



Miami Valley Outdoor Club

December, 2010

Holiday Feast & Benefit Auction

Tuesday, December 7, 2010, 6:00 p.m.



-Holiday Feast and Benefit Auction

Bring your gently worn outdoor gear and related items - skis, rollerblades, backpacks, tents, jackets, books, dried food, stoves, flashlights, lanterns, maps, sunglasses - and your money - to this fun and food-filled annual event, at our regular December meeting.

Get ready for great food, some real bargains and a whole lot of fun!. Join us for the Miami Valley Outdoor Club's annual holiday dinner and auction. Family members and friends are welcome. Thinking of becoming a member? - Come on down!

Set-up begins at 6:00 p.m., dinner will start at 6:30 p.m. and the auction will start around 7:30 p.m. Please bring a covered dish, salad or desert to share, plus table service for yourself. If you have a bright-colored table cloth, bring that too - to add to the festive atmosphere. MVOC will provide honey baked ham, turkey breasts, rolls, and hot and soft drinks.

The entertainment will feature an auction of your donated outdoor gear. The proceeds will be donated to a deserving nature center in the area.

Annual Christmas Light Hike

Saturday, December 18, 2010

Join MVOCers Dwight and Donna Gehring for the Annual Christmas hike from John Bryan State Park, through Clifton Gorge to historic Clifton Mill to see the thousands of holiday lights turned on. We will start at the John Bryan State Park Office parking lot. Please arrive at the parking lot by 3:30.

We will move cars to the parking area near the mill by the Clifton Gorge National Natural Landmark plaque so they will be at the other end of the gorge when we finish. Hike begins promptly at 4:00. Contact: Dwight & Donna Gehring, 836-8515, or talk to Dwight Gehring at the December MVOC dinner at Wegerzyn.

Help Plan a Cross-Country Ski Trip

Anyone interested in cross country skiing for a weekend or week?

In the past the club has traveled north to Michigan & Canada & out west for week long trips & Michigan & Ohio for weekend trips. Let Jeanne Boeke (299-4102) know if

you are interested in skiing. If there is interest we could have a short discussion at the December meeting/potluck.

“Get Out and Go Hike”

Every Tuesday Evening at Taylorsville MetroPark
December 7, 14, 21 & 28

2101 U.S. 40 - East of Taylorsville Dam

Join Sharon Mullins and other MVOC members for this fast-paced 4+ mile hike through hilly wooded terrain. Lasts about an hour. Hike begins promptly at 4:20. Meet at the parking lot near the CCC shelter off Route 40.

The second, slower, hike at approximately 5:30 has been cancelled until February or March because it gets pretty dark by then. Contact Sharon Mullins, 620-0887 or dmullinsvanoh@aol.com

Indoor Rock Climbing

Thursdays 6:30, December 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

Urban Krag Climbing Center, 126

Clay Street, Dayton, www.urbankrag.org. Meet at the viewing platform at 6:30 pm. After 6:30 the person at the desk can point us out in the climbing area. Your first time in to the gym you will need to complete a belay certification which takes about 30 to 45 minutes and is a one-time charge of \$15.00. Everyone 14 or older must complete a belay certification. If you are under the age of 14 you will need someone who is belay certified to belay for you. If you are a minor (under the age of 18) you will need to have a parent or guardian sign a waiver for you. Cost: The total charges for a first time visit will be: Belay certification \$15.00, Daily pass \$12.00, Shoes \$4.00, Harness \$3.00. For more information or to sign up, contact Hank Trimble at hank_trimble@yahoo.com

Wednesdays at Possum Creek

December 1, 8 15, 22 & 29

Join MVOCer Lindy McDonough for a moderately paced 1-1.5 hour hike through fields, forests and moderately rolling hills at Possum Creek MetroPark. We will start promptly at 3:00 p.m. Could be muddy in areas. Enter the park at 4790 Frytown Rd. Follow the park road, turn right into Argonne Forest Parking Lot. Dogs on leash welcome on hiking trails, but not permitted in farm area. Contact Lindy at 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com.

Welcome New MVOC Members

Lucy Kazyak and Sonia Oberlander

Newsletter Deadline - December 26, 2010

Out and About

by Lindy McDonough

I recently heard from long-time member Jim Glidewell about his activities and although we don't see him much these days, he is still keeping busy enjoying the outdoors. This fall he went up to the Upper and Lower Peninsula of Michigan the first two weeks of October to catch the fall colors with the idea of starting north and moving south as the colors changed. Starting out at Tahquamenon Falls in the northeastern section of the UP, he then went on to the Munising area and Pictured Rocks Lakeshore, Marquette with its famous Presque Isle, and then down to the Big Bay De Noc area which lies on Lake Michigan.

At this point the fall colors were starting to run out and Jim headed to the Sleeping Bear Dunes near Traverse City in the Lower Peninsula. He spent one night in a crazy B&B in Northport where they had maybe ten bicycles hanging from trees! He had heard that Ludington was nice so he made a quick visit there before heading home. Ludington is home to Ludington State Park which has three large campgrounds, the tallest lighthouse in Michigan, and

a large lake with small islands with footbridges so you can walk to them.

Unfortunately, Jim was still recovering from knee surgery back in August so was very limited to how much walking he could do, so he tried to limit my hikes to a mile or less. But since this was his third trip to the UP in four years he didn't feel too cheated and was still able to cover a lot of new ground. And unlike the first two trips where it rained almost constantly, this time there was clear blue sky almost every day with only one day of rain!

Through the grapevine I learned that former member Virginia Wood is recovering from a surfing injury in Hawaii where she and Jim have been living. MVOCer Andy Niekamp was written up in the latest *MetroParksParkways* magazine. He will be a featured speaker in the upcoming Adventure Speaker Series sponsored by Wright State University and the MetroParks. On Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., January 12, 2011 he will speak at Wegerzyn Garden Center on "7,200 Miles on the Appalachian Trail." Andy and Yvonne Entingh appear in color on the front of the brand new MetroParks' Twin Valley Trail Park Feature Guide. Nice picture!

Also much thanks go to Andy and Mary Ellen Beardmore for completing a changeover to a new and less expensive website. The transition was so smooth and swift that many people probably didn't even notice, especially since the website still looks the same.

Congratulations go to Sharon Mullins for completing one full year of hiking on Tuesdays at Taylorsville MetroPark. In a year's time attendance exceeded 475 with many of her hard-core followers



1st Anniversary Tuesdays at Taylorsville Hike: Danny, John, Patty, Sharon, David, Nancy, Tom and not pictured.. Maggie and Jim N.

participating nearly every week. In fact, one icy, wintry day, when the park was closed, several of Sharon's devotees showed up to hike anyway, and on occasion some of the regulars filled in as leader when Sharon was off hiking the Appalachian Trail, making Tuesdays at Taylorsville a year-round hike with not one week missed.

The Carriage Hill Wednesday hikes went very well. The first three times the weather was absolutely glorious with four to seven hikers each time. We were rained out the last week of the series. Next month the Wednesday hikes move to Possum Creek.



-Wednesday Hike at Carriage Hill MetroPark

had a very nice dinner at IKEA on the way down. I hear a new Imax theater is coming to the Greene and the Air Force Museum is showing more outdoor-type films, so in the future maybe we won't have to go as far to see some great outdoor adventure films.

MVOC Board meeting,

Thursday, December 16, 6:00 p.m. at Marion's Pizza on North Dixie Dr.

Hike for the Health of It! MVOC Challenge

In January, the Five Rivers Metro Parks is starting another year of "Hike for the Health of It!" This year we would like to challenge our members to participate in that program. The hikes start every Saturday throughout the year at 2:00 p.m. at one of the many MetroPark locations with at least 50 opportunities to hike. Not everybody has the time or inclination to hike the Appalachian Trail, but right here in Montgomery county is your chance to visit all our beautiful MetroParks, while keeping in shape, reducing stress, enjoying the outdoors and making new friends. Each hike is about 3 miles. You keep track of your hikes and the MetroParks awards a ball cap for the first 10 hikes you complete. They award pins for 25, 35 and 45 hikes. Keep your outdoor club leaders informed of your progress and we will recognize you in the MVOC newsletter when you complete 25 and 45 hikes in 2011!

Also, be sure to check out the many hikes and camping adventures (both car and backpacking) at the website www.daytonhikers.org.

Buckeye Trail Association Event: Circuit Hike - Caesar Creek Section

Thursday: 8:30AM - Tentative Plans are to hike from Spring Valley on Thursday, December 9 and stop at Yellow

Springs for the night.

Several lodging accommodations are available (<http://www.yellowspringsohio.org/accommodations>) including the Springs Motel, a restored 50s motel (<http://www.thespringsmotel.com/>). Rooms start at \$49.00 per night. Plans are to meet at the Glenn Helen Nature Preserve parking lot on Cory Street (\$2.00 per car per day) and car pool to the Spring Valley Little Miami Scenic Trail trailhead on Main Street. Meet us at Glenn Helen at 8:30 or the Spartan Restaurant in Spring Valley. We will leave from Spring Valley (Caesar Creek Point 14) at 9:00am.

Friday: On Friday, December 10, we will spot cars at the Victory Baptist Church on Rebert Road in Springfield (I am checking with church). Meet us at the church by 8:30 or at Glenn Helen. We will leave Glenn Helen (near Caesar Creek Point 18) at 9:00am. Several motels and hotels are available on Leffels Lane in Springfield.

Saturday: The hike will conclude at the Wright Brothers Trailhead on Colonel Glenn Highway and Kauffman Ave in Fairborn on Saturday, December 11. Meet us at Fairborn by 8:30 or at the Victory Baptist Church (tentative until I hear from church). We will leave the church (Caesar Creek Point 25) at 9:00am.

Note: Hiking distances are 14 to 16 miles, all are either on bike trails or city and rural roads. If we can hike 11 miles per day in the Shawnee Forest on bulldozed trails, this hike will be a walk in the park (city).

If you may be interested in all or part of this hike, please contact me. I am also interested in hike plans for this area from those that have completed the section.

Please RSVP if you are able or just join us on the trail Thursday, Friday, or Saturday.
Poppie, 614-565-9752, poppie50@att.net, <http://www.buckeyetrail.org>.

Solstice Overnight At SunWatch

December 17, Friday, 6:30-Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

or

December 18, Saturday, 6:30-Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

If you missed your chance to spend the night at SunWatch when we celebrated the autumn equinox, you can celebrate the winter season by reliving the experience of Miami Valley's early inhabitants. Enjoy an evening of activities before settling in for the night around an open hearth fire as you sleep in a reconstructed house and rise to discover the Fort Ancient people's way of tracking seasons. Eat dinner before you come, or bring a meal to cook over a campfire. Light evening snacks and morning continental breakfast will be provided. Registration is required;

space is limited. Cost: \$25/person. Contact 937.268.8199, ext. 106 or jcopas@sunwatch.org.

Elections

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? All offices are open. Even if the incumbent for a given office is running, don't let that stop you from throwing your hat in the ring.

A reminder: if you want to send an email to all the MVOC members, you need to use the address members@miamivalleyoutdoorclub.org

Join MetroParks Volunteer Patrol

Saturday, January 29, 8:00am-6pm

Applications due December 17

Volunteer while doing what you love by joining MetroParks Volunteer Patrols (MVPs)! Join one of four patrols: bike, hike, horse, or mountain bike. MVPs provide trail users with information, communicate information about trail conditions, and foster positive public interactions. They are the "eyes and ears" on the trail. Volunteers must provide their own equipment and attend the January 29th training in addition to mandatory trainings specific to each patrol. Interviews are required and will be scheduled during the second week of January.

Requirements:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Complete a Volunteer Application form
- Be interviewed and invited to become part of the MVP program
- Be fingerprinted/background checked
- Attend a Volunteer Policy Handbook orientation
- Attend the annual MVP Training
- Shadow a current MVP a minimum of 2 times
- Attend patrol specific trainings

- Earn at least 2 continuing education units per year
- Volunteer a minimum of 50 hours per year for the MVP program with at least 25 being patrol hours
- Ability to communicate positively with MetroParks staff, visitors, and adjacent landowners
- Ability to use a radio for communication
- CPR/First Aid optional but highly encouraged
- Ability to patrol for 2-4 hour shifts in varying weather conditions
- Exhibit enthusiasm and sense of responsibility towards the program

Other MetroParks Action

Thu 12/09 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Backcountry Gourmet Cooking

\$12:00 Fee Registration is required and limited so please call (937) 277-4374.

Sun 12/19 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Kayak Roll Lessons

Have you always wanted to learn to roll a kayak? Come get personal one on one instruction on how to properly roll a kayak. \$50 fee. For more information and to register please contact (937) 277-4374.

Riverscape Skating Rink Now open

Details and Hours

The ice rink will host outdoor skating from November 26, 2010 through March 13, 2011. Patrons may skate daily, Monday through Thursdays. There is no admission charge, but skate rentals are just \$3 on weekdays. Everyone gets into the rink for \$5 on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and this cost includes rentals if you need them. While the rink is open, you can enjoy delicious treats from Skyline at the Hub, including a cup of hot chocolate.

MVOC Officers

President:	Lindy McDonough	278-1493	lindymcd46@aol.com
Vice President:	Gary Mount	367-6702	glmount@yahoo.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Dale Bockhorst	513-675-1425	dalebockhorst@yahoo.com
Programs Director:	Dwight Gehring	836-8515	ddgehring60@verizon.net
Newsletter/Publicity:	Jim Nies	275-9614	jnies@aol.com
Activities:	Sharon Mullins	620-0887	dmullinsvanoh@aol.com
	Ella Himes	321-6314	ellahimes@yahoo.com
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