



# Friends of Erie MetroParks Update

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January 2008

## Board Members

Mike Bur  
Sally Burger  
Joyce Deering  
John Jackson  
Dorothy Koontz  
Neal Leimbach  
Bill McConnell  
Joyce Moyer  
Scott Nave  
Jody-Lee E. Ritter  
Kit Wysor

## Committee Members

John Blakeman  
Mary Ann Drury  
Jan Dugan  
JoAnn Gongos  
Sally Green  
Kathie Hammond  
Connie Jackson  
Roger Johnson  
Ron Mischler  
Sherry Mischler  
Ann Marie Muehlhauser  
Jody Nave  
Gretchen Quayle  
Chuck Rainger  
Jeanne Schroeder  
Janet Smith  
Pat Vorhees  
Tim Work

**6th Annual Gathering of the Friends  
Sunday, March 9th, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.**

**Celebrating 40 Years. . . .  
Journey into the Future with  
New Director Steve Dice**

Stephen Dice, Director-Secretary of the Erie MetroParks, will be the featured speaker at the sixth annual Gathering of the Friends. Stephen comes to us with over 30 years of parks experience. He began his career at the State of Michigan's Department of Natural Resources, working as a park ranger, park manager, assistant regional business executive and assistant regional park and recreation supervisor. He next was the Director of Operations at the Cleveland MetroParks and finally was the Director of Parks and Conservation at Five Rivers MetroParks.

Originally from southern Michigan,

**Home-Made  
Soups,  
Sandwiches,  
and Desserts**



Dice earned his Bachelor's Degree in Park and Recreation Resource Administration from Michigan State University, and his Master of Public Administration from Western Michigan University. Married to Kathie for 32 years, his family includes a daughter Carli and a son Derek.

Steve's primary objective is to have the Erie MetroParks work with local groups to improve quality of life and maintain a sustainable economy in the area.



## Meet a Friend . . . . . JoAnn Gongos



JoAnn Gongos is a Friends of Erie MetroParks volunteer. After retirement five years ago from her company "AdverGraphics", she joined the "Friends". Since she was proficient in industrial marketing and graphic arts, JoAnn readily filled the volunteer position of doing this newsletter. She also designed a fund raising brochure for Adventure Walkway and now does all the Go Take a Hike, PEP Ride, and membership brochures. Because of her love of Edison Woods and its trails, she designed and implemented maps and intersection signs and helped install them in the reserve.

JoAnn co-ordinates the Wednesday all season Hiking Program as hiking is one of her favorite things to do. She is also

involved with the "Go Take a Hike" fall program. At "Harvest Happenings" this year she set up herding demonstrations throughout the weekend. She is also involved in fund raising for the upcoming Dog Park.

She has two dogs; Scout, a Border Collie who is retired from herding and Jake a German Shepherd who she is training to track. She also does Tai Chi, genealogy, and grows hostas. JoAnn has three children, Laura in Pittsburgh; John in Michigan; and Jim in Texas.

**Show your interest  
"Keep the Greenway  
for Generations to Come"**

Contact Joyce Deering,  
908 Taylor Road, Sandusky, OH 44870,  
419 625-1720

Email - [joydeering@aol.com](mailto:joydeering@aol.com)

For More Information  
 www.eriemetroparks.org or 419-625-7783  
 Become a Friend! Renew Now!

Huron OH 44839  
 3109 Hull Road

Friends of Erie MetroParks



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**Winter Hikes & Programs**

Sat., Jan. 19, 10:00-12:00  
 Castalia Quarry Winter Challenge

Sun, Jan 27, 2-3 pm,  
 Cormorants: Friend or Foe?  
 Osborn Park, Frost Center,  
 Biologist Mike Bur

Sat, Feb 16, 7-8:30 pm,  
 Glow in the Dark Night Hike & Campfire  
 Edison Woods Preserve, SR 61 parking lot

Sat., Feb. 23, 9:00 -12:00  
 Edison Woods Winter Challenge  
 Edison Woods Office, Smokey Rd  
 5 mile perimeter hike

Sun, Mar 2, 1:30-4 pm,  
 Bald Eagles of Erie County Car Pool Trip  
 Osborn Park, Frost Center



**Dog Park Leash Cutting**

Many dogs and their owners turned out on December 12 for an official "Leash Cutting" ceremony.

Dog Park construction will commence in early spring thanks to a \$10,000 grant to The Friends of Erie MetroParks from the "The Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, a Key Bank Trust". Grants were also received from PETCO and the Dorn Foundation.



**Harvest Happenings**



Simply fill in this form and send it with your check to:

Over 250 families have joined The Friends. As a Friend you can choose to become an active member, just support us with your dues, or become a Go Take a Hike Sponsor.

*Friends of Erie MetroParks*

3109 Hull Road • Huron, Ohio 44839  
 Phone: 419 625-7783

**Pick a membership:**

<b>Student/Senior</b>	<b>\$5</b>	Name _____
<b>Individual or Family</b>	<b>\$10</b>	Business Name _____
<b>Business</b>	<b>\$25</b>	Address _____
<b>Gold Donor</b>	<b>\$100</b>	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
<b>Go Take a Hike Sponsor</b>	<b>\$195</b>	Telephone _____
<b>Name/Company</b>		Email _____



**Congratulations**

Darin Hatfield won the Revive DX Lifestyle Bike. Huge thanks to our sponsor Bicycle Bill's Fitness Center. Friends Profit - \$835.