The Foundation for All Parks in Geauga County—Building a Lasting Legacy for All Generations
Message from the President

Your Foundation for Geauga Parks is indeed the Foundation for ALL parks in Geauga County, and your Board of Trustees is working diligently to build a lasting legacy for ALL generations. As the newly appointed board president, it is my honor to look after the interests of each of you who trusts the Foundation to raise money to fund community engagement with nature in Geauga County.

Within this report you will read updates on recent accomplishments and catch a glimpse of what projects are on the horizon. The Board of Trustees is pleased to have added to our staff this year. Our new Director Gretchen Faro is a seasoned professional in development and operations. Paige Orvis, Associate Director, holds a long history in marketing and communications for our Geauga County parks. We feel this is a winning combination to build upon a strong foundation, as we extend our services to assist all parks and nature education projects in the county.

Thank you all who continue to demonstrate your confidence and support of the important work of the Foundation for Geauga Parks. Together we can ensure a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Yours in nature,

ADAM HENRY
Board President

Our Mission

The Foundation for Geauga Parks is an independent, non-profit organization created to raise money to fund community engagement with nature through education, preservation, conservation, and appreciation of the unique natural character of Geauga County.

2020 Foundation Trustees

Adam Henry - President
Claudia Toth - Vice President
Jonathan Green - Treasurer
Carl Langer – Secretary

Linda Brown
Matt Burnham
Sue Lundstrom
Heidi O’Neill

Mary Beth O’Neill
Jennifer Salo
Sheryl Vernon
Richard Frenchie - Emeritus Trustee

The Board of Trustees extends gratitude to Keith Corkwell, Casey Forbes and Jeff Hyde, who completed their Board terms in 2019. Their contributions have been immeasurable.

Staff

Gretchen Faro - Director
Paige Orvis - Associate Director

Cover Orchard Hills Park. Photo courtesy of Jim Marquardt
Message from the Director

It was in reference to Geauga County that I first learned the word “bucolic” as a youngster. (It might have been in context of the then-proposed extension of Route 422, but I don’t want to date myself.) Even as the region’s population has spread out from the city center and inner ring suburbs, the county has maintained much of its idyllic nature, due in no small part to community investments in our township and district parks.

Any number of studies have demonstrated that parks offer a variety of benefits to citizens, both residents and visitors. There are certainly many environmental benefits, including preserving habitats, decreasing air pollution, and providing water filtration. Parks also create economic benefits for both governments and individuals by exerting a positive influence on property values and attracting visitors from outside the county. But topping the list of benefits is what parks contribute to our personal quality of life – lovely settings that encourage both a physical and an emotional connection with the natural world.

The Foundation for Geauga Parks is honored to play a role in delivering these benefits. Over the years, the Foundation has helped to raise money for some remarkable parks and projects, from The West Woods to Observatory Park to Munson Township’s Scenic River Retreat. We are proud to support programs that inspire our young people to appreciate nature and are equally glad to be the trusted partner in raising and stewarding funds that will underwrite future enhancements to parks and trails throughout the county.

I hope you enjoy learning more about the Foundation in this report. Thank you to all our donors and sponsors who have made this work possible!

GRETCHEN FARO
Director

Statement of Financial Position (as of December 31, 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019 Unaudited</th>
<th>2018 Audited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Other Income</td>
<td>161,196</td>
<td>97,305</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Income (Loss)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td>256,737</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
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<td>Program</td>
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<td>General &amp; Administrative</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>17,891</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>101,984</td>
<td>90,207</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>154,753</td>
<td>(3,080)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Net Assets</td>
<td>777,451</td>
<td>780,531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ending Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>932,104</td>
<td>777,451</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019 Unaudited</th>
<th>2018 Audited</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>163,064</td>
<td>104,645</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Assets</td>
<td>13,946</td>
<td>17,509</td>
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<td>Marketable Securities</td>
<td>760,874</td>
<td>658,589</td>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>937,884</td>
<td>780,743</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>5,780</td>
<td>3,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Net Assets</td>
<td>78,979</td>
<td>207,310</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temp. Restricted Net Assets</td>
<td>416,200</td>
<td>291,094</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perm. Restricted Net Assets</td>
<td>282,172</td>
<td>282,127</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in Assets</td>
<td>154,753</td>
<td>(3,080)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>932,104</td>
<td>777,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</strong></td>
<td>937,884</td>
<td>780,743</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“I really enjoyed star gazing and learning how to use binoculars. The volunteers made these activities very interesting and fun! Thank you for coming to Kenston Intermediate School.”

— ELI LITTLE
Nature Scopes class of 2020

Nature Scopes

The Foundation for Geauga Parks is the lead fundraiser for Geauga Park District’s Nature Scopes, the first binocular-focused nature education program of its kind in the country. It was established in response to research showing that close encounters with nature create a direct, personal involvement with the outdoors which cannot be matched by classroom discussion or photos in textbooks.

This school year-long program supplements science instruction by providing hands-on lessons matched to the Ohio Content Standards for fifth-grade science education. Fifth-grade students participate in a total of six interactive sessions involving outdoor exploration using binoculars, concluding in May with a field day where students are awarded their own binoculars and field guides for participating in the program.

| 8775 | Students completed Nature Scopes training 2003-2019 |
| 38   | Fifth-grade classes enrolled in Nature Scopes for 2018-19 school year |
| 851  | Students awarded binoculars and field guides for 2018-19 school year |
School Field Trip Funding

One barrier schools face is having the funds available to bus students to parks for nature education programs. The Foundation for Geauga Parks is removing this barrier by offering transportation grants to Geauga County schools.

Nature Education Scholarships

In the interest of preparing the next generation of conservationists, the Foundation collaborated with Protect Geauga Parks in 2019, providing $1,000 to fund one of three $1,000 scholarships awarded to students entering college for studies in natural or environmental sciences.

GEauga Skywatchers Club

Did you know Geauga County has a nationally recognized dark sky park?

In 2019, the Foundation helped launch the Geauga Skywatchers Club with the goal to inspire and encourage learning about and engaging with the night sky. In collaboration with other Geauga County organizations, we help provide hands-on astronomy education at monthly meetups around the county.

To make night sky viewing more accessible to all, in 2019, the Foundation donated five high-quality telescopes to Geauga County libraries where they are now available to checkout for free.

Geauga Skywatchers Club Partners

[Images of partners]
In 2019, the Foundation helped fund a new one-mile trail in Munson Township’s Scenic River Retreat. This trail provides access through woodland and wetlands to explore the unique natural features in Munson Township.

“The new trail in Scenic River Retreat became a reality thanks to the funding and support of the Foundation. We couldn’t have completed the project without the Foundation and appreciate that they have stayed involved.”

—IRENE McMULLEN
Chair, Munson Township Trustees

ON THE HORIZON

Piloting Pollinator Gardens Program

Countless studies have confirmed that pollinators around the world, such as bees, butterflies, birds, and mammals, are facing threats from habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation. Our plan is to build a partnership of organizations in the county committed to raising awareness and encouraging practices that will reduce pollinator habitat loss and fragmentation. The collaboration will result in demonstration gardens and educational opportunities for students and the general public. We will provide updates through Foundation communications as the program progresses.

The Foundation for Geauga Parks extends deep gratitude to the Cleveland Foundation Lake-Geauga Fund for its support of this important program.
Explorers Series

The Foundation for Geauga Parks established its monthly “Explorers Series” as a way for like-minded individuals to connect and explore a different park in Geauga County by boot, bike, paddle, or skis. Each experience provides a fun way to get outdoors, meet new people, and learn more about the natural, historic, and cultural beauty of our county.

The activities are geared for people of all ages and typically take about an hour to an hour and a half. Many are led by a park naturalist or a knowledgeable individual who shares insights about the natural and historic aspects of the park.

2020 Explorers Series Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>The Rookery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Beartown Lakes Reservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>The West Woods’ Affelder House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Big Creek Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 6</td>
<td>Veterans Legacy Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11</td>
<td>Punderson State Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>Bass Lake Preserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>Thompson Ledges Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Scenic River Retreat, Munson Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>Burton Wetlands Nature Preserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>President’s Choice TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you like to stay up to date on Explorers Series and other Foundation activities? Join our mailing list at www.foundationforgeaugaparks.org/pages/explorers-series
Making a Difference Together

The Board of Trustees offers its deepest thanks to those who supported our work during 2019. Whether you made a donation, sponsored or attended our Twilight Soiree, or contributed an in-kind gift, we appreciate your generous support!
Doug and Sue Stefancin
David & Catherine Sterle
Marta Stone
Tawana and Mike Thorn
Kris Treu
Carol Tuttle
Bob Tyler
Iris Tzafir
Kurt Updegraff
Jane Valvoda
Kevin Vayo
Karen Warden
Barbara Warren
Robert and Mary Lou Wellman
John Wiegand
James and Gayle Wohlken
Sandy Woolf
Darren and Lynn Wyville
William Zelazny
Gwenn and Karl Zoeller
In Honor of:

Casey Forbes
Mary Ann Ponce
Edward F. Meyers
Linda L. Brown
Jeff Hyde
Francesca Russo
John Janoch
The Mighty Market Mavens

In Memory of:

Donald Schindler
Leslie Marcarelli-Naizby
Duane Ferris
Protect Geauga Parks
George Reeder
Deborah O'Brien
Kathryn Ohrich
Harold Reed
Doris Reed
Lee Schiennan
Bob Shroy

Bateman Educational Endowment
Cynthia and Charles Boehnlein
Lola and Alan Skinner

Bridle Trail Fund
Margaret Allen
Carol Donaldson
Geauga County Chapter of the Ohio Horseman’s Council
Linda and Leonard Golding
Sandra Piktuna
Catherine and Edward Ullman

Chip Henry Institute
Lynne L. Charney
Sandy Woolf

Geauga Park District
Kolsom Tires
R&D Heating and Sheet Metal Co.

Geauga Skywatchers
Ian Cooper
Mary Anne Garvey
Newell and Ann Howard
Gerald Lackey
Lubrizol Foundation
Rachel McKinney
O'Neill Brothers Foundation
Ronald Pellettiere
William and Virginia Roth
Tawana and Mike Thorn
Raymond and Louisa Warner
Sonny Williams

Nature Education (including Nature Scopes)
Edward Baker and Anna van Heekeren
Cheryl Bessette
Dan and Nancy Best
Gary and Betsy Bryant
Robert and Rosemary Bradt
John Buchieri
Brian Cancelliere
Chardon Rotary Foundation
David Chittock
Jeanette Clague
Keith Corkwell
Mike Costas
Cory Deibol
Gail Dekker
Robert and Rachel Diehl
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation
Carol Donaldson
Brad and Jill Doudican
Susan and Mike Doudican
Bonnie Fish
Casey Forbes
Leslie Forbes
Stephen and Susan Forbes
William H. Forbes
Mary Lou and Joel Garver
Emile Gottsegan and Tom O'Brien
Ron and Connie Hamilton
Albert and Robert Hanes
Adam Henry
Marguerite Hrabak
Eamonn Hunter
Jeff Hyde
Kristen Hyde and Eric Dalmata
Rick and Marilyn Hyde
Newton Johnson
Lewis Jones
Tracey Keenan
Ann Kisin
William and Cheryl Koza
Mindy Kuth
Kathy Leavenworth

Carol Levin
Michelle Little
Thomas E. Long
Betsey Luce
Sue Lundstrom
Ruth Holm
Marguerite M. Wilson Foundation
Donna Martin
Michael and Christine McGuire
Rachel McKinney
Jim McSherry
Lee and Linda Miller
Stephen and Elaine Mraz
Will and Judy Nadzam
Jane Neubauer
O'Brien Family
John Oros
Paige Orvis
Carol Owens
Barbara and David Partington
Jim and Nancy Patterson
Barry and Bonnie Pearce
Tricia Phelan
Spencer Richman
Nancy Rubovits
Francesca Russo
Sonny Williams
Ben Sabol and Family
Jennifer Salo
Melanie Sankaran
Jim Sherwood
Dori Smith
Doug and Sue Stefancin
David and Catherine Sterle
Bob Tyler
Catherine and Edward Ullman
William O. and Gertrude Lewis
Frohling Foundation, Inc.
Sonny Williams
James and Gayle Wohlken
Sandy Woolf

Park & Trail Enhancement
Mary Anne Brommelmeier
Robert and Rachel Diehl
Claudia and Terry Dorsett
Mike and Joan Fath
John E. Gazzuolo
Allen and Kathy Holland
Betsey Luce
Rachel McKinney
Jonathan and Leslie C. McKnight
Bob Morecki
William Norwick
Christopher Powell
Douglas and Corey Ralston
Al Schinagle
Stanley and Diana Sells
John Senderak
Barnes Taft
Iris Tzafir
Robert and Mary Lou Wellman

Gifts received between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this listing. Please let us know of any omissions or errors.
This magical evening celebrates the natural world and the unique natural and cultural features of Geauga County. Join us for food and beverages provided by area restaurants, musical entertainment and nature-based silent auction items found nowhere else.

SAVE THE DATE

Twilight Soiree

August 22, 2020 | 5:30 – 9:30 PM
Veterans Legacy Woods, Newbury Twp.

Tickets are $100 per person — on sale now
Buy online at www.foundationforgeaugaparks.org/pages/twilight-soiree

Twilight Soiree 2019 Sponsor and Donor Recognition

Twilight Soiree is the Foundation for Geauga Parks’ signature fundraising event. Proceeds support the mission of the Foundation and help ensure long-term sustainability. The Foundation extends its heartfelt gratitude to all those who made the 2019 event a great success.

Twilight Soiree Sponsors
Junction Auto Family
Kinetico Incorporated
Auxin Group Wealth Management
Lubrizol Foundation
Linda L. Brown
Dave Chew Photography
Richard and Christie Frenchie
Ideas In Focus
KEW LLC
KeyBank
Meaden & Moore
Middlefield Banking Company
Patterson Fruit Farm
Paul Davis Restoration
Sheoga Hardwood Flooring & Paneling
University Hospitals Geauga Medical Center
Vintage Wine Distributor

In-Kind Donations
Aladdin’s Eatery
Appalachian Outfitters
Artisan’s Corner Gallery
Augie’s Pizza & Ribs
BellAmore Salon & Spa
Daniel and Nancy Best
Brown Barn Brew & Que
Chagrin Outfitters
Chagrin Valley Astronomical Society
Cindy Kepler Designs
Cleveland Museum of Natural History
Keith and Tina Corkwell
Crumb & Spigot
Dave Chew Photography
Element 41
Flamebeau, Inc.
Casey and Signe Forbes
Fowlers Milling Company
Evelyn Frohring
Geauga Grain & Feed
Geauga Park District
Timothy and Diane Grendell
Heartwood Coffee Roastery
Heinen’s Fine Foods
Hershey Montessori School

Jeff Hyde
Robert Kolcum
Laleure Vineyards
LOCLE Box
Sue and Bill Lundstrom
Mackenzie Creamery
Mazzulo’s Market
Nature’s Way Bird Products
O’Neill Landscape Design and Installation
Heidi and Jay O’Neill
Mary Beth and James O’Neill
Patio Lounge
Ramble Inn
Red Maple Inn
Red, Wine & Brew
REI Cleveland
Rich Bradshaw Training Stables
Salo Maple Products
Sharon James Cellars
Sugar Pines Farm
Claudia and Bert Toth
Jim Trombo
Warren’s Spirited Kitchen
Western Reserve Land Conservancy
Trevor and Gail Wilson
WoodFire Baking
Answering the Call Together

If we consider the value of parks in our lives, we could assert that rivers protect natural communities, promote healthy living, improve quality of life, and enhance the local economy.

The Foundation for Geauga Parks was formed 30 years ago as a fundraising conduit to support Geauga County’s rich natural resources, including its rivers, woodlands, wetlands and meadows, which are so important to our residents, businesses, and downstream neighbors. Together we are investing in land conservation projects, park and trail enhancements, and nature education to ensure the upcoming generations continue the legacy of clean air, clean water and a rich natural and cultural heritage. We urge you to join this effort.

Thank you for your support! Through your generosity we can continue a legacy of education, preservation, and exploration in Geauga County.

Donation Amount: $ __________________________

I would like my donation applied to:

❑ Greatest Need (Unrestricted)
❑ Park and Trail Enhancements
❑ Nature Education
❑ Geauga Skywatchers
❑ Bridle Trail Fund

Donation matched by: __________________________

Name:______________________________________
Street: ______________________________________
City, State: __________________________________
ZIP Code: ________________________________
Phone: _______________________________________________________________________
Email: ______________________________________

Please make checks payable to:
Foundation for Geauga Parks

Prefer to donate online? Go to www.foundationforgeaugaparks.org/pages/donate