

BUCKEYE TRAIL ASSOCIATION

# Trailblazer



FOUNDED 1959  
WINTER 2017 VOLUME 50 NO. 4



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# President's Message

Steve Walker

It's almost time to relegate 2017 to the books and it was a busy year for the Buckeye Trail and the Buckeye Trail Association. Progress was made in almost all areas of BTA endeavors and it was all due to the hard work of volunteers and staff.

By the time that you read this, the BTA will likely have signed two agreements with the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District. One of these agreements will convey ownership of the BTA Barn, the Beall (pronounced bell) Farmhouse (pictured) and other adjacent structures that are near Tappan Lake in Harrison County to the Buckeye Trail Association. The other agreement will enlarge our current lease area to approximately 10 acres and allow the BTA a certain level of autonomy to develop them for the benefit of our organization. Our prior arrangement with MWCD was for the lease of the BTA Barn and we had no ownership.

Lots of trail maintenance and some new trail construction took place this past season as well. With a



new effort for the chapters to begin developing regional trail crews to help build and maintain the trails in their own areas, capacity to keep the overall Buckeye Trail maintained has been enhanced. Chapters that are working to build their own trail maintaining and building capacities include the Muskingum Lakes and the Crooked River Chapters. In September, the Buckeye Trail Crew worked with the Muskingum Lakes Chapter trail crew (known also as the Muskingum Masters of Mayhem) to rebench and clear a portion of the Buckeye Trail near Clendening Lake in the Bowerston Section. Pictured are Pat Hayes, Aaron Dowdle and Susan Stover at work as well as a view of the trail that they had just refurbished.



## Trailblazer

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### DEADLINES

Deadlines for submission are  
February 1 for the Spring issue,  
May 1 for the Summer issue,  
August 1 for the Fall issue,  
and November 1 for the Winter issue.

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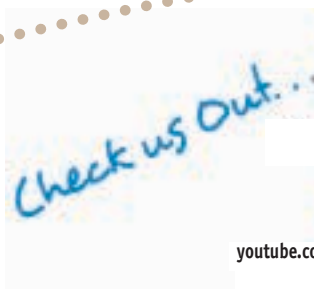
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**COVER**

Joshua Garland participates in the 10k for the 3rd Annual Run for Blue Blazes in Historic Shawnee  
Photograph by Sally Sugar.

The BTA political effort continues to build momentum. The Ohio Trails Partnership, with the BTA as a founding member, is instrumental in working with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to develop a statewide map of all official hiking, horseback, mountain biking, water and multi-use trails. The Buckeye Trail is already on this map and the little blue line going around the perimeter of Ohio is the biggest trail feature on it. This map is expected to be largely complete by the middle of 2018. Its creation was suggested by State Senator Sean O'Brien, founding chairman of the Ohio Legislative Trails Caucus back in May. ODNr, in recognizing the coming importance of trails and the rising influence of the Ohio Legislative Trails Caucus, has designated Tom Arbour as the first State Land and Water Trails Coordinator.

The first ever Caucus Hike took place in early October. Although it was not on the Buckeye Trail, 5 BTA members joined 4 state legislators and one dog on a two day hike in Northeast Ohio. Caucus Co-Chairs Senators Sean O'Brien and Steve Wilson joined Representatives Kent Smith and John Patterson on the Western Reserve Greenway in Ashtabula County amid some beautiful fall scenery (see picture). BTA members were the primary organizers of this hike and it looks like it will be repeated in another part of the state next year, hopefully on the



Buckeye Trail this next time.

By the time that you read this, it's also possible that the Senate Resolution designating "2018, the Year of the Trails" will have been passed by that legislative body. The BTA is planning to have several events in 2018 celebrating that resolution.

Although there's lots to be grateful for, we do have some concerns. There are 26 miles of the Buckeye Trail in the AEP ReCreation Lands that could be in jeopardy. This is being watched closely by staff and volunteers. It requires vigilance and effort on the part of volunteers and staff to be on the watch for any local changes that could affect the Buckeye Trail in their area. In short, the work of the Buckeye Trail is never done and we should enjoy the hiking and the work whenever we can. I hope to see you out there on the Buckeye Trail doing one or the other.



# On the Trail

Andrew Bashaw



Andrew Bashaw

Not all the work of the Executive Director of the Buckeye Trail Association is exciting, fun or glorious... the term 'Chief Bottle Washer' proudly comes to mind at times. However, I do revel in those moments when I get to be somewhere in the thickets of Ohio with a partner or landowner, breathing the fresh air and thinking... this could be the future location of the BT connecting two well-loved segments together, improving the trail experience, increasing the number of hikers and the ease of maintenance. I imagine long distance hikers or kids on a day hike rounding the bend over there, blissfully unaware of all the planning, negotiations, and manual labor it takes to enjoy a stroll in the woods.

One unexciting task that I recently found a moment of joy in was cleaning and organizing the BTA office in Shawnee. From all the work your staff does, all the volunteers popping in to pick up and drop off special event materials, all the orders of brochures, the mud tracked in by visiting school groups, a lot of mess is created throughout the busy seasons. I came across several stashes of paper I had set aside, gifts of documents to the BTA from families with historic ties to the beginnings of the BT. Cleaning the office goes really slowly when I'm paging through original correspondences and meeting minutes of a small group of devoted volunteers who were trying to figure everything out.

From 1959 and through the 1960's, the handwritten and mimeographed letters of encouragement and differing opinions between Bill Price, Merle Marietta, Grandma Gatewood, Ralph Regula, Merrill Gilfillan, Bill Miller, and Bob Paton are a window into the thinking of the time and remind me of BTA volunteer leaders and partners of today. One thing I notice – these letters were much more articulate than my emails or Trailblazer articles today. The spirit of optimism and persistence in the face of insurmountable challenges that our founders displayed continues to be contagious. The messages from the past are a humbling reminder how far back our partnerships with agencies such as ODNR and MWCD go, and how intertwined our history is with groups like the Ohio Horseman's Council, Cleveland Hiking Club, the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition and many others.

I can't help but notice the many efforts the first members of the BTA (about 80 in 1960) struggled with in their day are ones that we continue to struggle with today. Not enough members and volunteers, mixed results on key landowner negotiations, the price of membership (\$3 per person in 1960), how to better promote the trail to the people of

Ohio... with an anticipation that with the correct strategy the challenge can be overcome in short order. Well, most of those challenges seem to persist... and yet, look at all the progress of six decades of hard work!

Given this little insight into what this enthusiastic group of volunteers were thinking and feeling in that first decade, I think that they would be very proud to see your BTA today. Proud to see the Buckeye Trail Crew creating and improving hiking experiences, proud to see our progress in permanently preserving parts of the BT corridor as they conceived it, proud at the growth in hikers and membership and their continued engagement in volunteerism all around Ohio. I think they would be especially proud that the BT, even with great partnerships, is driven by everyday Ohioans who give an exceptional amount of their time, skills, and effort.

It is some comfort to realize that the challenges may not go away, but that we can 'enjoy the moment' as Jim Sprague kindly reminds me from time to time. Enjoy the moment when we succeed on connecting trail segments during a Buckeye Trail Crew Work Party. Enjoy the moment when a new campsite on the BT is created. Enjoy the moment when the BT gains a new member surrounded by fellow hikers at Buckeye TrailFest. Enjoy the moment when another acre is preserved for the trail. Enjoy the moment when another hiker publicly aspires to complete the entire BT or a group of kids rounds the bend on a path through the woods that may not have existed before 1959. Enjoy the moment daydreaming about getting away from it all while you are cleaning the office, because you know the BT is out there waiting for you when you need it.

Before these treasured letters make their way to the BTA archives at the Ohio History Center, I'm glad I got a glimpse to share with you of a few who came before us who tromped through the thickets of Ohio imagining that someday people like us could be rounding the bend on a BT hike. I don't know if they grasped how much more work a generation of BTA volunteers would devote to the idea they helped to develop.

During this holiday season I want to thank you for all your generous support of the BT. The most important gift we can really offer as a group back to any individual is the opportunity for great moments all around the state on the BT. And I think, that is the best our founding members could have hoped for.

Hope to see you on the trail this Winter,

Andrew Bashaw  
Executive Director, Buckeye Trail Association

# Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I'm writing this letter in regards to Hiking the Little Loop Challenge on July 15th of this year. I walked the approximately 11 miles from the Old Schoolhouse on Ravenna Road in Concord, to the entrance of the Bridle Trail on Woodin Road in Chardon, Ohio with a couple that I met while walking in the Lake Metro Parks' Tuesday Hiking Program.

I had hiked with Bill and Meg for about a year in this program and we seemed to hit it off quite well. Since my normal hiking partner and Burton Section Co-Supervisor was out of town on that Saturday, I asked Bill and Meg if they would like to hike with me. They agreed! After getting a ride from my sister and her husband from their house in Painesville, we dropped my car off at the Woodin Road parking lot and then we meandered down to the Old Schoolhouse where I met Bill and Meg for the start of our journey.

We hiked through the Environmental Learning Center while keeping our eyes skyward as the dark clouds threatened to dump some rain on us, but the rain never materialized. We then hiked through North Girdled Road Reservation's rugged terrain and were headed down Robinson Road when Meg yelled that she had found some money laying on the ground near the creek! All excited, Bill and I, ran over to the berm of the road where Meg was bent over picking up a \$20 dollar bill. I immediately found a \$20 dollar bill and stuffed it in my pocket. Meg then found a couple of singles to add to her cache.

As we continued hiking down Robinson road underneath the maple and pine trees, Meg and I discussed what we were going to do with our new found money? Meg replied that she and Bill were going to become Members of the Buckeye Trail since we had been talking earlier in the day about the length of time that I had been a Member and Volunteer in the BT. Meg, then asked me what I was going to do with my new found cash? I replied that since they hadn't officially signed up to do the Little Loop Challenge in time, I was going to talk to Randall to see about purchasing each of them a Little Loop Patch to commemorate their hike with me. At the Rendezvous point, after I finished my portion of the Challenge, I did indeed buy patches for my two friends and then I helped man the phone to make sure each hiker who didn't call in was safe and that they had completed their Section of the Challenge!

In closing, I would like to say that Randall did a Great Job coordinating the Little Loop Challenge and my Two Friends were so thrilled to be a part of the Challenge that they have become BT Members and I'm now hiking the Little Loop a second time with them!



Sincerely Yours,

Tim Murphy  
(Burton Section Co-Supervisor)

[www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)

[www.lakemetroparks.com](http://www.lakemetroparks.com)

# 3rd Annual Run for Blue Blazes



*Sally Sugar*

Runners take off from the starting line at the third annual Run for Blue Blazes in the Historic Village of Shawnee.



*Sally Sugar*

Wyatt Zelle performs in the Tecumseh Theater.

The 3rd Annual Run for Blue Blazes took place in the Historic Village of Shawnee this fall, drawing nearly a hundred people to the hometown of the Buckeye Trail Association Headquarters. This year, the run featured a full marathon, a 14 mile run, a 10K, and a 5K. Trail runners from all over the country came to run along the Buckeye Trail through the Wayne National Forest. The Buckeye Trail Association is so proud of all of the runners who tackled this challenging course!



John Harrison powers through his 10K run on the Buckeye Trail in Wayne National Forest.



Sally Sugar

Race coordinator Herb Hulls hands marathon runner Stephan Lewis his first place medal.

## Mark Your Calendars!

The 4th Annual Run for Blue Blazes will take place:  
**Saturday, September 6**

For more information, visit:  
<http://www.buckeyetrail.org/run4blue.php>

# 2018 Schedule of Hikes & Events

Always check [www.buckeyetrail.org/events.html](http://www.buckeyetrail.org/events.html) for last-minute updates

## JANUARY

**January 20, 2018≠**

### **Thru-Hiking the Buckeye Trail: Things That Will Change the Way You See Ohio**

Description: On an 88-day thru-hike of Ohio's Buckeye Trail, Andy "Captain Blue" Niekamp made the most amazing long-distance journey of his life. As he walked his home state through wilderness, farmland, small towns, big cities, rural and urban areas, he discovered Ohio in a way that can be only experienced on foot. Captain Blue's stories about the people and places, past and present will change the way you see Ohio. His beautiful photos and experiences will surely inspire you to hike the Buckeye Trail.

Location: Franklin Park Library, 44 E. 4th St. Franklin, OH 45005

More information: [www.fspl.org](http://www.fspl.org)

**January 27, 2018≠**

### **BTA Board Meeting**

Location: 10:00 AM at Clarus Partners, 1233 Dublin Rd., Columbus, OH 43215

Contact: [president@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:president@buckeyetrail.org)

## FEBRUARY

**February 17, 2018**

### **Discover the BTA**

Description: Saturday, at 7:30PM. The State of Ohio wears a necklace—a 1,444-mile hiking trail that loops around the state of Ohio. Part of it is on roads, part is on wooded trail, and part of it wanders through cities and villages. Meet Chuck and Beth Hewett at Cleveland MetroParks, North Chagrin Nature Center in Willoughby Hills OH and hear them tell the story of how they hiked the entire Buckeye Trail, and about the fascinating people and places they encountered on the way. The Hewetts wrote about their adventures in the book, *Wandering Ohio*, which will be available for purchase at their presentation.

Location: Cleveland MetroParks, North Chagrin Nature Center 401 Buttermilk Falls Parkway, Willoughby Hills, OH

Contact: Cleveland MetroParks at 440-473-3370

**February 18, 2018**

### **Discover the BTA**

Description: - Sunday - 2:00-3:30PM. The State of Ohio wears a necklace—a 1,444-mile hiking trail that loops around the state of Ohio. Part of it is on roads, part is on wooded trail, and part of it wanders through cities and villages. Meet Chuck and Beth Hewett at Geauga County Parks and hear them tell the story of how they hiked the entire Buckeye Trail, and about the fascinating people and places they encountered on the way. The Hewetts wrote about their adventures in the book, *Wandering Ohio*, which will be available for purchase at their presentation.

Location: Geauga County Parks, West Woods Nature Center, 9465 Kinsman Road, Novelty, OH  
Contact: Geauga County Parks at 440-279-0894

**February 21, 2018**

### **Discover the BTA**

Description: Wednesday - 6:30PM. The State of Ohio wears a necklace—a 1,444-mile hiking trail that loops around the state of Ohio. Part of it is on roads, part is on wooded trail, and part of it wanders through cities and villages. Meet Chuck and Beth Hewett at Appalachian Outfitters and hear them tell the story of how they hiked the entire Buckeye Trail, and about the fascinating people and places they encountered on the way. The Hewetts wrote about their adventures in the book, *Wandering Ohio*, which will be available for purchase at their presentation.

Location: Appalachian Outfitters, 60 Kendall Park Rd, Peninsula, OH

Contact: Appalachian at 330-655-5444

## MARCH

**March 9, 2018≠**

### **Thru-Hiking the Buckeye Trail: Things That Will Change the Way You See Ohio**

Description: On an 88-day thru-hike of Ohio's Buckeye Trail, Andy "Captain Blue" Niekamp made the most amazing long-distance journey of his life. As he walked his home state through wilderness, farmland, small towns, big cities, rural and urban areas, he discovered Ohio in a way that can be only experienced on foot. Captain Blue's stories about the people and places, past and present will change the way you see Ohio. His beautiful photos and experiences will surely inspire you to hike the Buckeye Trail.

Location: C.I. Beaver Hall, 3696 Highmont St. Beavercreek, OH

More information: [www.backpackercampfire.com](http://www.backpackercampfire.com)

**March 19, 2018**

### **Mentor Marsh/Buckeye Trail Work Day/Hike**

Description: Vegetation management; hopefully building a privy. We will leave for work at 8:30am and quit at 3:30pm.

Description: - 2:00 PM. Two miles of Buckeye Trail thru Mentor Marsh spring cleanup. Wear sturdy footwear and bring gloves and a snack.

Location: Meet at Mentor Marsh Nature Center, 5185 Corduroy Road, Mentor OH

Contact and RSVP to: [rdonaldson@cmjh.org](mailto:rdonaldson@cmjh.org). 440-247-0777 or [bedford@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:bedford@buckeyetrail.org). 440-382-6277

## APRIL

**April 14-15, 2018**

### **Old Mans Cave Section Work Weekend at Pretty Run**

Description: New trail construction, re-benching of some existing trail tread, heavy trail maintenance, and vegetation management. We will leave for work at 8:30am and quit at 3:30pm.

Camping: Camping will be at Pretty Run property. Camping GPS coordinates 39.34987, -82.62431

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

**April 17, 2018≠**

### **Thru-Hiking the Buckeye Trail: Things That Will Change the Way You See Ohio**

Description: On an 88-day thru-hike of Ohio's Buckeye Trail, Andy "Captain Blue" Niekamp made the most amazing long-distance journey of his life. As he walked his home state through wilderness, farmland, small towns, big cities, rural and urban areas, he discovered Ohio in a way that can be only experienced on foot. Captain Blue's stories about the people and places, past and present will change the way you see Ohio. His beautiful photos and experiences will surely inspire you to hike the Buckeye Trail.

Location: Dayton Metro Library-Main Branch, Community Room 2A, 215 E. 3rd St. Dayton, OH 45402

More information: [www.daytonmetrolibrary.org](http://www.daytonmetrolibrary.org).

**April 21-22, 2018**

### **Scioto Trail Section Work Weekend**

Description: Re-benching the trail tread and heavy vegetation management between Davis Rd. and Pike Lake Dam. (Points 32-36, Feb 2102 Scioto Trail Section map). We will leave for work at 8:30am and quit at 3:30pm.

Camping: Camping will be at Pike Lake State Park

Meals: Bring your own food and water

**April 26-29, 2018**

### **2018 Buckeye TrailFest at Camp Oat'yOkwa**

Location: Camp Oat'yOkwa in Hocking County, OH

Contact: See the TrailFest web site for more details.

**April 29, 2018**

### **BTA Board Meeting**

Location: 10:00AM at Buckeye TrailFest at Camp Oat'yOkwa

Contact: [president@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:president@buckeyetrail.org)

## MAY

**May 5-9, 2018**

### **Bowerston Section Work Week**

Description: Vegetation management, clearing dead falls, and re-benching tread as needed on the north and south sides of



Clendening lake. (Points 18-21)

Camping: Camping will be at the BTA Barn at Tappan Lake

Meals: TBD

## May 19-23, 2018

### Stockport Section Work Week at AEP

Description: Re-benching the trail tread, Vegetation management, Paint blazes. We will leave for work at 8:00am and quit at 3:00pm

Camping: Camping will be at AEP's Hook Lake (Campground A) Camping GPS coordinates 39.72945, -81.70509.

Meals: This is a chuck wagon event. Meals will be provided free (donations accepted) for the first 20 volunteers to sign up with Jay Holwick at holwick@columbus.rr.com by May 16, 2018.

Please note: if you are arriving Friday, the Friday night meal is NOT included - please bring your own.

Portable hot showers will be available on this site.

## JUNE

### June 2-6, 2018

#### Akron Section Work Week at Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Akron Section Work Week at Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Description: Re-benching the trail tread as needed, heavy trail maintenance, and drainage clearing.

Camping: TBD

Meals: This is a chuck wagon event. Meals will be provided free (donations accepted) for the first 20 volunteers to sign up with Jay Holwick at holwick@columbus.rr.com by May 30, 2018.

Please note: if you are arriving Friday, the Friday night meal is NOT included - please bring your own.

### June 30-July 3, 2018

#### Possible Trail Building Work Week

More details to come in the Spring Issue

## JULY

### July 21-25, 2018

#### Road Fork/Whipple Sections Work Week

Description: Trail maintenance of the Road Fork and Whipple Section's off road areas. This will include chain sawing of downed trees, mowing, weed whacking, pruning, and possible freshening of blazes for a little over 30 miles in the heat of July. We will need all the help we can get. We will leave for work at 8:00am and quit at 3:00pm.

Camping: Camping will be at the Little Muskingum Watershed Association building, located at SR26 and Thomas Ridge Rd (T 88) Hot showers and flush toilets are available in the building. Donations to the LMWA for use of the facilities are appreciated. Camping GPS coordinates 39.54184, -81.22484

Meals: This is a chuck wagon event. Meals will be provided free (donations accepted) for the first 20 volunteers to sign up with Jay Holwick at holwick@columbus.rr.com by July 17, 2018.

Please note: if you are arriving Friday, the Friday night meal is NOT included - please bring your own.

### July 28-29, 2018

#### BTA Board Meeting

Description: Meetings start at 9:00AM each day, meals provided

Location: BTA Barn

Contact: president@buckeyetrail.org

## AUGUST

### August 4-8, 2018

#### Defiance Section Work Week at Independence Dam State Park and Toledo Metroparks at Providence or Farnsworth Parks

Description: Clearing vegetation from about 3 miles of trail from Independence Dam State Park until the trail crosses the canal on a bridge.

Camping: TBD

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

## SEPTEMBER

### September 22-26, 2018

#### Buckeye Trail Crew: New Straitsville Section - Burr Oak State Park

Description: New Straitsville section trail maintenance week in preparation for the BTA's Run for Blue Blazes Trail Marathon on Oct 6th. We will leave for work at 8:30am and quit at 3:30pm.

Camping: We will be camping at the Burr Oak State Park Group campground near boat dock 3.

Meals: This is a chuck wagon event. Meals will be provided free (donations accepted) for the first 20 volunteers to sign up with Jay Holwick at holwick@columbus.rr.com by Sept. 18, 2018.

Please note: if you are arriving Friday, the Friday night meal is NOT included - please bring your own.

## OCTOBER

### October 13-17, 2018

#### Road Fork Section Work Week

Description: We will be building new trail along the north side of Caldwell Lake as well as heavy trail maintenance, vegetation management and bridge, puncheon or boardwalk construction near point 22.

Camping: TBD

Meals: This is a chuck wagon event. Meals will be provided free (donations accepted) for the first 20 volunteers to sign up with Jay Holwick at holwick@columbus.rr.com by Oct. 10, 2018.

Please note: if you are arriving Friday, the Friday night meal is NOT included - please bring your own.

### October 20-21, 2018

#### Old Mans Cave Section - Work Weekend at Pretty Run

Description: New trail construction, re-benching of some existing trail tread, heavy trail maintenance, and vegetation management. We will leave for work at 8:30am and quit at 3:30pm.

Camping: Camping will be at the Pretty Run property. Camping GPS coordinates 39.34987, -82.62431

Meals: Bring your own food and water.

### October 27-31, 2018

#### West Union Section Work Week at Edge of Appalachia

Description: Continue building new trail in the beautiful 19,000 acre Richard and Lucile Durrell Edge of Appalachia Preserve. We will leave for work at 8:30am and quit at 3:30pm.

Camping: Near the maintenance building at 3223 Waggoner Riffle Rd. Camping GPS coordinates 38.74836, -83.46397

Meals: This is a chuck wagon event. Meals will be provided free (donations accepted) for the first 20 volunteers to sign up with Jay Holwick at holwick@columbus.rr.com by Oct. 24, 2018.

Please note: if you are arriving Friday, the Friday night meal is NOT included - please bring your own.

Note: The portable hot shower will be available on site.

## NOVEMBER

### November 3, 2018

#### BTA Board Meeting

Description: 10:00AM

Location: Shawnee, OH

Contact: president@buckeyetrail.org

Even more events with BTA chapters on

Meetup



<https://www.facebook.com/buckeyetrail/>

# Buckeye Trail Association Receives \$2,000 Grant from Patagonia

President Andy Haag

The Buckeye Trail Association was the proud recipient of a \$2,000 grant from outdoor clothing and gear company Patagonia. Patagonia's website describes the Buckeye Trail Association (BTA) as "the leader in building, maintaining, protecting and promoting use of Ohio's longest scenic hiking trail. BTA provides outdoor recreation, education and opportunities to volunteer.

Patagonia donates 1% of sales every day to grassroots environmental groups. Since 1985, Patagonia has awarded over \$89 million in cash and in-kind donations to domestic and international grassroots environmental groups making a



difference in their local communities.

We are grateful to Patagonia for their support of the Buckeye Trail.

## Annual Dayton Hikers Buckeye Trail Winter Hike & Potluck Feast

You are invited to the 5th Annual Dayton Hikers Buckeye Trail Winter Hike and Potluck Feast on January 6, 2018 at Caesar Creek State Park in southwest Ohio. Enjoy the beautiful winter scenery of Caesar Creek with a hike on the Buckeye Trail. We are offering five guided hikes ranging from a leisurely 3 mile stroll to a 12 mile brisk pace hike. All hikes will use the Buckeye Trail for all or part of the route. The hikes begin at different times but all end at the same time. Afterwards enjoy a potluck feast with your fellow Buckeye Trail hikers. Come prepared for winter hiking and bring a dish to share. Raffle prizes will be given out. To attend you must sign-up in advance. This is not a drop-in event. For more information and to sign up visit <http://www.winterhike.com>.

I hope to see you there!

– Andy Niekamp



Horseshoe Falls, Caesar Creek State Park

Todd Nystrom



A group of hikers at Caesar Creek State Park

Todd Nystrom

# Announcement: Buckeye Trail Association Membership Dues Increasing in 2018

In 2018, the Buckeye Trail Association is adjusting its membership dues to help cover the Trailblazer's cost of production.

## 2018 Updated Prices

Student Membership: .....	\$15
Individual Membership: .....	\$30
Household Membership: .....	\$35
Organization Membership: .....	\$50
Business Membership: .....	\$50
Life Membership: .....	\$500

Please remember to send all dues to the Buckeye Trail Association, P.O. Box 5, Shawnee, OH 45782



## Advertise With the BTA!

Want to feature your ad in The Trailblazer?  
Contact Andrew Bashaw for ad rates at

## 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*.

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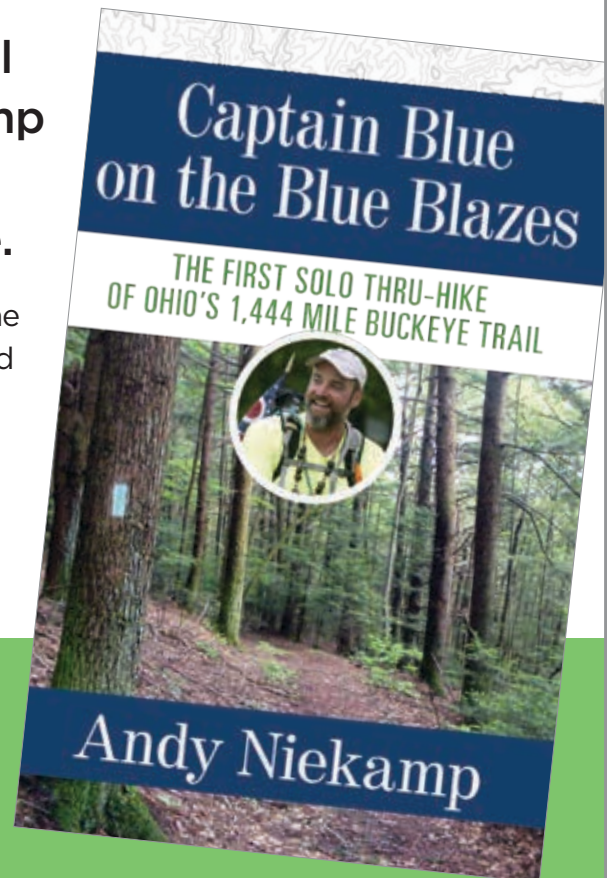
## When three-time Appalachian Trail Hiker, Andy “Captain Blue” Niekamp decided to hike the Buckeye Trail, he took on the challenge of his life.

On this 88-day adventure, Captain Blue found things he didn't know he had: a Buckeye Trail family who assisted and encouraged him; a home state rich with scenic beauty and history; and the physical, mental, and emotional stamina to travel Ohio alone and on foot.

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# 4th Annual Buckeye Trail Run

Full Marathon • Half Marathon  
• 10K Run • 5K Run

**Saturday, October 6, 2018**  
**Shawnee, OH**

*This Marathon Trail Run is a fundraiser for the Buckeye Trail Association, a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable organization dedicated to the building, maintaining, protecting, and promoting use of Ohio's longest scenic hiking trail for the health and fitness of our citizens, communities, and partners. All money raised is tax deductible and goes to protect the trail.*

## ADVERTISING LEVELS

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Insertion of marketing material in event bags  
Display of sponsor-provided banner at event site

### \$250

Small logo on the back of t-shirts  
Logo and website link on all digital marketing  
Insertion of marketing material in event bags

### \$100

Name on the back of t-shirts  
Logo and website link on all digital marketing  
Insertion of marketing material in event bags

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Herb Hulls at [run4blue@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:run4blue@buckeyetrail.org) or 740-787-2416  
or visit [www.buckeyetrail.org/run4blue.php](http://www.buckeyetrail.org/run4blue.php)

# Welcome New Members!

Bev and Jerry Starcher

Steve Alspach, Carroll  
Tricia Andel, Wellington  
Jim Barborak, Fort Collins CO  
Brandon Bates & Family, Dennison  
Alexis Beshara, Richfield  
Paul Butterfield, Parma Hgts  
Amy Callahan, Dayton  
Stephen Cammarn, Maineville  
John Choppell, Wadsworth  
Katie Cibulskas, Columbus  
Brian Cimperman, Independence  
Nicholas Cohen, Cleveland  
Sandy Colegrove, Waverly  
Mike Crackel, Springfield  
James Datko, Arlington VA  
Michael Davis and Family, Newark  
Pat Dewees, Yellow Springs  
Aaron Dowdle & Family, Adena  
Jonathan & Amanda Ensign, Greenwood IN  
Michael Ewald, Centerville  
Andrea Finch, Marysville  
Andrew Fowerbaugh, Rocky River  
Linda Fuhrur-Mooore & Family, Orrville  
Russell Gantzer, Westerville  
Valerie Gardner, Grafton  
Jack Hadder, Dayton  
Taylor & Tiffany Hamilton, Springfield  
Scott Hamilton, Cincinnati  
Christine Hansen, Huber Hgts  
Susan Harrison, Yellow Springs  
Patrick & Joanne Helbig, Wakeman  
Carolyn Hirsh & Alan Lindy, Dayton  
Mark Holland, Union MO  
Patrick Hostetter, Marion  
Larry Howdyshell, Logan  
Paul Hubbard, Euclid  
Preston Hudson, Marysville  
Drew Ivan, Brecksville  
David Jennings & Family, Richmond Hgts  
Richard Johnson & Family, Painesville  
Robin Johnson & Family, Concord Twp  
Emily Kerwood, Concord Twp

Tyler Kornmiller, Rockbridge  
Jamie Kreindler, Newport KY  
Alex Kusnierkiewicz, Perrysburg  
Michelle Kusold, Columbus  
Mei-Ling Liber, Riverside  
Eric Liebl, Granville  
David Linnabary, Sunbury  
Jingyi Liu, Columbus  
Robert Lowery, Round Hill VA  
Cynthia Mack, Defiance  
Monte Magill, Fairborn  
Matt Magill, Springfield  
Kate Marlowe & Family, New Plymouth  
Gordon Maupin, Orrville  
Pat Mayquys, Elyria  
Dora McAfee, Celina  
Matthew McBride, Cincinnati  
Sarah McCafferty & Family, Rushville  
Dane Miles, Brunswick  
Armen Nazarian, Granville  
Kathryn Niemeyer, Cincinnati  
John & Mary Oakley, Buchtel  
George & Cyndi Pauwels, Yellow Springs  
John Pink & Family, Shaker Hgts  
Alyssa Portwood, Akron  
Nikki Ransom, Westerville  
Amy Raubenolt, Akron  
Jo Rawley, Shaker Hgts  
Timothy & Deborah Ray, Troy  
Christopher Roth, Willoughby  
Lulia Rouzina, Columbus  
Lonnie Saraney, Chardon  
Russell Satori, Columbus  
Bill Schneider, Nashport  
Debbie Scott, Painesville  
Anastasia Sebourn, Dayton  
Jack Shaner, Columbus  
Vijay Sharma, Solon  
Eric Paul Sheese & Family, Newark  
Jennifer Simon, Athens  
Kathy Simpson & Family, Dayton  
Karen Elizabeth Smith, Uniontown

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Steve Sonderman, Charlotte NC  
Margaret Sondey & Family, Willoughby Hills  
Sean Stephenson, Columbus  
Jason Stutz & Family, Dennison  
Susan Suics & Family, Chagrin Falls  
Whitney Taylor, Sycamore  
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Chris Utter, Columbus  
Debra Waizenegger, Canal Winchester  
Carter Wale, St Marys  
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Broadview Insurance, Richfield  
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The Project Badass, Chillicothe Oh  
Bullseye Activewear Inc, Strongsville

## ATTENTION! The Trailblazer is going green!

We will soon be primarily distributing the Trailblazer electronically so that more of your membership dollars can go to accomplishing the mission of the Buckeye Trail Association. With your next renewal letter, you will be able to opt-in to continuing to receive the Trailblazer by mail on the renewal form.

If you have any questions about this transition, please contact Sally Sugar at [ssugar@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:ssugar@buckeyetrail.org) or 740-394-2008.

Also, don't forget that the BTA mailing address has changed to:  
PO Box 5, Shawnee, OH 43782



# BTA Funds Report: August 2017 - November 2017

Your contribution to any BTA fund is tax deductible. All contributions of \$20 or more are acknowledged. We hope to include your name in the list of contributors in the Trailblazer.

## TRAIL PRESERVATION FUND

Bill Schultz  
Steve Walker

## GENERAL FUND

Brewery 33 Hocking Hills  
Jan Tkach  
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Herbert Hulls  
People's Bank

## BTA BARN FUND

Boy Scouts of America Troop 68

## CROOKED RIVER CHAPTER

Western Reserve Racing  
Lawrence Grewe

## BUCKEYE TRAIL CREW CHUCKWAGON

Buckeye Trail Crew Memberes  
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