

The Voice of the Turtle



Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter
July, 2015

FOMPBC Officers

President:

Chuck Holliday

Vice-President,

Bill Walker

Nominating Chair:

Roger Koch

Secretary:

Vacant

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:**

July 8, 2015

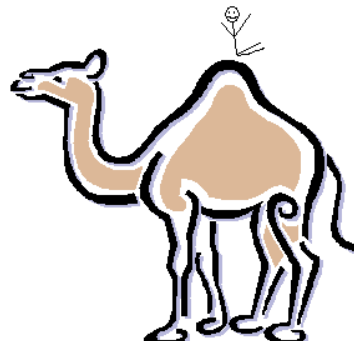
6:00 p.m.

**Voice of America MetroPark
7850 VOA Park DR.
West Chester, OH 45069**

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

**We will join the Hump Day Concert at the conclusion of
the Board Meeting! Rabbit Hash Strings Band.
will be performing.**

Happy Hump Day!



Letter from the President

By Chuck Holliday

Hi All,

Summer has finally arrived, spring is finally OVER! The rains and heat of June made for some interesting adventures. Check out some of the events that we participated in during June later in this issue.

FOMPBC has a SECRETARY!

Thank You, Amy Cameron! Amy was approved by the Board of Directors at the June BOD meeting to fill the vacated position of Secretary. Along with her duties as Secretary, Amy also becomes a member of the Executive Committee.

Amy also serves as the Chair of the Grant & Funding Committee.

Please welcome Amy on her new position as Secretary!

Life is Good, the Best is yet to Come!

Attack Invasives, Plant Native for Birds and Butterflies, Good PARKS!

Chuck Holliday
President,
Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Board of Directors Meeting TIME CHANGE

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

July 8, 2015

6:00 p.m.

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

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

We will join the Hump Day Concert at the conclusion of the Board Meeting!



It's Hump Day! Celebrate the middle of the week with this unique jam session with:

Rabbit Hash Strings Band.

This Appalachian/folk band will keep your toe tapping all night long. Plus bonfires, s'mores, music, & a warm setting sun...what could be better?! Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and friends, for free summer fun!

Located at the base of Chill Hill near the fire pit and pergola at VOA.

City Barbeque is generously providing dinner, with all proceeds benefiting MetroParks.

The BOD meeting will be expedited in order to get in the food line and enjoy the concert!

FOMPBC Calendar JULY 2015

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| 1 | Hump Day Concert | VOA | 7:00 PM |
| | Hickory Robot ~ Bluegrass | | |
| 2 | Walk Club | Rentschler Forest | 9:00 AM |
| 7 | Walk Club | Rentschler Forest | 9:00 AM |
| 8 | FOMPBC BOD Meeting | VOA | 6:00 PM |
| 8 | Hump Day Concert | VOA | 7:00 PM |

Rabbit Hash Jam Session @ Chill Hill

- 9 Walk Club Rentschler Forest 9:00 AM
- 14 Walk Club Rentschler Forest 9:00 AM
- 15 Hump Day Concert VOA 7:00 PM

Jump & Jive Show Band ~ Big Band

- 16 Walk Club Rentschler Forest 9:00 AM
- 18 **Crazy Cardboard Regatta VOA 11-3 PM**
- 21 Walk Club Rentschler Forest 9:00 AM
- 22 Hump Day Concert VOA 7:00 PM

Garcia & Scott ~ Americana

- 23 Walk Club Rentschler Forest 9:00 AM
- 26 Mtn Music Jam Pioneer Church 2:00 PM
- 28 Walk Club Rentschler Forest 9:00 AM
- 30 Walk Club Rentschler Forest 9:00 AM

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!

Crazy Cardboard Regatta 2015
 Saturday, July 18th
 VOA (11 AM- 3 PM)

Two volunteers are needed to staff FOMPBC's table for each of these shifts:
 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

You don't need to be an expert to participate! Duties include greeting people, handing out literature, and meeting lots of other interesting people while you enjoy the event. Contact Outreach Committee to sign up.

Many more volunteers are needed to help with MetroParks duties! Too numerous to list, volunteers are needed for pre-set up,

event duties, and tear-down and clean up. Start times, length of schedule, end times are all very flexible. Come early, stay late; come late, leave early. Please volunteer.

Contact Cris Trammel to register for volunteer times and duties.

Save these dates for future volunteer opportunities:

- Aug 7/8 Mud Mania**
- Aug 15 Fun on the Farm**
- Sept 12 Horse Daze**

Kroger Plus Card Community Rewards Update:

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)

Salamander Run Wetland Plantings



Volunteers from MetroParks of Butler County, Audubon Miami Valley and the Three Valley Conservation Trust made a combined effort at this recent wetland planting event. Three four hour planting sessions were needed to plant the many trays of plugs in the new vernal pools that have been established at Salamander Run. Plugs of wetland plants included: Arrowhead, Bulrush, swamp milkweed and Buttonbush. Salamander Run is a Three Valley Conservation Trust project that is slated to become a MetroPark in the near future.

**Garrie Woolery Backstage Pass
Hump Day Concert**



SunBurners Hump Day Concert



**The Sweet Beats – Beatle Tribute
Show Hump Day Concert**



Lisa Biales Band Hump Day Concert



Bunker Hill Universalist Church and Cemetery Historical Marker Dedication



Well done, MetroParks Staff



Kathy Creighton, Executive Director Butler County Historical Society delivers the history of the Bunker Hill Universalist Church & Cemetery



Members of the SAR, Cincinnati Chapter unveil the marker.



Special "THANKS" to Lara Askill and Alida Burgess, charming & delightful period costumed servers of FOMPBC's Cookies & Ice Cream!

MetroParks/MOJO Triathlon

Early morning on Father's Day, brought out about 280 avid triathlon athletes to compete in the inaugural MetroParks / MOJO Triathlon.

Participants were divided into two divisions:

Sprint 750 m swim, 10k bike race, 5k run

Olympic 1500m swim, 20k bike race, 10k run

Congratulations to all those who competed!
Best time for an Olympic competitor:
2hours 55 minutes!

Thank you to the numerous FOMPBC members that volunteered to help with this event.

Thanks to Allie Wagner, Cris Trammell and all of the other MetroPark staff and volunteers who started their work day at 4:00 a.m. to make this event happen.

Participants feedback: *I thought the event was put together amazingly for the first time. I would have thought this event was held 2-3 times by now...Overall though, I thought it was really set up nicely, transition area was easy to understand and navigate. I will be participating next year.*

Start training now so that you can participate next year!



Critter Corner

A Red Admiral butterfly visits a Buttonbush bloom. Look close at the photo, notice the striped antennae and the proboscis uncurled. This spikey golf ball size bloom of the buttonbush is loaded with tiny tubes filled with nectar for the butterflies and bees to drink.



Synthetic Turf Fields Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Voice of America MetroPark
Friday June 5, 2015



July, 2015



July, 2015



Stepping Forward Service Day

July 15, 4 PM- 7 PM

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

Help tidy up Voice of America to prepare for MetroParks Crazy Cardboard Regatta. Please lend a hand- tools and refreshments provided. Bring a friend- walk ups welcome. Stay and enjoy good food and a great Hump Day Concert following the service day!



***The Crazy Cardboard Regatta**

July 18, 11 AM -3 PM

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

Assist MetroParks at this wet and whacky event! Help with registration of boats, assist with photo registration, help with t-shirt sales, distribute information, help launch and retrieve boats, set-up and run children's activities, or assist with event set-up and take down.

Now that's family fun: MetroParks Volunteer Opportunities for July.

Growing Up Wild Day Camps

July 10, 9:30 AM- 2 PM

Rentschler Forest MetroPark,
5701 Reigart Rd., Fairfield Twp, OH 45011

Assist with registration and children's activities, "Bugging Out". Choose a day or a shift. You must pre-register to volunteer – call Cris at 513-593-0161 or

ctrammell@yourmetroparks.net

Welcome Center Volunteers

You pick the day and time! MetroParks provides the training.

Help serve as site host for Voice of America (VOA Ronald Regan Lodge, West Chester 45069) or Forest Run (1976 Timberman Rd., Hamilton 45013) Welcome Centers. Pass out MPX info, motor vehicle permits and help with program/event preparation.

Contact ctrammell@yourmetroparks.net for more information.

Save the date for more family fun:



MudMania

August 8, Rentschler Forest MetroPark

Friends of Chrisholm: Fun on the Farm!

August 15, Chrisholm MetroPark

Horse Daze

September 12, Sebald MetroPark

Harvest Fun Hayrides

September 19 – October 31, 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.



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).

Creeking at Sebald MetroPark



Crazy Cardboard Boat Regatta Seeks Sponsors, Volunteers and Cardboard Boats

The Crazy Cardboard Regatta is ready to set sail for its 6th year on July 18, 2015 at Voice of America MetroPark in West Chester, Ohio. Build your own cardboard boat or enjoy the show from the comforts of shore...either way you are sure to have a blast at this family fun event!



Recruit your neighbors, friends, family & co-workers to build a boat & join the craziness. This year, the race will include a single timed category, "The Fast & the Floundering," with the fastest boats continuing to the semi-finals. Boats can also enter "The Soggy Bottom Battle," where the last boat floating wins in this crash-derby style competition! Cardboard boats can

come in all shapes & sizes and a variety of themed awards will be presented (Best Titanic, Team Spirit, and Judge's Choice etc).

This annual event is growing every year, with 2,000-5,000 spectators enjoying the sights each year. "We hope we can count on local businesses and organizations to support this wonderful annual event," said Kelly Barkley, Public Relations Coordinator for MetroParks of Butler County. Sponsorship opportunities for this family friendly event are available now by contacting MetroParks of Butler County.

This day-long affair will be filled with activities, demonstrations, races, music, & more! All of these fun pieces create plenty of room for helping hands. "Each year, we rely on nearly 150 volunteers to help pull together this exciting event," said Cris Carter-Trammell, Supervisor of Park Connections, "and there are a variety of tasks available for those who are interested in contributing their time. It's all fun!"

If you are interested in building a boat, sponsoring, or volunteering information can be found on MetroParks of Butler County website www.yourmetroparks.net, 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.

"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

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

HUMP

DAY CONCERT SERIES

WHEN:

EVERY WEDNESDAY, MAY 27TH - JULY 22ND, 2015

TIME:

CONCERTS BEGIN AT 7 P.M.

WHERE:

Voice of America MetroPark ~Gazebo

7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester, OH 45069

FEATURING • FREE MUSIC • FOOD & BEVERAGES (ADULT TOO!) • LAKE ACTIVITIES • PLAYGROUND FOR THE KIDDOS • BIKE & BOAT RENTALS • CORN HOLE GAMES • MID-WEEK RELAXATION



PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

May 27

Thunder Boy ~ Classic Rock

June 3

The Sweet Beats ~ Beetle Tribute Show

June 10

Garrie D. Woolery & Backstage Pass ~Rock

June 17

The SunBurners ~ Tropical Rock

June 24

Lisa Biales Band ~ Blues

July 1

Hickory Robot ~ Bluegrass

July 8+

Rabbit Hash Strings Band ~ Appalachian

July 15

Jump & Jive Show Band ~ Big Band

July 22

Garcia & Scott ~ Americana



metroparks

OF BUTLER COUNTY
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

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) _____