MORE THAN ONE BRUTUS?

While there is only one Brutus Buckeye, did you know that over thirty life-size statues of our beloved mascot can be found on or near The Ohio State University campus? Let us tell you more.

“Brutus on Parade” was a campaign established to raise funds for the renovation of The William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library which was completed in 2009. Forty Brutus statues, each 6’2” tall and weighing 150 pounds, were artistically and creatively decorated by local artists, and sponsored by businesses and individuals for The Brutus on Parade Campaign. Brutus was so popular that more statues were made. So, “Where is Brutus?”

Use this helpful map to locate and take photos with the life-size Brutus Buckeye statues, and share it at #findbrutus.

For more information visit: go.osu.edu/wib

OHIO STATETERS, INC.

Ohio Staters, Inc. (OSI), a university service organization, was instrumental in the creation of our university mascot, Brutus Buckeye, in 1965. OSI is proud to provide this map which celebrates the tradition and brings recognition to our beloved mascot.
ORIGIN OF BRUTUS

As one of Ohio State’s most beloved and storied figures, the founding of Brutus Buckeye is a tale rich in legend and lore. Each Ohio State student, alumnus, friend and fan has written their own chapter in the endless story of this amazing character. So it is fitting that we look back and document its very beginning, which appropriately began with the hard work and dedication of Ohio State students and student organizations.

Prior to 1965, Ohio State had no mascot. It was that year Ohio State students took matters into their own hands and launched an effort to create a mascot for the school. Some of the earliest documentation of the initiative is in the archival meeting minutes from Ohio Staters, Incorporated (Staters), a long-standing student service organization that still exists at Ohio State today. In October of 1965, students Ray Bourhis and Sally (Huber) Lanyon began to build a papier-mâché mascot. The construction reportedly took place at the Pi Beta Phi sorority house in the off-campus area, and there is documentation that Staters allocated $100 to the construction expenses in mid-October.

The mascot, without an official name at the time, made its debut by walking down the entrance ramp at Ohio Stadium on October 30, 1965, at Ohio State’s Homecoming football game against Minnesota. Shortly after this premiere, Staters hosted a contest to identify a name for the mascot, which ultimately was announced as Brutus Buckeye.

Because the paper-mâché Brutus was not durable for Ohio weather conditions, Staters voted to allocate $250 to support the creation of the fiberglass mascot in order to make it more sustainable.

At the conclusion of the 1965 football season, management of Brutus was turned over to Block “O,” another Ohio State student organization dedicated to promoting and enhancing school spirit and pride; the organization is also still in existence today.

Block “O” managed the mascot until 1974, when, after a Big Ten Championship season and an impending trip to the Rose Bowl game in Pasadena, Brutus was not originally scheduled to make an appearance in California. In the end, Ohio State’s Athletics department made the decision to send Brutus to the Rose Bowl, and Ohio State’s spirit organization took control of the mascot, where he has been lovingly cared for ever since.

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