



# Skullduggery

August 2010

The Official Newsletter of the Susquehanna Mysteries Alliance

Mystery Books  
UFOs & Aliens  
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Necromancy  
Folklore  
Zombies  
Anomalous Zones  
And More ...

## Get a Clue

This month's meeting subject.

### You Don't Know Jack!

Over a century ago Jack the Ripper began his reign of horror in London's East End. Although his victims were prostitutes of the lowest degree, everyone, regardless of class, was petrified to be out after sunset on the dark streets of London.

Crime in the East End was nothing new, but Jack's atrocities elevated the slum into another level of paralyzing fear--to this day it's known as "The Autumn of Terror." From August through November of 1888 Londoners were keenly alert when walking outdoors, suspicious of neighbors and wary of every stranger.

Newspapers had a field day splashing ghoulish headlines across editions as details of each murder emerged. The London police were inundated with letters from concerned citizens and from people claiming to be Jack the Ripper.

As quickly as the chaos arrived, it disappeared and left a city, country, the entire world wondering: **Just who was Jack the Ripper?**

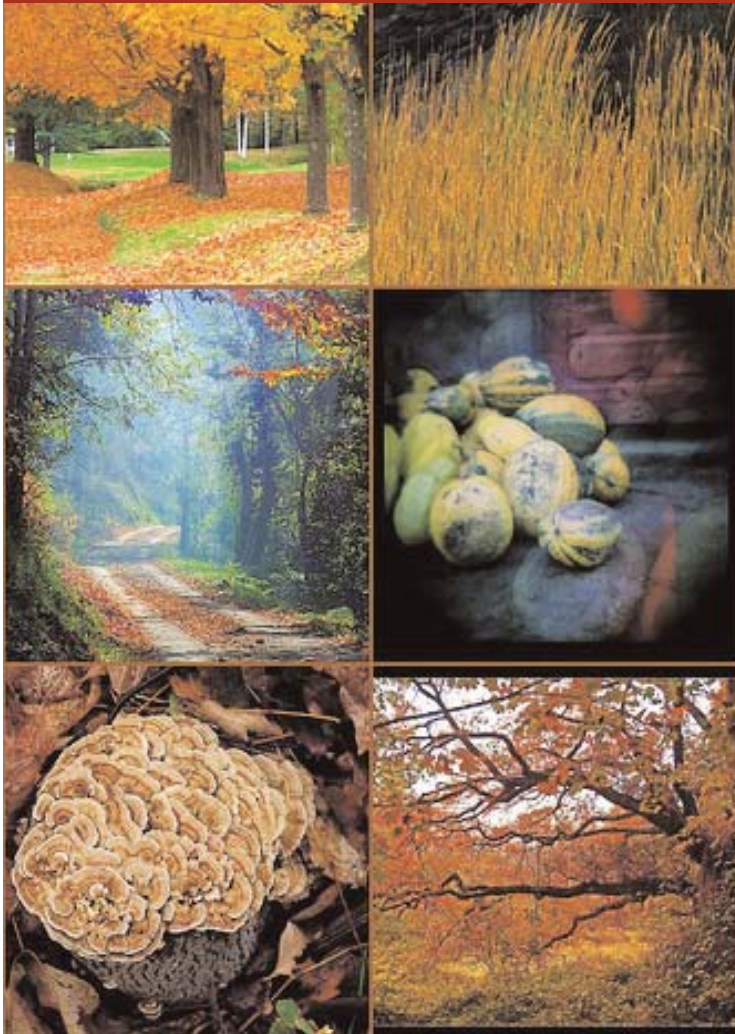


## Susquehanna Mysteries Alliance at Local Neighborhood Night Out

Debbie, Melissa and Jessica had a fun time getting out the word about SMA at Georgetown Crossing's Neighborhood Night Out on August 3rd. The event was well attended by the community and many people stopped by our display to pick up information on the bookshop and Susquehanna Mysteries Alliance. Debbie talked to interested folks while Melissa flirted with McGruff the Crime Dog and Jessica enjoyed the free goodies.



## Autumn is Coming!



### It's almost upon us—Enjoy Some Autumn Activities!

Pick your own pumpkins at a local farm

#### Take a country hayride

Build a fire and roast hot dogs, marshmallows & s'mores

#### Carve pumpkins

Rake a huge pile of leaves and jump in

#### Bake an apple or pumpkin pie—from scratch

Have an outdoor picnic

#### Visit local haunted and historical venues

Pick your own apples at a neighborhood orchard

#### Lurk in peaceful, interesting, old graveyards

Enjoy the challenge of a corn maze

#### Have a tailgate party (even if there isn't a game)

Go on a hike to a state park and enjoy the splendor of autumn colors

#### Travel the Pennsylvania Dutch Hex Highway for great views of bright leaves and hex signs

Build a scary (or adorable) scarecrow

#### Cheer on your local football team at a Friday night game

Two words: Hot Chocolate

#### Make homemade apple butter

Celebrate by attending an area fall festival

#### Visit a haunted house attraction or local ghost walking tour

Plan and throw an autumn party

#### Decorate your porch with leaf garland, pumpkins, gourds & crows

Snuggle in a blanket on the patio with a mug of tea and good book

#### Popcorn, hot chocolate and scary movies by candlelight

Place potted mums in hollowed out pumpkins

#### Wear your coziest sweater or sweatshirt

Gather leaves, nuts, berries & acorns and create a table centerpiece

#### Bake soft molasses cookies

## Plan A Visit to Our Local Parks

Many have fascinating histories

#### Kings Gap Environmental Center

The view from Cameron Mansion is spectacular!

#### Little Buffalo State Park

Stop by the historic old mill & Blue Ball Tavern!

#### Pine Grove Furnace State Park

Visit the new Hiking the Appalachian Trail Museum

#### Michaux State Forest

Explore & discover foundations and remnants of the old World War II Prisoner of War Camp

#### Stoney Valley

Boasts a rich and colorful history--visit the old mining towns and ruins of the Cold Spring Resort along the trail.

#### Chickies Rock Park

Hands down the most haunted and bewitched location in south central Pennsylvania.

#### Fort Hunter Park

Fort Hunter offers interesting & fun events and you can enjoy a gorgeous view of the Susquehanna River.



## September Meeting UFOs & Aliens



Join the Susquehanna Mysteries Alliance for a fascinating lecture with guest speakers Tracey Roy and John Weaver as they relate their duties of MUFON and area UFO stories! **Seating is limited-sign up now!** Call (717) 795-7470 or e-mail [mysterybooks@comcast.net](mailto:mysterybooks@comcast.net)

It's a *Mystery* to Me



## Book of the Month



### Death at Whitechapel *A Victorian Mystery*

By Robin Paige

Kathryn Ardleigh and her husband, Charles, are called on for help when scandal threatens Jennie Jerome Churchill. Her son Winston's political future is jeopardized by someone who claims to have proof that his father was none other than the notorious Jack the Ripper.



Get out your best (or, in this case, worst) Zombie outfit and join the 2nd Annual Zombie Walk Harrisburg!

**Saturday, October 23rd  
4:00 p.m.**

Voluntary donations will be collected and donated to the Humane Society of Harrisburg. Have a ghoulishly good time and support a worthy cause! Meet on City Island by the walking bridge and prepare to storm the capital city!

Last year was the first attempt at a Zombie Walk in Harrisburg (they hold these all over the country) and it was a rousing success. Be witness to some very creative and unique zombified Pennsylvania citizens as they waddle stiffly across the walking bridge to find fresh victims in the 'Burg. Shuffle right past the Capitol Building--as one experienced Zombie noted last year, "No brains there."

**Bring your camera to capture some hilarious and morbid moments!**

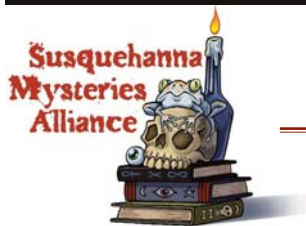


The Susquehanna Mysteries Alliance is holding a Halloween Party at the Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookshop and it's **FREE!** All we ask is that you bring a food item to share.

**You're in for a spooky good time—  
Food, music, dancing, games, prizes & fun!**

**Come in costume—  
Prizes will be awarded!**

Please sign up so we can prepare adequate seating: You may sign up in person at Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookshop, call (717) 795-7470 or e-mail us at [mysterybooks@comcast.net](mailto:mysterybooks@comcast.net)





A crowd gathered at the Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookshop with their lawn chairs & snacks to enjoy "Movie in Meadow"--an outside screening of mystery classic *The List of Adrian Messenger* on August, Friday the 13th.

**FREE!**

**Hot Dog & Marshmallow Roast and Movie in the Meadow**

You must register for this FREE event by calling 795-7470.

**Friday, September 17 ♦ 6:30 p.m.**  
 (Rain Date: Saturday, September 18 ♦ 6:30 p.m.)

**A very special thank you to our hosts at:**

**The Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookshop**

6 Clouser Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

**Phone:** (717) 795-7470  
**E-mail:** [mysterybooks@comcast.net](mailto:mysterybooks@comcast.net)  
**Web:** [mysterybooksonline.com](http://mysterybooksonline.com)

**Hot Dog/Marshmallow Roast begins 6:30 p.m. Movie starts 8:00 p.m.**

Bring your lawn chair, drinks & snacks and join the Susquehanna Mysteries Alliance and the Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookshop as they present:

**Arsenic & Old Lace**

A nutcase family with well-intentioned homicidal tendencies.

Two gentle old ladies who poison men with elderberry wine to put them out of their misery. One nephew, a normal guy who just gets wind of their little hobby and tries to get them to stop, while another nephew, a villain just escaped from jail and yet a third who believes he is Teddy Roosevelt.



**Recipes to die for**

# Slashed Potatoes

- 4 Medium Baking Potatoes
  - 1 Teaspoon Salt
  - 3 Tablespoons Salt-Free Herb Seasoning Blend (Mrs. Dash)
  - 3 Tablespoons Butter, Melted
  - 6 Tablespoons Grated Cheddar Cheese
  - 1 1/2 Tablespoons Parmesan Cheese
- Preheat the oven to 425 degrees.
- Slice the potatoes crosswise (the short way) into 1/4 inch slices, leaving about 1/4 inch on the bottom to connect all of the slices. Place into a baking dish, and slightly fan the slices open. Sprinkle with salt and seasoning blend, and drizzle with butter.
- Bake for 50 minutes in the preheated oven. Sprinkle cheese over the top and bake for another 10 minutes or until the cheese has melted.

*Lack's favorite side dish!*

