



MIAMI VALLEY OUTDOOR CLUB

Miami Valley Archaeology Tuesday, September 5th Meeting

This month Andy Sawyer, Site Manager and Site Anthropologist at SunWatch Indian Village and Archaeological Park, will present information about local archaeological study sites and cultural treasures. This program was previously scheduled for this past May, but had to be rescheduled. As usual we'll meet at Wegerzyn Garden Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. The talk will start about 7:45 pm, preceded by our business meeting at 7:00 pm. Come anytime after 6:30 for socializing and to help plan upcoming trips.



Diamonds, Toads and Bats, Oh My!

This hearty crew spent a day in the dark, clawing and crawling over rocks and through crevices at the Kentucky "Wild Cave Tour."
(see story on page 3)

**Membership
dues only
half price
now through
the end of
the year.**

This Month's Activities

Rock Climbing at Urban Krag Wednesdays, Sept. 6, 13, 20, & 27

A group of MVOCers climbs on Wednesdays at the Urban Krag, meeting there about 5:45 pm. Any one who wants to try is welcome to join us. Contact Geoff Frank at Geoffrey.Frank@udri.udayton.edu or 937-224-1016 if you are interested or to find out if there are changes to the schedule.

Thursday Night Bike Rides Sept. 7, 14, 21, & 28

If you are interested in joining our Thursday evening bike rides call Jeanne Boeke at 299-4102 for location and time. We usually ride for about an hour.

Junction Trail Festival, Milford, OH Sept. 8, 9 & 10

MVOCers are invited to help celebrate the heart of America's long distance trails at the first ever "Junction Trail Festival" in Milford, OH, the crossroads of eight popular and widely known trails including the Buckeye Trail and the Sea to Sea Long Distance Hiking Route. Enjoy walking, hiking, cycling, paddling, food, musicians, presenters and information tables. Keynote speaker at 8 p.m. Friday is Andy Skurka, [Backpacker Magazine's 2005 Person of the Year](#). Camping registration (\$5) for the event is 4-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: MVOC will have an information table set up on Saturday and we need people to represent the club for 1, 2 or 3 hour stretches. Please contact Connie Steele if you can help out at 698-5397 or connsteele@msn.com.

Sailboarding at Eastwood Lake Monday, Sept. 11

Last chance for sailboarding this summer! Virginia and David Wood will have their boards out at Eastwood Lake (south of SR4 off of Woodman Dr) on Monday, Sept. 11. Join us from 5-8 pm. Someone usually goes for food about 6 pm. Call 426-9875 if you are unsure about the weather.

Board Meeting, Thursday, Sept. 14

This month's Board meeting will be at Marion's Pizza Restaurant, on N. Dixie Drive, at 6:00 pm. All club members are welcome.

Horseback Riding at Carriage Hill Saturday, Sept. 16

Enjoy the rolling hills and woodlands of Carriage Hill MetroPark on this leisurely horseback ride, 1:00 p.m. Saturday, September 16. The one hour ride is \$18 and riders must be over 8 years old. Reservations by Sept. 27.

Directions: I-70 to Route 201 (exit 38). Go north, approximately 1 mile, to right on Shull Rd (park entrance). The riding center is on the left, past the historical farm. Contact person: Lindy McDonough, 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com.

Germantown Reserve Morning Walk, Saturday, Sept. 30

We'll meet at the Nature Center and start promptly at 9:00 a.m. for a 1½ hour walk through the wooded hills of Germantown Reserve. Directions: West from Germantown on Rt. 725, right on Boomershine Rd and right at the park entrance. Contact person: Lindy McDonough, 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com.

Upcoming Activities

Cross Country Ski Trip Planning Meeting, Sunday, Sept. 17 at 6 p.m.

Plans are in the works for a week-long cross country ski trip in either late January or early February. Interested members with trip ideas who want to help work out the details, contact Jeanne Boeke at 299-4102 for meeting time and location.

Trip Reports

Taylorville Reserve Morning Hike Saturday, Aug. 19

by Lindy McDonough

Two preschoolers and four adults showed up for this outing. New members, the Wooddard family, are starting early to share their love of the outdoors with their little ones. A few natural treasures – a walnut, a buckeye, and two snail shells – were collected by the kids before our new family turned back after an hour trek to the Tadmor historic site. The two remaining MVOCers finished the loop along the old canal and then the Great Miami River.

Spelunking at Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky, July 21-23

(by Shari Christy)

Three intrepid MVOCers and one husband set out to experience this “Wild Cave Tour” - not for the faint of heart. On Friday my husband John and I and Luisa and Paul went on the River Styx cave tour - just to get our feet wet (tho not literally). After that, deciding we’d not walked far enough, we ventured out at night to do some more hiking. Thanks to Paul’s large stash of light options we were able to avoid squashing all the toads that were out at night as well.

The next day, after a quick morning hike, we managed to crawl and climb our way through the “Hell Hole” (and it was), the “Birth Canal” (a head first dive down a small hole, right turn and then slithering over a large rock that’s trying to keep you in) – yea – it really was like experiencing being born! At “Dave’s Lost Sea” - Luisa won the prize for being the “Most Observant Caver” for finding a diamond earring that had been lost by a caver on a hike the day before. Twelve other cavers crawled through and didn’t see it! Paul won the prize of “Ranger’s favorite” for bringing up the rear most of the time and making sure everyone got through. Shari won the prize for “Most Dirty” after going through the bottom part of the “Double Barrel Shotgun” and getting pretty much soaked. If you want to challenge yourself and come back covered in bruises, this is the thing for you!

To top it all off, about 2 hours later, we all went on the “Star Chamber Tour” which took us into a section where we saw the “Giant’s Coffin”, the huts where tuberculosis patients lived and died years ago, and right outside – the “Corpse Rock” – where Ranger Rick gave everyone on the tour a good laugh! We finished off the tour with a view of the elaborate cave/candle signatures made for tourists by the cave guides in the early 1800’s.

For those of you who missed this adventure – worry not! The ranger said that you can do the Wild Cave tour a hundred times and always see something different. Based on all the stops listed on our souvenir bandana – I’d say he’s right!

Canoe Trip, Hocking River to Rockbridge Nature Preserve, Aug. 12

(by Donna Gehring)

My husband Dwight and I met up with Dan and Nancy Haas at the canoe livery in Rockbridge, Ohio. We chose the 8-mile canoe trip. The outfitters put us on the river right across from the

landing for the Nature preserve. There must have been a hundred paddlers that day. The canoe put-in was one canoe wide with a 45 degree slope to the river’s edge. We were so distracted by the put-in and the circus-like environment around us that we noticed too late, after we were down stream, that we were beyond the Nature Preserve part of our plan. Eight miles sounds easy. We had considered doing the 11-miler instead, but because the last portion of the canoe trip to the livery was in rather still water, with no current to help us move, the 8-mile trip proved the better choice.

We had some fun watching the antics of the other people on the river. There were several upsets, including the bar canoe of the barroom flotilla – great comic relief. A couple of other campers managed a move that lifted the front end of their canoe a foot off the water. One Mom and Dad had an adorable baby, maybe less than a year old, in their canoe. All that we could see was a little blonde head and blue eyes peeking over the canoe’s edge with a colorful umbrella overhead, cleverly fastened to the canoe. We had a good time despite the long drive. Apparently, Dan and Nancy thought so too, since they camped over night. After the canoe trip Dwight and I left for Dayton. Dan and Nancy traveled by car to Rockbridge Nature Preserve determined to see the Largest Arch in the State of Ohio. They told me later that they could walk on it, but couldn’t see it because of all the leaves on the trees. This canoe trip would definitely be a nice addition to a hiking weekend at Old Man’s Cave to see the fall colors.

Sailboarding at Eastwood, July 23

(by David Wood)

The July trip to Eastwood Lake included one beginner, a third-timer, and a kayak the Gehrings were trying out. This time there was very little wind, which made learning less tricky but at times boring as we would stand on the board and hope for a breeze in ANY direction.

Mad River Inner Tube Float Trip, Aug. 5

(by Lindy McDonough)

It was a glorious day for the second and final float trip of the summer. Eight people - six MVOCers, one frisky little granddaughter and one visitor - enjoyed drifting down the cool clear Mad River, passing a couple of fishermen and helping a few canoeists navigate a tangle of fallen trees and brush at the infamous river bend.

Others Items of Interest

Want to Be Our Webmaster?

After doing a great job updating the MVOC website for the past several years, Beth Corbitt-Lewin is stepping down now that other priorities demand her time. Many thanks, Beth, for all your work. Now we need some brave soul to fill her shoes. If anyone is interested in taking this position contact Connie Steele connsteele@msn.com.

Impromptu Outings

Sometimes we wait too long to submit an outing to the newsletter editor or decide only a few days in advance that we have time for a hike in the park or a paddle down a nearby river and would like some company. Now we can have our last minute plans emailed to all MVOC members

instantly. Just send your plans to Lindy McDonough lindymcd46@aol.com and she will forward it to the group. Don't forget to include, date, activity, place, time, contact person, and your phone number and email address.

Gear Fest 2007, Saturday, Oct. 7

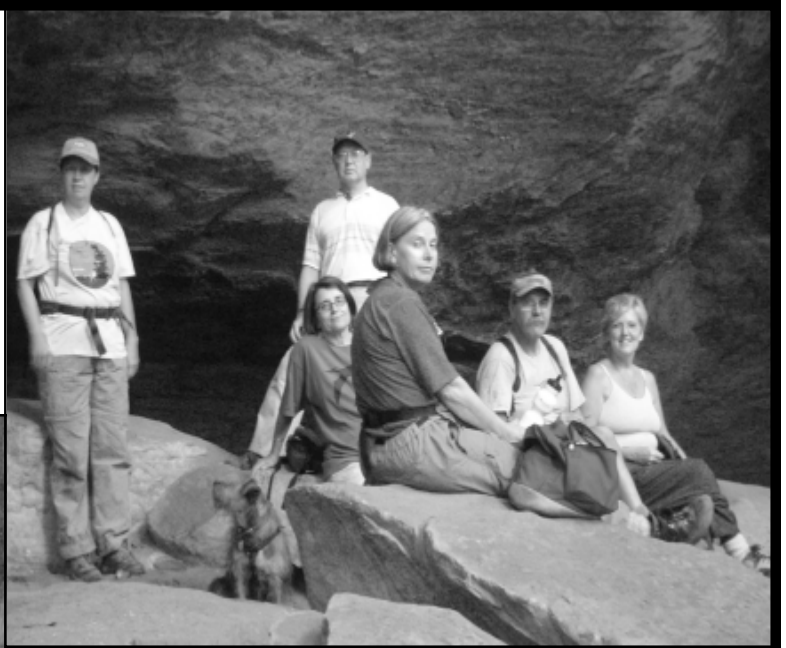
Don't miss the second annual Gear Fest at the 2nd Street Market in Dayton, offering even more music, food, outfitters, demonstrations, and of course GEAR. A new consignment service allows anyone to drop off pre-owned outdoor gear to sell at the gear tent and return later to pick up the proceeds.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: MVOC will have a table set up at the Gear Fest. People are needed to sit at the table for 1, 2 or 3 hour stretches. Call Connie Steele if you are willing to help out at 698-5397 or connsteele@msn.com. For more info on the Gear Fest visit metroparks.org.

September 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2 Labor Day Weekend	3 Labor Day Weekend
4 Labor Day	5 Meeting at Wegerzyn	6 Climbing at Urban Krag	7 Bike Ride	8 JUNCTION Trail Festival Milford, OH	9 JUNCTION Trail Festival Milford, OH	10 JUNCTION Trail Festival Milford, OH
11 Sailboarding at Eastwood Lake	12 Newsletter Deadline	13 Climbing at Urban Krag	14 Board Meeting Bike Ride	15	16 Horseback Riding at Carriage Hill	17 Winter Cross Country Ski Plan Meet
18	19	20 Climbing at Urban Krag	21 Bike Ride	22	23	24
25	26	27 Climbing at Urban Krag	28 Bike Ride	29	30 Germantown Reserve Walk	

*Year-Round
Fun & Adventure
with People Who
Love the Outdoors!*



Taking a break at Hocking Hills State Park, Logan, Ohio



Trail's End at Zaleski State Forest, Vinton and Athens Counties, Ohio



Hiking in Red River Gorge, Kentucky



Backpacking at Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky

Membership Response Form

Annual dues are \$16 for singles or \$24 for families. New members joining after July 1 may pay half a year's dues.

Name _____ I'd like to join _____ I'd like to renew _____

Address _____ I'd like more information _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone # _____

Email address _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please circle one: (Include) (Do not include) my name and information on the annual roster sent to all MVOC members.

I hereby declare that I am at least 18 years of age and agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Miami Valley Outdoor Club. I do hereby relieve the Miami Valley Outdoor Club and/or its officers and members from all responsibility and liability regarding any loss, injury, or accidents incurred at, or related to, any club activity or function.

Signature _____ Date _____

MVOC Officers

President:	Connie Steele	698-5397	connsteele@msn.com
Vice President:	Gary Mount	367-6702	glmount@yahoo.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Sandy Todd	698-5046	saza3@hotmail.com
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Newsletter Editor:	Lindy McDonough	278-1493	lindymcd46@aol.com
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