



Fall / Winter 2017

THE FROGHORN

www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org

**Delhaas
Dash 5k
and
Tigers Run
the Woods
Kids Fun Run**

Saturday October 28, 9am

Register at Silver Lake Nature Center or online at
pretzelcitysports.com



Announcing the Delhaas Dash 5K and Tigers Run The Woods kids fun run

On October 28th, the Friends of Silver Lake will be hosting The Delhaas Dash 5K through Delhaas Woods along with the Tigers Run the Woods kids fun run.

Whether you're a 5 minute mile elite runner or someone who just wants to go for nice stroll through one of the best kept secrets of Bucks County, this event is for you!

Besides, what could be more fun than running through a forest on an autumn morning? And, if you've been interested in trying the sport of trail running this is the perfect event to dip your toe in the water because the course is absolutely flat.

We'll be running rain or shine, the race will begin and end behind the Lafayette Elementary School at 4201 Fayette Drive in Bristol Township, 19007. The course will head away from the basketball court north along the power line trail, turn left toward Cassalia Pond and return to the power lines and continue north along the power lines to a turnaround near Bath Road. Then we'll take you left into Delhaas Woods. Once in the woods there will be several turns to use as much of the trail system as possible before we put you back on the power line trail near the soccer fields for a "sprint" to the finish. More than ½ the course will be flat single track trails.

We're also looking for volunteers! We'll need help with checking in runners before the start, working the finish line area, course marshals to direct runners along the course and of course some people to sweep the course at the end.

To register for The Delhaas Dash or Tigers Run The Woods, go to

www.pretzelcitysports.com/

Registration for the 5K is \$40 and proceeds will go to support both the Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center and Bristol Township Schools.

The kids Fun Run is free!

8:00am – Registration and bib & t-shirt pick-up begins

9:00am – Delhaas Dash 5K start

10:00am – Tigers Run The Woods Mile start

11:00am – Course closes



Nature Guide training at Silver Lake Nature Center

Silver Lake Nature Center is offering a **free** training program for people who are interested in assisting with our education programs! No experience needed, just a love of Nature and working with people.

The *free* Nature Guide training session is on **Sunday, January 28, 2018, from 12 to 4pm.**

Following the January 28th session, the training will continue with participants being invited to observe/assist with our education programs. After observing/assisting, Nature Guides will begin team teaching, and then when ready can help lead programs or portions of programs.

For additional information and/or to register, please visit www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org or contact PattiAnn Cutter at pacutter@buckscounty.org or 267-880-5022.

The Froghorn

This Newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center for the Silver Lake Nature Center, a facility of the Bucks County Parks and Recreation Department.

CONTACT US

Silver Lake Nature Center
1306 Bath Road
Bristol, Pa 19007
215 785-1177

SilverLakeNatureCenter@buckscounty.org
www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org

NATURE CENTER HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday- 12 pm - 5pm
Monday- Closed

Trails are open daily from Sunrise to Sunset

STAFF

Jerry Kozlansky, Director/Naturalist
PattiAnn Cutter, Assistant Director/Naturalist
Arden Williams, Volunteer Coordinator/
Administrative Assistant
Danielle Morrissey, Office Manager/
Earthship Steward
Kassandra Archer, Summer Camp Director /
Environmental Educator

The Bucks County Department of Parks
and Recreation does not discriminate on the basis of disabilities in its programs, activities, and facilities.



Our Mission:

*The Silver Lake Nature Center
inspires connections with nature for
people of all ages, interests, and abilities
through education, recreation,
preservation, research, and advocacy.*

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Silver Lake Nature Center Intern Program, Fall 2017

This summer, Silver Lake Nature Center's Intern Program hosted 2 excellent Interns. Clare Quinlan and Stephanie Heim. Thanks to the generosity of our members and supporters this program continues to provide an opportunity for our Interns to have an excellent real world experience. At the close of her internship, Stephanie shared this letter about her summer internship here:

I am sad to say that my internship here at Silver Lake Nature Center has come to a close. I have learned so much over the course of my internship, such as improving my plant and invertebrate identification skills, learning how to be an effective educator, reptile husbandry, and trail maintenance, just to start! I have had so much fun working and learning in such an amazing natural treasure. The staff and volunteers here are some of the most supportive, dedicated, and friendly people I've had the pleasure to work with. I've loved speaking with our visitors and sharing my love of nature and conservation with others. I will return to Drexel University this fall studying Environmental Science, and I know the things I have learned during my time with Silver Lake will stay with me for the rest of my schooling and career. I'd like to thank our staff, volunteers, and visitors, as well as the Friends of Silver Lake, for making my experience here an exceptional one!

The autumn air was warm and filled with the buzzing of countless insects. The forest floor, damp from last night's rain, was soft and fragrant. Peering through the lens of my camera, my class and I were focusing on this small ghostly white clump of flowers.

Standing but six inches high, these pale flowers showed no hint of color in leaf, stem, or flower. My young class insisted these must be mushrooms for they obviously lacked chlorophyll. I asked them to look much closer with a hand lens, and as they did they were astonished to see all the parts of a flower; this was no mushroom...

"But how?" The littlest girl in the group stammered, "A true flowering plant that lacks the ability to make its own food?" This was indeed one of the over 3,000 species of plants that are myco-heterotrophic— they exist in the world without the use of photosynthesis. This particular species is known as **Indian Pipe**. It takes its name from its physical resemblance to a device used by early Native Americans.

"How do they obtain food then?" interjected a bright young lad. In a unique natural process, certain underground fungus form a symbiotic relationship with the root systems of select species of trees.

The Indian Pipe comes along and feeds off the underground fungus like a parasite and obtains its food in this manner. The part of the plant we are observing is the fruiting body or flower portion. Most of this plant exists underground. In the children's eyes it was apparent they were imagining, perhaps for the first time, an underground system of life, a system vast and more complicated than they had thought possible.



Suddenly a shrill cry from a young girl shattered the forest air! A small, brown golf ball-sized lump came hopping through the Indian Pipe. The startled children quickly regained their inquisitive attitude and crawled forward to observe this new natural mystery they encountered. It hopped again and it became clear we were in the presence of none other than an **American Toad**.

A common amphibian in these types of woods, a toad can live up to ten years in the wild and eat hundreds of invertebrates each day. This amphibian does return to water to breed each spring but

spends the rest of its life in the forest.

The class took many photographs of this toad, and it became very famous at Silver Lake Nature Center.

This photography class had a full afternoon and were excited to return and show to their parents the wonders of nature captured through the lenses of their cameras.

Silver Lake Nature Center offers amphibian programs and has a collection of live reptiles that you are welcome to visit to expand your knowledge of their world. Be sure to celebrate World Frog Day this March and keep an eye out for those fascinating Toads!

Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center

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Silver Lake Nature Center offers a fantastic variety of workshops and classes designed to encourage a strong connection to and appreciation for our Natural World.

Visit our website see our full program schedule listing at:
www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org/current-program-listing/



Calendar of Events

November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Yoga	3	4 Volunteer Work Day Natural Dyes 101 1-3pm Charlie Zahm & Tad Marks Concert 7:30-9:30pm
5	6	7 Southern Bucks Garden Club	8 Artists of Bristol	9 Fall Fling 6pm-8pm Yoga	10 Kids and Nature Day 9am-4pm	11 Nature Crafts! 1-2:30pm
12	13 Focal Planes Foto Club WCU Harp Ensemble 6pm	14	15	16 Yoga	17	18 Shelter Building 1-2:30pm
19	20 Learn Care Share	21	22	23 Yoga	24	25
26	27 Focal Planes Foto Club	28	29 Delaware River Fishermen's Assoc.	30 Yoga		

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Birdseed Orders due!	2 Volunteer Work Day Birding Conowingo Tea Time @ the Earthship 1-2:30pm Clarence King 7pm-9pm
3	4	5 Southern Bucks	6	7	8	9 Birdseed Pick up
10 a taste of ARTISTRY 2pm-4pm	11 Focal Planes Foto	12	13 Artists of Bristol	14 Yoga	15	16 Shelter Building 1-2:30pm Wilderness Survival Series
17	18 Holiday Harps 6pm-7pm	19	20	21 Winter Solstice Night Hike 7pm-8:30pm	22	23
24	25	26	27 Delaware River Fishermen's Assoc.	28 Yoga	29	30 Watching Birds at Your Feeder - Winter Edition! 1-2:30pm

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2 Southern Bucks Garden Club	3	4 Yoga	5	6 Volunteer Work Day Natural, New Year Guided Hike 1-2:30pm
7	8 Focal Planes Foto Club	9	10 Artists of Bristol	11 Yoga	12	13 Fire Building for Beginners - Wilderness Survival Series 1-2:30pm
14	15 Kids and Nature Day 9am-4pm Learn Care Share WCU Harp Ensemble	16	17	18 Yoga	19	20 Nature Crafts 1-2:30 pm
21	22 Focal Planes Foto Club	23	24	25 Yoga Nature Book Club	26	27 Wild Animal Signs in the Woods 1-2:30pm
28	29	30	31 Delaware River Fishermen's Assoc.	For more detailed information please go to www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org		

New Members

Kassandra Archer
Pam & Ed Blackburn
Paul Bogosian
Melissa Campbell
Wanda Carey
Rose Cooper
Patricia & Jeff Cusanno
Angela Dearing
Gerald Driza
Khalihah & Bryan Eccleston
Jessica Ferry
Dominic Filanowski
Carol Frehafer
Joel Hale
Julia & Mark Huber

Megan Ivy
Jen Leister &
Scott Synnestvedt
Laura A Lewis
Brittany Logue
Kevin Lopercolo
Jennifer MacKenzie
Rachel McFadden
Monica Monaghan
John Morantz
Amandalyn & Ken Mosby
Cecilia M Ortiz
Otto-Johnson Family
Thomas F Padgeon
Angela Petrone

Arthur Wharton
Pattie Potts
Aimee Proctor-Schwartzman
Veronica Rangnow
Colleen Reilly
Yira Rodriguez &
Richard Cover
Cheryl Schoell
Kadijah Smith
Melanie Simmons
Carrie Steele
Margaret Stelmanski
Christine Warren
Angela White
Cathrine Williams

Looking Ahead...

Earthship Tours

This Fall, the Earthship is open for free tours 2 Saturdays a month through October. Tours will resume in March 2018. For a current tour schedule please see www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org

Fall Fling 2017

The Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center's Fall Fling is set for **Thursday, November 9, from 6-8 pm**. Tickets are \$50 and available at the Greeter's Desk here at the Center or at www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org

Saturday Series Programs- New Pricing!

SLNC has **reduced pricing for the Saturday Series Programs!** They are now \$2 for members and \$3 for non members. We are still adding new topics and activities as well. **Every Saturday from 1 pm - 2:30 pm**. Stop in and learn something new this Saturday!

Special Event!

Clarence King returns to Silver Lake Nature Center

Due to popular demand, Local Historian, Clarence King will be returning to SLNC for a History Presentation on **Saturday, December 2nd, at 7pm!**

The focus of this captivating presentation will be "Silver Lake's Great Health Spa, the Bath Spring!" Learn all about this unique spot that was a part of Silver Lake for over 100 years (since before the Revolutionary War, until the late 1800's). The Bath Spring may also be part of the mystery of how Silver Lake got its name!

\$6/person or \$5/person for Members of Friends of Silver Lake.

Little Free Library at Silver Lake by Marty Shively

When my first owner, Renee Flager, decided to have me built, I couldn't have been happier. She asked Marty Shively, a fellow Book Club member & local artist to assist her. They made models of a piano out of cardboard boxes & came up with my great looks. Then, some of Renee's family members built me out of a kitchen cabinet. Marty painted me a bright red along with the perfect piano keyboard in front. At my birthday party, as my feet were placed in the ground, there was a video taken & the local newspaper wrote all about it. I received an Official Charter Number and am on the World Map of the Little Free Library website- <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>

Even though I grew up in Levittown, the house was sold, I needed a new place to live. With the help of Marty & other Book club members, I was moved to my new home at Silver Lake Nature Center. I was a little scared at first, I have settled in nicely. I am near the welcoming woods with lots of trees and a Butterfly Garden to keep me company. There is a bench and picnic tables next to me, so that the Summer Campers and all that stop by can sit and browse before they Take-a-Book or Leave-a-Book.

Please Come & Check Me Out!

For more information on Little Free Libraries, visit their website at: <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>



Volunteer Opportunities:

Volunteer Work Days - Volunteers are needed to help us maintain our grounds. Work days are scheduled for the first Saturday of every month 9 am - 2 pm rain or shine.

Ponds and Gardens Maintenance - Volunteers are needed weekly to help us maintain our ponds and gardens. If you have two hours on Thursday mornings 10 am – 12pm, then we could use your help.

A Community Service Crafting Club-

For Friends of Silver Lake Members Only

Are you tired of collecting things, but still want to craft? Our crafting club meets the 3rd Monday of every month to make items that help other organizations fulfill their mission. We've made quilts that were donated to Quilts For Kids, dyed socks that were donated to the Bucks County 2nd Time Around Store, nature journals that were donated to Christ's Home Children's Services. Come out and join us while earning volunteer hours for the Nature Center.

Interested? Please contact Arden Williams at 215 785 1177 or awilliams@buckscounty.org

Volunteer of the Quarter

Wendy Bastian

Wendy started volunteering at the Nature Center in January of 2017. She decided to stop into the Center one day to find out if there were any volunteer opportunities, since Silver Lake is one of few nature parks that allows visitors to walk their dogs. Her love for visiting parks and walking trails made Silver Lake an ideal place to give back.

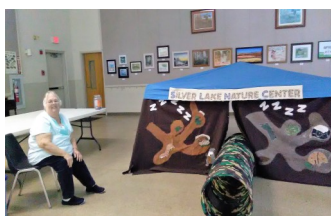
She is now one of our weekly trail maintenance volunteers. Each week she walks the trails to remove litter, trim branches, and report any blockages of the trail paths. Wendy and her husband Mark are avid Geo Cachers, and in April they hosted a Cache-In-Trash-Out (CITO) cleanup here at the park. They concentrated on the tract of land that is being considered for a new trail path and started cleaning up the area. Their event brought in 12 volunteers and took out a pickup truck full of trash.

Thank you Wendy for inspiring others to follow your dedicated path toward litter free trails.

Volunteer Accomplishments:

This summer our volunteers worked diligently to maintain our gardens, ponds, and trails. High school students Karli Aiken and Marvia Bethea came out once a week to weed the gardens and trim branches from the trails. The trails were kept relatively litter free by our regular trail walkers Mildred Ward, Theresa Lucas, Wendy Bastian, Ron Lovell and other friends of the Nature Center.

Our volunteer work days were spent beautifying the natural areas around the Watershed Education Building and making it wheelchair friendly from the parking lot of Silver Lake Park. This improvement to the trail was made possible by a grant from Parx Casino and Boy Scout Josh Stevens who was working to earn his Eagle Scout badge.



In addition to all the great work on the trails, we would like to give a special **thank you** to our volunteer Eileen "Cinders" Swank for updating the covering for the Hibernation Hut. Cinders spent many hours creating quilted pieces and hand painted artwork as well as reincorporating parts of the original artwork that was created by girl scouts. Thanks to Cinders' hard work the new Hibernation Hut is now ready to delight and amaze the many children who will explore the secret world of hibernation during our Hibernation Happens Program. Cinders is also a greeter here at the Center during the week as well as a leader for the Campfire portions of our night programs.

Fall / Winter Programs and Activities

For more details and full schedule please see the 2017 Fall & Winter Program Schedules or www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org

Intro to Birding, Fallsington

**Saturday, October 28
8 am - 11am**

Family Friendly! Led by Dawn Denner & her son Kavan. Interested in birding or looking for a shorter local trip? Then this is the one for you. Meet at and explore Fallsington Park. Enjoy fall foliage and a great variety of birds. This trip is open to people of all ages. Pack water and a snack to enjoy afterwards. Fee \$8 member \$10 non member

Birding Brigantine- Forsythe NWR

**November 11
7:30 am - 5 pm**

Led by Mary Jane Mannherz. Meet @ SLNC, 7:30 am OR Cloverdale Farm County Park at 9am. See late migrants & residents. Then travel south, to the coastal areas of Forsythe. Stops include: Eno's Pond, Cedar Run Dock Road, West Creek Dock Road, Scott's Landing, and more, ending at Forsythe Visitor's Center. Pack a lunch & snacks, then join us for a local dinner out. Fee \$15 member, \$19 non-member.

Birding, Conowingo Dam, Conowingo MD

**Saturday, December 2
8:00 am**

Meet at SLNC at 8am to arrive at the dam by 10am. Late lunch out. Back to Center by 5pm. Located on the Susquehanna River, where there is a nice concentration of Bald Eagles. This location is great for photographers. We will enjoy the Eagles and also take an easy walk along a trail down the river to look for other birds. Fee \$15 member, \$19 non-member. Call 215.785.1177 for registration

Saturday Series All-ages programs

**Saturdays
1pm - 2:30 pm**

Come in yourself or bring the family! Each Saturday we have a different topic or activity. Upcoming programs include Beekeeping, Yoga Hike, Butterflies and more.

For a full listing of Saturday Series Programs check out the SLNC Program schedule or our website, www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org

Fee per person \$2 member, \$3 non member



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.

Fun for Preschoolers

We offer a variety of Preschool programs. Some of the topics include: *Hibernation Happens; Ponds & Puddles; Frog Friends; Bugs & Beasties; Five Senses; Winter Wonders; and Spring Discovery.*

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



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 more information on our Scouting, Preschool or Early Childhood Education programs and/or to schedule a program, please visit our website at www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org and/or contact PattiAnn Cutter at pacutter@buckscounty.org or 267-880-5022.



Silver Lake Nature Center

1306 Bath Road Bristol, Pa 19007

Address service requested.

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Permit #302

On The Horizon



Returning to Silver Lake Nature Center in December!



is coming back to Silver Lake Nature Center...

Join us **Sunday, December 3, 2-4 pm**, we will have fun creating an step by step entertaining seasonal project.

Pre-registration is required for this special event.

\$40 per person.

Please bring your own snacks and non-alcoholic beverages.

Please register at <http://www.atasteofartistry.com/> or by calling 267-307-2481.

2018 Silver Lake Nature Center Calendars Now Available!

Enjoy stunning pictures of Silver Lake Nature Center & Park through all seasons!

Photography and design by Resident Historian & Photographer, Clarence King, as well as by members of the Focal Planes Foto Club.

Calendars are \$15 + tax and all proceeds benefit the Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center.

These beautiful, popular calendars sell out quickly, and supplies are limited.

Order yours today by contacting the Nature Center at 215-785-1177
or email pacutter@buckscounty.org



Silver Lake Nature Center
2018 Calendar
Intern House 100 years old 1918 - 2018