



MIAMI VALLEY OUTDOOR CLUB

February 2008

“Canoeing the Wabash” at February 5 Meeting

Local outdoorsman Allen Johnson, who has traveled the world on many exciting adventures with his grandchildren, will present a program about canoeing on the Wabash River at our February meeting. In the summer of 1990 Allen accomplished a life-long dream of hiking and canoeing the entire 500-mile length of the Wabash. He and his 10-year-old grandson, Paul, spent 16 days on the river, dragging their canoe over the shoals, fighting raging rapids, weathering 14-hour-long lightning storms and wind-driven whitecaps to conquer the mighty Wabash. Allen was born and raised on the Wabash in southern Illinois. He fished, camped, and hunted on the banks of the river with his dad when he was growing up. Thirty years later he decided to challenge the river. His talk will begin at 7:00 p.m. preceded by the business meeting at 6:30 p.m. Come at 6:00 p.m. for socializing and trip planning.

The meeting will be at Wegerzyn Garden Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton.

Time to Renew!

January 1 was the start of the new membership year. Don't miss out on activities coming up in 2008. Keep your mailings and email announcements coming. Membership forms are on the back of this newsletter.



Upcoming Activities

And the Winner



4th annual Chili Cook-Off and Hike at Sycamore State Park, Sunday, Feb. 3

Get your taste buds ready for another round of savoring chili prepared by MVOC members who perform wonders with chili beans, hamburger, veggies and who knows what. Dig out your favorite chili recipe if you think you have what it takes to win the coveted GOLDEN SPOON award and pit your beans against our best MVOC cooks. Side dishes, salads and desserts are welcome too. Plan to arrive at the Sycamore State Park day use barn by 1:30 p.m. We'll begin our hike at 2:00 p.m. and spend some time working up a hearty appetite tramping through the winter woods. Dave Todd will have a roaring fire in the stove to warm our toes and hot chili will be waiting to warm our tummies. If you're only coming for the food and don't plan to hike, that's okay too. Bring along a book, a deck of cards or a board game to keep yourself occupied until the hikers return. We'll finish our activities in plenty of time for sports fans to get home to the Super Bowl. The park entrance is off Snyder Rd. north of Wolf Creek Rd. For more info call Sandy Todd at 698-5046.

Membership Meeting, Wednesday, February 5

Allen Johnson, local world adventurer will present a program about his 500-mile, 16-day canoe trip with his grandson, Paul, down the Wabash River. The talk will begin at 7:00 p.m. preceded by the business meeting at 6:30 p.m. Come at 6:00 p.m. for socializing and trip planning. The meeting will be at Wegerzyn Garden Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton.

Slate of Officers Announced for February 5 Election

Two members have stepped up to fill positions on the MVOC board this year. Jim Nies has agreed to run for newsletter editor. Jim was the advisor for a high school year book for many years, has done reporting for the *Dayton Daily News*, and has newsletter editing experience. Andy Niekamp is running for the webmaster position. He has much experience designing websites and has already helped our current webmaster, Shari Christy, update the MVOC website. At the February 5 meeting, just prior to the election, there will be an opportunity to volunteer yourself or nominate others for any of the board positions. The current slate of officers are listed below.

President	Sandy Todd
Vice President	Gary Mount
Secretary/Treasurer	Dale Bockhorst
Programs Director	Dwight Gehring
Newsletter/Publicity	Jim Nies
Activities	Donna Gehring
Webmaster	Andy Niekamp

Board Meeting, Thursday, February 7

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

Volunteers Needed for Adventure Summitt, WSU, Fri.- Sun., Feb. 8-10

Don't miss the 2008 Adventure Summit celebrating the spirit of outdoor adventure through human powered endeavors. This three-day event offers exhibits, vendors, speakers, an adventure film series, networking, activities, contests and

prizes. MVOC will again have a booth to advertise our activities on Saturday 10:00-6:00 and Sunday 11:00-5:00. Volunteers are needed to fill approximately 2-hour time slots on those days. You'll want to stay longer to hear the great adventure stories, see all the gear and talk to other outdoor lovers. Contact Gary Mount 367-6702, glmount@yahoo.com or Lindy McDonough at 278-1493, lindymcd46@aol.com for more information or to sign up. Check out the schedule of Adventure Summit activities at www.theadventuresummit.com.

MVOC member Andy Niekamp will be presenting his program "Lessons Learned Along the Appalachian Trail" at the summit on Sunday, February 10 at 12:15 p.m.

Michigan Cross Country Ski Trip, February 9-15

If you have a last minute opening in your calendar, there may be last minute cancellations for this event and you could still go along. The weekend begins in Sault Ste. Marie trying out some night cross country skiing (motel accommodations). On Monday, on to Paradise for snowshoeing and cross country skiing near Paradise, MI (cabin accommodations). Cross country ski and snowshoe rental can be arranged. To check on availability or for more information look up Paradise on www.exploringthenorth.com/Paradise or Harmonsbirchwoodresort.com or just call David or Virginia Wood, 937-426-9875.

Skunk Cabbage Hike

Sunday, February 24, 2:00 p.m.

Glen Helen Nature Preserve.

Come to Yellow Springs and help welcome the first wildflower of the 2008 spring season. On our wildflower excursion last year the trail we took into the Glen was so icy we would have benefited by wearing crampons over our boots like the climbers on Everest. This time we will take a different trail if the trail is bad. The weather doesn't seem to matter to the skunk cabbage. This wildflower generates enough heat to burn its way through the ice and snow. Please let me know if you plan to attend. Contact person: Donna Gehring 937-836-8515 or 371-8511 or dgehring@worldnet.att.net.

Trip Reports

December Holiday Light Hike

by Donna Gehring

This outing, that was originally scheduled for Dec. 15, was cancelled because of very bad road and weather conditions. Dwight and I called everyone who had signed up for the original event and gave them a choice of two more dates. The democratic choice was Sat., Dec. 29. I emailed the general membership about the change. As a result, there were 37 people scheduled to attend the hike. I counted 25 people in the group picture. Counting the photographer and the little girl riding on her father's back the total came to 27 people attending the hike. The weather was cold. The trails were not too icy or muddy. We hiked the Stage Coach trail all the way to Clifton Mill. We arrived a little early, but we were there when the holiday lights were turned on. Some people left the group and went on to other interests, but 18 people met at Young's Jersey Dairy afterwards for dinner. It was a wonderful winter experience.

Other

Location Needed for December 2 Holiday Dinner and Auction

Wegerzyn Garden Center will not be available for our annual holiday dinner in 2008 because they will be hosting a Smithsonian exhibition in the room where we meet. We need a place with a kitchen, parking and dining room. If you have a suggestion, please contact Sandy Todd at 698-5046 soon. It may seem early, but banquet rooms are reserved early for holiday events.

Coming Up

- Feb. 3..... 4th annual Chili Cook-Off and Hike at Sycamore State Park.
- Feb. 5 MVOC meeting and elections
- Feb. 7 MVOC board meeting, Marion's Pizza
- Feb. 8-10... Miami Valley Adventure Summit, WSU
- Feb. 9-15... Michigan Cross Country Ski Trip
- Feb. 16..... Hueston Woods Hike, leader needed
- Feb. 16 MVOC newsletter deadline
- Feb. 23..... Caesar Creek Hike, leader needed
- Feb. 24..... Glen Helen Skunk Cabbage Hike
- Mar. 2..... Bruckner Skunk Cabbage Hike

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:	Sandy Todd	698-5046	saza3@hotmail.com
Vice President:	Gary Mount	367-6702	glmount@yahoo.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Dale Bockhorst	433-5533	dalebockhorst@yahoo.com
Programs Director:	Dwight Gehring	836-8515	dgehring@worldnet.att.net
Newsletter/Publicity:	Lindy McDonough	278-1493	lindymcd46@aol.com
Activities:	Donna Gehring	836-8515	dgehring@worldnet.att.net
Webmaster:	Shari Christy	879-7241	mac.secretary@sbcglobal.net

Miami Valley Outdoor Club

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