# August 2023

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<td>Gus Macker Basketball Tournament</td>
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<td>Sterling Renaissance Festival</td>
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<td>Mini Golf &amp; Lunch in Cortland</td>
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<td>Birthday Lunch at O’Malley’s</td>
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<td>Southside Shopping</td>
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See reverse side for program details.
Welcome new members: Chris Jolluck, Carol Reynolds, Sandy Rosado, Margaret Lay-Dopyera, Virginia Bizzell, Sharon & Daniel Warren, Raquel Mercado & Wanda Beardslee (welcome back)

Deadlines to keep in mind:

• **August 1**\(^{st}\) for *Beautiful: Carole King musical at the Rev* in Auburn (event is full)
• **August 14**\(^{th}\) for *Dinner Mystery Theater at Spaghetti Warehouse, Syracuse;* no money is due, but I need to make the reservation at the restaurant.

Here we are going into August...where does the time go. I hope to take some time off at the end of the month, but we still have a nice array of programs throughout the month. Thanks to all of you that filled out the steering committee survey...the results have been useful for me in deciding on outings. Since the summer seems to be a busy time for many of you, we’ll take a break from several of our regular dates, but we’ll plan to pick them up again in September... I hope that we have continued interest in the craft and poetry groups, and we’ll look for another movie next month.

The Gus Macker is one of GIAC’s special events we sponsor for the community. I hope that some of you will come over at some point during the weekend; it begins on Friday (8/4), and I’ll provide transportation for any of you that want it on Sunday for the finals. Please come and support the event and GIAC!

One final note... our driver Jerry will be leaving town in the near future. It’s been great to have him and his wife Kathy Nelson as part of the program for a number of years...I know that we’ll miss both of them. That said, he leaves a hole in our roster of drivers, and I need to find a replacement ASAP! If you are
interested, or know someone that would be a good fit, please let me know. For the short term, I think we can make it work with the drivers we have and with the help of other GIAC staff…but this will become an issue soon. Please think about it! In the meantime, thanks Jerry, and best of luck to you and Kathy!

**August Events – Expanded Descriptions**

- **Blueberry picking at Grisamore’s Farm, Wednesday, August 2 at 10 am-3 pm** – The blueberries should be numerous, join us for a trip to Grisamore’s to pick some. Blueberries cost $4.49/lb.; you might want to bring a container to pick into. The field is located at 629 Cowan Rd, Locke. We’ll stop for lunch at Momo's Diner (pay for your own).

- **Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, Friday, August 4-6** The Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament is a nationwide event for players of a variety of ages and skill levels. Although every tournament is different, a typical Gus Macker event involves basketball courts set up in parking lots or closed-off public streets (for us, we’ll be closing Court, Plain, and Esty Streets). According to the tournament's website, the "Original Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament" began in 1974 in Lowell, Michigan. Scott McNeal (alias Gus Macker) and brother Mitch gathered 18 friends who played competitively for a tournament purse of $18. As the tournament grew, the McNeals moved their tournament to Belding in 1987, then took the tournament on the road to other communities, branding it as the "Gus Macker All-World Tour". According to the website, over 10,000 players entered the tournament as it visited five cities that year. The tournament currently holds both indoor and outdoor competitions annually in more than 75 cities, with over 200,000 players and 1.7 million spectators in attendance.

- **Group bike ride, Monday, August 7 at 11 am** – Anyone up for a bike ride? Let’s meet at the Ithaca Youth Bureau; if you have a bicycle, you are good to go, if
not, you can get one from the IYB. The IYB has regular bikes, trikes, and a tandem (I’m willing to take people for a ride on that), and our friends from Bike Walk Tompkins will also be along with their recumbent bike. Come for a ride, please let me know that you are joining us so I can plan to have the right number of bikes (depending on numbers, be prepared to share).

• **Guided Hike Six Mile Creek, Wednesday, August 9 at 11 am** – Joe McMahon, chairman of Ithaca's Natural Areas Commission, will lead us on this historically oriented guided tour of Six Mile Creek. Meet at the end of Juniper Drive (off Coddington Rd).

• **Sterling Renaissance Festival, Saturday, August 12 at 9 am- 5 pm** – The Renaissance Festival is a dramatic recreation of an Elizabethan town at festival time. It is a Renaissance styled theme park, a 12-stage performance venue, a 35-acre interactive/environmental theatre, an arts and crafts fair, a Jousting Tournament, a food festival and tavern, all rolled into one non-stop, day-long, family adventure! Admission includes all entertainment shows, including the tournament jousting. Additional items are available at variable costs such as some of the wonderful items from artisans, which feature a variety of handmade, quality crafts and arts. There is also food and beverages and a variety of games and rides available at additional cost.

• **Dinner Mystery Theater at Spaghetti Warehouse, Syracuse, Thursday, August 17, 5-10 pm** - Dinner is served to you while you enjoy a fun murder mystery play! The show is *Montana Smith and The Curse of The Golden Crocodile* and dinner includes an entrée, soft drink, and dessert; $40. Montana Smith has snatched the Golden Crocodile of the Amazon from its South American home. Now it’s about to be unveiled at the Municipal Museum of Natural History, but everyone’s been acting rather strangely. Could it be the dreaded Curse of the Golden Crocodile? Hmm? Join us for the gala event of the season to find out (but don’t turn your back on the museum staff).

• **Birthday Lunch at O’Malley’s Tavern, Monday, August 21, 11 am-2 pm** – O’Malley’s is a historic lakeside establishment with a fresh new feel! Come enjoy the fun, casual atmosphere with an exciting new menu. This place is...
little more expensive than our usual lunch locations, expect to pay $15+ for a lunch sandwich (https://www.omalleysshorelinetavern.com/).

• **“Beautiful The Carole King Musical” at the Rev in Auburn, Tuesday, August 22** – This Tony and Grammy Award-winning musical phenomenon is filled with the songs you remember.” We’ll have lunch at Seb’s Green Shutters beforehand (offering hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken sandwiches, and salads; pay on your own). I decided on this venue as neither of the two locations I had proposed (Springside Inn and Tom Thumbs) was a definitive preference. Due to the cost constraints and diet requirements, I think this might be a good compromise... I hope you all are happy with it. (https://www.sebsgreenshutters.com/)

• **Southside Shopping, Monday, August 28 at 10 am** – Call if you want to go shopping at any of the downtown shopping locations (Walmart, Wegmans, Lowes, etc.).

• **NY State Fair, Syracuse, Saturday, August 29, 10 am-5 pm** – The musical guest at Chevy Park this afternoon is Tommy James and the Shondells. They are a Garage pop rock psychedelic band, formed in 1960 in Niles, Michigan. They had two no. 1 singles in the U.S., "Hanky Panky" (July 1966) and "Crimson and Clover" (February 1969), and also charted twelve other top 40 hits, including five in the hot 100's top ten: "I Think We're Alone Now", "Mirage", "Mony Mony", "Sweet Cherry Wine", and "Crystal Blue Persuasion". They disbanded in 1970. Admission is free for seniors.

**Of Interest to Seniors and the GIAC Community...**

• Joan Heffernan was a member of the program from the time I started in this position until her death last year. Her family has arranged a memorial service for Joan on 8/5/23 (2-4 pm) at Lifelong.

> Please do not hesitate to contact me for information and clarification, allow me to be a resource. Stay well! Zack
**Wednesday, August 2nd, 10 am-3 pm  Blueberry picking at Grisamore’s**
The blueberries should still be numerous, join us for a trip to pick some. Grisamore’s (629 Cowan Rd.) blueberries are $4.49/lb. We’ll stop for lunch at the farm store and Momo’s Diner for lunch (pay for your own).

**Thursday, August 3rd, 5-9 pm  Picnic & Concert at Myers Park**
GIAC will provide cookout meats, salads, beverages, and other picnic materials. One of our favorites, The Destination, will be performing. Bring a folding chair!

**Sunday, August 6th, 11 am-3 pm  Basketball Tournament Finals at GIAC**
The Gus Macker Basketball Tournament is happening at GIAC all weekend. The finals are scheduled for Sunday (but times are not set yet). I'll refine the time as the date approaches.

**Monday, August 7th, 11 am  Group Bike Ride, Ithaca Youth Bureau**
Let’s take a bike ride on the Waterfront Trail! All sorts of bikes (regular/trikes/recumbent/tandems) will be available, people of all abilities are welcome. **Please let me know in advance that you plan to attend**, and I'll try to have the right bikes on hand.

**Wednesday, August 9th, 11 am  Group Hike at Six Mile Creek Natural Area**
Joe McMahon of Ithaca's Natural Areas Commission will lead us on this historically oriented guided tour of Six Mile Creek. Meet at the end of Juniper Drive (off Coddington Rd).

**Saturday, August 12th, 9 am-5 pm  Sterling Renaissance Festival**
Explore all of the different attractions of the festival (it’s the Grand Finale Weekend); cost to attend is $45 (tickets purchased at the gate).

**Monday, August 14th, 10 am-2 pm  Mini Golf & Lunch in Cortland**
We’ll play a round or two of mini golf ($7/person) followed by lunch at A&W.

**Thursday, August 17th, 5-10 pm  Dinner Mystery Theater at Spaghetti Warehouse, Syracuse**
Dinner is served to you while you enjoy a fun murder mystery play! The show is “Montana Smith and The Curse of The Golden Crocodile” and dinner includes an entrée, soft drink, and dessert; $40 (pay for your own). Space is limited, **please sign up by 8/14**.

**Monday, August 21th, 11 am-2 pm  Birthday Lunch at O’Malley’s Tavern**
It’s summer, so let’s enjoy lunch by the lake again! Newly opened under new management… we’ll try it out and have cake at the end, sandwiches start at $15 (pay on your own).

**Tuesday, August 22th, 10 am-5 pm  “Beautiful The Carole King Musical” at the Rev in Auburn**
This Tony and Grammy Award-winning musical phenomenon is filled with the songs you remember.” We’ll have lunch at Seb’s Green Shutters beforehand (offering hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken sandwiches, and salads; pay on your own). **There is no more space**.

**Monday, August 28th, 10 am  Southside Shopping**
Give me a call if you’d like to do some shopping anywhere on the south side of town.

**Tuesday, August 29th, 10 am-5 pm  NY State Fair, Syracuse**
The musical guest at Chevy Park this afternoon is Tommy James and the Shondells, admission is **free** for seniors.