



Pimiteoui Trail Association Hiking Club

Oct – Dec 2018

President – Mike Bohn – 309-657-4557
Vice President – Bonnie Jackson – 309-
Secretary – Angie Madison, 309-453-2097
Treasurer – Mary Greenhood
Newsletter Editor – Jerry Gegel – 309-266-7533

ANNOUNCEMENTS/NOTICES

Reminder

The club's annual meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2019, at the Lariat Club. Present plan is to have cocktails at 5:30 pm and dinner at 6:00 pm. We will have a choice of Sirloin Steak, Grilled Chicken, or Tilapia.

PTA Hiking Club

1. Hikes shall start promptly with no more than a 10-minute grace period for late arrivals.
2. The newsletter will be "published" quarterly. Hike leaders; please email your Event Reports to geraldgegel@comcast.net within two weeks after completion of your scheduled events. A single photo (jpeg file format) for inclusion in the Newsletter may be attached to your report.
3. Hike Leaders are to register all attendees for a hike/bike/paddle event using the "official" Pimiteoui Trail Association Liability Waiver form. These may be obtained on our website at WWW.PTAHIKE.ORG.
4. If an area allows dogs, they must be on a leash at all times. Also, please be prepared to pick up and dispose of pet excrement
5. In case of bad weather, contact the hike leader to see if the hike/event has been cancelled.

4th Quarter Event Schedule

2018-20, October 6, Saturday, carpool 8:30 AM, Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet

A new place for the club to hike is Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve just off Interstate 74 at Mahomet west of Champaign. The hike is in two sections: the first is about 2.5+ miles of grassy and dirt trails through prairie and some woods, while the second is around 2.5+ miles of grass and pavement in a conventional park setting which includes a lake and crossing several magnificent bridges. The terrain on both is rolling, and the first section can be muddy. Total hiking time is around 2.5 hours. Both sections are subject to sun and heat. There are points in both sections for self-guided turnaround or wait for when the rest of the group loops back. For carpooling, **meet at the Cracker Barrel back parking lot in Morton at 8:30**. Plan to start hiking by 10:00. If you drive directly on your own, contact the hike leader beforehand.

Wear hiking boots for the first section; you may choose to switch to canvas shoes for the second section. Shorts are fine. Bring trekking poles if recent rains occurred. Carry water. Dogs on leases are welcome. Indoor bathrooms are available at the beginning/end and halfway.

Directions: take I74 east to exit 172 at Mahomet. Turn left (north) onto RTE 47. At ½ mile, turn left into a small parking area that has one restroom building. This is our starting point. Optionally afterward, we will lunch in Mahomet at JT Walkers or the Hen House. The return to Cracker Barrel is: 2:15 for those not staying for lunch, 3:45 for those eating lunch. There is also a free prairie museum tour on the grounds after 1:00 PM that we may consider, which would delay return.

Hike Leader: Jay Meinrich 309-472-0165 (call/text), email: jmeinrich@comcast.net

2018-21, Hike at Rocky Glen, Saturday, October 20, 2018

Friends of Rock Glen have invited us to join them on a hike on Saturday, October 20th, anytime from 10 am until 2 pm at Rocky Glen Park off Kickapoo Creek Road. Volunteers from Friends of Rocky Glen will be hosting guided hikes all day on the **NEW** hiking trail with a newly built parking lot kiosk, interpretive signs, directions posts and occasional benches. Although Pimiteoui has hiked there before, the trail we will be hiking is entirely **NEW**. It will be a challenging; strenuous 1/3 mile hike from the parking lot to the Bowl then back another 1/3 mile, with three separate short side trail options. If you have questions contact Dave Pittman at 309-573-2354 or dvdgpittman@gmail.com. **Note: Parking will be limited so they will run a shuttle from Jimmy's Bar on Farmington Road. No parking will be available at the Rocky Glen parking lot for this event.**

2018-22, Saturday, October 27, 9:00 AM, Detweiller Park to RTE 6, Peoria

We'll enjoy fall colors on this magnificent trail from Detweiller Park to the RTE 6 tunnel and back. Walking time is at least 2.5 hours, and you can shorten the hike by turning around. Drive directly and meet in Detweiller Park at 9:00 at the Moose Shelter parking lot (farthest south from the soccer fields) close to the playground equipment. Plan on climbing steep hills. Mud can be an issue. There are creek crossings. Wear hiking boots and bring trekking pole(s). Carry water. Indoor bathrooms are available at the beginning/end and part way. Dogs on leashes are welcome. Afterward, we'll dine somewhere good.

Hike Leader: Jay Meinrich 309-472-0165 cell (voice, text), email jmeinrich@comcast.net

2018- 23 ,Saturday, Nov. 10th, 10:00 AM, Northwoods Park

Join fellow hikers for a walk in the woods. Meet at the park pavilion parking area. The park is located about a mile North of Morton on North Main Street. There will be a few moderate hills. Wear hiking boots, and bring trekking poles if you need support. Toilets are available. Dogs are only allowed on leash on the hiking trails. No off-trail running of dogs. Contact hike leader if more descriptive directions are needed. Optionally after the hike we will eat some where for stories and jocularity.

Hike Leader: John Jackson 309-645-0263

2018-24, Sunday, November 25, 1:30 PM, Forest Park, Peoria

Enjoy an after Thanksgiving treat and join the club for a hike at Forest Park. There are hills. We'll hike at least 2 hours—not sure about shorter options. Drive directly and meet at the Forest Park parking lot at 1:30. Dress in layers, wear hiking boots, and consider trekking

poles if you need support. Carry water. Indoor bathrooms are at the beginning/end. Dogs are **not** welcome. Optionally afterward, we'll eat dinner together in North Peoria.
Hike Leader: Jay Meinrich 309-472-0165 (cell phone, call or text), email:
jmeinrich@comcast.net

Tuesday, Dec 4, 2018. Board Meeting, Morton Public Library

Come share your ideas about hiking locations, social and service events, and club business. Volunteer to lead a hike! Our event schedule for October, November & December will be created at this meeting. If you are unable to attend, pass your ideas on to a board member before the meeting.

Leader: Mike Bohn; 309-657-4557

2018-25. Friday, Dec 7, 2018, 6:00 PM, Forest Park Nature Center; Shop and Stroll,

This one-of-a-kind event has become a holiday tradition in central Illinois. Experience a nighttime stroll on a forest path lit with luminaries; enjoy live holiday music, storytelling and caroling; hot wassail and seasonal treats; view and/or purchase nature-related artwork from the Nature Art Show & Sale; and shop for earth-friendly and Fair Trade items at the Trailhead Nature Store. Plan time to catch your breath and experience an evening guaranteed to get you in the spirit! We will meet inside the Nature Center at 6:00 pm.

Leader: Mike Bohn; 309-657-4557

2018-26, Saturday, December 22, 2018, 7:00 PM, Christmas Party at the Home of Bonnie and John Jackson

Please join us as we celebrate another Christmas season at the Jackson home, 15 Waldheim Rd., Morton, Illinois. The party starts at 7:00 pm. Feel free to bring your favorite libation or enjoy the drinks provided. Tasty treats and fellowship abound, so be sure to mark your calendar for this fun and festive event.

Special note: If there is rain or snow, leave your boots at the door and bring your favorite Christmas shoes to change into. We'll keep your boots safe and sound while you celebrate the season!

RSVP: Bonnie and John Jackson 309-696-1955 or bon1jon2@yahoo.com

EVENT REPORTS

2018-14 July 12, 5:00 pm, Club Social at River Beach Pub in Chillicothe

On a very hot Thursday night close to 20 Pimiteoui hiking club members showed up for a good dinner at the Pub. We ate inside due to the heat and after three large table changes we managed to get settled! This is a very good pub for "bar" food and it is highly recommended.

Host: Mike Bohn

2018-15, Saturday, July 28, 9AM, Detweiller Park/Green Valley

Detweiller Park provided a beautiful and enjoyable hike. Most of us went the entire 5.5 miles/2 hours 30 minutes in pleasant weather, while some opted for a shortened 3 miles. The steep hills seemed unrelenting, yet everyone handled them well. These trails are perceived as secondary compared with Forest Park. However, they are just as good. Afterward, many of us ate lunch at Brazky's

Hiking Members: Celeste Hansen, LaVerne Wilson, Karen Decker, Carol Raines, Kathy Jones, Barb Gurtler, Homer Gurtler, Kim Bowers, Barry Bowers, Arthur Ching
Hiking Guests: Amanda Lin, David Denney
Hiking Dogs: Quinn & Padme (Kim & Barry Bowers)
Hike Leader: Jay Meinrich

2018-16 Sunday, August 12, 2:00 pm, Constitution Trail, Bloomington

Eight of us carpooled over to the Constitution Trail, starting at Jumer's. It was a warm hike but the shade increased as we first went East then, returned to our starting point, and went West to the Japanese garden. We went under a couple of tunnels and successfully avoided being hit by bikers. We probably walked between 3 and 4 miles. Afterwards, our attempt to eat at Busy Corner failed after we saw the waiting line of people. So, we headed back to Cracker Barrel for a bite to eat. Thank you to Rob Alexander for being our responsible driver.

Hiking Members: Loren Madison, Bonnie Jackson, John Jackson, Rob Alexander, Arthur Ching, Joyce Gegel and Jerry Gegel.

Hike Leader: Angie Madison

2018-17 Sunday, August 19, 2:00 pm, Hyde Park Woods

It was a sunny day with fine weather. The creeks were low and the shallow water crossings were easy. There were sightings of wildlife along the way of deer, turkey, and a red tailed hawk, which tattled on us being in the woods. There were eight enthusiastic hikers for this trip. Following the hike we fired up the grill and had a variety of tasty treats.

Hikers: Susan Hood, Jay Meinrich, Angie Madison, Carol Raines, Andy & Cherie Shull, John Jackson, and Dave Grebner.

Hike Leaders: Angie Madison, John Jackson

2018-18, Saturday, September 8, 8:30 am, Humiston Woods, Pontiac I

Humiston was an exquisite hike. 5.1 miles of woods, water, and prairie on a beautiful summer day. The highlights included continuous sunshine, dry trails, no bugs, accessible beaches, deer, a flying blue heron, and dozens of monarch butterflies on goldenrod. Some of us ate a good lunch at Edinger's Filing Station in Pontiac.

Hiking Members: Carol Raines, Rob Alexander, Andy Shull, Susan Hood

Hike Leader: Jay Meinrich

2018-19, Wednesday, September 19, 5:30 pm, Bike Ride on Rock Island Greenway

The evening had cooled off considerably by the time we left for the trial ride from Bushwhacker. There was a cool, soft breeze that made the ride exhilarating. The only problem was that the weather was so nice and ride was so much fun, that we didn't want to quit. Since darkness falls early these days, we did what we had to do and ended the ride around 7:00 pm. Afterwards, we enjoyed dinner at the Asian Grill, just across the parking lot from the trail. It was a great evening of fun and fellowship.

Members Attending: Bonnie Jackson, John Jackson, Celeste Hansen

Leader: Bonnie Jackson

