

# The Voice of the Turtle



## Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter  
September, 2015

### FOMPBC Officers

**President:**

Chuck Holliday

**Vice-President,**

Bill Walker

**Nominating Chair:**

Roger Koch

**Secretary:**

Amy Cameron

**Treasurer:**

Richard Burgstrom

**Publicity Chair:**

Bill Walker

**Outreach Chair:**

Chuck Holliday

**Finance Chair:**

Richard Burgstrom

**Membership Chair:**

Abby Ison

**Web Master:**

Craig Wiseman

**Newsletter Editor:**

Bill Walker



**Just a note to remind you that there will be a Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Board of Directors meeting held on:**

**September 9, 2015**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Sebald Park**

Since the early 1990's MetroParks has managed this 352-acre park area, nestled in the Elk Creek Valley, under agreement with the City of Middletown, which developed the park in the 1970's. In the Fall of 2014 ownership of Sebald Park was transferred to MetroParks by means of a purchase agreement with the City of Middletown.

This beautiful natural setting provides views of the wooded hills forming the walls of the creek valley while the open lawn areas of the park serve as recreation space for visitors using the park's 11 covered picnic shelters and three play areas for children. Hiking trails are routed throughout the woods and along Elk Creek, which runs the length of the park. For the horse back riders, the Horse Trail at Sebald Park offers 9.5 miles of trails that are designed for both the beginning and the seasoned riders. Come on ride on Butler County's only public horse riding trails!

**All Members of Friends of MetroParks of Butler County are welcome to attend.**

**Letter from the President**

Hi All,

August is gone, what a great and busy month. Mud Mania was awesome, the “Members Only” Stargazing was great, Middletown and Trenton’s Nights Out brought out the crowds. Fun on the Farm was a huge success, too! September looks to be another exciting month with “Horse Daze” coming to Sebald Park on September 12.

Thanks to Bill and Abby Ison for bringing Lana to the Middletown and Trenton events. Lana is one big attraction and a guarantee to draw the kids at any event. Lana is Bill and Abby’s Clydesdale, and what a charmer.

Many Thanks, to Mike Smith of the Cincinnati Astronomical Society, for presenting an excellent program on meteors to the members and friends of FOMPBC. Around 30 members and friends of FOMPBC attend the informative meeting. After the presentation in the Welcome Center, we moved across the road to the playground area of Forest Run to view the night skies.

Mud Mania, What FUN! Two Days of awesome!



Thanks to Bryan Urban, park manager, and his crew for creating and maintaining the great course. Thanks to the Fairfield Township Fire Department for their clean up

duties, who doesn’t love to be sprayed down by a fire hose?

**Dudley Woods update,**

Amazing what changes in our parks our parks from week to week and month to month. My wife and I decided to take a quick hike at Dudley Woods a few days ago. Checking back our last visits there were the wildflower walk in April, and fighting invasive plants in May. What a transformation over the summer, the picnic shelter has been reroofed, over 30 thorny honey locust trees were removed from around the shelter and the cabin, trails were moved, and a new trail was established. The stream bank restoration was almost unnoticeable. Fall blooming wildflowers were seeking sunlight everywhere along the trails. Beautiful stands of yellow wingstem and blue great lobelia lined the trails that had been cleared of honeysuckle.



Enjoy our parks, take time to explore the beauty and wonders that are all around us.

Good Parks,

Chuck Holliday



## FOMPBC Calendar September 2015

- 9 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00-8:30 PM
- 12 Horse Daze Sebald 11:00 AM-4:00 PM
- 27 Members-Only Total Lunar Eclipse Watch, Forest Run MetroPark, 9 – 11 PM

## Outreach Committee

The OUTREACH/EVENTS COMMITTEE is a newly formed FOMPBC group. Our purpose is to organize the presence of our group's message at selected MetroParks and other cultural events. All members of FOMPBC are welcome to join this committee, Please DO!

FOMPBC volunteers are needed for these MetroParks SPECIAL EVENTS!

### Sept 12 Horse Daze

We need volunteers to help at the FOMPBC table from 11:00 AM to 4:00 pm with our interactive and kid friendly display. We will be unveiling our "I am A FRIEND!" display for photo opps with our mascot.

# I am a FRIEND!



## FRIENDS

of MetroParks of Butler County

### Kroger Plus Card Community Rewards Update:

**\$120.81 (Cycle 4, Qtr 1)**

Every fiscal quarter Kroger donates one million dollars to local community groups.



Dear Friends of Metro Parks of Butler County,

The Kroger Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to local communities. We do this through a variety of activities, including charitable giving, sponsorships and the unique Community Rewards Program of Kroger. We are also committed to carefully protecting our customers' personal information. In order to meet their expectation of privacy, we have adopted a simple policy to never share a customer's personal information. Our privacy policy applies to Community Rewards participation as well. As your neighborhood food retailer, we deeply value our ability to support local organizations like yours.

If you have any questions, please email [cincinnaticommunityrewards@kroger.com](mailto:cincinnaticommunityrewards@kroger.com) or visit our website at [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com). Thank you for your continued support of your local Kroger store.

Don't forget to use your newsletter, website, and events to encourage your supporters to link to your organization.



*The more your supporters shop with us, the more money your organization will earn!*

*Thank you,  
Community Rewards Staff*

Thank You to all of the FOMPBC family and friends who have contributed to this program.

Organization Name: **Friends of MetroParks of Butler County**

Organization Number: **15599**

You do not have to be a member of FOMPBC to participate, nor do you have to select FOMPBC as your donation group. Please register for this program, make your spendable income work to benefit of your choice. You may change your selection of organizations every 6 months

Please enroll, sign up family, friends and neighbors.

Now that's family fun! **MetroParks Volunteer Opportunities** for September.

**Conservation Connection: Citizen Scientist & Conservation Project Update**

September 13, 4- 6 PM, Forest Run Welcome Center (1976 Timberman Road, Hamilton OH 45013) Get updates on nest box monitoring, bird-banding, invasive species and more. Join other volunteers for a Potluck Supper (bring your favorite dish) and evening of sharing.



**Horse Daze**

September 12, 11 AM- 4 PM Sebald MetroPark (5580 Elk Creek Road, Middletown, OH 45042) Many hands needed to assist horse rides, children's activities, registration and concessions. Join the Butler County Chapter of the Ohio Horseman's Council in promoting horse related programming in Butler County.

**Stepping Forward Service Day**

September 19, 9 AM- 12 PM Governor Bebb MetroPark (1979 Bebb Park Lane, Okeana, OH 45053) Join with other volunteers at this site of the Pioneer Village and Camping facility. Help on trails or in the village. Wear work clothes and sturdy footwear - tools and refreshments provided. Bring a friend- walk ups welcome.

**Program Support:** a volunteer set of eyes and hands would be welcomed for any of these family programs (choose one!):

- Sept. 10 BUZZ Bee Workshop
- Sept 26 & 27 Great Outdoor Weekend: Walk on the WildSide; 4-Mile Creek Hike; Lunar Eclipse Watch; Amish Quilt Display

**School Field Trips**

September –November, Governor Bebb, Chrisholm & Dudley Woods- if you enjoy children and have an interest in history, step back in time with staff to share the unique heritage of Butler County and Ohio. Training is provided.

**SAVE THE DATE** for more family fun volunteer service days and programs:

- **Harvest Fun Hayrides**  
Saturday afternoons in October
- **Mill Creek Clean Up** October 3,  
Gilmore Ponds, 9am- 1pm
- **Great Miami Clean Sweep** October 24, 9 am- 12 pm, Rentschler Forest MetroParks & the Great Miami

River Recreation Trail (Trenton and Middletown)

- **Salamander Run Restoration Project** October 17, 20, 27, 31 and /or Nov.7, 11 am – 3 pm each day
- **Sweetest Day** October 17, 3- 7 pm, Forest Run Welcome Center
- **Make a Difference Day** October 24, 9 am- 12 pm, Rentschler Forest MetroParks Timberhill Activity Area
- **The Howl** 1 pm- 4 pm Oct 25 Voice of America MetroPark
- **Trail of Treats** October 31, 1-4 PM, Forest Run MetroPark Timberman Ridge

Please sign up online (volunteer page of MetroParks website) or contact Cristy [ctammell@yourmetroparks.net](mailto:ctammell@yourmetroparks.net) to volunteer or to find out more about these family friendly programs and volunteer opportunities.



## Mud Mania 2015

### Critter Corner By Christine Gates

Finding a luna moth (*Actias luna*) is always a cause for excitement! Although common in Ohio, they are rarely seen because luna moths live only a single week as adults. The moth pictured (above/below) was found at Chrisholm MetroPark, and is a perfect example of a male luna moth. Males and females look very similar, but males have larger, bushier antennae. After hatching from eggs, luna moths spend about a month as large green caterpillars before forming a cocoon. Luna cocoons are able to wiggle and make noise to scare away predators. After two weeks the adult emerges, ready to find a mate. Luna moths are most often seen on summer nights, so keep an eye out if you happen to be near the woods!

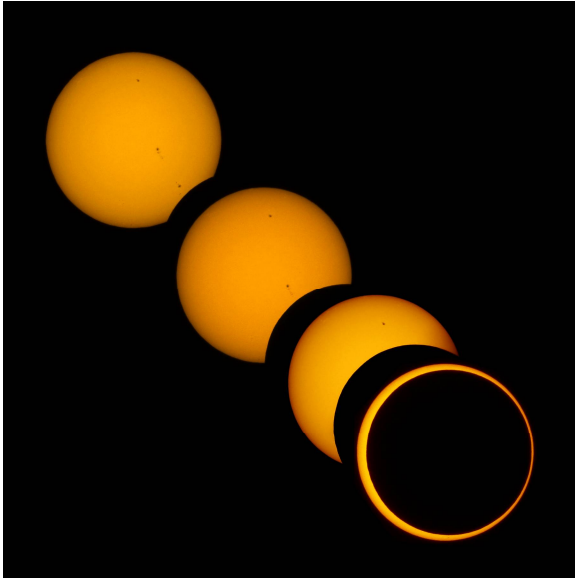




September, 2015



## “Members Only” Events 2015



### Total Lunar Eclipse Watch

Date: September 27  
Time: 9 – 11 PM  
Location: Forest Run MetroPark  
1976 Timberman Road  
Hamilton, OH 45013

Description: This eclipse is the fourth and last in a [tetrad](#), a series of **four consecutive total lunar eclipses** in 2014 – 2015.

The term [Blood Moon](#) has recently become popular when referring to the total lunar eclipses in the 2014 – 2015 lunar tetrad. While the term has no technical or astronomical basis, many people believe that it comes from the Bible, and that the occurrence of the lunar tetrad is a fulfillment of a biblical prophecy.

### Dudley Woods Cabin/Campfire

Date: Nov 6, 2015  
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM  
Location: William F. & Cora Dudley Woods  
5591 Hankins Rd. Liberty Twp, OH 45044  
Description: Visit the Historic Gregory Family cabin and enjoy a warm campfire



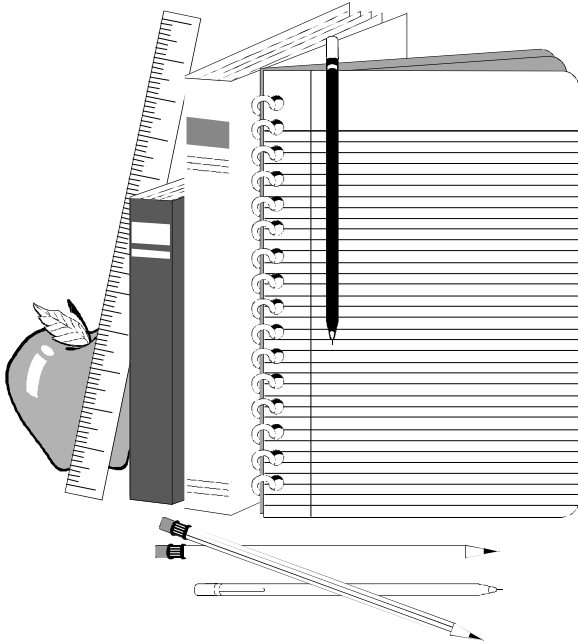
### MetroParks Educational Programs Materials wish list:

#### Recyclable/re-purposed materials

- Empty 35 mm film canister
- Craft sticks- any sized
- Craft materials: glitter, stickers, pipe cleaners, feathers, beads, etc
- Clear & cleaned empty 48-96 oz juice containers
- Clean & empty large coffee containers
- Clean & empty large cottage cheese containers
- Clean & empty large yogurt containers
- Gently used athletic equipment
- Gently used board games
- Gently used Legos
- Any length of 2x4 boards
- Fabric scraps

September, 2015

Paper for crafts: tissue paper,  
construction paper, foam paper,  
cardstock paper, etc.



**Other things you may have laying  
around:**

Pencils in good shape

Pens in good shape

Paper cups

Paper plates

Rubber bands

Bandanas

Clothespins



# NIGHT TIME SPECTACULAR



## **FRIDAY AUG 14, 2015, 9 - 11 P.M. Perseid Meteor Shower Watch**

**Forest Run MetroPark  
Wildlife Preserve Area  
1810 New London Rd.  
Hamilton OH 45013**

## **Sunday Sep 27, 2015, 9 - 11 P.M. Total Lunar Eclipse Watch**

**Forest Run MetroPark  
Welcome Center  
1976 Timberman Rd.  
Hamilton OH 45013**



OF BUTLER COUNTY  
[www.YourMetroParks.net](http://www.YourMetroParks.net)  
513.867.5835

**FREE**

**ALL AGES  
WELCOME**



**Bring a blanket and  
your lawn chair**

**Watch the night sky**

**Make lasting  
memories**



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

# Trail of Treats

**WHEN:**

**Saturday, October 31, 2015  
1 pm - 4 pm**

**WHERE:**

**Forest Run MetroPark  
Timberman Ridge Area  
1976 Timberman Road, Hamilton, Ohio**

**metroparks**

OF BUTLER COUNTY  
[www.YourMetroParks.net](http://www.YourMetroParks.net)  
513.867.5835

**FEATURING • Treats will be hidden throughout the park • Follow your map to find the hidden treats • Food and Drink • Straw maze • Hayrides • Shelled corn play area • Decorative photo op areas • Many harvest games and activities**

**ALL AGES WELCOME**

**Cost:**

**\$5.00/ Trick-or-Treater  
\* Adult chaperone required**



**Come in costume and earn a special prize!**



**Register on our website at  
[www.yourmetroparks.net](http://www.yourmetroparks.net)  
or by phone 513.867.5835**

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



metroparks  
OF BUTLER COUNTY  
**Special Events  
& Programs**

**HORSE  
DAZE**

Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>  
Sebald (11 AM – 4 PM)

The  
**HOWL**

Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>  
VOA Park (1 PM – 4 PM)

**TRAIL OF  
TREATS**

Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>  
Forest Run (1 PM – 4 PM)

**BRILLIANT  
BEBB:**   
ILLUMINATED PIONEER VILLAGE

December 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, & 6<sup>th</sup>  
Gov Bebb (6 PM – 9 PM)

**SANTA'S  
BRUNCH** 

Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>  
VOA (12:30 PM – 3 PM)

More information is available at [www.YourMetroParks.net](http://www.YourMetroParks.net) or at 513.867.5835

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



Saturdays  
October 10, 17 or 24  
Forest Run MetroPark  
(12, 1 or 2 PM)  
*By Reservation Only*



Now that's  
**Family FUN!**



# 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"> <li>• Invitations to Member-only events</li> <li>• Opportunity to apply for funding to support MetroParks programs and projects</li> <li>• Attend Annual Meeting and have a voice in Friends activities and direction</li> </ul>
Who Are We?	<p><i>Private citizens who have come together to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sponsor programs &amp; activities, promoting the use of MetroParks for conservation, education and recreation</li> <li>• Encourage volunteerism toward support of MetroParks of Butler County</li> <li>• Identify and implement improvements to the park</li> <li>• Assist in raising funds, securing donations, and obtaining grants monies to further MetroParks' mission</li> </ul>

***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) \_\_\_\_\_