



# MIAMI VALLEY OUTDOOR CLUB

October 2006

## *Exploring the North Woods and Waters* *Tuesday, October 4th Meeting*

MVOC members will share their days of hiking, cycling, camping, canoeing, rock climbing, sand dunes, swinging bridges, blue skies, historical sites and spectacular sunsets on a recent week-long trip to Mackinac Island, Michigan and the provincial parks of Ontario, Canada. 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.

*Dwight Gehring on recent MVOC outing to Michigan and Canada.*



## This Month's Activities

### **Gear Fest 2007, Saturday, Oct. 7**

Don't miss the second annual Gear Fest at the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Call Connie Steele if you are willing to help out at 698-5397 or [conniesteele@wright.edu](mailto:conniesteele@wright.edu). For more info on the Gear Fest visit [www.metroparks.org](http://www.metroparks.org).

### **Rock Climbing at Urban Krag**

#### **Wednesdays, Oct. 4, 11, 18 & 25**

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](mailto:Geoffrey.Frank@udri.udayton.edu) or 937-224-1016 if you are interested or to find out if there are changes to the schedule.

### **Board Meeting, Thursday, Oct. 12.**

This month's Board meeting will be at Marion's Pizza Restaurant, on 3443 N. Dixie Dr., at 6:00 pm. All club members are welcome.

### **Backpack Morgan Sister's Trail Wayne National Forest, Oct. 28-29**

We will be returning to the same area we first explored last Memorial Day, which turned out to be a hot and muggy weekend. The area's remote and rather wild character made for some dicey hiking through early summer's dense undergrowth that at times obscured some poorly maintained trails. But the potential of the area for some great fall hiking—when leaves are turning and the undergrowth has succumbed to some early frosty nights—was apparent. The area is known for old growth forest, rock outcroppings, and natural wetlands. We plan to backpack in about 4 miles and set up camp. For those who want to take a longer walk, there is the Symmes Creek Loop trail to explore, which we didn't get to

last time.

We plan on leaving Dayton early Saturday and return on Sunday evening. For information and reservations, call Connie Steele at 698-5397 or email [conniesteele@wright.edu](mailto:conniesteele@wright.edu) (note: this is a new email address)

### **Wildcat Hollow Trail Maintenance**

#### **Saturday, October 21, 9 a m .**

It's time for our annual service project in southern Ohio. We will meet at Burr Oak Cove National Forest campground at 9 a.m. Saturday. Camping is free to volunteers Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Call Ralph Weiss (698-3232) for details and directions.

## Upcoming Activities

### **Cross Country Ski Trip**

At a recent planning meeting the time & place was set for a ski trip in late January or February. We will make reservations after the October 3 club meeting. If you are interested, call Jeanne Boeke at 299-4102 or talk to her at the meeting.

## Trip Reports

### **Mackinac Island and Canada**

#### **August 19 - 27**

*by Jeanne Boeke*

Six MVOC past and present members drove north on a cloudy day to Mackinaw City, MI. The next day we took a windy ferry ride to Mackinac Island, rented bicycles and set out to explore the island. We saw some of the history of the island, passing forts and churches built by the Americans and British. We pedaled to interesting rock formations - Arch Rock, Sugarloaf Rock, and Devil's Kitchen and just enjoyed riding along the shore. There are no cars allowed on the island, so when one of the bikes had a flat tire we were still surprised when the replacement bike arrived on top of the basket and handle bars of another bike! We left the island looking back to see the Grand Hotel, the fort and the sunset.

After a stop at the Sault Ste. Marie locks, we continued north to Lake Superior Provincial Park in Ontario. Our campsite was wooded, but we

were next to the beach. We could hear loons in the distance. We sat around our campfire and watched a spectacular sunset and then a little later watched a crescent moon turn orange-red and flow behind the horizon.

Like the t-shirt says: "Superior Rocks" — and we climbed over a lot of them. Many of the trails were rugged, including the one to the pictographs. These pictographs were painted by Native Americans with red ochre. The pictographs are on the shore of Lake Superior and we walked on rocks slanted toward the water to view them. A couple of otters greeted us as we arrived at the pictographs. We also hiked rock beaches. The rocks are different colors and sizes and are beautiful! Canoes could be rented at the campground, and several of us canoed on the calm waters of Agawa Bay and saw more amazing rocks.

I hated to leave our beautiful campsite, but it was time to continue north through Wawa and White River (the birthplace of Winnie the Pooh fame) to Pukaskwa National Park. Only a small area of Pukaskwa is developed. Most of it is undeveloped without trails. We camped at a private site and walked a short distance to the shore to watch the sunset - our evening ritual. We noticed the rocks were different and not so difficult for hiking. We hiked several shorter hikes around the camping area and some of us hiked 11 miles round trip on the coastal trail to the suspension bridge over the rushing waters of the White River and then on to the lower falls. The cold water of the lake sure felt good on tired feet. Others opted to hike the sand dunes along the lake by the Pic River. They call Pukaskwa the "wild shore of an island sea". We were fortunate to experience the calm waters of Lake Superior under beautiful blue skies. A very enjoyable trip.

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

This first-time-ever event east of Cincinnati attracted eight MVOCers. Mike Nelson and Lindy McDonough arrived in time on Saturday to witness the ceremony dedicating a new sign, marking the intersection of eight popular long distance trails. Event organizers and dignitaries were present as well as the Milford mayor and a town council woman.

At a lovely site along the Little Miami River, canopies and tables were set up by a

variety of outdoor vendors and organizations, including MVOC. Besides tending our information table, MVOCers participated in other outdoor activities. Connie and Jim Steele, Jeanne Boeke and Bob Kelley enjoyed a late afternoon bike ride, Gary Mount and Ella Himes spent a couple of hours canoeing on the Little Miami River and later Mike, Lindy, Gary and Ella explored some of the 16 miles of trails through 1025 acres of Rowe Woods Cincinnati Nature Center. All agreed that there are some real possibilities for future MVOC outings in the Milford area.

## **Horseback Riding at Carriage Hill Saturday, Sept. 16**

*by Lindy McDonough*

It couldn't have been a prettier day with sunny skies and a cool breeze for this hour-long horseback ride. Gary Mount, Ella Himes, Mike Nelson and Lindy McDonough, along with two other riders and two guides, explored the woodland trails of this historic farm. During a short group trot Lindy's hat blew off and a guide had to backtrack to retrieve it. We passed two larger riding parties coming and going and the horses had to slog through a number of muddy stretches.

After the ride, the MVOCers went over to the homestead area of the farm to watch as volunteers participated in an old-time barn raising using ropes, pulleys and plow horses. We didn't stay long enough to see them finish the building, but we did see two interior frames hoisted and set into place.

## **Others Items of Interest**

### **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](mailto:lindymcd46@aol.com) and she will forward them to the group. Don't forget to include, date, activity, place, time, contact person, your phone number and email address.

## MVOC Photos Wanted for Library Exhibit

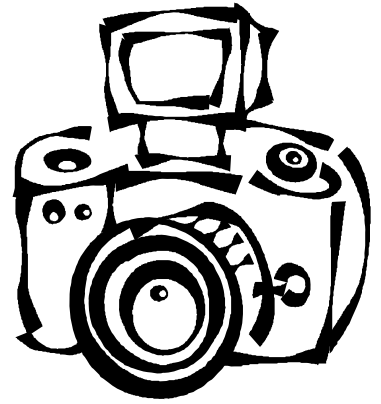
MVOC has been invited to have an exhibit of members photographs at the Dayton Metro Library in downtown Dayton, in January and February of next year. Our new MVOC newsletter editor is also the exhibit coordinator at the library, and after seeing a sampling of the many photos members have shown at various MVOC meetings, she felt there were probably enough photos out there to make a beautiful exhibit of the many places MVOC members have visited over the years.

The library would like at least ten people to participate in the exhibit, but more would be even better.

Submit color photographs of scenic vistas

or outdoor club activities on mat or glossy photo paper, unmounted, either 8.5"x11" or 11"x 14". The library art dept. will mount them all on a uniform size white mount board.

We're hoping for shots of many different locations and activities, showing the club's wide-ranging interests. Plans are to collect most of the photos at the MVOC December Christmas party. Watch for more details in the November newsletter. For more info call Lindy McDonough at 463-2665 extension 8583



# October 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2	3 Meeting at Wegerzyn	4 Climbing at Urban Krag	5	6	7 Gear Fest at 2nd St Market	8
9	10	11 Climbing at Urban Krag	12 Board Meeting	13	14 Pine Hill Cave Trip	15
16	17 Newsletter Deadline	18 Climbing at Urban Krag	19	20	21 Wildcat Hollow Trail Maintenance	22 
23	24	25 Climbing at Urban Krag	26	27	28 Morgan Sisters Backpack Trip	29 Morgan Sisters Backpack Trip
30	31		4			

*Scenes  
from a recent  
MVOC trip to  
Mackinac  
Island  
and  
Canada*



*Photos by  
Dwight &  
Donna  
Gehring*



*Do you have  
outdoor club  
photos you  
would like to  
share?*



## 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
Programs Director:	Dwight Gehring	836-8515	dgehring@worldnet.att.net
Newsletter Editor:	Lindy McDonough	278-1493	lindymcd46@aol.com
Activities:	Donna Gehring	836-8515	dgehring@worldnet.att.net
Publicity:	Beth Corbitt	848-2012	BethC@woh.rr.com

### **Miami Valley Outdoor Club**

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