



March 15, 2012

Buckeye Walk About

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Andy "Captain Blue" Niekamp hiking the Buckeye Trail in the Clendening Lake area in May 2011.

Andy "Captain Blue" Niekamp set out on a hiking journey on Ohio's Buckeye Trail in March 2011. His journey started at Deeds Point in Dayton. The goal of his hike was to hike on the Buckeye Trail for as long as it was fun. Over 1,400 miles and 88 days later Captain Blue returned to Dayton on the Buckeye Trail, the longest circular trail in the nation. Andy is the seventh person to complete a thru hike of the Buckeye Trail.

His presentation titled "Thru Hiking the Buckeye Trail—A 1,400 Mile Journey Around Ohio" will take you on a foot journey around Ohio. His beautiful photos and narrative will inspire you to hike on the Buckeye Trail. Come to the Puskarich Public Library on March 16 at 6:30 p.m. and get acquainted with Ohio's backyard trail. Learn how Andy started his hike not knowing much about the Buckeye Trail or the Association, which created and maintains it.

Everyone is invited to join Andy "Captain Blue" Niekamp and hikers from Dayton, Cincinnati and Columbus areas on Saturday, March 17 at 9:30 a.m. for a hike around Brushy Fork Bay, Clendening Lake, off State Route 799.

(View Map online at) <http://files.meetup.com/2165041/ClendeningLakeBuckeyeTrail.pdf>

Hike the full 11.5 mile loop, 5.4 mile or 4.5 mile. At about the halfway point, the group will stop for lunch in Brushy Fork at approximately 12:00 noon - 12:30 p.m. Those wishing to end their hike here can do so. Those who would like to join the hike can at this point. They will finish the hike back to SR-799 after lunch.

On Sunday March 18, join "Captain Blue" and friends at the Buckeye Trail Barn (located on Beall Rd off US-250) for your choice of a two, four, or six mile hike to Tappan Lake Park and then back to the barn. Start times are 10 a.m. or 2 p.m. Choose whatever time is convenient for you. For more information please call Ray Ferrell at 740-942-3475 or the Clark Branch Library at 740-658-3855 or visit www.go2library.com.

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