

To know nature and keep it worth knowing

Timberline meeting:



Wednesday, Nov. 20
SPSS Library - 7:30 p.m.
Come and enjoy the great

outdoors indoors.



October 16 meeting: Only 6 members came. Hey!



Where is everybody?
Meredith had a video of
bats pollinating flowers.



We decided that the tall grass we've
seen in clumps at the Clayhurst reserve and at
McQueen's Slough is canary grass, an invasive species.

Len told us about a bear that
had chewed holes in his truck tires and
made off with two solar panels! He also had some
interesting history about the metis in this area.



Treasurer Jean told us we have \$6,653.43 in High
Interest investments at the Credit Union, \$593.25 in
checking, and \$123.99 in equity shares. Hey, if this was
the Senate we could have a **big** party!



We also decided on an outing to the
Clayhurst Reserve on Oct. 27, but it was
fortunately snowed out

Cats: Phoenecian traders, carrying Egyptian cats on
their ships (to catch rats and mice)
probably brought the first domestica-
ted cats to Europe about 900 B.C.



The crossing of Egyptian cats with European wild cats
produced the domesticated cats of Europe which were
brought to America during the 1700's

Louise Riotte, *Sleeping with a Sunflower*

Pigs can swim? A wild boar on the Isle of Alderney



is believed to have swum from France.
Pigfarm owner Tess Woodnutt said
she saw it in her yard. When she

approached it, it leaped over a one meter high fence.
Alderney is about 10 miles from the French coast.
Islanders have dubbed it "ghost pig" as it has only been
seen at dusk. BBC News

Animal economics in meerkat society.



Some subordinate female meerkats
wetnurse a dominant female's offspring in
exchange for not being evicted from the
group. A group of dominant females
aggressively suppress other females
from breeding through infanticide or eviction.

When dominant females are pregnant, in the last few weeks
of pregnancy, they usually throw out the top level of
subordinate females...because if a female is pregnant, she
is more likely to kill the pups of another pregnant female in
an attempt to secure care for her own pups. (Nice guys,
eh?)

Cambridge U. Zoologist Kristy MacLeod on BBC News, Oct. 1, 10/13

The uakari, the only mammal whose name starts with a



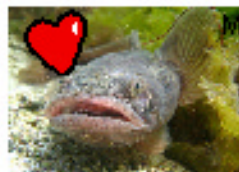
u, is a small species of monkey indigenous
to South American tropical rainforests.

Averaging 45 cm. in length, it weighs about
3 kg., and has a tail it uses only for balance. With its strong
hind legs it can jump 20 meters from tree to tree.

Many indigenous people consider it a staple food source and
many keep it as a pet. It is endangered from defor-estation
and being hunted.

There's lots about it on the the web if you're into monkeys.

Sexy fish keep Hampshire, England, residents awake



Midshipman fish can make noises
during breeding season that go
through ground, walls and homes for
a few hours. People near the water have

complained that it disturbs their sleep. Some scientists
question whether it's really the fish and are investigating
whether something else is causing the noise. Aw! BBC
News

Back home again, this spider resided in Schoen's back



porch all summer. We think it's an
Araneus diadematus (garden spider). An
orb weaver, said to eat its web together
with any insects caught each night, and build
a new web in the morning. (We didn't see that.)

It's not aggressive and hard to provoke to bite (didn't try that),
but if it does, the bite to humans is just unpleasant, not
injurious.