

**MISSOURI OZARK TRAIL COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 20, 1994  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**PARTICIPANTS:** Ramon Gass, Volunteer; Paul Nazarenko, USFS; Darsan Wang, USFS; Greg Iffrig, Pioneer Forest; Dan Wedemeyer, DNR/Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park; Janet Price, DNR/Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park; Jenny and Dean Hodapp, Sierra Club; Jerry Viau, Volunteer, Barb Payton, Missouri Arabian Horse Association; Mary Westrich, Missouri Arabian Horse Association, and Debbie Schnack, DNR/Division of State Parks

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The September 20, 1994 meeting of the Ozark Trail Council convened at approximately 1:00 p.m. at the St. Charles Convention Bureau and Visitor Center. The meeting was called to order by Debbie Schnack who was representing Doug Eiken, Director of the Division of State Parks.

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

Several new participants attended the meeting including: Jenny and Dean Hodapp, representing the Sierra Club and Mary Westrich and Barb Payton, representing equestrian interest. Following the introductions, the minutes of the May 7, 1994 council meeting were approved as written.

**STATUS REPORTS:**

**U.S. FOREST SERVICE (PAUL NAZARENKO):**

- Paul reported that the Forest Service had maintained the Trace Creek Section from Hazel Creek Campground to Hwy. 32 and it is now in good shape. The segment south of Hwy. 32 should be maintained in the two weeks. No work has been done north of Hazel Creek campground. Some rerouting work is being done on the trail around Crane Lake, but that will be complete by Ozark Trail Day. The Forest Service is still having some problems with the land exchange across Hwy. 8, there has been an appeal so it is not known how much longer it will take. There was a question as to the existence of a parking area at Hwy. 32. Paul said there was room to park, but no real parking lot. He said he would try to develop a lot.

#### SIERRA CLUB (JENNY AND DEAN HODAPP)

- Dean reported that the Sierra Club has a number of outings scheduled, the first weekend of October, November and December the club is going to be doing work in Pioneer Forest on the Blair Creek Section. The route will receive general maintenance. Debbie offered to reroute some sections that now go through the old fields and require a great deal of maintenance. Pioneer Forest, DNR and the Sierra Club will need to discuss this option.

#### PIONEER FOREST (GREG IFFRIG):

- Greg informed the Council that in addition to working with the Sierra Club on the Blair Creek Section, that Pioneer Forest has also been working with the National Park Service on developing a trail between Devil's Well and Cave Spring. They are trying to get volunteers to help with the trail construction. Greg noted that Pioneer Forest may be in need of some additional carsonite signs for placement though the field. He will contact Debbie.

#### VOLUNTEER (JERRY VIAU):

- Jerry plans to hike the North Fork River Section with the Forest Service staff in the next week in order to become familiar with the route. He then plans to sign the route. In addition, his goals are to hike the entire Ozark Trail and sign where necessary and make notes on the condition of the trail.

#### DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DAN WEDEMEYER, JANET PRICE AND DEB SCHNACK):

- Janet reported that the segment of trail on Goggins Mountain is still difficult to follow and needs some additional signage. Dan noted that this problem should be corrected this fall. He has a crew scheduled to begin on October 1 that will maintain and sign the entire Taum Sauk Section. Debbie raised the issue of the brochure production for the North Fork River Section. She noted that DNR now had graphic staff back in place and that if the Forest Service had not yet produced the North Fork River Section brochure she would work on it. The DNR has done all the other section maps and they should probably stay consistent.

#### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (MARK WEAVER):

- Mark called and reported that the YCC had been working on the trail during the summer and the trail was in good shape.

**OZARK TRAIL DAY:**

- Ozark Trail Day will be held on October 8, 1994 at Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park. Debbie went over all the details of Ozark Trail Day including parking, shuttles and assignments. American Youth Hostels has agreed to give demonstrations on proper hiking gear, how to pack a backpack, and first aid skills, etc. The registration and demonstration will take place under one tent. Deb distributed samples of the Ozark Trail thermometers which are to be the giveaways to participants. The National Park Service was able to get donated snacks once again.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Ozark Trail Council will be held on May 13, 1995 in the Ironton area at 10:00 a.m. A hike on the trail after the meeting is optional.

Prepared By: *Alvin Schwach*

Approved By: *Doug Eiben*  
Director, Division of State Parks  
Chairman, Ozark Trail Council