



# Miami Valley Outdoor Club

March 3 Meeting:

March, 2009

## News from the bicycling world

Brian Verbur of Chain Reaction Bicycle shop in Englewood will be our speaker at the March membership meeting. Verbur, whose shop opened just July 1 of '08 is a descendant of the original Whitman bicycle family. According to an article on the Englewood Independent's website, he says, "We will repair any bicycle, no matter where it was purchased,"

The talk will begin at 7:00 P.M., preceded by the business meeting at 6:30 P.M. Come at 6:00 for socializing and trip planning. The meeting will be at Wegerzyn Garden Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton. New board members will also be introduced.

## New Board Elected

At the MVOC meeting, February 3, President Sandy Todd stepped down and Lindy McDonough was elected to fill her shoes. Also Kathy Hemmerick was elected as new Activities Director, taking over for Donna Gehring. The remaining board members were re-elected -- Vice President: Gary Mount, Secretary/ Treasurer: Dale Bockhorst, Programs Director: Dwight Gehring, Newsletter Editor: Jim Nies and Webmaster: Andy Niekamp.

An especially big THANK YOU goes to Sandy and Donna for all their hard work this past year, running meetings, picnics, a holiday dinner and auction, and a super chili cookoff, and keeping our calendar filled with lots of outdoor activities all year. Thanks also go to all the board members for keeping the club running smoothly and keeping us all informed.

## Upcoming MVOC Activities

### Skunk Cabbage Hike

at Bruknerns Nature Center  
March 8, 2009 2:00-4:00PM

This is your second chance this spring to spot the skunk cabbage. (The first was the last day of February.) We will meet at Bruckner Nature Center at 2 PM on March 8. Wear appropriate shoes (there may be mud). For directions to meeting spot contact Sandy Todd 937-698-5046.

### **DON'T GET DELETED!**

It's time to renew MVOC memberships. Don't delay -- so you won't be taken off the emailing and newsletter lists. You could miss news and important announcements about exciting upcoming outdoor activities. Although we have changed over to email newsletters, the membership dues help pay for the July picnic, December Dinner & Auction, website fees, Wegerzyn rental fees, AV equipment, booth rental, and incidental costs that come up throughout the year.

We will still be sending a few paper newsletters via the US postal service to those members who don't have access to email.

### Backpacking

at Marietta Ohio  
March 14-15, 2009

We will return to the Marietta, Ohio area where the Ohio view Trail and the North country trail and some Wayne National Forest trails intersect. Contact person: Donna Gehring 836-8515 or [dgehring@worldnet.att.net](mailto:dgehring@worldnet.att.net). Even if you don't backpack, some members are planning to spend the weekend camping in the area.

## Trip Reports

### February Ski Trip to Michigan

We started out a day earlier than planned to catch the snow before it melted. It was a good plan. Sunday we got to the Cross Country Ski Headquarters at Higgins Lake where we were able to ski all the trails. Then from our comfy base in Grayling at Borchers's B&B canoe rental, we skied Hartwick Pines SP known for its 300 year old white pines and later the Mason Track Pathway along the Au Sable River.

With temperatures warming we headed north to Gaylord and skied along a lovely stream with signs of beaver activity at the Michaywe Resort complex as well as at Aspen Park where we saw elk in the distance. Both of these areas are surrounded by the city! Further north we stayed at Petoskey in a motel with a view of Little Traverse Bay. Wednesday with temperatures in the 50's we did a short hike in Harbor Springs, found the springs, and also some woodpeckers. The afternoon found us shopping for Petoskey stones and gently used winter equipment and apparel.

Cooler temperatures on Thursday allowed us to ski in a nature preserve near Good Hart. The snow was wet and coming down furiously. The snow covered everything including us. Shrouded in fog and snow we could only marvel at the beauty and quiet. Less than two miles away, we found out later, there was no snow fall! For a future trip to the Petoskey area we recommend the Wildwood Pathway. We tried to ski it, but there was not enough new snow.

So reluctantly Friday we headed south and stopped at the Shingle Mill Pathway along the Pigeon River. The pathway was icy and not the best for either skis or snowshoes. We ended the day with a hike along the southern end of the Mason Track looking for a bald eagle that had been spotted there. We skied in condition from good snow to icy (a.k.a skating with poles) to slushy, but think we did quite well for a week when the Midwest was setting record warm temperatures. We drove home with it snowing and temperatures dropping.

Jeanne Boeke, David and Virginia Wood

### Chili Cookoff

By Sandy Todd

Once again we had a great turn out for the 4th annual chili cook-off on Super Bowl Sunday. This year we had a warm, sunny day, with wet snow on the ground which made for a messy hike through the woods. A couple of hikers wore their snow shoes for better traction.

After the grueling walk, the hikers faced the arduous task of sampling 8 pots of chili. Finally, the sampling was completed and the decision was made:

Hottest chili-Kathy Hemmerick  
Most unusual chili-Chris Ross  
Best chili-Sandy Todd.

Thanks for all the yummy desserts and snacks that rounded out our chili feast.

### A Great Time at the Adventure Summit

February 20 & 21

MVOC members enjoyed the sights and sounds of the 4th annual Adventure Summit at Wright State University this year. Those who attended got to know even more about the outdoor activities in the Miami Valley area and beyond, as well each other, as we shared outdoor plans and memories while meeting and greeting lots and lots of passers-by. Ella Himes, Chris Ross, Gary Smith, Jenny McConnell, Dale Bockhorst, Jim Nies, Mike Nelson and Lindy McDonough worked at the MVOC booth. At least two members, Gary Mount and Sharon Mullins, were official Metro Parks volunteers. Other members stopped by the booth including Julie Webb and Kathy Hemmerick, phantom member Walt Fenstermacher, former members and potential members. One individual and one family joined our club during the event and many people we talked to, we hope will turn up at one of our meetings and join us in the out-of-doors.

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## Adventure Summit

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One highlight of the event was the inspiring special guest appearance of explorer Ann Bancroft, the first woman to trek to the North Pole. Some years later she and another woman spent 97 days slogging 1200 miles across Antarctica. Bancroft spoke to a standing-room-only crowd of hundreds and urged onlookers to follow their dreams, whatever are, and enjoy and care for the natural wonders of our earth.

### Board Meeting, Thursday, March 12

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.

## Coming Up

### Metroparks events:

Besides the usual Metroparks activities like Hike for the Health of it, Intro to Climbing, Trail Trekker, and Bike for the Health of It, you may find the following interesting.

### Wilderness First Aid

Mar. 7-Mar. 8 at Possum Creek Metropark Education Center

Cost \$160, Registration required

Course teaches what to do with a medical emergency when help is miles away. Participants will earn a wilderness first aid certificate valid for three years.

### Volunteer: MOMBA Trail Work Days

Mar. 9, Mar. 21 Contact 277-4374 for more information and to register

### TRY MOUNTAIN BIKING

Sat. Apr. 4, 1:00-5:00 PM

Huffman MetroPark MoMBA, 4485 Union Rd.

Contact 277-4374 for more information and to register

Bikes and helmets(required) provided on first come, first served basis. Lindy McDonough has proposed making this a club outing. More info at the next club meetings.

### I'm Beginning to see the Light

Mar. 7, 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Wegerzyn Gardens Auditorium

Learn how your camera evaluates light and dark and how you can overrule the camera.

## New Local Website

A new website [www.go4theoutdoors.com](http://www.go4theoutdoors.com) has been created by six local outdoor shops. The site, linked both from and to the club website, features an extensive outdoor activity calendar (MVOC activities are listed) and links to local and national outdoor clubs. For the complete story, check out Ken McCall's Feb. 6, 2008 DDN story online entitled "GET OUT! Local companies join to create website for outdoor recreation"

The six local retailers are: • Great Miami Outfitters, K&G Bike Center: bicycling, Up and Running, Urban Krag, Valleywood Ski and Snowboard Shop, Whitewater Warehouse.

New Feature:

## Want ads column

Beginning next issue, the MVOC newsletter will provide space for members to advertise their used outdoor gear for sale or trade.

If you wish to participate, please submit your info--item description, price and contact info--to the editor by the April newsletter deadline (March. 22, 2009).

In addition, members may use this section, or the MVOC mailing list ([members@MVOC.net](mailto:members@MVOC.net)), to search for equipment to borrow or try out.

## Red Cross also offers Wilderness First Aid Course

From member Andy Niekamp comes the following news.

The Dayton Area Red Cross is sponsoring a Wilderness First Aid course. The cost is \$60 which is much cheaper than what other organizations are charging for the same training. The course description is:

Wilderness First Aid Basics is a 16-hour program that is designed for those who work, live, or play in remote areas such as rural areas, wilderness and back-country environments. This course contains the module "When Help is Delayed" and provides an excellent program for boaters, camp workers, scouts, hikers and other outdoor sports enthusiasts. Certificates: Wilderness First Aid and When Help is Delayed

The course is being offered twice: April 3-4 and May 29-30. It is being held at Camp Birch Boy Scout camp near Yellow Springs. For more information and to enroll online visit: [www.dac.redcross.org](http://www.dac.redcross.org)

While you're at the website, check out the other first aid offerings by the Red Cross.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					Feb. 28	1
2	3 Meeting at Wegerzyn	4	5	6	7 Wilderness First Aid See...Light	8 Wilderness First Aid Cabbage hike
9	10	11	12	13	14 Backpacking	15 Backpacking
16	17	18	19	20 Newsletter deadline	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

## 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:	Lindy McDonough	698-5046	<a href="mailto:lindymcd46@aol.com">lindymcd46@aol.com</a>
Vice President:	Gary Mount	367-6702	<a href="mailto:glmount@yahoo.com">glmount@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary/Treasurer:	Dale Bockhorst	433-5533	<a href="mailto:dalebockhorst@yahoo.com">dalebockhorst@yahoo.com</a>
Programs Director:	Dwight Gehring	836-8515	<a href="mailto:dgehring@worldnet.att.net">dgehring@worldnet.att.net</a>
Newsletter/Publicity:	Jim Nies	275-9614	<a href="mailto:jnies@aol.com">jnies@aol.com</a>
Activities:	Kathy Hemmerick	836-8515	<a href="mailto:hemmerkm@woh.rr.com">hemmerkm@woh.rr.com</a>
Webmaster:	Andy Niekamp	296-0245	<a href="mailto:andyniekamp@gmail.com">andyniekamp@gmail.com</a>