



# Pimiteoui Trail Association Hiking Club October - December 2024

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Newsletter: Cherie & Andy Shull [shullag@yahoo.com](mailto:shullag@yahoo.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our cool crisp mornings remind us that fall is almost here! We hope you join us for some of our autumn activities, which include a wiener roast, hikes at Detweiller and Forest Park and a Christmas light walk.

**Board Positions:** We are still looking for a new club president and secretary. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions. Both jobs require very little time, and no previous experience is needed. It's a great way to support our organization and ensure that PTA Hiking Club continues to provide opportunities for exercise, education and community for years to come. Contact a board member for more information.

## Hike Reminders

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

## 4th Quarter 2024 Event Schedule

### Saturday, October 12, 10:00 AM, Forest Park, Peoria Heights, IL

**Address:** 5809 North Forest Park Drive, Peoria Heights, IL

Join us for a hike on Saturday, October 12, at Forest Park. We can enjoy the leaves that are just beginning to turn, pollinators visiting the last of the asters and goldenrod, and perhaps a deer or turkey. We'll decide

which trails to take (which range from easy to moderate) based upon the group's preference. Restrooms are available at the Nature Center. No dogs are allowed.

**Hike Leaders:** Andy and Cherie Shull 309-645-5974 [cdshuu@yahoo.com](mailto:cdshuu@yahoo.com)

### **Saturday, October 26, 1:00 PM, Wiener Roast Potluck, Oakwood Park, Morton**

**Address:** 22101 N. Main St, Morton. IL

Join us for an autumn potluck at Oakwood Park in Morton on Saturday, October 26th at 1:00 pm. The club will provide hot dogs, buns, ketchup, mustard, paper plates, utensils, napkins, bowls, and venison chili. Please bring a side dish to share. The weather may be chilly so if you wish to bring a hot side dish, there are electrical outlets in the pavilion to plug in crock pots.

Directions: From Peoria, take I-74 to Morton. Turn right (South) onto Morton Ave. When you are slightly past McDonalds, turn left onto Jackson. Go a few blocks to the 4-way stop and turn left onto Main St. Stay on Main St (North) for 2.3 miles. Oakwood Park and our pavilion is on the left. Call John if you have any questions.

**Event Leader:** John Jackson 645-0263

**Co-Host:** Carol Raines

### **Saturday, November 2, 2024, 10:00 AM, Detweiller Park**

**Address:** 8327 N. Galena Rd, Peoria, IL

Please join us at 10:00 am at the north parking lot for an autumn hike along the wooded trails in Detweiller Park. We will hike some hill trails and then possibly cross Galena Road to walk in the riverside part of the park, which has beautiful views of the Illinois River. Please bring a hiking stick. Dogs are permitted on a leash.

**Hike Leader:** Dave Grebner 309-222-7941 [moseynme@mtco.com](mailto:moseynme@mtco.com)

### **Monday, December 9, 2024, 6:00 PM, Christmas Light Walk in Hyde Park**

**Neighborhood (Rain date: Tuesday, December 10)**

**Address:** Lettie Brown School, 2550 N Morton Avenue, Morton, IL

Please join us for a Christmas Light Walk through the Hyde Park Neighborhood in Morton. We will start at Lettie Brown School (2550 N. Morton Avenue, Morton) and will seek out the best Christmas Lights. We usually walk 2-ish Miles. We don't want to walk when it is icy so if the weather is inclement, a Rain date will be the next day, Tuesday December 10 at 6:00 pm.

**Hike Leader:** Angie Madison. 309-453-2097

### **Friday, December 13, 6:30 PM, Holiday Shop and Stroll, Forest Park Nature Center**

**Address:** 5809 North Forest Park Drive, Peoria Heights, IL

Let's celebrate the holidays at Forest Park with a leisurely stroll along the luminary-lit Valley trail, hot cocoa by the campfire, and special music. Please join us for this holiday tradition.

## **THIRD QUARTER 2024 EVENT REPORTS**

### **2024-12, July 13, Rock Island Trail, starting at Bushwhacker's**

Seven of us braved the heat to walk for an hour on the paved path. It was fairly busy, so we had to be mindful of the bikes, but we enjoyed the conversation and exercise. We walked about 3 miles and stayed in the shade as much as we could.

**Hiking Members:** Loren Madison, Carol Raines, Pam Brandt, Lea W., Kathy Jones, Dave Grebner

**Hike Leader:** Angie Madison

### **2024-13, July 27, Social at Obed & Isaacs**

Eight members and a guest enjoyed cocktails, dinner and some lively conversation at Obed & Isaacs. We hope you'll join us at our next social, our Autumn wiener roast.

**Members:** Carol Raines, Dave Grebner, Kathy Jones, Rob Alexander, Sherri Morrison, Andy Shull, Cherie Shull

**Guest:** Pamela

**Leader:** Bonnie Jackson

### **2024-14, August 10, Washington Recreation Trail, starting at Five Points**

Twelve hikers met at Five Points Washington on a beautiful (and cool!) summer morning. We walked about 5 miles on the Washington Recreation Trail. Along the way we saw evening primrose, several joggers and bicyclists, busy pickleball courts, and a group gathered at one of the big shelters in Washington Park. Before the hike, we had a brief discussion about the Lincoln statue there. Called "Return Visit," it features a 30-ft tall Abe Lincoln and a shorter "common man" in his sweater and corduroys thought to be modeled after Perry Como.

**Hiking Members:** Eric Hutchinson, Jim Perry, John Jackson, Bonnie Jackson, Rob Alexander, Dave Grebner, Ed Coleman, Donna Uftring

**Hiking Guests:** Tracie Hanley, Lynda Zimmerman

**Hike Leaders:** Cherie & Andy Shull

### **2024-15, August 24, Matthiessen State Park, Oglesby**

Our first hike at Matthiessen State Park in quite a while was quite enjoyable. We hiked in the Dells area up and down many stairs and through many of the canyons and along the stream. A beautiful mini version of Starved Rock State Park.

**Hiking Members:** Andy Shull, Jamal Shafii, Donna Uftring, Lea Winger

**Hike Leader:** Dave Grebner

### **2024-16, September 14, Coal Hollow Park, Chillicothe**

We met on a warmish September Saturday - the shaded woods was welcomed. As hoped, the park's goldenrods were in full glory. Coon Creek still had a trickle, despite the recent rain-less weather. We hiked all of the park's creek valley loops - including the mystery trail that we missed last year to the homestead area. Andy, John, Scott and Eric ate lunch afterwards at Chillicothe's Shore Acres Park. We were surprised and glad to see very recent improvements at Shore Acres, including playground equipment and an added picnic shelter. We solved (most) all the world's problems over lunch. The red-tailed hawk that listened in from a nearby light-pole perch agreed.

**Hiking Members:** Carol Raines, John Jackson, Jamal Shafii, Andy Shull.

**Hiking Guests:** Dave Kweram, Scott Lowe

**Hike Leader:** Eric Hutchison

Hike stats ~ 2 hours, 3 miles.

**2024-17, September 28, Rock Island Trail, Dunlap**

The hike was a gentle walk on gravel terrain. It weaved through the rural countryside, allowing us to see the local harvest that was occurring. We were able to see some remnants of field foraging animals who left some of their spoils, ear corn not quite finished from the nearby field. The day was a brisk fall day in the low 70's and windy on the heels of Helene. We walked 5.2 miles which seemed effortless with good company.

**Hiking Members:** Dave Grebner, Andy Shull

**Hike Leader:** Liane Bisanz and Mya (a Weimaraner dog)