

Trailblazer



FOUNDED 1959
 SPRING 2013 VOLUME 46 NO. 1

Backpack to Buckeye TrailFest Celebrating Ohio's Trail

Want to know a great way to travel to this year's Buckeye TrailFest in Kirtland, Ohio? Join a group of backpackers who will make their way along urban highways, horse trails and dirt roads to get there.

On April 22, Buckeye Trail member John Rethman and a group of backpackers will travel 38 miles along the Bedford Section of the trail in northeast Ohio on their way to Kirtland. Over four days, they will explore Tinker's Creek, South Chagrin Reservation, Chapin Forest, and Penitentiary Glen. For more information, visit <http://www.buckeyetrailfest.org/backpack.php>.

Mike "Scallion" Fanelli will also embark on a 175-mile solo hike from the Buckeye Trail barn near Tappan Lake in Harrison County to Kirtland. Fanelli, who lives in Centerville, Ohio, will begin his hike on Monday, April 15 and arrive at Buckeye TrailFest on April 25. Members of the Harrison County Outdoor Club will hike the first few miles with Fanelli before sending him on his way.

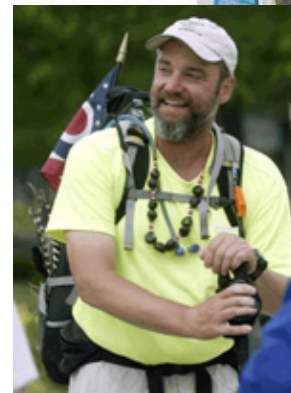
"I had so much fun at last year's TrailFest that I decided to make this a destination for a long-distance hike," Fanelli said. "I haven't hiked this section of the Buckeye Trail yet, so it will add to my goal of circuit hiking the whole Buckeye Trail."

Fanelli's backpacking trip will prove to be an interesting twist to a lifetime of travel. He spent a year exploring the world as a "couch surfer" and has visited 32 countries over the years. He has also hiked with Andy "Captain Blue" Niekamp, who will begin his own backpacking trip into Buckeye TrailFest on Thursday, April 4.

Niekamp, an avid long-distance hiker and BTA Trustee, will embark on a 325-mile, 21-day solo hike from Cincinnati to Cleveland on the Ohio To Erie Trail. His journey will begin and end on the Buckeye Trail.

"When I first learned of the Ohio To Erie Trail I just knew I had to hike it," he said. "Ohio is such a beautiful state. I plan to cross paths with Fanelli and hike with him a bit."

Niekamp, who lives in Kettering, Ohio, is familiar with Ohio long distance hiking. In 2011 he hiked the entire Buckeye Trail and recently formed a company called Outdoor Adventure Connection. He plans to share his passion of hiking with others. You can follow his upcoming Buckeye TrailFest journey at www.tinyurl.com/oehiker.



Clockwise from top:
 Mike "Scallion" Fanelli,
 John Rethman, Andy
 "Captain Blue" Niekamp.

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Giving Back to the Buckeye Trail

Andrew Bashaw

The Buckeye Trail Greatest Needs and Trail Preservation Fund within the Columbus Foundation is an endowed fund (only interest can be spent each year) established to allow individuals to make charitable contributions that will help the BTA realize the vision of a well-constructed, maintained, protected and promoted BT.

Terry and Nancy McCann of Sagamore Hills, who have been hiking the Buckeye Trail for more than 25 years, were inspired to include the Buckeye Trail in their estate plan. "We decided to move to Sagamore Hills because of how much we love to hike, especially the BT," said Nancy. "We were driving 45 minutes each way, every weekend, to get to the Trail, so we thought it made sense to move closer. We can now walk to the end of our street and are on the Trail in minutes!"

Terry is a home inspector for a business he and Nancy own called Harbor Light Inspection Services; Nancy is the Senior Director of Gift Planning at the Cleveland Clinic. "Gift planning allows individuals to give back to charity in a way that means the most to them, and that also fits their financial goals" explains Nancy. "Giving back to a favorite charity is very personal. Some choose to give during their lifetime, and some choose to give after. Gift planning helps to show them the way." Nancy and Terry have chosen to leave a portion of their IRA to the BT. According to Nancy, "This is the best asset to leave to charity. The charity will be given 100% of the balance of the IRA. If you chose to leave this to your children, most of it, as much as 85%, would be consumed by taxes."

Terry and Nancy hike the BT through their favorite spots in Cleveland. "I grew up in Parma next to Big Creek Reservation" says Terry. "I remember hiking, fishing and looking for crayfish along the trails. It's a great opportunity to experience nature. We are blessed to have the BT in our very own backyards, providing an atmosphere for our children and families to reconnect. Most people take for granted the fact that you can use the BT for free. People don't realize what a jewel we have here, and all the hard work that goes into maintaining the Trail."

With their gift, the McCanns hope that they will be part of ensuring that the Buckeye Trail will remain a jewel for all Ohioans to enjoy forever. To learn more about including the Buckeye Trail Association in your estate plan or other types of giving, contact Lisa Jolley, Director of Donor Services and Development at the Columbus Foundation, at 614-251-4000 or ljolley@columbusfoundation.org to discuss giving opportunities.



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August 1 for the Fall issue,
and November 1 for the Winter issue.

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Disclaimer: The articles and all information in this publication have been prepared with utmost care. However, neither the Buckeye Trail Association nor the Editor can guarantee accuracy or completeness of information. Opinions expressed in the articles, columns and paid advertising are not necessarily those of the BTA.



Trailblazer is printed
on recycled paper.

SUPPORTING THE BUCKEYE TRAIL ASSOCIATION

Terry and Nancy on
their favorite trail



**B T A B O A R D O F
T R U S T E E S**

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Constance Pond, Vice President
Ruth Brown, Secretary
Debbie Zampini, Treasurer*

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Pat Hayes, Byron Henry, Mark Henry, John
Knouse, Andy Niekamp, Melissa Shaw,
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**B T A S T A F F &
C O M M I T T E E C H A I R S**

Andrew Bashaw

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740-777-6BTA (6282)*

Buckeye TrailFest

Debbie Zampini

Awards & Recognition

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BTA Century Barn

Mary Hamilton

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**THE COLUMBUS
FOUNDATION**



You know the quote “take only pictures and leave only footprints” applies to many adventures along Ohio’s State Trail. You can leave your lasting footprint on the Buckeye Trail by sharing your trail experiences and inspiring others, enjoying the spirit of membership or the camaraderie of fellow volunteers. Now you can also share a planned gift with the Buckeye Trail Association thanks to our partnership with the Columbus Foundation.

The BTA is able to benefit from a variety of planned gifts to the BTA Greatest Needs and Buckeye Trail Preservation Funds at the Foundation. The Columbus Foundation is available to assist you and your professional advisor in creating the most effective and efficient plan for your current or planned gift. Current gifts could include cash, mutual funds, stock, real estate, IRA assets, or personal property.

You may also consider a planned gift through a bequest by will or trust, charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder trust, charitable lead trust, retirement plan assets, life insurance policy, or remainder interest in a residence or farm to support the Buckeye Trail Association regularly and in perpetuity.

Established in 1959, and continually growing today, the good work of the Buckeye Trail Association is the result of many who share the vision of Ohio’s Buckeye Trail. In whichever way you choose to leave your lasting footprint on the BT we thank you.

Contact:

Lisa Jolley

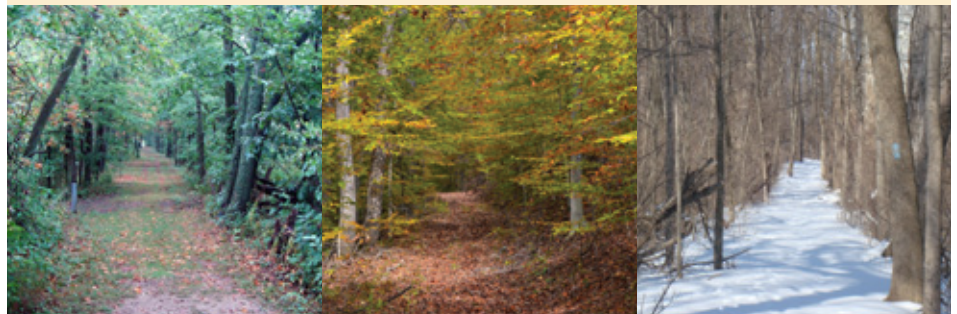
Director of Donor Services and Development

The Columbus Foundation

614/251-4000, ljolley@columbusfoundation.org

Visit the BTA’s portrait on the Foundation’s website at

<http://columbusfoundation.org/p2/>



Schedule of Hikes & Events



Always check www.buckeyetrail.org/events.html for last-minute updates

MARCH

March 23–24 BTA Work Party, East Fork State Park, Williamsburg Section.

Description: Improve BT between points 13 and 14 on the Nov. 2012 Williamsburg map. We will lay out/bench new trail that switch-backs up the hill rather than the straight-up steep muddy climb it is now, plus clear downed trees at points 15-16. Saturday we leave camp at 8:30AM for the work site and quit work at 3:30PM. Sunday work 8:30AM-noon.

Camping: We will camp at Williamsburg point 17 (south parking lot access to back-pack/BT).

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

Directions: 2013 Buckeye Trail Crew Work Parties (Google Maps)

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

March 25–30 ODNR Annual Spring Cleanup, Shawnee State Park & Forest, Shawnee Section.

Treat spring fever by spending time in a beautiful forest, cleaning up and recycling litter. You will learn what items can be recycled and how to start a recycling center for your home, office, church or club. Find out why litter is harmful to the environment, why recycling is important and how to encourage others to recycle and not litter.

Contact: Jenny Richards, 740-858-6652, Jenny.Richards@dnr.state.oh.us

APRIL

April 3 Presentation: Thru Hiking the Buckeye Trail—A 1,400 Mile Journey Around Ohio. Location: REI, 2643 Edmondson Rd, Cincinnati. Time: 6:30 pm.

Andy Niekamp thru-hiked the Buckeye Trail in 2011. His presentation will take you with him on his thru-hike. Andy has also thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail three times. Andy is founder and leader of the DaytonHikers.Org group, the largest outdoor recreation group in Dayton. Andy is also the lead adventurer

for *Outdoor Adventure Connection*, which specializes in backcountry adventures.

Contact: Andy Niekamp, andyniekamp@gmail.com

April 6-7 BTA Work Party, Tar Hollow State Park, Scioto Trail Section. Description: Maintain/improve the BT in Tar Hollow. We will need chain saws and pruners to help clear last year's storm damage. Saturday we will leave camp for the work site at 8:00AM and work until 3:00PM; Sunday we will work 8:00AM-noon.

Camping: TBD

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

April 14 Local Hike, April Showers Hike. Location: Register at the Noble Township Hall, 16586 County Road 66A, Saint Marys, OH 45885.

Details: Join us for the Cabin Fever 5K Hike along the Miami and Erie Canal Towpath Trail (Buckeye Trail/NCT) in Auglaize County. Hike is out and back, 3.1 miles total. Register 1:00-3:00PM then hike at your own pace; it's free and easy for the whole family.

Contact: Heritage Trails Park District, 419-202-6053, www.htparks.org

April 20-21 Ohio Trails Partnership (OTP) Work Weekend. Location: Hocking State Forest in Old Mans Cave Trail Section

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

April 22-25 2013 Buckeye TrailFest Backpack, Bedford Section. Approx. 38 miles. See day-by-day description on page _____.

Contact: John Rethman, ilovehiking3@cinci.rr.com, 513-398-952

April 25-28 2013 BTA TrailFest, Kirtland. *Save the Date!* TrailFest in Northeast Ohio. Hosted by the Bedford and Burton Sections. We will be showing off Lake and Geauga Counties. The event will be held at Red Oak Camp in Kirtland. Additional information can be found at BuckeyeTrailFest.org.

Contact: Deb Zampini, 440-567-1894, half-marathoner@hotmail.com

MAY

May 4-8 AEP Work Party Week, American Electric Power, Stockport Section.

Chuck Wagon Event Description: Trail maintenance (mowing, weed whacking, pruning, blazing) and some trail rerouting. An opportunity to join the Trail Crew as we improve the BT in AEP's ReCreation Land. We will leave camp at 8:00AM and quit work at 3:00PM.

Camping: Campground A, Hook Lake. There will be room for small pop-up campers and tents. Pit toilets and drinking water are there, but no hookups. A portable shower will be available.

Meals: For a Chuck Wagon event, meals are provided free for the first 20 volunteers to sign up by May 1 with Jay Holwick, holwick@columbus.rr.com.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

May 18-19 Newport Bridge Work Party, Miami Erie Canal, St Marys Section.

Description: Constructing a bridge over a washout on the Miami Erie Canal towpath near Hickory Hills Country Concert property. It is 1/4 mile north of point 10 on the 2007 St Marys Section map. Saturday, we leave camp 8:00AM and work until 3:00PM. Sunday we work 8:00AM-noon.

Camping: TBD

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

May 24-27 Buckeye Trail Backpack, Fort Loramie to Delphos. Leave 10:00AM 5/24. Ideal for beginner backpackers (but veterans are welcome). This flat, easy hike will start on the Buckeye Trail along the Miami-Erie Canal. BT here is well maintained and easy to follow, with both wooded and open walking. Do not think that a flat trip might be boring; it still offers plenty of interesting sites

Chuckwagon Reservations

For meal reservations for the chuckwagon at work parties (where available), contact Chuck Wagon Master, Jay Holwick at:

holwick@columbus.rr.com
740-743-3813

BTA Barn Directions

Take I-77 south to US-250 east (just south of New Philadelphia). Follow US-250 past Tappan Dam almost to the end of the lake. There is a causeway with a sign that reads "Tappan Lake Park". Turn right (this road also takes you to Deersville). Approximately 3.1 miles from the US-250 turnoff is Beall Rd. on the right. Follow this dead-end road 1.3 mi. It ends at the BTA Barn down a long gravel driveway.

Remember the house side of the driveway is absolutely and strictly off-limits. It is a private residence so please respect their wishes and stay on our side of the driveway and please do not block any roads.

and quaint small towns and very little road walking. Anyone interested MUST sign up on either the Friends of the Buckeye Trail, <http://www.buckeyetrailfriends.org> or Miami Rivers <http://www.miamiriverschapter.org>.

JUNE

June 1-2 BTA Work Party, Independence Dam Shelter, Defiance Section. Details still being worked out. Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

June 8 BTA Board Meeting at Command Alkon. Starts 10:00 AM. Contact: Melissa Reed, president@buckeyetrail.org

June 15-19 Work Party Week, Edge of Appalachia, West Union Section. Description: Week-long work party to build new trail in the Edge of Appalachia. This is the first phase of a long-term project to build 10-15 miles of off-road trail in southern Ohio.

Camping: TBD

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

June 22-23 Emma "Grandma" Gatewood Solstice (EGGS) Hike, New Straitsville Section. Hike all day in Burr Oak State Park.

Contact: Byron Guy, oldmanscave@buckeyetrail.org

June 29-30 RT 35 Trail Rebuild Work Party, Scioto Trail Section. Description: Reestablish trail in logged area points 12-13 of the March 2010 Scioto Trail map. Saturday we leave camp for the work site at 8:00AM and quit work at 3:00PM. Sunday we work 8:00AM-noon.

Camping: Camping will be at the abandoned air strip in Scioto Trail State Forest. A shower and port-a-john will be provided.

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

JULY

July 13-14 Work Party, Pretty Run, Old Mans Cave Section. Description: General trail maintenance at Pretty Run in Vinton County. Boots and work gloves are recommended. Daily, work will be 8:00AM-3:00PM.

Camping: Camping will be on the Pretty Run property. A portable shower will be available.

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

July 20 BTA Picnic, BTA Barn, Bowerston Section. Contact: Deb Zampini, 440-567-1894, half-marathoner@hotmail.com

AUGUST

August 23-25 BTA Board Retreat, BTA Barn, Bowerston Section. Contact: Melissa Reed, president@buckeyetrail.org

August 31-September-2 BTA Work Party, Pretty Run/Tar Hollow, Old Mans Cave Section. Description: Constructing a backpacking shelter on the Pretty Run property in Vinton County plus a BT foot-bridge near the maintenance building on Tar Hollow State Forest property. Saturday and Sunday we will start work at 8:00AM and quit at 3:00PM. On Monday we will work 8:00AM-noon.

Camping: Pretty Run property. A portable shower will be available.

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

SEPTEMBER

September 14-18 BTA Work Party Week, West Branch State Park, Mogadore Section. Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org. *Chuck Wagon Event* Description: Build new/maintain existing Buckeye Trail in West Branch State Park. We will leave camp at 8:00AM for work site.

Camping: West Branch State Park Horse Camp Area on the north side of the lake. Directions: From Rock Spring Rd. turn east onto Copeland Rd. In 5 miles turn left (N) onto unnamed road leading to horse camps in 2.25 miles. Campground GPS coordinates: Lat 41° 8.999'N Lon 81° 6.751'W

Meals: Chuck Wagon meals provided at no charge to the first 20 volunteers to sign up at least three days before the event. Contact Jay Holwick, holwick@columbus.rr.com to make your meal reservation.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

September 28-29 BTA Work Party, Next to Serpent Mound, Sinking Spring Section. Description: We will be constructing a backpacking shelter on property adjacent to Serpent Mound State Memorial. Saturday work will start at 8:00AM and quit at 3:00PM. Sunday we work 8:00AM-noon.

Camping: Camping will be at the work site.

Meals: Bring your own food and water
Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

OCTOBER

October 12-13 BTA Work Party, Burr Oak State Park, New Straitsville Section. *Chuck Wagon Event* Description: Improving existing BT throughout the New Straitsville Section. Saturday we leave camp 8:30AM for work site.

Camping: Burr Oak State Park Group Campground near Boat Dock 3. From SR-78 on the east side of Burr Oak Lake, take C-14 (Mountville Rd.) west toward the lake and the group campground.

Meals: Chuck Wagon meals provided at no charge to the first 20 volunteers to sign up at least three days before the event. Contact Jay Holwick, holwick@columbus.rr.com to make your meal reservation.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

October 26-30 BTA Work Party Week, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Akron Section. Description: We will be working in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park to improve trail in wet areas by building puncheon boardwalk and a bridge. Work will start at 8:30AM and quit at 3:30PM.

Camping: TBD

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

NOVEMBER

November 9-10 BTA Work Party, Hocking Hills State Park, Old Mans Cave Section. Description: Reroute the BT near the SR-664 the entrance to the park. (point 19 on the November 2010 Old Mans Cave section map). Saturday work 8:30AM-3:30PM. Sunday work 8:30AM-12:30PM.

Camping: TBD

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

Contact: Trail Management Team, stc@buckeyetrail.org

Moved or Moving?

Send the BTA Your Change of Address!!

The *Trailblazer* will NOT be forwarded to your new address AND the BTA incurs 70¢ charge for each undeliverable *Trailblazer*. Mailing labels are generated 3 weeks before the *Trailblazers* are mailed, so send in your change of address right away!

Email your change of address to: membership@buckeyetrail.org



On the Trail . . .

Just before the Buckeye Trail Association was formed in 1959 there was a vision authored by 'Perry Cole' (aka Merrill Gilfillan) in November of 1958 in the Columbus Dispatch Magazine. It is amazing to me to read over it now and see how true it rings today. Merrill Gilfillan describes a potential route from Lake Erie to the Ohio River, but also lays out reasons to initiate a Buckeye Trail and how it would be accomplished. To Gilfillan

a Buckeye Trail would be "an opportunity to find inspiring recreation... as remote as possible to provide the opportunity for a different outdoor experience... as endless and as boundless as the energy and the imagination of those who would use it". Gilfillan also had a vision of a Buckeye Trail as a life changing resource providing "such an environment where those who choose may aspire to a high goal and more useful life... and they can have lots of fun while they are at it." Does that sound familiar to you nearly 55 years later?

The details of Gilfillan's vision include what one year later would become our Buckeye Trail Association, initially lead by a small devoted group of visionaries. In his article Gilfillan points out that the "making of the trail ... can be done by hikers and hiking clubs... supervision for the sake of uniformity is done by ... a volunteer amateur recreational group made up of hikers who have the welfare of the trail and of hiking at heart". Merrill Gilfillan observed that the value of a Buckeye Trail and the power of its vision are essential to creating a following.

There are certain Buckeye Trail Crew events that occur on our calendar of events repeatedly over the years. We don't do enough to explain the amount of vision and commitment involved in building the Buckeye Trail for all to hike. Year after year there has been another work party at AEP for example, not just because we love working there, but because BTA volunteers had the vision of 25 miles of new BT that would take over a decade to complete. Our ongoing work opening the historic Miami & Erie Canal Towpath and at West Branch State Park building the trail around Michael J. Kirwan Reservoir are also great examples of how our Buckeye Trail Crew and local BTA

volunteer movements combined make great progress over time. Our latest 'epic' trail project being initiated is in partnership with The Nature Conservancy's Edge of Appalachia Preserve near the southernmost point of the BT in Adams County.

Having a vision seems so much simpler than realizing that vision. It is exciting to have the prospect of up to 15 new miles of the Buckeye Trail, North Country National Scenic Trail, and American Discovery Trail traversing the Edge of Appalachia Preserve connecting with our existing 14 miles in Shawnee State Forest to create a backpacking destination through some of Ohio's most rugged and scenic hills. So, it is time to scout the trail route, flag and reflag the trail, walk the proposed trail with land managers, organize the Buckeye Trail Crew work party, find camping for the Crew, figure out how to feed the crew, recruit Trail Crew volunteers, work with local partners, build the trail, recruit and train new BT Adopters, orient the West Union and Shawnee Section Supervisors, alter the section maps, promote the trail, and don't forget... hike it! All these tasks are the regular business of many BTA volunteers following the vision described by Gilfillan in 1958. Buckeye Trail volunteers devote themselves for many reasons but all "have the welfare of the trail and of hiking at heart". For myself, I imagine a hiker looking out from a limestone promontory over the Ohio Brush Creek Valley toward the Ohio River for the first time with their own vision of what is ahead on the Buckeye Trail. That picture makes all the work worthwhile.

Thank you for carrying the vision of the Buckeye Trail from 1958 until today and well into the future. You are the following that the Buckeye Trail and the power of its vision have created. Please join us out on the trail as you make your warm weather plans; enjoy Buckeye TrailFest, the E.G.G.S. Hike, or a Buckeye Trail Crew Work Party. If nothing else, take the time to take a hike this Spring and share your vision with others.

See you on the Trail,

Andrew Bashaw
BTA Executive Director
director@buckeyetrail.org
740-777-6BTA (6282)



Bits & Pieces



The Trailblazer Needs Your Help!

Please join the Trailblazer staff. Edit or layout 4 issues per year. You'll get the first look at what's happening on Ohio's Buckeye Trail! Please contact trailblazer@buckeyetrail.org or graphics@buckeyetrail.org for more information.

April 4, 2013 is the deadline for TrailFest Awards Nominations. Please refer to the categories on page 10. We have many people out there who do so much for the BTA and they need they to be recognized for all their hard work. Please consider nominating a deserving person or organization. BTA needs to recognize and reward hard workers for their generosity to the BTA. Nominations come from BTA members who've experienced the generosity of people or organizations to the BTA.

Discount on Blaze Paint

WHAT Either Sweeping Blue 2408 or Yuma Green 2090 or brushes or scrapers

WHERE? Any Sherwin-Williams store in Ohio

HOW? Mention BTA Account No. 9321-7886-6. You pay, then turn in receipts to get reimbursed

REALLY? 25% Discount and you pay no tax

BTA Little Loop Patches Available

Have you hiked BTA's Little Loop but did not get a patch? Is the Little Loop in your future plans? Here is incentive to get it done! Contact Debbie Zampini, half-marathoner@hotmail.com with date of completion and maybe a photo to receive your patch at no charge. Please put "Little Loop Patch" in the subject line. *Happy hiking!*





BuckeyeTrailFest.org

April 25–28, 2013
Red Oak Camp
Kirtland, Ohio

The Buckeye TrailFest offers a long weekend packed full of hikes, workshops, presentations, speakers and social opportunities



Sponsored by



Marino Family • Perotti Family

For more information and to register, visit:
BuckeyeTrailFest.org

PROGRAMS

Herb Society of America
Using Smartphones in the Backcountry
Learn about Bats
Geocaching
Trail Maintenance 101
Trail Building 101
Trail Maint. Workshop and
Trail Building Workshop
Backcountry cooking
Warning! Hiking to higher levels



HURRY!
Pre-Registration
Ends April 12, 2013

PRESENTATIONS

Thru Hiking The Buckeye Trail—A 1,400 Mile Journey
Around Ohio by *Andy Niekamp*
The Other BT—Hiking the Canadian Escarpment
on the Bruce Trail by *Trudy Senesi*
“Old guy goes for a walk” Backpacking a
long weekend on the Miami-Erie Scenic Trail/Buckeye Trail
by *Franchot Ballingers*
Second Star to the Right: Thru-Hiking
the Triple Crown by *Shane Wohlken*

BUS TOURS

Spring Migration Birding Tour
Wine tour and Lunch
History of the Outspoken and Amish lunch
Historic Kirtland



HIKES

Cuyahoga Valley National Park
North Chagrin Reservation
Girdled Road Reservation
Breakfast with the birds
Bedford & Burton
Headwaters Park
Mentor Marsh Bald Eagle Search
Tree ID
Headlands Dune State Nature Preserve birding
Penitentiary Glen Reservation Gorge Hike
Holden Arboretum



AND SO MUCH MORE!!

**For a complete list of
programs visit
www.BuckeyeTrailFest.org**

GET HIKING

Join us for led and self
led hikes on the Buckeye
Trail and other trails.
All skill levels—easy,
moderate, difficult.



GET DIRTY

Join a trail crew
and help build a
section of trail.
Learn from the best.



GET INVOLVED

Attend the Buckeye
Trail Association
business meeting.
Learn how you can help.



GET CONNECTED

Meet hikers and trail
maintainers from
around the state.
Never hike alone again!

Buckeye Trail Association

Awards and Recognition Nominations

I would like to nominate _____ for the following award (check one):

AWARDS

___ **BOB PATON AWARD (Meritorious Service)**

Honors members who have contributed exceptionally meritorious services to the Association for at least fifteen (15) years. Such services may pertain to trail maintenance, trail utilization and/or administrative or management functions. Recipients must be living at the time of nomination.

___ **PRESIDENT'S AWARD (Volunteer of the Year)**

All active members of the Association are eligible for this award. The nominee shall have either shown exceptional commitment to an assignment(s), or have made some major contribution of special benefit to the Association during the past year. Nominees who would be eligible for a certificate of appreciation can be considered for the President's award.

___ **BILL MILLER AWARD (Conservation)**

Honors any person or group responsible for actions that have notably preserved or restored the natural ecology or beauty of a locality by the Trail, or have brought under control a major threat to utility of the Trail in some locality.

___ **SUPER STAR (Superior Service over Time)**

Awarded to person(s) who have exhibited superior service in appointed or volunteer tasks.

RECOGNITIONS

___ **TRUSTEE EMERITUS (Board Members Only)**

This is the only recognition that is set aside for members of the Board of Trustees. The nominee should have accumulated at least (10) years as Board Member and must have demonstrated consistent commitment and continued service to the Board, the Association, and the Trail, through exceptional diligence at their assignments and at least one notable achievement to their credit.

___ **2000 KM**

For hiking the entire trail on foot and completed in the year 2011 for this year's award.

___ **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

This is presented to any individual, city, agency, business, or organization that has demonstrated exemplary cooperation and diligence to perpetuate and improve the Trail and Association, and must have helped in some significant way to aid the Association attain an important objective.

___ **STAR PERFORMANCE (Leadership Excellence)**

Presented to person(s) who have exhibited leadership in appointed or volunteer tasks.

___ **TRAIL ADOPTER AWARD**

Presented to person(s) who have exhibited superior service to their adopted segment of the Buckeye Trail. These individuals maintain their segment so that it is always ready and a pleasure to hike. They maintain their records and report hours, travel, and any problems to their supervisors, or State Trail Coordinator when needed.

Please write a brief statement of your reason for nominating this person or group. Include name, address and phone numbers for both nominee and nominator. If either has an e-mail address, please include it also, in case we have any questions.

All nominations must be postmarked by April 4, 2013. This nomination form can also be found on the Buckeye Trailfest web site, buckeyetrailfest.org, or send nomination form to Mary Hamilton, hamilton3310@roadrunner.com or 717 E. Third St., Dover, OH, 44622.



BuckeyeTrailFest.org

HURRY!
Pre-Registration
Ends April 12, 2013

Nominations for Board of Trustees

The five trustees whose term expires this year are Byron Henry, Byron Guy, Pat Hayes, Andy Niekamp and Melissa Shaw. Thanks to all five for their past service to the BTA!

Both Byrons and Pat Hayes are willing to run for another term. On the slate of new candidates is presently only Scott Kampf.

Elections will be held at the Buckeye Trailfest April 25-28 in Kirtland.



The Buckeye Trail Association Needs You!

Every volunteer organization depends on dedicated members offering their time and talents to advance its interests and goals. It is critical to the wellbeing of the BTA to find qualified members willing to serve on the 15 member Board of Trustees. The function of the Board of Directors, as stated in the Bylaws is "to determine administrative policies, manage property and business of the Association, provide sound fiscal and long-range planning and control, and direct the financial affairs of the Association". Five are elected every year at the annual business meeting (TrailFest) in the Spring to serve for three years (limited to 3 consecutive terms, but can be reelected after leaving the Board for 2 years). Trustees also serve as officers (President, VP, Secretary and Treasurer) or on committees as chairman or members and are expected to attend regularly scheduled meetings or those specially called by the President.

There are 5 regular Board meetings each year: three usually held in Dublin in March, June, and December, one at the annual business meeting at TrailFest and a 2-day summer retreat session in August at the BTA Barn. BTA needs people with a variety of special backgrounds, experiences and talents. The main requirement is a genuine enthusiasm for the BTA and a wish to contribute to its betterment. The Board is always looking for "new blood".

At present, there are only four people running for the five positions. Would you have the time, talents and desire to serve? What individual qualities do you possess that would benefit the BTA? Do you know of any members who would be good candidates? Please contact Jeff Yoest of the Nominating Committee (614-895-0808 or jeffyoest@columbus.rr.com) if you are personally interested serving as a trustee, or know of someone who would be a good nominee. Questions welcomed.

MEMBERSHIP FORM (for new members only)

ADULT	\$20.00	per year	<input type="checkbox"/>
FAMILY	\$25.00	per year	<input type="checkbox"/>
STUDENT (full-time)	\$10.00	per year	<input type="checkbox"/>
ORGANIZATION	\$35.00	per year	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUSTAINING	\$50.00	per year	<input type="checkbox"/>
CORPORATE	\$500.00	per year	<input type="checkbox"/>
LIFE	\$400.00		<input type="checkbox"/>

PAY BY: Check Credit Card

Name on Card _____

Card Number _____

Expiration Month/Yr _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone (____) _____

If gift membership, name of donor _____

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Do not share my name with other groups

Please tell us where you got this Newsletter:

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Library: _____ Other: _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO & MAIL TO:
Buckeye Trail Association
 P.O. BOX 254, WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085

OR JOIN ONLINE AT:
www.buckeyetrail.org/membership.html



BTA's Miami Rivers Chapter Update

Darryl R. Smith

Over the last several months the Miami Rivers Chapter has had an increased number of members as well as an increased number of events. As of February 1, we have 136 chapter members, over half of whom are BTA members. We have had nearly 50 events from day-hikes to backpacking trips to service outings (what some like to call trail maintenance), with 25 more events already on our calendar for this year (including a four-day backpacking trip on the Buckeye Trail). We have already started to build a relationship with the Pioneer Village at Caesar Creek, and will be working with more organizations that have a passion for the outdoors. We have been active with a monthly email newsletter that lets regional hikers know about the chapter and the Buckeye Trail.

By the time this issue of *The Trailblazer* has gone to print, we will have had our initial chapter meeting with the BTA Director as well as the section supervisors our chapter covers (Williamsburg, Loveland, Caesar Creek, and Troy). We will be adding more outdoor events for our members; we will have a presence at the REI Outdoor Expo at the new REI location in March. We will be a Friends supporter of this year's TrailFest, and many of our members will be present at this great event as well.

If you are in the Little Miami and Great Miami watersheds, you should consider joining. We are online at www.miamiriverschapter.org. If you wish further information, please email me at miamirivers@buckeyetrail.org

Welcome New Members!

Bev and Jerry Starcher

Mary Ellen Beardmore, Dayton
Shawn Bruderly, Ravenna
Craig Carr, Hamilton
Jane Carson, Gates Mills
Timothy Cheeseman, Lima
Matthew Davis, Powell
Dennis Dew and Family, Sunbury
Michael Doherty, Cleveland
Steve Dorsten and Sandy, Celina
Adrienna Frazer and Family, Akron
Richard Hales, Columbus
Suncha Harris, Fairborn
Chuck Hewett, Hanoverton
Cheryl Householder, Miamisburg
Susanne Hunt and Family,
Broadview Heights
Dennis Kettering, Circleville
Thomas Landon, Lancaster
Michael LeMay, Columbus
Ron Lindner, Cincinnati
Chandra Little, Miamisburg
Chris Lonsberry, Cleveland Hgts
Patrick Marrinan, Kettering
Donald Martin, Mentor
Jon Martin, Mason
Phil Nardone, Westerville
Dan Patterson, Germantown
Dianna Rhyan and Family, Wooster
Richard Saccardi and Family, Oberlin
Angie Sheldon and Family,
Blacksburg, Va
Christopher Stone and Family, Galion
Kalman Tinka, Athens
Steve Toth, Toledo
Scott Tribble, Columbus
Harold Troth, Vinton
Michael Worobiec, Dublin

BTA Funds Report

TRAIL PRESERVATION FUND

11/01/2012–01/31/2013

John Fetzer
Denny O'Leary
Timothy J. Murphy
Paul and Donna Floyd
William T. Schultz

BARN FUND

10/01/2012–12/31/2012

James Gilkey
Shauna Sergent

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

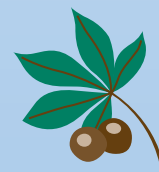
10/01/2012–12/31/2012

James Gilkey

GENERAL FUND

10/01/2012–12/31/2012

Amanda Buchholz
H.A. Burkons
Carroll County OHC
Verl Dasher
Susan Garber
Jay Holwick
Eugene T Kramer Trust
Margaret McDevit
Marie Maddock
Miami Valley Outdoor Club
Connie & Bob Pond
Sharon Schnell
T.W. Shapaka





4th Annual 2013 E.G.G.S. HIKE



WHO The Buckeye Trail Association in cooperation with the North Country Trail Association, Wayne National Forest, Little Cities of the Forest Collaborative, Sunday Creek Watershed Group, and Burr Oak State Park

WHAT The hike will start at 12pm on Saturday the 22nd and end at 12pm on Sunday the 23rd. This endurance hike will consist of a 20+ and 40+ mile hike that will need to be completed in 12 and 24 hours respectively

WHEN Friday, June 21st at 6pm–Sunday, June 23rd at 12pm

WHERE Burr Oak State Park and Wildcat Hollow Backpack Trail

WHY To honor a founding member of the BTA and the first female to thru-hike the Appalachian Trail, Emma “Grandma” Gatewood, an Ohio native and long time advocate of ultra-light backpacking

VOLUNTEERS We will be looking for volunteers to man trail checkpoints, assist with registration, and help with camping activities for any hikers bringing their family and little hikers to the event

COST \$40 for hikers. Includes a BTA membership, T-shirt, bandana, and Friday night camping. Those hikers that complete their hike in 12 or 24 hours will also receive an EGG S Hike patch

CONTACT For more information visit: www.buckeyetrail.org/eggs.html
Like EGG S on Facebook: www.facebook.com/eggshike



PRE-REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE AND RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT AND BANDANA!

A Series of Remarkable Experiences and Other ~~Hiking~~ Life Lessons

Barb Crompton (*Blue Blaze Bugsie*)

As I passed out of earshot of Sagamore Creek's constant din and wind ravished forest into fields created by a row of electric towers, a distinct silence came. The warmth of the sun on my face, though momentary, was bliss before I entered another wooded area. Popping up and out onto a reclaimed railroad grade, I walked a paved path to Alexander Road. Of the redeeming things people have thought to do, reclaiming abandoned railroad grades for recreation is right up there in my book, taking back the countryside one strip at a time so everyone can take advantage of it!

At Alexander Road I caught a glimpse of my location and learned I'd hiked only a small part of section 4. I sighed; I had a way to go before reaching 8. During the next uneventful hour I slowly continued to wind my way up to and through Bedford Reservation. I found myself talking on the phone, snacking, taking photos of fabulous fungi of multiple shapes, colors and sizes and other beautiful things, when I noticed a curious jagged trunk of a tree about 10 feet in height. With the body shape and face of a swordfish, it appeared to be leaping out of the water! The only thing missing was the angler. As I got closer it became evident that someone else thought the same thing as they'd added an eye! I got a chuckle out of it as I took its photo. *Lesson #18:* As long as you're not hurting anyone or anything, express yourself! I am always amazed to see that there is never an end to the creativity and

expression of people, even out here in the middle of the woods!

Eventually the BT comes very close to Tinker's Creek Gorge Scenic Overlook with its viewing platform that showcases the awesome valley stretching out just below and the sliver of Tinker's Creek that winds through it. The leaves had not yet begun to turn and with the greenery of summer still in full abundance, I could barely see the creek, but I promised myself I would make my way back to see it in the different seasons to come. I took some photos before I ambled around trying to pick up the trail again.

Deep into another forest of pine and deciduous trees, the view limited, you could hear the waters of Silver Creek long before I could see them. From the direction I was approaching, the waters are buried at first in a winding, steep and narrow gorge that become a long, gentle sloping falls that gracefully step up and out to the surface at the other end: Bridal Veil Falls. What a fitting name! It was just gorgeous! Even though the light that could penetrate the trees was limited, it still made the beautiful flowing veil of white water really pop against the sides and bottom of the little gorge. I felt special standing in the midst of this perfectly sculpted masterpiece. The platform just above the bottom of the veil's hem perched you out and over so you could gaze peacefully well up the way. A footbridge farther up crossed a calmer section. I spent a lot of time there just taking it all in, taking photos and videoing



Ohio Forest Swordfish?

Barb Crompton



the sounds. It was just amazing! She was a beautiful bride today, indeed, but we were forced to part ways as I continued on.

Not long after leaving Bridal Veil it started to rain. Pulling on my heavy-duty rain poncho I pushed harder to reach my bike parked at Taylor/Egbert Road. Preparing myself for the ride back, I debated whether to take off the poncho and sun visor from beneath my bike helmet and decided against it. As I started down the steep road I got a taste of how high I'd hiked today. As I picked up speed and flew through the curves in the road, frighteningly the poncho flaps filled like sails swaying me all over and beat at me furiously while the visor tried desperately to pry my helmet and glasses from my face. It was the scariest bike ride I'd been on in a while, but it ended soon enough as I turned onto Dunham Road, which had more hills going up than down. 40 minutes later I finally made my last turn onto Sagamore Road and after a few seconds I could see the full glory of the climb. Voicing a, "No way!" I pulled over and took off my poncho and visor. Stuffing them into my backpack I spied my camera. Smiling, I looped it around my neck, turned on the video and filmed the most excellent dash down into the valley.

Lockkeepers Winter Canal Hike along the BT

Preston Bartlett

There were plenty of blue blazes along the trail in New Bremen on January 14 for the Lockkeepers Winter Canal Hike. The hike is one of four "Cabin Fever" hikes sponsored by Grand Lake Health System. We used the towpath of the Miami and Erie Canal for an out-and-back from New Bremen north to Kuenning-Dicke Park and south to Minster.

More than 140 people endured a chilly, foggy rain for our hike. And then came the reward for finishing: refreshments served by sponsors at the Lockkeepers House at Lock One North in New Bremen.

Another "Cabin Fever" hike happens April 14. Get outside and enjoy our Canal! See the Schedule of Hikes and Events in this issue and Heritage Trails Park District, 419-202-6053.

BTeasers

Pat Hayes

Q What are the following? Who wrote them? What issue of the *Trailblazer* did they appear in

*Landscapes with texture
autumn colors mix with greens,
murmuring hemlocks . . .*

*Maples, scarlet to
cerise; birches, last yellow
of rainy summer . . .*

*Bright reds and yellows
pierce human views of autumn,
deer hunters seeking . . .*

A They are examples of haiku. They were written by Roy P. Fairfield, first BTA President. They appeared in the Volume 23 No. 3, September 1990 issue of the *Trailblazer*.



Preston Bartlett

Annual Winter Hike at Hueston Woods State Park

Pat Hayes

With the help of my friend and BTA Trail Building Coordinator, Jim Runk, we flagged the 11.5-mile route around Acton Lake on Tuesday and Wednesday before the Monday hike. We had temperatures in the upper teens with snow flurries, so we didn't have to worry about muddy horse trails this year as we have had in previous years.

We had over 60 participants show up January 21st for our hike around Acton Lake at Hueston Woods State Park. The northern route of the American Discovery Trail passes along the western edge of Acton Lake on its way from Oxford, Ohio to Richmond, Indiana.

My wife Mary and I arrived at the park lodge before 8:00 AM and greeted folks we hadn't seen for some time. We had hikers from all over Ohio show up, many from the Dayton Hikers and the BTA Miami Rivers chapter. It was gratifying to see so many hikers show up for this annual event on this cold Monday commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

The one major problem we did have was finding hikers wandering all over trying to find the trail. Come to find out, some "helpful" person or persons over the previous weekend had removed the orange flagging tape that Jim and I had spent two days putting up. The good news is that we didn't lose any hikers permanently. We reported the incident to the park ranger on duty and he assured us it wasn't park personnel that removed our trail markers.

Thanks to John Rethman for providing the bean soup and chili as well as the corn muffins for the free lunch. John, Chris McIntyre and Mary Hayes set up the tables and chairs and the BTA and ADTS displays. John and Chris served the hot lunch to the hikers as they came through. Thanks to Mary for the brownies, apples, oranges and drinks. Mary also provided transportation from the park office back to the lodge for those hikers who chose to only hike partway around the lake.

Once all the hikers had lunch and left the building, John, Chris and Mary cleaned up the kitchen and dining area and locked up and headed home. And finally, a special thank you goes to park manager Mark Lockhart for once again allowing us to use the kitchen facilities and dining area of the Hueston Room in the park office building.

BTA'S SCHOLARSHIP CONTINUES TO GROW!

We are looking for people to apply for the funds. We hope to give two \$500 scholarships each year. Check [www .buckeyetrail.org/scholarship .html](http://www.buckeyetrail.org/scholarship.html) for information and deadline for applying for the scholarship. Don't pass up this opportunity to get some financial assistance with your higher education. If more information is needed you may send Elmo Layman, BTA Scholarship Chairman, an email at etl@ctcn.net.



Mary Hayes

Save-a-Twin Walk

Rachel Salberg hosted a December fundraiser on the Buckeye Trail in the Mogadore section in honor of her twin sister, Ryanna. Rachel's event raised about \$850 for the Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports families impacted by TTTS. TTTS is a rare condition that occurs only in identical twins while they are in the womb; Rachel's twin Ryanna lost her fight with TTTS. Their mother, Joy Salberg, is a trail maintainer in the Mogadore section where Rachel hosted her Save-a-Twin Walk.

About 50 people enjoyed 50-degree temperatures, hot chocolate and holiday cookies in support of Rachel. Many of the participants had never heard of the Buckeye Trail, so it was a great way to introduce them.



End of Trail

Dana Zintek

The Buckeye Trail Circuit patch is awarded to any person who has completed the Buckeye Trail. This issue's finisher is:

HIKER	DATE STARTED	DATE FINISHED
James Wright	Autumn 2005	Nov. 17, 2012

MILEAGE OF BT WHEN HIKED*
1444*

*mileages vary because of reroutes and improvements

James had hiked portions of the Buckeye in the Old Man's Cave section before he knew there was a Buckeye Trail. When he saw the BT on a map, he was intrigued. He's hiked mostly alone he says, preferring the solace of solo hiking to groups. James has hiked only in the warmer months, and missed the whole year of 2008 while he was deployed to Iraq. Consequently, his Buckeye Trail odyssey has lasted longer than he expected it to, but now that he's completed it he's continuing to hike on the North Country Trail.

James's favorite part of his hike was seeing so much of the state he'd never visited before. He says he'll revisit some of his favorite sections of the Buckeye Trail because he's enjoyed them so much.



The Trailblazer Needs Your Help!

Please join the *Trailblazer* staff. Edit or layout 4 issues per year.

You'll get the first look at what's happening on Ohio's Buckeye Trail!

Please contact
trailblazer@buckeyetrail.org or
graphics@buckeyetrail.org
for more information.



Workplaces across Ohio are transforming their traditional workplace campaigns into company-branded "Employee Giving Campaigns." Taking ownership of the campaign and offering expended charitable choices leads to:

- Increased employee participation
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- Enhanced employee morale
- Improved employee retention

Why it makes sense to add EarthShare Ohio

- » *EarthShare Ohio is good for business:* Adding EarthShare Ohio to your charity campaign demonstrates a commitment to the environment and employee choice. Environmental sustainability and social responsibility are good for business.
- » *Greater Efficiency:* Adding EarthShare Ohio to a traditional campaign is easy. It takes little to no additional time or expense.
- » *EarthShare Ohio and United Way are good complements:* More and more employees are becoming concerned about environmental causes. Including EarthShare Ohio's environmental and conservation organizations in a charity campaign is a natural complement to the traditional health and human services agencies.
- » *Employees welcome choice:* Introducing choice empowers employees and encourages new participation. Most employees who supported local health and human services will continue to do so.
- » *Expansion of employee benefits:* Expanded choice in workplace giving is comparable to the choice employees enjoy with other benefits such as health plans, flexible work hours, job sharing and telecommuting opportunities.

*One Environment ...
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www.earthshareofohio.org*



Join the NCTA Now

BTA members can join the North Country Trail Association at a 50% discount. Don't be left out. Check out the new website www.northcountrytrail.org or call 616-897-5987 for membership information.

In addition to the camaraderie of other hikers and like-minded trail volunteers, member benefits include: *North Star* magazine, Blue Blaze Bulletin, Trail Shop discounts, Extended Guided Outings, local events and hikes, trail design workshops.

A Call for BTA Volunteers

We are basically an all-volunteer organization with most of the effort going toward the building and maintaining of the Buckeye Trail. I know that we never forget the folks who work more behind the scenes (including the editor of the *Trailblazer*) but since becoming the volunteer coordinator, I have come to realize that we do not really ask for help from all the people who have skills we desperately need but who do not have the physical ability and/or time to participate in trail-building or maintaining. I do not pretend to know what skills are out there but if you will tell me what you can and like to do I will find a job for you. We need people to prepare and give presentations on the Trail, photographers to take pictures for those presentations, people to build paint kits, grant writers, and many other things that I cannot think of sitting here.

**Contact me by e-mail
then321elm@att.net or mail:
Garry Dill, 923 Augusta Glen
Drive, Columbus, OH 43235**

Highlights of the BTA Board Meeting—December 8, 2012

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT ANDREW BASHAW

- Some highlights of the year 2012:
 - BTA built/improved many miles of the Buckeye Trail, including 25+ miles of the multi-year AEP ReCreation Lands project.
 - BTA recorded about 7,500 volunteer hours, a value of over \$160,000.
 - BTA redesigned its website, trail signage and other materials with our new BTA logo.
 - BTA completed GPS data collection of the entire BT, updated/converted (to digital format) all BTA section maps and our new Hiker on the Go maps.
 - BTA hosted a successful first annual Buckeye TrailFest.
 - BTA continued to employ an Executive Director and an AmeriCorps member focused on program development.
 - BTA launched a Buckeye Trail Town program. Milford was dedicated as the first official Buckeye Trail Town.
 - BTA completed major renovations to the BTA Century Barn at Tappan Lake.
 - BTA hosted the successful Emma 'Grandma' Gatewood Solstice Hike, challenging hikers to complete 40 miles in 24 hours around Burr Oak and Wildcat Hollow trails.
 - BTA furthered its mission locally by supporting the creation of the new BTA Miami Rivers Chapter in SW Ohio.
 - BTA created a Buckeye Trail Preservation Fund and Buckeye Trail Greatest Needs Fund with the Columbus Foundation to grow BTA's investments and reach out to new donors.
 - BTA has taken an active role in advocating for the protection of the Buckeye Trail on public lands.

NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ASSOCIATION UPDATE GARRY DILL

- The 2013 NCTA Conference will be from August 12-17 at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania.

BARN REPORT MARY HAMILTON

- The Barn was winterized. New materials were purchased for the shower improvements.
- July 14-18: Gospel Road, a five-day work camp for the Catholic Diocese of Columbus, will be at the Barn where they will do trail work and other projects. Gospel Road is for students in grades 7 through 12 that gives teens an opportunity to help others while learning practical skills they can use in their own lives. This camp has attracted about 100 students and adult volunteers from Catholic churches and schools throughout the Diocese.

AMERICORPS REPORT RICHARD LUTZ

- Richard worked with Herb Hulls and others to train AmeriCorps volunteers on trail-building. In the process two miles of new trail were completed and opened in the Onion Run area in AEP ReCreation Lands.
- The draft of the Volunteer Handbook was finalized and submitted for review by Andrew Bashaw. The handbook will be documentation of BTA policies for volunteers; it will be available to BTA partners for reference.

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April 25–28, 2013
Red Oak Camp
Kirtland, Ohio



BuckeyeTrailFest.org

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An interactive edition—with bookmarks to each story and active links—can now be sent to you.

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Report Your Volunteer Hours Online!

We now have a new way to report those ever important volunteer hours.

Every year there are volunteers who don't report their hard earned hours. These reports help the program maintain and apply for additional funds.

Please take a few minutes to check out the online system.

This online reporting tool is available at
buckeyetrail.org/volunteerhours.html