

Good day, everyone--it's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania.

The occasion of enjoyment I most remember in Pennsylvania in all the years I have enjoyed its beauty, is the time when, station wagon loaded with children, I had the wisdom of including hamburger buns, hickory-smoked bacon and fresh iced tomatoes and stopped for a two-hour breather at one of Pennsylvania's prettiest places; Rickett's Glen State Park. To try to describe the cool, fresh pine and hemlock covered area in which we camped and cooked our luncheon on a ready fireplace, I just can't do. Suffice it to say that of all the state parks in Pennsylvania, this one memory makes Rickett's Glen my favorite. It is centered in an area bounded by Scranton and Williamsport, 45 miles away; 25 miles from Wilkes-Barre, 28 from Bloomsburg. It is one of the most scenic places you'll ever see. Most of the more than 13,000 acres has been preserved in its natural state. Rickett's Glen--the Glen itself provides the main scenic attraction of the park. A series of trails, covering a total of seven miles, parallel a number of streams as they course their way down the Glen. The dams and the trails come down from the highlands of Lake Jean--the high plateau lake of the Sullivan Highlands, and end at the lowlands along Route 115. This is one of the marvelous hiking routes of the State--by far its prettiest, I think. There is a shorter hike along what is known as the Evergreen Trail. What is most memorable about both trails and streams is a series of more than 30 waterfalls, sometimes crashing, sometimes spilling,

sometimes trickling down-creek to the end of the trail. I sincerely believe you will never see such a sight anywhere else in the world--along a trail which goes by the falls, meandering through a majestic stand of giant hemlocks and white pines, many of which are more than 500 years old. Lake Jean, Lake Rose and Mountain Spring Lake adjoin and are part of the park, and the fishing that abounds in these places is enough to entice one for fishing only. But Rickett's Glen should be hiked, really, to discover a difference in this state park over any other. Through sun-drenched forests, sometimes, bleak-black woods, with the singing streams and fol-de-rolin' falls to keep one company, is an experience in Pennsylvania pleasure that can only be gotten at Rickett's Glen State Park. Facilities are marvelous, and thousands can be accommodated in any one beautiful Pennsylvania day--yet there are times, on such a hike up-er-down hill as you wish--when you are alone with only nature's God and your companions. And who can be alone when such beauty as you'll find at Rickett's Glen must certainly bring to mind the bounties which Providence has indeed poured on Pennsylvania. Take along buns, hickory-smoked bacon and cold tomatoes--and you have yourself one of the most beautiful days you've ever experienced in Pennsylvania.

This is Pete Wambach. It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania.