



Volunteer News & Views

THOUSANDS OF ACRES AND MILES OF TRAILS. **IT ALL BELONGS TO YOU!** – JULY 2022

To our outstanding volunteers...

GCP&T appreciates all that you do! Another quarter has passed and our GCP&T Volunteers stepped up to the plate to assist with making our programs and events successful! Let's share some of the memories of a few of those events in which our Volunteers participated... Wiggle Worms; Greene Grasshoppers; Extreme Egg Hunt; Fishing Derbies; Bicycle Lights Give-away (Trail Sentinels); Pups on a Mission; Art in Nature; Underground Railroad Student Program; Summer Fest Concert Series; Summer Camps; Night Owlz! Bigfoot Scavenger Hunt; GTO: Sasquatch Safari and more!

SEE OTHER PAGE
FOR NEW VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES



Everet "Ed" Bice

Many thanks to a true legend!

This article is written in honor of Everet "Ed" Bice, 30-year GCP&T employee and 20-year GCP&T Volunteer! Ed retired on December 31, 2001, and immediately became a dedicated GCP&T Volunteer! We truly appreciate Ed. Ed began his employment at then named "Greene County Parks & Recreation Department" on May 8, 1972, and was with the department from the very beginning of the implementation of the Parks program.

Ed Bice was born in Illinois and raised in West Virginia. Ed graduated from West Virginia University with a Bachelor's Degree in Parks and Recreation Management. Ed met his wife, Betsy, while attending the university and married her in between college and serving almost three years in the United States Army. Ed and Betsy have two children and five grandchildren, all of whom reside in Xenia.

Ed explains that he began his employment at Greene County Parks & Recreation (now Greene County Parks & Trails), was hired on May 8, 1972, and then attended his university graduation that very weekend. He immediately returned to Xenia to continue his new job at Greene County Parks & Recreation and has remained with us in some capacity ever since. During most of Ed's tenure at GCP&T, he held several positions – generally as the Operations Manager, performing varied duties and tasks to get the job done. Ed continues to serve GCP&T as a dedicated and valued Volunteer assisting with multiple events and programs. Ed especially enjoys

educating the youth of our community about nature and the importance of parks to our society.

While serving in the U.S. Army, Ed served in Viet Nam beginning in November 1968, serving in the 173rd Airborne Brigade and returned in 1969 to Fort Devens, Massachusetts. While in Viet Nam, Ed volunteered his time as a Physical Education teacher for middle school age Vietnamese students. While at Fort Devens, in Massachusetts, Ed volunteered for Honor Guard Duty for the First Army, New England area. After originally completing boot camp at Fort Knox, Kentucky, Ed volunteered as a little league umpire on the base there for the children of those serving in the military. Even then, Ed was serving as a volunteer while serving our country in the U. S. Army!

Ed was recruited to join the Greene County Parks & Recreation Department and was one of four dedicated professionals who developed the parks and recreation program in Greene County. Ed worked with Ed Dressler who dedicated many years to GCP&T, including planning and implementing the Greene County Bike Path which was recently dedicated to Mr. Dressler's memory in 2022.

Ed Bice has been and will continue to be part of the history of the Greene County Parks & Trails program. After all, around here we like to call Ed a "Legend"! Thank you, Ed, for all of your dedicated hours, both as a professional and as a volunteer!



PARKS TOOLKIT: BANDANAS

by Jared Merriman, GCP&T Naturalist

If you pay attention to the staff of a parks agency, sooner rather than later, you'll notice someone with a bandana. One person might have

one tied over their head to keep grass clippings out of their hair while they mow, yet another might be using one to wipe grease or dirt from their hands while working on some equipment, and another might be using one to teach a group of campers about animals. Bandanas fit in a pocket, but carry a world full of opportunities.

The uses for bandanas among staff and volunteers caring for the land in parks are typically more personal in nature – a hand towel, a cooling towel, a hanky, or a face shield – just hopefully not all at once.

For the volunteers and staff working in programs, bandanas are a go to prop for yard games in camp, so they play lots of roles throughout the summer – from a deer tail, to a sleeping rabbit, and much more. Plus, they can serve to mark which campers are on which team, or be used to collect whittled wood shavings for kindling. Bandanas can be extra useful if they have a good screen print, too. Now, you not only have a prop for numerous games, you also have a field guide to leaves, animal tracks, or even scat.

If you want to add a versatile and durable tool to your parks tool kit, stick a bandana in your pocket, or tie it around your neck, or wear it on your head. No matter how you carry it, you'll surely find a use for it.

It is a pleasure to introduce...

Our Intermittent Teammates

PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT

Grace Smith graduated this summer from Wilmington College with a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science and Communication Arts. This is Grace's second summer working with GCP&T.

Alex Dye is majoring in Environmental Science at Wittenberg University. Alex hopes to be able to finish his degree and get a job in Colorado in the Wildfire Conservation field. Alex states that he would also like to go back to school and pursue a Master's Degree, while also being able to travel the world.

Zoe Zimmerman is currently majoring in middle childhood education at Cedarville University. Zoe plans to teach middle school students and pursue her career in the education field.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

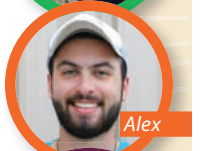
Paxton Bartley graduated from Xenia High School and is attending Wittenberg University on a football scholarship. Paxton is currently undecided on a major course of study.

Peyton Bartley, Paxton's brother, is currently attending Georgetown University, in Georgetown, Kentucky, on a football scholarship. Peyton is majoring in exercise science.

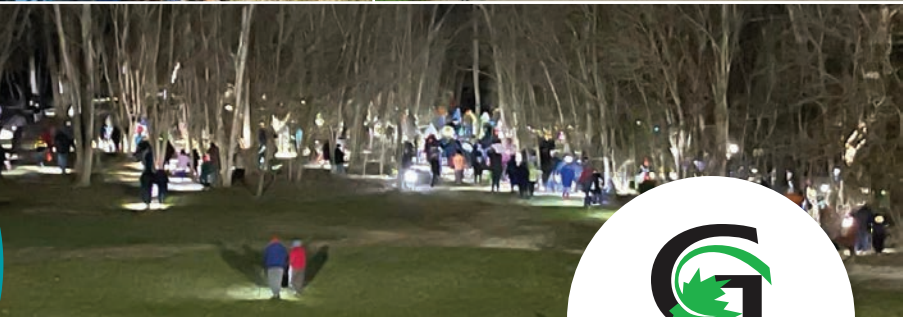
Josh Jenkins is a recent graduate of Shawnee State University with a BFA in Graphic Design. This is Josh's second season with Greene County Parks & Trails.

Lane Noble is from Jamestown, Ohio, and is attending Hocking College studying Natural Resources. Lane's hobbies include fishing and hiking.

Cameron "Cam" Kell studies business and finance at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Cam is from Jamestown, Ohio, lives at Shawnee Lake and enjoys fishing.



Clockwise from above:
Greene Grasshoppers Bird Sleuths;
Sierra Nevada Corporation
Community Service at Russ
Nature Reserve; Morning
Milers; Extreme Egg
Hunt; Wiggle Worms
Alphabet Soup.



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