Letter from the President

Just back from a family vacation to the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Sunday was a beautiful, sunny day with pleasant temperatures and gentle breezes – a perfect day for a wild horse safari. Bouncing along the sand dunes in the back of a Hummer beyond the end of paved roads is a good way to look for wild horses (or to send one off seeking a chiropractor).

As usual, we managed to schedule a visit at the same time that hurricane Maria was passing by offshore in a huff (and puff). Luckily, no significant storm damage or rains, just gusty winds. Trips to the beach were limited by high surf, rip tides, blowing seafoam, and risk of being sandblasted. (Good thing that the sun wasn't out or our shadows would have blown loose!) A few showers fell on Tuesday and Wednesday, but not enough to drown you if you looked up.
**Letter from the President**

Spring has sprung, fall has fell, winter’s near and it’s cold as . . . the dickens. Seems like only yesterday that we were complaining about unseasonably warm weather. Today the weatherman even used the dreaded 4-letter word, s**w, for the first time this season. Prepare for a run on milk, bread, and rock salt, it’s that time of year.

The autumn leaves were a mixed bag this year. Although some trees turned bright oranges, reds, and yellows, the wind and rain conspired to strip the leaves before full color was reached. It seemed that the bad weather worked weekends to cause maximum disruption of MPX events. Still crowds braved the rain for Arts in MetroParks and the Howl. Fret not, friends, there are lots of fun events scheduled for November.

See you in the parks,
Bill Walker, President FOMPBC

**Upcoming Events**

**Show and Tell on the Farm**

[Image]

Fun on the Farm is on Thursdays from 6:30-7:30pm and Sunday’s from 2:00-4:00pm

No program on Thursday November 22nd or Sunday November 25th due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**Arts in the MetroParks**

[Image]

Brand new series! Introducing... Arts in the MetroParks featuring the Wild & Scenic Film Festival! Arts in the MetroParks is an art series competition with 2018's theme focused on the newly declared “Great Miami Riverway.” Artists and nature lovers from all over the Butler County community will have the chance to experience creative visions of the Great Miami River at the new River Center (120 South Carmody Blvd, Middletown, OH 45044) through various art mediums. Light refreshments will be available each night of the series with short environmental conservation films from the Wild & Scenic Film Festival delighting guests during the open houses.

Friday, November 2nd, 5:00-8:00pm River Center
Friday, November 9th, 5:00-8:00pm

Come out and enjoy spring on the farm with Show and Tell on the Farm at Chrisholm MetroPark. Topics this month include: The 3-Sister Garden, ABC’s of Farm Life, Turkey Talk, Pumpkin Smash, Pilgrims, Machines that Help Us, and Thanksgiving Feast for the Animals.
**Autumn Leaves**

Join MetroParks of Butler County and The City of Fairfield Parks & Recreation to learn more about leaves and the beautiful fall Colors. Learn why the leaves are changing colors. This FREE program will take place at Huffman Park located at 2100 John Gray Rd Fairfield, Ohio and is open to all ages. Please call to 513-867-5348 register. Walk-ups are welcome.

**Photo Walks-Tips for Shooting Close-Ups and Intimate Landscapes.**

Explore the Pioneer Village and look for interesting close-up photographs around the Village. As the flowers die, leaves fall, and winter approaches, people often wonder what they can still photograph. When you start to look for the "small stuff", you'll discover all kinds of interesting new subjects! Photographer, Susan Milinkovich, will share tips for shooting close-ups and intimate landscapes. Bring your iPhone, point-and-shoot or DSLR camera - no photography experience required.

Saturday, November 10th, 9:00-10:30am
Governor Bebb MetroPark: Pioneer Village Area Historic Cabins.

**Makes Sense, Naturally!**

Discover secrets about our five senses. Find out if Humans see the world in the same way that others animals do? Meet a live animal and discover how they use their senses! Free Program with registration required by 11/9/2018

Saturday, November 10th, 10:00-11:00am
River Center- 120 S Carmody Blvd, Middletown OH 45044

**Be on the Lookout for these future events**

Let’s Go Hiking-Surviving Winter, Breakfast with Santa, Christmas Bird Count

**Did You Know**

**Kroger Community Rewards Update**

Kroger is committed to helping our communities grow and prosper. Year after year, local schools, churches and other nonprofit organizations earn $4
How Can YOU Help Us?

In April 2017 Kroger’s updated their Community Rewards process and software. As of April, supporters will no longer have to re-enroll their Kroger Plus Card to earn dollars for your organization. This will make it easier for you to support us! Please take a moment and make sure you are enrolled and supporting FOMPBC.

https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow

Once you’re enrolled you will earn rewards for FOMPBC every time you shop and use your Plus Card.

Amazon Smile

What is Amazon Smile?

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you and your family to support FOMPBC every time you shop from Amazon, at no cost to you. Instead of shopping at Amazon.com you go to https://smile.amazon.com. You will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to FOMPBC.

MetroParks of Butler County Leonid Meteor Shower

By Shawnee Banks

Looking for something extraordinary? Come to Governor Bebb MetroParks Howe Shelter on Saturday, November 17th from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. for the Leonid Meteor Shower (Bryd, 2018).

Figure 1. Picture of the Leonid Meteor Shower by James Younger (Bryd, 2018)

The Leonid Meteor shower originates from the Comet Tempel-Tuttle (Bryd, 2018). As we pass the comet, the debris enters our atmosphere and vaporizes creating the mystical meteor shower we all love so much. The meteor shower radiates from the constellation Leo (Bryd, 2018). Be on the lookout for the constellation to get the best view of the Leonid Meteors.

Figure 2. Illustrates where the meteors will be radiating from (the green circle) near the constellation Leo (The Interactive Meteor Shower Sky Map; TAD, 2018)

Not sure where to find Leo? Not to worry. The MetroParks of Butler County will have volunteers from the Cincinnati Astronomical Society there to help. Worried you won’t see anything? This year, expect to see between 10 – 15 meteors per hour at peak (Bryd, 2018). Also, don’t miss the chance to
look at one of our telescopes and get some magnified views of our magnificent stars.

Bring a blanket or chair, bundle up, and enjoy a late night at Governor Bebb MetroPark!

References:


**Arts in the MetroParks – Great Miami Riverway Art Show**
The Howl: Trick or Treat for Pets and their Owners
Fun at the Chrisholm Play Scape
Like our Facebook Page for updates on:
- Upcoming members events & meetings
- Volunteering with MPX
- MPX programming
Volunteer News

November 2018

The Howl and Reforestation Project at Forest Run

Contact Us
Give us a call or visit us on the web for more information about service opportunities.

MetroParks Of Butler County
2051 Timberman Road
Hamilton OH 45013
513.867.5835
www.YourMetroParks.net

Or email Amy Pellman at apellmen@YourMetroParks.net

November Birthday Corner!

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<td>Thomas Broderick</td>
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<td>Tabitha Schmeh</td>
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<td>William Walker</td>
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We ❤️ our Volunteers!!
Volunteer Spotlight

Judy Shillinglaw-Master Gardener & Friends of Chisholm Board Member

How long have you lived or worked in Butler County? 55 years. Originally from Eastern Kansas

Tell me a little about your family: My husband Jim and I live in Monroe, My daughter Suzanne Byrd and husband Dan Byrd of Middletown, Grandson Sam Byrd, New Haven, Ct. Dogs and Cats

Do you have any hobbies? Gardening, creating garden club programs, researching horticulture for specific plants and trees, sharing information with other gardeners. Reading and Travel

What do you like to do for fun or is there a fun fact about yourself you would like to share? Travel to European Countries, especially France, to explore gardens, horticulture, vineyards, history, culture and foodie adventures. So different than USA. I am retired from the Travel Industry. What a great job.

What do you love most about volunteering for MetroParks? There is something special about those I volunteer with at Chisholm MetroPark and Friends of Chisholm. This is where I learned to appreciate the Augspurger immigrants’ stories, burdens, and absolute determination to bring their families and other Amish Mennonite families to Ohio to farm, to own land and to find religious freedom. I grew up in an Agricultural Community and my Mother had a huge vegetable garden and flower gardens. She was in the Lenexa Garden Club and was a talented flower arranger. My Mom would be so proud of me.
November Volunteer Opportunities

**Arts in the MetroParks**
When: October 26, November 2, November 9, November 16 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Where: River Center 120 South Carmody Blvd. Middletown OH 45044
What: Volunteers are needed for guest registration and to assist with concessions. Contact Amy Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

**Breakfast with Santa**
When: December 16, 2018 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Where: Voice of America MetroPark 7850 Voice of America Park Drive West Chester Ohio 45069
What: We are looking for volunteers to assist with serving breakfast, bussing tables, assist with crafts and be Santa’s little helper! Contact Amy Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

**Murder Mystery Dinner**
When: February 9, 2019 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Where: Voice of America MetroPark 7850 Voice of America Park Drive West Chester Ohio 45069
What: We are looking for volunteers to assist with serving dinner and bussing tables. Contact Amy Pellman at apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

Ongoing Service Opportunities

**Welcome Center – Middletown River Center** **NEW OPPORTUNITY**
When: Tentatively M/W/F/Saturday
Where: Middletown River Center 120 South Carmody Blvd., Middletown OH 45044
What: Volunteers are needed at the Welcome Center at the Middletown River Center. Welcome park customer/owners with a smile, provide information about programs and the parks. Training provided. Contact Sara Schapman sschapman@YourMetroParks.net.

**Trail Ambassadors – Great Miami River Trail**
When: Flexible
Where: Great Miami River 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, provide information to trail users, and perform light trail maintenance. Contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.

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, contact Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net for more information.
Program/Event & Preparation 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 Amy Pellman apellman@YourMetroParks.net.

Welcome Center - Voice of America MetroPark
When: Weekends
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 customer/owners with a smile, provide information about programs and the parks. Training provided. Contact Sara Schapman sschapman@YourMetroParks.net.

“Autumn... the year's last, loveliest smile.” - William Cullen Bryant
Arts in the MetroParks

WHEN
Reception & Award Ceremony
Friday, October 26th 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Open Houses - Following three Fridays
November 2nd, November 9th, and
November 16th 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
all days.

WHERE
River Center
120 South Carmody Blvd,
Middletown OH 45044

PRICE
$2/person or $5/family
Spectator registration not required.
art registration required by 10/12/18

ABOUT
Arts in the MetroParks is an art series competition with 2018’s theme focused on the newly declared “Great Miami Riverway.” Artists and nature lovers from all over the Butler County community will have the chance to experience creative visions of the Great Miami River at the new River Center through various art mediums. Light refreshments will be available each night of the series with short environmental conservation films from the Wild & Scenic Film Festival delighting guests during the open houses.

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net
Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents $5/daily or $10/annually.
Photo Walks: Seasons in MetroParks

Join Photographer Susan Milinkovich as she shares different tips on photography in nature in a hands-on setting.

**TIPS FOR COMPOSING A GREAT PHOTOGRAPH**

Join us for a summer morning walk around Forest Run MetroPark as we search for good photo opportunities in the fields and around the ponds. Learn tips on composition to help you frame and capture summer flowers and early morning light.

**Saturday, July 21, 2018**
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Forest Run MetroPark
Wildlife Preserve Area
1810 New London Road
Hamilton, OH 45013

**TIPS FOR SHOOTING FALL COLORS**

Join us as we wander around Chrisholm Farm as we search for fall colors and capture photographs of the Historic Farmstead. Learn tips for capturing fall colors and share a little about how to use color theory in your photography.

**Saturday, September 15, 2018**
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Chrisholm MetroPark
Historic Farmstead
2070 Woodsdale Road
Trenton, OH 45067

**TIPS FOR SHOOTING CLOSE-UPS AND INTIMATE LANDSCAPES**

Join us as we explore the Pioneer Village and look for close-up photographs. As you start to look for the "small stuff", you discover all kinds of interesting new subjects. Learn tips for shooting close-ups and intimate landscapes.

**Saturday, November 10, 2018**
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Governor Bebb MetroPark
Pioneer Village
1979 Bebb Park Lane
Okeana, OH 45053

*All programs are FREE. Registration is required by the Friday before each program.
Bring your iPhone, Point-and-shoot or DSLR camera - no photography experience needed.*

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net
Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents $5/daily or $10/annually.
Meteor Showers
Join us after dark to explore the stars at MetroParks! Bring a blanket/chair for your star-gazing comfort.

**PERSEID METEOR SHOWER WATCH**

**Saturday, August 11, 2018**
9:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

**Forest Run MetroPark**
**Wildlife Preserve Area**
1810 New London Road
Hamilton, OH 45013

Enjoy the Perseid Meteor Shower. Be on the lookout for the constellation Perseus, as the showers will be coming from that direction. Explore the stars and enjoy sensory activities.

Pre-registration required by Friday, 8/10/18.

**LEONID METEOR SHOWER WATCH**

**Saturday, November 17, 2018**
9:00 p.m.-12:00 am

**Governor Bobb MetroPark**
**Howe Shelter**
1979 Bebb Park Lane
Okeana, OH 45053

The Leonid Meteor Shower is here! It’s been about 30 years since this meteor shower has been witnessed. Explore the stars and enjoy sensory activities.

Pre-registration required by 11/16/18.

*Both are FREE Programs open to all ages.*

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net
Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents $5/daily or $10/annually.

[SWD/rev 7/19/18 approved]
Show and Tell on the Farm

**WHEN**
Sundays 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursdays 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**WHERE**
Chisholm MetroPark
Chisholm Historic Farmstead 2070
Woodsdale Road
Trenton, OH 45067

**PRICE**
FREE programs for all ages
No Registration Necessary

**ABOUT**
Come on over to Chisholm Historic Farmstead for Show and Tell on the Farm. Each day will feature different themes with special guest stars — some furry & some feathery — crafts, and games! Come for any amount of time. Designed to delight kids and kids at heart.

| November 1  | The Three-Sisters Garden |
| November 4  | ABC’s of Farm Life       |
| November 8  | Turkey Talk              |
| November 11 | Pumpkin Smash            |
| November 15 | Pilgrims                 |
| November 18 | Machines that Help Us     |
| November 29 | Thanksgiving Feast for the Animals |
| December 2  | Scavenger Hunt           |
| December 6  | Presents for the Farm Animals |
| December 9  | Ice Harvest              |
| December 13 | Winter Wreaths           |
| December 16 | Yokes and Yolks          |
| December 20 | Holidays New & Old on the Farm |
| December 27 | Fat, Feather, and Fur on the Farm |

*There will be no Show & Tell on the Farm program on November 22 & 25 and December 23 & 30. Happy Holidays!*

213.867.0835 | YourMetroParks.net
Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents $5/daily or $10/annually.
Breakfast with Santa

**WHEN**
Sunday, December 16, 2018
11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Santa arrives - 11:30 a.m.
Magic show - 12:30 p.m.
Children's Craft Shop - 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**WHERE**
Voice of America MetroPark
Ronald Reagan Lodge
7850 Voice of America Park Drive
West Chester OH 45069

**PRICE**
Age 8+: $14.95
Age 3-7: $12.95
Children Under 3: FREE
$5.00 for photos with Santa

**ABOUT**
"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas... perhaps...means a little bit more?"

It's the most wonderful time of year to have Breakfast with Santa! Enjoy a breakfast buffet, a visit with Santa Claus, Christmas crafts, and a Grinch themed holiday magic show with Charlie Cadabra!

REGISTRATION: Pre-registration required by 12/10/18

513.867.5835 | YourMetroParks.net
Motor Vehicle Permit Required. FREE to Butler County Residents. Non-Residents $5/daily or $10/annually.

ow/sb 180924 approved
1. GOVERNOR BEBB METROPARK
   1979 Bebb Park Lane Okemos OH 45053
   Bebb Natural Area
   Dry Fork Campground
   Pioneer Village

2. INDIAN CREEK METROPARK
   2A. Bunker Hill Cemetery
       5351 Millville Road Oxford OH 45056
   2B. Oxford Road Area
       1899 Oxford-Relly Road (CR 732)
       Oxford OH 45056
   2C. Springfield Road Area
       6500 Springfield Road Oxford OH 45056
   2D. Pioneer Church
       3000 Indian Creek Road Oxford OH 45056

3. FOUR MILE CREEK METROPARK
   3A. Antenen Preserve
       2385 Treiber Road Hamilton OH 45011
   3B. Mill Race Area
       5911 Morning Sun Road Oxford OH 45056
   3C. Sycamore Bluffs Area
       3742 Lenes Mills Road Hamilton OH 45011
   3D. Davidson Woods Area
       1200 Hugie Road Hamilton OH 45013

4. SALAMANDER RUN PRESERVE
   4821 Leyhigh Road Hamilton OH 45013

5. FOREST RUN METROPAK
   5A. Engle House – Little Dry Run - Administrative Office
       2051 Timberman Road Hamilton OH 45013
   5B. Welcome Center
       1976 Timberman Road Hamilton OH 45013
   5C. Timberman Ridge
       1976 Timberman Road Hamilton OH 45013
   5D. Wildlife Preserve Area
       1810 New London Road Hamilton OH 45013

6. GILMORE METROPARK
   6A. Gilmore Road Area
       7950 Gilmore Road Hamilton OH 45015
   6B. Bilstein Boulevard Area
       8500 Bilstein Boulevard Hamilton OH 45015
   6C. Port Union Trail Area

7. RENTSCHLER FOREST METROPARK
   7A. Riegert Road Area
       5701 Riegert Road Fairfield Township OH 45011
   7B. Line Hill Mound Area
       3620 Hamilton-Middletown Road Fairfield Township OH 45011
   7C. Timberhill Area
       3976 Hamilton-Middletown Road Fairfield Township OH 45011

8. ELK CREEK METROPAK
   8A. Sebald Park Area
       5580 Elk Creek Road Middletown OH 45042
   8B. Meadow Ridge Area
       5101 Circle Parkway Middletown OH 45042

9. CHRISSHOLM METROPAK
   9A. Chrisholm Historic Farmstead
       2070 Woodside Road Trenton OH 45067
   9B. Woodside Regional Park
       1917 Woodside Road Trenton OH 45067

10. VOICE OF AMERICA METROPAK
    7850 VOA Park Drive West Chester OH 45069

11. GREAT MIAMI RIVER TRAIL
    11A. North Section
        50 Oxford State Road Middletown OH 45044
    11B. South Section
        5701 Riegert Road Fairfield Township OH 45011
    11C. Parking Areas
        50 Oxford State Road, Middletown OH 45044
        26 North, Carmody Boulevard, Middletown OH 45044
        2399 South Carmody Boulevard, Middletown OH 45042
        3801 North Verity Parkway, Middletown OH 45042
        4401 North Verity Parkway, Middletown OH 45042

12. BICENTENNIAL COMMONS
    Carmody Boulevard at Central Avenue
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
- 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?
Private citizens who have come together to:
- 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 ____________
Name(s)/Contact __________________________________________ Date ____________
Group or Business Name __________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________
City __________________________ State ______ Zip __________
Home/Business Phone __________________________ Cell Phone __________________________
Email (required to receive newsletter) __________________________