



Miami Valley Outdoor Club

January, 2012

January 3 Meeting

A Year to Wander Around the World

On Tuesday, January 3, 7:00 p.m., retired engineer and active scout leader Mike Fanelli will be the featured speaker at the Miami Valley Outdoor Club meeting at Wegerzyn Garden Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton. His program will follow a short meeting and announcements at 6:30.

At the age of 60 local Daytonian Mike Fanelli and his daughter Laura set off with minimal belongings to explore the Wonders of the World, the rough and rugged way. With backpacks on their backs, they stayed with local families, ate traditional dishes, used local transportation and did a whole lot of walking. During their year abroad, they circumvented the globe and visited 32 countries. Their quest for adventure took them off the beaten path and home



again with some amazing stories to share.

Mike enjoys the outdoors, loves nature and has had a curiosity about the religions of the world, a topic he could explore during his travels. His daughter Laura has lived in Hungary, France and China, speaks 4 languages and her interest in the unique foods and fashions of other countries enticed her to make this trip with her dad.

Annual Hike & Chili Cook-Off at Cricket Holler

SuperBowl Sunday, February 5, Hike at 2:00 p.m. - Meal at 4:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars for MVOC's popular mid-winter event - the 7th annual Hike & Chili Cook-Off at beautiful Cricket Holler Boy Scout Camp with a heated lodge and indoor restrooms. It's a perfect get-together for all ages, with hiking, board games, and lots of food. 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. 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."

The event is free, but you must bring chili, a covered dish, salad or dessert to serve at least eight. Please bring your own table setting as well. If you don't want to hike, bring along your knitting, a book or a deck of cards, scrabble and wait by the fire for the hikers to return. Come to the hike or the meal or both. Again this year we'll have a 50/50 money game where you can 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. *We ran out of chili last year, so bring more if you can!*

Program Director Search

Our current Program Director, Dwight Gehring plans to retire from his position at the end of 2012. Primarily the job includes but is not limited to arranging for guest speakers at our monthly meetings, operating the audio-visual equipment for our programs and attending board meetings. Any MVOC member willing to learn the responsibilities, and take over as Program Director on January 1, 2013 please contact Dwight at (937)371-8511 or ddgehring60@woh.rr.com by April 30, 2012 to start learning the duties.

Time to Renew!

It's now time to renew your membership for 2012. 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

Leading is Easy!

Consider leading an MVOC activity. It's really not hard. Find some outdoor activity you want to do and invite the rest of us. It can be an overnight backpack trip or an afternoon canoe trip or even a short morning hike. There's always someone else who wants to do it too. You can sign up to do something once a year or once a month or weekly if you prefer, but just give it a try. Contact any MVOC officer (listed at the end of this newsletter) for more information and suggestions on how to get started.

Out and About

by Lindy McDonough

This year's Annual Holiday Dinner and Benefit Auction was a smashing success. About 45 attended from both the Miami Valley Outdoor Club and the Dayton Hikers. Voting went off without a hitch, and all last year's officers were re-elected with Steve Longenecker officially joining the Activities Committee. Thanks, guys and gals, for serving one more time!

Sharon Mullins did a super job as auctioneer and we made about \$275 that will be divided in half and donated to Glen Helen Raptor Center and Bruckner Nature Center. Andy Niekamp brought along a carton of Buckeye Trail t-shirts to sell as a fund-raiser. The food was fantastic and it was great to see some members who haven't been around in a while enjoy the festivities - Jim, Connie and David Steele, Emma Pleasant and Rees and Dolly Vosburg.

More thanks go to Steve Longenecker for arranging for the ham and turkey, Dwight and Donna Gehring for coming early and staying late to set up and clean up, Gary Mount and Ella Himes for brewing hot beverages and cleaning up

the kitchen and everyone else for bringing food, spending money and helping clean up, pack up and move tables and chairs back to their proper places.

Beside the dinner, our on-going activities - Hank Trimble's climbing at Urban Krag, Sharon Mullins and



Annual Holiday dinner and benefit auction

Amy Callahan's hikes at Taylorsville and Lindy's weekly hikes - are still attracting enthusiastic participants.

There was a good turnout for the Annual Light Hike at Clifton Gorge lead by Dwight and Donna Gehring. The group included Jeanne Boeke and her two nephews, Steve Longenecker and his grandson, Don & Lucy Kayzak, Lindy McDonough and one hiker who missed his Columbus group and joined ours for the trek. Sadly we saw a freshly killed buck just a few feet from the trail. It had likely jumped off the high cliff across the trail probably the day before. This was the first time in several years that there was no snow, but it was a treat to see the surroundings in a new way. Thankfully it was not as cold as in past years so the wait for the lights to come on at Clifton Mill was much more comfortable. After the hike and the light display, some of us enjoyed a meal and dessert at Young's Dairy.

Also in December MVOCers Jim Lemaster and Eva Williams spent some time hiking in the Great Smokey Mountains and Jim, Eva and Lindy recently feasted at the annual Aullwood volunteer recognition dinner. In case you haven't heard, the photo of Laura Letton jumping in the air on Hump Mountain that Andy Niekamp took in October was the winning photo in an *Trail Journeys* magazine. It will appear in a future issue of the magazine.

I'm sure lots more has been happening outdoors, but I've been too busy this month to keep track. Tell me what you've been up to lately in the outdoors, your fellow MVOC members would like to hear all about it.

Impromptu Cross-Country Ski Events

Wax up your cross-country skis and have them ready for spur-of-the-minute ski adventures at one of our MetroParks - probably on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon when most people are available. We had a great couple of times at Possum Creek last year - some of us for the first time. We'll email you an announcement whenever the conditions are right. If you don't have skis, you can rent the whole set of gear at the Valleywood Ski Shop, 3850 Wilmington Pike. Last year the fee was \$20 per day. You can pick them up on Saturday afternoon and return them before closing at 6 p.m. on Sunday. Valleywood phone number is 298-7125.

Skate with MVOC

Thursday, Jan. 19 at 3 p.m.

Try ice skating among friends who won't laugh when you fall on your bottom and may even help you get up again! Join other members of the Miami Valley Outdoor Club for a spin and a twirl at the MetroParks RiverScape Ice Rink, 111 E. Monument in downtown Dayton.

We will meet at 3:00. The rink closes at 5:00. Stay as long as you like. Admission is just \$3 on weekdays and it includes skates. Warm up around hot fires and with hot refreshments from Cafe Velo. For more info see www.metroparks.org/IceRink or contact Lindy McDonough, 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com.

Friday Moderate Hikes in January

Join Lindy McDonough for these moderately paced, 1.5 hour hikes at 2:00 p.m. every week in December. Locations vary. Dogs are welcome but



Dec. 26 Hike at Carriage Hill

must be on leash.

Fri., Jan. 6 **Possum Creek MetroPark** - 4790 Frytown Rd; meet at the Argonne Forest parking lot

Fri., Jan. 13 **Englewood MetroPark East** - 4361 National Rd. Meet at the Patty Shelter parking lot.

Fri., Jan. 20 **Taylorville MetroPark - Tadmor Loop** - 2005 U.S. 40, meet in parking lot northwest of dam.

Fri., Jan 27 **Englewood MetroPark South** - 9331 Meeker Rd.

Climbing at Urban Krag

Wednesdays 6:30, Jan. 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

Tuesdays at Taylorville...two for the price of one

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 at 4:30

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 the time noted above. 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.

In addition, Amy Callahan will be leading a more moderately-paced hike at the same time.

Coming Up - Mark Your Calendars

January 12 ... Board Meeting at Marion's on N. Dixie

January 16 ... MLK Day Hike at Hueston Woods

January 22 Newsletter deadline

February 5 ... Chili Cookoff at Cricket Hollow

February 10 & 11 ... Adventure Summit

March 6 ... Nat Davis on Hiking in the Swiss Alps

MVOC Booth Volunteers Needed for 2012 Adventure Summit

Friday & Saturday, February 10 & 11

Sign up and be part of the Outdoor Adventure event of the year! The Miami Valley Outdoor Club will again have a booth at the 2012 Adventure Summit at Wright State University. It is one of the largest expositions of outdoor culture, skill and experience in the Midwest.

Just spend a couple of hours Friday evening or Saturday at the MVOC booth talking with other outdoor enthusiasts and then spend the rest of your time learning about the latest outdoor gear and all kinds of outdoor organizations and hear experts speak on mountain climbing, kayaking, backpacking, cycling and more.

Friday night's featured speaker is Gary Fisher presenting the program "My Life on Two Wheels." Gary is founding father of mountain biking, a member of the Mountain Bike Hall of Fame, a bike designer and innovator, and a cycling world icon. Enjoy food, music and demonstrations too! To volunteer contact Lindy McDonough at 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com. For more information about the summit itself, see www.metroparks.org/adventuresummit.

Martin Luther King Hike at Hueston Woods

Monday, Jan. 16, 9:00 a.m.

Join MVOCers and hikers from around the state for the annual hike sponsored by the Buckeye Trail Association. Meet at Hueston Woods State Park Lodge 5201 Lodge Rd.. The hike will start at 9AM. If you like,

arrive early and have breakfast with other hikers at the Lodge at 8AM. Hikers will hike around Acton Lake, about 11 miles, on a variety of trails. A bean soup and/or chili and corn muffin lunch will be available at the park office next to the Nature Center. Donations are accepted.

For those wishing to hike only from the Lodge to the Nature Center, a shuttle back to the Lodge will be available. This is a free event. Note: Dogs (all pets) are not allowed in the nature preserve portion of Hueston Woods. There is an easy route bypassing that section if you bring your dog. For more information contact Lindy McDonough at 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com.

MVOC Buckeye Trail Maintenance Info

New buckeye trail maintainer shirts.... earn a shirt with only 10 hours of volunteer hours with MVOC buckeye trail maintenance activities. see sharon m.



Hank, Patty and John have earned their shirts already.

On December 2, Sharon Mullins and Andy Niekamp performed trail maintenance on the Buckeye Trail & North



Country Trail near Johnson Farm in Piqua. This is the section of the trail adopted by the member of the Miami Valley Outdoor Club. That's Andy with the protective gear.



January MetroParks Action Fundamentals of Alcohol Stoves

Jan. 26, 6:30-8:30 PM
PNC 2nd St Market \$5.00

Are you interested in exploring more of the ultralight backpacking evolution? Have you tried an alcohol stove? This evening program is an introduction to alcohol stove building and use, taught by a local thru-hiking expert. Included are instructions on how to build alcohol stoves, stove demos, and tips on use. Registration is required and limited, so please call (937)277-4374 or register online.

Meet-Up Health Hike

Sat. 1/07 2-4 PM

Hills & Dales MetroPark

Looking for company on the trail? Join the Dayton Hikers for a group-led health hike exploring your MetroParks each month. The group will leave promptly at 2:00 PM from the scheduled locations. Dress for the weather, grab a map and bring water. Hikes vary in mileage and difficulty, ranging from 3-5 miles. For information about Dayton Hiker activities, visit www.DaytonHikers.org.

Try Hiking @...

Sat. 1/21 2-4 PM

Carriage Hill MetroPark

This series of monthly programs will introduce hikers to a new trail experience at a different MetroPark. Staff and volunteers will be stationed at the trailhead providing park information, orientation to the map and facility, and inviting you to explore a new trail on your own. Dress for the weather and bring water. Drop in any time between 2-4 PM.

Hocking Hills State Park Winter Hike

Jan. 21 Starting anytime between 9 and 11 AM

The 48th annual winter hike takes place on January 21, with continuous starts from 9 to 11 a.m. Last year over 5,500 hikers braved the snow, ice and low temps to experience one of Ohio's premier hiking opportunities. No telling how many also enjoyed the bean soup and sassafras tea cooked over the open fire.

Meet at Hocking Hills Campground parking lot anytime between 9 and 11. From there, hikers head to Old Man's Cave, hike past Cedar Cave all the way to Ash Cave. A shuttle will take you back to your car--or you can make it a 12 miler by taking the upper route back. The activity is free, but donations are welcomed to cover the cost of

refreshments (the bean soup) and the shuttle.

See http://www.hockinghills.com/winter_hike.html for much more info.

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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