



Pimiteoui Trail Association Hiking Club July– Sept 2019

President – Dave Grebner – 309-222-7941
Vice President – Bonnie Jackson – 309-676-1955
Secretary – Angie Madison - 309-453-2097
Treasurer – Carol Raines - talinara1989@yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor – Jerry Gegel – 309-266-7533

ANNOUNCEMENTS/NOTICES

Reminders

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.

Group Trip

We are considering a 6-day hiking adventure through Road Scholar Travel Service and are sending out feelers to see if any of our members would be interested in joining us. The trip consists of hiking a stretch of the Appalachian Trail in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. We can hike at our own pace each day and learn about the region’s history from a local historian or park ranger. Road Scholar will arrange lodging, meals, and experienced guides. The cost is \$979 plus transportation to Pennsylvania. This hike is offered on various dates between April and November, and we are looking to book in 2020. If this idea appeals to you, Contact **Bonnie and John Jackson** at bon1jon2@yahoo.com or **309-696-1955**.

Road Scholar is a travel organization that provides top-notch educational tours in the U.S. and around the world. To learn more about this trip, visit roadscholar.com and search trip #14629FNS or search “choose your own pace: a hiking adventure on the Appalachian Trail.”

For Your Information, the Peoria Park District will hold the following hikes at the locations indicated below:

Camp Wokonda

Full Moon Stroll* – Friday 08/16 from 9 to 10 pm

Forest Park Nature Center

Lightning Bugs* – Fri 07/05; 8 to 8:45 pm or 9 – 9:45 pm

Full Moon Stroll* – Thurs 07/18; 9 – 10 pm

Tawny Oaks Field Station

Constellation Hike – 07/02 & 08/23; 9:30 to 10:30 pm

*** Reservations required. For more information and reservations contact the Forest Park Nature Center at 309-686-3360.**

3rd Quarter Event Schedule

2019-11, July 7, Sunday, 2:30 PM, Funk's Grove, McLean, IL; meet 1:30 PM, hike 2:30 PM

The full hike at Funks Grove will be 4+ miles (2+ hours)—with a shorter option available—on relatively level ground through forest and prairie. Wear hiking boots, bring water, bug spray, and a cap if sunshine bothers you. Consider trekking pole(s) for possible mud and several non-challenging creek crossings. Outhouse bathrooms are at the beginning and midway. Leashed dogs are okay. Carpooling is at 1:30 pm in the back lot of Cracker Barrel in Morton. If driving directly, contact the hike leader beforehand, arrive at Funks Grove by 2:30 pm, and park at the Sugar Grove Nature Center, 4532 N 725 East Rd., in rural McLean. (if your GPS says you've arrived, keep going to the dead-end destination). For non-GPS directions from Bloomington, see <http://sugargrovenaturecenter.org/directions.html>

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

2019-12, July 27, Saturday, 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM, Donovan Park & Cyd's

We will meet at Donovan Park (the former golf course across from Junction City in Peoria) and hike the perimeter. This is a beautiful area gone back to nature after the golf course closed. Following the hike, about 11:00, those who wish may join us for lunch at Cyd's (the restaurant in the former golf shop building). **Feel free to call, text or email with any questions.**

Event Leader: Dave Grebner, 309-688-3908 (land line), 309 222-7941 (text); moseynme.com (e-mail).

2019-13, August 10, Saturday, Carpenter Park, Springfield, IL; meet 8:30 AM, hike 10:00 AM.

Pimiteoui returns to Carpenter Park. It is mostly woods and is located on the north edge of Springfield along the Sangamon River. Walking difficulty is moderate. Wear hiking boots, bring water, and bug spray. The fine details of the hike will be forthcoming in an email about a week before the hike. Carpooling is at 8:30 am in the back lot of Cracker Barrel in Morton. If driving directly, contact the hike leader beforehand, arrive by 10:00 am, and park at the Historic Stone Shelter, 1 Carpenter Park Trail, Springfield. The club will eat somewhere locally afterwards.

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

2019-14, August 23, Friday, 9:30 PM, See the Evening Constellations.

We are trying something a little different with this event in that we will attend a Forest Park Nature Center program for a viewing of the evening constellations at the Tawny Oaks Field Station, Singing Woods.

Event Leader: Bonnie Jackson; 309-6961955

2019-15, August 29, 5:30 pm – Club Social Event at Kuchie’s on The Water in Creve Coeur.

Join your fellow hikers for an evening of drinks, dinner, and fellowship at Kuchie’s on The Water, 579 Wesley Rd, Creve Coeur on Thursday, August 29 at 5:30 pm. To find Kuchie’s from Peoria, take I-74 east and exit right to US24/Main St just after crossing the Illinois river, follow Main St south for 1.3 miles and then take a right onto Wesley Rd and proceed 1.1 miles until you find Kuchie’s on the right (on the water).

Host: Mike Bohn 309-657-4557

2019- 16, Tuesday September 3, 5:30 PM, Grandview Drive Walk

This is a classic evening walk along Grandview Drive, on sidewalk. Tennis shoes will be appropriate as will be hiking shoes. We will meet at the Peoria Heights Tower on Prospect Ave and will walk promptly at 5:30 pm. Parking will be on the street.

Hike Leader: Angie Madison, 309-453-2097

Wednesday Sept 11, 2:00 PM, Board Meeting, Jackson’s Home

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

Leader: Dave Grebner, ph 222-7941

2019-17, Sept 14, 10:00 AM, Hiking Starved Rock.

Meet at 8:00 AM at the Cracker Barrel rear parking lot in Morton for carpooling (**be on time**). Those traveling directly should meet us at the front door of the Lodge at 9:30 AM. Bathrooms are available at the Lodge. The club always has a good time on this hike. There will be stairs on the trails. Weather will determine the distance we hike as options for trails exist. Dress appropriately and bring water. Wear boots and bring your hiking poles. Bring camera, trail snack, and binoculars as you wish. Leashed dogs are welcome. Following the hike, as an option, we will eat at the Lodge, or in Utica. Directions to Starved Rock: go North on I 39, take exit 48 at Tonica, turn right (East) onto N 20th Rd, come to a T and Turn Left (North) on Route 178, go several miles, turn right into the park at the sign & drive up the hill to the Lodge, turn off on your left.

Hike Leader: John Jackson-645-0263 Call or text

EVENT REPORTS

2019-06, April 13, Saturday, 9:00 a.m., Independence Park, Marquette Heights

A lovely day, plus participants of a local 5K run/walk event, greeted us at Independence Park. Trails seemed dry enough, and the early spring views were great. Numerous deer crossed our paths. Five of us did the entire hike; 6.4 miles in 3.25 hours. Later, a few ate at Jason's Deli in East Peoria.

Hiking Members: Les Hensley, Patty Friedrich, Priska Lauber, Pam Brandt, John Jackson, Barb Gurtler, Andy Shull, Cherie Shull, Dave Grebner, Mary Greenwood, Paul Frisk

Hiking Guests: Rob(erta) Parks

Hiking Dogs: Annie (Patty), Scooby (Dave), Mary's 3 dogs

Hike Leader: Jay Meinrich

2019-07, April 27, Saturday, 9:00AM, Camp Wokonda Pancake Breakfast & Hike.

Several from the club turned up for the hike and pancake breakfast. We were treated to real maple syrup made from trees that grow on Camp Wokonda. Rob Alexander was giving guided tours of the collection process in the woods, as well as a show of the actual process of cooking down the syrup. Chris Golden was cooking in the kitchen and Dave Grebner was serving. We all had a little Spring Fever and wanted to be out.

Members Attending: Celeste Hansen, Mary Ryder, Eric Hutchison, Bonnie Jackson, Dave Grebner, Rob Alexander, Chris Golden, Priska Lauber and Arthur Ching.

Hike Leader: John Jackson

2019-08, May 26, Sunday, 2:00 pm, Farmdale Reservoir, East Peoria

Cancelled due to poor hiking conditions.

Hike Leader: Jay Meinrich

2019-09, May 29, Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:30 PM, Forest Park Nature Center

We tried something a little different with this event in that we joined the guided tour by one of the Nature Center's professional staff for a Spring Twilight Hike. Touring the low trails and some of the ridge tops. Sighting several deer and turkey in the woods at dusk was a treat. It was a beautiful evening to be in the woods.

Hiker: Karen Decker

Hike Leader: John Jackson

2019-09, June 1, Saturday, Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve, Mahomet

Cancelled because of weather & trail conditions.

Hike Leader: Jay Meinrich

Wednesday June 12, 2:00 PM, PTA Board Meeting

Current paid membership is 66 including Scooby. The Board agreed to pursue the possibility of a Group trip with Road Scholar in 2020 & to continue promotion of the hikes being presented by the Peoria Park District.

Attendees: Mike Bohn, Angie Madison, Bonnie Jackson, John Jackson, Jerry Gegel, Carol Raines, and Dave Grebner.

Leader: President Dave Grebner; 309-222-7941

2019-10, Sunday, June 23, 2019, 2 pm, Black Partridge Park, Metamora

We escaped the rain and the weather was pleasant for our hike up and down the hills at Black partridge Park. Seven people and one dog showed up for our walk in the woods. The trails were in good condition and we covered about three and a half miles. The camaraderie was great with pleasant conversation and fun was had by all.

Hikers: Patty Friedrich, Les Hensley, Eric Hutchison, John Jackson, Jay Meinrich, Andy Shull and Laverne Wilson.

Hiking Dog: Solara Hutchison

Hike Leader: Les Hensley