



Pimiteoui Trail Association Hiking Club January - March 2025

President: Dave Grebner (309) 222-7941
Vice President: Liane Bisanz (309) 642-1356
lianebisanz@gmail.com
Secretary: Angie Madison (309) 453-2097
Treasurer: Carol Raines carol61533@gmail.com
Newsletter: Cherie & Andy Shull shullag@yahoo.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Annual Meeting, Saturday, January 11, 5:15 PM, One World Restaurant, Peoria, IL](#)
Address: 1245 W Main St, Peoria, IL 61606

Please RSVP to Bonnie Jackson at bon1jon2@yahoo.com

Our Annual Meeting will be held at One World Restaurant on Main and University on January 11th. Please arrive by 5:15 so that we can be seated and order dinner at 5:30. After dinner, we hope you will enjoy a presentation by Cassie from Forest Park Nature Center. She will be talking about the unique geology and geography of the Peoria area that allows us to have some of the best hiking in this part of the state.

Also, the Association will need to elect new officers. Angie Madison's term as Secretary ends December 31, 2024, and we need to fill that position. Cherie Shull will be nominated to fill that position. We are immensely grateful to Angie for all her hard work for our Association. Other officers to be nominated are Dave Grebner, President; Liane Bisanz, Vice-President; and Carol Raines, Treasurer. Cherie & Andy Shull will continue to publish the newsletter, and John Jackson will continue as webmaster.

[Club Dues reminder: \\$6/person – due February 1 \(form attached\)](#)

If you've already paid your dues, thank you! If not, please complete the attached membership form and send with your payment of \$6.00 per person to Club Treasurer, Carol Raines; see the form for the mailing address. We have an interesting year coming up and you won't want to miss out, so be sure to get that check in the mail!

[Shoe Ice Cleats– strongly recommended for Winter Hiking](#)

Removable ice cleats for your shoes are a great addition to your winter hiking gear. They greatly improve traction when needed (helping prevent falls) and can be removed and carried in your pocket when not needed. The brand I use is Yaktrax and they're usually available in local sporting goods and hardware stores in early winter, as well as online. Please feel free to contact me if you want more details or recommendations.

Happy hiking, Eric Hutchison

email: ERICHUTCHISON1@HOTMAIL.COM

phone: 309-688-7038 (accepts voice/voicemail only, no text)

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

[1st Quarter 2025 Event Schedule](#)

[Saturday, January 18, 2025, 10:00 AM Sommer Farm Park, Edwards, IL](#)

Address: 6329 N Koerner Rd, Edwards, IL 61528

Please join us for a hike at Sommer Farm Park. This is a combined hike with the Heart of Illinois Sierra Club. We will meet in the parking lot and hike some trails at this less-used park. Dress warmly, wear appropriate footwear, and bring a hiking stick if you have one. After our walk we will enjoy some hot chocolate around a campfire. Please register for this hike on the Sierra Club website (<https://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/heart-illinois>) so that you can be notified if the hike has to be cancelled at the last minute due to weather.

Hike Leader: Dave Grebner (309) 222-7941 Email: moseynme@mtco.com

[Saturday, January 25, 2025, 10:00 AM, Rock Island Greenway beginning at Liberty Park, Peoria, IL](#)

Address: Public Parking at [Peoria Riverfront](#), 300 Southwest Water Street, Peoria, IL 61602

Please join us at 10:00 am for a walk along the Rock Island Greenway beginning at Liberty Park, Peoria, IL. This will be an easy hike along the Illinois River. Hoping for an ice-covered river with ice flows. Looking forward to possible sighting of Eagles along the River. Dogs are permitted on a Leash. We don't

want to walk if the weather is inclement. If there's enough advance notice, we'll send an email if a hike is cancelled due to weather. If in doubt, please contact the hike leader.

Hike Leader: Liane Bisanz (309) 642-1356

Saturday, February 7, 2025, 10:00 AM, Fondulac Trail, East Peoria, IL

Address: 201 Veterans Drive, East Peoria, IL 61611

Please join us for a winter hike on Fondulac Trail. We will meet at the Caboose near the Fondulac Park administration building and hike toward Morton. This is an out and back hike. The trail may be slick or snow covered, so please wear appropriate footwear.

Hike Leaders: Andy and Cherie Shull (309) 645-5974

Saturday, February 22, 2025, 10:00 AM, Forest Park Nature Center, Peoria Heights, IL

Address: 5809 N Forest Park Dr., Peoria Heights, IL 61616

Join us for a hike at Forest Park. There are many beautiful trails at this official state natural area. There is also a visitor center with exhibits and a store.

Hike Leader: Dave Grebner (309) 222-7941 Email: moseynme@mtco.com

Saturday, March 8, 2025, 10:00 AM, Tawny Oaks, Peoria, IL

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

Please join us at 10:00 am for a hike at Tawny Oaks/Singing Woods. This is a moderate walk. We will meet at the Pavilion in Edelstein. Please bring a hiking stick. Dogs are permitted on a Leash. Directions from Peoria: take Route 40 (Knoxville) north; right on Cedar Hills drive; left on Singing Woods Road.

Hike Leader: Liane Bisanz (309) 642-1356

Saturday, March 22, 2025, 10:00AM, Donovan Park, Peoria, IL

Address: 5805 Knoxville Ave, Peoria, IL 61614

We'll meet in the parking lot that's near Cyd's restaurant. If the grounds are dry enough, we'll hike to some of the park's restored natural landscape areas. I also plan to do an out/back hike on the paved Rock Island trail that connects to the park. I plan to hike about 1.5 to 2 hours total.

The park has restrooms. Dogs on leashes are ok. If Winter's snow and ice are still with us, ice cleats for your shoes are a good idea.

Hike Leader: Eric Hutchison

email: ERICHUTCHISON1@HOTMAIL.COM

Both of the following phone numbers accept voice & voicemail only, no text:

home phone: 309-688-7038

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

FOURTH QUARTER 2024 EVENT REPORTS

2024-18, October 15, Forest Park, Peoria Heights, IL



The parking lot was full of cars when 10 of us met for a hike at Forest Park. Many other people apparently had the same idea on this beautiful autumn morning. Leaves were just beginning to turn, and a few mushrooms had sprung up after a recent rain. Some members of the group chose to walk the outer loop, while others enjoyed a hike along several of the shorter trails. We encountered quite a few hikers and met up for a photo partway through.

Hiking Members: Eric Hutchison, Donna Uftring, Kathy Jones, Carol Raines, Jim Perry, Barb Johnson, Liane Bisanz

Hiking Guest: Marie Prokuski

Hike Leaders: Andy and Cherie Shull

2024-19, October 26, Wiener Roast Social, Oakwood Park, Morton

It was a beautiful day and autumn colors were at their peak when we gathered for a wiener roast in the park. It was lots of fun to share delicious food and fun stories.

Hiking Members: Bonnie Jackson, Eric Hutchison, Jim Perry, Andy Shull, Cherie Shull, Donna Uftring, LaVerne Wilson, Walter Klypchak, John Jackson, Carol Raines

2024-20, November 2, Detweiller Park, Peoria

We enjoyed our hike along the wooded west side of Detweiller and then walked back along the east side on the border between the woods and the grassland. Fifteen hikers participated.

Hiking Members: Liane Bisanz, John Jackson, Eric Hutchison, LaVerne Wilson, Walter Klypchak, Dian Wyant & Ivan, Jim Perry, Donna Uftring, Karen Hagerdorn, Cherie Shull, Andy Shull, Carol Raines

Hiking Guest: Brandon Bisanz, Debra Jones

Hike Leader: Dave Grebner

2024-21, December 9, Christmas Light Walk in Hyde Park, Morton

It was a lovely clear night to enjoy the Christmas Lights and there were a few outstanding houses to see. Eight of us shared the walk and lively conversation. Afterwards we had Christmas Cookies in the parking lot at Lettie Brown School. Merry Christmas to all of you.

Hiking Members: Loren Madison, Carol Raines, John Jackson, Dian Wyant, Ivan Wyant, Susan Hood, Cherie and Andy Shull

Hike Leader: Angie Madison