

October 2023

South Schuylkill Garden Club

Third Tuesday of the Month at 6:30 PM

First United Church of Christ, Schuylkill Haven

www.southschuylkillgardenclub.com

www.facebook.com/soschuylkillgardenclub.com



Cultivating the Community Newsletter

Weather Folklore for October

- Much rain in October, much wind in December.
- For every fog in October, a snow in the winter.
- Full Moon in October without frost, no frost till full Moon in November.
- When deer are in a gray coat in October, expect a hard winter.
- A warm October means a cold February.
- In October dung your field, and your land its wealth shall yield.
- Good October, a good blast, to blow the hog acorn and mast. [tree fruit upon which wild animals feed]

Schuylkill Haven Borough Day

Schuylkill Haven Borough Day is coming fast - **September 30**. We need your help. Besides jams and jellies, we are looking for members to donate **baked goods**, which are always a good seller. Please help the club by baking goodies to sell.

We also need members to sign up to help with running our stand at **Sch. Haven Borough Day**. Please respond to kamorgan11@gmail.com with the time slot you plan to help man the stand.

Members who have signed up so far:

Schedule:

- Set-Up 6:30-9:00

Carol H	Karen H
Jane Y	Kim M
Kathy T	
- Operation 9:00 – 12:30

Kaye M	Nancy R
Regina F	Dana G

- Operation/Teardown 12:30 – 4:00

Jane K	Mary Ann U (1-4)
MaryAnn H-K (2-4)	
Porcupine P	



Dried Fall Foliage Workshop



What a delightful morning!

We had a very success fall event. Thanks to all who participated.

In the end, I believe we created some 40 dried floral arrangements to be sold at SH Borough Day and PG Autumn Stroll. **Special thanks** to Kathy T. for hosting the workshop and facilitating it to come off without a hitch. Finally **thank you** to club members who let their creative juices flow: Jane K, Jane Y, Mary Ann U, Kaye M, Nancy R, Kathy T, and Regina F. Thank you to those of you who donated materials and thank you to Maryann H-K who has grass allergies and could not participate but donated dried materials.

Monthly Club Meeting October 17, 2023

Program: "An Herbal Brew"



Learn about harvesting of teas and herbs from Katelyn Hill / Ben Wissinger of Katydid Hill/Tooth of the Lion Farm, an organic farm producing herbs and flowers for harvesting, drying and blending of teas.

Refreshments: Bernie Francaviglia, Joan Medlinsky, Pat Wishowsky, Regina Freiler, Pat Pipkin

TIME FOR TEA

Our savvy grandparents knew the benefits of using traditional tea in the garden, but did you know that chamomile teabags are a source of seeds, prime for using in the garden? All you need to do is split open the bag and rub the contents between your hands to release the seeds. Scatter over soil and you should have a blanket of chamomile flowers in two to three months.

Other Notes:

Frog Hollow Walk in the Woods

Walks in Frog Hollow at 170 Stone Mountain Road, just outside of Friedensburg, have been organized by Friends of Frog Hollow.

2023

Oct 28 Sat	1:00	Tree identification Walk	Will Thomas Jerry Bowsman
Nov 11 Sat	1:00	Animal Habitat and Survival Hunt	Audrey Wells Lee Wells
Dec 2 Sat	10:00	Animal Tracks – Who Is There?	Barbara Ritzheimer Sue Reier
2024 Jan 1 Mon	10:00	First Day Hike - Polar Bear Amble	Jerry Bowman Steve Hepler Barbara Ritzheimer
Jan 20 Sat	6:30 PM	Night Owl Prowl Jan 27 snow day	Dave Kruel Audrey & Lee Wells

Register by leaving a verbal message at **570-527-2502** if you plan to attend.

Parking at Frog Hollow is limited.
There is no cost for the Nature Walks.

Sweet Arrow Lake Restoration Celebration

has been moved to **October 15, 2023**, to coincide with other activities going on at the lake. It will be held 11 AM to 12:30 with set up time for refreshments starting at 10:45. Refreshments will be served when walkers come back from trail walk at about 12:30. **Need baked goods.**

Autumn Stroll

October 21 from 10-4

Along Union Canal in Pine Grove

More info to come after Schuylkill Haven Borough Day, when we will reassess and regroup to prepare for our stand at Autumn Stroll.

Christmas Party

A lot of planning was accomplished for this event when committee members met Sept. 21 at Hoss's. The theme for this year's party is "Christmas Memories." Members are asked to bring with them a memory from a Christmas past or a family tradition, that they are willing to share with fellow members at the Christmas Party.

SSGC in 2024

Where has the year gone? As we roll into fall, it is time to think about 2024. In a recent email, you were sent a membership renewal form for 2024. On the form you were asked for your information and to select committees that you are willing to serve on for 2024, along with helping to provide refreshments for a particular month. The document was sent both in word and a PDF format. If none of your personal information has changed since last year, you can simply put your name on the document and just write the word "same" at the top. Please take the time to renew membership for 2024. Paper copies of the membership renewal form will be available at the October and November club meetings. **Reminder: Dues are still only \$18.00 and payable by check to SSGC by December.** Checks with membership form can be mailed to Kaye Moyer at 754 Mountain Road, Pine Grove, PA 17963

THIS FALL - HAVE YOU . . ? ?

Cut your perennials back to the ground for the winter? **Don't!** Beneficial insects overwinter in pithy perennial stems.

Divided the perennials that have gone out of bounds? Pass some along to a budding gardener.

Planted veggies for cool/cold weather crops.

Collected, dried and saved seeds from select veggies and flowers for planting next spring. Keep in marked envelopes in a cool, dry place.

Searched the nurseries for discounted tropical plants? Pop some in your fall container gardens, pot and all, to make them easy to pull out and overwinter inside when frost comes.

Planted cover crops to protect and enrich soil.



Dug up tender bulbs – cannas, dahlias, caladiums, etc.

Fertilized shrubs to boost their roots before they go dormant over winter.

Mulched susceptible plants to keep tender roots warm throughout winter.

Planted tulips, daffodils and other spring-flowering bulbs by late September or October.

Removed any leaves, stems or whole plants with disease or bugs to reduce problems next year.

Watered once a week, if dry. Even though perennials are going dormant in fall, their roots are still actively growing until the ground freezes. Well-hydrated plants withstand winter stresses better.

Put tree guard or tree wrap around younger trees to protect against deer, rabbit, or sun damage.

Cleaned gardening hand tools.

Sharpened tool blades.



God made rainy days so gardeners could get housework done.

- Anonymous