



Enjoying the Great Outdoors

Thursdays, 6:30 pm

April 1: "98 Days" presented by Pete Gladden

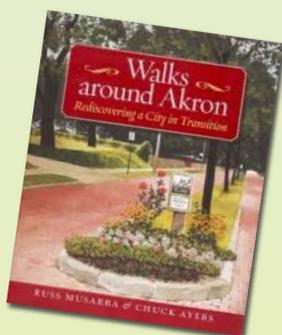
In The Summer of 2009 Hudson residents Pete Gladden and Ryan Delamater rode 6270 miles on their mountain bikes west to east across Canada. They cycled along the Pacific Ocean on the coast of Vancouver Island, across the snow covered peaks of the Canadian Rockies, through the Great Plains of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, up along the northern coastline of the Great Lakes, and through the Canadian Maritimes on the Atlantic coast all the way to St. Johns, Newfoundland. This is a fun and entertaining audio-visual presentation that will inspire you to set goals, persevere, and take risks in life.

April 8: "Purple Martins in Northeast Ohio" presented by Larry Hunter

The purple martin is a bird that is primarily dependent upon the assistance of humans in the areas east of the Mississippi. The Portage Lakes Purple Martin Association provides gourds for their nests discovering early on that they prefer them to the usual Martin houses. Come learn about these birds that return every year to their "home" at Portage Lakes and see how you can view them first hand with all the events scheduled this summer. In August, their Premigratory Roost at Nimisila Reservoir is a spectacular sight, with some 5,000 to 10,000 martins stopping over to rest briefly before proceeding on their long journey.

April 15: "Walks around Akron: rediscovering a city in transition" presented by Russ Musarra and Chuck Ayers

Anyone who enjoys walking or discovering overlooked sites will appreciate the informative charm of stories and pictures that embrace Akron's history, its downtown and neighborhood development, its institutions and parks, and interesting nearby communities. Retired *Beacon Journal* writer Russ Musarra and editorial cartoonist Chuck Ayers take the audience on a journey to explore familiar and out-of-the-way places around town. Attendees can see all these things for themselves, using *Walks around Akron* as a guidebook for their own excursions. Copies of the book will be available for purchase after the program.



April 22: "Ohio Wetlands: benefits and beauty for all" presented by Michael Liptak Ph.D.

Many of us have heard about wetlands, but what do we really know about them? Join us on Earth Day as Dr. Liptak speaks about Ohio's wetlands and the functions they provide including flood protection, nutrient uptake, and wildlife habitat. Ninety percent of these sensitive ecosystems have been lost in the state of Ohio. Dr. Liptak will discuss how wetlands, streams, and uplands are being restored today and how **you** can enjoy and help protect these valuable resources.

April 29: "Gardening as a Quality-of-Life Style" presented by Lawrence A. Parker

Gardening gives us so much more than just fresh produce! We will explore the benefits of locally grown food to both ourselves and our environment as we discuss the challenges and opportunities of urban gardening. Come prepared with your own experiences and questions about what is quickly becoming a global movement. Akron's part in this movement is being spearheaded by The Akron Cooperative under the direction of Executive Director Larry Parker.

In 2009, The Akron Cooperative developed and managed 6 gardens of 41 plots and 58 gardeners for the City of Akron in the "Akron Grows" Project. For 2010, The Akron Cooperative is developing 5 gardens for the University Park Alliance and the exclusive use of UP area residents, including the University of Akron and Summa Health Systems. Come and grow with us!



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