



Miami Valley Outdoor Club

November, 2008

November 4 Meeting:

November Meeting Presentation: Canoeing the Boundary Waters

Join us Tuesday night, November 4, at Gander Mountain in Huber Heights for Nat Davis' presentation on his three canoe trips through the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in north east Minnesota. Nat took his scout troop there in 1999 and 2003 and then returned "for fun" in 2004. On the second day of his '99 trip, he and his crew survived the "storm of the millennium" that wiped out 300-500,000 acres of forest in the BWCAW! Nat will talk about his trips, outfitting for your wilderness canoe expedition, and the ins and outs of the BW-CAW.

Join us at 6:00 for socializing and trip planning, followed at 6:30 by the business meeting and at 7:00 for the featured presentation. The meeting will be held in the meeting room at Gander Mountain, 8001 Old Troy Pike, Huber Heights, OH 45424, Dayton. **Note: the December meeting locations is also changed. December will be held at Carriage Trace and feature the annual Christmas dinner**

Directions to Gander Mountain: Old Troy Pike north to the shopping center north of I-70, turn left into the center, then bear left, and go around past the main part of the center. Gander Mountain is behind the center, next to I-70.

Upcoming MVOC Activities

November 14 and 15

Camping at Shawnee State Park_{By}

Connie Mulder Roberts

Car camping at Shawnee State Park the nights of Friday November 14th and Saturday November 15th. People may day hike as they choose (there is a nice eight mile loop plus other possibilities for shorter hikes). Food is on your own with optional Saturday night potluck and boiling water in mornings. Will have some firewood, water is available but must be carried. An electrical site(s) possible if people are interested. Park has hot showers. There will be no charge to participants. I will be setting up tents and stoves the evening of November 13th, Thursday night and posting location of campsite at front office/store.

People interested or wanting more information can contact Connie Mulder Roberts at cmulder@jadeinc.com, cell phone 614-937-5558.

Cross Country Ski Trips for 2009

The winter season is fast approaching. We are saving the dates of Jan 9-11(12) and Jan (16)17-19 as possible weekend trips. Our long trip is scheduled for February. Hope you can join us. David and Virginia Wood

Weekend trips:

On Wednesday/Thursday we decide where to go within a 6 hour drive of Dayton if there is snow. Favorite spots are the metro and county park systems around Detroit and Cleveland. Motel accommodations. Ski and snowshoe rentals available.

Midweek trip: Sunday-Saturday February (7) 8-13 (14)(15).

We are leaving the location open this year. We will go within a 10-12 hour driving time to where ever the snow is. Use motel accommodations. Cabin/home accommodations if available. Possibilities are Somerset area (Laural Highlands) in PA or Grayling and points north in MI. Ski and snowshoe rental dependent upon location.

September /October 2008 Trip Reports

Sept. 20-21

Backpacking the Twin Valley Trail

By Gary Mount

The TVT Backpack Trail is the local backpack trail developed by the Five Rivers Metroparks. They connected the Germantown Loop with Twin Creek Loop via bike trail, road, and private property. The total loop is approximately 29 miles. The beauty of the TVT is that one can tailor a hike to his or her own liking. And that is what we did. Some hiked the Germantown Loop in the morning then went on to Twin Creek to hike in to the campsite in the afternoon. The connector road/trail was closed due to storm damage. This group consisted of Bob Kelly, Sharon Mullins, Ella Himes, and Gary Mount.

Another group chose to do the Twin Creek Loop starting from the Eby Road parking lot. This group consisted of Dave and Sandy Todd, Dara Zafran, and Jim Nies. And then there was Andy Neikamp who chose to walk from his home in Kettering by way of Miamisburg-Franklin-Carlisle which amounted to about 18 miles with a full pack. The campsite was spacious, plenty of picnic tables, and firewood provided by the Park. What more could you ask for? How about 100 Boy Scouts? From the campsite you wouldn't know they were there. The group camp area was once part of a Boy Scout campground and their agreement with MetroParks includes camping privileges.

Sunday morning we had a leisurely breakfast and then hiked out en masse. Some headed home and a few went into Germantown for the Pretzel Festival. All in all it was a good weekend. If you check out the pictures posted by Andy Neikamp (<http://www.mvoc.net/photos/tvt092008/>) you will see Dara celebrating her birthday which was Sunday.

And one last thing. Once upon a time, nearby Carlisle was a railroad town.....and the trains still go through there. Part of Sunday morning's conversation included a count of how many times the trains--which blast their horns at each intersection in town--woke us up. The trains were an added feature we didn't expect.

Thanks to all for coming out!

Backpacking Wayne National Forest near Marietta

By Donna Gehring

The hike did not go as planned. Initially 8 backpackers were planning to attend, 5 people on the short trail and 3 on the long trail. At the last

minute all of the long trail backpackers couldn't make it. Consequently, we changed our plans. Instead of traveling to a nearby campground Friday night Dwight and I drove to the trailhead from Englewood, Ohio on Saturday morning. We expected to meet up with Ella and Gary and Dara who would be following us two hours later.

Dwight and I scouted out Leith Run Campground for future use and then went on to drop water at the Great Cave. We tried to follow the directions we got from Naturalbornhikers.com but had to find a different way. We turned in at the sign for the North Country Trail and soon figured out which gravel road led to the trail. When we finally found the Great Cave and Natural Bridge, we decided that we liked the camping area down below the Natural Bridge better, even though it would be difficult to get to.

When we drove back towards New Metamoras on 260 to turn off onto County Nine Rd. and go to the easternmost trailhead where we planned to start our hike, the maps and the roads didn't match. We realized the people who would be following us would have no idea where to go or what to do even if we ventured down Jackson Run Rd and found the trailhead. Since we were out of telephone range, we figured that our last opportunity to meet up with them was to go back to the water drop and wait for them. By this time it was too late in the day to try to find a trailhead in the mysterious land of Archers Fork and get to the place where our water was.

We went back to the NC trail sign and in 5 minutes Ella and Gary showed up minus Dara. We quickly made a group decision to hike in the Natural Bridge camp site location and set up camp and do some day hiking. So, we ate our lunch and hiked to our evening's camp. Later, We hiked to Irish Run Rd. (clockwise) and then to the road crossing the trail to the south. We enjoyed our campsite tremendously. At night there was a full moon and a clear sky. We heard owls after dinner. We heard two owls who visited our campsite in the middle of the night. There was also a lone single howl of some sort. We felt safe and relaxed.

Sunday we hiked the Covered Bridge Trail (5 miles) and went home. It was a wonderful weekend. Gary said that the long trail hikers would have enjoyed the rugged trails. We saw no significant wind damage anywhere that we hiked.

In spite of the problems it was a beautiful weather weekend. We had a good time. This is worth trying again. However, I am going to need a more accurate map of the surrounding township roads.

Other Activities: What do do when there's nothing to do

State Park events

Not much going on in the state parks this month.

November 11, **Hueston Woods** SP Veterans Day Celebrations including a parade and cookout. 513-523-6347

November 15 **Caesers Creek** SP Winter Wonders 1PM - 2:30PM pot pouri of cold weather fun. pre registration \$5. 513-897-2437.

You can check the State Parks website yourself.

[Http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/explore/calendar/10octevents/tabid/18843/default.aspx](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/explore/calendar/10octevents/tabid/18843/default.aspx) (I hope I got that right!)

Other Outdoor Action

MetroParks Activities

Intro to Rock Climbing \$30.00 fee

Sat Nov. 8 and Sat. Nov. 22

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Earn your belay certification while receiving an introduction to rock climbing. Class will cover the basics of belaying, harness fitting, knot tying, rope handling, climbing safety and communication. For more information or to register, please call Five Rivers Outdoors at (937) 277-4374. You must be registered by the Monday prior to the class scheduled.

Intro to Rapelling \$30.00 fee

Sat. Nov. 8 and Sat. Nov. 22 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Learn to rappel! This class will cover the basics of rappelling, rope handling, communica-

tion and safety. Also learn how to belay a rappel. Prerequisite: Participants must be belay certified at Urban Krag within the last 2 years or have completed 1 or more of the introductory courses. To register call (937) 277-4374. Register by the Monday prior to program.

Backcountry Gourmet Cooking

Wed Nov. 12 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Learn to cook in the backcountry like you do in your kitchen. Discover a variety of cooking methods that include more elaborate gourmet meals using foods common at your local grocery. Get tips on filling foods such as pizza, fajitas, steamed peppers, spaghetti and of course, deserts, using lightweight backpacking stoves. Come prepared to cook and eat some backcountry gourmet meals. Ingredients provided. Bring a spork or foon. Register by calling 937-277-4374

Backpacking Trail Workdays Twin Valley Trail

Wed, Nov. 19, 5:30 pm- 8:00 pm and Sat, Nov. 22, 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Reservations requested and walk-ins welcome, so please call 937-277-4374 to register. Come out and help maintain the Twin Valley Backpacking Trail. No experience is necessary. Bring your energy and work gloves; tools and instruction provided.

Autumn Trail Trekkers

Every Saturday in November. See the FiveRivers Metroparks website for details.

Sunday Nov. 23 Newsletter Deadline

Trip Suggestions

For an upcoming article (Feb. or March) I'd like to feature trips members took in 2008. The idea is to provide hints and suggestions from our members about where to go in the NEXT travel season.

Contact: Jim Nies....jnies@aol.com

Elections are coming in February so it's time to think about club leadership. Would you like to take a turn? Know someone who would? Sandy Todd has already indicated her travel plans won't let her be president next year. Other officers would like a chance to relax.

Board Meeting, Thursday, November 13

This month's board meeting will be at Marion's Piazza, 3434 N. Dixie Dr., at 6:00 p.m. All club members are welcome.

The December meeting will be the Christmas Dinner to be held at Carriage Trace Community Center. Directions to come next month. The club will provide meat and drinks. Members are asked to bring a carryin dish.

Adventure Summit - February 20-21, 2009

Miami Valley Outdoor Club
P.O. Box 292571
Dayton, OH 45429
www.miamivalleyoutdoorclub.org

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. **When renewing, please be sure to include your email address, even if it hasn't changed from last year.**

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:	Jim Nies	275-9614	jnies@aol.com
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