# **Kansas Trails Council**

#### ESTABLISHED IN 1974

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#### Newsletter

Fall 2017



## Inaugural Event for the Flint Hills Nature Trail - October 7

After years of hard work, including decades of volunteer efforts from the Kanza Rail-Trails Conservancy, the Flint Hills Nature Trail is ready for its first prime time event. About 100 miles of the 117-mile rail-trail will be used for this inaugural cycling or running event, where cyclists have the option of multiple distances and runners will participate using a relay race format. Dirty Kanza Promotions is working with Kanza Rail-Trails, Kansas Dept of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism, and many communities along the trail for an event that celebrate this beautiful and geographically diverse trail. The event starts in Osawatomie and ends in Council Grove, where a family-friendly finish line celebration will run from 11am to midnight with a BBQ competition, live music, games, fireworks, and more. For more information, go to <u>Rush the Rails</u>. Registration is capped at a certain number of runners/riders, but if you can't get in, check out the local events at towns along the way or better yet, consider volunteering. Congratulations to all involved with reaching this milestone for an incredible Kansas rail-trail!



## Allen County, KS Wins Prestigious "Culture of Health" Award

Congratulations are also in order for Allen County, KS, which recently won a national award from one of the nation's leading health foundations, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. While many factors helped this southeast Kansas county stand out, trails were definitely part of it! Only eight communities were chosen from a crowded field of more than 200, most of them from

urban areas and more "coastal" states. The leadership team from RWJ – along with a huge media crew – made a personal visit to lola to announce the award and \$25,000 prize. The September 19 event also drew Senator Jerry Moran and various state lawmakers. For more information on the announcement and award, visit <u>ThriveAllenCo\_CultureofHealthAward</u>. And to

see a terrific, nine-minute video – including a highlight of lola's trail system and its important role in health and economic development – visit <u>AllenCountyRWJvideo</u>. As a reminder, the KTC *Trail in a Box* got put to significant use in Allen County over the past few years to help build an extensive singletrack trail system as part of the Lehigh Portland Trails. These trails are the result of an innovative public-private partnership that took undeveloped industry land and leased it to the city for public recreation. The chair of lola Industries spoke at the Sept. 19 event and said, "This concept [trails and recreation area] helped us take a liability and transform it into a true community asset. This area is now something that makes people want to move here."



Celebrating the opening of the Lehigh Portland Trail network in 2016. The trails play a prominent role in the RWJ video.

#### Clinton Lake – North Shore Trails

This summer has seen higher than normal traffic on the trails with the Corps parking lot completely full on some weekends. The Lawrence Trail Hawks have been indispensable trail volunteers reporting on fallen trees and trail conditions and trimming and lopping substantial trail sections to keep everything in prime condition.



The Trail Hawks hosted their 7<sup>th</sup> annual <u>Hawk</u> <u>Hundred</u> race the second weekend in September with over 100 runners in the marathon, 80 runners in the 50 miler, and 40 runners in the 100 miler events. At the pre-race briefing, Gary Henry, Trail Hawk founder, presented the KTC with a check for \$333 which was collected from donations by their members during their annual birthday run event. This financial support is much appreciated and really helps with trail expenses!

Mike Goodwin (goodwinmw@gmail.com)

Runners and crew teams gather for the 7th Annual Hawk 100

#### South Shore Trails at Clinton Lake

Due to the large amount of rain we received this summer and some high winds, the South Shore Trails were desperately in need of major clearing. Dozens of large trees were across the trails; undergrowth and weeds were rampant. Due to a freak chainsaw accident in August, which left me with a dislocated shoulder, I am unable to work the trails for the rest of this year. Thankfully, members from the Topeka Brushbusters and Back Country Horseman of Kansas flocked to my aid and spent over 200 hours in September getting the trails into safe riding condition. I can't thank these 14 volunteers from Lake Perry, Hillsdale, and Melvern enough for taking the time to come to our trails and helping out. For the first time we used the walk behind DR from the Kansas Trails Council to clear a 2 mile section of overgrown trail. What a great machine! We look forward to using it again to improve our trails. We will be having another work weekend this fall to improve several very rocky sections of the trail around the campground. Back Country Horseman of Kansas will be bringing in a mini excavator to help with this task. Looking forward to seeing how well this will work! We all hope using these two new machines will vastly improve the





footing on our trails.

There have been

Can you find the dedicated trail volunteer in the thick brush???

several special events at Clinton this summer and quite a few large riding groups from inside and outside of Kansas that visited our park and rode the trails. The fall trail riding season is now upon us... I just hope that more people that use our trails will step up and take a hand in maintaining them!

Diana Skinner (Dgskinner85@gmail.com)

#### **Badger Creek Trails at Fall River Lake**

My activity at Fall River has been at a minimum due to high summer temperatures. I scheduled a couple of days to do some work and pulled the plug when it turned out too hot to sleep overnight. With cooler fall temps, it is time to get back in the game out there. We have a work day scheduled for October 21st to clean dead fall from the trail and get the side growth lopped back. I have plans to go out and spend a couple of days to get a little head start on the work and check out other projects to plan out into this fall and winter. The weekends are all pretty full in the fall with rides and events, so a mid-week trip will work best. Spring and early summer rains always mean some damage and need for repairs or rerouting of some areas and this year is no different. The Kansas Singletrack Society has produced a new map and sign to fit into the kiosk at the south trail head so that will be a nice new addition at that location. Looking forward to the fall and winter trail seasons. Terry Plenert (PPLENERT@aol.com)



#### Crooked Knee Trails at Eisenhower State Park

Without a doubt, fall is a favorite time of year for enjoying our Kansas public trails on horseback. The Crooked Knee Trails at ESP are ready to ride with over 20 miles through wooded areas, across open prairie, and along lakeshore. Several hilltops offer scenic. panoramic views of Melvern Lake.

October 13-15 is the weekend of the 7th Annual Eisenhower State Park Benefit Trail Ride, with 100% of proceeds supporting the equestrian campgrounds and trails. More than \$26,000 has been raised from past years and has provided funding for several improvements.

I've been trimming, mowing, and clearing deadfall in preparation for a busy fall. My trusty trail work partner, Huck (see photo at left), is a good sport about breaking through the webs for me! Paint has been purchased, and I will be getting out to freshen up trail markers to make them more visible and easy to follow.

Jim Thomas (jimcherylthomas@gmail.com)

## MacLennan Park – Cedar Crest (Topeka)



Luckily, the only work needed on the MacLennan Park Trails this summer was minor lopping and removal of fallen trees. We have some minor tread touch up to do this fall when it cools off, and in late November we'll continue the seasonal honeysuckle removal



No better sight than families and friends of all ages running together on a beautiful trail!

project. In July, the second annual Repay 5K benefit run was organized by area high school cross country runners Natalie Ford and Parker Ramirez (*photo of the race registration tent, above left*). This year's fundraising effort generated donations of \$368 to the KTC to help with trail maintenance expenses. We really appreciate this financial support and the dedication to the trails of Natalie and Parker and other local cross country runners. Thanks! **Mike Goodwin** (goodwinmw@gmail.com)

#### Elk River Trail (Montgomery County)

We have a new trail map and guide for the Elk River Trail. The guides have a map on one side and information on the other and are folded. They have been placed in the boxes mounted on the trail log stations at the four trail heads (see right). The trail heads are located at each end of the trail and one going each way from the Oak Ridge parking area. It has been a long time since we had maps available at the trail, and hopefully I can get to the trail often enough to keep the boxes full. So, you will have to make a trip yourself to get a copy of this brand new guide.

The trail is in great shape for the fall hiking season. This summer had most of the usual maintenance requirements. High water in late spring created a lot of drift on the trail, plus many downed trees from storm activity. The biggest summer maintenance need - trimming vegetation - has been done and the trail is very clean. A full trail recon with the chainsaw is also scheduled to make sure the trail is ready for fall and winter. Thankfully, not much more maintenance is usually required in the fall – which means more time to enjoy the trail!



Hiking and backpacking are especially nice during the late fall and winter on the Elk River Trail when the rock formations, bluffs, lake views and river vistas are easily seen. A little snow on the ground makes it even more scenic and when the snow geese are on the lake it is an awesome sight. So think about and plan a late season hike this year at the very scenic Elk River trail. **Steve Siegele (steveshardware@twinmounds.com)** 

## Perry Lake Hiking Trail



Hmmm... unusual... for once it was not a super-hot summer. In fact, August was not bad at all. And that meant progress on the hiking trail! The Old Military Trail footbridge (which was removed by trailwatchers on March 25 due to a fractured beam) was replaced in an Eagle Scout project over two Saturdays in August. About 100 "scout hours" were needed to finish the 32' long, by 5' wide bridge using planks provided by Westar and brought to the site by the Corps. These projects are

always team efforts! In the spirit of keeping things in the family, Joseph Slaugh, the grandson of one our trailwatchers, was the Scout in Charge.







A few other trailwatchers used the occasion to mow, lop, and

blaze section 2 generally between MM 13.7 and 14.1. Our section 1 "fields of lespedeza" – about 1.3 miles of it – were mowed in early September to make the trail visible. This often required making four passes with the DR mower. Follow-up spraying is scheduled for mid-September.

For short-range planning, we have Saturday October 28 set for our trail workday. We hope to gather many volunteers.

<u>For intermediate-range planning</u>, we will be looking to establish a relationship with the next USACE contact at Perry Lake. Reese Nelson, who has been a very active and supportive Corps contact, has moved up the chain of command to a position with the Omaha District.

We've enjoyed his support and enthusiasm for the trail. Our team will certainly miss him but wish him well in his new position.

For longer range planning, our Perry group and KTC have begun exploring ways to properly note the **40**<sup>th</sup> **anniversary of the completion and dedication of the hiking trail's first 14-mile segment** in March 2018. More info will be available in future newsletters. (See official designation at right, from 1978). **Dave Brackey** (dbrackey@att.net)



#### Perry Lake Biking Trail

Summer is wrapping up with little to report. Pretty normal activity on the trail. Early August we did see a heavy rain event that did a some washing out of steeper slopping sections and drainage crossings. Most of these are minor repair but also

encouraged me to do some more permanent adjustments of sections of trail that were showing signs of wear and potential erosion issues. We will begin the leaf blowing sometime in October, when appropriate. Lyle Reidy <u>Iriedy@usd345.com</u>)



#### Switchgrass Trails at Wilson State Park

Wow, has it been a good season for the Switchgrass Trails at Wilson State Park!

The season started out with several heavy rainfall events, which caused us to cancel a mountain bike race and made the grass and weeds grow like crazy! Still, with no mower safely functioning, I began to worry about how we were going to maintain control of the rampantly growing vegetation. Volunteers rallied together on June 16-18th and we were able to get the entire 24 miles mowed trimmed over one weekend! (See photo at left)

Everyone pitched in: Josh Hobbs came out from HorseThief Reservoir with his big mower, Mike Goodwin brought out 3 DR brush mowers, the Wilson State Park manager allowed use of 2

of their string trimmers, Casey Divilbiss brought out his mower, and several more volunteers brought out their string trimmers. And of course, it was likely the hottest weekend in June that we tackled all the mowing and trimming! On June 25th, Mike Michaelis, a friend of the trail, orchestrated all the details and hosted a mountain bike race to benefit Switchgrass Trail. This race date was rescheduled from a rainout in May. Once again, rain made its appearance. The rain didn't swamp the trail, but it sure did scare people away and hurt our turnout a bit. Mike was still able to make a nice little donation to our trail maintenance efforts!





Thanks to everyone who braved the heat or the rain to clean up the trails and organize fundraiser events. Great trails require great volunteers... thank you!

For many months, KTC and Switchgrass Trail had been waiting for word on whether we would receive a grant for a new trail mower. There were several setbacks in attaining a grant. On June 30th, we finally received happy news from a very generous foundation that we were honored a grant for not only a new trail mower but also for a new storage cargo container to house our equipment in!!! Finally, KTC can have space for tools and workbench of our very own and I do not have to fight the mice and rats chewing wires any more!

Mike Goodwin immediately got in touch with folks to order our new gear. Josh Hobbs and I set into motion site prep for the new cargo container. On July 23rd, we removed trees and leveled the site for the container, the container was placed on July 25th, and the mower arrived on July 26th!! (See below for photos of Grasshopper and cargo container.) And I have been mowing happily ever after since then..... and dreaming of all the dirt work necessary to fix erosion problems.... sigh, the work of trail maintenance never ends!

#### Upcoming events:

<u>Saturday, September 30, 2017</u>: Stone Post tour to benefit Switchgrass Trail maintenance funds! Meet at 9:30am at Kansas Originals of I-70 exit 206 for Wilson. Ride starts at 10:00am (pavement tour). Ride North on Highway 232 and we will stop at each carved limestone post! Search for "The Stone Post Tour" on Facebook for more info!

Sunday October 1, 2017: 9:00am at the Area Office (KTC tool trailer) Trail work day at Switchgrass Trail! We will be doing tree cutting on the Golden Belt Loop. Bring saws, chainsaws, and lopers!

And a big thanks goes out to Mike Michaelis and Braeden Johnson for their recent generous donations to the Switchgrass trails. Your support helps make this all possible! Happy trails all! Sara Kay Carrell (wildmountainhoney sk@yahoo.com)

#### **Switchgrass Trails Grant**

#### Thank You Sunderland Foundation!

Last year we submitted a Recreational Trail Grant proposal to KDWPT to replace some aging equipment at the Wilson Switchgrass Trails including our trail mower that was out of service. This spring, we were notified that the grant request had been approved, but the Buy America waiver process had been placed on hold by the current administration in Washington. While we strive to purchase equipment made in America, some components may be from another country and thus require a Buy America waiver in order to be reimbursed

under the grant. This effectively put any purchases on hold until the waiver review process was reinstated.

Meanwhile, the prairie grass at the 25-mile Switchgrass trail was growing this spring and our old mower was out of commission. It was time for Plan B, so we submitted another grant proposal to a nearby charitable foundation. About a month later, we received a check from the Sunderland Foundation in Kansas City which made it possible to buy a new Grasshopper zero turn mower and a storage container to replace our aging equipment trailer at Wilson State Park. Now, thanks to the Sunderland Foundation, the trails are in prime condition going into fall and trail coordinator, Sara Kay Carrell, can focus on trail mowing and maintenance and not have to worry about





breakdowns and down-time while the grasses continue growing. We also appreciate all the support of the Dave Pitman at Grasshopper Mowers who patiently waited for our funding issues to be resolved.

Our heartfelt thanks goes to Kent Sunderland and the Sunderland Foundation for making the world a better place and our volunteer work much easier! *Mike Goodwin, Treasurer* 



## Ford County Lake Trails

Dear trail friends,

The Ford County Lake trail is open for adventure riding. This weekend we opened 4 miles of the 10.5 miles and expect to have the entire trail ready by the end of October. The ice storm early this year followed by several extreme winds caused heavy tree falls across the trail so opening up the old trail is a monumental task. When it is open, again this trail will once again be the best single track trail in Southwest Kansas. We will keep you posted. Happy trails!

Van Z. Hampton (Dodge City)

John Wentling (jwentling@buyggautos.com)

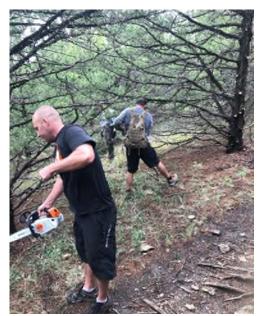
### Manhattan Area Trail Action (Trail in a Box)

Greetings from the far west of northeast Kansas! It is my understanding that everyone is interested in what has been happening with the Trail in a Box trailer here in MHK. In a word. Tons. For the sake of time and your patience, I will quickly brush over some of the projects that are keeping us busy.

First stop is the **Manhattan River Trails**: this is a 7 mile trail network that runs along both the Blue and Kansas River on the east side of Manhattan. This 7 miles of trail is probably the most important as well as the most utilized network of off road trails in the area. The reason it is so important is because it has been the only mountain bike trail in MHK that has always been cared for by the same volunteers that today utilize the Trail in a Box tools. Most of the other trail networks in town are on city-owned park property and traditionally have been under maintained and thus left to deteriorate. The River Trails in their current form were completed about 10 years ago and have always been considered a rogue network by the city of Manhattan. I'm happy to report that later this fall this trail network will be adopted officially into the city's park system. Not only will this help raise the profile of the trails, but will add a new layer of legitimacy for this network. We will also see nice amenity upgrades like trailhead signage at either end of the trail as well as assistance and offsetting the costs associated in the repair and upkeep of our tools, fuel and



construction materials, and the upkeep of structures on the trail that once were fed by our personal pocket books. We will also gain an understanding just how much use they are getting used via a trail counter at both ends – it has been in place for just over two weeks.



MHK volunteers create and maintain some awesome trails with help of TIAB mainly tools and equipment.



Next on our hit list is **Fancy Creek State Park**. I would argue that on a state level these are the most recognized mountain bike, hiking, and trail running trails in the region. Fancy Creek State Park is a rugged intense cedar carpeted 6.5 mile trail network that has been given new life over the last few years. Just this late summer we have over two hundred hours of dedicated trail clearing and rerouting of existing lines to assist with erosion control. As it currently stands, new trailhead signage as well as on-trail directional signs is in the works - plus the addition of almost three more miles of a beginner to intermediate trail. Hopefully by next summer you will also see a new machine-built flow line trail installed on the northwest section of the park.

Our last major trail network that the Manhattan Trail Works crew maintains and rehabs are what are known here in Manhattan as the **Zoo Trails** (the official city park name is Wildcat Creek Linear Trail Park). These trails exist on a 60 acre park on the western slope of Sunset Zoo. These trails were originally built in the 1940s as a WPA project. We have been working for almost 7 years to rehab the trail network with the permission of the City of Manhattan.

At this point we have expanded the network from the original trail loop of just a mile and a half to 2.5 miles.

We've worked diligently to close a number of fall line trails that it formed over the years. Additionally we have constructed three bridges and one raised walkway that vary in length from 15 to 40 feet. The intent is within the next 18 months, we will have our total of 6 miles of trail as well as a series of trail connectors to nearby neighborhoods and the Linear Trail.

One final note that I would like to include is a thank-you to the Kansas Trails Council for the use of the Trail in a Box program. Our efforts here are really on the backs of only about a half a dozen people. We were a ragtag group trying to piece together hand tools and random cash to accomplish goals that allowed us to ride and run in the Flint Hills. The addition of the Trail in a Box trailer here in MHK has completely transformed our legitimacy and our ability to equip additional volunteers. The TIAB allows us to not only maintain the existing trail but also expand the network to the place where we can truly take pride in our regional offerings. I would also like to take a moment to publicly thank Jay Schmidt, Eldon Colburn, Clint McAllister, and Ryan Logan. Those men really are the founding fathers of natural surface trails in this region and without their vision we would not be where we are today.

The very, VERY last note that I would like to leave you with is how many other trail and green space projects are on the horizon in Manhattan. In November the citizens of

Manhattan have a chance to vote Yes for a ¼ cent sales tax that, among other things, will provide \$2M of dedicated trail funding over the next 10 years. We also have a brand new 100 acre park coming together on the west side of Manhattan, and it is specifically dedicating much of its space to hiking and mountain biking trail development.

I literally could go on and on; just please know your resources are being put to good use here in Manhattan. The next five years are going to be very exciting for our trail community. Much of that success is due to the Kansas Trails Council and their guidance. Thank you! Respectfully, Aaron Apel

### **Tuttle Creek State Park Trails**

It is fall in Kansas. This is usually my favorite time of the year; however the weather has uncooperative. First we had too much rain on parts of the Tuttle Creek Trails and then it really dried up. However, weeds and scrub brush continued to take advantage of the earlier moisture so to put it bluntly - we have a mess in several parts of the trails. However, fall is a lovely time to be tramping through the timber and we are starting to assess what all needs to be done.

I'd like to encourage trail users to take advantage to help with their favorite parts. It takes a lot of footprints or horse prints to keep a trail open. I am aware there are trees and limbs down that all users don't feel comfortable tackling, but it everyone will stop and move one or two



You don't have to be Paul Bunyan to pick up any fallen branches on the trail... thank you!

things off the trail, it really helps those of us trying to keep ahead of Mother Nature.

If you enjoy using these beautiful trails, please give us a hand. Olivia Huddleston (kayakkid346@gmail.com)

## Dornwood Trails (Topeka)

The rains this spring and summer have kept the lower channels of the Dornwood Trail flooded most of the time. Otherwise the trail has been trimmed and maintained. Planning on the usual fall leaf blowing when all the leaves drop.

Russ Rupp (rrupp201@gmail.com)

### Skyline Park (Topeka)

This summer's alternating heat and rain resulted in incredible growth of the prairie which in turn has required mowing twice a month. The pump track is clear but the inside areas are packed with 8-foot tall sunflowers. Prairie sections are all mowed and open and forested loops are lopped for fall use. We did some minor tread repair on some of the North Summit Loop to improve drainage.

In October when temperatures moderate, we plan to add two more boardwalk sections to extend the existing boardwalks



over adjacent muddy sections. We are also planning to add several bike skill features when the weather cools a bit. This will include skinnies, teeter totters and rock rides. One new skinny has been added using old railroad bridge timbers (see photos on next page).

Mike Goodwin (goodwinmw@gmail.com)



This boardwalk will be getting a facelift soon.



A new "skinny" at Skyline... wear your helmet!

## Make grocery shopping more fun... Support our trails while you buy milk and toilet paper!

The KTC has partnered with Dillon's to support Kansas trails. Every time you make a purchase and use your Plus Card, Dillon's will donate a portion to the KTC and we'll use it to build and maintain trails. It's **free** to you and **easy** to set up... To set up your account, click on the following link and follow these instructions: http://www.kansastrailscouncil.org/join/support-2/



#### KANSAS TRAILS COUNCIL Board of Directors Meeting April 23, 2017

#### Call to order

- The KTC Board met at Radina's Coffee House in Manhattan, KS.
- Board members present were Lyle Riedy, President; Olivia Huddleston, Vice-President (dial in); Kevin Otterman,
- Secretary; Mike Goodwin, Treasurer; Russ Rupp; Diana Skinner; and Terry Plenert.
- Meeting called to order at 2:05pm by Lyle.

#### Business

- Approval of Minutes: Mike moved and Olivia seconded to accept the minutes as presented. Minutes were approved.
- Treasurer's Report:
  - Mike indicated that ~ \$2500 was spent on current grant, but not yet reimbursed.
  - FOT reserves of ~\$3k.
  - Regarding Wilson activities:
    - o The KDWPT grant is tentatively approved
    - The Grasshopper dealer gave us the state contract price for mower purchase. If we put substantial down payment we can carry the balance over three months (50% ~\$7k 30/60/90 day payoff)

- A 20% match in the form of service hours is required. Upon Mike's further direction all directors will count hours of volunteer service on the trails. We'll need approximately 182 hours (@ \$20/hr)
- Terry moved to approve Treasurer's Report and Russ seconded. Motion passed.

#### • TIAB / Equipment: Report:

- Mike indicated that TIAB #2 is at Marysville Alcove Springs; delivered 4/22; there is approximately 4 miles
  of trail being built there
- TIAB #4 is at Horsethief where they are expanding the trail around the lake
- TIAB #1 is at Manhattan where it is being used at Sunset Zoo and at Tuttle/Fancy Creek

#### GetoutdoorsKS:

- Mobile app funding has been provided for GOKS
- The app will show trail locations within a pre specified radius
  - o User can click on trail to get info about
  - o User can click to download KML file
  - Sunflower providing \$55k for this effort
- Westar Green Team providing unknown level of support as well
- Timetable Aug 2017

#### **Old Business**

- Crowdfunding discussions:
  - Mike and Kevin worked on crowdfunding options
  - Kevin presented the considerations that led to a short list of best options
  - Mike recommended a focus on GoFundMe as first choice
  - Kevin added that a short video is needed as part of the campaign and that a list of reward tiers (based on contribution levels) needs to be defined
  - Kevin also indicated that a point of contact for questions from potential contributors is needed for quick response and an effective campaign
  - Mike concluded the discussion stating that crowdfunding wasn't needed for Wilson equipment (at this time)

• Wilson Lake equipment: Kevin reminded the board that in prior meetings pictures of the existing equipment would help the board evaluate condition. Mike indicated he would get pictures upon his next visit. The board discussed site security as well as rodent damage to the current equipment.

#### **New Business**

• Bridge Inspection: Kevin mentioned that another part of the Corps is requesting bridge inspection on the pedestrian bridges at Perry. Two locations on the hiking trail were identified requiring annual inspection per this program (estimated annual cost of \$10k per bridge). The identified program is "USACE BRIDGE SAFETY PROGRAM" dated 1 August, 2007 (ER 1110-2-111). This program had not previously been in effect to board knowledge at any Corps trail locations (in Kansas).

• **Board Position:** Russ inquired about filling a board position and offered Frank Halsey from Fort Scott as a candidate. No positions are currently open.

• Events on Trails: Lyle brought up getting more recognition for KTC when/where there are organized events on Kansas Trails.

#### **Other Business**

• Date, time, location of meetings: The next board meeting date for Q3 2017 is July 30. A tentative location was suggested as Emporia

• Meeting adjourned at 3:47 pm. Diane motion. Russ second.

Kevin Otterman, Secretary

## Check out that view... this is why we love Kansas!!!

A view from the top of The Hill at the Konza Prairie Biological Station, taken during this year's Konquer the Konza running race. The view is definitely worth the climb. Visitors are allowed most of the year... check out <u>konzakstate.edu</u> or visit the trail map feature at <u>getoutdoorskansas.org</u>

