



# Pimiteoui Trail Association Hiking Club

## July - September 2022

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President – Dave Grebner – 309-222-7941  
Vice President – Bonnie Jackson – 309-696-1955  
Secretary – Angie Madison - 309-453-2097  
Treasurer – Carol Raines - talinara1989@yahoo.com  
Newsletter Editors – Cherie and Andy Shull

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/NOTICES**

We are happy we're able to continue hiking and enjoying one another's company. We remain committed to following the CDC pandemic safety guidelines and will adapt as needed. Read this newsletter carefully to find dates, places, and times of the upcoming hikes. We look forward to seeing you all there!

#### **Reminders**

1. Hikes shall start promptly with no more than a 5-minute grace period for late arrivals.
2. The newsletter will be published quarterly. Hike leaders: please email your Event Reports to [shullag@yahoo.com](mailto:shullag@yahoo.com) 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](http://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.

#### **3rd Quarter Event Schedule**

##### **Saturday, July 9, 2022, 10:00 AM, Forest Park, Peoria Heights**

Forest Park is a 500 acre nature center with 7 miles of trails. We will be hiking a moderately challenging 4.0 loop that takes 1hr 45 min to 2 hrs. The outer loop includes the Wilderness trail, Possum Path, Bee Tree trail, Wake Robin trail, Deer Run trail, Lower Deer run and Valley trail. You will need to leave the pups at home as no dogs are allowed. Hiking poles recommended. Address: 5809 Forest Park Drive in Peoria Heights.

**Hike Leader:** Celeste Hansen 309-231-7023, [celhansen@aol.com](mailto:celhansen@aol.com)

### [Saturday, July 30, 9:30 AM, Funks Grove Nature Preserve, McLean IL](#)

We are returning to Funks Grove after a three-year absence. The full hike will be 4+ miles (2+ hours)—with a shorter option available—on relatively level ground through forest and prairie. Outhouse bathrooms are at the beginning and midway. Leashed dogs are okay. Carpooling is at 8:30 in the back lot of Cracker Barrel, 150 E Ashland St, in Morton. If driving directly, contact the hike leader beforehand, arrive at Funks Grove by 9:30, 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>. Optionally afterward, we may eat somewhere.

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

### [Saturday, August 13, 2022, 6:00 PM, Social at Germantown Grille, Germantown Hills](#)

Let's meet at 6:00 for our first social event since Covid began. Order dinner from the menu and even have a beer or glass of wine to celebrate the resumption of hiking and fellowship. The address of Germantown Grille is 505 Ten Mile Creek Rd, Germantown Hills, Illinois.

I absolutely, positively, MUST have an accurate head count by the end of the day on Friday, Aug 12th, so RSVP no later than that date if you intend to come. I MUST let the restaurant know how many to prepare seating for, and unexpected guests might not be able to be seated with us. If you are bringing a friend or a spouse be sure and let me know how many will be in your party so I can ensure that we all get to sit together. No surprises, please.

If you have questions or plan to attend you can contact me at [bon1jon2@yahoo.com](mailto:bon1jon2@yahoo.com), or call or text 309-696-1955 no later than August 12th. I hope to see you there!

**Leader:** Bonnie Jackson [bon1jon2@yahoo.com](mailto:bon1jon2@yahoo.com) 309-696-1955

### [Saturday, August 27, 2022, 10:00 AM, Comlara Park, Hudson](#)

Please join us for a hike around Lake Evergreen. This is a huge park with a huge lake. The park offers hiking, biking, paddling, fishing, camping, and a swimming beach. Come for the hike on Saturday morning. If you'd like, come a few days early and camp, bike, paddle, fish, or hit the beach. The hike leader will be there doing just those things. Address: 13001 Recreation Area Drive, Hudson, IL 61748. For more information check out their website: [mcleancountyil.gov](http://mcleancountyil.gov)

Park Phone Number: 309-434-6770

**Hike Leader:** John Jackson 309-645-0263

### [Saturday, September 10, 2022, 10:00 AM, Ulrich Wildlife Preserve, Morton](#)

Come join us for a Morning hike through the Ulrich Wildlife Preserve in Morton. The Preserve is located at 201 Turtle Creek Trail in Morton. It is at the end of Turtle Creek Trail, which is a

neighborhood street. We may be doing a couple of loops on the trail as it is not long. Parking is limited and on the street in a neighborhood. I would rate the hike easy.

**Hike Leader:** Angie Madison (309) 453-2097, [ap.madison84@gmail.com](mailto:ap.madison84@gmail.com)

### [Saturday, September 24, 2022, 10:00 AM, Canton Lake Scenic Nature Trail, Canton](#)

This relatively new trail used to be an old motorcycle club trail. With the trailhead located at 23677 E. Sebree Road, Canton, it is now Canton's newest hiking trail and features wide, well-marked, and color-coded trails. The 2.6 mile trail winds through forest and at times follows the shoreline offering views of the lake. This hike takes about an hour and there are some hills, but none are particularly steep. The white rock trailhead parking area includes a porta-potty and picnic table. Dogs are permitted if leashed.

**Directions:** From Peoria, take State Route 9 almost to Canton, but turn right on County Road-6 (heading north at turn-off to White Chapel Memory Gardens) which becomes Bradley Road and then becomes 20th Avenue...all in one straight line of about 1.5 miles. Still heading north, this road will turn right and become E. Sebree Road. The trailhead is on the left about a quarter mile after the turn.

**Latitude/Longitude:** [40.5681081, -89.9971639](#)

**Hike Leader:** Ed Coleman, (309) 363-1179, [colemane296@gmail.com](mailto:colemane296@gmail.com)

## EVENT REPORTS

### [2022-4, April 16, Saturday 10:00 AM, Spring Creek Reserve, Washington.](#)

We had 13 members, 9 guests, and one dog, some from the Central Illinois Singles group, join Dave Grebner who led this hike over a wonderful local natural area. Spring Creek Reserve has some steep hill trails and very scenic flat trails around a grassy valley. Estimated one hour hike turned into an enjoyable 90 minutes.

**Hiking Members:** Dave Grebner, Ken Echlihardt, Lori Echlihardt, Carol Raines, Celeste Hansen, Pam Brandt, Bonnie T., Roberta Parks, Debra Jones, Karen Hagerdorn, Andy Shull, Cherie Shull, Tom Kraus, John Jackson

**Hiking Guests:** Jeff Jones, Brian McKechnie, Allen Ponto, Bill K., Lisa Bernauer, Roger, Dean, Amy, Elisabeth A., Marj Oesch, Randy Earnest

**Hike Leader:** Dave Grebner

### [2022-5 Saturday, April 30, 2022 10:00AM, Sand Ridge State Forest, Forest City](#)

Eleven Hikers gathered at the trailhead. The day was cool and cloudy, perfect to hit the trail. Had to make a call to hike on that morning as rain was a possibility. Turned out OK. The name of the park Sand Ridge is accurate to describe the trails---Sandy. There were plenty of cactus to be seen, but it was too early in the year for any to be blooming. Winter in this area is hard for cactus.

**Hiking Members:** Lori Elkhart, Ken Elkhart, Carol Raines, Celeste Hansen, Cherie Shull, Andy Shull, Dave Grebner, Pam Brandt

**Hiking Guests:** Joni Wolffe, Bob Wolffe

**Hike Leader:** John Jackson

### [2022-6 Wednesday, May 11, 2022, 6:00 PM, McNaughton Park, Pekin](#)

We had a steamy, clear evening to enjoy our 2+ mile hike. Thankfully, our practical- naturalist, Rob Alexander, joined us and helped identify flora, such as bluebells, rare white bluebells, an Autumn Olive bush, a Garden Star-of-Bethlehem flower, Wild Blue Phlox, May Apple blossoms, and Honeysuckle trees. We did not see any wildlife but saw beaver cuttings. We only got a little lost and easily found our way out to be greeted by a spectacular cloud formation shielding the Sun.

**Hiking Members:** Rob Alexander, Ed Coleman, Kim Mitchell and guest, T.J. Tarabulski

**Hike Leader:** Angie Madison

### [2022-7 Saturday, May 21, 2022, 10:00 AM, Robinson Park, Peoria](#)

Hikers gathered at the trailhead lot on the North side of Mossville Road, 16 in all. We hit the trails hiking woodlands, ridges and valleys. The hills were enough to get your heart pumping. We saw a couple of deer, but they disappeared promptly.

**Hiking members:** Eric Hutchison, Laverne Wilson, Carol Raines, Ed Coleman, Jay Meinrich, Dave Grebner, Dona Ward, John Jackson, Jeff Jones, Andy Shull, Joan B

**Hiking Guests:** Loraine Weers, Judy Duffbar, Andy McClintich, Carol Sinlichen

**Hike Leader:** Celeste Hansen

### [2022-8 Saturday, June 11, 10:00 AM, Eureka Lake/Davidson Memorial Park, Eureka](#)

The morning was sunny but fairly cool for mid-June, and parts of the trail were a bit muddy due to the recent rain. Our route, which went through the park and near the lake, took us through woods, around fields of prairie grasses, and along pedestrian/bike paths. There was also a short trek up a hillside path that went through a lovely residential neighborhood. In spite of a muddy patch or two, all attendees seemed to enjoy the short but beautiful hike in one of Central Illinois nicest and most peaceful areas.

**Hiking Members:** Celeste Hansen, Liane Bisanz, Eric Hutchison, Rob Alexander, Dave Grebner and Scooby, Dave Kweram, Bonnie Tometich, Jim Perry, John Jackson, Cherie Shull, Andy Shull, Patty Sage, Todd Sage, Steve Hayes

**Guests:** James Tometich, Donna O'Day, Rose Halpin, Barb Johnson

**Hike Leader:** Bonnie Jackson