

Barnes & Noble Bookfair to Benefit WVWA

Barnes & Noble, Montgomeryville will help WVWA preserve the Wissahickon Creek for generations to come through their generous Bookfair Program. Use the Bookfair Voucher in this newsletter on Saturday, October 23 so B&N can determine what part of the receipts for the day go to WVWA. The percentage donated depends on the total receipts. Also, anyone can pick up a copy of the voucher at the store on the day of the event.

Schedule for Oct. 23

10 a.m.: Maisy the Mouse costume character storytime. Bring the little ones out to meet and read with Maisy!

2 p.m.: WVWA presentation about the Wissahickon Creek and the WVWA's mission and programs.

2:30 p.m.: Andrew Mark Herman will join us to discuss and sign his book, *Along the Wissahickon Creek* and other books in his history series.

Multiflora Rose Meets Its Match

Multiflora rose is one of the most common invasive plants in the Wissahickon watershed. It is very difficult to get rid of. The only way is to get it out by the roots which, because of its many thorns, is hard to do and often painful. But because there is so much of it, WVWA spends a large proportion of its invasive removal efforts in "getting out the rose."

Properties Manager Bob Adams was understandably thrilled when he noticed that many of the multiflora rose bushes along the trail near the Evans-Mumbower Mill were looking strange. After taking cuttings to the horticulturists at the Montgomery County Agriculture Extension, he determined that the rose was afflicted with Rose Ro-

sette Disease or RRD. RRD is a plant virus that attacks Multiflora rose. After being infected for a few years the entire plant dies off. The disease has been coming across Pennsylvania for the last 20 years and has finally arrived in our area.

Now that he knows what RRD looks like, Bob is noticing infected bushes nearly everywhere he goes in this watershed. It is unclear how long it will take to start killing back the rose in significant amounts, or when we will see

disease-resistant plants emerging, but it appears for now that we finally have a biological ally in our continuing efforts to push back this troublesome plant. For details about RRD go online and type the keywords "Rose Rosette Disease".

Kim Sheppard Joins Board

We welcome new Board member Kim Sheppard, who was elected to a three-year term at the Association's annual meeting in April.

Kim is president of the Whitemarsh Township Residents' Association. She is a former executive of ABC Television

with a background in sales and marketing. Kim serves on the Board of Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania and directs their annual fund-raising event. She is chairing WVWA's membership committee, and has a plan to help increase membership by involving "block captains" in key neighborhoods throughout the watershed.

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Special Events

Come Take a Hike

Join WVWA for the 8th *Walk for the Wissahickon* on Sunday, October 3. The *Walkathon* is WVWA's biggest fundraiser.

The Green Ribbon Preserve is a patchwork of preserved and conserved lands. Hiking the Green Ribbon gives you a better understanding of our watershed. This is the only day of the year that we bridge the creek crossings with temporary planks.

You can choose the Short (2.5 or 4 miles), the Medium (7 or 11 mile) or the Long Hike (all 21 miles). The Short Hike will cover the midsection of the Creek between WVWA's headquarters and the Philadelphia Cricket Club in Flourtown. This is a favorite section as there are no creek crossings from Germantown Academy on. This is a great hike for any age.

The Medium and Long Hikes are growing in popularity. In 1997, only one hiker completed the 21 Mile Challenge Hike. Last year, over 65 hikers completed it.

The hikes are well organized and fun. There are buses to return you to your starting point.

The Winner is WVWA

The 15th annual TexMex 5K Race for Open Space, held June 23, was a huge success! The race, sponsored by TexMex Connection Restaurant in North Wales, and the 1 Mile Fun Run and Walk had a record-breaking attendance of over 800 participants. The event raised \$14,000 for WVWA.

Many thanks to Jane Keyes and to her staff at Tex Mex Connection for hosting the event and feeding 1,000 hungry runners and volunteers with a buffet of tacos and beers. Thanks also to Dr. John Marino of Doylestown Healing Arts Center, the Master of Ceremonies; North Wales Water Authority for supplying water bottles, the North Wales Police & Fire Depts. for assisting with traffic and safety and to the 115 terrific volunteers!

Be A Steward

We need your help "pulling and planting" at WVWA's semi-annual event, *Serve the Preserve*,. On Saturday, October 30. WVWA will continue its forest edge restoration project at Willow Lake Farm. Come help WVWA plant native trees and remove invasive plants.

Fall is a great time to plant trees. The rains have renewed the ground water and the winter gives the tree time to establish its root systems before the summer heat returns. These rains have also produced a bumper crop of invasive plants. The invasives need to be removed so they don't crowd out the native plantings. There are jobs for all skills and ages.

You can also help by buying one or more native trees. If you are unable to plant your tree, we'll see that it gets planted for you. The trail entrance to Willow Lake Farm is found in the back of the Citizens Bank parking lot, located at the corner of Skippack and Butler Pikes. This event is ideal as a service project, for youth groups and people who want to help reforest the land.

Welcome, New Members

We welcome the following new members who have joined WVWA since January 1, 2004.

Lewis Adams	Sandra L. Cadwalader	Mark Eberle	Dennis and Mary C. Helf
Lisa Adler	Anna Calhoun	Nancy and John Farr & Family	Drake and Amy Heller
Steven Alten	James and Cynthia Callan	Liz Ferry	Patrick Hennessy
Caroline Anderson	Pam Callanan	John and Cathy Fischer	Carol Ward Hermann
Edward L. Bacino	Sarah T. Caplan	Donna Francis	Larry Hill
Ronald C. Banko	Carmen's Shoe Repair	Matthew and Christina Frankel	James and Diane Hoban
Hildegard M. Bashey	Mr. Wesley E. Carver, Jr.	Michael and Vivian Funchion	Pamela Hornby
William and Alice Bast and Family	David and Judy Chinn	Mr. Allan Furman	Peggy Irwin
Diane Bellitta	Joseph Ciccimaro	Paul V. & Emily C. Gallagher	Lydia and Mark Jones
Stan and Debra Berger	Jennifer and Steven Clark	Mr. & Mrs. Laurence Genuardi	Beth Joseph
Bernadette and Edward Biasi	Lynne Clark	David J. Gerstlauer	John H. Kafes
Robert Bisbing	Stacey Wyman-Cromley and	Susan and Ori Ginsberg	Damon and Michele Kane
Catherine & Robert P. Bishop	David Cromley	Ellen and E. Howard Goodwin	John and Judith Kane
Eric and Liz Bossard	Robert J. Walter and	Estelle Gray	Henry Kruger
Mary Pat Boyle	Mary C. Cunnane	Robert S. Greenawalt	Daniel Kunze
Andrea Brainard	Joanne and Gene Cunningham	M.T. and Paul Gregory	Linda J. La Vay
Joye Bramble	Christopher and Bryn Dartley	Carolyn and Gene Grossi	Joe and Kristyn LaBarge
Richard and Cari Brehm	Mrs. Clifford C. David, Sr.	Dennis Gunning	James J. Land
Doris M. Brooke	Tom and Elise DeGemmis	Rita Guzewski	Ross Lewis and
Christa & William A. Buchheit	The Doskicz Family	Dorothy and Francis Hammond	Melinda Chivian
Karen and Carl Buchholz	Erin Dougherty	Jerome and Tracey Harris	Mark and Lisa Luttmann
	Joseph Dugan	Theodore and Karen Haynie	

Members cont'd on p. 3

Fungi continued from page 4

makes one wonder which ones they were eating at the time. There are Witch's Butter and Pig's Ears, Black Jelly Roll, Puffballs and Stinkhorns, Shaggy Manes, Carnival Candy and Angel's Wings, to name a few. So grab a field guide and

take a walk in the woods. Suggested field guides:

The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Mushrooms published by Knopf. (Footnote 1).

Non-Flowering Plants, A Golden Guide by Shuttleworth and Zim (Footnote 2).

Get out your crayons and

color the fungi below to have a preview of what you might find on a damp, shady walk. Please remember: **NO PICKING / NO EATING!!!**

Members cont'd. from p. 2

- Anthony and Eileen Maginnis
- Mark and Maureen McAdoo
- Mr. Richard McCuen
- Denise McDugall
- Michael & Ann Marie Mendlow
- Brandon and Kelly Moore
- Fran and Kathy Morris
- Ken and Lori Murphy
- Patrick O'Neill
- Vanessa Peirce
- Nancy Penniman
- Brian and Annamaria Peters
- June Pothier
- Sarah and Philip Price, Jr.
- Margaret Rahill
- David and Ann Redfield
- William and Joanne Regli
- James and Dolores Revels
- Mr. and Mrs. George M. Riter
- Chuck and Mary Lou Rittenhouse
- Karen Roberts
- James and Debra Rodgers
- Douglas T. and Doreen K. Ross
- Estelle Royfe
- Paulette Rubin, M. D.
- Joy W. Rudegeaire
- Joseph and Aimee Ruhl
- Holley E. Russell
- Paul A. and Theresa S. Rutherford
- Alfred J. and Andrea V. Saah
- Steve and Mindy Sage
- Carene Sanders
- Bruce & Heather Schreiber
- Tara Karr Schwartz
- Margaret Schwartz
- Robert and Barbara Senst
- Mr. and Mrs. Carl H. Shaifer
- Linda Smith
- Tracy Smith
- Ronald M. Soldo
- Eileen and Bob Solomon
- Patricia Somers and
- Elizabeth Gavula
- Lucia and Robert St. George
- Deborah Stone and Mark Smith
- Cynthia Strolle
- Mayumi Sutton
- Charles Swartz
- Cynthia Tarascio
- The McCausland Foundation

- Douglas and Luciana Timmons
- Fred Trucker and Joanne Walker
- Charles and Stacye Trulear
- Dorothy B. Vandenbergh
- Chad and Karen Wachter
- Jay and Sherry Weiss
- Mrs. Elizabeth Whiteman
- Roberta Whitlock
- Norman and Stefanie Wilde
- Cynthia and J. H. Wilson
- Richard and Doris Winslow
- Nancy Wysemen
- Brent and Michelle Yager
- Mary and William Zsembik

Our education and stewardship programs are supported in part by grants received in 2004 from the following foundations and corporations:

- Rohm and Haas Company
- Primex
- Visteon
- The Thomas H. and Mary Williams Shoemaker Fund
- The McCausland Foundation
- Aetna Foundation

We are grateful for the annual support provided by the following:

- Andrew C. Beck Landscaping
- Dunkerley Construction, Inc
- Velocity Endurance Sports Training, LLC
- FWC Liberty Trail
- Horseways Association
- Kilduff Development Company
- Merrybrook Garden Club
- Montgomery County Lands Trust
- Norristown Garden Club
- Swedesford Civic Association
- The Outdoor Gardeners
- The Planters Garden Club
- Wissahickon Garden Club
- Women's Club of Erdenheim

Matching Gift Companies:

- GlaxoSmithKline Foundation
- Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies
- Wachovia Foundation
- United Way of Gloucester County (NJ)

United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania

Gifts in Honor/Memory

In memory of Judith A. Bruce:
The Bruce Family

In memory of Arthur Lee Spingarn:
Joyce Spingarn

In memory of Thomas and Catherine Lydon:
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. Kenney

In memory of Ed Stanley:
Mr. and Mrs. Byard Brogan
Mr. and Mrs. George C. Corson, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Randall Cronin
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Driscoll
Mr. and Mrs. J. Morris Evans
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Felley
Mrs. Guy G. Gabrielson, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Roger S. Hillas
Mr. Richard Himmer
Mrs. Lewis W. Johnston
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Markowitz
David T. Stanley
Mrs. Alice Stanley
H. Fred Wilson

In honor of Philip Albright:
Anonymous

In honor of Keith Bance:
Ms. Christine R. Russell

In honor of Jeanetta Bicking:
Eileen McDonnell

In honor of Charles Diaz and Stuart Diaz:
Liz Price and Leonardo Diaz

In honor of Margaret D'Alfonso Paolopoli:
Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Palopoli

In honor of Sue Decembrino Kanopka: Students in Mrs. Kanopka's 2nd grade class, Stony Creek Elementary School

Bird's Nest Fungus: cup is 0.1"-0.5", light brown with white "eggs"; found on dead wood, mulch

Earthstar: spore sac 1/4"-3/4", light brown; rays 5/8"-3/4", ocre brown/pinkish; found on open ground in woods

Indigo Milky: cap 2"-6" wide, stalk 3/4"-3 1/4" long; dark blue/purple; found on soil in oak & pine woods

Cinnabar-red Polypore: cap 1"-5" wide; cinnabar to orange-red; found on dead deciduous wood, especially cherry & oak

AGENTS OF DECAY

Everyone has seen a fungus. It might have been on a piece of bread in the bread box or on some food in the refrigerator or on the ground as a mushroom. In our homes (mildew), or on our skin (athlete's foot and ringworm), a fungus is a nuisance. Otherwise, fungi (fun'ji') "play an important role in the balance of nature. When plants and animals die, they would never decay were it not for fungi and bacteria that break down organic compounds and return them to air and soil".¹ We call fungi "agents of decay" because of the role they play in helping to rot and reduce dead organic matter. Scientists refer to these agents as "detritivores".

Fall can be an excellent time to go looking for fungi. You will find fungi where the soil is moist, dark and relatively warm. Walk through the woods on one

of WVWA's properties and you will surely be rewarded with amazing finds.

Fungi are also most likely to be seen after a summer or early autumn rain which is "followed by a few sunny days and mild nights without wind".² because wind dries the soil.

You may have noticed that mushrooms seem to appear overnight after a rain. Keep in mind that the part you see above ground is the fruiting body, and that the bulk of the plant is unseen underground growing and waiting for the right conditions to put up the spore-carrying part of the plant. The fungus we see is actually the fruiting body of the plant. It carries the spores that enable it to reproduce.

A good starting place to look around is the Four Mills Nature

Reserve, WVWA's headquarters at 12 Morris Road. Look on the base and trunks of various trees in the woods. Wherever there is a dead or dying tree there will most likely be fungi. The reason is that the mycelia (thin, stem-like structures) of fungi insert themselves into tiny crevices of a weak tree and get nourishment from the stored energy in the wood. As they use the tree's energy, the tree decays. Fungi need to get their energy from other organisms because they can not produce their own food; only plants with chlorophyll (green plants), can do that.

One intriguing aspect of the study of fungi, mycology, is the great variety of colors, shapes and textures. And the names! The imagination of those who named many of the mushrooms

Continued on page 3

Calendar For September - December 2004 (Please call to pre-register your group)

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, Sept. 19, 2pm

Insect Games

Learn to like bugs as we catch insects and watch them participate in miniature competitions. Cheer on your athlete as it does the high jump, sprint, or swim. Ages 4-elementary school.

Members-\$1: Nonmembers-\$3 per child.

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 3

Walk for the Wissahickon

Choose from 3 guided hikes on the Green Ribbon Trail:

Long Hike (21 Miles)

7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Medium Hike (7 or 11 Miles)

8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Short Hike (2.5 - 4 Miles)

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Registration: \$20 until Oct. 1
\$25 after Oct. 1

Hikers get a T-shirt, snacks and a great hike.

For more information, please call WVWA: 215-646-8866

Or register online at www.wvwa.org.

Sunday, Oct. 10 Rain date for Walk for the Wissahickon

Saturday, Oct. 16, 9:30am to 3:30pm Bird Seed Pickup

Place orders by Friday, Oct. 8

See expanded selection in the flyer you will receive. To volunteer for pickup day or get more information call WVWA.

Sunday, October 17, 2 PM

Native American Tribal Life

The Lenni Lenape tribe were the first people who lived in this area. Learn how they used what nature provided for food, shelter, clothing, and entertainment. Get an idea of what their lives were like compared to ours today.

Ages 6 and up. Members-\$1: Nonmembers-\$3 per child.

Saturday, Oct. 23, 9am to 11pm Barnes & Noble,

Montgomeryville Store Fund-raiser for WVWA Buy books, CDs and gifts today and 15% to 25% of sales will go directly to WVWA. See the other side of this calendar for voucher.

Sat., Oct. 30, 9am to 3pm

Serve the Preserve Joins

Adopt-a-Tree Volunteers and shoppers are needed to help restore the native natural beauty to Willow Lake Farm. We'll

plant native trees, remove invasive plants and improve the trail. Park behind Citizens Bank, located at the corner of Butler and Skippack Pikes. Order native trees or shrubs from WVWA in advance (\$25) and you can have the great joy of planting them. Bring shovels and gloves. Look for your flyer in the mail.

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 21

11am and 2pm

Native American Hunting

We will shoot bows and arrows and play games that Lenni Lenape children played to sharpen their hunting skills. Please note that you can choose to come at 11 or 2.

Ages 6 and up. Members-\$1: Nonmembers-\$3 per child.

DECEMBER

Sunday, December 19, 2pm

Welcome Winter Walk

Take a guided walk of the woods to see how nature has prepared for winter. This is an adult program with older children welcome. Members-\$1: Nonmembers-\$3 per person.

BARNES & NOBLE BOOKSELLERS

BOOKFAIR VOUCHER

1271 KNAPP ROAD & ROUTE 309, NORTH WALES, PA
(215)699-3099

I support the Bookfair for:
The Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association
Saturday, October 23, 2004 from 9a.m. to 11p.m.

Optional:

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Present this voucher at any register at the time of purchase. A percent of the net sale will be donated to the WVWA according to the following chart:

Net Sales:	Percent donated to WVWA:
<\$2,000	15%
\$2,000 - \$10,000	20%
>\$10,000	25%

The following transactions are not included in Bookfair totals:
The purchase of Gift Cards (GCs)
The purchase of Readers' Advantage (RA) memberships
The purchase of cafe' consumables

For Office Use Only:

Reg.#: ____ Transaction #: _____ Total sale: \$ _____

Gift Cards (GCs): \$ _____ RA memberships: \$ _____

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VOLUNTEER TRAINING & CONTINUING EDUCATION

Monday, September 13, Noon to 2 pm - A COMING TOGETHER POTLUCK LUNCHEON: Longtime volunteers, new volunteers and potential volunteers are invited to a get together to socialize, to hear of plans for the upcoming school year, and to evaluate our programs and give input so they can be improved. Please RSVP so the table can be set just right.

Tuesday, September 21, 10:00 to Noon - WETLANDS & WATERSHEDS: OUR MOST BASIC PROGRAM I encourage all volunteers to attend this training / retraining session so all will be well-prepared to teach this class. The content is at the heart of the WVWA's mission, and we will be encouraging more groups to sign up for the lesson.

Wednesday, October 6, 10:00 to Noon - LENNI LENAPE PART 1: TRIBAL LIFE

Many school groups want to learn about the first residents of this area. We have produced a program that helps them gain some of this knowledge through an environmental and ecological perspective. Learn how to teach these lessons to elementary school children. You will experience how the Lenape people farmed and also used what nature provided for food, shelter, clothing, and entertainment.

Thursday, October 14, 10:00 to Noon - LENNI LENAPE PART 2: HUNTING & FISHING

The Lenape men hunted and fished to provide food for the tribe. In this class you will learn how to teach students to shoot bows and arrows and play games that Lenni Lenape children played to sharpen their hunting skills. And you will learn how to teach the ethic of taking just what you need.

Monday, December 6 - VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION FIELD TRIP - details TBA a future da