



Volunteer News & Views

THOUSANDS OF ACRES AND MILES OF TRAILS. **IT ALL BELONGS TO YOU!** — OCTOBER 2022

Mary Amlin – a dedicated GCP&T volunteer!

Meet Mary Amlin, a dedicated GCP&T Volunteer since July 2018. Many of you may know or have seen Mary, as she helps at most GCP&T programs and events. We can count on Mary to be there with a smile on her face and pep in her step!

Born and raised in Xenia, Mary met her future husband, Ron, when they were growing up in the same neighborhood. They later married and had three children. Mary and Ron were very close and worked together for many years at their own business.

Before retiring in 2015, Mary had an interesting and fulfilling career. She earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Home Economics in Business from Northeastern State University in 1987, and was most recently a contractor for 21 years at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. Prior to that work, Mary's life included owning and operating multiple retail picture-framing businesses, Confederated Artists and Amlin Enterprises (both in Centerville); real-property management; independent work traveler/tourist/student; US Census worker; food store cashier; substitute teacher; and furniture store sales associate.

An avid traveler, Mary enjoys seeing the world, visiting family and friends, and making new friends. She has been to all 50 states, as well as Canada, Israel, Jordan, Greece, and Turkey.

In addition to GCP&T, Mary volunteers at Xenia Adult Recreation Center, Community Action Partnership, WEEC & WFCJ Christian Radio Stations, FISH Pantry, and the Christian Family Fellowship Organization. Mary does not hesitate to volunteer at GCP&T programs whenever needed! She knows most of the children and adults who participate in our events, and enjoys spending time with them. Mary does a fabulous job when volunteering her valuable time at the GCP&T events!

The GCP&T Team would like to thank Mary for her dedicated service to our mission! We truly appreciate Mary.



Mary Amlin



PARKS TOOLKIT: FIELD GUIDES

by Jared Merriman, GCP&T Naturalist

No matter how much we study the living things in our parks, there is no

way to know them all by name. So when someone asks a question about a certain plant, or we need to manage a new invasive species, we often have to look it up! Internet searches provide some help, but the best tool is a field guide. Field guides are books designed to make identification easier, often by including pictures and descriptions of similar species next to each other for comparison. Here is a list of guides we find useful.

BOOKS

Peterson's Field Guide to the Birds of Eastern and Central North America

Kaufman Field Guide to the Birds of North America

Bob Henn's Wildflowers of Ohio

Newcomb's Wildflower Guide

Peterson's Field Guide to the Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern and Central North America

ODNR Division of Wildlife Guides

APPS

Merlin Bird ID

Picture This (plants)

Google Lens (anything)

To all our dedicated volunteers...

Autumn has arrived and it is a time to reflect on what we have accomplished this past quarter, and set some goals for the next one! Thank you to all of our Volunteers who continue to donate their valuable time to the Greene County Parks & Trails mission of providing programs and events in our facilities, and to "get people into the parks"!

Please enjoy this newsletter to learn about the programs/events that we provided, and to review the Volunteer Opportunities available October through December 2022. Thank you for volunteering – you are a huge part of our success!

**SEE OTHER PAGE
FOR NEW VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES**

THE GREENE TRAILS CYCLING CLASSIC – A GREAT SUCCESS!



The Greene Trails Cycling Classic was held on August 26 & 27, 2022. On Friday the 26th, more than 40 participants left from the Fairgrounds Rec Center, Xenia, Ohio, with the goal to complete a Century Ride (100 miles), a Metric Century Ride (62 miles), or a trip to Yellow Springs, Ohio, for the day.

The cycling event included more options the following day, after which a celebratory dinner was held and awards presented to those who completed a Century Ride or Metric Century Ride.

We thank all participants and all who helped run the entire Classic. We look forward to the event next year!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES *October through December 2022*

10/3	Discovery Hike	Narrows Nature Reserve	9:30-11:30am
10/8	Backyard Jamboree	Caesar Ford Park	2-4pm
10/10	Examining Ecosystems	Indian Mound Reserve	12-2pm
10/14	Extreme Halloween Egg Hunt	Caesar Ford Park	7-10pm
10/14	Settler's Shindig (School)	Indian Mound Reserve	9am-2pm
10/15	Settler's Shindig (Public)	Indian Mound Reserve	1-4pm
10/15	Cracked Egg Hunt	Caesar Ford Park	7-10pm
10/18	Greene Grasshoppers	Fairgrounds Rec Center	5:30-7:30pm
10/19	The Great Pumpkin Patch	Russ Nature Reserve	6-8pm
10/20	Wiggle Worms	Fairgrounds Rec Center	10am-12pm
10/26-29	Pumpkin Glow	Caesar Ford Park	6-9pm
11/3	Examining Ecosystems/Ohio Owls	Narrows Nature Reserve	9:30am-2pm
11/4	Examining Ecosystems	Sara Lee Arnovitz	12:30-2:30pm
11/9	Wild & Free Cider Making	Narrows Nature Reserve	10-11am
11/15	Greene Grasshoppers	GCP&T Headquarters	5:30-7:30pm
11/17	Wiggle Worms	GCP&T Headquarters	10am-12pm
12/10	Santa's Workshop	GCP&T Headquarters	10am-12pm
12/10	Santa's Workshop	GCP&T Headquarters	1-3pm
12/15	Wiggle Worms	GCP&T Headquarters	10am-12pm
12/20	Greene Grasshoppers	James Ranch Park	5:30-7:30pm
12/21	Winter Solstice Hike	Russ Nature Reserve	7-9pm

To sign-up, please contact Amy at 937-562-6442. Thank you!



Clockwise from above: Volunteer training; Touch a Truck event; Santa Paws; Caesar Ford Summer Fest Concert Series; Greene Trails Cycling Classic; Summer Camp; Greene Grasshoppers Bubble Event; Wiggle Worms Carnival.



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