



## Bull's Run Newsletter Spring, 2011

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.



### **EARTH HOUR, AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ACTION**

On April 22, 1970, EARTH DAY was held, one of the most remarkable happenings in the history of democracy. "American Heritage Magazine, October 1993". The seeds of EARTH HOUR sprouted with World Wildlife Fund Australia in 2004. Words of warning for what lays ahead from an economist – not from a scientist - sent a warning to governments globally about the cost of ignoring the threat of climate change.

The warnings grew, culminating in an astonishing demonstration of solidarity: In March 2007, Sydney Australia, from 8:30-9:30 PM, 2.2 million citizens and 2,100 businesses turned off the lights. This action sparked a global grassroots movement to take flight. By 2009, hundreds of millions in 4000 cities across 88 nations observed Earth Hour, and Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum participated. We facilitated the reading of the official EARTH HOUR PROCLAMATION, at a City Council Meeting, "...raising awareness and encouraging all city employees to turn off all non-essential lighting in city buildings, schools, and public landmarks." and Naturalist Barb Reuss initiated an annual Earth Hour Night Hike at Bull's Run. In 2010, BILLIONS of people across the world turned off their lights in contemplation of the one thing we all have in common: our planet.

Take action in this vital movement: visit [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org) for much more information; set a neighborhood "lights out" event; invite your children to a candle-light game night; talk to Boy and Girl Scouts about Earth Hour; look for ways to reduce fossil fuels; and – gather others to join you at the next Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum Family Activity.

#### **EARTH HOUR NIGHT HIKE: March 26, 2011; 8:30 – 9:30**

Following the hike, we will gather to consider the breadth and scope of individual actions that demonstrate our commitment to do our part in reducing our carbon footprint.

### **Guided Spring Wildflower Walk Opportunities at Two Locations**



April 17 **Interpretive Wildflower Walk** 2:00 pm.

Explore the beautiful spring wildflowers at Bull's Run.

April 17 **Interpretive Wildflower Walk** 4:00pm on Autumn Dr. at the Armbruster Nature Preserve. Join the naturalist for a look at this extraordinary display of wildflowers. Turn off of Manchester Rd. on to Autumn Dr. and park at the dead-end near the water tower.

May 7 **Interpretive Wildflower Walk** 10:30 Bull's Run.

## **GARAGE SALE**

FRIDAY and SATURDAY

April 29 & 30 - 8:00am to 4:00pm

4312 Walton Court, Middletown, OH

(Located close to Bull's Run off Curryer Rd.)

Clean out the closets, sort through the cupboards and straighten up the garage, basement and storage shed. Donate items to the Garage Sale sponsored by the Bull's Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum.

The proceeds from the sale will be used for outdoor education and park preservation.

### ITEMS TO CONSIDER DONATING:

- Small kitchen appliances
- Dishes
- Bed linen
- Towels
- Bikes
- Sporting items
- Tools
- Buttons
- Fabric
- Purses
- Shoes
- Children's clothing
- NO ADULT CLOTHING.
- Games
- Toys
- Books
- Puzzles
- Anything you want to get rid of.

VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH THE SALE or THE WORK DAY: - Call Chris Parker at 422-8642.

THE WORK DAY will be Monday, April 25th starting at 9:00 am.

TO DROP OFF ITEMS - Call Rose Grau at 424-1969. We will start collecting items April 1st.

**REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, REJOICE!**

### **The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, May 7 from 10am -12pm at Bull's Run and The Jug**

Purchase a beautiful pot of flowers, either a singular potted plant, a mixed planter, or a hanging basket. Pre-order forms will be available on the website in mid April. Plenty of extras will be available at both locations for spontaneous purchases!

Jump into spring with color for Mother's Day!

**Interpretive Wildflower Walk** will also be taking place at 10:30 at Bull's Run.



Join Nancy for a look at spring wildflowers along the trails.

### **SHOPPING AT STAPLES?**

While you are there, consider donating your Staples Rewards monies to Bull's Run! They have made it very easy. Just tell them you want your Rewards to go to "Bull's Run – Zip 45044", and the Bull's Run Board will be able to save money on paper, ink cartridges and much more! And THAT will mean we can use a larger percentage of our funds for education and stewardship! Every ink cartridge recycled with Rewards earns us \$2. THANKS FOR CONSIDERING THIS!



# Bull's Run Events 2011

Rosedale Road, Middletown Ohio

[www.bullsrn.org](http://www.bullsrn.org)

## March



19 **Work Day** 9:30-1:00

Need volunteers to help with trail maintenance & spruce- up

20 **Dog Walk** 2-3

Bring your dog on a leash for a stroll along the trails.

26 **Work Day** 9:30-1:00

Need volunteers to help with trail maintenance & honeysuckle

26 **Night Hike** 8:30pm-9:30pm

Join Naturalist, Barb, to Celebrate "Earth Hour" with an evening walk. Sensory activities.

## April



17 **Dog Walk** 2:00-3:00

Bring your dog on a leash and meet fellow dog walkers.

**Interpretive Wildflower Walk** 2:00

Explore the beautiful spring wildflowers at Bull's Run.

**Interpretive Wildflower Walk** 4:00 Autumn Dr. Armbruster Nature Preserve. Join the naturalist for a look at this extraordinary display of wildflowers. Turn off of Manchester Rd on to Autumn Dr. and park at the dead-end near the water tower.

23 **Armbruster Nature Preserve Dedication** noon, Autumn Dr.

29 & 30 **Garage Sale** Fri and Sat 8-4, 4312 Walton Court off of Curryer Rd. Funds support education and park preservation!

## May



7 **Plant Sale** 10-12 Bull's Run and The Jug

Purchase a beautiful pot of flowers. Pre-order forms are available on the website in mid April. Plenty of extras!

**Interpretive Wildflower Walk** 10:30 Bull's Run

Join Nancy for a look at spring wildflowers along the trails

14 **Work Day** 9:30-1:00 help improve your park

15 **Dog Walk** 2-3 Bring your dog on a leash and meet fellow dog walkers

21 **Work Day** 9:30-1:00 final spruce-up of the season

## **Nature TOTS... what fun!**

Nature TOTS, our program for 2-5 year olds and their caregivers, is rockin' and rollin' in the woods! Developed in conjunction with a MUM student, TOTS premiered in the spring 2010. We continued in the fall and then cautiously considered a winter session. Well, the winter session is over and was a success! We used hand lenses to look at bark, buds, logs, snowflakes and dead leaves. We climbed up and over logs, balanced on top and slid down like firemen! We danced on tree stumps and followed deer tracks in the snow. We listened to the silence and the crunch of crusty snow. The slope by the shelter was just right for rolling like a log and then became a canvas for creating snow angels. We fed and watched birds with our "binoculars" and tried so hard to tweet back at them. The pile of Christmas trees made a wonderful trampoline and then a nest, a hiding place and a nap spot! The ice on the creek edges was a magnet for the braver TOTS. With warming temperatures, the creek was again a magnet for exploration as were puddles and mud! Rosy cheeks and hot chocolate brought our explorations to a sweet end. Thanks to Margie, Mike and Rita for your assistance. Thanks to the Moms and TOTS for daring to bundle up and experience the woods in winter! I hope to see you in the spring!



## **Ramblings.....**

### **A Benefit of Good Arboriculture**

This past winter showered us with snow and ice, school closings and salt trucks, and storm damage to trees all around town. Perhaps you lost a tree in your yard. Many of the local parks were hard hit and the city crews had weeks of clean-up chores from the February storms.



Now think back to January of 2010 and the many trees Bull's Run had cut down. Some folks wondered if we had gone a bit overboard, but the "surgery" in 2010 proved a success in February 2011 when Bull's Run had very little storm damage to the woods. When the storm passed, I slid through the park to check the outfall and I was very pleased that we only lost a few American Redbuds, one locust, the top of an ash tree on the edge of the prairie and one ironwood tree (*Ostrya virginiana*, Hop hornbeam) which vandals had hacked; there was NO major damage and less than 2 hours of clean-up! Not

bad for 11 acres! Wow, that is a statement that proper care to maintain healthy trees pays off when seasonal storms play rough.

Bull's Run is fortunate to have a Certified Arborist on the Board. Jeff McMullen helps guide us in the best management practices in arboriculture. Under his direction, here is what we are doing to promote the health of the forest. We remove competing invasive plants. We remove hazard trees. We replant with site appropriate native trees. We prune the memorial trees as we are able. Thanks to collaboration with a MUM Botany student, we now have a census of species, general health and GPS location of every tree 2 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH) and larger so we can assess the diversity, age and health of the woods. Bull's Run serves as a resource for information so you can learn about trees. With our continuing efforts, gradually the forest is returning to health. And we're not done yet!

Barb Reuss, Naturalist



# NATURE

**A FREE\* 4 week program in April for  
Preschoolers (ages 2-5) & Parents**

*Child-centered hands-on  
Exploration!*

**on Wednesdays  
April 6, 13, 20, 27 2011**

Choose morning 10a.m.-11a.m.  
*or* afternoon 12:30p.m.-1:30p.m.



**At Bulls Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum**  
3909 Rosedale Road Middletown Ohio

*Space is Limited - Reserve Now!!*

Call Barb at **513-422-5063**

email Barb: [naturalist@bullsrn.org](mailto:naturalist@bullsrn.org)

\*Free to members; \$20/child for non-members  
Family membership is \$25.

[www.bullsrn.org](http://www.bullsrn.org)



## **Memberships and Donations—December 15, 2010-March 1, 2011**

Loren E Ackerman	Bob and Mary Alice Gast	Bruce and Glenda Peters
David K. Adams	Gary and Lynn Getter	Jr. <i>in memory of Bandit</i>
Sam Ashworth and Judith Gilleland	Dr. Scott and Cecilia Glickfield	Jack & Deanie Raiche
Doris Baden	Jane Gold	Bob and Judy Reuss <i>in honor of Barb Reuss</i>
Douglas J.Bean <i>in honor of Jeff McMullen and Barb Reuss</i>	Forest and Debbie Grant	Betty Risner
Anne Berns	Nancy Haney	Tom Ritter
Chuck and Betty Bost	William and Lenora Housh	Elizabeth S.Rogers
Elizabeth Bishop	Maryann Howard	Judge Kathleen Dobrozsi Romans
Ric and Cheryl Brewer	Rosa Lean Lindsey	Jack Schaefer
Tom and Sally Brickey	Steve and Rosemary Longworth	Jim and Lynnette Schluter
Cherri and Jonah Carpenter	Dr. Russell and Ann Malcolm, Jr.	John & Sarah Schoultis
Jung-Han & Jennifer Chen	Heinz and Gisela Matthiesen	Jerry and Barb Schunk
Wilbur Cohen	Debbie and Bernie McGuire	Ed and Ginger Seamon
Larry and Carol Colclasure	Jeff McMullen and Barbara Reuss	Frances Sedge
Elizabeth Cole	Michael and Katie McNeil	Dorothy Sherron
Ronald C. and Barbara J.Conley	Dr. Peter and JoAnn Moroz, Jr.	Judy Shillinglaw
Corbett Cox	Jana Morse	Glen and Joan Shivers
Richard S.Davies	Edith Mulhall	Dr. Gregory and Jeanne Siewny.
Katie DeVilling	Julianne Nickell	Guy and Jackie Stone
Joe and Carolyn DiStaola	Katie Nuck	Jim & Carol Swisshelm
Don and Judy Dixon	Martha Oches	Donna Switzer
William & Marcella Donahue	Imogene Orts	Joe and Julie Thomas
Nita Driscoll <i>in memory of Robert Driscoll</i>	Dr. Richard, Virginia and Rob Palmer	Don and Susan Thompson
Don and Betty Elworth	Christine K. Parker	Heath E.Valentine <i>in memory of Mary Prentice Valentine</i>
Beth and Cameron Everage and John Whittington	Dr. Elizabeth Patterson	Nancy J. Wells
Carl and Margaret Fiora	Mike and Marge Perkins	Mary Lou Williamson <i>in memory of Shirley Allen, Joe Newton and Jeanne Stephenson</i>
Thomas Fye	Jo-Annette Perry	Bob and Gibbie Wise

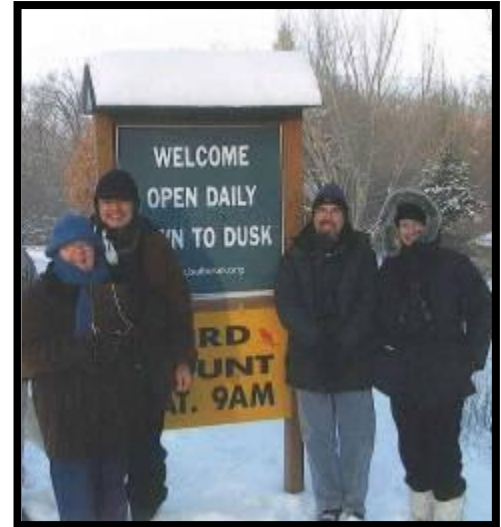
*Please advise us of any misspellings or omissions*

## **HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS**

For over three decades, generous Bull's Run patrons have honored and memorialized family members and friends by donating flowers, trees and benches. The flowers and trees grace the park. The grouping of memorial benches, installed in a location that provides a beautiful and peaceful panorama of the stream and woodland, provide a lovely meditation area. We are now in negotiations for developing an additional meditative area near the entrance of the park. Landscape designers and stone masons are studying the most effective way to create an area where families can contribute to Bull's Run, allowing the opportunity for additional names of loved ones to be placed in perpetuity. Bull's Run guests will be able to relax there, rejoicing in this quiet setting well within the city boundaries. Watch for additional information in future newsletters.

## 2010 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT AT BULL'S RUN

Four brave birders met on Saturday, December 18, 2010, to participate in the annual Christmas bird count. The temperature was chilly, but the rest of the conditions were very good for bird watching. Almost 160 birds, representing 19 different species were counted, plus a Cooper's Hawk was spotted in the neighborhood as the birders left for home. For a detailed count, please visit [www.bullsrn.org](http://www.bullsrn.org).



### **THANK YOU!**

- Thanks to Pools and More for the donation of Christmas trees to the Nature TOTS program!
- Thanks to Mike, Margie and Rita for helping with TOTS!
- Thanks to John Whittington for the Light Up Middletown fundraising suggestion and the numerous volunteers who helped with LUM! (Barb, Chris, Isons, Katherine, Martins, Elaine Caldbeck and friend Sue, Jeff, Conleys, Clarks, Jennifer, Helena, Travis, Boo, Perkins, Triicks, Rita and Heather, and Carol Schul!)
- Thanks to Jung-Han Chen for fixing our shed door!
- Thanks to Dr. Elizabeth Patterson for donating an office desk!
- Thanks to Denny Lumber Company for shelving and a filing cabinet!
- Thanks to Bob Wise for donating more suet cakes. We have hungry woodpeckers!
- Welcome Corbett Cox and Jonathan Stone to our bird feeding team!
- Thanks to Ginny and Richard Simonson for a large donation to our upcoming Garage Sale from their recent move!
- Thanks to Ed and Rose Grau for hosting our April 29-30<sup>th</sup> Garage Sale!
- Thanks to Michael Wertz for keeping our parking lot clear!
- Thanks to Rita Robbins for donating educational materials!
- Thanks to Jeff McMullen and Barb Reuss for clean-up from the recent storm!

### **BIS PARTNERSHIP WITH MUM**

During this semester, we are fortunate to have two students from the Miami University Middletown Bachelor of Integrated Studies working with us. Victoria Ritchie is using her computer skills to help us improve our data-base. Carole Noble is working on a grant for prairie expansion. She is also assisting the Education volunteers in promoting our events this season.

# Bull's Run Photo Gallery

