



Miami Valley Outdoor Club

May, 2011

“Rafting Alaska’s Tatshenshini & Alsek Rivers”



Join the Miami Valley Outdoor Club Tuesday, May 3 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 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.

Out & About

by Lindy McDonough

Despite rain, rain and more rain during April, MVOCers

still managed to clock some outdoor time in the past month. Sharon Mullins & Jim Nies continued their Tuesday Taylorsville Hikes with MVOCers Hank Trimble, Patty Wheelbarger, and David

Snell showing up on a regular basis joined by several Dayton Hikers. Lindy McDonough's Wednesday Hikes at Englewood, Possum Creek and Carriage Hill picked



Taylorville Regulars: Sharon, Patty, Hank, John, David and Dan

up a new member, Larille Losh who comes all the way from Preble County. And MVOCers Jim Lemaster, Lucy Kazyak and Laurel Slate joined in on one or more of those Wednesday hikes. Hank Trimble was at Urban Krag on Wednesday nights to practice rock climbing with his band of followers, as well as help the new climbers learn the ropes.

Nearly a dozen people initially signed up for the



Buckeye Trail Hiker Andy Niekamp fording a flooded creek in West Branch State Park.

Aulwood Garden Wildflower walk on April 9, lead by Jeanne Boeke, but because of rain early in the day, only six - Lindy McDonough, Bruce and Sue Howorth and Dwight & Donna Gehring - showed up. The rain stopped just as they started exploring and the group identified about twenty blooming wildflowers. Friday, April 15, Ella Himes, Dwight Gehring and

Lindy McDonough volunteered at our Outdoor Club booth at the Wright Patterson Air Force Base Outdoor Recreation Open House. The weather was much warmer this year which resulted in more visitors to the event. The three MVOCers enjoyed talking with the passers-by and got free t-shirts commemorating the day.

Lindy McDonough spent one weekend at Camp

Birch in Yellow Springs for Red Cross Wilderness and Remote First Aid Training. Through late Friday evening and a long Saturday of lectures and «hands-on» role playing, she learned about the perils of heat, cold, drowning, head injuries, sprains, bone fractures, cuts, gashes, spider and snake bites, lightening and more. The instructors were excellent and she recommends it as a useful course for anyone who spends time in the outdoors.

On March 20, MVOCer Andy Niekamp started his new adventure hiking a little over 1400 miles on the Buckeye Trail. He began at Deeds Point in Dayton and headed north on the western stretch of the trail to Piqua and beyond. By Easter he had clocked more than 500 miles. You can read the details of his journey at the website www.BuckeyeTrailHiker.com.

Another MVOCer Amy Callahan and her son Nick are still at it on the Appalachian Trail and have hiked well over 300 miles through snow, rain and 88 degree weather. This month they walked through North Carolina and into Tennessee, stopping at Cades Cove, Gatlinburg and Clingman's Dome. You can check out her progress at www.trailjournals.com.

The big disappointment of the month was the cancellation of Nat Davis' "Canoeing the Boundary Waters Wilderness" presentation on April 5 because of plumbing problems at Wegerzyn Garden Center, requiring closure of the building. We're happy to report that Nat has agreed to reschedule his talk for the June 7 meeting. Hope to see you there!

Trip Report: 110 AT Miles

By Sharon Mullins,

Patty Wheelbarger, Jeff Smith, and I went on a 110+ mile hike. The first night, we stayed in the rooms at



Skyland Resort. They were very basic but comfortable. We started our hike in Shenandoah National park and did a circuit hike before starting our trek north on the AT. We did the Whiteoak Canyon falls trail to Old Rag and then back up to the AT on the Fire Road. We were all a little disappointed with the 6 falls on



The Whiteoak Trail and found that Cedar Run falls were more

John Bryan Biking/Hiking/ Camping

June 25 & 26 - Corwin to John Bryan State Park

Come join us for an overnight trip on the Little Miami Bike Trail! Here are the details:

We will meet at 1:00pm on June 25 in the parking lot by the bike path in Corwin. The plan is for you to bring your camping gear with you to Corwin where we will have a car to transport the gear. We will leave Corwin and ride about 25 miles to Yellow Springs. In Yellow Springs, we will take the road to the John Bryan Park Group Campgrounds. We will set up camp, have dinner, and relax around the campfire.

Then, Sunday morning we will eat breakfast, break down camp and start riding back to Corwin arriving around noon where we can have lunch or just collect our gear and head home.

If you will be driving and leaving your vehicle by the bike path in Corwin overnight, please forward me your vehicle make, model and license plate number upon registering. These will be forwarded to Corwin Parks personnel to insure your car is not towed.

The campsite provides picnic tables, a fire ring, and a pit toilet. The cost for the campsite is \$4 per person, and we will need to purchase firewood if we want a fire so make sure you bring some cash for the the group camp as well as for lunch on Sunday. Everyone is responsible for cooking their own food Saturday night and Sunday morning (unless someone wants to run into Yellow Springs for carryout??). Dogs are allowed if leashed and under control at all times.

If you aren't up for the whole 50 miles, you have two other options:

a. Skip the bike ride, but meet us in Corwin at 1:00pm to collect our camping gear. Then drive to Yellow Springs and claim your campsite first and enjoy the park! On Sunday, drive our camping gear back to Corwin and join us for lunch.

OR
b. Skip the bike ride, and meet us in Yellow Springs at the John Bryan group campsite and claim your campsite first and enjoy the park! On Sunday, drive our camping gear back to Corwin and join us for lunch.

c. If no one volunteers to transport our gear, we will plan to collect the camping gear on Friday night and transport it to the park prior to our departure on Saturday. Stayed tuned for final details.

To Sign-up or for more info contact Sharon M at 620-0887 or dmullinsvanoh@aol.com; or Ella H. at 321-6314 or ellahimes@yahoo.com.

spectacular. Old Rag was very steep and rugged but there was a spectacular view waiting for us at the top.

Once the circuit hike was completed we started our AT hike. We generally stayed in the shelters and found wonderful hikers to share stories with. We did have one shelter that leaked pretty bad but the others were very comfortable with all the rain.

We completed our hike on the AT in Harper's Ferry. Harper's Ferry was having Civil War reenactments that weekend and we enjoyed all the history and events they provided. With all the heavy rain and winds, there were few people at the event so we got a lot of private tours and presentations. Very cool event and a wonderful learning experience.

We also spent some time at the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and read a lot of the entries from fellow AT hikes.

Welcome New Members

John Kniesley

Larille Losh

Evening Hikes in May

5:00 p.m.

Join MVOC member Lindy McDonough for moderately paced hikes in May. The days of the week and locations vary. Detailed maps of all the parks can be found at www.metroparks.org. Advance registration preferred. Contact Lindy at lindymcd46@aol.com or 278-1493.

Thursday, May 5 - Carriage Hill MetroPark,
7821 E. Shull Rd. Meet in the parking lot for the Red Wing Shelter.

Monday, May 9 - Englewood East Park,
4361 National Rd. (Rt. 40), Meet at the Patty Shelter parking lot

Thursday, May 19 - Possum Creek MetroPark,
4790 Frytown Rd., Meet in first (Argonne Forest) parking lot.

Monday, May 23 - Englewood South Park,
9527 Meeker Rd., Englewood

Wednesdays at Urban Krag (Note change of day)

Wednesdays 6:30, May 4, 11, 18, 25

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

Taylorville Tuesday Hikes

May 3, 10, 17, 24,31

Join Sharon M and members of the Dayton Hikers.org Meetup Group for a Tuesday hike at Taylorville MetroPark. Sharon will lead a fast-paced hike through hilly wooded terrain and along the Great Miami River, beginning promptly at 4:20pm. We will be completing a modified orange loop with steep hills and a pace around 4 miles an hour. Meet at the parking lot near the CCC shelter off Route 40. This is a conditioning hike.

The more moderately-paced hike led by Jim Nies has attracted no interest during the month of April so they will be discontinued. If you are interested in leading a 5:30 or 6:00 Tuesday hike contact Sharon; contact info listed on the back page.

MVOC Tours of New MetroPark Natural Areas

Join Five Rivers MetroParks Director of Conservation Dave Nolin for special tours of two of the MetroParks' most recent acquisitions. Learn the history of each area as well their special features and future plans. These are not MetroPark events, but tours just for the outdoor club members, family and friends. For more info contact Lindy McDonough at 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com

Monday, May 2, 6:00 p.m.

Shiloh Woods Conservation Area

A Conservation Area is a land base managed by Five Rivers MetroParks that does not yet have any public facilities. Be one of the first to explore this beautiful

new 365- acre Conservation Area along the Stillwater River. Attendees can expect to see old woods, big trees, steep hills, a big prairie, and a long undeveloped stretch of the Stillwater River. To see a map go to http://www.metroparks.org/App_Themes/images/AboutUs/Conservation/maps/Shiloh%20Woods.jpg

We will meet at a small gravel parking lot located on the west side of Philadelphia Drive just south of the bridge over the Stillwater River. No limit on attendees. Wear sturdy shoes, long pants, and be prepared for no facilities or developed trails.

Monday, June 6, 6:00 p.m.

Medlar Conservation Area

This new 410-acre Conservation Area is located south of Miamisburg in a rapidly developing area near the



new Austin Pike interchange. Medlar contains old woods, steep ravines, a historic house, a stone canal aquaduct, a scenic hilltop vista, pretty pond, and restored wetlands.

Meet at the gravel parking lot on Medlar Rd. Meet at the white farmhouse at the sw corner of Medlar Rd and Miamisburg-Springboro Pike (becomes Austin Pike). No limit on attendees. Wear sturdy shoes, long pants, and be prepared for no facilities or developed trails.

MVOCBoard Meeting - Thursday, May 12, 6:00 p.m. at Marion's Pizza on North Dixie

Get Your FREE MVOC Sticker!

Did you know that all new members of the Miami Valley Outdoor Club are entitled to a free club sticker. Two for a family membership. They can be picked up at the regular monthly meetings. Next meeting is Tuesday, May 3, 6:30 p.m. at Wegerzyn Garden Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton.

2011 Miami Valley Cycling Summit “Cycling Sells Cities”

MAY 20, 2011 • KROC CENTER, DAYTON, OH • FREE

The Miami Valley Cycling Summit will bring together nearly 400 cycling enthusiasts from across the Miami Valley, the state, and the nation.

Continue the effort to make the Miami Valley more bicycle friendly

Enjoy a free lunch if you register online prior to May 13

PARTNERS:

City of Dayton, City of Miamisburg, Clark County-Springfield, Five Rivers MetroParks, Greene County Parks, Miami Conservancy District, Miami County Parks, MVRPC, Yellow Springs Chamber

<http://www.metroparks.org/MVCyclingSummit/>

Bike to Work Day Pancake Breakfast

Friday, May 20, 6:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Leave your car in the garage and support National Bike to Work Day. Ride in on your own or with a group to Riverscape for a free pancake breakfast then head to work. Live music, cycling related exhibitors and a team challenge are also part of the fun. Full details are available at www.metroparks.org/biketowork

Metroparks Action

Don't forget the weekly MetroParks “Hikes for the Health of It” each Saturday at 2. Ten hikes and you get a hat.

“Bike for the Health of It” continues in May, each Saturday at 9:00 AM

5/7 Stillwater River Recreation (N) Rain or shine, on the Stillwater River Recreation Trail (North). Meet in the parking lot at 100 E. National Rd. (U.S. 40 and State Route 48 in Englewood, north of the dam). (9 miles).

5/14 Wolf Creek Rec. Trail (W) Ride rain or shine on the Wolf Creek Recreation Trail. Meet in the parking lot behind Rob's Restaurant, 705 Arlington Rd. in Brookville. We will ride toward Verona (11 miles).

5/21 Creekside Recreation Trail Rain or shine on the Creekside Recreation Trail; Use the entrance at 1385 Harshman Rd. at the traffic light. Meet in the last parking lot. We will ride to the Greene County Line (12 miles).

5/28 Great Miami Rec. Trail (C) Rain or shine on the Great Miami Rec Trail; Meet at 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave. Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark. We will be riding to the Radvansky Bridge (Near Fishburg Rd) (16 miles)

Paddlesports activities begin in May with a two session series that often leads to a longer adventure trip in the summer.

5/09 at Wegerzyn, 6-8 PM. \$5.00 fee **Intro to Kayaking** is the first step in the paddle-sports progression. You will be introduced to various equipment selection, ranges for equipment, categories of paddle-sports, trip planning, navigation, and general locations of where to paddle locally and regionally. It is a good way to ease into learning in a systematic way. For more information and to register please call (937) 277-4374 or register on-line.

5/17 at Eastwood Metropark 6-8 PM \$40.00 fee **Kayak Basics** During this hands-on class, students will become acquainted with equipment and learn basic paddle strokes and concepts along with safety topics for beginners in recreational kayaking. Equipment is provided by Five Rivers MetroParks Outdoor Recreation Department. Please dress to get wet, bring water and closed toed shoes with you. Intro to Kayaking is a prerequisite. For more information and to register please contact (937) 277-4374.

5/25 at Wegerzyn, 6-8 PM. \$5.00 fee **Intro to Kayaking** is the first step in the paddle-sports progression. You will be introduced to various equipment selection, ranges for equipment, categories of paddle-sports, trip planning, navigation, and general locations of where to paddle locally and regionally. It is a good way to ease into learning in a systematic way. For more information and to register please call (937) 277-4374 or register on-line.

Fundamentals of Family Camping

Wed 5/18 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Wright Memorial Public Library

Do you want to get your family out camping but do not know where to start? Then come join us for this fun and informational class designed to give you an introduction to, and some resources for, what you need to take your family and <Get Out> into the great outdoors. For more information call (937) 294-7171.

Paddle in the Park coming June 4.

Try Fly Fishing! 5/05 at Cox Arboretum 4 -7 PM Free

Have you ever wanted to learn how to cast a fly rod? Join us to see if you can entice a fish to bite and catch a fish on fly. No fishing license required. Instructor is available for questions and will teach basic techniques in a controlled and safe environment. Equipment is available on a first-come first-served basis. Reservations requested, walk-ins welcome or register online. For more information or to register, please call (937) 277-4374.

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
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@woh.rr.com
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