



Miami Valley Outdoor Club

June 2 Meeting:

June, 2009

June meeting features the “Walk with the Ancients” project

The Great Hopewell Road is believed by many to be a walled road 200 feet wide and 60 miles long stretching between the Octagon and Circle earthworks at Newark and Chillicothe, Ohio and constructed by the Hopewell Indians around 2000 years ago. Jeremiah Stager will describe plans for a modern day pilgrimage this October 12 - 15 over public roads between the two sites. Approximately 45 miles will be on foot, with short connecting bus rides each day. Many of the participants will use camping facilities along the way.

The walk will begin at Mound City Group in Chillicothe and terminate at Geller Park in Newark. Transportation, water, and camp fare will be provided and camping gear will be transported from one campsite to the next. Interested individuals are invited to join the entire five-day trek or walk along for shorter distances. The organizers of this event plan to include professionals in the field of anthropology and archeology as well as other interested people. On the final day many more will join the walk for the final mile and a half to the Newark Octagon. The five-day pilgrimage may draw more than one hundred people and will set the stage for the annual Newark Earthworks Day (NED) on October 17. NED presenters have been invited from across the U.S. and around the world. NED is free and open to the public. Hopefully, Mr. Stager will be able to recruit some Miami Valley Outdoor Club members to come along.

Join us at 6:00 P.M. for socializing and trip planning, followed by the business meeting at 6:30 P.M. and the talk at 7:00. The meeting will be at **Wegerzyn Garden Center**, 1301 East Siebenthaler, Dayton.

Upcoming MVOC Activities

The Wilds & Blue Rock State Park
Animal Safari & Car Camping
Fri. - Sun., June 12, 13 & 14

See live rhinos, giraffes, camels and more on this fun family adventure to Muskingum County. We'll camp at Blue Rock State Park and take advantage of its hiking trails, swimming beach, and boating. Saturday we'll drive over to the Wilds, a 10,000 acre wildlife conservation facility and take a safari tour to see lots of exotic animals up close. Nearby we'll take a walk on their Butterfly trail and anyone interested can try out some nearby mountain biking trails or watch birds from a special bird observation deck. Safari prices are Adults: \$18, Seniors \$17, Ages 4-12 \$13 and children under three free. For more information check these websites: www.thewilds.org and <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/bluerock/tabid/715/Default.aspx>

[dnr.state.oh.us/parks/bluerock/tabid/715/Default.aspx](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/bluerock/tabid/715/Default.aspx)
Contact person: Lindy McDonough, 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com. **Advance registration required by June 9.** MVOC waiver required for non club members.

History of the Great Miami River Canoe Trip
Saturday June 20, 2009 9:00 a.m. Free
Registration is required Space is limited.

Trip departs from Treasure Island Boathouse. Guides will take you on a spell-binding tour of the Great Miami River. Approximate time of the tour is three hours. To register please call the Miami County Park District's program office at 335-9730 ext. 115.

More MVOC Trips

Sailboarding Tuesday June 23

Eastwood Metropark 4:30pm to 8:30 pm

Join us for a final late afternoon of sailing at Eastwood Metropark. Instruction provided. All you need is a suit, towel and water shoes. Someone goes for fried chicken around 5:30. At the end of the evening, the boards will travel home with their new owners. Do let us know you plan to come in that we will not have the trip if the weather is threatening. For reservations call (937-426-9875) or e-mail David or Virginia Wood dvwood@donet.com.

Tar Hollow Car Camping Fri-Sun June 26-28

Sycamore Shelter Tar Hollow State Park

This is a good trip for children. We have reserved the Sycamore Shelter which is close to the out houses, water, playground, store, miniature golf, ping pong, nature center, and the beach. Not too far from the showers, also! We will not be as secluded as last year, but the site does have electrical hook up for two campers. Canoes or paddle boats can be rented. The lake even has fish. We caught one last year! There are up to 21 miles of trails in the area. Tar Hollow is nestled in the hills northeast of Chillicothe, OH. Take SR 35 east to SR50. Continue east to Londonderry. Go north on SR327 to the park entrance. The shelter is just past the general store on your left. Arrive anytime after 10 am on Friday. Estimated cost is \$10 per person. For information and reservation call (937-426-9875) or e-mail David or Virginia Wood at dvwood@donet.com.

Trip Reports

Red River Gorge Backpacking, April 24-26

By Jennifer McConnell

Flowering dogwood and redbud trees lined the drive to Red River Gorge. 5 MVOC members and 2 guests set out to view Grays Arch on the warm April day. The hike along Rough Trail rewarded all with wildflowers and an occasional cool shower dripping from limestone edge. Camp was pitched and as the embers faded, all were lulled through the night by the sound of a nearby brook.

Day 2 moved along Sheltowee Trace. Warm breezes blew as the group trekked hillsides, then stopped to kick off boots to wade in a stream. Plans

changed as the trail ahead was closed due to wildfire. But a dip in Red River eased the news, as did warm food and conversation. Later, a birthday celebration for Dwight Gerhing complete with cake and candles packed-in by Donna. Frogs serenaded as campers stargazed through open tents.

Morning fog along the river with sun through the trees, made for great pictures after breakfast. Crossing the suspension bridge, then a short hike to where a car had been strategically parked, "just in case" a problem arose, brought Day 3 of the adventure to a close. Thanks to all for a great weekend!

Lake Vesuvius Recreational Area Camp-out May 23, 2009

Seven people and 3 dogs signed up for the camp-out in addition to Dwight and myself. We had reserved the group campsite known as Two Points Right. David, Virginia, Mark and Bianca Wood arrived shortly after noon. Lindy was the first to arrive. The Mulders from Columbus with their three dogs never made it. (Signage and directions were a challenge.) We enjoyed the beach and kayaking on the lake for the afternoon. Surprisingly the lake has mountain laurel in bloom along its shores. There was a beaver dam up stream and arrow leaf growing all around the edge of the lake. It was lovely.

Life around camp after dinner included: a Bocce Ball game and tales read aloud out of the Darwin Award Book. After dark we were entertained by the trash can dance of the raccoons with glowing eyes, and tax record burnings by the Woods.

Next morning the plan was for an 8 mile hike around the lake beginning and ending at the beach

with a cooling off swim. The road to the beach was closed, not to open until 10am. So, plan B was a hike from the canoe concession area to the Rock House and beyond to Oak Hill campground circling around it and back. The first part of the trail was the loveliest handicap accessible trail that I have ever seen. It was accessible by wheel chair either personally motivated or motorized all the way to the edge of the Rock House. There were resting benches every 200 linear feet.

After scrutinizing, exploring and documenting pictorially the Rock House, we took the goat trail upwards to the rest of the trail. I believe the bench rests were every 200 vertical feet. One bench had a huge tree lying accross it (2 feet in diameter). After arriving back at the canoe concession we parted company. The Woods spent a second night at camp. The rest of us went home. It was altogether a lovely weekend.

Fort Hill day hike May 16, 2009.

By Donna Gehring

There was a threat of rain in the forecast. And as I understand it there was rain and overcast clouds in Dayton. But, at Fort Hill we had wonderful hiking weather. There was a few minutes of sprinkles, but nothing significant. We did not need our rain gear. There were six of us. Aside from Dwight and myself there was Ned and Marion Shepherd and Mike Nelson and Lindy McDonough. None of the four were familiar with the trail. We met at Noonish at the parking lot and inspected the trail sign. A decision was made to hike up the easier side of the Hill. As it turned out, this was a good decision because the lovely cliff trail would probably have been rather hazardous at places where the trail was undercut by the stream and is difficult enough to traverse even when it is dry. So our hike was over at 1:30. Since there were only six of us the charcoal grilling idea seemed to be too time consuming. So, I brought out my camp stove and my new grill for two burners and cooked up the meat products rather quickly.

So, we ate our picnic lunch and made a plan B about what to do with the rest of the afternoon. I suggested that we make the trip to the East side of Bainbridge to see Copperas Mountain and on the way stop at the Amish store and the Amish bakery. Everyone was in agreement about this plan. So, we zipped north on SR41 past many a farm house sporting lightning rods and completely power line free (Amish homes). Soon we were at the Amish version of a department store. The goods ranged from Amish built furniture to a multitude of suspenders (an accessory designed to hold up one's breeches), something some of our young people could use, to bulk foods and wooden toys and just a whole lot of products that you would never find at Walmart.

After a short stop at the bakery across the street and North and a wrong turn in the hinterlands we arrived at the spot where Copperas Mountain, eroded and exposed to the elements comes together with Paint Creek and a township road. We mused

Board Meeting, Thursday, June 11

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.

A reminder to trip leaders: If your trip includes non-members, they need to sign a trip waiver form. Contact Lindy McDonough (937-278-1493 or Lindy-mcd46@aol.com) for more details.

at it and wondered what natural elements created such strange rock in Ohio. After some picture taking we were on our way. Ned and Marion went back to Dayton. Mike and Lindy followed us to the location of Seip Mound which added to the theme of the day; Ancient Native American earthworks. At about 5ish we headed back to Dayton. Oh yeah, there was a turtle rescue as well.

What Else We've Been Up To

MVOCer Lindy McDonough participated in the Bike to Work Day, May 15, sponsored by the Five Rivers Metro Parks. She left home about 6:30 a.m., rode through Island Park and along the Stillwater River for an early morning view of the huge arching sprays of the river fountain. She reached 2nd Street Market by 7:00 for a pancake the size of a dinner plate, sausage, coffee, juice and fruit. Several hundred cyclists turned out and Lindy unexpectedly dined with a neighbor, a former coworker, and two acquaintances from Aullwood Nature Center. Only one other former MVOCer registered for the Team Challenge, so of course, the Outdoor Club didn't win any prizes, but it was a great time for all who attended.

Free MVOC Emblem Stickers for Members

As you know, for budget reasons, MVOC is now transmitting most of our monthly newsletter via email to members with computers. But the MVOC board wanted our many loyal members to get something tangible besides tubular meat products and burgers for your annual dues. Remember those beautiful, multicolor triangular MVOC stickers that the club has sold in the past? Now, if you are a 2009 member, you will get one free! Don't miss this great chance to publicize an organization you love by displaying your symbol of membership on your car window or bumper, boat, brief case, office cubicle, or gym locker. Come to the June 2 membership meeting at Wegerzyn Garden Center to pick yours up.

For Sale - Wanted to Buy, Borrow, or Rent

Inline Skates We have two pairs of inline skates which are in good condition. Men size 12 and women size 10. Make an offer. We will have the skates at the June meeting. David and Virginia Wood dvwood@donet.com

Lots and Lots to do outside in June

You can tell it's summer. The number of activities sponsored by Five Rivers Metroparks and other organizations has exploded. The following are just a few of things you can find to do around here.

See www.metroparks.org for further info on the following activities.

Bike for the Health of It

Every Saturday, 9 to 11, various bikepaths around the area.

Hike for the Health of It

Every Saturday 2-3:30 Trails at various metroparks in the area.

Trail Building

Twin Valley Trail

MoMB Trail at Huffman Metropark

Paddling

Every Wednesday Whitewater Warehouse on Troy Street

Paddle the Mad River from Eastwood Park to downtown. Shuttles leave approximately 5:30 and 6:15.

Cost: \$5.00 for the shuttle, \$15 for shuttle and equipment.

Paddle in the Park

Saturday June 6 10:00AM - 4:00PM Eastwood Lake - Eastwood MetroPark

Grab your friends and visit Eastwood MetroPark for the 10th annual Paddle in the Park. Paddle

A note about dogs and other such trip partners:

The question about club policy regarding pets on trips came up and, after some discussion, the board decided that whether or not dogs or other pets are allowed on club-sponsored trips is entirely up to the trip leader.

So, if you're thinking of bringing Fido with you to the next MVOC backpacking trip, be sure to check with the trip leader when you make your reservations.

In the works

Trips/Activities in the coming month of July and beyond

Club Picnic and monthly Meeting

July 7

Indian Ripple Park, Kettering

You bring yourself and a covered dish to share.

Club provides meat, drinks, and ice.

Sometime this summer

Camp Kern Zip Line

The website (<http://www.ozonezips.org/>) is

in the Park is a partnership between Five Rivers MetroParks, Whitewater Warehouse, Dayton Canoe Club and the Miami Conservancy District. This event is free and will allow the public to learn everything they ever wanted to know about paddlesports and more. All ages and skill levels are welcome! Chance to meet the best kayak and canoe manufacturers in the industry and try any style of boat for FREE.

Trained instructors will provide American Canoe Association classes in kayaking or canoeing.

Saturday, June 6

Covered Bridge Tour

Dayton Cycling Club

Registration from 7:00 - 8:00 AM. Ride starts at 8:00 AM.

REGISTER ON-SITE. FEE \$5 per person, which pays for the route marking, and a route map. A commemorative ride patch will be available for an additional \$1.

Choice of Routes: 23 miles (2 covered bridges), 45 miles (5 covered bridges), 74 miles (7 covered bridges), 105 miles (10 covered bridges). Rolling to hilly terrain. Route direction arrows are marked (painted on roads) at intersections.

NEW Brookville High School, Brookville, Ohio

For registration and additional information: Visit the Dayton Cycling Club website: www.daytoncyclingclub.org

online and booking reservations. The adventure is scheduled to open June 22. Contact Donna Gehring if you are interested. 937-836-8515

July 11 and August 8

Mad River Float trips

Editor's note: Been outside lately? Find a trip worth braggin' about. MVOC would like to hear about it/put it in the newsletter even if it wasn't a formally organized "club" activity. Perhaps you'll inspire other club members to get off what they sit on. Just email Jim Nies at jnies@aol.com with the particulars.



Red River Gorge Hikers, April 24-26, 2009



Some of the hikers at the Cedar Bog trip in April

Activity Calendar June 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2 Club Meeting 6:30 Walk with the Ancients	3 Mad River Paddle	4	5	6 Paddle in the Park Covered Bridge Tour	7
8	9	10 Mad River Paddle	11 Board Meeting 6:00	12 The Wilds	13 The Wilds	14 The Wilds
15	16	17 Mad River Paddle	18	19	20 Great Miami Canoeing	21 Father's Day
22	23 Sailboarding	24 Mad River Paddle	25	26 Tar Hollow Camping	27 Tar Hollow Campng	28 Tar Hollow Camping
29	30				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.

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	278-1493	lindymcd46@aol.com
Vice President:	Gary Mount	367-6702	glmount@yahoo.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Dale Bockhorst	433-5533	dalebocchorst@yahoo.com
Programs Director:	Dwight Gehring	836-8515	ddgehring60@verizon.net
Newsletter/Publicity:	Jim Nies	275-9614	jnies@aol.com
Activities:	Kathy Hemmerick	698-6492	hemmerkm@woh.rr.com
Webmaster:	Andy Niekamp	296-0245	andyniekamp@gmail.com