



Pimiteoui Trail Association

Hiking Club

October - December 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

We have a several nice hikes scheduled this fall, including an evening stroll to view holiday lights. We looking forward to seeing you there!

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.

Covid Safety

We remain committed to following the CDC pandemic safety guidelines and will adapt as needed.

4th Quarter 2023 Event Schedule

[Saturday, October 7, 9:00 a.m., Moose Shelter, Detweiller Park, Peoria](#)

Join us for an early fall hike in Detweiller Park. Meet near Moose Shelter, at the start of Dry Run Trail for a little over 2 miles of hiking. Although this is not one of the hilliest segments of trails, it is not flat. The first trees are starting to change color and the trees are always beautiful.

Hike Leader: Rob Alexander (309) 444-3297

Email - rabiker@mtco.com

Saturday, October 21, 2023, 10:00AM, Coal Hollow Park, Chillicothe

Address: 22004 Yankee Lane, Chillicothe, IL

This is a former coal mining site that's being restored to its natural state by the Chillicothe Park District. I visited there in mid-September when the golden rod and yellow cone flowers were fabulous in its Prairie Trail area. We'll see what October's colors bring. Its trails are fairly short loops, but most are a bit hilly - they climb into the surrounding Coon Creek valley. I plan to bring my hiking poles and some drinking water. Hike will be about 1.5-2 hours. Dogs are permitted. No water or restrooms at the park (restrooms are available at Chillicothe's service stations and other businesses). Weather permitting, I plan to stop by after the hike at Chillicothe's Shore Acres Park and eat a sack lunch.

Hike Leader: Eric Hutchison

Email: ERICHUTCHISON1@HOTMAIL.COM

Phone (Both numbers accept voice & voice mail only, no text)

Home: 309-688-7038

Mobile (active on hike day only): 309-857-1081

Saturday, November 4, 2023, 10:00 AM, John English Memorial Trail at Comlara County Park

Address: 13001 Recreation Area Dr., Hudson, IL 61748

Come hike the John English Memorial Trail which is part of McLean County Department of Parks & Recreation. The trail is to the left of the visitor center and there is parking at the visitor center and also across the street. John English Memorial is a flat trail out and back 4.4 miles. It follows Lake Evergreen and we should have scenic views of the lake with leaves down in November. We will car pool from Morton Cracker Barrel back parking lot at 9:00 am.

Hike Leader: Celeste Hansen 309-231-7023

Email: CELHansen@AOL.com

Saturday, November 18, 10:00 AM, Rock Island Trail, North Park in Dunlap

Address: 524 N. 2nd St, Dunlap, IL 61525

We will meet at the North Park/Dunlap Summer Baseball parking lot which is along the Rock Island Trail. We plan to walk toward Princeville between 4 to 5 miles (2 to 2.5 miles each way) on a fairly flat, tree-lined trail through farm country. There is a small hill near W. Parks School Road. Dogs are welcome if on a leash. Children in strollers or who can keep up are also welcome. There are no restrooms along this portion of the trail, but Dunlap Public Library which is nearby has public restrooms and should be open from 9 AM to Noon. Difficulty level of walk: Easy. If this hike is cancelled due to inclement weather or trail conditions, we will reschedule for a later date.

Hike Leaders: Dianne Wyant 309-353-2617 (landline)

Cecilia Wyant 309-253-4443 (cellular phone).

Monday, December 11, 5:30 PM, Hyde Park Christmas Lights Walk (Rain Date Dec. 12)

Address: 2550 N Morton Avenue, Morton

Come join us for a brisk walk through the Hyde Park neighborhood in Morton to enjoy the Christmas lights. We will meet at the parking lot of Lettie Brown School and will walk 2-4 miles, depending on the weather. If we have inclement weather on December 11, our rain date will be December 12 at 5:30.

Hike Leader: Angie Madison (309) 453-2097

Email: ap.madison84@gmail.com

THIRD QUARTER 2023 EVENT REPORTS

2023-12, July 13, 2023, East Peoria Trail, East Peoria, IL

We had a leisurely 3-mile walk on the East Peoria Trail to the hill and back. On the way we saw birds, including an Indigo Bunting. It was a perfect night to enjoy good company and an outdoor walk. Afterwards, a few of us had dinner at The 520 Café (formerly Mel's Café).

Hiking Members: John Jackson, Bonnie Jackson, Loren Madison, Dianne Wyant, Katherine Simms; Guests: Cecy Wyant, Ivan Wyant.

Hike Leader: Angie Madison

2023-13, Saturday, July 29, 2023, Social at Kuchie's on the Water, Creve Coeur, IL

There were 16 people in attendance at Kuchie's and all agreed it was a great event. We were seated outside with a nice breeze blowing in from the river and had most of the north end of the patio to ourselves. The food was tasty and the fellowship was even better. We all got an opportunity to visit with people we didn't know well, which is one of the best aspects of our club socials. Thanks to everyone who turned out to make it a fun event.

Event Leader: Bonnie Johnson

2023-14 Saturday, August 19, 2023, Lakeland Park, Canton, IL

Eight hikers met at Lakeland Park for a roughly 3.75 mile hike with the temperature in the low 70s. The distance was slightly longer than advertised due to a section of the trail being torn up while it was being replaced with cement. Consequently, the reroute was a bit longer. We paused at the bridge to watch turtles, catfish, and carp swimming below us before continuing on to a couple of other points of interest. There were geese on the grounds, terns in the air, one snake on the trail, and even a swan on one of the several lakes. It was a leisurely hike on a beautiful day with a very pleasant breeze.

Hiking Members: Eric Hutchinson, Bonnie Jackson, Carol Raines, Andy Shull, and Dianne Wyant.

Hiking Guests: Cecilia Wyant and Ivan Wyant

Hike Leader: Ed Coleman

2023-15 Saturday, September 9, 2023, Wildlife Prairie Park, Hanna City, IL

September 9 was a great day for visiting the animals at Wildlife Prairie Park. Ten hiking club members and two guests enjoyed seeing the buffalo, coyotes, foxes, owls and more. Six of us continued the outing by walking the four-mile floodplain trail.

Hiking Members: Carol Raines, Celeste Hansen, Bonnie Tometich, Donna Uftring, Bonnie Jackson, Ed Coleman, Dianne Wyant, Barb Johnson, Annjee Springer

Hiking Guests: Cecilia and Ivan Wyant

Hike Leader: David Grebner

2023-16 Saturday, September 23, 2023, Canton Lake Scenic Nature Trail, Canton, IL

Despite the 1 inch of rain which had fallen the previous day, six hikers ushered in the first day of autumn at the Canton Lake Scenic Nature Trail on Saturday, the 23rd. Much of the 2.6 mile route was covered with mulch which provided good traction, but some of the steeper slopes were not. Those sections were hiked with care, and no mishaps occurred. This trail has a few benches along the way so we took advantage of them to sit and enjoy the morning which included fresh air, pleasant temperature, views of the lake, and a slight breeze at times. We noticed hints of the leaves starting to change colors, a sure indication that this trail will be even prettier in about 2-3 weeks as Mother Nature does her thing.

Hiking Members: Bonnie Jackson, John Jackson, Dave Grebner, Cherie Shull, Andy Shull,

Hike Leader: Ed Coleman