



**KHTA**

# The Knobstone

## News of the Knobstone Hiking Trail Association

*Late Fall –Early Winter Newsletter 2021 Vol. 8, No. 2*

Founded in 2013—KHTAssociation@gmail.com—www.knobstonehikingtrail.org

### KHTA Calendar

**Jan 1 - Sponsored Hike #1—Tecumseh**

**Jan 8— 2nd Saturday Workday**

**Feb 5—Sponsored Hike #2— Tecumseh**

**Feb 9— KHTA Board Meeting**

**Feb 12—2nd Saturday Workday**

**March 5—Sponsored Hike #3**

**March 12—2nd Saturday Workday**

**April 2—Sponsored Hike #4**

**April 9—2nd Saturday Workday**

**May 7—Sponsored Hike #5**

**To join hikes, sign upon on Meetup—**  
<https://www.meetup.com/Knobstone-Hiking-Trail-Association-of-Indiana-Meetup>

### Board of Directors

President—Charles Andrew

Vice-President—Steve Schaftlein

Acting Secretary—Nina Andrew

Treasurer—Bob Curran

Ron Conrad

Albert Cross

Scott Beam

Richard Vonnegut

Chris Donahue

Randall Pflueger

Jerry Pagac

### Advisory Board

Tony Abbott

John Miller

Jess Gwinn

Suzanne Mittenthal

Brian Holzhausen

Joe Payne

D. Jack Mahuron

### In This Issue

A Word From Our President & a Temporary Reroute—page 2

Sponsored Section Hikes of the KHT 20212 & 2022 —pages 3 & 4

Volunteer Work—pages 5 & 6

Report From the KHTA Store—page 7

Website Update—Tools For The Trail—page 8

Shared Stories, Photos, & Videos—Report Conditions & Completed Hikes—page 9

*Many Thanks To All Our Volunteers Who Are Helping  
To Make Our Dream A Reality!*

*Take Time To Consider*

*Joining The KHTA Or Making A Special Gift To The KHTA  
We're Seeking To Build Up Our Membership & Funds  
To Continue The Growth of the Trail*

*Go To <https://www.knobstonehikingtrail.org/join-donate/>*

*Thanks For Your Support!*

### Info On The Entire 160 Mile KHT

#### Maps Set, Data Book, Town Guide & GPX File

Free downloadable digital versions are available at  
[www.hoosierbywaysandpathways.com](http://www.hoosierbywaysandpathways.com).

Printed copies are now available for purchase on our web page store.

Go to [www.knobstonehikingtrail.org](http://www.knobstonehikingtrail.org) and click on Store/Maps Tab

Maps Set \$10/Data Book \$2/Town Guide \$5/ All 3 Bundled \$15

## *A Word From Our President*

Dear KHTA Members & Supporters,

Our mission is to work towards the completion of the 160-mile KT, provide maintenance to sustain the trail, promote responsible use of the trail, encourage monetization of the trail by local economies, promote connection to pending rail-trail networks. Trail building and maintenance, and adding to the total of KT miles are only part of on-going KHTA activity. The balance -- arguably the preponderance -- of KHTA effort, while less immediately visible, involves a tremendous amount of time and effort effecting solutions to problems that can only be addressed through interpersonal and political negotiations. An example is KHTA effort to re-establish a pedestrian crossing where the Tecumseh Trail previously crossed the Indiana Railroad Company right-of-way in Trevlac. The crossing has been closed since Spring of 2020, effectively bisecting the Tecumseh Trail. Collaboration among Indiana state legislators and IDNR leadership -- catalyzed by KHTA -- has re-framed and added impetus to the discussion for reopening this section of the 160-mile KT. In addition to efforts toward reopening the Tecumseh, we have strengthened the consensus among our partners for adding miles to the KT throughout the remainder of the 160-mile route. Please help as you can.

Thank you

Charles Andrew, President

Knobstone Hiking Trail Association, Martinsville, IN 46151

### **Report of Our Virtual Annual Board Meeting**

The KHTA held our annual Meeting of Members on December 1, 2021. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom on the internet and was scheduled to last a half hour but actually lasted 45 minutes. The agenda included a report from our treasurer, a report from our secretary, a report of trail work, current trail progress, challenges and priorities. We ran out of time and promised to hold a follow-up meeting in a week. On December 8, 2021, an hour and a half long Zoom meeting "Q & A with the KHTA Board" was held. Board members shared updated information and answered questions from participants. This meeting seems to have met a real need and will be repeated in late winter.

**Volunteer Adopters Needed**—To Patrol & Maintain Trail—Go To

<https://www.knobstonehikingtrail.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/KHTA-Volunteer-Info-Request-Form.pdf>

### **Membership Renewal**

It's time to initiate or renew your membership in the KHTA—Go To

<https://www.knobstonehikingtrail.org/join-donate/>

### **Temporary Reroute of the Original KT Between Miles 26 & 28 – Just North of the Leota Trailhead**

The Knobstone Trail traverses actively managed forest areas and will have periodic temporary reroutes for user safety during management activities. Beginning on or shortly after December 13, 2021 the route of the Knobstone Trail in Clark State Forest will be rerouted while activities take place. The original route will be used after the completion of management activities. Click [Here](#) to view, download, and print a map of the reroute.



## Scott Beam, KHTA Board Member Continues to Lead Section Hikes

Consider Joining Our 2022 Organized Hikes Sponsored By The KHTA

<https://www.meetup.com/Knobstone-Hiking-Trail-Association-of-Indiana-Meetup/events/>

- Saturday, January 1 - 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM - Section Hike #1  
Tecumseh/Low Gap trailhead MMSF - Section 2 of the KHT
- Saturday, February 5 - 9:15 AM to 2:15 PM - Section Hike #2  
Tecumseh/Low Gap trailhead MMSF - Section 1 of the KHT
- Saturday, March 5 - 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM - Section Hike #3  
Bear Lake Dam - Section 3 of the KHT
- Saturday, April 2 - 9:00 AM to 8:00 AM - Section Hike #4  
4371 Indian Hill Rd - Section 4 of the KHT
- Saturday, May 7 - 9:00 AM to 6 PM - Section Hike #5  
High King Hill to the northern end of the Nebo Ridge Trail
- Saturday, June 4 - 9:00 AM to 5:00 pm - Section Hike #6  
Hickory Ridge Trail 18 parking area
- Saturday, July 2 - 9:00 AM to 6 PM - Section Hike #7  
Hickory Ridge Trail 18 parking area



Click [Here](#) for more info and to signup on Meetup for any of these hikes.

### **The 2021 Organized Hikes Was Highlighted By The October 22-24 Fall Foliage Thru Hike From Spurgeon Hollow To Deam Lake (Miles 45-0).**

The following hikers participated in the hike— James Kendall, Jacob Enk, Steve Knoop, Scott Beam, Chuck Bower, Rebecca Williams Enk.and Mellisa & David Place. James, Jacob, and Steve completed the whole hike. Others did some sections.

**A Friday evening cookout at Elk Creek Lake was hosted by sibling hosts Melanie Casey and Steve Schafflein.**



# 2021 Fall K7 Thru Hike



## KHTA Volunteers At Work!



**Steve Knoop  
Richard Bonnegut**



**Work On The Martinsville CC Trailhead**



**Nina Andrew**

## Volunteers Are The Heart of the KHTA!

The 2nd Saturday Work Crew continued its work on improving the trail at Martinsville Conservation Club.. Much work was done to repair the foundation of the bridge at Sparksville that was build by the Medora High School students. The KT Trail Adopters continue to monitor their sections of the KT between Deam Lake and Spurgeon Hollow. Beginning in 2022 the Adopters will begin separate Saturday and Weekday workdays to make repairs on the original KT. In the HNF work continues on our section on Trail 18 & 20.



We are thankful to the many volunteers who are the lifeblood of the KHTA. They monitor and maintain existing trails and build new trails. Volunteers spend countless hours planning, preparing, and carrying out our programs and activities. They work behind the scenes doing the clerical work of the organization. They go out and educate people about the benefits of the trail. They serve on our Board of Directors and the Board of Advisors. They put in countless hours in all the various aspects of the KHTA. Without them the KHT would be an unrealized dream of a few people.

As the KHTA continues to grow we are in a special need of people to serve as Trail Adopters, serve as secretary and help with the office work, and to help with the publicity and Newsletter. Give some thought to rolling up your sleeves and volunteering for one of these and many other aspects of the KHTA mission. Join a dedicated community making the KHT a reality! Volunteer or donate at [Join / Donate – Knobstone Hiking Trail Association](#)



**The KHT is now available on the All Trails & GAIS GPS Apps for Smart Phones .**

**Download the apps and search for Knobstone Trail: 160 Miles**

**On your computer go to:**

[www.alltrails.com/trail/us/indiana/knobstone-trail-160-miles](http://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/indiana/knobstone-trail-160-miles)

<https://www.gaiagps.com/datasummary/folder/35e8a226-9f05-40e9-b4da-37c8e5fd3a21/?>

## Medora High School Bridge at Sparksville

The bridge was originally constructed in 2017 by the students at Medora Highschool. Subsequent erosion caused the bridge to sag and nearly collapse into the stream bed. This Fall the bridge was jacked up and supported by the construction of a retaining wall. Additional fill was brought in and a 8 foot ramp was constructed to reconnect the bridge with the bank.



# KHTA Store Report



## KHTA Ball Caps Now Available

30 KHTA baseball caps have been designed and acquired. They are available for \$20.

<https://www.knobstonehikingtrail.org/shop/>



## Maps of the Region By the Indiana Geological & Water Survey!

The final map of the 5 map series is now available. The 5 maps include all of the trails on state and federal land in the area covered. It includes many local trails including the KHT from start to finish. These are the most detailed maps available and will enable hikers to explore the rich opportunities up and down the KHT corridor. These maps include the Charles C. Deam Wilderness in the HNF, Morgan Monroe-Yellowood Forests, Brown County State Park, Starve-Hollow SRA, and the Clark & Jackson-Washington State Forests. During the Covid 19 pandemic Avenza is offering a free digital version of these maps through their I-phone and android apps. Four of the five are already available. Go to this link [Avenza](#) on your smart phone or android device to download the app and then the maps. For further info on the IGWS go to <https://igws.indiana.edu/newsletter/read/may-2020>.

## KHT Map Set, Data Book, and Town Guide—2nd Edition

The 2021 2nd Edition of the KHT Map Set, Data Book, and Town Guide is now available. Hard copies will be available through the KHTA Store. Digital copies are already available as a free download on our website. This set provides comprehensive info for thru or section hiking the 160 miles of the KHT.

**To Order Items  
From the KHTA Store**

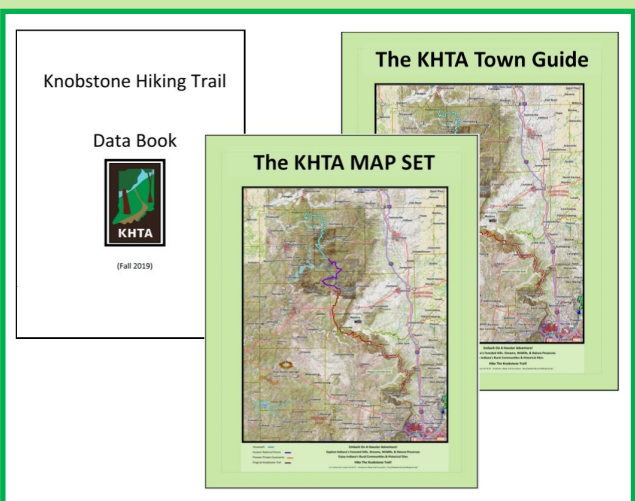
**Go to**

<https://www.knobstonehikingtrail.org/shop/>

**Many Thanks For Your Interest**

**&**

**Support!**





# Knobstone Hiking Trail Association

Realizing the 1970s Visionary 160-Mile Knobstone

Home

160-Mile KHT – Info & Resources ▾

Activities / Volunteer ▾

History & Geology

About Us / Partners and Collaborators ▾

## KHTA Website Updated!

Check out the completed hikes—<https://www.knobstonehikingtrail.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Completed-Hikes.pdf>

Report your completed hikes— <https://www.knobstonehikingtrail.org/completed-hikes-report-form/>

The KHTA website has been reorganized with some new features. Pages and forms have been created to report on trail conditions and to share stories, photos, and videos of your hiking experiences. Also a page has been added for others to view the stories, photos, and videos that you share. And, a page and form has been added to report the completion of hikes on individual sections (KT, PT, HNF, & TT) and the entire KHT. This is for both section and thru hikers. As completed hikes are reported, the information will chronologically list these accomplishments by date of completion. This is part of an effort to further enhance the community of KHT supporters, hikers, and volunteers.

**Check out the changes and additions! And get involved!**



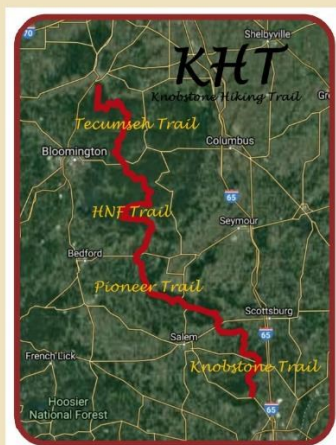
### Tools For The Trail

Silky Saws are the finest hand saws available. They are incredibly efficient and convenient. They fold away for safe and easy transport. They are a solid yet flexible tool to tackle all sizes of blowdowns. They come in a variety of sizes from 170mm to 1000mm.



The larger sizes come with a pack that can easily be carried on your shoulder. A special sharpening tool and replacement blades can be purchased. You can view the whole family of saws at <https://silkytools.com/folding-saws/?sort=featured&page=1>

They can be purchased through this site and a variety of other vendors including Amazon and Canadian Preparedness [www.canadianpreparedness.com](http://www.canadianpreparedness.com). Prices vary from small pruning saws for less than \$40 to hundreds of dollars for the biggest.



## *Stories Along The KHT Corridor*

*Kelly & Ben Mathis With Dog Corey  
Knobstone Trail, Thru Hiked  
August 2-6, 2020*

*It might have been just because it was the last day, but the 10 miles coming into Deam Lake SRA were some of the most beautiful of the whole trip. Also enjoyed seeing Louisville off in the distance at our last campsite.*

*Submitted by Kelly Mathis*

*Curtis Mann  
Knobstone Trail, Thru Hiked — Feb 16-18, 2020*

*I filmed my trip and made a short video of it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZyBSlfeXIJw> Going in February was wonderful. It was unseasonably warm and there was plenty of water along the way. I often carried just 1L of water and filled up anytime I came across a stream. A great trail for sure!*

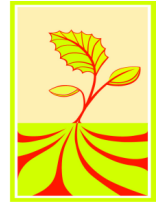
*Submitted by Curtis Mann*

# Collaborators In The Trails Movement

**COMMUNITY**  
FOUNDATION OF  
MORGAN COUNTY



The **COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
of Jackson County  
*Together, we grow tomorrow*



**OAK HERITAGE**  
CONSERVANCY



Hoosier Hiker Babes

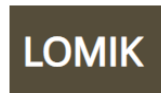


TRAILS **A**-Team

ULTRALIGHT JERK



**HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL**  
Boy Scouts of America



meetup

