

# The Voice of the Turtle



## Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter  
August, 2014

### FOMPBC Officers

**President:**

Roger Koch

**Vice-President,**

Chuck Holliday

**Nominating Chair:**

Matt Stitzel

**Secretary:**

Vacant

**Treasurer:**

Richard Burgstrom

**Publicity Chair:**

Nancy Harris

**Finance Chair:**

Abby Ison

**Membership Chair:**

Rich Owens

**Web Master:**

Craig Wiseman

**Newsletter Editor:**

Bill Walker



### Hump Day Concerts by the Lake

It's Hump Day! Celebrate the middle of the week with a free evening concert at the beautiful VOA lake. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and friends every other Wednesday throughout the summer for a variety of bands. Food and beverages are available for purchase. See you at the Gazebo at 7850 VOA Park Dr., West Chester OH 45069. 7 to 9 PM.



August 13th: The Medicine Men



August 30th: John Kogge & the Lonesome Strangers

## **Connect at a MetroPark- Volunteer Opportunities in August**

by Cristy Carter-Trammell

Connect across the county- as a volunteer for MetroParks! If you can help, please email [ctrammell@yourmetroparks.net](mailto:ctrammell@yourmetroparks.net) or call 513.867-5835 and ask for the volunteer coordinator. Contribute to community through support of conservation education, recreation:

**Early August**, time is flexible. Voice of America MetroPark, VOA Drive West Chester; The soccer goals have arrived and need assembling! Tournament play begins on the new athletic fields Fall 2014, and many hands are needed to help get things ready.

**August 9**, 11 am- 3 pm. Rentschler Forest MetroPark, 5071 Reigart Road, Fairfield Township; Good clean (not!) fun for the whole community. Help is needed for the course and registration.

**August 14**, 4 pm- 8pm. Indian Creek MetroPark, 6500 Springfield Rd, Oxford; Stop after work or play and build an appetite- trail steps and improvements and honeysuckle clearing. Tools and refreshments provided.

**August 16**, 10am -12:30. Chrisholm MetroPark, 2070 Woodsdale Road, Trenton; Come down on the farm and assist program staff and Friends of Chrisholm with live animal program, picking garden produce and a farm to table lunch.

**August 23**, 12 pm- 4pm. Governor Bebb MetroPark, 1979 Bebb Park Lane, Okeana; Step back in time and become a pioneer for the day : demonstrate a favorite craft, haul water and carry wood, , be a tour guide for a cabin, give out information. Staff appreciates your help- many hands are needed to raise a pioneer village.

**August 23, 24, 30 and 31.** First light of dawn. Gilmore Ponds, Hamilton; Clear lanes and nets and assist experienced bird-banders –no experience necessary- wonderful opportunity to see birds up close and capture important data.



**New Soccer Goals arrive for VOA Fields**

## **Letter from the President**

by Roger Koch

Hello Friends:

What a great summer we're having. You could not ask for anything more if you are an outdoor enthusiast like my wife, Carol and I. It's late July and the grass is a dark green, trees have put on an abundance of new growth, the temperature has been almost perfect, albeit slightly too cool some mornings. But the evening temps have been right where they need to be for those neighborhood "Park" concerts.

Speaking of concerts, make sure you take in a Hump Day Concert at VOA MetroPark in West Chester. They are a lot of fun and free to Butler County residents. The venue could not be better. The band sets up in the Gazebo next to the lake and by 7 pm when the first note is played the sun has begun to set in the west behind Ronald Reagan Lodge so everyone is in the shade. Even if it is one of those rare hot days we have had this summer, you feel comfortable. The Hump Day concerts are every other week, and August has two, one on the 13<sup>th</sup> and one on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Try one.

Friends of MetroParks is still patiently waiting to hear from the IRS on the status of our 501-c-3 application. We are confident it will be approved. When it is, I will pass on the news.

As I mentioned in an earlier copy of the Voice, we have been operating without a vice-president since spring. That position has now been filled. At the July meeting Chuck Holliday was

nominated for VP and the Board of Directors approved.

Chuck is a native of Butler County and currently lives in Liberty Township. He studied at Miami University and even though retired, still frequents their Institute for Learning in Retirement and Ohio State University's Program 60 taking courses in Ornithology and Geology. He is an avid bird watcher and has visited all 48 of the lower states in his pursuit to add to his list of 550 + birds he has identified.

Chuck's motto is "Attack invasives, plant native for birds and butterflies." Thank you Chuck for agreeing to be Vice-President.

Our current list of board members and officers is included in this newsletter.. Feel free to contact them with ideas and suggestion on how they can better serve you.

Any comments or suggestions for the newsletter may be directed to Bill Walker at [bug\\_jock@yahoo.com](mailto:bug_jock@yahoo.com).

If you get a chance please view our website, [www.fompbc.org](http://www.fompbc.org).

The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness."

— [John Muir](#)

Have a great August.  
Roger Koch, President



Richard Bergstrom introduce  
The Lisa Biales Band



The Lisa Biales Band

### July Hump Day Concerts Continue the Excitement

Three Hump Day Concerts took place during the month of July at Voice of America MetroPark. In a delightful mix of music styles, the crowds listened to blues, Caribbean, and easy-listening during the month. First up was the Lisa Biales Band on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, followed on the 16<sup>th</sup> by the Queen City Silver Stars, and the Saffire Express on the 30<sup>th</sup>.



Enjoying Hump Day by Air and by Sea



**Abby Ison and Allison Wagner introduce the Queen City Silver Stars**



**The Saffire Express**

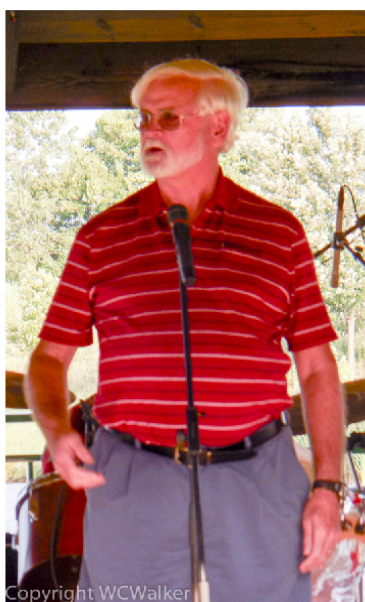


**The Queen City Silver Stars**



**Beachballs toured the crowd during the Saffire Express concert**

Plan to join us during the remaining two Hump Day Concerts in August.



**Bill Walker introduces Saffire Express**



**August 13th: The Medicine Men**

- "A professional group of musicians with many years' experience crafting their art form."

- “The music performed is a wide variety of Blues, Jump Blues, R&B, and Funk and Dance music.”
- The Medicine Men is a 4-piece band including guitar, drums, bass, and Sax.
- Their mission is to “Make People Happy” and they “have the stuff to make you feel good.”
- They have performed at a variety of local venues including the Greater Cincinnati Blues Fest.



**August 30th: John Kogge & the Lonesome Strangers**

- Performing together for over 25 years.
- Local Americana band from Oxford, OH
- Includes a guitar, accordion, keys, bass, mandolin, banjo, violin, percussion, and vocals.
- Performances at the Oxford Music Festivals, and at VOA for the past 2 years!



**Critter Corner:  
Little Wood Satyr**

By Chuck Holliday



This beautiful little butterfly was recently spotted at Caesar Creek State Park during a field trip at the Butterfly Workshop sponsored by the Midwest Native Plant Society. This medium size Ohio butterfly, with a 1.5” to 1.9” wingspan, can be found in woods, woodland edges and openings; nearby fields and meadows. The little wood-satyr flies with a bouncing erratic flight, usually staying low to the ground. They infrequently nectar at flowers and are more attracted to dung, rotting fruit, and moist soil. Host Plants: various grasses, Virginia wild rye and orchard grass

This individual, after graciously posing for this photo, rose to flight and was abruptly and unceremoniously snatched from mid-air by a passing common green darner dragonfly.



The cycle of life continues.

## **MetroParks is ready for some good clean fun with Mud Mania!**

MetroParks of Butler County is getting messy & muddy with the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Mud Mania event at Rentschler Forest MetroPark, near Bridgewater Falls in Hamilton, OH.

On Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, the event will open at 11 a.m. with the messiest & muddiest obstacle course in Butler County! The course begins with the slippery hill slide which ends in a giant muddy pool. Participants are then challenged to run over tires, climb up walls, maneuver around hay bales, slip through tubes, & crawl under fencing! “The obstacle course is for children ages 6 to 96...Kids of all ages can enjoy the event this year,” said Allie Wagner, Special Events Coordinator. “There will also be a Little Mudder area for children 5 and under, as well as a Craft Corner for creative muddy activities.”

New this year, a pick-up game of mud volleyball will be open to all participants! Bring a team, make a team, or join a team...just have fun & get messy! Winning teams can continue on in this informal competition.

MetroParks is excited to provide another great day of messy family FUN in the park. Food vendors will be present and event t-shirts will be for sale as well. The event will run until 3 p.m.

Participants must have secure footwear and should come prepared to get wet & dirty! Participants can register in advance, online, and walk-up registration is accepted as well (cash/check only), throughout the event. Registration fees are as follows: Children 5 & under-FREE, Children 6 to 15- \$2.00, Adults 16 & over- \$5.00. Waiver form must be signed upon arrival (parents or legal guardian must sign if under 18).

Motor Vehicle Permits are required. They are FREE to Butler County residents. Non-Residents Motor Vehicle are \$5/day and \$10/annually. Information can be found on MetroParks of Butler County website [www.yourmetroparks.net](http://www.yourmetroparks.net), under Register for a Program/Mud Mania. For more information call MetroParks at 513-867-5835.



*Established to compliment the work of state and local communities, MetroParks, a separate political subdivision of The State of Ohio, is organized to provide parks and recreation services to the citizens of Butler County. MetroParks is governed by a three member Board of volunteers, appointed by The County Probate Court, The Board of Park Commissioners. The Mission of MetroParks is to provide a superior park system that maximizes the community's quality of life through conservation, education and recreation. For more information regarding MetroParks visit our website at [www.YourMetroParks.net](http://www.YourMetroParks.net).*



## **FoMPBC Needs Committee Members!** by Chris Osborne

The Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Board are looking for volunteers for their committees. The committees include but are not limited to membership, publicity, finance, and nominating. Your help is invaluable! The Board meets the second Wednesday of each month at various locations. Check the newsletter for more details. Thank you! I am a new member, what can I do?

## **FoMPBC Needs Board Members!** by Matt Stitzel

The Friends of MetroParks of Butler County currently has 4 board member vacancies. Any members interested in becoming a board member then please contact Matt Stitzel at [stitzemm@gmail.com](mailto:stitzemm@gmail.com). Thank you.

## **FoMPBC Members-Only Events**

Attend a board meeting, second Wednesday of each month. Meeting start at 7:00 PM (except for the August board meeting, which will start at 5:30 PM to allow board members to attend the Hump Day Concert), locations vary. All members are welcome to attend the monthly board meeting.

Share us with your friends, help us grow.

### **Members Only Events**

September 23, 2014 @ 7:00pm - Voice of America MetroPark

Leader: Lara Askil

Description: Watch the sunset and look for crepuscular critters

We are in need of volunteers for various upcoming events. FOMPBC will have an information table at the following event.

Horse Daze at Sebald MetroPark  
Saturday, October 18, 10:00 AM-  
4:00 PM

## **FoMPBC August Board Meeting Venue Set**

FoMPBC will meet at Voice of America MetroPark at 5:30 PM for the Wednesday, August 13 meeting. The board meeting will finish in time to get ring-side seats to enjoy the Hump Day Concert by the Medicine Men. Hope to see you there.

## **FoMPBC Members-Attend Stream Walk at Dudley Woods MetroPark**

Board member Chuck Holliday, plus Amy Cameron and Lynn White from the Butler County Soil and Water District led FoMPBC member in a stream walk in Gregory Creek at Dudley Woods MetroPark on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. Both the young and the young-at-heart joined Stream Team members to wade in the creek. A wide variety of crawfish, insects, and other invertibrates were caught for closer examination. Several different stream sampling techniques were demonstrated to eager onlookers.





- Rich Owens joined other West Chester Photographers Club members as official event photographers in chronicling the excitement of the event
- Bill Walker and his son helped as runners/floaters (not in the water;-) and took pictures as well.

Hope you all can join the excitement again next year – Please pencil in “Ahoy” for July 18<sup>th</sup> on the 2015 calendar as a reminder.



## SOS! Save our ship! Save our blub, blub, blub!

The annual Crazy Cardboard Regatta was held July 19<sup>th</sup> at Voice of America MetroPark. A great time was had by all – both the quick and the wet.



## 2nd Summer Sundays: Mountain Music Jam



The Friends group really got involved:

- Abby Ison spent most of the day helping staff and Childtime volunteers with Children’s Activities- then blew the horn to start race(s).
- A display was set up and materials put out thanks to Chuck Holliday- who also took a turn blowing the horn
- Diane and Rich Burgstrom Inspected boats and “go-fered”
- Dave Smith judged boats and blew the horns.

It's toe tapping time again. Bring your instrument if you have one and a lawn chair to enjoy the music! Pioneer Church 3000 Indian Creek Road Oxford (Reily Twp), OH 45056

Sunday. August 10, 2:30-5:30 PM

## Programs for August & September

### August:

**A Walk in the Park: Summer Walk Club –** August 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 (9:00 –10:00 AM) Rentschler Forest MetroPark: Bike Path  
 “Walking is great for the mind, body and spirit.



Enjoy a Walk in the Park with other like-minded people.”

**Middletown National Night Out – August 5**  
(6:00 – 9:00 PM)

Offsite - “Hang out with us at Middletown National Night Out. We will have cool things to look at and do!”

**Creekin’ at Sebald – August 6 (10:00 – 12:00 PM)** Sebald Park: Shelter #2

“Join the fun of creekin’. Dress in clothes and shoes that can get dirty!”

**Growing Strong: Garden programs for kids – August 6 (1:15 – 2:00 PM)**

Middletown Community Gardens: Robert “Sonny” Hill Community Center

“Fun activities, crafts and playing in the dirt!”

**Meet at MetroParks: We’re all Wet – August 9 (10:00 – 11:00 AM), (2:00 – 3:00 PM)**

Voice of America MetroParks: Community Room

“It’s hot outside, so let’s have fun exploring water!”

**Mud Mania – August 9 (11:00 – 3:00 PM)**

Rentschler Forest MetroPark: Bike Path

“Time to get muddy! Family-friendly Mud Mania returns, bigger and better than ever!”

**Second Summer Sundays: Mountain Music Jam – August 10 (2:30 – 5:30 PM)**

Indian Creek MetroPark Indian Creek Pioneer Church

“Mountain music. Bring an instrument and or lawn chair.”

**Hump Day Concerts by the Lake - August 13 & August 27 (7:00 – 9:00 PM)**

Voice of America MetroPark: Gazebo

“It’s Hump Day! Evening concerts by beautiful VOA Lake.”

**Stepping Forward: Service in the Parks – August 14 (4:00 – 8:00 PM)**

Indian Creek MetroPark: Indian Creek – Mayer Picnic Shelter

“Volunteer to improve your parks.”

**Down on the Farm: Garden to Table – August 16 (10:00 – 12:30 PM)**

Chrisholm MetroPark: Chrisholm – Augspurger House Meeting Room “Experience life on the

farm. Make your lunch from the garden and farm.”

**Augspurger Historic Home Open House:**

**Augspurger Genealogy – August 17 (2:00 – 4:00 PM)**

Chrisholm MetroPark: Chrisholm – Augspurger House Meeting Room

“Learn about Augspurger Genealogy. Tours of the 1800s historic Amish Mennonite farm house and grounds.”

**Discovery Kids: On the Wet Side – August 20 & August 21 (10:30 – 11:30 AM), (1:00 – 2:00 PM)**

Chrisholm MetroPark: Chrisholm – Augspurger House Meeting Room

Voice of America MetroPark: Community Room

“Travel to the WET side!”

**Butterfly Hunt – August 23 (11:00 – 12:30 PM)**

Forest Run MetroPark

“It’s the perfect time of year for butterflies. Dress to be in the sun and tall grasses. Bring water and sunscreen.”

**A Day in the Life of a Pioneer – August 23 (12:00 – 4:00 PM)**

Governor Bebb MetroPark: Pioneer Village

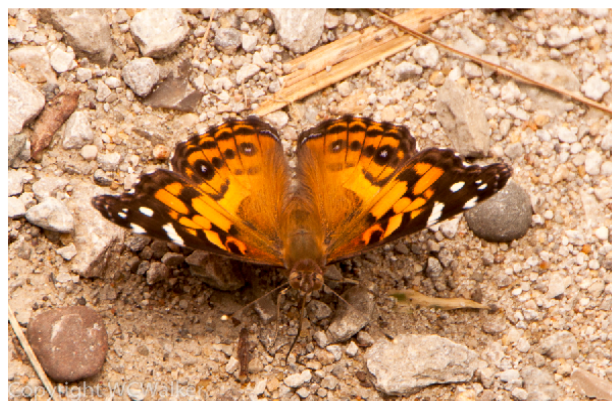
Area Historic Cabin “Step back in time. Demonstrations in the cabins Pioneer life in the Ohio area in early 1800s.”

**Walking Sticks: Four Mile Creek MetroPark**

– **Antenen Preserve – August 30 (10:00 – 12:00PM)**

Four Mile Creek MetroPark: Antenen Nature Preserve Area

“Adults – Cool off with a walk through the creek and the woods at Antenen.”



**September:**

**Geology is a Journey** – September 6 (10:00 AM–12:00 PM) Indian Creek MetroPark: Oxford Reily Road Area

“Every rock has a story to tell about our ancient past and can open our eyes to the distant future,” says Jill Mignery, geology professor at Miami University. She will take us on a journey to learn the stories of rocks and fossils of our area. Part of the program will be exploring Indian Creek bed, so be prepared to get wet and muddy. Located at 1899 Oxford-Reily Road, Oxford,



**Citizen Science Project Potluck** September 7, 5:00-7:00 PM Chrisholm MetroPark: Chrisholm - Augspurger House Meeting Room

Bring a side dish/dessert to share with other volunteers, while learning about citizen science projects being offered through MetroParks of Butler County. The importance of Bird Counts and monarch butterflies plantings for landscapes will be discussed. Metroparks will provide meat, drinks and tableware. 2070 Woodsdale Rd, Trenton OH 45067

**Harvest Moon Hayrides** September 8 - 10, 8:30-10:00 PM Forest Run MetroPark:

Welcome Center

A Full Moon Wagon Ride and pumpkin hunting by flashlight – now that’s fall fun! Take a hayride while enjoying the full (or nearly full) moon. Use your flashlight to hunt for the best pumpkin in the patch. Then enjoy a yummy s’more by the fire. The fee includes a wagon ride, pumpkin, activities and a s’more kit. Walk ups can enjoy campfire stories, a s’more kit and activities for \$5 each. Reservations must be made in advance for the hayrides. Space is limited. Group rates are available by calling

513-867-5835. Additional s’more kits available for a small fee at the program.

**Discovery Kids: Migration Sensation**

September 17, 10:30-11:30 AM Chrisholm MetroPark: Chrisholm - Augspurger House Meeting Room

Let's migrate with the animals! Program is designed for 3 to 5 year olds and their adult chaperones. Explore the wonders of the natural world through fun hands-on activities, songs, stories, games and a yummy snack. Chrisholm MetroPark, Chrisholm Historic Farmstead in the Augspurger House 2070 Woodsdale Road, Trenton OH 45067.

**Discovery Kids: Migration Sensation**

September 18, 1:00-2:00 PM Voice of America MetroPark: Community Room

Let's migrate with the animals! Program is designed for 3 to 5 year olds and their adult chaperones. Explore the wonders of the natural world through fun hands-on activities, songs, stories, games and a yummy snack. Community room at Ronald Reagan Lodge, Voice of America MetroPark 7850 VOA Park Dr., West Chester OH 45069

**Stepping Forward: Service in the Parks**

September 20, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM Sebald Park: Horse Trail

Get trails ready for Horse Daze! Trails and honeysuckle removal with the Butler County Ohio Horseman's Council. Bring your own horse for a trail ride.



**Augspurger Historic Home Open House:**  
**Chrisholm Photos** September 21, 2:00-4:00 PM  
 Chrisholm MetroPark: - Picnic Shelter  
 Chrisholm MetroPark: - Augspurger House Meeting Room  
 Enjoy Chrisholm Photos with photographer Brandon Osuna. Visit and enjoy a Friends of Chrisholm docent led tour of the 1800s historic Amish Mennonite farm house and grounds. Join this special tour at Chrisholm MetroPark located at 2070 Woodsdale Rd, Trenton OH 45067. Meet at the Picnic Shelter.

**Walking Sticks: Governor Bebb** September 27, 10:00-11:00 AM Governor Bebb MetroPark  
 Celebrate Great Outdoor Weekend with a look at the wilder side of Gov. Bebb MetroPark. FREE exploratory hiking program designed for active adults. Meet at the lower parking lot. 1979 Bebb Park Lane, Okeana OH 45053

**Sunrise at the Commons**  
 September 28, 7:30-9:30 AM  
 Offsite: Event – Offsite  
 Time for a bird hike. Those warblers and fall migrants are heading South! Walk with a knowledgeable guide along the Great Miami River. Spot waterfowl and possibly a bald eagle soaring by. Bring binoculars if you have them! Geared toward older children and adults. Pre-registration not required but is helpful. Meet at the Bicentennial Commons 100 S. Carmody Blvd, Middletown 45044.

**FoMPBC Board Members**

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Richard Bergstrom | Ed Creighton   |
| Nancy Harris      | Chuck Holliday |
| Aby Ison          | Roger Koch     |
| Chris Osborne     | Rich Owens     |
| David Smith       | Matt Stitzel   |
| Bill Walker       | 4 Vacancies    |

**New FoMPBC Members**

- New Members for July:
- |                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Larry Gersbach, family       | Hamilton    |
| Rod & Dianne Therien, family | Liberty Twp |

**FoMPBC 2014 Event Schedule**

- August**
- 13 Board Meeting, VOA, 5:30 PM
  - 13 Hump Day Concert, VOA, 7 PM
  - 27 Hump Day Concert, VOA, 7 PM
- September**
- 10 Board Meeting, VOA, 7 PM
  - 23 “Members Only”, VOA, 7 PM
- October**
- 8 Board Meeting, 7 PM
  - 18 Horse Daze, Sebald Park, 10 AM – 4 PM
  - 26 The Howl, VOA, 1 - 4 PM
- November**
- 12 Board Meeting, 7 PM
- December**
- 3 “Members Only”, Gov. Bebb
  - 10 Board Meeting, 7 PM



## List of Winning Entries for the 2014 Crazy Cardboard Regatta

	Boat Name	Boat #	Captain
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### Awards Sheet

#### Timed awards

2 <sup>nd</sup> place Show Boat, child	Perry	#514	Alyssa Welling
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1 <sup>st</sup> place Show Boat, child	Sniper Patrol	#518	Greg Carpenter
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2 <sup>nd</sup> place Show Boat, adult	Toothless	#521	Marianne Chemesky
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1 <sup>st</sup> place Show Boat, adult	Mojo Tri Club	#512	Steve Eroskey
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2 <sup>nd</sup> place Need for Speed, child	Nautilus	#515	Alex Keith
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1 <sup>st</sup> place Need for Speed, child	Bass Boat	#502	Aiden Quimby
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2 <sup>nd</sup> place Need for Speed, adult	Sinister Ride	#528	Rich Jetter
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1 <sup>st</sup> place Need for Speed, adult	Lemon Wedge	#525	Tom Lemon
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#### Themed Awards

Will that Boat float? Award	The MJ Cupcake	#519	Maddie Detherage
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The Whole Package Award	Autism Awareness	#501	Doug Miller
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King Neptune Award	Sniper Patrol	#518	Greg Carpenter
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Best Team Spirit Award	U.S.S. Moo Cow 1	#517	Markus Schleidt
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The Titanic Award	Childtime	#508	Kris Zwiebel
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Judge's Choice Award	Sinister Ride	#528	Rich Jetter
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The People's Choice Award	Stella Maris	#531	Travis Chmeil
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Last Boat Floating Award	Perry	#514	Alyssa Welling
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