

# Friends of Lower Muskingum River



Water Quality, Watershed Management, Land Trust, Education, Economic Development, Recreation

Greetings Friends,

Stop everything you're doing and give yourself a round of applause. Because of the continued support of amazing members like yourself, this year marks FLMR's 10(+1) year anniversary as the non-profit stewards of the Lower Muskingum River watershed!

I know what you're thinking, and to answer your question, yes: we are celebrating our 10 (+1) anniversary in 2013 because this incredibly important anniversary slipped by us last year. Nonetheless, **HAPPY 10-ish YEARS ANNIVERSARY FLMR!**

Throughout the 11 years FLMR has been an official non-profit organization we have been blessed with both a passionate staff and a dedicated Board of Directors. The extra efforts of this dedicated board have enabled us to acquire more than 250 acres of land and to hold conservation easements on

One of FLMR's main focuses is conservation: acquiring lands that can be devoted to conservation, working with landowners to put conservation easements on their own properties, and encouraging green space initiatives. This is very important, but what happens after the deal is sealed and the land has been conserved?

## News from FLMR A Year Of Celebration

over 665 acres of land within Southeast Ohio. Within the boundaries of the Lower Muskingum River watershed, our passionate staff has worked hard to identify and solve water quality issues in the basin while also educating and widely promoting our non-profit organization.

Since this year is such a special year for us, we plan to celebrate every chance we get! One exciting new feature for FLMR's decade(ish) celebration is the introduction of our newly remodeled website. A very special thank you goes out to the Computing and Information Systems department at Marietta College and the fantastic group of Senior Capstone students who worked incredibly hard on this remodeling. Their work has made the website easier

to navigate and allows our Stream Team water quality volunteers to enter their data directly online! Check out the new website by going to [www.muskingumriver.org](http://www.muskingumriver.org).

Coming soon this year: Sunday, August 11th marks the celebration of the 5th Annual Mighty Muskingum River Raft Regatta! Registration starts at noon and the Regatta sails off at 2pm. Join us for the entire event and hang around afterwards for the awards ceremony at Marietta Harbor and a very special 10(+1) year anniversary celebration.

Three cheers for the Friends of Lower Muskingum River (that's you!), a decade of service, and many more years of a healthy watershed!

Jesse Daubert  
Watershed Coordinator, FLMR

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## Invasive Plants? In MY Watershed?

The answer is management.

With each property acquired comes different management challenges. Some challenges come in the form of stream bank stabilization while others include tasks like trail maintenance and the continued battle against

non-native, invasive plants.

For many years FLMR members and volunteers have been fighting the war against non-native, invasive plants like Garlic Mustard, Purple Loosestrife, & Tree of Heaven. Although we have not won the war, we have

won many great battles at both the Dana Island Preserve & the Luke Chute Conservation Area.

Call 740-374-4170 to learn how you can get involved with management on one of FLMR's conservation properties.

Jesse Daubert  
Watershed Coordinator, FLMR

By the time he was 50 years old, Captain Isaac Newton Hook was rapidly becoming a legend in his own time, and his time was being spent on the rivers. After serving as master of construction on the Zanesville Dam to repair the damage of the devastating 1867 flood, he was named as supervisor on the slack water improvements on several rivers--main arteries into the countryside through which they passed. These rivers included not only the Muskingum and the Ohio, but also the Kentucky and Little Kanawha, and kept Isaac (and a lot of other fellows) busy for about the next 8 years.

He was investing his money wisely, too: in 1866, he bought 100 acres between Bald Eagle Creek and Stockport--paid all of \$4000 for it and in 1873, he bought a 60 acre farm above Hooksburg. That was "home" for Isaac (in the brief periods when he was home), his family which included wife

FLMR recently partnered with the Marietta College Office of Civic Engagement to participate in its Next Generation board training program. This program pairs local nonprofits with Marietta College students interested in the nonprofit sector by putting students on nonprofit boards to get experience and share ideas with the organizations. FLMR's student board member is Luke Badaczewski, who has now completed one semester with us and will stay on the board for another two semesters.

Luke has now worked with us since January and has worked hard to pull his own weight.

## Captain Hook: Part II

Quitera, and their ever increasing brood of children, as well as nine children from his first marriage.

By the time the dams were repaired, the railroads came along. You might think this would slow down the river traffic, but not so--when the C & O RR was built from the East to reach the Ohio in 1873, much of the steel was delivered by rail to Parkersburg and then by river to Huntington. Captain Hook was in charge of loading this material on barges and this led to more work. Lock #1 on the Little Kanawha needed a lot of work to handle this traffic and with his impressive resume, Isaac Hook was in charge of this reconstruction. "Master of construction" was his title, which he held for the next 15 years.

While their friends and neighbors agreed theirs was a stormy marriage, nevertheless, several children came along during these years: Jennie Van Horn, named for one of his good friends; Hettie Button, named for some unknown reason; Ida Wallace; Leonard; and then twins--named (honest, I do not make this stuff up!) Pool and Gool. Why? I have no idea, and the last child, a girl, named Love. Might this have been a bit of sarcasm on one or both of the parent's part? Maybe -- but meanwhile, Captain Hook had other things to do - another money-making project.

You'll remember he had already served as flatboat pilot, riverboat captain, construction engineer, boat builder--and now--how about the salvage business? The big boats

had plied the waters for enough time to allow for numerous accidents--some of the biggest and proudest had gone to some muddy bottom. There was the J.J. BEST--bought for a mere \$25; the L.C. McCORMICK--sold at great profit and used to build the GEN. L H. F. DEVOL. In 1880, he designed and built a large derrick boat for use in the ice-harbor construction at Marietta, and during all these years he continued to plan and oversee numerous constructions and repair projects on the Muskingum, the Ohio, and the Kentucky rivers.

Time was moving on with great speed, and Captain Isaac Newton Hook wasn't slowing down either. We'll conclude his story in the next edition.

*For part three see the next issue of **Always Downstream!***

*Louise Zimmer  
Noted author and historian*

## FLMR Receives Pay It Forward Grant

His most significant achievement was recently announced: Luke's grant application for Next Generation's "Pay It Forward" grant has been funded! Luke partnered with FLMR's Watershed Coordinator, Jesse Daubert, to identify a worthwhile project for this grant and wrote a strong application. Luke also gave a concise presentation explaining the usefulness of the funds to FLMR and their impacts for our organization. The grant will support the work of FLMR's new summer intern, who will focus on organizing the 5th Annual

Mighty Muskingum Raft Regatta while also working with the Rivers, Trails, & Ales Festival. In addition, the intern will work with Jesse on FLMR's community outreach and education efforts.

FLMR was chosen to receive this grant by a group of students participating in the Next Generation program, affirming the myriad of positive benefits that will result from this grant. We are glad to receive this support and look forward to benefitting the community this summer when the grant is used. It remains FLMR's mission to not only focus on

environmental issues, but to contribute to the community with cultural events like the Raft Regatta, which draws upon our area's rich heritage and association with the Muskingum and Ohio Rivers throughout our history.

Derek Hennen  
*Duke Energy Endowed  
OSM/AmeriCorps VISTA, FLMR*

### **Help Support FLMR By Recycling!**

Give us your old **Inkjet Cartridges, Laser/Toner Cartridges and Cell Phones** so we can recycle them and raise money.

Following in the wake of an exceedingly successful 4th Annual Mighty Muskingum River Raft Race last year, this summer's race is fast-approaching, with exciting new changes! The biggest change is in the name: the event will now be known as the **Mighty Muskingum River Raft Regatta**, emphasizing the importance of enjoying a beautiful day of fun on the river, rather than solely being about the race aspect. This new name will be reflected in the marketing of the race and advertisements you see throughout the community. You'll also notice a decidedly different logo coming soon, designed by the talented artists at **Just A Jar Design Press**, located in Marietta.

Planning for the Raft Regatta has already started, and to make the event even bigger and better than last year, FLMR has hired an intern, Steven Williamson, to

After a year of time passing by in the blink of an eye, my tenure with FLMR has come to an end. I feel very privileged to have had this opportunity to work in the Lower Muskingum River watershed with an organization committed to making a difference. From the summer fun of the Mighty Muskingum River Raft Race to the winter's marathon of grant writing and attending meetings, I've enjoyed working with Jesse and the Board, the Stream Team, and our community partners. Hailing from the area myself, it's heartening to see so many people that care about issues affecting the community and

## 5th Annual Mighty Muskingum Raft Regatta Coming Soon!



coordinate all Raft Regatta activities and planning. Steven will focus on the marketing and promotion of the event and will work closely with the **Rivers, Trails, & Ales Festival**, which runs from August 8th-11th.

This year's Raft Regatta will take place on **Sunday, August 11th**, with registration starting at noon at the Indian Acres Boat Ramp. Begin designing your raft now, and check out our

Facebook page and website ([www.muskingumriver.org](http://www.muskingumriver.org)) for more information and to view photos from previous years!

If you're interested in volunteering at the Raft Regatta, sponsoring the event, or participating, email [flmr@muskingumriver.org](mailto:flmr@muskingumriver.org) or call (740) 374-4170. We look forward to seeing you there!

Derek Hennen  
*Duke Energy Endowed  
OSM/AmeriCorps VISTA, FLMR*

## A VISTA Farewell

actively working to make it a healthier and more enjoyable place to live. My experience has given me a newfound respect and pride in our corner of southeast Ohio.

I'm happy to see the progress we've made on our various projects in the watershed. Jesse's watershed action plan is in review, which will allow FLMR to take targeted actions in the Southern Watershed. The Stream Team is growing at a rapid pace. The Rain Gardens, Clean River initiative has planted three rain gardens in Marietta with plans for more, building

many partnerships along the way, not to mention our educational activities and invasive plant removals.

I feel optimistic about FLMR's future and am excited to hear about FLMR's future accomplishments. There have been struggles for sure, but FLMR has taken its struggles and turned them into learning experiences to better the group in the future.

I would like to thank Jesse for being my supervisor during the past year, even when he didn't want to be. I would also like to thank the Board for their support and welcoming me to FLMR with open arms. My future plans are taking me

### Meet the FLMR officers, board members, and staff

#### Officers

President— Marilyn Ortt  
Vice President— Katy Lustofin  
Secretary - Doug Albaugh  
Treasurer - Susan Corcoran

#### Board of Directors

Doug Albaugh  
Dave Blount  
Susan Corcoran  
Elin Jones  
John Lee  
Katy Lustofin  
Rick Mayle  
Marilyn Ortt  
Quincy Robe

#### Staff

Jesse Daubert  
Watershed Coordinator  
Derek Hennen  
Duke Energy Endowed OSM/  
AmeriCorps VISTA

to Arkansas, where I will pursue my Masters Degree in Entomology at the University of Arkansas this fall. I also hope to keep returning to the area in the future to keep tabs on the marvelous insects we have here.

I owe many thanks to FLMR and everyone I've met during my VISTA term, and I hope to see you all again soon.

Derek Hennen  
*Duke Energy Endowed  
OSM/AmeriCorps VISTA, FLMR*



## FOR SALE

### Elin's Bags



Prices vary, usually around \$20

These beautiful bags are handcrafted by FLMR's board member, Elin Jones. Each bag is comprised of donated fabric and they are made to last. They're sturdy, reversible, washable and fashionable — truly the perfect bag! Each bag has a FLMR logo and is one of a kind.

### Rain Barrels



\$65

Our rain barrels are made from recycled 55 gallon barrels, and include an inlet for your downspout, an overflow valve and a spigot for easy watering! They're a great way to conserve water and water your gardens without increasing your water bill. Barrels can easily be painted with Krylon Fusion for Plastic.

*Options for multi-barrel connections are available!*

### Get Involved With Water Conservation!

Support the "Rain Gardens, Clean River" initiative to reduce stormwater runoff pollution while beautifying Marietta by planting a rain garden on your property. Spread the word about our initiative to help us connect to partners in our community. Free "Blue Thumb Guides" are available to supporters of this initiative. Call 740-374-4170 for more info.

In January of 2013, FLMR was approached by Dr. Bob Van Camp, a computer science professor at Marietta College, about collaborating with a group of his senior undergraduate students to work on their final capstone project. It was decided that the capstone students (Caleb Muller, Andy Moscardino, Andrew Dufford & Jonathan Hebb) would work with FLMR on two main projects: overhauling the FLMR website to give it a new look and make it easier to update, and building a new database for the Stream Team volunteer water quality monitoring program. These students met regularly with Jesse Daubert, our watershed coordinator, and Derek Hennen, our VISTA employee, to

### Capstone Students Complete FLMR Project

show their progress on the project, discuss their work, and ask for feedback. These students worked diligently all semester, and at long last, completed the project.

On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jesse and I had the pleasure of watching our Marietta College capstone students give their capstone presentation concerning the FLMR web site and database. They all spoke to various enhancements of the website and explained how it was a complex project with many different technologies involved. It was interesting to hear the presenters expressing how they implemented Pay Pal features for membership/donations etc. to the website, as well as

how they simplified data input for Stream Team work, making it possible for volunteers to input their data directly into the database on the website or with a smart phone.

The complexity of the questions asked after the presentation by the IT professors was in-depth. I was impressed by how the presenters told how they resolved various software issues. These are tech savvy students and I respect their dedication to this project! It was stated that IT specialists are paid an average of \$36 an hour, and with the hours that this project consumed it would

have resulted in a price tag of \$8,000 for their 14 weeks of service and dedication.

On behalf of FLMR, Jesse thanked the team in a very courteous and respectful manner, and I sensed during their presentation that the students, Jesse, and Derek had a mutual respect for each other. It's evident that Jesse and Derek's ties to MC as alumni resulted in much of the synergy that took place between the MC capstone students and our FLMR team.

If you haven't yet checked out our new website, go to [www.muskingumriver.org](http://www.muskingumriver.org)

*John Lee,  
Board Member, FLMR*

My name is Andy Long and I am entering my second year as a civil engineering master student at Ohio University. During my undergraduate career here at Ohio University, my current graduate advisor, Tiao Chang, approached me about joining the Boat-of-Knowledge in the Science Classroom (BookS) project as I continued my graduate research. "The BookS project aims to enhance and broaden science and engineering education of graduate fellows and to improve their communication and presentation skills through proposed activities." These activities include and are not limited to biweekly presentations, developing lessons and activities for the high school classroom, professional development seminars, and yearly trips to do water sampling and water quality testing on the Ohio and Muskingum rivers.

I am one of nine graduate fellows from the civil engineering department at Ohio University that works on the BookS project. Each graduate fellow is paired with a participating teacher from a local high school where we

A blow was struck for biodiversity and a healthier ecosystem on Monday, April 29 at Luke Chute when Beth and Ken Epling, Sam Powell, Doug Albaugh, Dave Blount, Elin Jones and Marilyn Ortt pulled garlic mustard, primarily along Cabin Run on both sides of the highway. This Non-Native Invasive Species is a terrible threat to native species - it wages chemical warfare as well as using its opportunistic growth habits

## BookS Project & Rain Garden Collaboration

collaborate with them to come up with lesson plans and activities that link what they are doing in the classroom to what we are doing as researchers. I have been working closely with Gordon Gifford, a physical sciences teacher at Trimble High School, in order to develop lesson plans/activities that involve my current thesis research, Rain Gardens. Rain gardens are planted in shallow depressions in the ground that catch storm runoff from impervious surfaces, such as roofs and pavements. Currently, I have been able to develop two lesson plans for the high school that involve rain gardens. The first lesson plan relates one of the benefits of rain gardens, water control, to the basic fluid mechanics equations that are taught in physics classrooms. The second lesson plan, "Utilizing Rain Gardens to Improve Water Quality Index", has worked well in the environmental science and chemistry classrooms to show students how this low impact design (LID) storm water management technique

can have a largely positive impact on the quality of our stream waters, and consequently the aquatic life in our streams.

I first learned about rain gardens from FLMR in October 2012 when I was contacting several different watershed coordinators about current projects that I could use for this research. Since that time, I have been working closely with FLMR and Marietta College to develop my research on the rain garden that was recently constructed on Marietta College's campus. The rain garden is located between Goose Run and the parking lot adjacent the Hermann Fine Arts building, off of Fourth and Butler streets. As part of my thesis research and enthusiasm towards FLMR's Rain Gardens, Clean River Initiative, I will be conducting experiments over the course of the next year in order to determine both the hydraulic and pollutant removal efficiency of the rain garden. Before the construction of this rain garden, pol-

luted storm water ran directly from the parking lot into Goose Run, but it now drains into the garden so that the pollutants can be filtered out before entering the stream. The addition of this simple storm water management technique could have a positive impact on both macro and micro invertebrates that inhabit Goose Run.

Thinking about installing your own garden? Consider a rain garden instead of a regular one. They are maintained the exact same way, but they can provide many more benefits. One such benefit is reducing or eliminating standing water from your lawn, which consequently also reduces mosquito populations near your home. If interested to learn more about rain gardens or my project, contact FLMR or myself ([al307807@ohio.edu](mailto:al307807@ohio.edu)).

For more information about the BookS project and its participating high schools, visit <http://books.ohio.edu/>

*Andy Long  
Graduate Student  
Ohio University*

## Pulling the Pungent Garlic Mustard

to replace native wildflowers. It's aided in its growth by allying with deer—they won't eat it, thus giving it more opportunities to grow! Please consider joining the volunteers on the next Pull-Party and be on the watch for it on your own land. It is in flower right now - late April into May. If you are pulling, nip off the cluster of flowers or buds then pull the rest of

the plant including the root. If you are pulling the entire plant, it must be bagged and carried out because viable seeds will be developed just from the nutrient reserve of the root and rest of plant. Clusters of small 4-petaled white flowers may be at tip of a single stalk or multiple stems. Garlic mustard may be a few inches tall or as high as 3 feet tall.

Be on guard, but pull this year so not so many plants will come back next year.

*Marilyn Ortt  
President, FLMR*





Friends of Lower Muskingum River  
348 Muskingum Drive  
Marietta, OH 45750



**Upcoming Events**

FLMR Potluck

**Thursday, May 30th** at 6:00 PM at the Luke Chute Conservation Area.

River Sweep

**Saturday, June 15th.** 9:00 AM—Noon at the Devol Run Preserve  
Participants receive a River Sweep 2013 t-shirt & lunch will be provided

5th Annual Mighty Muskingum River Raft Regatta

**Sunday, August 11th.**  
Registration begins at Noon at the Indian Acres boat ramp in Marietta.

For more information call the FLMR office at (740) 374-4170.

**Want to become a FLMR member?  
Cut out this form & return to the  
address below!**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

- Please send announcements by **email**
- Please send announcements by **mail**
- I DO NOT** wish to receive any announcements

**Membership Level Annual  
Dues**

Individual \$15  
 Family \$25  
 Non-profit Organization \$50  
 Corporate \$100  
 Lifetime \$500

**Dues:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to:  
Friends of Lower Muskingum River  
Mail to: Quincy Robe, FLMR Member-  
ship Chair, P. O. Box 31, Malta, OH  
43758**