



**Ozark Trail Association  
Q3 Board Meeting  
Zoom Video Conference  
Saturday, August 7, 2021**

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A meeting of the directors of the corporation was held on Saturday, August 7, 2021, at 9:00 A.M., via the Zoom Conferencing Service, for the purpose of reviewing the prior year's business, discussing corporate operations for the upcoming year, and for the transaction of any other business that may properly come before the meeting, pursuant to notice and in accordance with Bylaws of the Ozark Trail Association, A Missouri Nonprofit Corporation.

Ms. Abi Jackson was elected Chairman of the meeting and Mr. Jeff Goetter was appointed Secretary thereof.

The secretary announced that the meeting was held pursuant to notice, if and as required under the bylaws of this corporation.

The secretary announced that the following directors were present at the meeting:

**Ms. Kathie Brennan  
Mr. James Schneider  
Mr. Roger Allison**

**Mr. Mark Goforth  
Mr. Jeff Goetter**

The secretary then announced that the presence of these directors at the meeting represented a quorum of the board of directors as defined in the bylaws of this corporation.

The following persons were also present at the meeting:

**Ms. Rosie Koskovich  
Mr. Ron Koskovich**

**Mr. Terry Hawn  
Ms. Abi Jackson**

The secretary announced that the minutes of the Annual Board meeting held on April 24, 2021, were provided for the meeting. After discussion, a vote was taken, and the minutes of the meeting were approved by the directors in attendance.

The first item of business was the opportunity for open public discussion by meeting attendees. No items were brought forward.

The next item of business was the **President** report from Ms. Kathie Brennan and may be viewed in **Attachment 1**. In addition, the OTA was honored by the USFS District 9 with the 'Volunteer & Service' award for 2020 for all the work done by the volunteers after the big spring storms that took out a lot of trees on the southern end of the trail system. Ms. Brennan announced she is willing to stay on for another year while the GAO project is underway.

The next item of business was the **Vice President** report from Mr. Goforth. No report submitted.

The next item of business was the **Treasurer's** report by Mr. Roger Allison and may be viewed in **Attachment 2**.

The next item of business was the **Chief Operations Officer** report by Ms. Abi Jackson and may be viewed in **Attachment 3**.

The next item of business was reports from the Standing Committees.

The **Communications Committee** had no report submitted.

The **Construction & Maintenance Committee** was reported by Mr. Terry Hawn and may be viewed in **attachment 4**.

The **Planning and Development Committee** report was presented by multiple individuals and may be viewed in **Attachment 5**

The **Education and Outreach Committee** report was provided by Ms. Jen Potts and may be viewed in **Attachment 6**. Expo has been confirmed as a Trail head Sponsor.

The **Finance Committee** was reported on by multiple persons and reports may be viewed in **attachment 7**.

The next item of business was a call for new business items.

Mr. Allison introduced the need for succession planning. It is highly important that we start planning so we can sustain the organization for the future, this may take some Bylaws review and job documentation, and may require full/part time staffing in the future. Please contact Mr. Allison if interesting in taking part in the discussion.

Mr. Hawn has suggested the corporation sell the green work truck and then set aside the proceeds into dedicated fund for the purchase of a new one later. After discussion the Board authorized the sale and the directs the Treasurer to allocate the proceed into a separate account, preferably interest generating, until a new purchase is needed.

Ms. Brennan reported the Forest Service still has the rules in place regarding the COVID-19 virus controls, however we have not been told that we need to scale back, but we will continue to follow our plan.

Mr. Goforth reported Bass River Resort is wanting some trail kiosks and is willing to fund

Mr. Goforth asked that the status of the River Trail be brought up at the next Ozark Trail Council Meeting. It was also discussed that a name for the future land portion had been asked of the Osage Nation and they are proposing "Wahzhazhe", which roughly means "people of the middle water."

After discussion November 20, 2021, was selected as the date for 4th Quarter Board of Directors meeting.

There being no other further business before the Board, on motion duly made seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffery J. Goetter  
Secretary, Ozark Trail Association Board of Directors



## **Report to the Board of Directors**

President Report  
Prepared By: Kathie Brennan

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Since the last OTA Board meeting, the majority of time was spent with the St. Louis ERT AmeriCorps crews during the month of May and June. The crews were utilized for deferred maintenance in the MTNF as well as trail maintenance throughout the OT system. This was a great introduction to the amount of information that will need to be collected for future use with the MTNF and the other Partners.

Communication involved the MTNF concerning the GAOA funding, the Cost Share agreement that was not included with the GAOA funding. A separate meeting has been requested from ONSR Superintendent Jason Lott but he has not scheduled anything at this time. Communications with Partners of the OTC have been spotty, and I am looking at a September OTC meeting date (weekday) with the majority of the OTC Partners availability making the final date decision.

Moving forward, the OTA will be looking at hiring through the GAOA funding 2 or more individuals within the coming weeks. This will also help to pull off the pressure of what is scheduled for the upcoming C&M season. A job description has been written and we have reached out to several AC crew members who are possible candidates for the positions. A discussion later in the meeting will be around succession of the OTA and the leadership team. I encouraged each Board member to be looking NOW at those around you who could further enhance the OTA Board as well as be part of our committee structure. From looking at the upcoming reports, we have a lot of exciting times ahead and all hands are needed on deck to make it happen.

Closing I can't thank each of you enough for the dedication, time, and efforts in moving the OTA forward into the future of what we have never ventured before.... without YOU and our OTA Volunteer base, it wouldn't, couldn't and most certainly never have the results that we are seeing across the OT and behind the scenes would be happening. Appreciate each one of you...k



## Report to the Board of Directors

Treasurer Report  
Prepared By: Roger Allison

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1. The second quarter of 2021 was very good for the OTA.

- Assets: The beginning checking account balance at the beginning of the quarter \$150,201.51. The balance on June 30, 2021 was \$171,265.13. Thus our net assets increased by approximately \$21,000.00 in the quarter, for the first half of the year our cash on hand has increased by over \$51,000.00.
- Revenue: Overall revenue through June 30 is 61% of our budget.
- Expenses: Through the end June expenses were at 33% of the total budgeted amount. Spending will increase in the second half as GAOA activities ramp up.
- A summary of revenue and expenses for the first half of 2021 is attached.

2. Activity since the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.

- Edward Jones was selected as investment advisor for the OTA Endowment Fund. The initial donation of \$25,000 was transferred to Edward Jones this last week and our account is funded as of August 5, 2021.
- Abi and I are working on adding accounts to Quickbooks to account for the Endowment Fund.

3. Tasks for the remainder of the year.

- Finalize the 2020 Form 990 and have the Board review it.
- Engage an auditor: At this point in time the best course of action is probably to get an audit firm under contract so they can prepare financial statements for 2021 as soon as books are closed on the year.
  - Develop of work for the Audit service RFP to include audited financial statements, possibly preparation of 2021 Form 990, and calculation of an indirect cost rate for approval by the US Govt for use in government grants such the GAOA agreement with USFS.
  - Issue/Advertise the RFP to interested firms.
  - Receive/evaluate RFP's and select a firm.

**Ozark Trail Association, Inc.**  
**Treasurers Report for 1st Half 2021 (Unauditted)**  
**7-Aug-21**

Account	1st Qtr 2021	2021 Budget	% of Budget
40100 · Individual Contributions	\$13,430.53	\$16,200.00	83%
40200 · Entity Contributions	\$2,022.53	\$2,000.00	101%
42100 · Business Grants	\$7,500.00	\$5,900.00	127%
42300 · Foundation Grants	\$2,730.00	\$6,000.00	46%
45300 · RTP Reimbursements	\$6,509.69	\$28,000.00	23%
50200 · USFS Cost-Share Reimbursements	\$15,963.13	\$25,000.00	64%
52100 · Memberships	\$11,919.58	\$15,000.00	79%
54340 · Map Sales	\$8,571.57	\$6,000.00	143%
54350 · Merchandise Sales	\$5,094.88	\$6,000.00	85%
54450 · Merchandise Costs	-\$330.54	\$0.00	
58001 · Mega Cash In	\$1,451.23	\$1,000.00	145%
58010 · Trivia Cash In	\$2,160.00	\$0.00	
58010 · MTB Race Cash In	\$1,075.50	\$2,000.00	54%
58030 · Challenge Hike Cash In	\$5,191.14	\$14,000.00	37%
58035 · Devil's Toll Race Cash In	\$1,350.00	\$3,000.00	45%
58036 · Three Legged Monster	\$480.00	\$8,000.00	6%
58050 · AI-Pint Night Cash In	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	0%
<b>Total First Quarter Revenue</b>	<b>\$85,119.24</b>	<b>\$139,600.00</b>	<b>61%</b>
60000 · Other Revenue (Sale of Asset) DR Mowers Sales	\$2,100.00		
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$41,675.60</b>	<b>\$125,754.37</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Net Revenue for Jan-July</b>	<b>\$45,543.64</b>		
Beginning Bank Balance- 1-1-2021	\$119,877.35		
Ending Bank Balance	\$171,265.13		
Increase	\$51,387.78		



# Report to the Board of Directors

**Chief Operating Officer**  
Prepared By: Abi Jackson

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## 1. MAINTENANCE

- USFS Collaboration
  - Cost-Share Agreement for routine maintenance: Discussed/finalized annual agreement and budget with Thomas Saylor.
  - Great American Outdoor Act (GAOA) Agreement for deferred maintenance: Met with Chris Woods, USFS Recreation Manager, to discuss the current agreement and arranged a meeting with OTA President, Treasurer and C&M Chair to discuss planning and budgeting.
  - Attended the USFS Collaborative meeting on May 18th.
- Adopt-A-Trail
  - Assisted transition of the Adopt-A-Trail Program over to new coordinator, John Nies. Shared information about the position through social media and an email blast. Mailed out adopter supplies as needed and posted AAT promotional information on Facebook.
  - Trail Skills College Met regularly with USFS and Backcountry Horsemen of MO (BCHMO) representatives to plan for the 2021 Trail Skills College. Made arrangements with Brushy Creek for a meeting and tour of the facilities to prepare for the event. Arranged First Aid/CPR certification classes with Perry Whitaker. Coordinated sawyer certification sign-ups and contacted Joe Glenn for classes. Recruited members, AAT volunteers, sawyers, board members, and crew leaders for attendance.
- Mega
  - Assisted with prep for Mega Event. Helped prepare radios, sign-in sheets, crew lists, etc. Attended Mega at Council Bluff on April 17, 2021.
- Facilities Maintenance
  - Received multiple bids for a new HVAC system which was funded by the USFS and has been installed.
  - Arranged phone line repair with CenturyLink. 2.

## 2. DEVELOPMENT

- 2017 RTP
  - Continued work on RTP reimbursement, budget and submitted quarterly report.
- OT/OHT Connection
  - Collaborated with James Hodges to develop and design an informational brochure. Sent planning documents and met with Jim Schneider. Created a poster showing the gaps and proposed road routes.

## 3. PROMOTION

- Website
  - Continued collaboration with the website team to plan upgrades. Made updates and posted closure notices to the website as needed and stylized a homepage graphic that will feature an overview of the Ozark Trail.
- Social Media
  - Shared multiple promotional posts. Created monthly membership promotional graphics and welcome graphics highlighting new and renewing members for social media and made posts regularly.
- 3-Legged Monster
  - Attended multiple planning meetings with event committee, met with Bass Resort and Ozark Outdoors and visited Onondaga Cave SP to work out race details, updated maps for racecourse, requested quote for insurance, requested quote for swag, created promo graphic, promoted the event on social media, and created a Facebook group for the event.
- Newsletter
  - Worked with Kathie Brennan, President, to design and send e-newsletters.
- Additional Graphic Design
  - Created AAT and Sawyer patch artwork.

#### **4. FUNDRAISING**

- 2021 OT Challenge Hike & Float
  - Continued collaboration with Garrett Doak, director, on organizing the 2021 event. Updated Facebook page banner, continuously updated and shared sponsor graphic, promoted on social media and sent sponsor thank yous. Negotiated sponsorship with Brad Kovach from Terrain magazine to apply toward multiple events.
- Membership
  - Continued work with Garrett Doak, Membership Coordinator. Mailed new member kits, manually entered check payments, mailed life member certificates, sent donation acknowledgements, and met with Neon CRM to get information on additional options.
- Give STL Assisted
  - Garrett Doak with promotion of the Give STL fundraiser.
- Sponsorships
  - Met with Jim Schneider to discuss plans for obtaining corporate sponsorships.
- Merchandise
  - Processed and shipped all merchandise orders.
- Grants
  - REI: Received grant.
  - L-A-D Foundation: Submitted letter of inquiry for a grant in the amount of \$3,500 and we were invited to submit a full grant proposal which is due in August.
  - Bass Pro: Received grant. Submitted signed grant agreement and copy of W-9.
  - Carl Morrow Annual Giving Program: Received grant. Signed and returned grant receipt paperwork.

#### **5. ADMINISTRATIVE**

- Accounting
  - 990: Met with accountant to discuss final details and sent additional information needed for completion.

- Bookkeeping: Entered second quarter banking information into QuickBooks. All payables, receivables and deposits have been tracked and coded to the appropriate categories in the chart of accounts and there are detailed and organized electronic files of all documents.
- Organizational Development
  - Researched vision statement and followed up with Maranatha Hayes.
- Miscellaneous Additional Collaboration
  - Communicated regularly with committee chairs.
  - Attended USFS Volunteer Group of the Year award ceremony at Greer on June 15th.
  - During weekends and evenings, attended the Q2 2021 Board Meeting, executive committee meeting, multiple website meetings, multiple staff meetings, multiple Finance Committee meetings, and multiple 3-Legged Monster meetings.
  - Communicated regularly with Jon Breithaupt, USFS Wilderness and Trail Manager and Chris Woods, USFS Recreation Manager.
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All other general and miscellaneous office duties have also been completed during this time.

## Attachment 4 – Construction & Maintenance Report



# Report to the Board of Directors

Construction and Maintenance Committee  
Prepared By: Terry Hawn

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It's been a busy 2021 so far. We have established the entire 2022 Calendar year maintenance and construction schedule ( over 40 events are on the calendar) . Which included 17 Maintenance events (6 of first 7 were canceled due to weather) we have 11 left through the End of May.

We had 3 Americorp crews ( 1 each in May, June, July) have worked on nearly 120 miles of trail in conjunction with Americorp this quarter, cleared nearly 200 trees off the trail on The Taum Sauk, Marble Creek, Between The Rivers, Eleven Point, Upper Current River) and worked on over 1500 ft of GAOA tread rehab on the Eleven PT Section.

We have the Trail Skills College at Brushy Creek in September -- looking forward to a great turnout for that.

We will be turning in our first GAOA Invoice to the USFS just prior to the OTA Board meeting, so things are moving along on that front.

There have been additional discussions with the USFS on GAOA funding for 2023-2025. We anticipate an additional \$100,000 for each of the 3 years for a total of \$300,000 on top of the \$149,000 already under contract.

We have another 10 Scheduled Maintenance Events for the fall between August and December 18<sup>th</sup>, as well as a robust list of Ozark Trail enhancement projects using new grant money expected from the USFS. These projects include:

We have a large-scale trail rehab project that encompasses updating trail tread all along the 235 miles.

### **GAOA Tread Rehab Projects**

Completed to date:

- Courtois – Project #1 – C6 - Harmon Spring re-route completed Fall Mega.
- Courtois – Project #2 – C10 – tread repair just north of 1<sup>st</sup> Pigeon Roost road crossing – 300 ft
- Greer Spring – 11 Pt Project #1 - north of campground on 1<sup>st</sup> switchback above the High Trail Split – 350 ft completed - 3/22/2021.

- Sutton Bluff – Karkaghne Project #1 – North of Sutton Bluff Campground between Road exit and River Road crossing about ¾ north - 670 ft of trail rehabbed – 4/3/2021.
- Spring Mega at Council Bluff Lake - . 31 mile of tread rehab from spillway and .38 tread rehab from Campground Trash bin trail to lake loop, exifrom boat ramp to trail armouring
- Americorp – Potosi – 5/18 Tom Sauk from Hwy A TH to Bell MTN juntion over to Goggins Mtn, Johnson Shutins and Hwy N. Entire Marble Creek Section cleared of weeds. A total of 35 miles of trail cleared and 60 trees removed.
- Americorp - 11 Pt Project #2 EP3 – tread rehab directly behind Campground 200 ft up the bluff and 175 ft fromcemetry road up the hill towards Greer Capground . June 15.
- Americorp – 2 10 day crews - Winona/CRSP - June 7 -30 – Cleared 80 miles of trail , 163 trees cleared and 1,379 ft of GAOA tread rehab. Tread work don on 11 pt from 3152 TH and Greer Springs Canpground.

Scheduled or on the list as soon as USFS NEPA Completed – More are being added weekly.

- Wappapello – TH RD 172 W30-33 approx. .25 mile– reroute – awaiting NEPA.
- Victory Section V8 - reroute – awaiting NEPA.
- MiddleFork Project #1 - MF2 – move tread away from eroding bank – 200 ft.
- MiddleFork Project #2 – MF7C – put in switchbacks above Strother Creek – steep hill.
- MiddleFork Project #3 – MF7a – fix rutting on about 100 ft of trail south from Little Creek
- Karkaghne Project #2 K4- tread rehab West of Bee Fork on Big Nasty – approx. .5 mil
- Karkaghne Project #3 K5a – tread rehab West of Big Nasty on Little Nasty – approx. .5 mile
- Blair Creek Project #1 BC3 – move trail out of drainage areas.
- Blair Creek Project #2 BC5 – rehab hillside tread that is virtually gone – approx. 300 ft
- Current River Project #1 CR3a – rehab trail tread on north side of Stegal Mtn .25 mile
- Current River Project #2 CR10 – Address steep ascent via boulder drainage t highway 60 underpass
- Courtois – Project #3 – Between Hwy 8 /Lost Creek and Gobblers Knob Rd at mile marker 36-38
- Courtois – Project #4 – Mile 39.7 between FS RD 2591 and 2267 .75 mile of tread rehab
- Courtois - Project #5 – Berryman north end of loop just above Harmon Springs spur connection
- Courtois – Project #6 – Re-roue just west of 2<sup>nd</sup> crossing – move trail out of drainage area and up on hillside – will require NEPA.
- Courtois – Project #7 – Repair trail between Hazel Creek to Snapps Branch then to FS RD 2698 – 3 miles

- Trace Creek – Project #1 – Tread repair between Pine Branch and Delbridge rd. - .25 mile
- Trace Creek Project #2 - Spur to CBL-
- Trace Creek Project #3 - Peter Cave Hollow to gravel road -mile 23-24– hillside tread repair
- 11 Pt Project #3 EP10 – re-route east of Bochman Springs.
- 11 Pt -Project #4 EP10 – move western TH to Bannister Rd (County Rd 430) and build about 1 mile of new trail.
- Norfolk Project #1 – reroute off County Road AP.
- Norfolk Project #2 – NF4a – fix hillside tread erosion.
- Taum Sauk – TS11 – reroute.
- Council Bluff CBL2 – re-route above spillway to bypass erosion and rutting .2 mile.
- Council Bluff CBL - move tread up the hill away from flooding cove for .25 miles.

#### **Non – GAOA Trail work**

- Blair Creek re-routes out of creek bed and/or drainage.
- 400 ft of damaged trail was re-routed in Peck Ranch n Mar 20.

ALL 3 OTA Trailers have had tires replaced- ( 3 tires replaced on each trailer.)  
We added 5 new Pick Mattocks to the tool supply ad 7 new Power tool harnesses

Started the process of creating 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Ozark Trail Guide.

#### **Trail Head Enhancement Project**

- deployed new benches on 2 Marble Creek THs
- We also plan on adding or updating the Kiosks at each trailhead as well as improving signage at all trailheads and secondary trail access points.

#### **Connecting the OT-OHT – Build down South.**

- We had 2 builds originally scheduled for the first half of 2021.
  - The first Build in Feb was canceled due to weather.
  - We had to move the second build to May 1-2 and added a second build on May 22-23.
- We have 4 OT-OHT builds scheduled for the Fall - Aug 27-29, Oct 1-3, Nov 12-14 & Dec 3-5.
- As part of the OT-OHT Connection outreach, Kathie Brennan did an event in West Plains on May 11. We prepared a new OT-OHT Conction poster and had hard copies printed up plus distributed electronic copis as well.
- We continue putting in place an outreach program of some kind to solicit donations to support the Build down south. We will need the help of the Outreach and financial teams.

## 2021 Schedule of Events

Aug 17-20 Prep for 3-Legged Monster Race  
Aug 20-22 3-Legged Monster Race – Bass River Resort  
**Aug 27-29 OT-OHT Build in Udall**  
Sept 10-12 OT Challenge Hike and Float – Round Springs  
Sept 17-20 OTA Trail Skills College - Brushy Creek  
Sept 23-24 50/100 One Eyed Dog MTB Race Prep  
Sep 25 50/100 One Eyed Dog MTB Race  
**10/01/03 Outdoor Expo**  
**OT-OHT Build**  
Oct 8 Fall Mega Prep  
Oct 9-10 Fall Mega – AT Bass River Resort – Berryman tread rehab  
Oct 15 Devil's Toll Gate Race Prep  
Oct 16 Devil's Toll Gate Race  
Oct 18-24 Whoopin' It Up in Winona Maintenance  
Oct 27-31 OT100 Endurance Race Prep  
Nov 5-6 OT 100 Endurance Race  
**Nov 12-14 OT-OHT Build in Udall**  
Nov 27-28 3-Fs Maintenance Day  
**12/03/05 OT-OHT Build in Udall**  
12/11/21 Winter in the Woods  
Dec 18 Full Moon Maintenance

## 2022 Proposed Calendar

Fri 12/31/21 - Last Day Hike Event  
Sa Jan 1 2022 - First Day Hike Event  
Mon Jan 4-13/22 - AmeriCorp 10 day crew lower sections  
Sa Jan 9/22 - TBD  
Sa 01/15/22 - OTA Board Mtg –  
**Fri-Sun 01/21-23/22 - OT-OHT Trail Build – In Udall, Mo**  
TH 01/27/22 - Jeff City Lobby Day  
Sun 01/29/22- OT Maint TBD  
Sa 02/05/22 - ??? Trivia Night  
Su 02/06/22 - Super Bowl Sunday – Maint on the OT  
Sa 02/12/22 - ?? Trivia Night  
**Fri-Sun 02/11-13/22 - OT-OHT Build - UDALL**

Fri -Sun 02/18-20/22 - Time for The Ladies –Round Springs- Timber Fire Dept Chili and Pie Auction

Th 03/03/22 - OT Council Meeting – Zoom

Sa 03/05/22 - Maint OT - North

**Fri-Sun 03/11-13/22 - Udall Build**

We Mar 17 St Patrick's Day

Fri-Th 03/18-24/22 - "Luck of the Irish" at Winona – working Current River, BTR and Eleven Point

Sa-Su Mar 27-28\* - TBD

Sat-Sun 04/02-3/22 - Maint on the North - Sutton Bluff - Karkahgne

**Fri-Su 04/09/22** - Maintenance on the Trail

**- Build OT-OHT Build**

Sun 04/10/22- Pslam Sunday

Fri-Sun 04/15-16/22 - Maint on OT TBD

Tu 04/19/22 - OTA Board Mtg

FRI - 04/21/22 - Spring Mega Prep

Sa 04/23-24/22 - Spring Mega. South – OT/OHT Connection Or Hazel Creek- Snap Branch

fRI -4/28/22 - OT CHallenge

Sa 04/30/22 - OT Challenge

TH 05/06/22 - Junior Ranger Day – Round Springs – Place Holder – TBD

Fr 05/07/22 - Maint Out There– TBD

Sa 05/08 Celebrating Mom on the O

Sa 05/14/22 - Friends and Family

**Sa May 21\* - OT-OHT Build**

Sa 05/28/22 - OT Maint

Mon May 31 - Memorial Day

Sa 06/04/22 - National Trails Day observed TBA

Sa 06/11/22 - Devil's TollGate

Sa Aug 13 - OTA-OTC Meeting – Zoom

W-Th Aug 17-18 - Prep for 3-LM Race

Fri-Sun Aug 19-20 3-Legged Monst'ler Race – BASS

Sa Aug 27 - TBD

Sa Sept 3-5 - Labor on the OT

**Fri-Sun Sept 10-12 - TBD - OT-OHT Build**

Fri-Sun Sept 17-19\* - MTB Maint Council Bluff or Berryman. –

W-Fri Sept 22-23 - MTB Prep

Sa Sept 24 - One Eyed Dog 50/100 MTB Race – Council Bluff

**Fr-Sun Oct 1-3** - Mississippi Valley Outdoor Expo

**- OT-OHT Build**

Fr 10/07/22 - Mega Prep

Sa 10/08/22 - Fall Mega. North

Fri 10/14-15/22 - Maint on OT - TBD

Fri-Wed Oct 21-26 - Whoopin It Up in Winona Extended work week art Winona

Fri Oct 28-31 - 100 Endurance Race Maintenance and Prep

Sa-Sun Nov 3-4/22 - OT100M ER Aid Stations  
Fr 10/07/22 - Mega Prep  
Sa 10/08/22 - Fall Mega. North – Bass – Berryman  
Fri 10/14-15/22 - Maint on OT - TBD  
Fri-Wed Oct 21-26 - Whoopin It Up in Winona Extended work week art Winona  
Fri Oct 28-31 - 100 Endurance Race Maintenance and Prep\\\\\\\\  
Sa-Sun Nov 3-4/22 - OT100M ER Aid Stations  
Sa-Sun 11/12-13 - MTB Maint Council Bluff or Berryman. – Maybe OTSHAB Maint Day  
- OT-OTH Udall Build  
Sa 11/12/22 - Deer Season begins  
Sa Nov 12 - OTA Board Meeting - Zoom  
Thurs 11/24/22 - Thanksgiving  
Sat 11/26-27 - The 3 “F”s maintenance event  
Sa 12/02-04/22 - OT-OHT Build Udall  
Sa 12/10/22 - TBD  
Sa Dec 17/22 - Full Moon Maintenance  
Sa Dec 25 - Christmas  
Fr Dec 31 - End of Year Hike  
Sa Jan 1/2023 - First Year Hike



## **Report to the Board of Directors**

Southern Missouri Strategic Plan Proposal  
Prepared By: James Schneider

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# Ozark Trail - Southern Missouri Strategic Plan Proposal

August 2021

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2. Project Description and Scope
3. Barriers / Risks & Opportunities / Enablers
4. Background Research & Notes
5. Recommendations and Proposed Next Steps

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### Project Objectives

- Accelerate efforts to complete the trail gaps in southern Missouri and connect to the Ozark Highlights trail. This includes the sections of the trail from the western trailhead of the Eleven Point section westward to the Arkansas border. Target Dates will be determined as resource and delivery plans are developed
- Develop and build the partnership with the Ozark Highland Trail Association to realize the vision of a 700 mile "Trans Ozark Trail" that will be considered a world-class hiking trail and recreation resource which will provide economic benefits for the region. Engage in partnership activities to enhance the completion of both the OT and OHT.
- Enhance the visibility of our efforts and plan with the public and key stakeholders.

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## Project Description and Scope

- Increase the resources and capacity of the Ozark Trail Association to support the trail construction and maintenance of Ozark Trail in the southern portion of Missouri. This increase in capacity will be focused on completing the construction from the Eleven Point West trail head southward to the Arkansas border to connect with the Ozark Highlands Trail.
- This plan will be completed in 3 phases:
  - Phase 1 will focus on completing trail construction on the CoE land extending from Dawt to the Missouri border.
  - Phase 2 will focus on the route planning and land rights / acquisition and construction from Dawt to the southern North Fork trail-head.
  - Phase 3 will focus on the road route mapping between the North Fork and Eleven Point sections and future offroad trail mapping and build
- This increase in capacity will include, but is not limited to:
  - Obtaining financial and other material contributions dedicated to this project and ongoing maintenance
  - Developing volunteer and leadership resources sourced primarily from southern Missouri and northern Arkansas near the trail. Create a self sustaining C&M organization and chairperson that will be part of the executive committee
  - Acquiring additional construction and maintenance equipment.
  - Additional storage storage and security of equipment in the region.

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## Project Description and Scope

- Developing and executing a community outreach strategy to publicize the joint efforts of the OTA/OHTA/ OKTE with the goal of increasing awareness among the public trail users and business community in the region to facilitate support both for financial/resource contributions and building the volunteer base.
- Enhance the advocacy efforts and engage federal state and local officials

### Out-of-Scope:

- Specific route surveying, mapping for the existing gaps. This will or has been completed by the Planning committee.
- Actual planning and execution of construction activity. This will be planned and executed by the C&M committee and supporting resources. This includes work along road routes.

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## Barriers / Risks & Opportunities / Enablers

### Barriers / Risks

- OTA Financial and Volunteer resources to complete construction while supporting ongoing maintenance efforts funded through the GAOA.
- Private landowners who passively or actively undermine or unwilling to support trail building efforts.
- Lack of a long term strategy for private land acquisition for trail segments and resources to acquire.

### Opportunities / Enablers

- Strong community interest in supporting TOT concept
- Strong business community support in surrounding communities

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## Background Research & Notes

- The Ozark Keystone Trail Endowment organization led by Jackson Rhodes has secured federal approval from the Core of Engineers to complete trail construction from the North Fork Dam in Arkansas to Dawt Mill in Missouri.
- On the Arkansas side of the OKT, are 3 gaps totaling approx 33+ miles that remain to be constructed. Of this 5 miles have been completed. There are also an additional 30 miles of trails currently finished and open to the public.
  - **Gap 1 - Matney Knob to Dam- 8+ miles** (James Hodges is focused on this section as it is an OHT high priority, but unfunded at this time without a clear through corridor.)
  - **Trail Segment:** Dam to CR1028 -13 miles
  - **Gap 2 CR1028 to Robinson Point 18 Miles** (Jackson & OKTE – work in progress on the northern half of this sub section. The south half, CR 396 to CR1028 is scheduled for 2022 when Gap #3 is complete, however is not funded.)
  - **Trail Segment** -Robinson Point to Red Bank- 17 miles
  - **Gap 3 - Red Bank to AR/MO border- 7 - 9 miles** (Jackson & OKTE – scheduled for late 2021 through 2022 and funded, but not under construction)
- Jackson has secured funding for Gaps 2 and 3 noted above. This same funding source will fund construction for Gap 1 and has expressed interest in funding the Missouri segment as well. This may eliminate or minimize additional fund raising for the Missouri construction costs.

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## Background Research & Notes

- On the Missouri side, the OTA has started construction near Udall. 0.50 miles has been completed to date.
- Once construction is finished in Arkansas, the OKTE intends to commence construction in Missouri. Construction efforts and plans between the OKTE and OTA have not been coordinated or aligned.
- The OKTE uses both hand build and machine build methods, the OTA only hand builds trails. We need to come to agreement between the organizations on where and when to utilize these two methods. This is crucial as this has a significant impact on costs, construction timeframes and volunteer resources needed to complete construction.
- Additional volunteer resources are needed to complete the gaps noted above. They are currently leveraging resources from the Master Naturalist & Ozark Highlands Trail organizations as well as through the OTA working with Kathy B and Terry H. Additional volunteer resources are needed to support and complete trail builds where machine building is not feasible.

## Recommendations and Proposed Next Steps

1. Set-up scheduled periodic meetings with J Hodges and J Rhodes and other members of the OHTA and OKTE to align on strategy and partnership opportunities. Establish a "Trans Ozark Trail" council to provide oversight and support for vision of a connected trail
1. Develop a joint plan and formal agreement to complete the construction of the Dam to Dawt section.
  - a. Determine priorities and timing.
    - i. Consider suspending construction in Missouri and pivot to support AR builds
    - ii. Assist with volunteer resources to accelerate AR build
  - a. Align on construction methods for MO builds
  - a. Determine funding needs / estimated costs
  - a. Align on funding sources and methods to obtain funding. Given Jackson's sources do we need to secure additional funding for segment build? MO
    - i. Get commitment on Missouri funding and details on allowable expenditures
    - ii. Identify funding gaps and develop strategy to address
  - a. Determine leadership for construction efforts for the Dawt to Dam segment
  - a. Align on volunteer resource management
    - i. Recruitment in Southern MO / Northern Arkansas
    - ii. Usage of OTA resources for AR builds
  - a. Communications and Publicity
    - i. Communicate TOT vision and strategic plan
    - ii. Coordinate community outreach efforts
    - iii. Coordinate funding efforts

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## Recommendations and Proposed Next Steps

1. Refocus and prioritize efforts to develop plans to complete the remaining segments. Execute trail building / mapping efforts as funds and resources are available.
  - a. Phase 2 - Dawt to the southern North Fork trailhead.
  - a. Phase 3 - Road route mapping between the North Fork and Eleven Point sections.
  - a. Phase 3a - Conduct preliminary research to determine feasibility and route of a ~~road~~ route between the North Fork and Eleven Point sections.

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## Topic 2

While doing research on OHTA website resources page I came across the Ozark Society. Website: <https://www.ozarksociety.net/>

I reached out via email to Loring Bullard of the Ozark Society. Loring leads the Springfield MO chapter with 100 members. We eventually connected and I set up a meeting to chat with him this week

I set up this meeting with the hope that Loring would be a good contact as we look to expand our volunteer base in Southwest Missouri and hoping that the Ozark Society might be a good resource pool for additional volunteers and OT membership. The Ozark Society has over 900 members in 7 chapters across MO, AR, and LA.

The OS has a number of different working groups, focused on particular interests and issues. They work closely with the National Forest Service and other government agencies.

We met and discussed areas of mutual interest between our organizations and there appears to be a good fit. It was a great conversation and we both agreed we would reach out to our organization leadership to set up some additional conversations. Loring went so far as to indicate he would host a meeting at his home.

As I discussed our goal of creating a connected trail with the OHT and completing sections on private land, Loring suggested reaching out to the Ozark Land Trust (<https://ozarklandtrust.org/>) and the Community Foundation of the Ozarks CFO (<https://www.cfozarks.org/>). Loring is also a board member of the Ozark Land Trust. Loring gave me the contact information for the leadership for these two organizations.

These organizations could be potential funding sources and definitely be good sources of additional contacts to build up our resource network in Southern Missouri. The CFO has 53 community affiliates throughout the state that are potential contacts and sources of grant funding.

So, as we review the project proposal and strategy for the Southern Missouri trail build, and begin moving forward, I suggest we discuss how we can take advantage of these new contacts and begin building relationships with these organizations and leadership.

## Attachment 6 – Education and Outreach



# Report to the Board of Directors

Education and Outreach Committee  
Prepared By: Jen Potts

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- We have been out to Steelville Farmers Market (once in July so far, plans to return as the summer cools down) - great response with market visitors and with sharing on social media.
  - I am in the beginning stages with Perry at Alpine Shop to figure out something we can do this fall (AlPint Night) - John N. interested in pursuing the same event on at Alpine Shop in Columbia.
  - Instagram has over 3,000 followers!
  - UST gear (based in a Columbia) partnership live. They have gear donations ready for raffles, or for other events to send over at any time.
  - Would like to plan something for Christmas in-store at REI or Alpine Shop. Reached out to Rick Washburn at REI.

Committee report:

Chairperson: Jen Potts

Members:

Donna Kridelbaugh

John Nies

Mark Nettles

Jim Schneider

Louise Bullock

Dave Tobey

Ryan Michael

Chris Huelsebusch

Cathy Renth

Sara Gilliam

Ron & Rosie

2021:

Aug - Steelville Farmers Market (date TBD)

Sept - Alpine Shop\*, Steelville Farmers Market (date TBD), NEW: Robertsville Bicentennial Jamboree  
9/25

Oct - Gateway Outdoor Expo, Fall Bazaar\*, Steelville Farmers Market (date TBD)

Nov - Fall Hiking Series w/ ONSR (TBD), Bass Pro Expo

Dec - REI or Alpine Shop in-store

\* - inquiring and TBD!



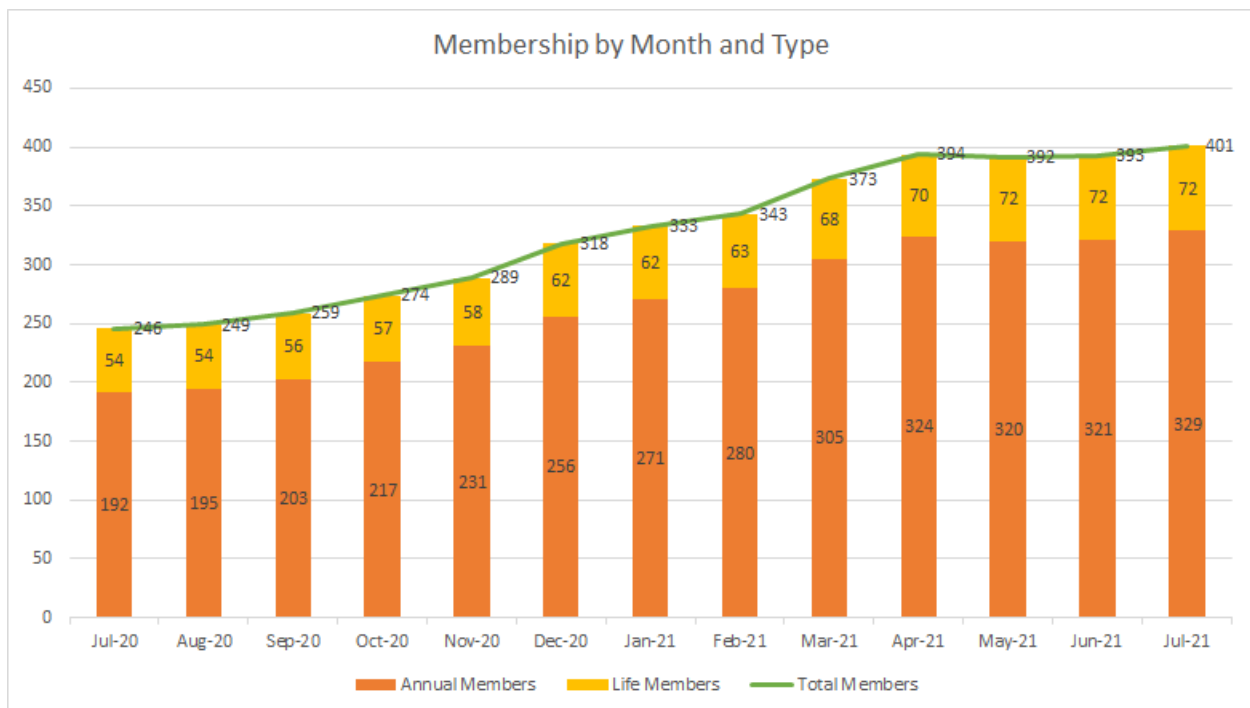
# Report to the Board of Directors

Finance Committee  
Prepared By: Garrett Doak

## Membership

### July 31 Membership Counts

- Annual Members: 329
- Lifetime Members: 72
- TOTAL Members: 401 This represents an all-time high membership count!



## Corporate / Foundation Sponsorships

- Research continued into various avenues for getting foundation and corporate grants. Investigated publicly-available information from several large corporations with which we might share interests; no current leads being pursued at this time.
- Established relationship with UST in Columbia, MO; future event equipment donations possible.
- Initiated relationship building with the Trust for Public Land, exploring possibilities for future funding when we expand our trail over currently private land.

### **Endowment**

Signed agreement with Edward Jones for management of OTA endowment fund. Initial endowment donation sent to Edward Jones.

### **Events**

- Three-Legged Monster: Inaugural event August 21. Twenty-five teams currently signed up.
- OT Hike and Float Challenge: September 11. Fundraising continues. Gross revenues in excess of \$10K raised to date.

Complete notes for monthly Finance Committee meetings can be found on the Finance Committee Google Drive Folder: Finance Committee Meeting Notes.