



SUMMER 2014

THE FROGHORN

SILVER LAKE NATURE CENTER

Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center Mission Statement

The Silver Lake Nature Center creates opportunities for the natural habitats of Silver Lake to inspire students of all ages and abilities with the wonder and beauty of this living treasure. Through education, recreation, research and advocacy, we attract new friends to Silver Lake and its watershed, and together preserve this priceless heritage for generations to come.

We're on the web:
silverlakenaturecenter.org



We're having a great time at camp!



The **FROGHORN** is published quarterly for the Silver Lake Nature Center, a facility of the Bucks County Department of Parks & Recreation, by the Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center.

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Silver Lake Nature Center
1306 Bath Road, Bristol, Pa 19007
215 785-1177 Fax 215 785-3228
www.silverlakenaturecenter.org

Open: Tuesday - Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday, noon - 5 pm
Closed Monday

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

Welcome Summer Interns!

Michael Keefe: Kayak Intern

My name is Michael Keefe. I will be graduating from Shippensburg University with a Bachelor's degree in Geoenvironmental Studies. Originally, I am from Bucks County, lived in Langhorne most of my life and am happy to be back. I am a huge fan of the outdoors and hope to be working there for the majority of my career. My duties with the Silver Lake Nature Center are mainly concentrated on the kayak program, but I will be involved with many of the other programs. I am looking forward to doing my research, as well as spending time here at Silver Lake Nature Center.

Stephanie Sinkiewicz: Camp Counselor

Yeah!! Camp is here! My name is Stephanie Sinkiewicz, and I am joining Miss Jenn as a counselor at camp again this summer. How could I not??? Last year we had a ton of fun traveling the trails, navigating the marsh, and getting soaked in the waterfall! I also enjoyed learning about the variety of butterflies and moths located on the grounds. This experience encouraged me to further investigate the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly. I have even brought this new love in to my Pre-K classroom, as we have just welcomed eight Monarch Caterpillars. I look forward to learning new things again this summer! Hope to see you then!

Alexandra Sarno: Assistant Camp Counselor

My name is Ally Sarno and I am a rising junior at Philadelphia University. I am studying Environmental and Conservation Biology. I have a passion for the environment and want to preserve what it has to offer. The only way to make this possible is to start with educating the public. Previously I have been a counselor in training and have been put in charge of many children. Also, I have been a volunteer tutor at an Elementary School. Silver Lake is all about educating the public through outdoor activities and recreation. I am very excited to share my passion for the environment with the members at Silver Lake Nature Center this summer through the Assistant Camp Counselor position.

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

We are delighted that twenty-five plus shares were sold in the Dynamic CSA, coordinated by Sandy Guzikowski of Guzikowski Farm in Yardley. This is a great way to support local farms.

Each Wednesday, our participants arrive, bags in hand, ready to fill them with fresh spinach, collards, kale, carrots, strawberries, beets, blueberries, turnips, onions, and other items as they become ready for harvest - and eggs, too! The weekly 'harvest' continues through October.

We are already looking forward to doing this again next year!

Mercer's Musings

Climate Change – Good for the Economy?

As I sat down to write my musings, it proved too difficult to ignore the hot issue of the moment, the release of the new UN climate report. Despite the popular media, the scientific community is in agreement that the climate is changing. More and more people are waking up to the reality that there will be costs!

As I write this, the EPA is about to release new power plant rules. According to the Natural Resource Defense Council, about 40% of our country's carbon emissions come from power plants. Up until now, existing plants have been exempt from the rules, but the new rules will require even the old plants to reduce carbon emissions. The old plants burn coal, and a newer cleaner plant could burn natural gas, the gas harvested through fracking. Pennsylvania was a big coal state, stripping the mountains to access large deposits of coal which, when burned, generated lots of carbon. Now, Pennsylvania is a major gas producer. When natural gas is burned, it also releases carbon dioxide, but at much

lower levels than coal. Yikes! Which evil do we accept? The conversion of old dirty power plants to gas will create tons of jobs and, since gas is so plentiful and cheap, should reduce electricity costs.

As you read this, I am fairly certain the news media will be all over this topic. Certain lobbyists will be advocating either to move forward (nuclear, gas, construction interests) or prevent the rules from taking place (coal producers, electric companies, some consumer groups). This is a major change in how our country operates. It will return the United States to the leadership role in environmental protection of our people and our planet.

Even with the new rules that govern the big companies, we the little people need to do our part! We need to buy energy-efficient products. We need to reduce our consumption. We need to recognize our contribution, albeit small, to the problem and do what we can to help preserve the planet for the next generation.

Project Update

by Robert Mercer

As I write this in mid-May, work has begun in earnest on the building renovations. Thanks to the efforts of our friends, Al Sutter, who passed away this spring, and Senator "Tommy" Tomlinson, the Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation received a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Making the building more energy-efficient and installing new educational exhibits are the goals set by the funder. We are replacing the aging inefficient heat pumps with higher-efficiency heat pumps and adding a new zone in order to better control the heating and cooling throughout the building.

The exhibit design radically changes the interior of the building. This entails ripping out walls, adding windows, and moving functions to different locations. The results will be spectacular.

Our office remains open during the renovations. Our Summer Camp is going strong, without interruption, and we are still providing programs daily. It's just the store and display areas that are closed during the remodeling process. We thank you for your patience during our renovations!

Regular updates are provided to those who follow our facebook page.



Business Partners

Diamond Partner \$5000+

County of Bucks
 The Dow Chemical Company
 Fairless Energy, LLC
 Foundations Community Partnership
 National Environmental Education
 Foundation (NEEF)
 PA Department of Conservation and
 Natural Resources (DCNR)

Platinum Partner \$3000+

The West Foundation

Gold Partner \$1500+

Lower Bucks Hospital
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Silver Partner \$1000+

Allied Electronics, Inc.
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 Metal Finishing Corporation

Patron \$250+

Allied Waste/Republic Services
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 Cesare's Ristorante
 J. R. Goodgion Co.
 Lucisano Bros.
 Milestone Bank
 Senator Robert M. "Tommy" Tomlinson

Friend \$100+

Artists of Bristol
 Bath Fitter
 Borough Pub
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 D. DeMarchis & Sons
 Fidelity Savings & Loan of Bucks County
 Four Lanes End Garden Club
 Grundy Industrial Complex
 Jones Apparel Group

King George II Inn
 Kiss Electric
 Martha Washington Garden Club
 Mazzanti's Market
 Mountain Laurel Spirits
 Pa Representative Tina Davis
 The Pines Tavern
 Simon and Shuster
 Sims Metal Management

Please support our business partners whenever you can!

Join us!

**Winners of a free
 FOSL Membership!**

Congratulations!

March Brenda Cimino

April Lisa Bastedo

May Karen Bellerby

Fill out a form in the lobby and
 drop it in the "birdhouse." You
 may win a

Free Individual Membership!
 One free membership drawn
 each month.

Memberships

Individual \$25
Household \$35
 Household includes all at same
 address.

With \$10 Senior discount:
Sr. Individual \$15
Sr. Household \$25

Special Memberships

provide funds for additional pro-
 grams

Grey Fox \$ 50 - \$99
Red Fox \$ 100 - \$249
Willow Oak \$ 250 - \$499
Pin Oak \$ 500 - \$999
Legacy Investor \$ 1000

Application for Membership

Please Print

Name: _____

First Last

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____



All contributions and dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by
 law - IRS code section 501 (c)(3). Checks should be made payable to:
 FOSL (Friends of Silver Lake)
 1306 Bath Road, Bristol, PA 19007
 phone: 215 785-1177 fax: 215 785-3228
 website: www.silverlakenaturecenter.org

*"A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained
 from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free within PA, 1-800-732-
 0999. Registration does not imply endorsement."*

Activities for Everyone

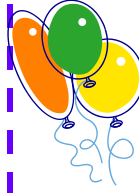
Programs for Preschoolers

Some of the Preschool programs we offer include: *Hibernation Happens*; *Life in a Log*; *Fancy Feet Feats*; *Ponds & Puddles*; *Frog Friends*; *Bugs & Beasties*; *Five Senses*; *Winter Wonders*; and *Spring Discovery*.

For more information on our Early Childhood Education programs and to schedule a program, please visit our website at www.silverlakenaturecenter.org, e-mail PattiAnn at palynn@co.bucks.pa.us, or call her at 215-785-1177 ext.12.



Hibernation Happens: Ready to go!



Consider Silver Lake Nature Center for Your Next Birthday Party or Other Special Event!

SLNC offers a variety of options for children of all ages, as well as grownup birthday parties, bridal showers, baby showers, anniversaries, other special events.

We offer daytime parties, night hikes, campfires, and kayak trips. We'll work with you to find the right program for your event. Fees vary according to the program.

Some of our themes include: Butterflies & Moths; Itsy Bitsy Spiders; The Frog Prince; Tracks & Scat; Insect Inspection; Damsels & Dragons; Dinosaurs & Cousins. If there is a nature-related theme that you'd like, please let us know, and we'll work with you to make that happen, too!

For pricing and additional info, visit our website, www.silverlakenaturecenter.org, contact PattiAnn at 215-785-1177- ext. 12, or palynn@co.bucks.pa.us.

Kayaking

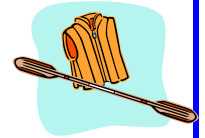
Kayak Intro

Learn basic kayak strokes and how to handle a kayak, first on land, and then we will practice on the water. Classes are two hours long and fill up fast, so please register early.

Fee: \$22 member; \$27 non-member

Dates: August 13, and September 10

Time: 6 - 8 pm



Full Moon Paddles

We head out on the water to watch the sun set, enjoy toasted marshmallows and campfire stories and paddle back by moonlight.

Fee: \$22 member; \$27 non-member *Adults only.*

Dates: August 11 and September 10

Time: 7 - 10 pm

Off-Site Day Trips

Pack a lunch and lots of water and join us for three to six hours of paddling with plenty of breaks.

We meet at the lake at **9 am** and will be back about **4 pm**.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Rating</u>
July 26	Lake Galena	<i>Easy</i>
August 2	Rancocas Creek	<i>Moderate</i>
August 9	NJ Pine Barrens	<i>Difficult</i>
August 31	*Green Lane Reservoir	<i>Easy</i>
September 20	Schuylkill River	<i>Moderate</i>
September 27	Lake Nockamixon	<i>Moderate</i>

Off-site Fee: \$38 member; \$48 non-member

With your own craft: \$27 member; \$37 non-member

* This trip meets at 11 am.

Note: Pre-registration and payment are re-



Annual Waterway Clean-up

Saturday, September 13

9 am - 2 pm

Join us as we beautify Silver Lake, Magnolia Lake, and the connecting creek. You will be provided with equipment: kayak, paddle, PFD, trash bags, long-handled grabbers, etc. Give us four hours and we'll give you lunch! Participation is **free**. (We need you!) Call Jenn to register.

Volunteers

Volunteer Opportunities Coming Soon...

Volunteer Work Days 9 am to 2 pm

Saturday August 2nd September 13th, October 4th

Note: No Volunteer Work Day on September 6th

Come out and help on the first Saturday of each month!

Give us four hours and we'll give you lunch!

Waterway Cleanup- September 13th 9 am to 2 pm

Help us remove the litter from our local waterways!

This is a big job: We need your help!

Flea Market and Craft Fair - September 20th

8am - 4 pm

We will need volunteers for parking lot
and info table for this event.

Please pre-register for all these events.

Volunteer Accomplishments...

Our volunteers have helped in too many ways to count.

2014 Earth Day Work Day Event Statistics

There were 150+ recorded volunteers for the April 19th

Earth Day Work Day event, and we cleaned up & re-

moved over 2.85 tons of trash and 500 lbs of recyclables!

Thank you to all who participated, and thanks to our

sponsors and partners: The Dow Chemical Company,

Leck Waste Services, Keep PA Beautiful, and G.O.A.L

(Greenbelt Overhaul Alliance of Levittown)!

Calling all volunteers!

Shopkeeper/Greeter

When the remodeling is done and we are able to move into our new surroundings, we will have a shift open for a volunteer to work in our retail/reception area, greeting visitors, answering phones, and running the cash register.

Open shift: Saturdays from 12 to 5 pm.



Animal Ambulance Crew

This crew will provide transport to wildlife rehabilitation centers for injured or orphaned wild animals. This service is desperately needed, especially in the spring.

**If you're interested in volunteering,
contact Jenn Bilger:
215 785-1177 ext 14 or jlbilger@co.bucks.pa.us**

Volunteers of the Quarter: Shopkeepers and Animal Caregivers

We would like to recognize the regular efforts of our shopkeepers:

John McGrath

Glenn Rodkey

Florence Stepenaskie

Jeanne Stemmer

Eileen Swank

Donna Cayford

Our shopkeepers have helped us every day by answering phones and running the cash register, all while being friendly greeters to the visitors! During our renovations, they have no work station, but have adapted to the remodeling project by coming out to help as needed. Thank you!

We also would like to recognize our animal caregivers:

Heather Neuman

Elaine Panuccio

Justin Pratt

Anthony Pratt

Mark Kogan

Michelle Deodati

Wayne Moore

Our animals have received wonderful care, thanks to all of you! We hope that once our renovations are complete and the animals have returned to the display area, you will all be able to return to taking care of them! Thank you for all you do!

Thank you...

- Dr. William Smith of Bristol Borough High School and Dave Arscott of Stroud Water Research Center for your presentations at our Water Monitoring Workshop in March.
- Pat Rossi for creating posters for our events and keeping them current in the kiosk at the lake.
- Marie Wojcik and Madeline Bobst for preparing and taking our display to Senator Tomlinson's Children's Expo.
- Linda Reboh, Dave Chalfant, Glenn Rodkey, and everyone who donated Summer Camp supplies.
- Sandy Wah for proofing our articles, letters, and newsletter to help us look our best.
- Ruth Craig for donating a collection of color Audubon bird prints.
- Girl Scout Troop #21514, led by Diane Beck, for responding to our Giving Tree by donating turtle, fox, and rabbit puppets for our preschool programs.
- Jim Skala, Bob Pearson, Tony Garwood, Hope Sauppe, Steve Vitarelli, Jim Kristofic, and Barb Campbell for helping with the Earthship as it continues to take shape.
- Everyone who helped with our mailings, including Diana Bullard, Mary Ida Reitz, Glenn Rodkey, Jeanne Stemmer, Joan Foley, Elaine Gramlich, Marie Wojcik, Margaret McGinnis, and John McGrath.
- Glenn Rodkey for donating supplies for our school programs, tarps for our Volunteer Work Days, and a collapsible dolly.
- Everyone who helped with our Flea Market and Craft Fair, everyone who rented space, and everyone who came out to shop! We're doing it again on September 20th!
- Mary O'Connor for caring for our turtles and snakes during our renovations.
- Jeanne Stemmer, Glenn Rodkey, Len Zajewski, and Hope Sauppe for providing all manner of food for our Volunteer Work Day each month.
- Scott Ogburn, with assistance from Bob Pearson, for meticulously placing the stones for our own unique meditation circle. (Scott has donated the specially-chosen stones and is donating his time and skill to place each stone in the circle.)

Plant Watchers Walk

Saturday, August 2nd 2 - 3:30 pm

Join PA Master Naturalist, Pat Coleman, for a seasonal walk focused on observing the stages of plant growth. We'll be looking at the blooms of the summer meadow. Our observations will be reported to National "Project Budburst" to help scientists study the effect that climate change is having on plant phenology. Please join us. It's **Free**.

Natural Skills

Wednesday, August 27th 6 - 8:30 pm

This group meets monthly, usually on the third Wednesday, for everyone to work together to build our knowledge about plants and animals. Bring any field guides and binoculars, magnifiers, etc. that you might have. Must be 16 years old or older. Bring your dinner (optional). Must pre-register.

Fee: \$6 member; \$8 non-member

Art in Nature

Sunday, September 7th 2 - 3:30 pm

Nurture the artist and the naturalist within!
Join us on this artistic experience.
No experience necessary.
Supplies will be provided, or bring your own.

Fee: \$6 per person

Please pre-register, so we can provide ample supplies.

Charlie Zahm & Tad Marks Concert A Tribute to John Denver & the Great Outdoors

Saturday, September 13, 2014 7 - 9 pm

We are very happy to have Charlie Zahm (vocals & guitar) & Tad Marks (fiddle) return to our beautiful, outdoor Amphitheater!

Enjoy the trails, then relax and sing along at the outdoor concert (held indoors in the auditorium in case of rain).

Paid in advance, by 5pm on Friday, Sept. 12th,
Advance Admission: \$12 per person
At the door: \$15 per person

Note: Admission is the same price for all ages.

American Red Cross Annual Blood Drive August 23rd 10 am - 3 pm



Give the gift of life!

Call us to make an appointment or walk in.

215 785-1177

Or, go to American Red Cross at
www.pleasegiveblood.org



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

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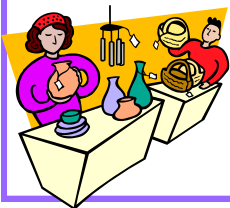
Coming Events

Flea Market and Craft Fair in the Park *Saturday, September 20th* *8 am - 2 pm*

Rain or Shine. No Refunds.

We offer an interesting mix of flea market and craft items - something for everyone! Rental spaces are set up on the grounds around the building, with spaces in shade and sun. Bring your own table and chairs. (There are some indoor spaces available, too.)

Single space: \$15 member; \$20 non-member
Double space: \$20 member; \$25 non-member
Car space: \$30 member; \$35 non-member
Indoor space (includes table): \$30 member; \$35 non-member



Please stop in to reserve your space. All spaces are assigned: first come, first served. Payment and registration are due in advance.

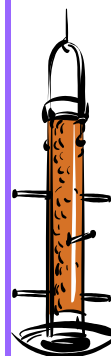
Bird Seed Sales



It's that time again! Time to mark your calendar and order your seed for the fall. We have four sales:

order by	for pick-up on
September 24	October 4
November 25	December 6
January 28	February 7
March 25	April 4

Choose from oil sunflower in 25 lb and 40 lb bags; SL mix and conservation mix in 25 lb and 50 lb bags; thistle in 8 lb bags; sunflower chips and peanut hearts in 5 lb bags and suet in 10 oz cakes.



We accept cash, check, Discover, Visa, and MasterCard. Phone orders are welcome, stop in, or go to our website to place your order: www.silverlakenaturecenter.org

Please share this newsletter with a friend. Thanks!