



# MIAMI VALLEY OUTDOOR CLUB

December 2006

## **Annual Holiday Feast and Auction, Tuesday, Dec. 5th Meeting**

This event will be at Wegerzyn Horticulture Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler. Dinner will start at 7:00 p.m. and the auction at around 8:00 p.m. Please bring a side dish, a salad or desert to share, plus table service for yourself. MVOC will provide honey baked ham (hot and cold), turkey breasts, rolls, and hot and soft drinks. The entertainment will feature an auction of gently used, donated outdoor gear from MVOC members. This year, the proceeds will be donated to a deserving nature center in the area.

Don't forget to bring your photos for the library exhibit starting in January.  
(See details inside.)

## **Annual Holiday Light Hike, Saturday, Dec. 9**

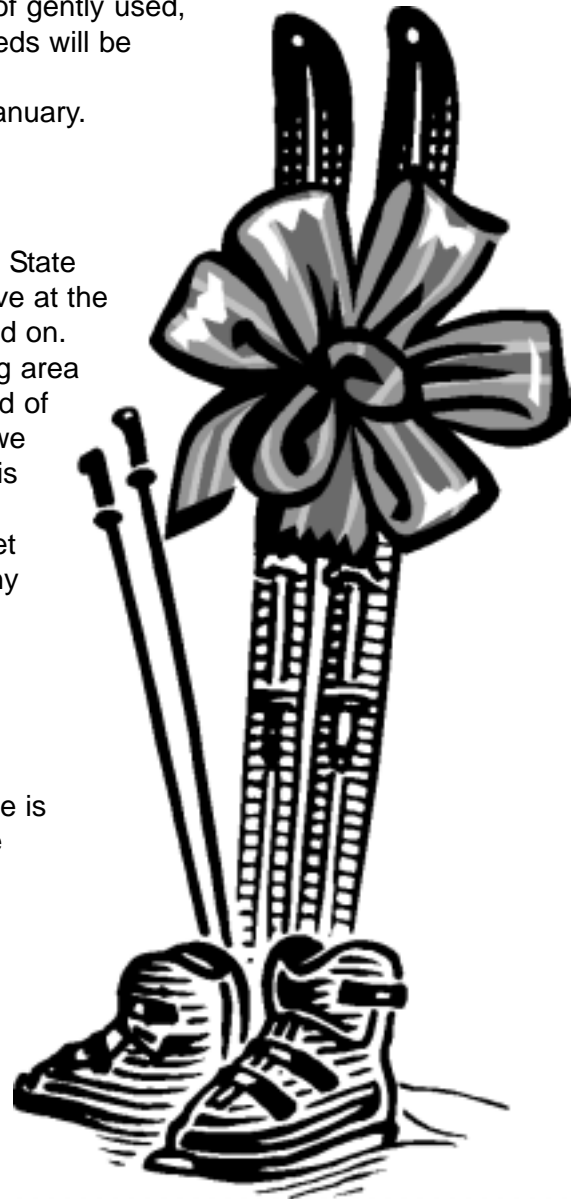
Don't miss this entertaining annual 3 mile hike through John Bryan State Park and Clifton Gorge to see the lights at Clifton Mill. We will arrive at the Clifton Mill shortly before dark, when the millions of lights are turned on. We will meet at the entrance to the John Bryan State Park camping area and shuttle some cars over to Clifton so we can get back at the end of the night. The hike will start promptly at 4:00 p.m. (don't be late – we wouldn't want to still be hiking after dark!). Kids are welcome on this hike, but dogs are not permitted in the Clifton Gorge Nature Preserve. Please contact Dwight Gehring at [dgehring@worldnet.att.net](mailto:dgehring@worldnet.att.net) or 836-8515 or if you plan to attend so we can determine how many cars we need to shuttle. Also, if there is interest, we may end the evening with dinner somewhere in Yellow Springs.

## **Cross Country Ski Trip to Stokely Creek Lodge, Ontario, Canada, Feb. 12 - 17**

There is still time to sign up for this popular winter outing. If anyone is interested, call Jeanne Boeke at 937-299-4102 or talk to her at the meeting. You can check out the lodge at their website: [www.stokelycreek.com](http://www.stokelycreek.com). It looks like a beautiful place!

## **New Board Members Wanted**

Elections are coming up in February, and most positions are available except newsletter editor and vice president. The board meets one Thursday each month. It's a great way to get to know your fellow MVOCers better! Please consider volunteering for an office! If you are interested contact Connie Steele at [connsteele@msn.com](mailto:connsteele@msn.com) or 698-5397.



## Meet MVOC's Newest, Youngest Member!

Congratulations to Katie and Geoff Frank, the proud new parents of the newest member of the MVOC – Christopher Joseph Frank. Christopher is nine months old and was adopted in October, 2006. Christopher is not yet walking – so it may be a few months before you see him on any of the hikes (unless he is getting a ride in a backpack).

## Seeking New Contact Person for Rock Climbing at Urban Krag

The Wednesday MVOC get-togethers at the Urban Krag, 125 Clay St. in Dayton, have been temporarily suspended. Our contact person and a few others have new commitments and can't be there on a regular basis. Anyone interested in taking over as the new contact person and informal instructor for the group can call Connie Steele at 698-5397 or connsteele@msn.com to volunteer.

## Board Meeting, Thursday, Dec. 14

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

## Activity Reports

### Sugarcreek Reserve Morning Walk, Saturday, Nov. 4

Mike Nelson, Lindy McDonough and a new MVOC member, Ron Versic, enjoyed the beautiful scenery along Sugar Creek. The weather was perfect and Ron, who is a seasoned marathon walker, gave Mike and Lindy a real workout.

### Morgan Sisters Backpack, Nov. 4-5

*by Connie Steele*

Six MVOCers went on this eight mile backpack loop located in Galia County, a trip originally scheduled for the weekend before, but cancelled due to localized flooding and predictions of 50 mile per hour winds. We hiked the trail in reverse to what we did last spring, starting on the north side of the loop. The trails were more open this time, due to die back of the underbrush and some limited trailwork that had been done since our last visit. The original plan was, after pitching camp, to day hike the Symmes Creek loop, but we ran out of time. (Maybe next time?) The next morning we hiked out the southern side of the loop, stopping



*Morgan Sisters  
Trail  
Backpackers:  
(from left)  
Gary Mount,  
Ella Himes,  
Connie Steele,  
Jim Steele,  
Barbara McCray,  
and  
Bob Kelley.*

## Other Items of Interest

for lunch at a nice sunny spot populated by Oak trees. Members of the Fugari tribe paid us a brief visit, but they were quite welcome as it was in a fragrant pine forest, where we took a break and got our bearings. The Morgan Sisters trail is an untapped resource for backpacking for those of us who are tired of the often overused Zaleski trail.

### **Charleston Falls Day Hike Sunday, Nov. 5**

Dwight & Donna Gehring, Mike Nelson and Lindy McDonough explored this Miami County park and enjoyed the one of the last days of balmy autumn weather.

### **Old Man's Cave Hiking/Camping November 11-12**

*by Connie Steele*

Although the day started out with a cold steady rain, it didn't stop eight MVOCers from heading down to the Hocking Hills for a weekend of camping and hiking. Upon arrival at the group camp site, the rain had stopped but it was still cool and damp. However, prepared for the weather, we set off for about a 2 mile loop hike from the campground to Ash Cave. After a break, we drove to the upper Cedar Falls trailhead for a 3 mile loop hike to Rose lake and back. The next morning, we set out to explore the side drainages of Queer Creek, which is in state forest and flows into the Old Man's-Ash Cave Gorge system. Since we had explored the south side two years ago, we wanted to see what the north side had to offer. However, it proved not to be as pretty, so we decided to cross the creek (which proved to be an adventure) and revisit the south side, which has awesome rock outcroppings, cliffs, and rock grottos. This included a scramble under and through some boulder falls that brought us out to the base of some cliffs and a beautiful box canyon and waterfall. We ended the hike by climbing up to Buzzard's Roost for lunch.

### **The Narrows Reserve Day Hike Sunday, Nov. 19 at 2:00 p.m.**

The hike along the Little Miami River and through the Big Woods began with a light rain that soon turned to bright sunshine. Dwight and Donna Gehring, Mike Nelson and Lindy McDonough enjoyed another afternoon of outdoor camaraderie.

## January Newsletter Deadline

December, 15

### **Carter Caves Crawl-A-Thon January 26-28, 2007.**

Crawl out of the bitter cold and into the warmth of a deep dark cave. See highlights of last year's event at [www.crawlathon.com](http://www.crawlathon.com). By mid-December new info will be posted. Contact Shari Christy at [jc65000@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jc65000@worldnet.att.net) or 937-879-7241 if you are interested.

### **Adventure Summit, Jan. 27 & 28**

Wright State University and Five Rivers MetroParks will be hosting the 2nd annual Miami Valley Adventure Summit at Wright State on Saturday and Sunday, January 27 and 28th, 2007. It will include a large Expo Area, back to back presentations, workshops and demonstrations. MVOC is hoping to have an information table set up at the event. It's a great opportunity to tell people about our organization and it is really a lot of fun trading stories with other lovers of the outdoors. To volunteer, contact Connie Steele at [connsteele@msn.com](mailto:connsteele@msn.com) or 698-5397.

### **Photos Needed for Library Exhibit**

Don't forget to submit your color photographs of scenic vistas or outdoor club activities - local, state, national and international - activities showing the club's wide-ranging interests. Print them on gloss or semi-gloss photo paper, unmounted, approximately 8.5"x11" or 11"x 14". The library art department will mount them all.

The library would like at least ten people to participate. 1 - 8 photos per person.

Plans are to collect most of the photos at the MVOC December Christmas party but other delivery arrangements can be made through December. For more info call Lindy McDonough at 496-8583 (phone # in Nov. issue was incorrect).

#### **Attach this information to your photos:**

Name, address, phone number, email address, photo title, photo location and/or activity, year of photo and whether it is digital or 35mm.

### **Membership Renewals Coming Up**

Be sure to renew your membership in January, so you won't miss out on any MVOC activities in 2007. Get email notices and reminders. Encourage your friends to join so they can enjoy an entire year of fun in the outdoors!

## 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**

**P.O. Box 292571**

**Dayton, OH 45429**

*www.miamivalleyoutdoorclub.org*

