

## **A Review of Our Nature Walk 6-7-08**

I really enjoyed our nature walk with John Serrao, a very experienced naturalist. He pointed out lots of stuff I hadn't noticed, and made everything interesting. He showed us loads of fascinating plants, like walking fern, which comes up, makes a leaf, goes down, makes another root, comes up again and so on. It literally "walks" across the limestone where it grows! Another interesting thing he told us was that the caterpillars we are seeing a lot of are really tent caterpillars, not gypsy moths. Tent caterpillars live in nests and gypsy moths do not. There are also two types of tent caterpillars, the Eastern kind (which is light with stripes) and the Forest kind (which is darker and has spots).

The walk was a good long one, as we walked down the trail, along the river, and back. It was also swelteringly hot, but we did okay. It's a good thing that Meg, our PPL representative, brought lots of iced water! I liked meeting Mr John Serrao, and I hope we can go on another walk with him soon.

Plants we saw:

May apple fruit (*Podophyllum peltatum*)

Jewel-weed (Yellow) (*Impatiens pallida*)

Ebony Spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*)

Rattlesnake Fern (*Botrychium virginianum*)

Maidenhead Spleenwort (*Asplenium melanocaulon*)

Wild Sweet Cicely (*Osmorhiza longistylis*)

Walking Fern (*Asplenium rhizophyllum/ camptosorus rhizophyllum*)

Common Marginal Woodfern (*Dryopteris marginalis*)

Hepatica or liverleaf or liverwort (*Anemone hepatica*)

Helleborine orchid (*Epipachis helleborine*)

Perfoliate Belwort (*Uvularia Perfoliata*)

Canadian Moonseed (*Menispermum canadense*)

Woodland Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*)

White Boneberry or Doll's Eyes (*Actaea pachypoda*)