

The Voice of the Turtle



Friends

of MetroParks of Butler County

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter July, 2016

FOMPBC Officers

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Chuck Holliday

Vice-President,

Bill Walker

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Vacant

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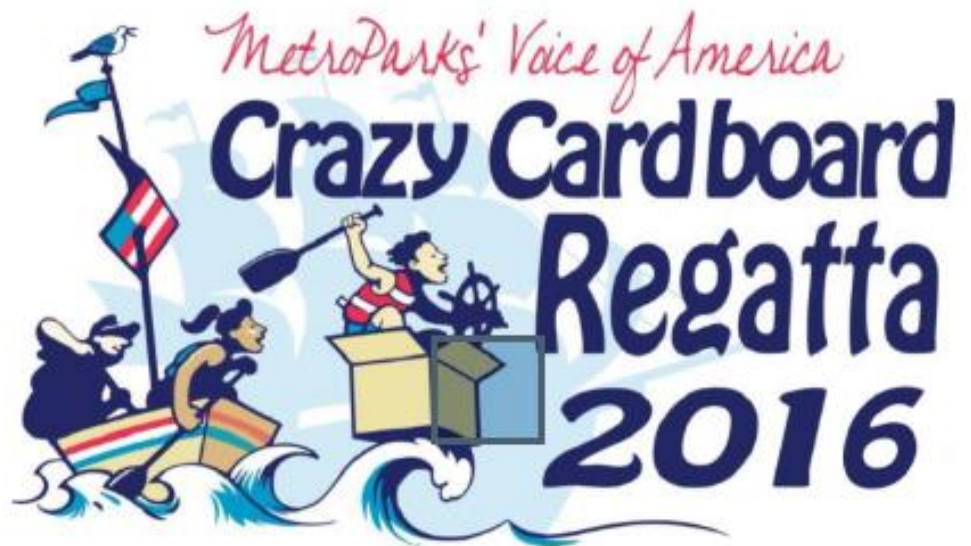
Abby Ison

Web Master:

Craig Wiseman

Newsletter Editor:

Bill Walker



Saturday, July 16, 2016
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

July, 2016

Letter from the President

“Summer time and the livin’ is easy,” at least that is what the song says!

First let all say Best Wishes to Bill Ison and Kristine Hill, both had emergency surgeries with in the past month! Get well soon!

The first quarter of the year is over and lots of changes are on the way to FOMPBC. Changes to the committee leadership and structure for the coming year include. I have asked Larry Gersback to take on a new position as Overseer and Disbursement of Grants Officer. Larry will work with MetroParks, FOMPBC, and the funder to insure that the grant monies are spent as they have directed.

Donna Marquardt, along with Whitney Barnes has agreed to bring use and value to our Facebook site. I know a lot of the BOD are not Facebook users, but many of our new members and multitudes of prospective members are there waiting to see what we do.

Kristine Hill will take over our Grants and Event Fundraising Committee. Kristin has vast experience in this field and is ready to get started.

Nick Lengyel has agreed to take on the challenge of the Membership Committee. Nick’s challenge will be to report on the individual, family and organizations that make up our group. Come up with new and inventive ways to expand our group. Use Facebook to attract new members and control the renewal process for membership.

Allie Wagner will be taking over the Event Planning Committee. Allie is ready to get started with this task. Events on the horizon that FOMPBC plans to participate in include:

Crazy Cardboard Regatta	July 23, 2016
Mud Mania	Aug 5&6, 2016
Fun of the Farm	Aug 20, 2016
Horse Daze	Sept 17, 2016
Exciting new event!	October, 2016

Committee chairs are expected to give an update on the monthly progress of their committee at each BOD Meeting. If a Committee Chair is unavailable to attend a BOD Meeting, they should submit a written report to be read at the meeting.

et out and enjoy our MetroParks!

Drop Box

I know that we have a lot of great photographers in our group. Bill Walker and Donna Marquardt are working on a project call Drop Box. Drop Box is a unique storage system that allows many photographers to leave any number of photos there to be used by our Facebook, web site or even one of our publications . More information is coming next month on the subject.

Please share with us!

The best ideas are those that are shared, we need your help. Please share with us the honor of discussing your ideas. Tuesday’s make a great day to have a meeting during the week. We can travel to Okeana, Oxford Middletown , West Chester or Millville to discuss your ideas.

Chuck 513.302.6223

Good Friends

Chuck Holliday

President, FOMPBC

Hump Day Concerts Keep on Dazzling VOA Crowds



The Muleskinner Band

July, 2016



Saffire Express



Stagger Lee Band



July, 2016



Mr. Chris and the Cruisers



The Sunburners

July, 2016



America's Got Talent Star, Kalysta Minton



Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities July 2016

Crazy Cardboard Regatta Craft Preparation

When: Wednesday, July 6, 2016 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Where: Voice of America MetroPark, Community Room, 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester, OH 45069

What: Help prepare pennants for the boats participating in the Crazy Cardboard

Regatta. This is a great opportunity for those who enjoy crafts!

Stepping Forward: Service Day

When: Friday, July 15, 2016 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Where: Voice of America MetroPark, 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester, OH 45069

What: Stepping Forward: Service Days allow for volunteers to do a number of activities at various parks throughout the year. Service Days are held to keep parks clean, improve habitat, complete projects, and prepare for events. Volunteer with MetroParks to help prepare VOA for the Crazy Cardboard Regatta. Raise the flags and fences, set up tents, clean up the park, and general event set up.



Crazy Cardboard Regatta

When: Saturday, July 16, 2016 7:00 AM – 4:00 PM (varying shifts)

Where: Voice of America MetroPark, 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester, OH 45069

What: Help with the wackiest cardboard boat race around! The Crazy Cardboard Regatta includes cardboard boat races, demonstrations, and fun activities. This event takes much volunteer support. Volunteer assignments may include boat inspection, boat retriever, boat launcher, score keeping, event registration, volunteer registration, providing information to the public, set up, clean up, and more.

Adventure Day Camps

When: Monday, July 11, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Tuesday, July 12, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Where: Voice of America MetroPark,
7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester, OH
45069

What: Volunteers will be assisting with set up, program activities, ensuring participant safety and cleanup of the Adventure Camp program. Camp activities will include water activities and games, paddle sports such as canoeing, fishing, boating, and more.

*Volunteers with fishing experience especially needed for the Monday, July 11th date

Community Partners Information Table

When: Saturday, July 30, 2016 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Where: Fredrick Douglass Park,
Minnesota Street/Verity Parkway,
Middletown, OH 45042

What: Volunteers are needed to work an information table at a community event that expects over 1000 participants. Volunteers will converse with event participants, provide information and give away handouts.

Mud Mania

When: Friday, August 5, 2016 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Saturday, August 6, 2016 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Where: Rentschler Forest MetroPark,
5701 Reigart Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45011

What: Volunteers are needed to help staff the messiest event in MetroParks! But no need to get down and dirty. Jump into the fun at Mud Mania by helping with info tables, registration, and the mud obstacle course.



Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities Trail Ambassadors – Great Miami River Recreation Trail

When: Flexible

Where: Great Miami River Recreation Trail
– Trenton to Middletown Section

What: Trail Ambassadors monitor the trail at least 4 hours a month on their bicycle. Trail Ambassadors report maintenance and safety concerns to MetroParks staff, assist trail users when necessary, provide information to trail users, and perform light trail maintenance.

Administrative Support

When: Flexible

Where: Multiple Locations

What: Volunteers are needed to help with administrative tasks including document filing, copying program flyers, database management, document preparation, and other general office tasks. Volunteers can help out on a recurrent basis or just once if desired!

General Maintenance Support

When: Flexible

Where: Multiple Locations

What: Help MetroParks by lending a hand in general maintenance alongside the Operations Department staff at various locations throughout the MetroParks system. Tasks might include painting, mulching, trail maintenance, equipment maintenance, etc.



Group Service Projects

When: Flexible

Where: Flexible

What: MetroParks always has various projects for groups to complete! If you have a youth group, church group, student group, or business group that is interested in scheduling a private service day, contact volunteer services for more information.

Program/Event Support

When: Program Dependent

Where: Multiple Locations

What: Park Connections staff can always use an extra hand with programs and events. Do you see something on our program calendar that interests you? You can get involved by inquiring about volunteer opportunities for that event. Contact zmarcum@yourmetroparks.net for more information on volunteer opportunities for a particular program or event.

Program Preparation Support

When: Flexible

Where: Multiple Locations

What: Park Connections staff presents multiple education, recreation, and conservation programs throughout the year. Volunteers are needed to help with preparing for MetroParks events and programs. Volunteers may create crafts, prepare signage, organize materials and supplies, clean materials and supplies, and other general tasks.

Welcome Center - Voice of America MetroPark

When: Flexible

Where: Voice of America MetroPark, Ronald Reagan Lodge, 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester, OH 45069

What: Volunteers are needed at the Welcome Center at Voice of America MetroPark. Welcome park customers with a smile, provide information about programs and the parks. Training provided.

Welcome Center - Forest Run MetroPark

When: Flexible

Where: Forest Run MetroPark Welcome Center, 1976 Timberman Road, Hamilton OH 45013

What: Volunteers are needed at the Welcome Center at Forest Run MetroPark. The Welcome Center provides a quiet interior space for visitors. Volunteers will help host guests, collect bird data, and help stock bird feeders. Training provided.

Other Ideas?

If you have skills or interests that you would like to translate into volunteer service for MetroParks, but don't see that option listed, contact us! MetroParks is always looking for new and innovative ways to get volunteers involved in the parks.

PLEASE NOTE: All ongoing volunteer opportunities must be scheduled directly with volunteer services. If you are interested in any of the above ongoing volunteer opportunities, please contact zmarcum@yourmetroparks.net or call (513) 867-5835 for more information.

Looking Ahead....

MetroParks asks that you begin thinking about any interest you may have in future volunteer opportunities. Some volunteer

July, 2016

opportunities to be looking forward to include:

Summer Adventure Camps – More Adventure Camps coming in August. This is a great opportunity for those who enjoy working with children.

Friends of Chisholm Fun on the Farm – Enjoy a day at the historic Chisholm farmstead! Volunteer help is needed for games, crafts, assisting with hayrides, assisting with animal demonstrations, event setup and clean up.

Horse Daze – MetroParks teams with Butler County Horsemen's Council for this day full of fun for the whole family! Assist with many activities including assisted horse rides, games, crafts, event set up and clean up.

If any of these future opportunities sound interesting to you, please email Zach Marcum at zmarcum@yourmetroparks.net for more information.



MetroParks 7th Annual Crazy Cardboard Regatta

The Crazy Cardboard Regatta is returning once again to the Voice of America MetroPark, just off of the I-75 corridor in West Chester, OH.



“The crowd always embraces this event where members of the community, businesses and individuals show off their ingenuity and

creativity as they build and race boats made of cardboard”, explained Cris Trammell, Supervisor of Park Connections. “There is still time to make a splash of your own and build a boat.” Boat registrations are still being accepted.

The event itself will kick off on Saturday, July 16th at 11 a.m. with demonstrations and activities throughout the park!

Robert Guaderrama, reporter, from the Fox19 Now news team will be serving as this year’s emcee keeping all the parts moving for both participants and spectators alike.

There will be lots of action underway both on and off of the water. PIGS Aloft Kite Club will provide a kite flying spectacle high up in the sky. Buckeye United Fly Fishers will entertain children of all ages with a fly casting & tying activity in the Lakeview Room. Thanks to Child Time, the kid’s area will be bigger and better than ever. And a musical performance, provided by The SunBurners-a steel drum band, will create the perfect island vibe for MetroParks fun summer event!

At 11:30 a.m. campers from MetroParks of Butler County’s Adventure Camp program will take the lake to participate in the Daycamper Race. Let’s cheer on these brave and creative kids as they seek the coveted “Golden Oar” award.

At noon, the cardboard boats take the stage & the races begin!!

MetroParks is excited to be back to provide another great day of family friendly summer FUN in the park.

“Each year more and more people have come to enjoy a great day of family fun and entertainment in a great park.” said Kelly Barkley, Sr. Manager of Community Relations. “MetroParks is especially grateful to Chick-Fil-A, Dave & Busters, CycleBar, Fricker’s, Top Golf & TJ Maxx as well as other programming partners and groups providing in-kind donations, for their assistance in helping add new exciting elements to the event each year.”

Admission to the event is FREE. Motor Vehicle Permits are required. They are FREE to Butler County residents. Non-Residents Motor Vehicle are \$5/day and \$10/annually.

If you still are considering building a boat or volunteering for the event, there is still time to get involved!

Information can be found on MetroParks of Butler County website www.yourmetroparks.net. Forms are available at the Welcome Center at VOA MetroPark at 7850 VOA Park Dr., West Chester OH 45069, MetroParks administration building at 2051 Timberman Rd., Hamilton, Ohio 45013 or from The Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty | 5641 Union Centre Dr. West Chester, OH 45069. For more information call MetroParks at 513-867-5835. All Funds from this event benefit the Water Recreation Fund at The Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty.

The Hanging Gardens of Zion

By Bill Walker

Friends of MPX Vice President

Just back from a trip to the national parks of southern Utah. Our tour included Snow Canyon State Park, Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef, Arches, Canyonlands, Monument Valley, Lake Powell, Rainbow Bridge, and the north rim of the Grand Canyon. Each was more beautiful than the last – especially if you like red rocks

One of the dominant red rock zones encountered in the southwest is Navajo Sandstone. This structure is highly porous, and contains large amounts of water in a desert-like environment. The layer immediately below the sandstone is relatively impermeable to the water. This causes seeps and streams to flow from the rock, leading to formation of hanging gardens of columbine and penstemon growing out of cracks in the Navajo Sandstone. What a way to survive in a desert!

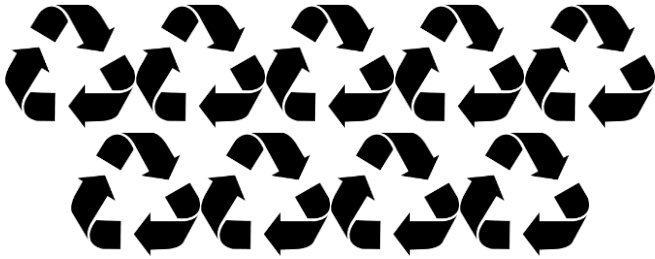


July, 2016

Pioneer Village Open House



MetroParks Educational Programs Materials Wish List:



As you sort your recyclables on trash night, please consider donating some of the following items to us that might otherwise end up in Rumpke. Please take any donations to the information window at VOA MetroPark.

Recyclable/ re-purposed materials:

- Craft sticks- any sized
- Clean & empty 2 liter bottles
- Clean & empty large coffee containers
- Clean & empty large cottage cheese containers
- Clean & empty large yogurt containers
- Clean & empty paper egg cartons
- Gently used athletic equipment
- Gently used board games
- Gently used Legos
- Any length of 2x4 boards
- Fabric scraps

Other things you may have laying around:

- Pencils
- Pens
- Paper cups
- Paper plates
- Rubber bands
- Clothespins
- Ziplock baggies
- Craft materials: glitter, stickers, pipe cleaners, feathers, beads, etc.
- Paper for crafts: tissue paper, construction paper, foam paper, cardstock paper, etc.

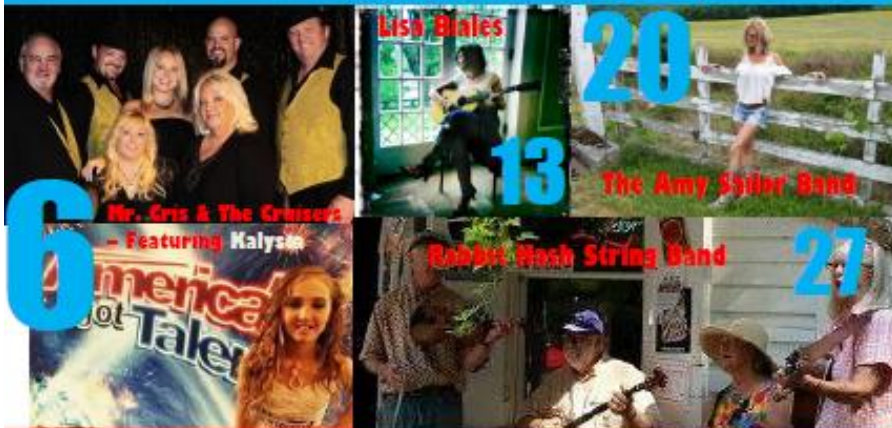


EVERY WEDNESDAY 7:00 PM

JUNE



JULY



AUGUST



RAINFOUTS: Scheduled concerts may be cancelled in the event of rain. For more information, please check MetroParks of Butler County FaceBook page after 4pm on the day of the concert.



**EVERY WEDNESDAY
JUNE- AUGUST 2016**

**Voice of America MetroPark
Gazebo on the Lake
Behind the Ronald Reagan Lodge
7850 VOA Park Drive
West Chester, Ohio 45069**

FEATURING:

- **FREE MUSIC**
- **FOOD & ADULT BEVERAGES**
- **LAKE ACTIVITIES**
- **BIKE & BOAT RENTALS**
- **MID WEEK RELAXATION**
- **PLAYGROUND FOR THE KIDS**



NOW THAT'S FAMILY FUN!

www.YourMetroParks.net
513.867.5835



Motor Vehicle Permit Required , Motor Vehicle Permit FREE to Butler County Residents, Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annual



Saturday, July 16, 2016
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

WHERE:

Voice of America MetroPark
7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester, OH 45069

FEATURING:

- **Cardboard Boat Races • Music • Food & Drinks**
- **Vendors • Kids Activities & Games**
- **Demonstrations & MORE!!**

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OF BUTLER COUNTY

NOW THAT'S FAMILY FUN!

www.YourMetroParks.net

513.867.5835

Benefiting *The Water Recreation Fund* at The Community Foundation

Family-Friendly Fun

**Free admission for
spectators***

Race Categories:

The Fast & The Floundering

**Boats built for speed or for
show...the fastest boats move
on!**

**Awards for speed,
creativity, &
presentation!!**

**Soggy Bottom
Battle**

**The last boat floating
wins in this "crash derby" style
competition!**

Registration Forms:

**Boat, Vendor, & Sponsorship
forms under General
Information at
www.YourMetroParks.net**



160229 (kjb) approved

mud mania



WHEN:

Friday, August 5, 2016

Saturday, August 6, 2016

TIME:

11:00 AM-3:00 PM both days

WHERE:

Rentschler Forest MetroPark

Reigart Road Area

5701 Reigart Road, Hamilton, OH 45011

The messiest family FUN around!

**FEATURING • Mud Volleyball • Slimy Obstacle Course •
Muddy Pools • Food Vendors • Little Mudders Area**

A FAMILY FUN EVENT!

Come prepared to get wet & dirty!

REGISTER ONLINE OR AT THE EVENT

FREE/Under 5

\$2/ages 6-15

\$5/16 & over

Please Note:

All participants must wear shoes.



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OF BUTLER COUNTY

NOW THAT'S FAMILY FUN!

www.YourMetroParks.net

513.867.5835

Motor Vehicle Permit required at MetroPark locations. Free to Butler Co. residents, Non Residents: \$5/Daily; \$10/annually



WHEN:

**Saturday, August 20, 2016
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

WHERE:

**Chrisholm MetroPark
Chrisholm Historic Farmstead
2070 Woodsdale Road
Trenton, OH 45067**

Enjoy a day of fun on the farm! Visit the historic Amish-Mennonite home. Enjoy demonstrators and shop at local farm-friendly vendors.

Motor Vehicle Permits will be available at the event.

ALL AGES WELCOME

FEE: \$5.00 PER VEHICLE

ENTRANCE FEE COVERS:

- **Farm games & crafts**
- **Egg hunt**
- **Hayrides**
- **Animals**
- **Open hearth cooking**
- **Garden exploration**
- **Farm equipment**



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OF BUTLER COUNTY
NOW THAT'S FAMILY FUN!

www.YourMetroParks.net
513.867.5835

kjb160427

HORSE DAZE



WHEN:

Saturday, September 17, 2016

10 am– 4 pm {Join us rain or shine}

WHERE:

Sebald Park

5580 Elk Creek Road, Middletown, OH 45042

Lasso up some FUN!

Motor Vehicle Permit Required. Motor Vehicle Permit FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents \$5/daily or \$10/annual

**FREE Family
Friendly Event**

FEATURING:

**Horse Rides
Tractor Drawn Hayrides
Horse Photo Opportunity
Demonstrations
Games & Activities
Food & Drinks**

Co-Sponsored By:



The Butler County Chapter of



Friends of MetroParks of Butler County



Our Mission	To improve and preserve the parks for future generations, to educate and inform the public about the unique qualities of each MetroPark, and to encourage individuals and groups to participate in volunteer programs
Member Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitations to Member-only events • Opportunity to apply for funding to support MetroParks programs and projects • Attend Annual Meeting and have a voice in Friends activities and direction
Who Are We?	<p><i>Private citizens who have come together to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsor programs & activities, promoting the use of MetroParks for conservation, education and recreation • Encourage volunteerism toward support of MetroParks of Butler County • Identify and implement improvements to the park • Assist in raising funds, securing donations, and obtaining grants monies to further MetroParks' mission

Yes, I/We want to be a member of Friends of MetroParks of Butler County!

Detach the form below and Mail it with your check to the address below

Become a Friend!

Simply fill in this form, detach and mail it with your check. Made payable to:

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County
PO Box 691
Hamilton, OH 45012

Pick an Annual Membership

- Individual - \$10
- Family - \$15
- Group/Business - \$100
- Donation - \$ _____

Name(s)/Contact _____ Date _____

Group or Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home/Business Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email (required to receive newsletter) _____