

Friends of Crowell Hilaka Meeting

Tuesday, March 10th, 2015 at 7:00pm:

- Approval of Tuesday, February 10th and Sunday, February 22nd Meeting Minutes
- Richfield Joint Recreation District: Update
- Treasurer: Update
- Communications: Update
- Guest Speaker Gordon Maupin (American Nature Center Association)

Gordon is half Ozark hillbilly and half prairie sodbuster with a touch of Cherokee. He retired as Executive Director of The Wilderness Center, a nature center and land conservancy, located near Wilmot, Ohio. He served from 1981 to 2014, but often tells people that he never held the same job two years in a row. He studied biology and plant taxonomy/ecology at Missouri State University earning bachelors and masters degrees. He did a year of graduate work at the University of Missouri-Columbia in science journalism. Stories about him being an underwear model in the 1970s are greatly exaggerated. He will neither confirm nor deny rumors about his CIA activities during the cold war. So, don't ask. Prior to joining the Wilderness Center he worked for the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. From 1992 to 2002 he served on the Association of Nature Center Administrators (ANCA) Board of Trustees including two years as Board President. In 2006, ANCA honored him with its ANCA Leadership Award, the highest recognition in the field of Nature Centers. In the 1990s, he expanded the mission of The Wilderness Center making it a land conservancy in addition to its educational mission. In early 2000s, he again transformed the mission of The Wilderness Center to include a variety of "ecopreneurial" activities including wetland mitigation, Foxfield Preserve (a nature preserve cemetery), consulting forestry, and ecotourism. He was the host of Wild Ideas...the Podcast, a top-rated science-based podcast, from 2009 to 2014. In retirement, he serves on the board of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District a regional agency with a mission of flood control, water quality, and recreation. The District operates a number of parks on reservoirs throughout eastern Ohio. He also serves on the board of Fair Shake Environmental Legal Services, a nonprofit organization that acts as an incubator for training lawyers in environmental law in the public interest.

- Marketing: Update from Dave Szalay
- Volunteer Positions
- Upcoming Events:
 - Cabin Fever Tour / Volunteer & Hike Day: Saturday, March 21 & Sunday, March 22.
 - Crowell Hilaka Soft Opening: Memorial Day weekend
- New Business
- ACTION ITEMS:
 - Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 14th at 7:00pm at Richfield Historical Society
 - Take Me Back Series: The Elusive Mr. Kirby – The Mystery (and Significance) of Kirby's Mill presented by Lynn Richardson on Thursday, April 9th at 7:00pm at RHS Museum

