

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter May, 2017 **FOMPBC Officers President:** metr@parks Bill Walker Sebald Park Vice-President, 5580 Elk Creek Road Nick Lengyel eds Foot Trail 352 acres E Legend Secretary: Elk Cre **Robin James Treasurer: Richard Burgstrom Nominating Chair:** Roger Koch Small F **Publicity Chair:** Bill Walker 800 ft **Outreach Chair:** Contact Information Chuck Holliday MetroParks of Butler County Administrative Office **Finance Chair:** 513-867-5835 **Richard Burgstrom** In case of an emergency DIAL 911 www.YourMetroParks.net **Grants & Fund Raiser Chair Robin James Membership Chair:** Nick Lengyel Loop (Brown) **Events Chair** Allison Wagner **May Board Meeting** Web Master: **Friends of MetroParks of Butler County** Craig Wiseman **Newsletter Editor:** Elk Run (Sebald) MetroPark Bill Walker 5580 Elk Creek Road, Middletown, Ohio Wednesday, May 10, 2017, 6:30 – 9:00 pm

Letter from the President

As the Hawaiian said after the lava buried the Coastal Highway, I've got a hard road to follow. Chuck Holliday has been actively involved with the Friends of MetroParks since the original charter was signed. He will remain on the board of directors so we can continue to benefit from his wisdom. After so many years of working 100 hours per week, he has decided to cut back to only working 50 hours per week. This means that Chuck has stepped down as president, and that I drew the short straw to replace him (or try). Thanks, Chuck, for your continuing hard work on behalf of FoMPBC.

Other recent changes in the Executive Committee are the addition of Nick Lengyel as vice president and Robin James as Secretary. Richard Burgstrom has agreed to continue in his role as treasurer.

By-Law changes to allow board members to be reelected for a third term without remaining off the board for a year were approved by the membership at the annual meeting. Board members affected by this change are Chuck Holliday and Bill Walker.

New board members approved by the membership were Robin James, John Baumann, and Carri Mosier.

The board of directors would like to extend its sympathy to Carol Koch for the recent loss of her mother.

No sooner did Nick Lengyel agree to run for the office of vice-president than he found himself on the operating table at the receiving end of a triplebypass and a heart valve. Although he missed the annual meeting and dinner, he came through surgery without a hitch. Soon, if the doctors allow (and wife, Judy, unlocks his leg chain), Nick will be back in action. He told me that he may have to wait a bit before returning to the golf course and will probably have to give up his promising career in mud wrestling.

After several years without an official secretary the board thanks Robin James for filling the breach. Many thanks to Chris Trammell who voluntarily took minutes during the hiatus.

See you in the parks, Bill Walker, President FOMPBC You are invited to join us.....

"Members Only"

Presented by Friends of MetroPark of Butler County

Shooting Stars of Indian Creek MetroPark

Indian Creek MetroPark

6500 Springfield Road, Reily, OH 45056

Saturday, May 13, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Trails are easy walking, but can be muddy and slick at times.

Bring your cameras and your field guides as we visit this awesome MetroPark in search of several unique spring ephemerals: Shooting Stars, Wild Hyacinth and Nodding Trillium.

Questions?

Chuck Holliday

Chuckh@hollidayintheparks.com

513.305.6223



Congratulations:

Please help us in congratulating Debby Stewart in her promotion into the role of Supervisor of Park Connections. Debby brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from not only here at MetroParks but the private and non-profit fields. Debby has already transitioned to a full-time schedule and will retain her office at the Administrative Building. Debby can be reached through the MetroParks phone system at extension #: 316 or on her mobile number at: 513.444.7904.

In the upcoming weeks Debby, will be reaching out to many of you to ensure a smooth transition in

leadership with Park Connections. Please proactively bring her up to date on any projects, programs or partnerships you feel she should be aware of.

Good News Krogers Community Rewards

Dear Community Rewards Organization:

Thank you for being a member of the Kroger Community Rewards program. We are committed to helping our communities grow and prosper. Year after year, local schools, churches and other nonprofit organizations earn \$4 million in Greater Cincinnati, Dayton and Northern Kentucky through our Community Rewards program.

We've got great news to share with you! We've listened to your feedback and are making updates to our Community Rewards process and software. As of April 1, 2017, your supporters will no longer have to re-enroll their Kroger Plus Card to earn dollars for your organization. We believe this will make it easier for your organization and our customers to support you!

М	D	Time	Event	Location
July	9	12-4 pm	Pioneer for a Day	Gov. Bebb
	15	10am- 4pm	Crazy Cardboard Regatta	VOA
Aug	4-5		Mud Mania	Rentschler
	12	12-4 pm	Fun on the Farm	Chrisholm
Sep	16	10am- 4 pm	Horse Daze	Sebald
Oct	7		Barn Dance	Chrisholm
	21		Run Forest Run	Forest Run
Oct	22	10am- 4pm	The Howl	VOA
Dec	1 2 3	5-9 5-9 4-8pm	Brilliant Bebb	Gov Bebb

FOMPBC 2017 Calendar of Events

MetroParks of Butler County receives OPRA Award of Excellence for Big Week of Birding in Butler County

By Lynette Dean

Earlier this year MetroParks of Butler County received a 3rd place Award of Excellence from the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA) in the category of Environmental & Interpretive Programs for its 2016 program "The Big Week of Birding in Butler County". Winners were announced in November, 2016, and were presented at the OPRA at a banquet hosted by the association on February 14, 2017 at the Kalahari Convention



Center in Sandusky, Ohio.

The awards are judged by a panel of parks and recreation professionals from around Ohio. It is an honor to be recognized by one's peers. MetroParks' staff and our volunteers are passionate about connecting people to nature and the outdoors. The Friends of MetroParks of Butler County was a major part of the success of this program.

For the 2016 Big Week of Birding in Butler County, MetroParks staff and partner agencies, Audubon Miami Valley (AMV) and Friends of MetroParks of Butler County (FOMBC), created a program series highlighting both the spring neotropical bird migration, as well as local birding sites in Butler County. The series included 15 programs, starting with a workshop, "How to Identify Spring Bird Migrants", conducted by renowned local professor, Dr. Dave Russell, of Miami University, to orient and inspire all levels of birding participants. Then, in the first week of May, 14 bird identification hikes, both morning and evening, were conducted throughout Butler County.

"Parks and recreation professionals throughout Ohio work every day to improve the quality of life of the people they serve," said OPRA Executive Director Woody Woodward. "This effort is a shining example of that kind of work, and we are pleased to be able to present this award."

The 2017 Big Week of Birding in Butler County began on Tuesday April 18th with Dr. Dave Russell's warbler refresher and then April 29 – May 6th will be a series of birding hikes. Information can be found on MetroParks website,

www.YourMetroParks.net.



Dave Russell teaching bird call recognition at VOA MetroPark



Annual Meeting Highlights



Chuck Holliday presents Friend of the Year award to Bill Ison

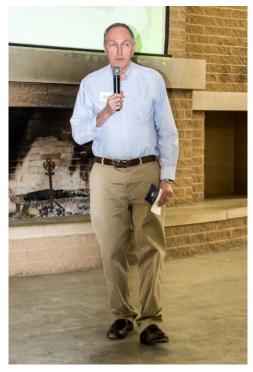


Larry Gersbach presents Outstanding Community Service award to Chuck Holliday



Jon Granville describes growth plans for MPX

The Voice of the Turtle, May, 2017



Mike Henderson describes the history and ecology of Woodland Trails Scout Reservation



John Vest adds details about the growth of the Reservation

Thanks to the BSA and district leaders for the use of Woodland Trails Scout Reservation for our annual meeting. Both the camp and the mess hall facilities are beautiful and well cared for. Thanks also to Roger Koch and Allie Wagner for their efforts in planning the event.

Ongoing Service Opportunities

Feeder Fill/Feeder Watch!

When: Flexible Winter Months Where: Forest Run Welcome Center 1976 Timberman Rd. Hamilton OH 45013 Who: Families, Adults What: Stop by and fill the bird feeders once a week. View wildlife from the wildlife viewing area at the Welcome Center and record your observations! Training available. Contact Joe Dumyahn jdumyahn@YourMetroParks.net

Trail Ambassadors – Great Miami River Trail When: Flexible Where: Great Miami River 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.

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 Sara Schapman at sschapman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

Program Event & Preparation Support

When: Flexible

Where: Multiple Locations

What: Park Connections staff presents multiple education, recreation, and conservation programs and events 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 and volunteer for the program itself.

Welcome Center - Voice of America MetroPark When: Flexible

Where: Voice of America MetroPark, Ronald Reagan Lodge, 7850 VOA Park Dr., West Chester OH 45069 What: Volunteers are needed at the Welcome Center at Voice of America MetroPark. Welcome park customer/owners with a smile, provide information about programs and the parks. Training provided. Contact Claudia Whitacre cwhitacre@YourMetroParks.net

Bag-Stuffers

When: 9 am to noon, June 15 Where: Chrisholm MetroPark What: Filling race packets for MOJO race entrants. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Contact: Sara Schapman Volunteer Coordinator MetroParks of Butler County (513) 867-5835 ext 320

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:

VOA Welcome Center , VOA Park Drive, West Chester; when open, generally 9am- 4:30 pm

Forest Run Engel House (Administrative Building), 2051 Timberman Rd., Hamilton ; 9am- 4:30 pm week days.

Recyclable/ re-purposed materials:

- Craft sticks- any sized
- 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.





Like our Facebook Page for updates on:

-Upcoming members events & meetings -Volunteering with MPX -MPX programming







2017 BIG WEEK OF BIRDING IN BUTLER COUNTY



SAT. APRIL 29 - SAT. MAY 6, 2017

WARBLER REFRESHER with Dr. Dave Russell Tue. April 18, 2017 from 7 - 9 PM Voice of America MetroPark

Tuesday April 18	7-9 PM	Voice of America MetroPark 7850 VOA Park Dr., West Chester 45069		
Saturday, April 29	7:30-9:30 AM	Gilmore MetroPark 7950 Gilmore Rd., Hamilton 45015		
Sururuuffriprin ==		4-Mile Creek MetroPark- Davidson Woods Pre-registration required.		
Sunday, April 30	7:30-9:30 AM	Chrisholm MetroPark: Woodsdale Regiona 1917 Woodsdale Rd., Trenton 45067		
Sunday, April 30	6:30-8:30 PM	Forest Run MetroPark Wildlife Preserve 1810 New London Rd., Hamilton 45013		
Monday, May 1	6:30-8:30 PM	Salamander Run Preserve Pre-registration required.		
Tuesday, May 2	7:30-9:30 AM	Hueston Woods State Park Banding Stn 6301 Park Office Rd., College Corner 45003		
Wednesday May 3	6:30-8:30 PM	Elk Creek MetroPark 5401 Mosiman Rd., Middletown 45042		
Thursday May 4	7:30-9:30 AM	Governor Bebb MetroPark 1979 Bebb Park Ln., Okeana 45053		
Friday May 5	6:30-8:30 PM	4-Mile Creek MetroPark - Sycamore Bluffs 3884 Wallace Rd., Oxford 45056		
Saturday, may o		Indian Creek MetroPark 6500 Springfield Rd., Oxford 45056		
Saturday, May 6 6:30-8:30 PM		Rentschler MetroPark: Timberhill 3976 Hamilton-Middletown Rd., Hamilton 45011		

Winner of the 2016 Award of Excellence for Environmental & Interpretive programs by the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (3rd place)

ALL AGES & BIRDING ABILITIES WELCOME COST: FREE



- 4th Annual BIG WEEK of birding
- Details on MetroParks website
- New Locations added this year!
- Pre-Registration required for some programs
- www.YourMetroParks.net
- 513-867-5835



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

BEGINNING FLY FISHING



Saturday, May 6, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Cabela's 7250 Cabela Drive, West Chester

To begin fly fishing you need to know some basics about equipment, a couple of knots, and a little about casting. This class will teach you just that on day one.

Sunday, May 7, 2017 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Voice of America MetroPark 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester

Day two (May 7) you'll actually be casting for fish. This will be a catch and release session. A one-day fishing license will be included with your registration. This class is the perfect way to learn the basics of a sport that will lead to a lifetime of enjoyment.



FREE!

Pre-registration is required!

Participants must attend <u>both</u> days

14-years & up only (Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult at all times)

For more information about the program: 513.342.5346

To register: www.YourMetroParks.net or 513.867.5835





World's Foremost Outfitter

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

THANK A BEE!



When: Saturday, May 13, 2017

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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

Get the buzz on beekeeping with beekeeper Bruce Benskin from Windy Field Bee Farms. Discover the uses of honey products and how to attract these important pollinators to your very own garden.

Registration requested, walk ups welcome. Register at www.YourMetroParks.net

or call 513.867.5835

FREE

All ages welcome

Visit a bee hive Sample bee products Door prizes Craft Bee products for sale

Weather dependent. Registered participants will be emailed if program is canceled.





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



WHEN

Every Wednesday 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. May 31st - August 16th

- WHERE Volce of America MetroPark Gazebo on the Lake 7850 VOA Park Drive West Chester, OH 45069
- PRICE FREE TO THE PUBLIC

REGISTER YourMetroParks.net Registration Not Required

FEATURING

- Free music
- Midweek relaxation
- Food & adult beverages for purchase
- Lake activities
- Bike & boat rentals
- Family yard games
- Playground for the kids









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513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net



MAY 31	Stagger Lee Band	
JUNE 7	Saffire Express	
JUNE 14	Ty Cooper	
JUNE 21	The Belairs	
JUNE 28	Jamison Road	
JULY 5	Ooh La La	
JULY 12	The Sunburners	
JULY 19	Kelsey Mira	
JULY 26	Hickory Robot	
AUGUST 2	The McCartney Project	
AUGUST 9	Square Thirteen	
AUGUST 16	Parrots of the Caribbean	



JUNE 2017	NATIONAL TRAILS DAY HIKE Gilmore MetroPark Sat, June 3, 10 a.m 12 p.m. Rentschler Forest MetroPark Thurs., June 8, 10 a.m 12 p.m. Rentschler Forest MetroPark Thurs., June 8, 10 a.m 12 p.m. Rentschler Forest MetroPark Friu, June 9, 9 a.m 4 p.m. Ages 12-17 Pre-registration is required. \$20/resident, \$25/non-resident friu, June 9, 9 a.m 4 p.m. Ages 12-17 Pre-registration is required. \$20/resident, \$25/non-resident Friu, June 9, 10-11:30 a.m. REE Outdoor Adventure Rentschler Forest MetroPark Friu, June 12, & Tues., June 13 9 a.m 4 p.m., Ages 6-12 Pre-registration is required. \$40/resident, \$50/non-resident CREEKING	FAMILY FUN FRIDAYS We've Got the Sun Power Rentschler Forest MetroPark Fri., June 16, 10-11:30 a.m. FREE MOJO RUNNING TRIATHLON	Voice of America MetroPark Sat., June 18, begins at 7 a.m. Pre-registration required. Registration closes 6/14. 7-5835
	FARMANIMAL BARINAL FARMANIMAL SHOW & TEL Chrisholm MetroPark Sundays, 2-4 p.m. Beginning Sun., Apr. 9 Beginning Su	Indian Creek MetroPark Sat., May 20, 9 a.m 12 p.m. FREE, pre-registration is required. FROG JOG 5K In partnership with the East Butler YMCA. Sat., May 20 race begins at 9 AM	 d. MetroParks fegister at gravymca.org. ferina at www.YourMetroParks.net or call (513) 867-5835
2017	i WEEK OF BIRDING - FREE more MetroPark . Apr. 29, 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. lile Creek MetroPark idson Area . Apr. 29, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. -registration required isholm MetroPark odsdale Area . Apr. 30, 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. est Run MetroPark diffe Preserve . Apr. 30, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. -registration required eston Woods diffe Preserve and Nay 1, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. . May 1, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Creek MetroPark adow Ridge d. May 3, 6:30 - 9:30 a.m. Creek MetroPark adow Ridge d. May 3, 6:30 - 9:30 a.m. in Creek MetroPark amore Bluffs Area May 5, 6:30 - 9:30 a.m.	Springneid kd. Area Sat. May 6, 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. Rentschler Forest MetroPark Timberhill Activity Area Sat. May 6, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	MetroParks of Butler County, OH more information visit us at www.
APRIL 2017	KING CLUB ip with the East B ridgewater Falls. s., Apr. 11, 8:30 a yourwalkingclub. Encrest MetroPark of find your way th with OCIN. Bring ster eggs! Forest MetroPark Area 3, 5 - 7 p.m. MetroPark Area 5, 2 - 4 p.m. egg trail I members -members -members of 7 - 9 p.m.	Sat. Apr. 22 Indian Creek MetroPark Springfield Rd. Area 9 a.m 12 p.m. Elk Creek MetroPark , Sebald Area 10 a.m 2 p.m. FREE	RICHTER DAY CELEBRATION Busenbark & Hamilton-Trenton Rd. Wed., Apr. 26, 11-11:45 a.m. FREE

 Governor Bebb MetroPark 1979 Bebb Park Ln. Okeana, OH 45053 	 Indian Creek MetroPark Pioneer Church: 3000 Indian Creek Rd. 1899 Oxford-Reily Rd. (SR 732) 6500 Springfield Rd. Oxford, OH 45056 	 Four-Mile Creek MetroPark Mill Race* Sycamore Bluffs* Davidson* Antenen: 2385 Treiber Rd. Hamilton, OH 45011 	 Salamander Run Opening Summer 2017 4821 Layhigh Rd. Hamilton, OH 45013 	 Forest Run MetroPark Wildlife Preserve: 1810 New London Rd. Admin. Office: 2051 Timberman Rd. Welcome Center: 1976 Timberman Rd. Hamilton, OH 45013 	 Gilmore MetroPark 7950 Gilmore Rd. Hamilton, OH 45015 	 Rentschler Forest MetroPark Reigart Rd. Entrance: 5701 Reigart Rd. Timberhill Area: 3976 HamMid. Rd. Line Hill Mound*: 3620 HamMid. Rd. 	 Elk Creek MetroPark Sebald Park: 5580 Elk Creek Rd. Meadow Ridge* Middletown, OH 45042 	 Chrisholm MetroPark Farmstead: 2070 Woodsdale Rd. Woodsdale Park: 1917 Woodsdale Rd. 	 10. Voice of America MetroPark 7850 VOA Park Dr. West Chester, OH 45069 *Open during scheduled programs only. 	
	of Butler County. OH	The mission of the MetroParks of Butler County is to provide a superior park system that maximizes the community's quality of life through conservation, education, and recreation.		th Oxford Oxford I and Addietown	And	Hamilton Fadel Twp	Liberty Twp	Okeana Ross Two Ros Two Ross Two Ross T	www.YourMetroParks.net	. In the second se

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





Stream Biology

Saturday, May 20 9 am—12 noon Indian Creek MetroPark 1899 Oxford Reily Rd, Reily, Ohio



Are you interested in the health of our local streams? If so, join Butler Soil and Water Conservation District and MetroParks of Butler County to learn about the biology of streams. After a brief background on streams, water quality, and the stream creatures, we will enter the creek to conduct a stream sample. This biological sample will help us to assess the health of the water. Interested attendees can become samplers for the Butler County Stream Team, a local water quality citizen science group.

Please wear closed toe footwear that can get wet. Please be aware this entire class will be held outdoors rain or shine. There are no shelters in this portion of the park.

This class is geared for teens and adults. Anyone under the age of 14 is welcome to attend one of the many free, family friendly, creek walk programs held throughout the summer. Please see www.yourmetroparks.net for more details on locations and dates.



Pre-Registration is required by May 18. To register, please contact Butler SWCD at 513-887-3720 or email your name to ButlerSWCD@ButlerCountyOhio.org.









WHEN: June 18th, 2017 at 7:00 AM

WHERE:

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

WHO: Open to triathletes of all experience levels with Sprint, Olympic, & Relay options

Tri a MetroPark....Live Life in Forward Motion

~3rd Annual~

Cost:

- Sprint: \$70
- Olympic: \$80
- Sprint Relay: \$115
- Olympic Relay: \$130

Race:

Swim in VOA lake, run along park trails, and bike on streets of West Chester!

Registration:

https://www.racemine.com/Mojo-Running/events/2017/MetroParks-Mojo -Running-Triathlon

Registration closes on June 14th, 2017

Register before May 1st to receive <u>\$5 off</u>on any registration!





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

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County



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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	 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?	 Private citizens who have come together to: 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!

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

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Become a Friend!	Pick an Annual Membership				
Simply fill in this form, detach and mail it with your check. Made payable to:	☐ Individual - \$10				
Friends of MetroParks of Butler County	□ Family - \$15				
PO Box 691	□ Group/Business -\$100				
Hamilton, OH 45012	Donation - \$				
Name(s)/Contact	Date				
Name(s)/Contact	Date				
Group or Business Name					
Address					
City	State Zip				
Home/Business Phone	Cell Phone				
Email (required to receive newsletter)					
_					