



Fall 2016

# THE FROGHORN

[www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org](http://www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org)

## New this fall- Family Fun Programs



This series of programs, led by Silver Lake Nature Center Director Jerry Kozlansky, runs every Saturday at 1 pm, starting on Saturday, September 10th with **The Amazing World of Insects**. Explore the habitats of Silver Lake Nature Center in search of various species of insects that live among the forests, fields, and swamps. Discover the hidden world of these amazing creatures, and see for yourself why they are the Earth's most successful animal group.

Each week is a different topic: **Fascinating Flowers**- is an all ages exploration featuring the flowers and plants of Silver Lake Nature Center. All participants will identify and press their own wildflowers. **Radical Reptiles**- Silver Lake Nature Center is home to a variety of reptiles. Interact with the live turtles and snakes that live in the Nature Center. Then head to the marshes to look for reptiles in the wild. **Beginning Birding 101**- This course in bird watching is designed for the beginner. Everything from binoculars to birdfeeders to identification will be covered before moving on to bird identification in the wilds of the preserve. **Do Bears Hibernate?**- How do the wild animals of the Silver Lake Nature Preserve survive the harsh, cold season of winter? The answer to that question may surprise you! We go deep into Delhaas woods to search for signs of animals preparing for winter. **Tracking Wild Animals**- Wild animals leave behind their footprints as they wander through Silver Lake Nature Preserve. Participants will learn how to track animals and even how to make a plaster cast of a footprint. **Shelter Building**- Learn how to construct a shelter out of natural materials. Each participant will help construct a real debris hut deep in the forest of Silver Lake Nature Preserve.

For a complete list of programs, descriptions and dates please see the **Fall 2016 Program Schedule** or head to [www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org](http://www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org). These programs are family friendly- everyone is welcome to come out to explore and learn something new! There is no pre-registration required.

## 2017 Silver Lake Nature Center Calendars Coming Soon!

Enjoy stunning pictures of Silver Lake Nature Center & Park through all seasons! These calendars make lovely gifts and keepsakes for any occasion. Photography and design are by Resident Historian & Photographer, Clarence King, as well as by members of the Focal Planes Foto Club.

These beautiful, popular calendars are \$15 each and sell out quickly, so please be sure to order yours soon!

All proceeds benefit the Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center. Supplies are very limited, so please call 215-785-1177 or email [pacutter@buckscounty.org](mailto:pacutter@buckscounty.org)

**Fall Fling 2016**  
**50th Anniversary**  
**Celebration**



Save the Date:  
**Friday November 4th**  
 Contact Silver Lake Nature Center for tickets



## Silver Lake Nature Center

*50th Anniversary*

1966 - 2016

INSPIRING CONNECTIONS WITH NATURE FOR ALL AGES



## Goodbye and Thank You

After more than 16 years at Silver Lake Nature Center, it is time for me to say goodbye. Jim and I are looking forward to the next chapters. As I look back over my days here, I am extremely grateful to have been a part of this uniquely incredible organization. I have learned so much, due in no small part to Bob Mercer's style of leadership that allowed his staff to make mistakes as we challenged ourselves in ways that we couldn't have at any other organization. Where else could we build an Earthship?!

Working for both sides of the Nature Center – the Friends of Silver Lake and the Department of Parks and Recreation – I came to appreciate the 'dance' between the two that keeps the Nature Center running smoothly. Partners on both sides of the dance floor work hard to maintain the facility and programs.

By far, the best part of this experience has been the people. I believe Merce said that, too, in his farewell letter, but it bears repeating. The staff are here because they want to be here, and that has made for a wonderful work environment. Our volunteers and members are selfless, giving so freely of their valuable time and in many cases other resources as well. Local businesses believe in us and support our projects and programs. None of what we do would be possible without this community of caring people.

So, thank you, all of you, for what has been a truly richly rewarding experience. It has been my deepest pleasure and honor getting to know you and working with you.

## Volunteer of the Quarter: Dawn Denner

Dawn has been volunteering at the Nature Center since April of 2015. She makes it a point to walk the grounds of Silver Lake almost daily. During those walks she takes pictures, make observations about wildlife activity, and takes it upon herself to keep the grounds visitor friendly.

Dawn has a keen eye and has photographed many animals and scenic areas here at the Nature Center. Her photos have earned awards from the Focal Planes Foto Club, been used in Nature Center publications, and will be used in the 2017 Silver Lake Calendar. She also volunteers on the Saturday Volunteer Work days and helps the Southern Bucks Garden Club maintain the 'Butterfly Garden'.

## THANK YOU Dawn for all of your help!

### Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center Board of Directors

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*Luna Moth*

On a hot June day this summer a family of four walked through the front door of the Nature Center and approached me eager to have a “nature” question answered.

The young girl showed me an image on her Smart Phone of a large green moth they had seen the night before. Being from the Midwest, they had never seen such a pale green moth with a four inch wingspan, and they wondered if I could identify it for them. Of course, being a naturalist for over two decades in the Eastern United States, I immediately recognized this fascinating creature as a male Luna Moth.

The Silver Lake Nature Preserve is a perfect habitat for the Luna Moth, which is only found here in North America. The Preserve is home for all of the major host trees that the caterpillar loves to eat, especially the Sweet Gum tree that exists here in abundance. Without this type of tree the Luna Moth Caterpillar may not have enough nourishment during the summer and may not have the protection it needs to survive the long cold winters of this region.

What this family had photographed was a newly emerged male moth that had recently crawled from its winter cocoon that was carefully wrapped in a Sweet Gum leaf camouflaged on the forest floor. This adult moth only has a week to live. In fact, it does not even have the mouth parts to eat anything while it searches

for its female counterpart. Flying about at night, it senses the surrounding air with its large featherlike antennae searching for the presence of pheromones given off by the female Luna Moth.

The female Luna Moth then searches for a host plant to lay its fertilized eggs. These eggs need to hatch on a plant that the caterpillar would like to eat, perhaps a Sweet Gum tree at Silver Lake Nature Center. She may lay over 500 eggs in time, and in about ten days, small green caterpillars begin to emerge and begin munching on those nutritious Sweet Gum leaves. Every five days the caterpillars get so large they split their skins and emerge with new skin and a much plumper body. After doing this five times over the next three weeks they spin themselves into a cocoon, wrap themselves into a tree leaf and the cycle begins again.

The family thanked me and waved good bye. It is my sincere hope they left with a greater curiosity than they entered with. They certainly had a greater appreciation for the interrelationships that plants and animals have within nature. Hopefully you, the reader, are inspired to ask more questions, and you're certainly invited to Silver Lake Nature Center to expand your naturalist skills.

Be sure to celebrate national Moth Week during the last week of July every year by looking up all the festivals and events that highlight the amazing world of moths.



*Sweetgum Leaf and seed*

## Intern Program

Thanks to the support of our Intern Program, we were pleased to be able to have two fantastic interns on staff here at the Nature Center this summer. These interns gained valuable real world, hands on experience. They were called on - often with just a moments notice- to work on any number of different projects, educational programs or tasks. Rachel and Ryan both responded with enthusiasm and have truly been an asset to the Nature Center.

### **Rachel Bryan**, *Environmental Education Intern*

This summer I assisted with Summer programs for visiting summer camps, and I worked on updating the information for the Bird Blind area. I also helped out with our Summer Camp as needed. I am grateful to the employees and volunteers at SLNC for teaching me more about the environment.

### **Ryan Neuman**, *Environmental Education Intern*

This has been an interesting summer of learning and doing things I could not have imagined. I had a lot of fun and would like to thank Silver Lake and all of the wonderful people I have met for such a great experience. Primarily this summer, I have focused on maintaining the trails, whether it be clearing poison ivy or taking down fallen branches and doing any other odd jobs that needed to be accomplished around the center. Other things I have been involved in have been helping with the summer camp occasionally and spending a lot of time working with the water monitoring program as well.

Rachel and Ryan- thank you for participating in our Intern Program this summer. Your hard work and willingness to contribute to the Center has been greatly appreciated. Good Luck on your future endeavors!

## Business Partners

### Friends of Silver Lake Business Partners and Donors

June 2016 - August 2016

#### **Diamond Partner \$5000+**

The Dow Chemical Company  
County of Bucks  
DEP, Coastal Zone Management

#### **Platinum Partner \$3000+**

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#### **Friend \$100+**

Mazzanti's Market  
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## New Members

Shannon Adamson

Sarah and Michael Bastian

Celeste Brown

Krystal Burns

Anna Coogan

April Eichner

Jana Kowalchik

George P Kozlansky

Erin McAllister

Bethanne and Albert Olczaks

Matt and Lisa Peters

Christy Samsel

Margaret E Tallman

Rosemond Walley

## Coming Soon...

### Holiday Giving Tree

We hope you'll visit our "Giving Tree" this Holiday Season. Our Tree will be on display in the entrance area of the Nature Center Visitors' Building. Hanging from the Tree will be our Wish List in the form of ornaments. Visitors may take an ornament with them if they would like to donate that item.

#### **Here is a sampling of items on our Wish List:**

Marshmallows

Volunteer Work Day Lunch Sponsor

Gift Cards to Craft and/or Grocery Stores

### Bird Seed Sale 2016-17

#### **4 Sales this season:**

**October 8**, orders due by September 30

**December 10**, orders due by December 2

**February 11 2017**, orders due by February 3 2017

**April 8 2017**, orders due by March 31 2017

Orders may be placed by phone, mail, online or in person.

Proceeds from the birdseed sale benefit the environmental education programs offered by Silver Lake Nature Center

For more information, please call us at 215-785-1177 or visit our website at [www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org](http://www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org)

Thank you!

## Calling all Volunteers! Events - Opportunities - News

### Volunteer Opportunities:

**Greeters-** Be the first face of the Center! Greet visitors, answer phones, and run the cash register

### **Flea Market- Craft Fair**

Saturday, September 17 from 8am until 2pm

Volunteers needed to staff the Center's Information and Flea Market Sale tables

### **Volunteer Work Days**

**First Saturday of the month,  
9 am to 2 pm**

September 3, October 1, and November 15

**The Facilities Committee** has reconvened and gotten right to work. Committee members *Hope Sauppe, Robert Casselberry, Robert Pearson, Barbara Campbell, Tony Garwood, Susan Grayeski and Arden Williams* meet monthly with the Center's director to discuss the condition of the buildings and grounds of the preserve.

The Facilities Committee has been very active at the last three Volunteer Work Days helping to resolve some major issues on the grounds. In May, they replaced the front garden borders. In June, they relocated a dirt pile and used it to cover the berm of the Earthship and plant grass seed. In July, they removed the wood shed remains.

The kids play area pond has been deconstructed, relined and installed with new pipes just in time for the start of summer camp. In April, the One Brick Philly organization came in and deconstructed the pond. In May, the Model Boat Club came in and helped to reline the pond and construct a new waterfall. And in early June, the county plumber came to install new pipes, so that the pond could run uninterrupted for the next several years. Thank you to our interns and community service volunteers who also lent a hand to help restore the pond.

## Thank you!

It's so simple to say, yet it doesn't fully express the gratitude felt when we think about your contributions to the Center...

**Jeanne Winerip-** donated a figurine and binoculars.

**Jo'Ann Bruehl-** brought in nature sounds cd's for the enjoyment of visitors and staff.

**Ellen Miller -** donated delicious bread.

**Timothy Kearney-** brought Pizza in for camp staff.

**Dori Schiefer, Marty Shively, Lauren & Liana Ivanchenko** donated tie dye & camp supplies.

**Bird of Paradise Flowers -** donated a beautiful flower arrangement for the Greeter's Desk.

**Pat Rossi -** created promotional signs for our programs and kept our kiosk at the park up to date.

**Victoria Sarno-** Adopted our Red Bellied Turtle on July 28, 2016

### Summer Camp C.I.T.'s

Adam Ziegler

Samantha Brooks

Emily Makarewicz

Teddy Ruth

Samantha Olavage

John Yates

Victoria Judge (Tori)

Erin Williams

Aubrey Hunt

Dana & Nick Markham

Madison McEntee,

Ravyn Kozlansky

Nolan Lombardo

Aidan Meister

### Summer Camp Guest Speakers:

Eileen Swank "Cinders"

Margaret McGinnis

Matthew Kicinski

Sam Shiels

Rich Bryan

Rick Mawson

Pete Marcoleno

Frank Beck

Ted Bilger

Nancy Fuchs

Stacy Levin

Gloria Galante

Jim Hennessey

Kevin Dippolito and the Bristol

Fire Company

Gail Bracegirdle & Marty Shively

William Smith

Lauren Ivanchenko

Tim Kearney

Trish Gallagher

Pat Merkel

Lee Roach

Dave & Jane Chalfant

Karen Flanigan

Tom Ashford

Andrews Family & Bristol Cub

Pack 212

Joann Bruehl

Alice Clark

Sandi Vincenti

## Fall Programs and Activities

For more details please see the 2016 Fall Program or [www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org](http://www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org)

### Birding Trips

\$15/ Members; \$19/ Non-members

#### Birding Cape May

Saturday, 9/17

6:30am – 5pm

Led by Linda R. & Mick Jeitner. Meets and begins at **Higbee Wildlife Management Area** at the end of New England Road, at 6:30am. Goal is to be there before morning light. Participants can also arrange to meet up with the group later in the morning at the state park at the pavilion next to the hawk watch at Cape May Point. Bring lunch. Dinner out.

#### Birding Bull's Island & DE Canal State Park,

Saturday, 10/8

7:30am – 4pm

Led by Hope & Kevin Sauppe. Scenic ride along the Delaware River to Bull's Island. Search for migratory birds along the Delaware River. We'll also explore various areas within the Delaware Canal State Park where various Raptors including Bald Eagles may be seen. Includes a moderate amount of walking easier trails. Pack a picnic lunch.

#### Palmyra Cove

Saturday, 10/15,

7:30am– 12pm

Led by Doug Filler. Meet at Silver Lake Nature Center at 7:30am. With its variety of habitats, Palmyra Cove has much to offer bird species looking to find food and cover throughout the year. It is a great stop-over for migratory birds to feed and rest during their long journeys and for breeding residents to raise their young. More than 250 different species of migrating and nesting birds have been identified here.

#### Brigantine-Forsythe National Wildlife Reserve

Saturday 11/12

7:30am - 5pm

Led by Mary Jane Mannherz.

Meet at 7:30am at SLNC for carpool or meet in Brigantine at 9am. A perennial favorite, this trip is an excellent trip for beginners, advanced birders and photographers. Bring a lunch and plan on joining us for dinner afterwards.

### Scouting Programs & Opportunities

We offer all kinds of Girl and Boy Scout programs, including Flag Retirement Ceremonies, Badges, Journeys, Service/Volunteer Projects, and more!

Scouts can also enjoy night-time programs, such as Night Hikes and Sleepovers! Both programs include an indoor presentation focusing on nocturnal life, a walk on the trails (without flashlights), a campfire, a marshmallow roast, storytelling, and a sing-a-long.

We will also work with you to suit the needs of your group with such options as fire building, fire safety, skits, and awards.

For more information on these and all of our Scout program offerings, please visit our website at

[www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org](http://www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org) or contact PattiAnn Cutter at the Center at [pacutter@buckscounty.org](mailto:pacutter@buckscounty.org) or 267-880-5022.

### Fun for Preschoolers

Bring your Preschool group out for our fun, educational programs! Some of our topics include: *Ponds & Puddles*; *Frog Friends*; *Bugs & Beasties*; *Five Senses*; *Forest Friends' Log Life*; *Winter Wonders*; *Hibernation Hap-pens*; and *Nature Discovery*.

These programs, designed to educate children and increase their awareness about our natural world, can be conducted at our location or at local Preschools.

For more information on our Early Childhood Education programs and/or to schedule a program, please visit our website at [www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org](http://www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org) and/or contact PattiAnn Cutter at [pacutter@buckscounty.org](mailto:pacutter@buckscounty.org) or 267-880-5022.

### Celebrate at Silver Lake!!

Silver Lake Nature Center offers many party options for children (of all ages), as well as grownup birthday parties, bridal/baby showers, anniversaries, other special events, and meetings.

Different types of parties we offer include Day-time Parties, Night Hikes, Campfires, and Kayak trips. We'll work with you to find the right program for your event. Fees vary according to program.

Some of our themes are: Butterflies; Insects; Spiders; Frogs; Rabbits; Squirrels; Worms; Dinosaurs & Cousins; Tracks & Scat; and more. If there is a nature-related theme that you'd like, but it is not listed, please let us know, and we'll work with you to make that happen, too!!

For pricing and additional info, visit [www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org](http://www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org) or contact PattiAnn Cutter at 267-880-5022 or [pacutter@buckscounty.org](mailto:pacutter@buckscounty.org).



## Silver Lake Nature Center

1306 Bath Road Bristol, Pa 19007

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### On The Horizon



Silver Lake Nature Center is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

Look for special 50th anniversary events and opportunities throughout the year to show your support and share your favorite things about the Nature Center!

#### After School Nature Camp

*Wednesdays, September 15 to November 17, 2016*

6-12 year olds

We'll have a lot fun exploring the nature preserve, learning about the habitats and creatures found here, playing nature-related games, learning survival skills, keeping a nature journal, and making new friends & memories!

\$70 members/\$90 non-members. Pre-registration is required. Fee covers all ten sessions.

For more information and/or to register, please call 215-785-1177, or visit our website at

[www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org](http://www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org)

#### Kids & Nature Days are back

*Dates to be Announced*

Spend some of your winter break with us!

6 to 10 year olds are invited to join us as we explore the trails, play games, craft, and visit with our animals! Activities are held both outdoors and indoors.

Light snacks will be provided, but please be sure to bring a lunch.

Sign up for one or both days!

Fee per day per child \$35 member; \$40 non-member

For more information and/or to register, please call 215-785-1177, visit our website at

[www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org](http://www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org), or email [pacutter@buckscounty.org](mailto:pacutter@buckscounty.org).