

Safe at Home Committee Meeting
August 21, 2026 3:00 pm
Meeting Place, Cook and Larder

Attendance: Joyce Ferrentino, Joyce Lapenn, Rene Gibson, Patti Rohrlich, Shirley Bresler, Mary Lou Kersten

Coffee Hour

August – Dr. Green on Aging Wisely, Rene responsible person. His book is being passed around to SAH committee members for reading. Joyce F will set up the projector. Rene purchased notebooks with the SAH logo on it. These will be given to the speakers as a thank you.

The yellow posters get attention yet they “wash out” the photos of the speakers. We will print the posters on white from now on with a bright yellow band outlining the poster for more visibility. Joyce F will announce the Annual Senior Day which takes place September 16 and possible carpooling, September – Rachel Cole from the Health Care Consortium. A talk on different Medicare and Supplement options. She will also speak on available transportation for non-emergency medical appointments. Joyce F point person. Posters were distributed and will be put up after August 25.

October – Brenda Shufelt, Hudson and Whaling. Point person, Mary Lou.

November – Food and gratitude. Speaker is Julie Gale. Joyce L point person

At the November coffee hour we will ask attendees for their interest in a one time book discussion. In December we would check to see who needs a book. SAH would pay for the books to hand out in January to discuss in February. Book to be determined. Books and Cake could supply books for a book discussion coffee hour.

December – Holiday party. Decided on December 8. Mary Lou to call Nico Hernandez regarding the use of the fire house. Each committee member should start gathering 2 - 3 small gifts that can be given out.

January 2027– Matt White. Patti will discuss topics with him and then choose.

February – Books and Cake. Joyce L responsible person.

March - Danny Pelosi. Jane point person.

April – Christine Doctor, on gardening

May - Tivoli mushrooms – Joyce F and Timi to coordinate working with the owner.

Possible speakers for the future. Perhaps a speaker on turtles. The best time of year could be August or September. Patti will reach out to the Columbia Land Conservancy for a possible speaker. Ron Bixby was suggested as a speaker in the fall, all about apples. Mary Lou to contact him.

Town newsletter submissions for coffee hours need to be in by the 20th of the month. Background information on the speakers is needed before then to meet this deadline. Joyce F is not responsible for gathering information on the various speakers that have been recruited by those speakers where she was not the responsible. Please email this information to her in advance to meet the deadline.

Wednesday – Walking Schedule

Attendance is spotty. Everyone walks at their own pace.

Book Dreams

A volunteer form mailed to volunteers from last year's list is to be completed and mailed to the school. We are awaiting approval of the flyer from the school. Marcie Haywood is the contact person at the school. New people have voiced an interest in volunteering, David Wurth, Beth Gordon, Chris Boneau.

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Help stock the blessing box Please support this activity.

Farm Market Table

Our participation is over for the season.

Senior Day September 16 at the Columbia Fairgrounds. 11:00 – 2:00. Sponsored by the Columbia County Office for the Aging, Joyce F is on the planning committee. Admission is free. Food, live music, raffles, 50/50, new flu vaccine, will be offered. There will also be vendors and a respite tent where caretakers can bring their charges for a short time.

SAH Newsletter Jane will handle the newsletter and needs our ideas and input. Joyce L will prepare information on CART, the Children and Adults Rural Transportation program. She will also give a copy to Natalie for future reference when she receives calls requesting transportation.

Day Trip Ideas Shirley will explore the idea of a trip the Campus, an art center in Claverack, former Ockawamick School. This is all in exploration of an annual SAH day trip.

Next Meeting, September 25, 2026 3:00 pm, Friday at Cook and Larder