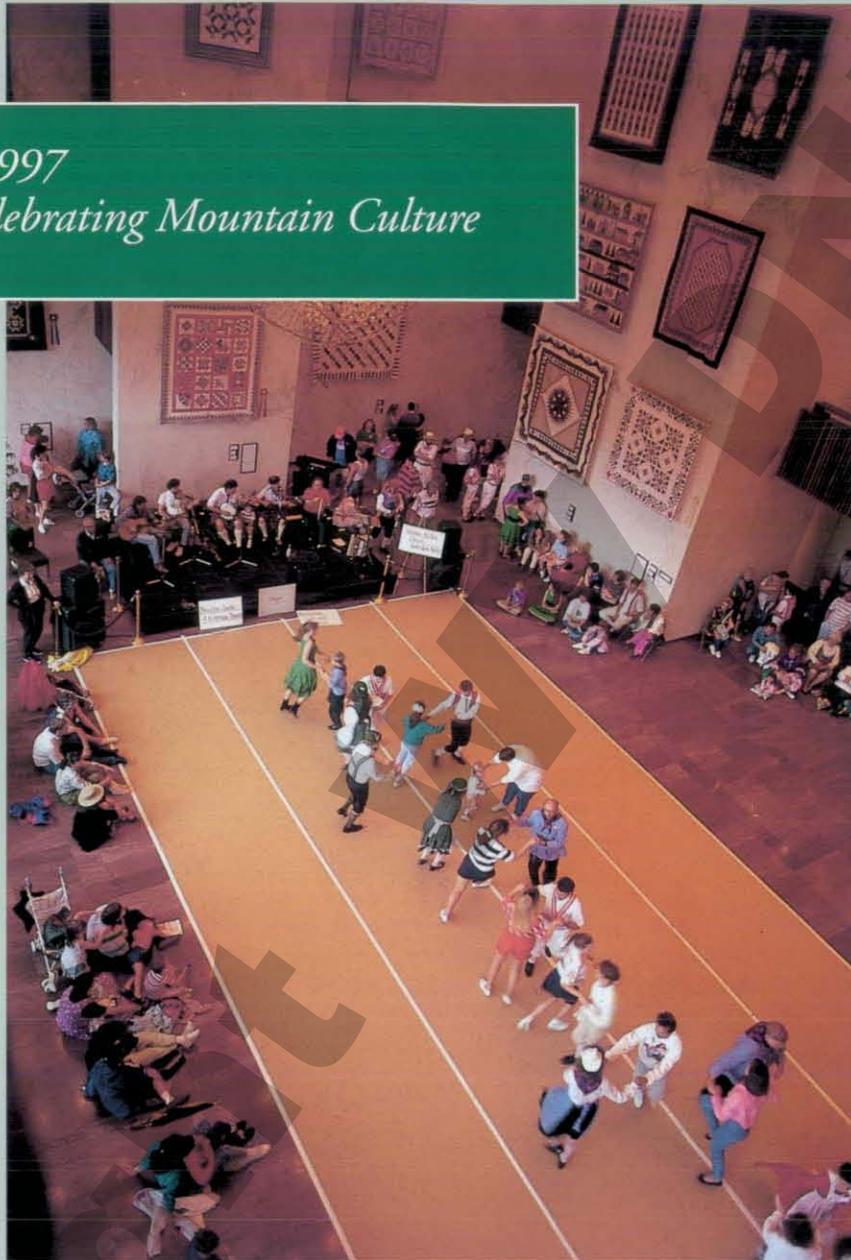
Those with a tale to spin can be heard at Vandalia. In celebration of the oral tradition, the Liars Contest offers an opportunity to any and all prevaricators to compete for the coveted title of West Virginia's Biggest Liar.

Bring your appetite to Vandalia! Non-profit vendors provide a selection of reasonably priced

ethnic selections. Upon entering the complex, the aromas of roasting corn, barbecues and grilled meat for Greek souvlaki draw the crowds toward food row.

No trip to Vandalia is complete without a stroll around the craft circle. The finest traditional crafters are selected to demonstrate and sell their wares. The shaded north fountain circle provides an idyllic setting for browsers and shoppers as they view pottery, baskets, glass, quilts, folk toys, jewelry and many other fine craft items.

*Deborah Rainey-Haught is the Media Relations Coordinator at West Virginia Division of Culture and History.*



# DNR Home Page

May 2-3

## *Show-Me Hike*

Greenbrier State Forest

The spring wildflower weekend is organized by the Old White Garden Club of White Sulphur Springs and is co-sponsored by Greenbrier State Forest. The event kicks off with a Friday evening program by one of the hike leaders. An early morning bird walk precedes the various organized wildflower hikes led by knowledgeable guides.

May 3-4

## *Family Trail Days*

Canaan Valley Resort State Park

Sponsored by Canaan Valley Resort, Blackwater Falls State Park and the West Virginia Scenic Trail Association this event includes the eight mile "Walk Between the Parks," a cookout lunch, and an event memento. The walk qualifies for the West Virginia State Park Hiking Program. Contact Recreation Department, Canaan Valley Resort for details at 1-800-CALL-WVA. Registration and fee required.

May 3-4

## *Annual Pioneer Golf Classic*

Twin Falls State Park

A two-day, 36 hole, stroke play tournament open to men and women at one of southern West Virginia's finest golf courses. Packages available for overnight accommodations. Tournament fee includes refreshments, prizes and trophies.

May 4-31

## *Southern Watercolor Exhibit*

Grave Creek Mound State Park

Artists residing in southern states will feature

their original works during this exhibit. Free admission to view exhibit.

May 7-11

## *Rendezvous on the River*

Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park

Muzzleloaders and mountain men recreate and relive pre-1840 frontier life as they gather on Blennerhassett Island. Authentic camps, demonstrations, and period dress will be highlighted.

May 8-11

## *Wildflower Pilgrimage*

Blackwater Falls State Park

All day tours to various wildflower/bird habitats. Evening programs and entertainment at park lodge.

May 10

## *Tucker County Spring Migration Count*

Canaan Valley Resort State Park

Sponsored by the Friends of Canaan Valley Wildlife Refuge and hosted by Canaan Valley Resort - meet at the Nature Center at 6:30 a.m. Beginning birders are welcome and will be teamed with experienced birders. More than 100 different birds are observed during this all day event. Contact John North-eimer at Canaan Valley at 1-800-CALL-WVA for more information.

May 10

## *Four Man Golf Scramble*

Tomlinson Run State Park

Four-man golf scramble golf tournament sponsored by the park foundation.

# Calendar of Events

May 10

## **Century Day Bird Count**

Pipestem Resort State Park

Park staff and members of the Bibbee Nature Club spend the day searching the Pipestem area for 100 species of birds. Beginning birders are teamed with experienced birders.

May 10-11

## **Traditional Music Weekend**

Prickett's Fort State Park

A full weekend of Appalachian mountain music with many of West Virginia's best-known banjo pickers, fiddle players and ballad singers. Saturday, May 10, features informal jam sessions while Sunday, May 11, will be a concert format. Contact us for late information on scheduled artists.

May 17

## **34th Annual Youth Conservation Day**

North Bend State Park

May 17

## **CCC Reunion**

Babcock State Park

All men who worked in CCC Companies 532 and 1522 (Camp Lee and Camp Beaver) at Clifftop, West Virginia, are invited to this reunion. Please bring pictures and memorabilia for display.

May 23-26

## **Memorial Day Weekend**

North Bend State Park

Weekend includes scheduled recreational and interpretive activities as well as crafts and musical entertainment.

May 24-25

## **Memorial Day Music Festival**

Tomlinson Run State Park

Two days of music at the campground shelter. Bring the family and enjoy local groups as they perform.

May 31

## **Bluegrass at Cass**

Cass Scenic Railroad

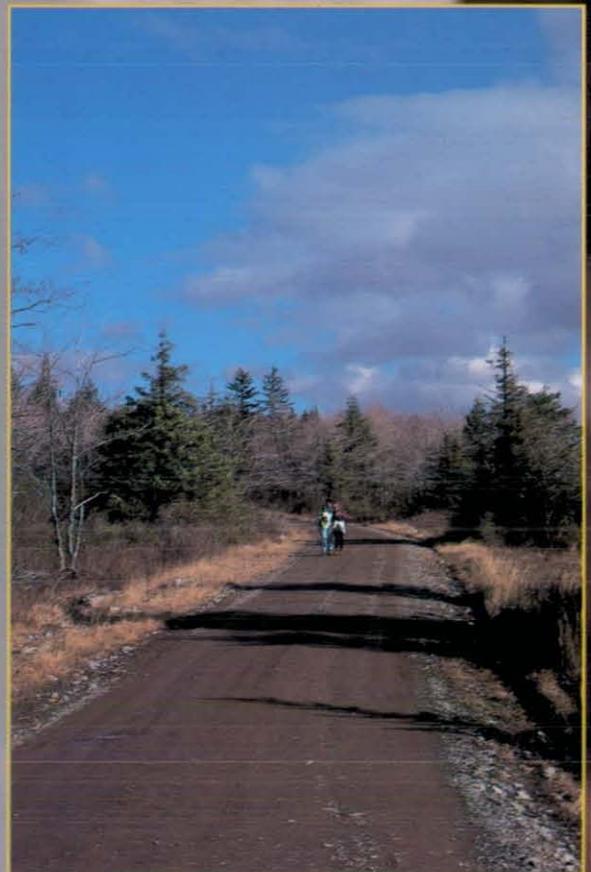
Enjoy a day of bluegrass music at Cass Scenic Railroad State Park

May 31

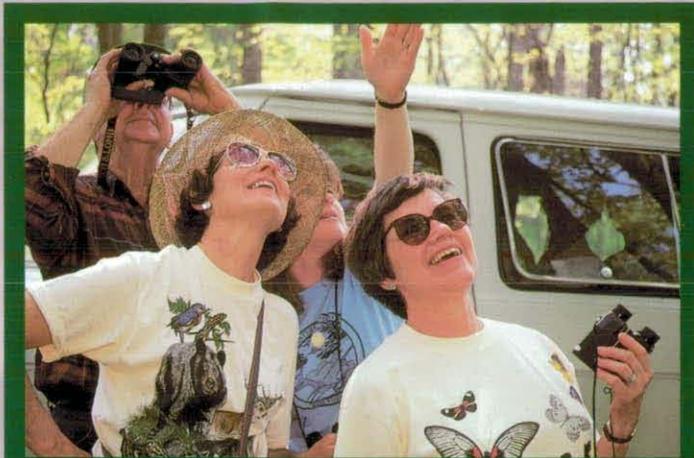
## **Sock Hop**

Little Beaver State Park

For family fun, dance to the music of 1950's and 1960's.



*Trout Lily or Yellow Fawn Lilly (Background photo on this and the next page) is often seen on the May DNR outings. Inset - During Family Trail Days, hikers walk the eight miles between Blackwater Falls State Park and Canaan Valley Resort. Photos by Arnout Hyde Jr.*



*Thirty-sixth Wildflower Pilgrimage at Blackwater Falls State Park*

*DNR Home Page Continued . . .*

*Left - Early morning bird watchers*  
Photo by Stephen J. Shaluta Jr.

*Below center - Mountain men and women enjoy the Rendezvous on the River.*  
Photo by Arnout Hyde Jr.

*Below - Camp Washington Carver, built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in Fayette County, is one of the many legacies left by the CCC.*  
Photo by Arnout Hyde Jr.

You know it's really springtime when beautiful Blackwater Falls State Park near Davis, West Virginia, plays host to more than 300 professional and amateur botanists and bird watchers during the annual West Virginia Wildflower Pilgrimage. This year, the 36th annual pilgrimage will be held May 8-11, and a full schedule of speakers, programs, entertainment, and exhibits are scheduled.

As participants walk through the woods, specialists from the Division of Natural Resources, West Virginia University, West Virginia Garden Club, Inc., and other experts will be on hand to identify and point out interesting plants and answer questions. People come from 13 or more states each year to discover the natural beauty that appears each spring in West Virginia's woods.

Many tours are scheduled for nearly every interest. Groups will explore Smoke Hole, Northfork Mountain, Dolly Sods, Fernow Experimental Forest, Sugarland and Limestone Mountain, Blackwater Canyon, Elk Garden, the Sinks of Gandy and Spruce Knob, the Rainshadow and Shale Barren, Beaver Dam Cabin Mountain, and Seneca Rocks. Beginners will have an opportunity to participate in a photography workshop and a bird identification workshop.

Package deals are offered that include lodging in Blackwater Lodge or in a cabin, a Saturday evening banquet, and registration fee. Reservations are requested, and can be made by calling (304) 558-3370 or 1-800-CALL-WVA. If you find you're too late for this year's Wildflower Pilgrimage, go ahead and register for next year's. It's always a good idea to put your name in early for this popular event!



## *A Letter From Harry Price*

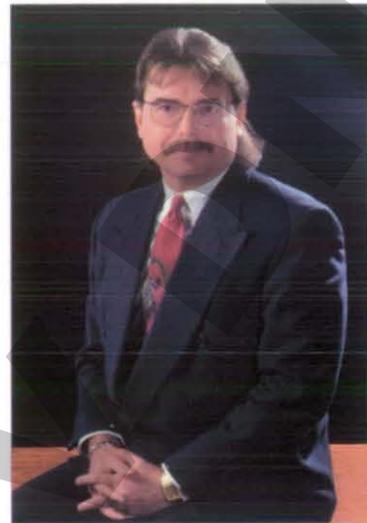
*Wonderful West Virginia* magazine was originally a small publication titled *West Virginia Conservation* which featured Division of Natural Resources articles. When the magazine was expanded in 1968 to include scenic color photography of the state and a wider range of stories, it evolved into the official state magazine. The magazine quickly became one of the leading state publications in the country and served as a very effective medium for promoting West Virginia.

Today, however, *Wonderful West Virginia* magazine is not financially self-sufficient and must be supplemented from other sources. It is anticipated that with an increase in circulation and innovative fund raising ideas for the future, *Wonderful West Virginia* will once again sustain itself. The Division of Natural Resources is committed to making the changes necessary to restore our magazine to prominence, changes that are extremely exciting for the future of our magazine.

A unique contract has been initiated, starting with the May issue, between Cannon Graphics, Inc., and the Division of Natural Resources to publish *Wonderful West Virginia*. The president of Cannon Graphics, Inc., and former photographer and editor of *Wonderful West Virginia*, Arnout Hyde Jr., will be working closely with the Division of Natural Resources on the editorial portion of the magazine (which includes the article content, layout, and photography). The Division of Natural Resources will perform the circulation duties while both the Division and Cannon Graphics, Inc., will share in promoting *Wonderful West Virginia*. Our goal is to produce a high quality, contemporary magazine featuring superior photography through the use of many photographers in the state including Arnout Hyde Jr. For further enhancement and the use of high technology we have turned to AAD-INC. (Advertising Art Design, Inc.), a West Virginia/Maryland firm, to design the "new look" for this and future issues. Stories and featured articles will originate from a wide range of writers in order to showcase both exciting events occurring in the state at the present, as well as stories of historical interest.

*Wonderful West Virginia* magazine's philosophy is to show the best of West Virginia through a publication that will allow all West Virginians to say proudly, "This is my state, and what a beautiful state it is!" The magazine also is a powerful tool to attract visitors to our fine state for fishing and hunting in our forests, vacationing in our state parks, rafting on our rivers, snow skiing at our resorts, and participating in our exciting variety of outdoor recreational activities.

So I invite you to join in our excitement as we embark on a new phase and journey with *Wonderful West Virginia*. The new partnership between the Division of Natural Resources and Cannon Graphics, Inc., including the experience and commitment of Arnout Hyde Jr., will ensure the successful transition of the magazine as the proud symbol of the mountain state.



*Harry Price*  
Executive Secretary  
West Virginia  
Division of Natural Resources



*Fourteen Great  
Reasons to Give  
Wonderful  
West Virginia*

1. *Travel Ideas*
2. *Business Gift*
3. *Graduation*
4. *Mother's Day Gift*
5. *Father's Day Gift*
6. *Birthday*
7. *Wedding*
8. *Anniversary*
9. *Retirement*
10. *New Home*
11. *New Job*
12. *Thank You*
13. *Congratulations*
14. *or just to share the pride  
of West Virginia with  
friends.*

*A Screech Owl poses for a  
portrait at State Wildlife  
Center. (See Page 22 for Story)*

*Photo by David Fattaleh*

