

# Newsletter of the Friends of Portage Lakes State Park



Volume 2, Issue 1

[www.friendsofportagelakes.org](http://www.friendsofportagelakes.org)

Winter 2011

## From the President by Larry Hunter

Unbelievably **spring** is just around the corner. Groundhog Day is upon us with **Chase Your Shadow** scheduled for February 5, 2011. Our own energetic Jerry Davis agreed to chair this fundraising event this year. His hard working committee consists of Laura Davis (the wife of the committee chair never gets enough credit), Carol Eubank, Tom Fry, Paul Knoebel, Mark Snyder, and Lynn and Lew Stamp.

Our secretary, Mark Snyder, has been busy applying for grant money for the Dog Park and Bird and Butterfly Trail. Raising money for this project is an endurance contest. However, among all the letters of denials, some are interested and requested additional information. I hope that 2011 will see the completion of this project. Many thanks to Mark for all the hours he has donated to Friends of Portage Lakes State Park.

Most of the preliminary work has been done for our **"Pirate Days"** Festival July 23 and 24, 2011. This has become a big deal with many people and organizations endorsing the event. It seems like every day a new venue is presented. The target date for finalizing the program is February 1, 2011. Volunteers are needed contact Larry Hunter at 330.644.1540 if interested.

## Chase Your Shadow 5K Run/Walk Feb. 5 by Carol Eubank

Reprinted with permission *The Suburbanite* and *Carol Eubank*.

Second Annual Chase Your Shadow 5K Run/Walk to benefit Friends of the Portage Lakes State Park will be held Saturday, February 5, 2011. A closed 3.1 mile course in the scenic Portage Lakes State Park located at 5031 Manchester Road, Akron, Ohio 44319 in southern Summit County. Open to runners and walkers of all ages.

The Chase Your Shadow Race is part of the Subway challenge series. Day of registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Race starts at 10 a.m. No make-up date, no refunds.

Entry fee is \$20 in advance / \$25 day of. Register online at [www.ohiochallengeseries.com](http://www.ohiochallengeseries.com) or call Race Chairman Jerry Davis 330.644.1841 or visit [www.friendsofportagelakes.org](http://www.friendsofportagelakes.org). A commemorative tee shirt will be given to all pre-registered entrants. Age group awards and prizes. Goody bags first come, first served.

Chase Your Shadow Race is sponsored by the Friends of the Portage Lakes State Park a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, proceeds benefit the group in their mission to preserve for future generations the truly unique natural attributes found in Portage Lakes State Park by promoting the preservation and protection of its resources and to encourage community and visitor participation in these efforts.



Sarah Matheny  
Greater Green Gardeners

facebook

Join us at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Portage-Lakes-State-Park/174417532589176>

twitter

Follow us at <http://twitter.com/foplp>

## *Discs Fly like a Martin*

*Innova Disc* on sale featuring the Purple Martin, the bird that most represents the Portage Lakes. Contact Steve Godar at [steve@pldga.com](mailto:steve@pldga.com) or 330.644.0544 for more information or to purchase. Sales benefit Portage Lakes Disc Golf Association.



Photo by Lew Stamp



# Support

## Friends of Portage Lakes State Park

Not everyone wants to participate in the same way.  
We offer a variety of volunteer options  
so you can get involved and support the park.

### Some areas where assistance is welcomed:

- ◆ Kids Zone    ◆ Special Events    ◆ Beach    ◆ Blue Bird Boxes
- ◆ Disc Golf    ◆ Park Clean-up    ◆ Teepee    ◆ Hiking Trail
- ◆ Dog Park    ◆ 5K Run/Walk    ◆ Bird and Butterfly Trail

To learn of these, and other projects visit us online at [www.friendsofportagelakes.org](http://www.friendsofportagelakes.org) or call 330-731-1624.

### Annual Membership Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Individual \$15     Family \$25     Donor \$50

Benefactor \$100     Optional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check made payable to Friends of Portage Lakes State Park  
PO Box 26463, Akron, Ohio 44319-6463  
Membership is tax deductible and good for one year.

## What Are You Doing to Build Membership?

by Mark Snyder

You believe in Friends of Portage Lakes State Park and want to see membership increase, but what commitment have you made to increase membership? Have you made at least one telephone call to a prospective member and invited them to come to a meeting? Have you offered a newsletter to a friend, co-worker, or family member? Have you introduced a new member to a meeting? Why not?

As we look forward to the first half of 2011, a new membership campaign begins. Membership in Friends of Portage Lakes State Park provides financial support for our growing organization.

**Larry Hunter**, President  
**Tom Fry**, Vice President  
**Tom Burge**, Treasurer  
**Mark Snyder**, Secretary  
**Lynn Stamp**, Director  
**Mark Snyder**, Editor

## Welcome to 2011! by Mark Snyder

“Time is a companion that goes with us on a journey. It reminds us to cherish each moment, because it will never come again. What we leave behind is not as important as how we have lived.” Captain Jean-Luc Picard, played by Patrick Stewart, from the film “Star Trek: Generations”

Well, I can honestly say that I never thought I would be quoting *Star Trek*. I hope everyone had a great time over the holidays and are looking

forward to a great new year. I thought you might want to know what is happening behind the scenes within our group. With all the enthusiasm that our board has we can look forward to some great events this year. In February, we have Chase Your Shadow. In July, we have Pirate Days in the Portage Lakes. October brings another Bark in the Park. I hope you can tell I am excited to be part of the Friends of Portage Lakes State Park.



## Volunteer Program Sets All-time Records in 2010 by Jim Henahan, ODNR, Ohio State Parks

The Ohio State Parks volunteer program set an all time record for the number of volunteers and the hours worked in 2010.

“Thanks” goes out to all of our volunteers for the valuable work that they provide to make Ohio State Parks that much better for our visitors.

*Jim Henahan is Manager of the Community Partnerships Program.*

Do  Something Wild

Adopt a Site on the



Bird and Butterfly Trail

Featuring plants that attract birds and butterflies, birdhouses that lure chickadees, house wrens, blue birds, tree swallows, as well as hummingbird feeders. A great place to watch birds, as well as enjoy the flowers.

### Here's How It Works

**Join In** by becoming a member of Friends of Portage Lakes State Park with an annual membership fee of \$15 per Individual or \$25 for a family membership.

**Sites** are 10' x 10'. A \$5.00 donation is required for each site. You can adopt as many as you want on a first-come, first-served bases. The money is to be used for deer repellent.

**Rules:** Site owners will plant their own foliage and will be provided with a list of suitable plants. No invasive plants will be permitted. At Least **50% of the plants must be native to Ohio**. The rest must be non-invasive ornamental flowers.

**Location** Portage Lakes State Park, 5031 Manchester Rd., Akron, Ohio 44319.

This project is sponsored by Friends of Portage Lakes State Park, and endorsed by Portage Lakes Advisory Council.

Join the fun!

Contact Larry Hunter at 330-644-1540 for more information.



**Friends of Portage Lakes State Park**  
PO Box 26463, Akron, Ohio 44319-6463 / [www.friendsofportagelakes.org](http://www.friendsofportagelakes.org)



FRIENDS OF PORTAGE LAKES STATE PARK  
PO BOX 26463  
AKRON OH 44319-6463

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***Mark Your Calendar! New Members are Always Welcome!***

All meetings are held at Portage Lakes Kiwanis Civic Center, 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron, Ohio 44319 unless noted.

**Board Meetings**

- Thursday, February 10, 2011, 6 PM**
- Thursday, March 10, 2011, 6 PM**
- Thursday, April 14, 2011, 6 PM**

**General Membership Meetings**

- Thursday, February 17, 2011, 7 PM**
- Thursday, March 17, 2011, 7 PM**
- Thursday, April 21, 2011, 7 PM**