



# **Pimiteoui Trail Association**

## **Hiking Club**

### **July - September 2025**

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

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

##### **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.

#### **3rd Quarter 2025 Event Schedule**

##### **Saturday, July 12, 2025, 7:00 PM, Social at Matilda’s Cocktail Lounge in Peoria**

**Address:** 100 State Street, Peoria, IL

Join us for a hiking club social at Matilda’s Cocktail Lounge, a new retro-themed bar around the corner from Kelleher’s. You’re sure to recognize a few items from the 70s: afghans, avocado furniture, an old television and some nostalgic games. They have a variety of cocktails (including a selection of non-alcoholic ones) and snacks. Hope to see you there!

**Leader:** Cherie Shull (309) 645-5973

##### **Saturday, July 26, 9:00 AM, Spring Creek Reserve beginning at Grosenbach Road trailhead**

**Address:** 22222 Grosenbach Rd, Washington IL

Join us for a hike at Spring Creek Reserve starting at 9 AM. Water, boots, and poles are recommended. It will be a fairly easy hike along the valley floor; there is one significant uphill stretch at the end.

Directions: Do NOT go to the main trailhead off Spring Creek Road. Instead, we will use the South trailhead on Grosenbach Rd. If coming from the west (Peoria) or south, head toward Metamora on 116 and turn right on Grosenbach Rd a short distance NE of the McClugage bridge. From the east (Washington), turn right on Grosenbach from Route 24 just before the strip of businesses across from ICC.

**Hike Leader:** Andy Shull (309) 645-5974

### **Sunday, August 17, 1:00 PM, Coal Hollow Park, Chillicothe**

**Address:** 22004 N. Yankee Lane, Chillicothe, IL

We will meet in the Parking Lot near Rt. 29. Coal Hollow Park is a newer park and has a series of short trails, most 1 mile long or less. This will be a fairly easy hike, and we can adjust the length of the hike to adapt to the group. Pets are allowed, but you must clean up after your pet.

**Hike Leader:** Rob Alexander (309) 444-3297

### **Saturday, August 30, 2025, 10:00 AM, Black Partridge Park, near Metamora**

**Address:** ½ mile north of Progress St. on Coal Bank Rd, Metamora, IL

We will hike for about 1½ to 2 hours on some of the beautiful trails in this park. Bring a hiking stick and water. Dogs are permitted on a leash.

**Hike Leader:** Dave Grebner (309) 222-7941

### **Sunday, September 14, 2025, 1:00 PM, Farmdale Reservoir (Mike-n-Don's and Schrolls Loop Trails)**

**Address:** 810 W Bittersweet Rd, Washington, IL (Google maps is slightly off but you will see the parking lot at the bottom of the hill)

This is a 4.1-mile circular trail. Generally considered a moderately challenging route, it takes an average of 1 hr 23 min to complete. We will walk an hour out and an hour back. This is a popular trail for birding, hiking, and walking, but you can still enjoy some solitude during quieter times of day. Dogs are welcome but must be on a leash. Hiking is allowed but this trail is best suited for mountain bikes, so we may encounter them. The trail is well-maintained and moderately trafficked. It is open year-round, but it can become muddy after heavy rain, so wear appropriate footwear. Restrooms and picnic tables are available at the trailhead, making it a convenient spot for families or groups.

**Hike Leader:** Liane Bisanz (309) 642-1356

### **Sunday, September 28, 2025, 1:00 PM, Illinois River Road from Jonah's to Cooper Park North**

**Address:** Jonah's, 2601 N Main St, East Peoria, IL

The hike from Jonah's Seafood to Cooper Park North in East Peoria, IL, is a pleasant walk along the Illinois River Road, which is also part of the River Trail of Illinois. The trail is flat and offers views of the

river and wetlands. It can be accessed behind Jonah's restaurant and extends north to Spindler Marina and beyond. The trail includes a boardwalk with observation decks overlooking the wetlands.

We will meet at the parking lot behind Jonah's. The trail itself is fairly flat but well maintained and you can hike a long way. It's out and back so decide how long you want to walk and turn around before you get too tired. Dogs are welcome on a leash.

**Hike Leader:** Liane Bisanz (309) 642-1356

## **SECOND QUARTER 2025 EVENT REPORTS**

### **2025-7 Sunday, April 13, 2025, Rock Island Trail beginning at Wyoming**

Seven members attended our hike on the Rock Island Trail at Wyoming. We met at the old train depot and walked south and back for a total of 4½ miles. Good scenery and bird calls.

**Hikers:** Celeste Hansen, John Jackson, Dianne Wyant, Ivan Wyant, Jamal Shafii, and Andy Shull

**Hike Leader:** Dave Grebner

### **2025-8 Saturday, April 26, 2025, IDNR Gold Mine Trailhead, Mackinaw, IL**

The Gold Mine Hike in Mackinaw was abandoned due to turkey hunting and hiking being permitted only after 1 pm. Instead, we ventured on to Dirksen Park in Pekin for a 3-mile hike lead by Eric Hutchison.

Thanks, Eric, for coming to the rescue. Temps were great and spring was in the air.

**Hikers:** Carol Raines, Eric Hutchison, and Donna Uftring

**Hike Leader:** Celeste Hansen

### **2025-9 Saturday, May 17, 2025, Jubilee College State Park, Brimfield, IL**

We enjoyed a moderately challenging route at Jubilee State College Park. It was a morning hike, cool, letting us enjoy nature at the park. We hiked a total of 3.12 miles

**Hiking members:** Brandyn Bisanz, John Jackson, Eric Hutchinson, Donna Uftring, Dianne Wyant

**Hiking guests:** Liz Reed, Ivan Wyant, Mya (Weimaraner)

**Hike leader:** Liane Bisanz

### **2025-10 Saturday, May 31, 2025, Dirksen Park, North Pekin**

Good to have both long-time and newer friends out with us on a very fine day - about 70 degrees, sunny, light winds.

Finding the park entrance along IL-98 was especially challenging this time, because the iconic 'archery range' sign was a bit overgrown with tree limbs. Park staff happened to stop by as we assembled for the hike, so we requested some tree trimming for the park entrance.

We hiked the 1.5 hour inner loop along the park's streams and rolling hills. Tis indeed a fine blooming year for roses, and multiflora rose was no exception - we saw a fair amount of that in glorious bloom along the trail. We met a few mountain bikers along the way - all went well with our shared trail passing. A couple of us stopped at the 1.5 hour point and others went on for an added out/back hike along the creek valley.

**Hiking members:** Carol Raines, Dave Grebner, Dianne Wyant, Andy Shull, Priska Lauber, Susan Hood, Jim Perry, Donna Uftring, Celeste Hansen, Jamal Shafii

**Hiking guests:** Ivan Wyant

**Hike leader:** Eric Hutchison

### **2025-11 Saturday, June 14, 2025, Sand Ridge State Forest, Forest City, IL**

Three of us met for a nice hike at Sand Ridge. We didn't see any cactus in bloom, but we did see a beautiful chicken of the woods.



**Hiking members:** Carol Raines, Andy Shull

**Hike leader:** Bob Alexander (309) 444-3297 Email: [rabiker@mtco.com](mailto:rabiker@mtco.com)

### **2025-12 Saturday, June 28, 2025, Rock Island Trail beginning at Alta**

We met at the Alta Road Trailhead parking lot. This was a mostly shaded trail for our mid-summer hike. We hiked a total of 4.5 to 4.7 miles. There were many people out enjoying the trail, bicyclists, runners, and walkers with an occasional furry friend.

**Hikers:** LaVerne Wilson, Eric Hutchison, Barb Johnson, Liz Reed, Lisa Weber, Andy Shull, Walt Klypchak

**Hike leader:** Liane Bisanz