



OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

OZARK HIGHLANDS TRAIL ASSOCIATION

OHTA's Mission is to Build, Maintain, Promote, and ENJOY the Ozark Highlands Trail.

- Overseeing the Trail -

OHTA Board of Director for 2023-2024

Phil Brown (President/Eastern Chapter Rep)
Adam Higinbothom (Vice-president)
Brent Umphlett (Secretary)
Todd Wells (Treasurer)
Chris Adams (Maintenance Coordinator)

Wade Colwell (Interim Boston Mountain Chapter Rep)
Miles Jandrsevich (Maintenance Director-West Section)
Tiffany Mallard (social media and promotions)
Peter Cooper (interim member)

OHTA's Next Board of Director's Meeting

The date and time of the next Board of Director's meeting is, for the time being, uncertain, but everyone will be notified promptly when the date and time are nailed down. It is still looking like it will be held in Harrison to facilitate attendance of members from the entire OHT region. The plan is for it to be a potluck, and we're working to schedule a speaker . . . more to come.

- Looking Ahead on the Trail -

Ozark Keystone Trail Progress



As the picture suggests, construction on the OKT has stalled temporarily but will resume if the decision about the Missouri Recreation Trails Program (RTP) grant is favorable. If it is not, there will be another application process around the corner, so all will not be lost. There is no such thing as defeat!

No matter what, OKT's newest section, the 4.2 miles between Red Bank and Bean Bluff, is open for hiking. If you enjoy quiet and secluded trail that winds its way through rock outcroppings and hardwood forest, this section is for you! And let's not

forget the view from Bean Bluff . . . it may just be the most scenic overlook on the entire 85-mile route of the OKT along Norfolk Lake shoreline. Active construction or not, aren't you about due for hike?

October 2023 Maintenance Base Camps

There are two maintenance base camps remaining on the schedule, and we hope to see you at one or both! Here is information on each:

OHT East Base Camp

- Days and dates: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 6, 7, 8, 2023
- Camping: It's free and starts Thursday afternoon, October 5, 2023. Come and stay and help out each day or for any part of the event.
- Food: It's all on OHTA!!
- Gear needed: OHTA has it all—just bring you, some gloves, a way of carrying water and snacks for the day, and some sturdy footwear.
- Who can attend: Members and nonmembers, young and old, ONLY!
- Location: Haw Creek Falls Recreation Area; Arkansas Highway 123, Pelsor, Arkansas
- Phone: None
- Directions:
 - From Hagarville, take Arkansas 123 north for 14 miles.
 - From Pelsor, take Arkansas 123 west for 12 miles
 - Latitude: 35.6770000 – Longitude: -93.2550500
- Registration link: [OHT East at Haw Creek Campground](#) (for those wanting to be a part of this event)
- Number registered to date:
 - Friday: 18 volunteers
 - Saturday: 24 volunteers
 - Sunday: 11 volunteers
- **IMPORTANT**: Volunteers to help with food preparation, cleaning, and watching over and maintaining camp are needed for this base camp. If you would like to attend but are concerned that you may not be prepared to get out on the trail at this time, helping out in camp during the day would serve a very important, much appreciated function.

OHT North Base Camp

- Days and dates: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 13, 14, 15 2023
- Camping: It's free and starts Thursday afternoon, October 12, 2023. Come and stay and help out each day or for any part of the event.
- Food: It's all on OHTA!!
- Gear needed: OHTA has it all—just bring you, some gloves, a way of carrying water and snacks for the day, and some sturdy footwear.
- Who can attend: Members and nonmembers, young and old, ONLY!
- Location: 6322 Highway 14 N, Fifty-Six, Arkansas 72533
- Phone: (870) 757-2471
- Directions:
 - From Yellville, head south on Arkansas 14 and stay on it for 47.5 miles (be sure to turn left at Harriet—23.8 miles south of Yellville—to stay on Hwy. 14).
 - From Calico Rock, continue to the south on Arkansas 5 south for 17 miles to the intersection with Hwy. 14, turn right and travel west for 7.7 miles).
 - From Mountain View, head north on Hwy. 87 for 10.2 miles to Hwy. 14, take a left on Hwy. 14 and head west for 1.3 miles to Fifty-Six)
- Registration link: [OHT North at Cedarwoods Cabins \(Hwy 14\)](#) (for those wanting to be a part of this event)
- Number registered to date:
 - Friday: 16 volunteers
 - Saturday: 19 volunteers
 - Sunday: 18 volunteers

- **IMPORTANT:** For this base camp we have a full team of volunteers to help with food preparation, cleaning, and watching over and maintaining camp. However, if you would like to attend but are concerned that you may not be prepared to get out on the trail at this time, having you around camp during the daytime will be very much appreciated.

Hare Mountain Hike-In Is Just Around the Corner

Just a hair more than one month and counting down till 2023's Hare Mountain Hike-In. It is an experience you will not want to miss! Remember, this year's Hike-In is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5, and don't forget, THERE WILL BE A POTLUCK DINNER. Again, this year's event will be your opportunity to celebrate OHTA's 39th birthday along with many other trail enthusiasts (the actual birthday was on July 18), so we hope you can make it to this year's birthday bash! Did we hear someone say something about a birthday cake?

Hare Mountain 100

As was reported in the June 2023 Newsletter and in each publication since, the Hare Mountain 100 is scheduled to start at Haw Creek Falls Recreation Area at 8 a.m. on Friday, October 27, 2023. The Hare Mountain 100 is a point-to-point 100-mile run that incorporates two scenic spur loops along the Ozark Highlands Trail between Haw Creek Falls and White Rock to the west. The race director is Stephanie Turner, and the event is being sponsored this year by Pack Rat Outdoor Center, Adventure Subaru, Tailwind, and others.

It is important to note that to qualify for participation in this event, runners must sign a waiver and either perform eight (8) hours of trail work on the OHT or opt out of the work by donating \$100 to the Ozark Highlands Trail Association.

We continue being very pleased to note that OHTA will be represented at this year's 100 by Randy Seoung and a team of volunteers he has brought together. However, he remains receptive to growing the team, so if you find yourself interested in learning more about what Randy and his group will be doing and the role you could play, please feel free to contact him at randysoeung@yahoo.com. Or if you think you would like to get involved with the event in some other way and want to know more about the ways you can make that happen, simply check it all out at <https://www.haremountain100.com/>. Whatever you do, we trust you'll make it a great experience!

– Looking Back on the Trail –

OHT West Maintenance Base Camp

It a wrap, and what a success it was! We'll allow the numbers to speak for themselves, so here they are for each day of the event:

Friday, September 15, 2023

- Volunteers: 30
- Miles of trail maintained: 19.7
- Hours of maintenance performed: 220
- Hours performed by cook/camp staff: 21

Saturday, September 16, 2023

- Volunteers: 32
- Miles of trail maintained: 29
- Hours of maintenance performed: 221
- Hours performed by cook/camp staff: 21

Sunday, September 17, 2023

- Volunteers: 17
- Miles of trail maintained: 8
- Hours of maintenance performed: 74
- Hours performed by cook/camp staff: 21

The picture says it all! Yes, the work was hard, but camp life was all smiles at the end of each day!

We'd like to give a huge shout out to the owners and staff of Mulberry Mountain RV & Tent Campground. You all were fantastic hosts, and the amenities were second to none!

As well, to Chris Adams, those who performed maintenance, and the cook/camp staff, the OHTA says THANK YOU for a great and rewarding experience!!!



(Pictured right to left: Chris Adams and his predecessor, Steven Parker)

– Getting and Keeping Yourself on the Trail –

Are you longing to become part of something larger than yourself, say an organization, perhaps a trail organization? Well if you are, the OHTA may be just the one you're looking for? To learn whether this could be the case for you, simply click on: <https://ozarkhighlandstrail.com/membership/>, and explore—find what OHTA has to offer you! Doing so could put you just a step or two from becoming a member of this fine organization! Go ahead; you have nothing to lose! It could very well prove to be the best step you've ever taken!

You say you're already a member but cannot remember whether your membership is current and don't have records of when you last paid membership dues? Well, we can help you figure this out. All that's necessary for you to do is click on: ohat@ozarkhighlandstrail.com, and ask us to figure it out for you. We'll get back to you promptly to let you know whether your dues are current or past due. If the latter is true and you want to renew your membership, simply click on: <https://ozarkhighlandstrail.com/membership/>. It's that easy! Go ahead; give it a shot. You won't regret renewing your membership!

– Relaxing Trailside –

Interesting Breaktime Reads

In An Instant– Suzanne Redfearn

On the Wild Edge: In Search of a Natural Life – David Petersen

PLEASE NOTE: If you have a read or two you'd like to share with others who enjoy trail time, please send the title and author's name to ohata@ozarkhighlandstrail.com, and it will appear in the next edition of the OHTA Newsletter.

**We're not far from seeing the forest in all its leafless glory.
Get out and enjoy every minute of it!**

Quote for the month

"After a day's walk, everything has twice its usual value."

George Macauley Trevelyan

Until the trails we travel alone become the trail that brings us together,

HIKE ONWARD!!

YOUR ASSOCIATION WITH THE OHT MAKES THIS THE ASSOCIATION IT IS!
THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING A PART OF THE OZARK HIGHLANDS TRAIL ASSOCIATION!!