Kansas Trails Council

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Newsletter

December 2006

Sanders Mound Project

The Sanders Mound project, extending the South Lawrence Trafficway trail to the Clinton Lake area and the North Shore Trails, is nearing completion. Our expenditures are on track to finish within the approved Recreational Trail Grant budget.



The KTC would like to thank our partners, the Clinton Lake Corps of Engineers and the City of Lawrence for their support and contributions to this project. We would also like to thank Graybeal Construction for their attention to detail and their professional work.



Inside This Issue

- 2 Board Meeting Minutes & Contact Info
- 3 Trail News
- 5 KTC Trail Reports
- 7 Letter from the President
- 7 In Tribute to Roger Bryson

Recreational Trail Grants Approved

The KTC has received final approval for two Recreational Trail Grants for 2007. The trail grants are funded by the Federal Highway Administration and are administered by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

The Wilson Lake Trail grant for will fund the purchase of trail building and maintenance equipment, trail signage and an equipment trailer. The project will involve construction of a new trail section in the Tower Hill area (see photo) and the addition of a trailhead kiosk and several connector trails.



The KTC's project partners are the Wilson Lake State Park and the Central Kansas Mountain Bike Club – a KTC affiliate member.

The Statewide Trail Guide project will involve development of a color print brochure featuring significant trails across the State. The KTC's partners on this project include the Kansas Department's of Commerce, Highway and Wildlife and Parks.

Work on both projects will commence in early 2007 and be completed by year-end.

Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting - Nov. 19, 2006

The KTC Board met at Wilson State Park, Wilson, Kansas. Eight Board members were present. Guests present were Jeremy Zimmerman, Park Manager, incoming Board member, Bob Nicholson, Tom Will of Salina, Chris Kaegi-Stephens (Valley Center), Charles Kading (Taos, NM - World Bicycle Month), and Doug Chambers (Great Bend).

- Board Vacancy: Chris Kaegi-Stephens was appointed to fill the vacancy left by Ed DeTrude's resignation.
- Action: It was decided to print business cards for new trail coordinators and for Board members.
- Action: The Membership Chair will be appointed at the next meeting.

President's Report

- Sanders Mound Recreational Trail Grant project: Work is progressing on schedule and it is expected that costs will be within budget or possibly a little below.
- 2006-07 Recreational Trail Grants: The Wilson Lake Trails and Statewide Trail Guide grant proposals were approved by KDWP and are awaiting Federal Highway Administration approval. [Editor's Note: Federal approval for these grants was received subsequent to the meeting.] The Park 24 Trails grant was not approved by KDWP.
- The investment report was presented and discussed.
- World Bicycle Month: Charles Kading of Taos, New Mexico, visited the Board to promote World Bicycle Month and the 1st Annual Tour De USA, Heartland Bicycle Festival. This will be held June 22, 23 & 24, 2007 at Wilson State Park. The purpose is to celebrate bicycling as the most beneficial form of transportation and to increase bicycle use and make the world a more bicycle-friendly place.
- KTC Code of Conduct: The newly drafted KTC Code of Conduct was discussed and accepted with additions. The Code of Conduct will be added to the web page.
- Wilson Trails:

Doug Palen and Doug Chambers shared the history of the trails at Wilson Lake. Work began in 1995 and progressed from four to six miles, with beginner and intermediate areas added over the years. The area has hosted many biking events. Jeremy Zimmerman added info on the self-guided Nature Trail (½ - 1 mile loop) and Cedar Trail, which is a 3/4 mile asphalt trail. Jeremy would like to see all trails be sustainable and also stated that there is a potential for major expansion of trails.

KTC adopted the Switchgrass multi-use, natural surface trails in Wilson State Park. Doug Palen will work on securing a trail coordinator.

• Liability and Risk on Trails: The Board was informed about the demand for a mountain bike skills area at Clinton. Info on warning and informational signs for the skills area and a release and waiver of liability form were presented. Participants in this area would be informed by a posted sign

Contact Info

that a release and waiver of liability form must be completed before riding.

Other Business

- The need for leaf blowers at Perry was discussed. A motion to budget for two leaf blowers for main use at Perry was passed.
- Fall River Lake: Work has begun with a group to develop trails in the Casner Creek and Badger Creek areas and connector trails around much of the lake. A preliminary survey indicated a possibility of 25-30 miles of trails.
- Horse Trail at Perry: A group is beginning work to revive the horse trail.
- Next meeting: January 14th (with the 21st as backup) at Perry.

Susan Haynes, Secretary

2006 KTC Board of Directors and Officers

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[Positions 1-6: 2006-2007 term; Positions 7-12: 2005-2006 term]

Trail News

National Trails Day 2007 – Share the Excitement of Trails in Your Community by Hosting a 2007 Event

On June 2, 2007, American Hiking will commemorate the 15th Anniversary of National Trails Day (NTD) – a long standing dedication to the celebration, promotion, and protection of America 's magnificent trail system.

The 15th Anniversary of NTD embodies the values, principles, and strength of this important outdoor program. The commemoration represents years of hard work, dedication, and countless volunteer hours contributed by non-profit groups, corporate sponsors, government agencies, and community organizations across America .

Hosting a National Trails Day event is easy and American Hiking will support you every step of the way! Just for registering your event, American Hiking will send you (at no cost!) two NTD posters and one NTD banner, both customizable for your local event information. Additionally, American Hiking will promote your event on our website and provide other support materials and promotional opportunities.

Starting in January, please visit American Hiking's website, www.AmericanHiking.org, to register your 2007 NTD event and to download the updated 2007 Event Organizer's Manual. Beginning in February 2007 National Trails Day merchandise will be available for purchase at American Hiking's Hiker Store. American Hiking Society's Fall 2006 Alliance Loop

New Research Adds to Consensus on Mountain Biking Impacts

The Journal of Park and Recreation Administration published recently a new study by researchers at Arizona State University and Northern Arizona University adding to the scientific consensus regarding impacts of trail-based recreation. As the authors note, "The findings from this study reinforce results from previous research that certain impacts to mountain bike trails, especially width, are comparable or less than hiking or multiple-use trails, and significantly less than impacts to equestrian or off-highway vehicle trails." This research will be posted soon on IMBA.com. In the meantime, request a copy by emailing Mark Eller with "Journal Article" in the subject line. *IMBA Club and Rep eNews: October 2006*

QUAD STATES TRAIL STATUS. Public meetings have been held in Manhattan and Topeka to discuss the proposed Quad States Trail. The Quad States Trail will link up existing trails in MINK (Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas) to form one continuous 700-mile path in northwest Missouri, southwest Iowa, southeast Nebraska and northeast Kansas. About 450 miles are already

completed. The primary promoter of the trail is Ross Greathouse with the Nebraska Trails Foundation.

In Kansas the original plan was to utilize the Homestead Trail between the Nebraska state line and Marysville and then go east along a Union Pacific line to St. Joseph , Missouri . However, the latter corridor was not railbanked and has reverted to adjoiners. Now trail planners are looking at alternative routes. Trails advocates are encouraged to attend the next meeting which will be in Lawrence (time and place to be determined). KANSAS TRAILS NEWS 11-26-06

<u>Key Components of Creating a Volunteer Program</u> <u>Manual - Now Online!</u>

Thanks to the generous support of the National Forest Foundation, Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation (TDEC), and the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program, American Hiking Society is proud to provide your organization with an excellent document that provides step-by-step instructions on how to plan and implement a successful volunteer program. The Key Components of Creating a Volunteer Program manual is now available for download on American Hiking's website at www.americanhiking.org/news/index.html American Hiking Society's Fall 2006 Alliance Loop

Speak Up About Transportation Funding

The National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission, which was created by SAFETEA-LU, has scheduled four field hearings in 2007, to be held across the United States. The field hearings will allow Commissioners to solicit input from federal, state and local transportation officials and experts, as well as the general public, regarding transportation needs and solutions in their regions. The Commission's goal is to examine the condition and future needs of the nation's surface transportation system, and explore short and long-term alternatives to replace or supplement the fuel tax as the principal revenue source to support the Highway Trust Fund over the next 30 years. Specific details about future field hearings will be forthcoming on the Commission's website. There should be opportunity to testify before the Commission or, in the alternative, provide written testimony. We urge you to keep visiting the web site for updates, as it is imperative that the Commission hears from the bicycling community to ensure a broad system approach to the future of transportation funding. American Bicyclists Update 12-11-06

Europe Approves Anti-Obesity Charter

European health ministers from 53 countries have approved the world's first charter to fight obesity, vowing greater action against the epidemic of expanding

Trail News

waistlines across the continent. The charter, approved in Istanbul, Turkey, was drafted by the World Health Organization in consultation with its European member states. It is the first real attempt to compel national authorities to take concrete action to combat obesity, and it includes specific mention of transport initiatives. *American Bicyclists Update 11-27-06*

2006 IMBA Epic Ride inductees:

IMBA Epic Rides are why we love mountain biking. They create great memories and inspire us to save trails. To fuel this passion, IMBA has selected three new outstanding routes as Epic Rides inductees for 2006, adding to the 37 great rides we've picked since 1999.

- Comfortably Numb, Whistler, BC
- High Country Pathway, Pigeon River State Forest, MI
- Santos Trail System, Ocala, FL

This year we honor a technically challenging backcountry ride (Comfortably Numb), an 80-mile adventure (High Country Pathway), and a trail system with a state-of-the-art freeride park (Santos Trail System). The sky's the limit to the experiences that the Epic Rides program can embrace. Like the sport itself, the definition of an Epic Ride will continue to evolve. Whether you are into flowing singletrack, hang time, or a mega challenge, IMBA Epic Rides feature something for everyone. The Epic Rides designation is an honor given through a competitive application process. IMBA Epic Rides are at the top of many mountain bikers' "must-ride" lists. We invite you to nominate your favorite trail for a 2007 IMBA Epic Ride designation. *IMBA press release 11-15-06*

American Hiking Teams up with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society on Hike For Discovery

American Hiking Society and The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society proudly announce a new partnership to collaborate on The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's new adventure fundraising program, Hike For Discovery (HFD). This program prepares people, from beginners to seasoned hikers, to experience a natural wonder in a special way. Similar to Team In Training, The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's widely popular and successful endurance training program, HFD participants, through local Leukemia and Lymphoma Society chapters all over the country, receive four to five months of professional training and support from a hike leader, participate in clinics on hiking techniques, hydration, nutrition, first aid, and equipment, and experience the fun and camaraderie of training and traveling with a group. The program provides transportation, lodging, and social events during the trip, in exchange for raising funds for lifesaving cancer research and services for patients with leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma. More than 747,000 Americans are battling these blood cancers.

American Hiking is partnering with The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and HFD to provide training resources and technical assistance. The partnership is an excellent way to introduce Hike For Discovery participants to American Hiking Society and its programs as well as the broader hiking community, including American Hiking's network of Alliance member organizations around the country. It presents many potential opportunities for collaboration between American Hiking Alliance members and local Leukemia & Lymphoma Society chapters.

Examples of ways Alliance members can engage in HFD include:

- Serving as a resource on local trails and hiking opportunities
- Presentations at HFD hiking clinics that will provide technical information and introduce your organization to the hikers
- Providing potential hike leader candidates to LLS
- Setting up a local volunteer trail work day for HFD participants

American Hiking will provide additional information on HFD partnership opportunities to all Alliance members in a separate communication. You can also contact Celina Montorfano, 301-565-6704 x 205, CMOntorfano@AmericanHiking.org for more information. To learn more about Hike For Discovery, visit www.hikefordiscovery.org. American Hiking Society's Fall 2006 Alliance Loop.

[Editor's Acknowledgement: The Trail News section is contributed by Life Member, Ed DeTrude]

New KTC Members

The KTC would like to welcome the following new members who have joined recently.

Greg Berger (Lecompton)
Allen Brandes (Lawrence)
Gary Dutton (Hays)
Gay Flax (Hays)
Ron Lieker (Saline)
Terry Lower (Topeka)
Erin Renard (Russell)
Bunnie Watkins (Lawrence)

We would also like to thank the following contributors to the KTC's Friends of the Trail program. Their generosity is greatly appreciated.

Tim Gogolski Elford Kramer Robert Johnson Carolyn Litwin

The KTC would also like to express our appreciation for the generous contributions received recently from Hallmark Cards and from our Affiliate Member, the Lawrence Mountain Bike Club.

KTC Trail Reports

Clinton Lake - North Shore Trails

We recently completed a ¾ mile reroute of the blue trail to replace a section plagued with water and erosion problems. The new section meanders down to the shoreline and offers views of Sanders Mound and the marina cove. In addition to our regular trail team, we would like to thank Eric Nelson and the students and teachers he recruited from the Bishop Seabury Academy for all their hard work on this project.

We plan to have the Skills Loop on the west end of the State Park open officially by early January. This project has been made possible by generous contributions from the State Park, KTC Friends of the Trail donations and the many volunteers who contributed their time and expertise building skill features like the half-pipe shown below.



Additional features will be added after the Skills Loop is opened for use.

Mike Goodwin

Dornwood Trail (Topeka)

The trails at Dornwood are progressing very well. Many new additions and reroutes are done and well ridden and walked in. More new trails are planned and will be completed in the near future. We are working on a map to be posted soon, to help guide you to and through the new areas at the trail. Events for the coming year will include mountain bike and cyclecross races and hopefully a trail run event. Trail work/planning days will continue to be on the 4th Saturday of every month.

Tom Travis

Eisenhower State Park (Melvern Lake) Crooked Knee Equine Trail

Crooked Knee equine trails at Eisenhower State Park continue to receive improvements for equine campers and trail users. A new metal cut out donated by the Brushbuster Riding Club will be placed on the entry gate into West Point camp. Future expansion in the West Point camp will include additional overflow corrals for people who bring more horses than the one corral per camping spot will hold. Mileage markers have been purchased and are being welded to posts to be placed on the trails. Keep using Eisenhower State Park trails, and don't forget to thank park management for the nice facilities.

Jim Thomas

Ike's Trail

I was looking back through my e-mails and saw (after several e-mails back and forth with Mike) it was on August 29th that I finally agreed to take on the responsibly as the trail coordinator for Ike's Trail.



I met with Mike at the trail-head sometime in late October to see what the job entailed. walked the trail and noted that it was in pretty good shape - just some mowing and minor trail maintenance to be done. met again November and mowed the entire trail, which sure made riding and walking the area nice. I also talked two other volunteers (my son Luke and one of my future sonin-laws Brian) into using a

GPS unit to mark the trail so we can have a map developed. They had a great time and I have some really good points to work with.

I also visited with Dale Schwieger, Park Manager, to see if there were any plans to expand the trail and was pleased to find out that he had several ideas. I was extremely interested in his idea of expanding the trail to take in the view along the edge of the lake. The existing trail takes you through an area of tall grass prairie and adding a walk/ride along the lake will make the trail even more inviting. The plans for this next quarter are to get a map

KTC Trail Reports

done for the existing trail and walk two areas where we are considering expanding the trail.

Tim Gogolski

Maclennan Park Trails (Topeka)

On our October trailbuilding weekend, area volunteers contributed about 90 hours of work constructing a ¾ mile trail connector linking the southwest loop to the northeast loop. The weekend crew also reclaimed and camoflauged several eroded trail sections along the new connector trail. We are continuing with trail redesign work this winter, building new trail sections in the northeast area of the park.

Mike Goodwin

Perry Lake Bike Trails

As 2006 winds down the trail improvements gear up at the Perry Bike Trail. The start of the fall ride season opened with an unusually deep leaf cover on much of the trail. Perry as you know is very rocky and hilly. When the leaves are as thick as they were this fall the rocks get covered enough that riding and walking is unusually tricky. Clearing the trail of the deep leaves dramatically improves the trail conditions providing a much higher quality ride. More importantly the removal of excess leaf material allows the trail to dry quicker after fall showers and winter thaw. Earth Riders Trail Association (part of the Earth Riders bike club) loaned 2 large leaf blowers that really helped with the cleanup and prompting KTC to purchase 2 machines of our own.

Earlier in the year our focus was on improving problem areas on the oldest areas of the trail built back in 1996. Changes involved re-routing areas of Skyline, Great White, and Mad Mile to eliminate intersections making navigation easier as well as adding some length and improving water drainage. As of Dec. 1 the leaf blowing was finished and work resumed on the improvements to existing trail including a minor re-route and extension of Wild West and major re-route of Skyline had been roughed in and close to being opened for traffic.

Other plans for the winter build season involve 100 and 300-yard re-routes on Great White. A new loop is being developed in a large basin area inside the Skyline loop that may be developed this winter depending on the weather and how well other projects proceed.

We are looking into getting an official trailhead and parking area established in or near the old Grasshopper Point

campgrounds where the Corp of Engineers installed a pair of metal gates. Many trail users, mostly hikers, park here to access the northern sections of trail and for quick access to the shoreline of the lake.

Lyle Riedy

Perry Lake Hiking Trails

The fall trail work was quite typical. Brush cutting, lopping, and lots of mowing. And most of the trail now appears to be in reasonable to good condition for winter hiking. The team of trailwatchers did their job. An example of the preclearing condition is the attached photo that shows our

friend — lespedeza -- over waist high on a beautiful November day. A few passes with the string mowers were needed to open this Section 1 trail south of Lakeside.

On the communication side there were plusses and minuses. One



plus was Bunnie Watkins of the Perry Corps office. She has been a great help on answering questions that have been emailed through the www.PerryLakeTrail.net website. One minus was the coordinator's (i.e., me) paltry communication with outside agencies and organizations. But just like with the Kansas City Royals -- "there's always next year." So, perhaps I can yet redeem myself.

Dave Brackey

Tuttle Creek Trails

Tuttle Creek Trails are open. Randolph State Park (South) is closed for the winter, but you can park on the north side where there is a hydrant for water all winter. Carnahan Trails are being used, also. We are doing maintenance as needed and time is available.

Olivia Huddleston

Letter from the President

As 2006 comes to a close, it seems fitting to reflect on our accomplishments during the year and consider our plans for the future.

2006 was a busy and enjoyable year for the KTC! We have been fortunate to add many new, active members during the year and have received generous Friends of the Trails contributions from members and our affiliates. We have also continued to collaborate on trail projects with affiliate members – the Central Kansas Mountain Bike Club, the Kansas Single Track Society and the Lawrence Mountain Bike Club.

We are in the early planning stages of a new trail project at Fall River Lake, about 70 miles east of Wichita. This project has the potential to add 25 to 30 miles of trails around the lake's western, southern and eastern shores. Trail loops in the Badger Creek and Casner Creek areas will add a scenic "Ozark" like trail experience with large boulders and rock outcroppings to negotiate among the Blackjack Oaks, Sycamore and Hickory groves. Connector trails will explore shoreline vistas and native prairie grasslands and link the loop trails into a trail system that will be attractive to backpacking and long distance, running, biking and endurance trail events.

We remain dedicated to maintaining and improving the 15 trails which we currently manage as well as building new trails when the opportunity arises. Of course this could not be accomplished without the support of our membership. We hope you will continue to help improve and expand trails throughout the state by renewing your membership for 2007 and by contributing to your favorite trail with a donation to the Friends of the Trail program.

Many of our members also support the KTC's mission by joining one of our trail building teams on trail workdays. Building and maintaining trails is a great way to stay fit, burn some calories and enjoy the beauty of outdoor Kansas. Trail building provides a unique way to contribute to your community by helping to create trails that will be used by thousands of Kansans and visitors to our state. Volunteer trail building is a rewarding way to help improve the quality of life in our communities. Check the KTC's website calendar for upcoming workdays.

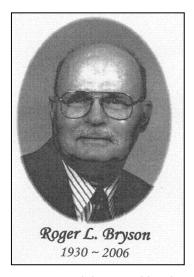
We hope to see you on the trails in the coming year!

Mike Goodwin. President

In Tribute to Roger Bryson (by John Haynes)

We are sad to say that Roger Bryson has recently passed away. Roger had been a very active KTC Board member, as well as being involved with the Sierra Club, Kansas Canoe Association, and Boy Scouts. Roger joined the KTC in the late '70's and became a KTC Board member in the early '80's. Roger had been President of the Board, as well as Vice President.

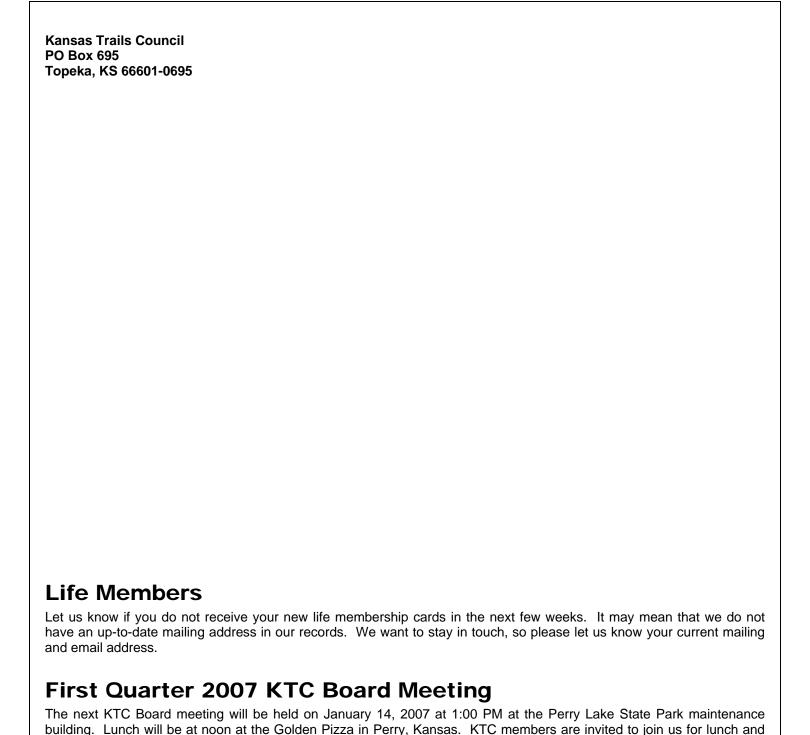
It was in the '80s that I first became acquainted with Roger. As I got to know him better. I realized that he was a very knowledgeable person about the outdoors. He was a very experienced canoeist. backpacker, fisherman, and fly tyer. His backpacking experiences reached to Colorado. Wyoming, Washington, and Oregon, as well as Kansas. Canoeing was done in Kansas, Canada, and Missouri.



One aspect of Roger that deserves special recognition is that of being an outstanding educator. He was a frequent writer for the KTC newsletter. He had a gift in the ability to instruct others in a meaningful, clear manner. Perhaps he was particularly good at educating because he was patient with people. Roger continued to show leadership and a desire to educate others by his affiliations with the Sierra Club and the Boy Scouts. He worked extensively at the Quivira Scout Ranch.

Those of you that have had the privilege to hike the Elk City Trail can thank Roger because he was one of the founding builders of the original fifteen mile trail. He also did extensive trail work on the other side of Elk City Reservoir developing and maintaining the trail in the state park and also the Card Creek Trail. Roger was also on the team that worked to map out the fifteen mile addition to the Perry Lake Trail. Whenever trail work was needed, Roger was a familiar face.

When I think of Roger it brings to mind an inscription above an auditorium stage that said, "If you see farther than most men, it is because you have stood on the shoulders of giants." Roger was a giant. We will miss him.



New Board Member

www.kansastrailscouncil.org.

The KTC would like to welcome Chris Kaegi-Stephens as our newest Board member. Chris brings many years of equestrian experience to the Board. Her energy and enthusiasm will be a great asset to the KTC.

stay for the business meeting. For additional information and maps please check our website:

KTC Membership Form					
would like to join \square or renev	w 🏻 my membe	ership in the Kansas T	rails Council for C	alendar Year 2007	
Name					
Street		City	State	Zip	
Email Address:					
Note: It is the KTC's policy that the above	information will only be	e used internally by the KTC and	d will not be distributed to ar	ny other entity.	
In the interest of conserving the friendly, the KTC newsletter is priplease check here \square .					
<u>!</u>	Membership D	ues and Contributio	<u>ns</u>	Amounts	
Lifetime Membership	\$100 (One-time payment, no annual dues)				
Annual Dues: Individual	\$ 10	Trails Supporter	\$101 - \$24 <u>9</u>		
Family	<u>\$25</u>	Trails Patron	\$250 - \$49 <u>9</u>		
<u>Affiliate</u>	<u>\$25</u>	KTC Sponsor	<u>\$500</u> +		
Optional "Friend of the Trail" Please designate the trail(s) you			,		
Clinton Lake - George Latham Trail		Perry Lake Bike Trail			
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☐ Elk City Lake - Elk River Hiking Trail		☐ Tuttle Creek – R	☐ Tuttle Creek – Randolph Trail		
☐ Elk City Lake - Table Mound Hiking Trail		☐ Topeka – Dornw	☐ Topeka – Dornwood Park Trail		
☐ El Dorado Lake Trail		☐ Topeka – MacLennan Park Trail			
☐ Melvern Lake - Crooked Knee Horse Trail		☐ Toronto & Cross	☐ Toronto & Cross Timbers State Park Trails		
Melvern Lake - Ike's Trail		☐ Wilson Lake Sta	te Park Trails		
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