

# The Voice of the Turtle



## Friends of MetroParks of Butler County

### Friends of MetroParks of Butler County Monthly Newsletter January, 2017

#### FOMPBC Officers

**President:**

Chuck Holliday

**Vice-President,**

Bill Walker

**Secretary:**

Vacant

**Treasurer:**

Richard Burgstrom

**Nominating Chair:**

Roger Koch

**Publicity Chair:**

Bill Walker

**Outreach Chair:**

Chuck Holliday

**Finance Chair:**

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**Grants & Fund Raiser Chair**

Kristine Hill

**Membership Chair:**

Nick Lengyel

**Events Chair**

Allison Wagner

**Web Master:**

Craig Wiseman

**Newsletter Editor:**

Bill Walker



## Board of Directors Meeting

### December Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>

At

Butler County Historical Society

327 N 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Hamilton, OH 45011

7:00-9:00 PM

Members and interested parties are welcome to attend

## Letter from the President

Looking forward to a New Year,

Many of you may have heard the news; Cris Trammell has retired from MetroParks. She turned in her computer just before Christmas and prepared to enjoy the holidays with family. Todd was last seen peering over maps of warmer climates. Retirement will be well suited for this couple, and somehow I think that a little one year old named Zoey will also play an important role. Cris has served as the official liaison between MetroParks and the Friends of MetroParks of Butler County since the beginning in 2013 and her service to FOMPBC has been immeasurable. She will be hard to replace and will be missed by all.

Cris has always reminded me of being that person who bites off more than they can chew and then chews it! I have never worked with a more capable, diligent, dedicated, and positive person than Cris Trammell.

Best wishes on their retirement to Cris and Todd Trammell. Please visit us often when you are in town.



One gift we were grateful for this season was not under the tree, but was actually our tree itself!! Thanks so much to the Friends of MetroParks of Butler County for raffling off the lovely Christmas trees at the Brilliant Bebb holiday event. We could not have been more excited to have actually won one of the trees donated by Koch Christmas Trees and it looked beautiful in our home. We hope that it was a great fundraiser for the Friends group & look forward to possibly getting lucky again next year...! Thanks again, the Wagner Family



Your Friend,  
Chuck Holliday  
President, FOMPBC

PS: Here's a picture of the Christmas tree my wife, Linda, won at Brilliant Bebb. Thanks to Roger Koch for donating the trees to MPX.



January, 2017

**Friends of MetroParks of Butler County** just received another check from the Kroger Community Rewards Program in the amount of **\$123.30**  
**Kroger Plus Card Community Rewards Program:**

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



*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).*

**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.

## Freezing Frogs!

By Caity Gindling  
Program Leader, Park Connections  
MetroParks of Butler County

We all know Ohio's weather can be fickle at best. Sunny and 50's one day, then the next we've got a blizzard on the way! A day or two of biting cold and then seemingly overnight we find ourselves back to beautiful skies and a high of 60. We humans often get frustrated with this freeze-thaw see-saw, wishing the weather would just pick a season already. Wood frogs on the other hand don't mind. They are 'pretty chill' about it actually. When the weather freezes, so do they!

At the first touch of an ice crystal, special nucleating proteins cause the water in the wood frog's blood to instantly freeze. This process sucks most of the water out of the frog's tissue and organ cells. At the same, the frog's liver starts making large amounts of glucose, which packs into the newly dehydrated cells, holding up their shape and preventing cell damage. So inside the cell is filled with a thick sugary syrup, while outside the cell all of the water has been frozen into ice.



The wood frog enters a state of suspended animation with no heart beat or brain activity. It can stay like that for months with no adverse effects. When the temperatures warm up and the ice starts to melt, the frogs thaw. Water slowly flows back into the cells, blood starts flowing again and the frog revives, no harm done. Wood frogs can go through this freeze-thaw process many times throughout a single winter.

So the next time you get frustrated with Ohio's unpredictable weather, just remember to be like a wood frog. Chill out and go with it!

## January Volunteer Opportunities!

### Feeder Fill – Feeder Watch! **NEW!**

When: Flexible- throughout late fall and winter

Where: Forest Run Welcome Center, 1976 Timberman Rd. Hamilton OH 45013

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](mailto:jdumyahn@yourmetroparks.net)

### Ongoing Opportunities:

#### Trail Ambassadors – Great Miami River Recreation Trail

When: Flexible

Where: Great Miami River Recreation 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,

January, 2017

provide information to trail users, and perform light trail maintenance. Join the next training!

## “Members Only” 2017

### 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.

### Program & Event 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! Contact [programs@yourmetroparks.net](mailto:programs@yourmetroparks.net)

### Welcome Center - Voice of America MetroPark

When: Flexible

Where: Voice of America MetroPark, Ronald Reagan Lodge, 7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester, OH 45069

What: Volunteers are needed at the Welcome Center at Voice of America MetroPark. Welcome park customers with a smile, provide information about programs and the parks. Training provided.

### Other Ideas?

If you have skills or interests that you would like to translate into volunteer service for MetroParks, but don't see that option listed, contact us! MetroParks is always looking for new and innovative ways to get volunteers involved in the parks.

**PLEASE NOTE: All ongoing volunteer opportunities must be scheduled directly with volunteer services. If you are interested in any of the above ongoing volunteer opportunities, please contact [info@yourmetroparks.net](mailto:info@yourmetroparks.net) or call (513) 867-5835 for more information.**

### State of the Parks,

Sunday, January 29, 1:00-4:00 PM

Visitor Center, Timberman Ridge MetroPark  
1976 Timberman Rd, Hamilton, OH

Want to know what is coming to MetroParks in 2017; this is the place to be.

Light refreshments will be served

### Shooting Stars of Indian Creek MetroPark

Saturday, May 13, 2:00-4:00 PM

Indian Creek MetroPark,  
6500 Springfield Road, Reily, OH 45056

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. Trails can be slick and steep, please wear suitable footwear and clothing.

Visit the Creighton Farmstead  
Summer 2017

## Murder Mysteries Return to VOA

This holiday season give a gift that will chase away the winter doldrums for gift recipients.

Returning to MetroParks in 2016-2017 are three spectacular murder mystery shows, presented by WhoDunIt? Performers, where entertaining and engaging actors will create a memorable winter's evening for guests. Guests can either be a spectator for the evening or join in and be a part of the adventure by assisting in solving the mystery of the night. If getting into "character" appeals to guests, they can even come dressed in costume to make their experience more interesting. Costumes; however, are not required.

Individual reservations are available for \$35 each and can be made online at [www.YourMetroParks.net](http://www.YourMetroParks.net). Remember that Friends of MetroParks members qualify for a 20% discount. Under Calendar of Events. Reservations are currently being accepted for all three nights which will be held at the Ronald Reagan Lodge located at Voice of America MetroPark, 7850 VOA Park

January, 2017

Drive, West Chester, OH 45069 for January and February.

Meals for each evening will vary and are being provided by MetroParks in house catering. All dinners include tasty appetizers, a full buffet with something for everyone's taste buds and yummy dessert selections. Unlimited soda, tea and coffee will also be included. Adult beverages will be available for purchase. The show will begin at 6:00pm and will last about 2 hours, please arrive 30 minutes early. All shows are rated PG-13.

The themes vary for each performance and are listed below:

### **January 21<sup>st</sup> - Lights, Camera, Murder**

Gloria Swanson is coming back to the silver screen. But someone wants to send her to that big screening room in the sky instead! Could it be the spurned lover, the jealous stand-in, or does someone have a dark secret? No more "close ups" for Miss Sawnsong! WHODUNIT?

### **February 10<sup>th</sup> - Deadly Game of Love**

Preparations are under way for the taping of "You Said What?" and everyone associated with the show is excited. Huge Jassel, the game show host is about to make his appearance. He is sure the show and everyone associated with it are his to play and use. Blackmail, affairs, and random firings are all a part of the game behind the scenes. When on the air he is the host with the most. Jerk... Pig... and slime are just a few of the words that have been used to describe him. Oh, add one more.... dead!

### **Discount Information for FoMPBC Members**

Any FOMPBC member who wants to receive a discount on a MPX program or event will need to contact *MetroParks Visitor Services* at 513-867-5835 to make reservations. Also, they will must identify themselves a Friends of MetroParks of Butler County members. The discount can only be applied internally through a staff member.

## **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



# WINTER CAMPS



## When:

**Monday, January 16, 2017**  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**Monday, February 20, 2017**  
President's Day

## Times:

**9 AM to 12 PM**

**1 PM to 4 PM**

(Early Drop-off, Lunchtime Stayover, and Late Pick-up options available)

## Location:

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



For ages 6 - 12

Cost per camp:

**\$10/Resident**

**\$15/Non-resident**

Early drop-off & Late pick-up:  
\$5 each

(Lunchtime stayover included  
when reserving both camps.)

Bring your own non-  
perishable lunch.)

## Pre-registration required

[www.YourMetroParks.net](http://www.YourMetroParks.net)  
(513) 867-5835

## JANUARY 16

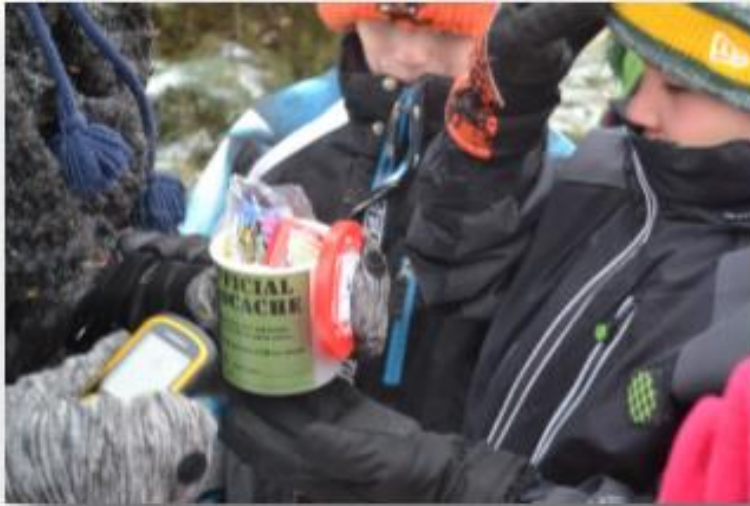
- 9 AM to 12 PM  
Art & Music
- 1 PM to 4 PM  
Kids Cooking
- **Deadline to  
register Jan. 12**

## FEBRUARY 20

- 9 AM to 12 PM  
Outdoor  
Adventure
- 1 PM to 4 PM  
Geocaching
- **Deadline to  
register Feb 16**

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

# WINTER CAMPS



**When:**

**Monday, February 20, 2017**  
Presidents Day

**Times:**

**9 AM to 12 PM**  
-or-  
**1 PM to 4 PM**

(Early Drop-off, Lunchtime Stayover, and Late Pick-up options available)

**Location:**

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



For ages 6 - 12

Cost per camp:

**\$10/Resident**

**\$15/Non-resident**

Early drop-off & Late pick-up:  
\$5 each

(Lunchtime stayover included when  
reserving both camps. Bring your  
own non-perishable lunch.)

**Pre-registration  
required**

[www.YourMetroParks.net](http://www.YourMetroParks.net)  
(513) 867-5835

Deadline to register  
February 16

**9 AM to 12 PM**  
**Outdoor  
Adventure**

**1 PM to 4 PM**  
**Geocaching 101**



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



# MYSTERY OF THE WINTER WOODS



## When:

Saturday January 28 , 2017  
10:00am—12:00pm

## Where:

Chisholm MetroPark– Historic Farmstead  
2070 Woodsdale Road  
Trenton, OH 45067

Tree identification can be challenging especially without leaves. Join us indoors to solve some of the mysteries of the winter woods through fun, hands-on activities. Then test your new found knowledge with an outdoor hike to explore the different tree species on site.



**FREE** for all ages

Activities for adults and children will be provided indoors.

Refreshments will be provided after the hike.



Registration requested at  
[www.YourMetroParks.net](http://www.YourMetroParks.net)  
Or call 513-867-5885  
Walks up are welcome



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

# OWL HOOT



**WHEN:**  
Saturday,  
February 11, 2017  
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

**WHERE:**  
Governor Bebb MetroPark  
1979 Bebb Park Lane  
Okeana, Ohio 45053

*Whooo lives in the woods? Learn about nocturnal animals and their adaptations. Listen for owls while enjoying a pleasant night hike through the park.*

**FREE** program for  
the whole family!



Meet in the upper area  
parking lot by Howe  
Shelter.

**Follow the signs.**

- ◆ Learn about night animal adaptations
- ◆ Make Owl Calls
- ◆ Listen for owls & other night animals
- ◆ Enjoy a hike in the dark

**Register at**  
[www.YourMetroParks.net](http://www.YourMetroParks.net)  
**or by calling**  
**513-867-5835.**  
**Walk ups welcome.**



Motor Vehicle Permit required at MetroPark locations. Free to Butler Co. residents, Non Residents: \$5/Daily; \$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](http://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](mailto:ButlerSWCD@ButlerCountyOhio.org).



# Murder Mystery Dinner



## WHEN:

Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 5:30—8:00pm

*Santa's Slay...Oops Sleigh*

Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup> 5:30—8:00pm

*Lights, Camera, Murder*

Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30—9:00pm

*Deadly Game of Love*

(See Page 2 for Show Details!)

## WHERE:

Voice of America MetroPark

Ronald Reagan Lodge

7850 VOA Park Drive, West Chester, OH 45069



Costume attire is recommended

Show rating: PG-13

## Featuring:

- Murder Mystery Show
- Three-course meal
- Unlimited Soft Drinks, Tea & Coffee
- Adult Beverages available

## Registration:

- \$35 /person
- Register online at [YourMetroParks.net](http://YourMetroParks.net) or by phone 513.867.5835

## Performers:

The Whodunit?  
Players



metroparks

OF BUTLER COUNTY  
NOW THAT'S FAMILY FUN!

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

# SHOW DETAILS

## December 10<sup>th</sup> – Santa's Slay...Oops Sleigh

Santa and Mrs. Claus are having a party. But someone is about to get a really big lump of coal for being bad and killing Santa! Can Barry Mitzvah, the elf, and Santa's daughter, Ann Arctic, discover WHODUNIT?

## January 21<sup>st</sup> – Lights, Camera, Murder

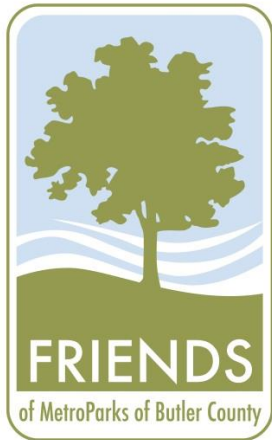
Gloria Swansong is coming back to the silver screen. But someone wants to send her to that big screening room in the sky instead! Could it be the spurned lover, the jealous stand-in, or does someone have a dark secret? No more "close ups" for Miss Sawnsong! WHODUNIT?

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# 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) \_\_\_\_\_