

The Voice of the Turtle



Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter August, 2015

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

August 12, 2015

7:00 p.m.

**Timber Hill Area (Rentschler Forest
MetroPark)**

3976 Hamilton-Middletown Road, Hamilton, OH 45011

Hamilton, OH 45011

The Timber Hill Reservable Area at Rentschler Forest Preserve is a 57
acre camping facility dedicated solely to organized youth groups.

Timber Hill boasts open fields, woodlands, hiking trails and a
multitude of camping amenities perfect for all age groups.

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



“MEMBERS ONLY” Event STARGAZING

Date: Friday Evening, August 15

Time: 8:00 PM till 10:00 PM

Where: Forest Run Welcome Center

We will begin the evening inside of the Welcome Center with an interesting program presented by the Cincinnati Astronomical Society. As the skies darken we will venture out into the evening to search the distant skies.

Please RSVP for this event at email@fompbc.org

FOMPBC Calendar August 2015

- 4 Middletown Night Out 5-9:00 PM
- 7/8 Mud Mania
Rentschler Forest 11-3:00 PM
- 8 Trenton Night Out 5-9:00 PM
- 12 BOD Meeting
Timber Hill 7:00 PM
- 14 “Members Only”
Night Sky 8-10 PM
- 15 Fun on the Farm
Chrisholm 12-4:00 PM
- 15 Middletown Night Out 5-9:00 PM

Welcome New Group

**We are pleased to announce that
Timber Hill Restoration Coalition
has joined FOMPBC**

The Timber Hill Restoration Coalition (THRC), a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization is dedicated to improving and maintaining this one of a kind camping facility. The THRC works in collaboration MetroParks of Butler County, to raise funds for the enhancement and preservation of this campground. The Timber Hill Reservable Area at Rentschler Forest Preserve provides an environment where young people can foster independence, respect, self-confidence, leadership, teamwork, and an appreciation of the natural world.

FOMPBC would like to extend Our sincere condolences to the families of:

Rich and Lisa Owens on the loss of their daughter-in-law Becky Owens

Bill and Marylin McKnight on the loss of their son, Colin Mcknight

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!

- Aug 15 Fun on the Farm**
- Sept 12 Horse Daze**
- Kroger Plus Card Community Rewards Update:**

August, 2015

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 or visit our website at 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 must reenroll in this program annually. If you enrolled before April 2015 you must reenroll in the program.

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.

A WALK IN THE PARK 2015 Summer Walking Club

Need a little Exercise?

WHEN: Tuesdays & Thursdays
9:00 AM-10:00 AM
June, July, August

WHERE: Rentschler Forest MetroPark
5701 Reigart Road, Fairfield TWP., OH
45011 (meet at the bike path near the soccer fields)

July Hump Day Concerts End the Season

The 2015 Hump Day Concert season came to a glorious crescendo after nine concerts. Once again, Allison Wagner is to be thanked for picking such wonderful and diverse bands for this year's concert series. We look forward to next year's concerts.

Rabbit Hash String Band Hump Day Concert





**The Jump 'n Jive Show Band
Hump Day Concert**



**Garcia & Scott
Hump Day Concert**





Crazy Cardboard Regatta

The Crazy Cardboard Regatta for 2015 launched on July 18th at the VOA MetroPark. This year, there were 35 boats registered, roughly half in the youth category and the rest adults. It was interesting to note that none of the kids sank during the races, but about 1/3 of the adults qualified for consideration for the Titanic Award. Wet or dry, all participants had a great time.

And the Winner is!

Congratulations to Janet Schehr, on winning the limited edition American Goldfinch print that was given away by FOMPBC at the last Hump Day Concert. Anyone attending a Hump Day concert was given the opportunity to register for this free drawing. Janet and her husband Ronald are new members of FOMPBC.





Critter Corner



Although formally this critter is the basilisk lizard, a more common nickname is the Jesus Christ Lizard because of its ability to run across the surface of bodies of water in Central and South America to escape from enemies or to catch lunch. This particular lizard lives near a resort swimming pool south of Merida, Yucatan. His main claim to notoriety is the joy he takes in running across the backs of unsuspecting guests as they sunbathe by the pool. Guess that's still better than spitting poison, as shown in Jurassic Park.

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



MudMania

August 8, 11 AM- 3 PM, Rentschler Forest MetroPark (5701 Reigart Road, Fairfield Twp., OH 45011)

Good ~~clean~~-fun- volunteers needed for registration, info table and as course marshals for this family friendly mud obstacle and volleyball course. T-shirts and refreshments provided.

Friends of Chrisholm: Fun on the Farm!

August 15, 12- 4 PM, Chrisholm MetroPark (2070 Woodsdale Rd., Trenton, OH 45067)

Help Friends of Chrisholm and MetroParks for a fun day on the farm. Assist with hayrides, animals, crafts, registrations at the historic 1874 Amish-Mennonite Augspurger farmstead- many hands make light work.

Stepping Forward Service Day

August 29, 9 AM- 12 PM

Sebald MetroPark (5580 Elk Creek Road, Middletown, OH 45042)

Join with other volunteers to make happy trails! Help improve the horse trails and ready the park for Horse Daze (Sept. 12). 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!):

- Aug. 14 Night Time Spectacular Perseid Meteor Shower Watch
- August 15 Geochaching Fun
- Aug 22 Butterfly Hunt
- Aug 29 Walk on the Wildside Hike

SAVE THE DATE for more family fun volunteer openings:

- **September –November :** School Field Trips, Governor Bebb, Chrisholm & Dudley Woods



- **September 12** Horse Daze, Sebald MetroPark
- **September 13:** Conservation Connection: Citizen Scientist and Conservation Project Update, Forest Run Welcome Center
- **September 19– October 31 (Saturdays):** Harvest Fun Hayrides,

Forest Run MetroPark (Timberman Ridge)

Please contact Cristy Carter Trammell ctrammell@yourmetroparks.net to volunteer or to find out more about these family friendly programs and volunteer opportunities.

HELP WANTED and NEEDED

The historic church at Pioneer Church and Burial Grounds MetroPark on Indian Creek Road, Reily Township, needs assistance.

The roof and soffit on the 180 year old church are in need of immediate replacement. The current wood shake roof is badly deteriorated and showing signs of leaking in a few places on the inside of the church. The soffit also is in bad condition, and although not as functionally important as the roof, it is historically and aesthetically very important to the church structure.



MetroParks is getting ready to replace the roof on the church. It will be installed in July this year, and according to Steve Gordon, Construction Coordinator, for MetroParks, the new roof will be painted, standing seam metal. The installation will take about a month to complete, but will not include the soffit.

August, 2015



The Friends of the Pioneer Church MetroPark has decided to replace the soffit so that it can be completed simultaneous with the new roof. The new roof and new soffit will greatly enhance looks of the church and will keep it weather tight for years to come.

The estimated cost to replace the soffit is \$7000. The Friends of the Pioneer Church has pledged \$2000 of this cost, one anonymous donor has given \$2000, and another donor has pledged \$1500 as a matching grant. All of this adds up to \$7000, provided the Friends of the Church can raise \$1500.



Can you help us raise the \$1500 for the match grant? Any amount would be greatly appreciated. Please send your donation to Friends of MetroParks, P.O. Box 691, Hamilton, Ohio 45612. Mark your check Pioneer Church Soffit Repair.

Thank you very much for your help and assistance. For further information you may

contact, Chuck Holiday, Friends of MetroParks President, or myself.

Thank You, Roger Koch

Friends of the Pioneer Church (513-593-2735).

“Members Only” Events 2015

Forest Run Stargazer

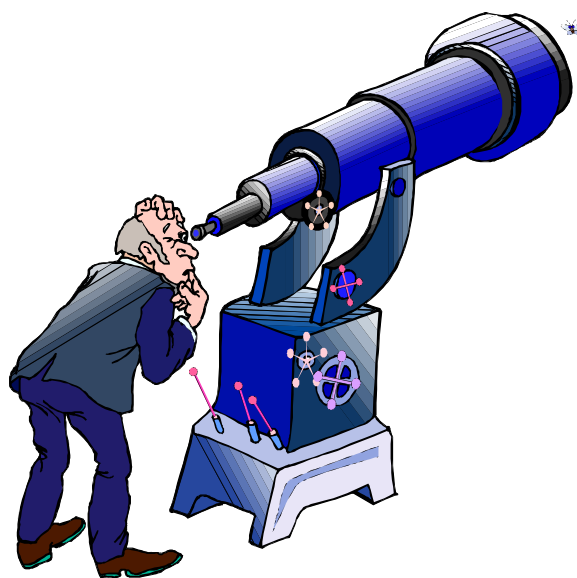
Date: August 14, 2015

Time: 8:00 – 10:00 PM

Location: Forest Run MetroPark 1810 New London Road, Hamilton OH 45013

Description: Cincinnati Astronomical Society will scan the night skies!

It would be helpful if folks pre-registered for this. It is set up as a ‘Requested Program’ and folks can call us to get on the list. Otherwise, if Chuck keeps track of who is coming you can just share the count with me. As you know parking at the Welcome Center can be an issue. The public portion of the program is scheduled for 9 – 11 p.m. at the Forest Run Wildlife Area on New London. I am working with the Cincinnati Astronomical Society to get an astronomer at the members program.



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

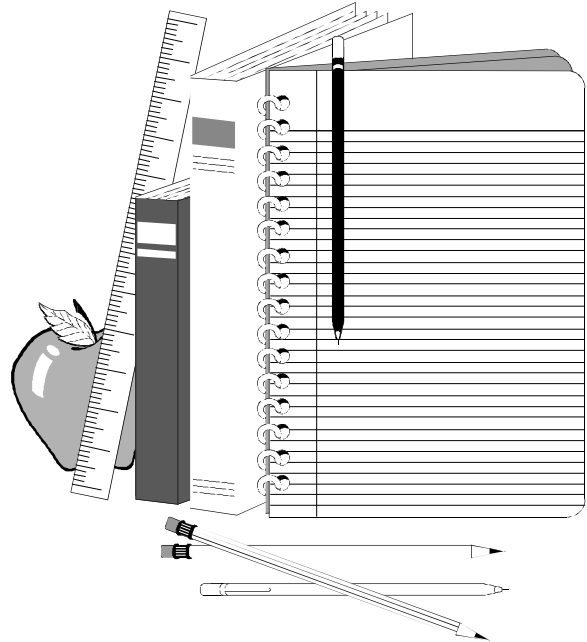
Gently used board games

Gently used Legos

Any length of 2x4 boards

Fabric scraps

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
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

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) _____