



Bull's Run Fall Newsletter October, 2009



Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum in Middletown is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to preserving the natural area of Bull's Run, striving to develop the park as an environmental facility and educational resource for people of all ages.



You are invited to Attend the
Bull's Run Annual Meeting

*"From Forest Primeval to Forest Primetime"
History of the Land of Bull's Run*

*October 13 7-9 pm
Verity Lodge - MUM*

*Please join us as we celebrate our
30th Anniversary!*

Free and open to the public



Join us for an evening of reminiscing the history of 11 acres on Rosedale Road and its growth over thirty years to the unique facility known today as Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum. Come hear the stories recorded by TV Middletown of those with memories of the Fresh Air Camp, to more recent visits and those who helped shape the site throughout the years. Share the enclosed invitation with a friend.



Guides are in training for fall tours

Bull's Run has an improved and stream-lined field trip program, thanks to Chris Parker, Jerry Schunk and Lynn Price. The new program provides anyone interested in showing children the wonders of the great outdoors with an easy-to-follow format. These guides, along with the naturalist, have developed a new handbook with information and ideas that can be used along the trails. Come along on the next training walk at 2 pm on October 8 and join in the fun! Contact Naturalist, Barb, at 513-422-5063 or e-mail naturalist@bullsrn.org.

Left to Right: Jerry Schunk, Chris Parker, Lynn Getter, Boo Norton-Schmiedt, Barb Reuss, Gisele Matthieson

Naturalist's Ramblings...

Here's another story from my summertime "up North". Though the setting is different, there are multiple ties to Bull's Run.

Out riding his bike, my husband sees what at first glance seems to be a dead, red animal. Dismounting and taking a closer look, his gaze is met by the clear and bright eyes of a very young red fox kit. The kit is quiet and calm, no apparent fear; it doesn't move away. Realizing that something is not quite right, he peddles home to fetch me. Taking along a box, a towel and a pair of leather gloves, we drive back to the fox. As I approach with gloved hands and a soft towel, the kit tries to escape. It is obvious that there is a problem with a leg but in spite of that, the kit is fast and tries her best to hide. She is hard to catch, almost difficult enough to make me think she can survive; but the leg is clearly injured. Finally, we corral her and wrap her in the towel. When I pick her up, she doesn't struggle or attempt to bite. Instead she relaxes; I'd like to think she knew we were trying to help.



Back home in a box, we give her water, fruit and a few bits of wetted dog kibble. The cameras come out and the beautiful animal is photographed... all without flash. The box is closed up, as she will stay quieter in the dark, and put in a quiet corner in the garage. Then the phone calls begin!

First, to a naturalist neighbor who of course is not home! Leave a message. I start thinking how many ways to look up "animal rehab" in the tiny little phone book. Phone rings; she is home and refers me to a local rehab person. I call immediately and... she is not home! Leave a message.

Next day the rehab person calls, but she only deals with injured birds. As angelic as this small vixen is, she does not have feathers and wings. I am referred to a wildlife center 100 miles away. (Can you hear me thinking "Hmmm.")? After a moment's deliberation, I make the call. Yes, they will take her and yes they will have a VOLUNTEER meet me halfway! Hurrah for volunteers!

The gorgeous little vixen

I drive 50 miles to the designated site and wait.... crack the window for fresh air... pop the car seat back and close my eyes... she arrives after 45 minutes. Seems there was this bridge out, a detour that disappeared into a maze of logging roads, and GPS to the rescue! Her trip has been tedious and (a) bit scary, but she is delighted that I've waited and the fox will now get medical care. She gives me info about the Northwoods Wildlife Center, founded in 1979, which is nonprofit and relies on memberships and volunteers. In their own words on their donation card, "We treat 800-1000 animals a year from over 100 species of wildlife every year. None of these animals carry health insurance. We are able to help them because of caring people like you. THANK YOU!" She suggests I call the Center regularly and check on the fox's progress. I will be invited to the fox's release after her leg is fixed! One more picture and the fox, now looking scared and forlorn, heads for the hospital another 90 minutes away.

So how is this story tied to Bull's Run?

Members and volunteers are the backbone of ALL non-profit organizations. I encourage you to find your passion and support it with your time, your expertise and your money. Don't get discouraged; if your organization needs direction, offer your GPS! Be faithful to the cause, and never ever forget we are connected with other species.... Earth is our shared home!



Barb Reuss



Bull's Run Annual "Love the Earth" *Fall Family Festival*

Sunday Oct 25 2-4 pm

- Nature displays and activities
 - Scavenger Hunt
 - Crafts & Snacks
 - Plant tree seeds!
 - Learn about Ohio's state symbols!
- Kids - bring your parents and grandparents!



Bull's Run Photo Gallery Outreach to "I Dig It" Summer Garden Camp



Worms for Vermicomposting



Barb Reuss shares Skink



Mr. Peter's box turtle visits



Metamorphosis

Native Plant Garden and Prairie Tour



This August, the Bull's Run prairie debuted as our newest educational feature. Early in the month a summer camp group from the Dream Center visited and had a wonderful time catching many of the insects attracted to the colorful blooms.



Then, on a very hot Sunday afternoon, Bull's Run had its first ever prairie patch tour! About a dozen folks braved the heat, the steps and the chiggers to get a close up look at a variety of native prairie plants. We discussed not only names but some of the characteristics that make prairie plants so special.

But that's not all. During the prairie tour we had a guest, Wolfgang Gaiser, from Germany. I'd like to think that Will, as he goes by in the U.S., made the trip just to see the prairie! But the truth is, while on a business trip in Blue Ash, he was looking for something to do on a Sunday afternoon, put "parks" into his GPS and was directed to Bull's Run! We had a wonderful time showing him around the area and treating him to "native" culture: prairie plants, a home cooked meal and Graeters ice cream! Can't get that in Hamburg!



Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum Members since June Newsletter

Memberships

Katie DeVilling
Margaret Fiora
Jane Flueckiger
Ted Pollard
Frances Sedge
Ty Thomas
Janet Turber
John Whittington

Donations

Christ United Methodist Outreach
Clearcreek Gardeners
Chris Parker, in honor of Jeff McMullen, "*in appreciation for his selfless service of countless hours as land steward*".
Lynne Waxweiler

In Memory of Tim Peters

Bruce and Glenda Peters
Wed. pm Volunteers at Atrium Hospital

In Memory of Mary Valentine

Heath Valentine

These memberships were received between 6/15/2009 and 9/28/2009. If our records do not reflect your records, please notify us and we will be sure to include you in our next newsletter where we list new contributions to Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum. Thank you for your support.

In Memory of Bob Wells

Jerry and Jacky Banks
Jonah and Cherri Carpenter
Charlie and Linda Day
Kathie Gannon
Lew and Marilyn Hamilton
Terri Hammond
Dorothy Sanders Harbach
Jay and Wilma Holman
Ted and Nancy Karchner
Mike and Priscilla Lane
Bob and Pam McCoy
Ted and Marcia Miller
Les and Phyllis Mills
Moose Lodge 501
Daniel and Nancy Nix
Ron and Martha Oches
John and Ellen Osterman
Bruce Peters, Jr.
Shovel and Hoe Garden Club
Cherigene and Jan Slaughter
Ann Stoutenborough
Wed. pm Volunteers at Atrium Hospital
Charlie and Judy Weidner
David and Marjorie Winfough



Memorial Contributions

Please consider Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum as a recipient of memorial contributions for a departed loved one. Envelopes are available and contributions will help continue the mission of Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum into the lifetime of the next generation.

The cycle of the seasons following after each other brings the promise of renewed life, even as we remember the season just past. Help the arboretum continue as a refuge for those needing a place to be close to nature and remember loved ones in a place of peace.

Mark your Calendars for Upcoming Events at Bull's Run

October

- 8 Guide Training 2-3pm
- 10 Work Day – 9:30 – 1pm
- 13 Annual Meeting 7:00 – 9:00 pm @ Verity Lodge on MUM campus
- 18 Dog Walk 2-3pm
- 24 Work Day – 9:30 – 1pm
- 25 Fall Family Festival 2:00 – 4:00 pm

November

- 7 Work Day – 9:30 – 1pm
- 15 Dog Walk 2-3pm
- 21 Work Day – 9:30 – 1pm

December

- 19 Annual Christmas Bird Count 9-10 am
- 20 Dog Walk 2-3pm

**For more information please visit our website www.bullsrn.org
Contact Barb Reuss, Naturalist, to speak to your organization or for a program at Bull's Run. Contact her at naturalist@bullsrn.org or 513-422-5063. Visit our website, www.bullsrn.org**

Thanks to all who help keep Bull's Run an important asset of the community!

- To Violet Garner for donating a maple tree for the woods
- To Jesse Williman, Cameron Everage and John Wittington and Jeff McMullen for hours of effort replacing the retaining wall of the native plant garden.
- To Jeff McMullen for the new sign by the road.
- Chris Parker, Jerry Schunk and Lynn Price for developing a new field trip program
- To Katie Gerard for choosing BRNSA for the service requirement of her undergraduate degree
- To Rose Grau of Geckeler Nursery School for the donation of a worm composting bin.
- To Barb Reuss for the hours put in replacing the retaining wall at the Native Plant Garden.
- To Aaron Grant for maintaining the website.
- To everyone who makes Bull's Run part of their 2009 giving. We truly appreciate your support!



Together we are making a difference!