



Miami Valley Outdoor Club

February, 2011

“Rafting Alaska’s Tatshenshini & Alsek Rivers”



Jeanne Boeke in Alaska

two days with four others in Alaska’s Kenai fiords. During her trip to the far north, Jeanne saw lots of eagles, as well as whales, sea lions, otter, many beautiful wild flowers and lots of bear, moose and wolf tracks. And the rumbling sounds of the glaciers were especially memorable.

This was Jeanne’s second trip to Alaska. In 1984 she backpacked for ten days with the Sierra Club and spent about a month in our northern-most state, visiting cities and parklands, sometimes camping, sometimes staying in hostels, bed & breakfasts, with relatives, and several nights on the deck of an Alaska marine ferry.

MVOC Annual Hike & Chili Cook-Off

Superbowl Sunday, February 6, 2:00 p.m.

Now’s your chance to finally go to camp or maybe reminisce about those bygone days when you were young. Join members of the Miami Valley Outdoor Club for their 6th annual Hike & Chili Cook-Off at beautiful Cricket Holler Boy Scout camp, right here in Montgomery County. It promises to be a great get-together for all ages, with hiking, board games, and lots of food. Tune-up your chili

Join the Miami Valley Outdoor Club Tuesday, February 1 to hear MVOC member Jeanne Boeke talk about her recent rafting trip in Alaska. Her presentation will take place at Wegerzyn Garden Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton, following a short business meeting at 6:30. Members and visitors are welcome to come at 6:00 to socialize, plan activities, browse the “Free Stuff” table or catch up on the news.

This past summer Jeanne took part in a nine-day rafting trip with the Sierra Club on the Tatshenshini and Alsek Rivers that flow through the largest protected wilderness ecosystem on earth. The wilderness area includes British Columbia’s Tatsenshini-Alsek Wilderness Park, Alaska’s Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve and neighboring Wrangell-St. Elias and Kluane Parks which all form a UNESCO world heritage site that is almost 38,000 square miles. These parks comprise an impressive complex of glaciers and high peaks on both sides of the border between British Columbia and Alaska and contain the largest non-polar icefield in the world.

Jeanne, along with 19 other Sierra Club participants and five guides, rafted about 140 miles of the 160 mile watershed. The “Tat” river at times is a mile wide and in all of North America, only the Columbia River delivers more water to the Pacific Ocean. The rafters who came from all over the U.S., from Alaska and California to New Jersey, started their trip in the Yukon Territory of British Columbia and finished in Alaska. Afterwards, Jeanne kayaked for

recipes and mark your calendars for one of MVOC’s most popular events of the year.

We’ll meet and eat in the K-Lodge at 6675 Brantford Road across the field from the parking lot. (Do not take the Frederick Pike entrance) Arrive at 2:00 p.m., plug in your crockpots, and we’re off for a hike that lasts about 1.5 hours - Guaranteed. When we get back, be ready to cozy up to a roaring fire and taste all kinds of delicious homemade, steaming-hot chili. Then we’ll vote for “The Hottest,” “Most Unusual” and the winner of “The Best” chili will be presented with the coveted “Golden Ladle.”

If chili is not your specialty, bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please bring your own table setting as well. There's also room for those of you who aren't in the mood to hike that day. Bring along your knitting, a book, a deck of cards, scrabble - any game - and you can wait by the fire for the hikers to return. If you can't make it to the entire event just come to part of it. The hike begins at 2:00 and the eating around 4:00. Come for the hike, the meal, dessert, or just pop in to say "Hi" and check out Cricket Holler.

New this year: different location, heated lodge, indoor restrooms, a hike guaranteed to be no more than 1.5 hrs. and a 50/50 money game (optional) where you donate a dollar or more to a money pot and put your name in a hat for each dollar you contribute. The person whose name is drawn at the end of the day will win half the money. The other half will go to defray the cost of the event. AND we will be finished in time to watch the SuperBowl.

Reservations preferred, but walk-ins welcome. For more information contact Lindy McDonough, 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com.

Elections Coming Up February 1

Looking for a new challenge? The annual Miami Valley Outdoor Club elections are coming up at the February 1 meeting. We are always on the lookout for new leaders and new ideas. The elected positions are President, Vice President, Treasurer, Program Director, Activities Director, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster and they are all available.

If you are interested in running for one of the positions or want to recommend someone please contact Lindy McDonough at 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com. In addition, this year we want to create committees that to assist the various officers. If you are interested in being on any of the committees let one of our officers know.

Tuesday Hikes at Taylorsville -

February 1, 8, 15, and 22

Join Sharon M and members of the Miami Valley Outdoor Club for a Tuesday hike at Taylorsville MetroPark. There will be two hikes going at the same time. Jim N. will be leading a slower more moderated paced hike. Sharon will continue to lead the fast-paced hike. Both will hike through hilly wooded



First Taylorsville Tuesday of 2011

terrain and along the Great Miami River. Both Hikes begin promptly at 4:20pm. We will be completing a modified orange loop with steep hills and a pace around 4 miles an hour for the fast paced hike and around 3.3 for the slower paced hike. Meet at the parking lot near the CCC shelter off Route 40. These are conditioning hikes.

The Second (5:15pm start) hike will be cancelled during December, January and February due to early sunset.

Thursdays at Urban Krag

Thursdays 6:30, February 3, 10, 17, and 24.
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

Wednesday Evening Hikes in February at 3:00 p.m.

Join MVOC member Lindy McDonough for a moderately paced hike at a different location every Wednesday in February. Each hike will last about 1.5 hours. Meet in the parking lot at each location.

Feb. 2 - Cox Arboretum MetroPark, 6733 Springboro Pike (Rt. 741), Dayton
Feb. 9 - Huffman MetroPark, 4095 Lower Valley Pike, Fairborn
Feb. 16 - Englewood MetroPark/South Park, 9527 Meeker Rd., Englewood
Feb. 22 - Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave, Dayton

Newsletter Deadline - February 20, 2011

Out and About

by Lindy McDonough

Cold winter weather has not slowed down our Miami Valley Outdoor Club members and the MVOC calendar is jam-packed with activities that can keep a person busy with outdoor stuff nearly every day of the week. Sharon Mullins' fast-

paced Tuesday hike through Taylorsville MetroPark is well into its second year with her core group showing up despite cold, rain, sleet, snow or ice. In January Jim Nies began leading a second Tuesday hike at Taylorsville, but I've heard through the grapevine, that it took a few weeks for Jim, accustomed to running through the woods with Sharon, to slow down to the advertised moderate pace. Jim also turned out for the first "Hike for the Health of It" of the 2011 season at Englewood Jan. 8.

Hank Trimble reports that things are going well at the Urban Krag indoor climbing wall with as many as nine participants on Thursday nights. MVOC member Andy Niekamp presented a program "7200 Miles on the Appalachian Trail" for the WSU/MetroParks Adventure Speaker Series in January at Wegerzyn Garden Center with 140 in attendance. And MVOC member Yvonne Enting talked to a full house about her experiences hiking the AT at the January meeting of the Dayton Hikers at Gander Mountain.

The Wednesday hikes at Englewood, led by Lindy McDonough, have been fun and varied, with a different route each week. MVOCers Lucy Kazyak, Jim Lemaster and Bruce Howorth were among the Englewood hikers, as well as a number of visitors from the Dayton Hikers group.

Behind the scenes preparations continue for the Feb. 6 Chili Cook-Off and Hike at Cricket Holler Boy Scout Camp. Lindy McDonough has gone twice to scout out the trails, once with Sharon Mullins and a second time with her husband Mike Nelson.



Ski Fun Sunday at Possum Creek

To take advantage of a January snowfall, twelve skiers showed up for our first Ski Fun Sunday of the season at Possum Creek MetroPark. The activity leader, Jeanne

Boeke, came

despite injuring her hand and back ice skating at Riverscape a day or two before. About half the skiers were first or second-timers, so Jeanne walked along with the group giving tips and helping the fallen get

up. Experienced skiers and MVOCers Dwight and Donna Gehring came along, Dwight on skis and Donna walking along taking photos of the tumbles in the snow. MVOCer Amy Callahan was thrilled to ski for the first time, and seasoned skier and MVOCer Kathryn Meyer was glad to be skiing for the first time this season. Beginners Jim Nies and Lindy McDonough made it to the end of the trail upright, despite two or three falls each along the way.

On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Mike Nelson and Lindy McDonough took part in a walk at Hueston Woods sponsored by the Buckeye Trail Association. About 50 hikers from various outdoor organizations were present for the group photo at the start of the hike. Then by chance new and lone MVOCer Cathie Vickers joined Mike and Lindy's clump of hikers and they all got acquainted for the first time. Lindy also joined the American Volkspport Assn. for a walk at Carriage Hill on Jan. 16.

In mid-January MVOCer Steve Longenecker took five youngsters ice skating at Riverscape. He also led a Sunday hike at Aullwood just prior to their guest speaker on Jan. 9. Steve's next adventure, in late January was a 10-day trip to Haiti with members of his church, to help build homes for the survivors of Haiti's recent earthquake.

Finally it was great to see Dave and Sandy Todd at the January meeting to hear Jim and Connie Steele's presentation about hiking in the Grand Canyon. Within days of their program, the Steele's were off to Jackson, Wyoming to spend the winter downhill skiing and visiting their daughter. Must be nice!

Consider Red Cross Training

The local chapter of the American Red Cross offers courses that would be very useful to all individuals who spend time in the outdoors. March 25 & 26 and April 15 & 16, they are offering Wilderness and Remote First Aid, a foundation of principles and skills valuable in responding to emergencies and giving care in areas that don't have immediate Emergency Medical Service (EMS), such as wilderness and remote environments, or urban disasters such as tornados, earthquakes and hurricanes. With this information, you might save another hiker's life, or a family member's or your own. The fee for this course is \$65. This course does have a prerequisite

of a current Adult CPR/AED certificate. The Red Cross offers the CPR/AED certification class thirteen times in February at various locations. The fee for the CPR course is \$45. If anyone is interested in taking the course with one or more Outdoor Club members, contact Lindy McDonough, 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com and we will try to schedule a suitable time. Red Cross course schedules will be available at the February MVOC meeting or you can check out details for these and other courses online at www.dac.redcross.org or call (937) 222-0124.

MVOC Board meeting,

Thursday, February 10, 6:00 p.m. at Marion's Pizza on North Dixie Dr.

Dues time

It's now time to renew your membership for the new year. Please print out and mail the membership/waiver form on the last page of the newsletter and send it, along with your dues, to Miami Valley Outdoor Club, P.O. Box 292571, Dayton, OH 45429 or bring it to a meeting.

Hike for the Health of It! MVOC Challenge Continues This Month

This month, the Five Rivers Metro Parks continues 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 MVOC leaders informed of your progress and we will recognize you in the MVOC newsletter when you complete 10, 25, 35 and 45 hikes in 2011!

The hikes for February are:
2/5 Cox Arboretum MetroPark
2/12 Huffman North MetroPark
2/19 Sugarcreek MetroPark
2/26 Eastwood MetroPark

Metroparks Action

Adventure Series.

This year, instead of the Adventure Summit, Wright State

University and FiveRivers Metroparks are sponsoring the Adventure Speaker Series. The series continues in February with a February 3 presentation by Tipp City native Phil Nagle entitled "**48 States in 48 Days on a Bike**" at the WSU Student Union Center, beginning at 7:00 PM.

The series finishes on February 8 with a presentation entitled "**Global Cooling Adventure Show**," featuring extreme skier Allison Gannett. This final presentation takes place in the Apollo Room of the WSU Student Union. You can register at <http://www.metroparks.org/adventuresummit>.

Tuesday Morning Adult Walks

9:00-10:30 every Tuesday in February at Eastwood Metropark. Bring binoculars for wildlife viewing.

Try Winter Backpacking

Feb. 5, 1-4 at Sugarcreek Metropark.

Check out this afternoon, hands-on program, try on a backpack or snowshoes, talk with local experts and experiment with different types of winter gear. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome. Call 937-277-4374 or register online.

And Yet More Outdoor Programs

Living for Adventure Presentation

Wilderness Canoe Trip to Canada's Quetico Provincial Park
Wednesday, February 16 6:30 PM, FREE

Great Miami Outfitters, Miamisburg

Journal reading and slide presentation of a 10-day wilderness canoe trip to Quetico Provincial Park in south western Ontario, Canada. The program will include information and pictures on fishing, gourmet cooking and the most beautiful scenery imaginable. This was truly the trip of a lifetime. John Wonderly has lived all his life in Springboro, Ohio. He has been the proprietor of an Architectural woodworking company in Springboro, Ohio for 22 years. John has been backpacking, canoeing, fly fishing, hunting and anything outdoors for almost all of his 45 years of life. He has been on more than a dozen wilderness trips and this Quetico trip in 2009 was by far his best trip ever taken!

Keep an eye on the GMO website (www.greatmiamioutfitters.com) for more outdoor related programs.

Daytonhikers.org has many activities, from dayhikes to backpack trips. Check them out online..

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

Membership/Waiver 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
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