



Pimiteoui Trail Association

Hiking Club

April - June 2023

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 have several new hikes scheduled in the second quarter, as well as some beautiful favorite destinations. We looking forward to seeing you there!

Annual Meeting Report

Our annual meeting and banquet was held on February 11 at 6:00 PM at Barrack's Cater Inn. We voted to accept the following slate of officers: **President**, Dave Grebner; **Vice President**, Bonnie Jackson; **Secretary**, Angie Madison; **Treasurer**, Carol Raines. The new by-laws were accepted by unanimous vote. For a description of the guest presentation, see Event Reports.

Covid Safety

We remain committed to following the CDC pandemic safety guidelines and will adapt as needed. We look forward to seeing you all!

Hike 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 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.

2nd Quarter 2023 Event Schedule

Sunday, April 2, 2023, 2:00 PM, Robinson Park, Peoria, IL

Address: 400 W Mossville Road, Peoria, IL 61615

Please join us on this beautiful, spring hike at Robinson Park North at 2:00 p.m. We will walk north about 4 miles to Rt. 6 (tunnel) and turn around. Leashed dogs are welcome. You may like to bring your hiking poles to navigate the hilly terrain!

Directions: From Knoxville Ave, turn east on Mossville Rd. Turn east. Travel 1 mile to park. You will pass one parking lot. Please park at the second one, on either side of Mossville Rd.

Hike Leader: Priska, 309-219-4345

Saturday, April 22, 10:00 AM, Tawny Oaks Visitor Center, Edelstein, IL

Address: 715 W Singing Woods Rd, Edelstein, IL 61526

If I guessed correctly, this should be a wonderful chance to see bluebells! We will do the outer loop of the trails, approximately 4 miles total, including several hills. The valley in the middle of the loop is normally covered in bluebells, with a few daffodils thrown in for accent. After the hike, feel free to stop at Forest Park Nature Center for Earth Day and the first opportunity to buy Camp Wokanda Maple Syrup this year.

Hike Leader: Rob Alexander (309) 444-3297

Saturday, May 6, 2023, 10:00 AM, Merwin Preserve, Lexington, IL **(parking is limited – 9 AM carpooling from Morton Cracker Barrel recommended)**

Address: West Gate Parking Lot, Merwin Preserves, N 1925 East Rd Lexington, IL 61753

We will meet at the Cracker Barrel back parking lot at 9 am in Morton to carpool. The hike will be 3.5 miles from 10 am to about noon with a possible stop for pie at Busy Corner in Goodfield afterwards. The trail is known for its bluebells in the spring and is flat. No dogs allowed. No toilets are available and parking is limited. We will be starting at the West Gate Parking Lot. There is a Fast Stop gas station in Towanda for bathroom break.

Hike leader: Celeste Hansen 309-231-7023, CELHansen@aol.com

Saturday, May 13, 2023, 10:00 AM, Saint Mary's Cemetery, West Peoria, IL

Address: 421 North Sterling Avenue, West Peoria, IL 61604

We will meet at the front entrance to the cemetery for a hike led by Friends of Rocky Glen President David Pittman. He has agreed to combine a historic cemetery walk with a guided hike in Horseshoe Bottoms which gives us a two for one deal...the best of both worlds! No pets on cemetery property please, but our four legged friends are welcome at Horseshoe Bottoms. The hike will be a minimum of 90 minutes and may stretch a bit over 2 hours with fairly level terrain. What better way to spend a Saturday morning in May?!

Event Contact: Ed Coleman (309) 363-1179, colemane296@gmail.com

Saturday, June 10, 10:00 AM, Rock Island Trail, Wyoming, IL

Address: 311 E. Williams St., Wyoming, IL 61491

Please join us for a hike along the Rock Island trail starting in Wyoming, Illinois. The stretch of the trail from here to Toulon has many beautiful sights. The railroad started service in 1871, was abandoned in 1965, and dedicated as a trail in 1989. Meet at the old CB&Q depot, now trail headquarters, at 10 a.m. Leashed dogs are permitted on the trail.

Hike Leader: Dave Grebner 309-222-7941

Saturday, June 24, 2023, 10:00 AM, Dickson Mounds Trails, Lewistown, IL 61542

Address: 10956 N. Dickson Mounds Rd, Lewistown, IL 61542

Dickson Mounds, an Illinois State Museum, is about 45 miles southwest of Peoria so we would encourage carpooling. Join us for a hike that will start at the Picnic Hill parking lot (NOT the Museum parking lot) where there is a picnic area and restroom facility. These trails connect and range from 0.55 to 0.77 miles so we can loop them together for as much hiking as we want. Pets are welcome if leashed. Club members are encouraged to bring a sack lunch, have a post hike picnic, then spend some time wandering the museum if they so desire...all optional, of course. Admission to the museum is free, but donations are appreciated.

Hike leaders: Julie Robinson (309) 251-7777 jclr63@yahoo.com
and Ed Coleman (309) 363-1179 colemane296@gmail.com
(use QR code below for directions to Picnic Hill parking lot on museum property)



**Mobile Device
Friendly Trails Map**

FIRST QUARTER 2023 EVENT REPORTS

2023-1 Saturday, January 21, 2023, Detweiler sledding hill to Route 6 and back

Eleven people showed up for a beautiful hike on this segment of the River Bluff Trail.

Hiking Members: Priska Lauber, Bonnie Tometict, Carol Raines, John Jackson, Ed Coleman, Andy Shull

Hiking Guests: Cece & Irvin Wyant, Guillermo Ortega-Morales

Hike Leaders: Rob Alexander and Dianne Wyant

2023-2 Saturday, January 28, 2023, Starved Rock State Park

We started our hiking trip from Peoria on a snowy morning. Carol, Guillermo and myself carpoled and met Bonnie, John, Celeste and Mary at the Starved Rock Lodge at 9:30 am. Snowflakes surrounded us at the beginning of our hike. Our first stop was “Lover’s Leap Overlook,” where we were a bit disappointed that we didn’t see any Bald Eagles. We continued to hike to the “Eagle Cliff Overlook”, which is my favorite outlook, and were excited to spot two Bald Eagles. We enjoyed our hike along the river, checked out the various rock formations and waterfalls, and made it to the “LaSalle Canyon”. The trails are well marked and in great shape. We enjoyed our lunch near the fireplace at the Lodge Restaurant around 2pm. Hiking at Starved Rock is always so much fun!

Hiking Members: Carol Raines, Guillermo Ortega-Morales, Bonnie & John Jackson, Celeste Hansen, Mary Reiter

Hike Leader: Priska Lauber

2023-3 Saturday, February 11, Annual Meeting and Banquet, Barracks Cater Inn

Our annual meeting and banquet was held at 6:00 PM at Barrack's Cater Inn. We voted to accept the following slate of officers: **President**, Dave Grebner; **Vice President**, Bonnie Jackson; **Secretary**, Angie Madison; **Treasurer**, Carol Raines. In addition, we unanimously voted to accept the new by-laws.

After dinner, we were treated to a wonderful slide-show presentation by Sheldon Shafer of his trip to the Galapagos Islands. He explained how a land trip to Galapagos is better than a cruise, and clued us in on how to plan it oneself, making the trip much more affordable than a cruise or going through a travel agency. By the time it was over, many of realized what an affordable and fascinating trip it truly is. I would not be surprised if a few people are planning their own trip as I write this!

The food was great, the company was great, and the presentation was fascinating and informative. It was great to have everybody together for the evening after so many months of Covid isolation. Special thanks to Sheldon for his wonderful presentation.

Event Leader: Bonnie Jackson

2023-4 Saturday, February 25, Washington Park Trails

We had a cool day starting out at 10 am at 34 degrees. However, eleven hardy people showed up. We had a new visitor Angie from Pekin who plans to sign up as a member. We parked near the farm store at the far west corner of Cherry Tree Shopping Center. We hiked 6.59 miles on the Washington paved trails. All seemed to enjoy the conversation and social time, not to mention the exercise we all got. It was good seeing everyone again; we are all anxious for Spring and more sunshine!

Hiking Members: Walt Klypchak, Susan Hood, Rob Alexander, Andy & Cherie Shull, Eric Hutchison, Kathy Jones, Mary Greenhood, Carol Raines, and Dave Grebner

Hiking Guest: Angie

Hike Leader: LaVerne Wilson

2023-5 Saturday, March 11, Rock Island Trail, Alta

We were fortunate that the rain held off this afternoon as we hiked 5.53 miles on the fairly dry, flat Rock Island Trail from the main trailhead to the Kickapoo Creek Bridge. As we entered the Kickapoo Creek Recreation Area for a short break, we saw a herd of deer that included a couple of bucks. We enjoyed walking past lovely homes and farms, and having the opportunity to socialize on this pleasant walk.

Hiking members: Eric Hutchison, Mary Reiter, Celeste Hansen, Dave Grebner and Scooby, Carol Raines, Annjee Springer and Pearl, LaVerne Wilson, Walt Klypchak, Barb Johnson, Rob Alexander, Andy and Cherie Shull, and Susan Hood.

Hike Leader & Assistants: Dianne, Cecilia, and Iván Wyant