



KHTA

The Knobstone

News of the Knobstone Hiking Trail Association

Summer Newsletter 2023 Vol. 11, No. 2

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

KHTA Calendar

Sep 30-Oct—Sparksville Park Fall Festival

Oct 14 —2nd Saturday Work Day

Nov 11 — 2nd Saturday Work Day

Nov 14—KHTA Board Meeting

To join hikes or work days,
sign up on on Meetup

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

**Knobstone Hiking Trail
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

Randall Pflueger

Jim Garlits

Jerry Pagac

Suzanne Mittenthal

Advisory Board

Tony Abbott

John Miller

Jess Gwinn

Joe Payne

Brian Holzhausen

D. Jack Mahuron

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*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!

Membership Renewal

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2023 or wish to initiate your membership go to

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

Members with an online account receive a 10% store discount.

[Sign Up For An Online Account](#) [Click Here](#)

A Word From Our President



Dear Friends,

Summer is always a busy time for us. Gardens and yardwork consume so much time. Kids are out of school, so the time is right for families to travel and kids to play ball, etc.. As summer winds down and fall starts up, the time becomes perfect for building new and fixing existing trails. The KHTA has both new sections to build and existing sections to maintain and improve. This past spring and early summer saw wind burst that brought down trees all along the 163-mile corridor. These must be cleared for hikers to have a usable path. The summer growth of vegetation and especially green briar requires trimming. This work is best performed by volunteers and now is the best time of the year to help! Won't you please join us in making the 163-mile-long Knobstone Trail the premier hiking destination for Central USA?

Our board also needs more volunteers, especially leaders that want to make a difference.

Take note of our Sparksville Fall Festival on Sep 30 and Oct 1 at Sparksville. Come join us for fellowship!

Charles Andrew, President
Knobstone Hiking Trail Association
317-258-6788

Charles Andrew

Calendar of Trail Workdays

KHTA Ongoing 2nd Saturday Workdays

Saturday—Oct 14 and Nov 11

For more info and to sign up Click [Here](#)

Hoosier National Forest Workdays

For more info and to sign up Click [Here](#)

Calendar For KHTA Adopters Workdays

Sep 23 and Oct 21

For more info and to sign up Click [Here](#)



Sparksville Park, Sparksville, IN

9:30 AM to noon next day

Come when you want, leave when you want.

SATURDAY

9:30 AM – 3:00 Park improvements

3:00 Booths, guided walk to town cemetery trail, corn hole, volleyball

5:00 Dedication of the signs program with remarks from Kara Hunt, principal, Medora H.S. and KHTA Partner School and recognition of local park founders and land and easement donors

After Dedication: pitch in, KHTA provides hot dogs & bratwurst, campfire. Bring camp chairs.

Camping overnight

SUNDAY

Breakfast, Sparksville Ridge, Hikers Knob hikes

Improvements to Sparksville Park:

A wooden sign by the road that says Sparksville Park, a fire pit, fix volleyball net, develop tents sites in the woods, plant trees to expand woods and by the road, install benches, install dusk to dawn light.

Booths:

Trail building

Camping gear with bear bag hanging demo

Camp Cooking

Naturalist including wetlands and microscope, tree, flower ID?

Star gazing with telescopes

KHTA Booth

Other hiking related groups

Ideas for Pitch In:

Cole slaw, Veggie salad, BBQ beans,

Cheese and crackers, Chips, Dips

Cake,

Marshmallows, Chocolate bars, Graham crackers

RSVP on:

www.meetup.com/Knobstone-Hiking-Trail-Association-of-Indiana-Meetup/

Visit the KHTA Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/groups/4381775325259983

The KHTA Website

Pages and forms are available to report on trail conditions, completed section and thru hikes, and to share stories, photos, and videos of hiking experiences. All of these can be viewed on the web site. Completed hikes are chronologically listed by date of completion. This is part of an effort to further enhance the community of KHT supporters, hikers, and volunteers.

Check out: [Completed Hikes](#), [Stories, Photos, & Videos](#)

Report: [Completed Hikes](#), [Stories, Photos, & Videos](#), [Trail Conditions](#)

Medora High School Workday At Sparksville Park

On April 26 students and faculty members of Medora High School joined KHTA members in a workday at Sparksville Park. Trails were brushed and cleared of blow downs. Informative signage was added. Recreational equipment was repaired. And a window was added to the “facilities” building.

Many thanks to the students and faculty of Medora High School!





Trail Design, Construction, and Maintenance

“Win-Win Philosophy”

To successfully implement of trail design, construction, and maintenance, it is helpful to begin with a reflection on the philosophy or attitude involved. To put it succinctly, a “Win-Win” attitude is needed to successfully engage in a collaborative effort with numerous individuals, organizations, and interests. Long distance trails are routed across land owned by private individuals, commercial businesses, religious organizations, nature preserves, government entities (city, county, state and federal), and others too many to enumerate here. Each of these entities have their own values, goals, and priorities. Some of these may appear to conflict with one another. Yet, all people and parties involved have some bits of wisdom that can help create a trail enhancing the common good of all. This requires a great deal of quality dialogue involving listening to the perspective of others. With patience and time apparent conflicts can be resolved with compromises that enhance the values and perspective of everyone. Ultimately, a “Win-Win” philosophy is a rising tide that lifts the fortunes of everyone.

The modern trail movement started a hundred years ago with the vision of constructing the Appalachian Trail (AT) which would serve as the backbone connecting all of the various trails, parks, public and private lands, and communities up and down the Appalachian Mountains. Over time it became a cherished asset bringing economic growth, recreational opportunities, and collaborative efforts to work together for the common good. This achievement would not have possible without a “Win-Win” philosophy and attitude.

To sum it up, a “Win-Win” philosophy brings people and communities together. It enhances the relationships and lives of everyone and every entity involved.

As this series continues, a “Win-Win” philosophy will be reflected in what is shared. A “Win-Win” attitude is the most important tool needed to bring together people to design, build and maintain a good trail.

“Knobstone Hiking Trail—Connecting People and Communities”



**Summer
Is Going**

—

**Fall Is
Coming!**



2023 Organized Hikes – Scott Beam – Mark Your Calendars!

Consider Joining Our 2023 Organized Hikes

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



3rd Annual Hike Till You Drop—Spurgeon Hollow Saturday Oct 7—6 am to 5 pm

Hike the northern loops of the Knobstone Trail

For more info and to sign up click [here](#).

4th Annual KT Fall Foliage Backpacking Trip—Thursday, October 26 to Sunday October 29

Meet at Deam Lake to arrange car shuttle and cache water. Once at Spurgeon Hollow the hike south will begin. Thursday night will be at Elk Creek Lake (12 miles) with a KHTA sponsored cook out. Friday the hike will be about 12 miles to the Leota Trailhead area (close to the N Branch of Bix Ox Creek). Saturday will be 13 miles to Round Knob. Sunday will be 8 miles to Deam Lake and then the car shuttle back to Spurgeon Hollow.

For more info and to sign up click [here](#).

Monon South

DNR
Indiana Department
of Natural Resources

NextLevel
TRAILS

Update on the Monon South Rail Trail Governor Holcomb's Next Level Trails Program

Radius, the coordinator of this project, has signed a contract with Clark Dietz to do the engineering design of Phase 1 of the program. The design should be completed by spring of 2024 with construction beginning in the subsequent summer of 20 miles of the trail. A 10 mile section will be built between Deam Lake Road to the west side of Pekin. At the same time trails will be constructed in each of the towns along the 60 mile route—Borden, Pekin, Salem, Campbellsburg, Saltillo, Orleans, and Mitchell. Currently, rails and rail road ties are being removed and crossings are being improved throughout the entire route. Fund raising efforts are underway and assistance to towns is being given to apply for grants to enhance the route and trailheads within their boundaries. This trail will provide a link from the southern terminus of the KT to the urban trails of the metropolitan area of New Albany, Clarksville, Jeffersonville, and Louisville.

Volunteers Are The Heart of the KHTA!



The 2nd Saturday Work Crew continued its work on improving the trail at Martinsville Conservation Club.. The KT Trail Adopters continue to monitor their sections of the KT between Deam Lake and Spurgeon Hollow. . 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](#)



KHTA Store Report

Members With An Online Account Receive A 10% Discount

[Sign Up For An Online Account](#) [Click Here](#)

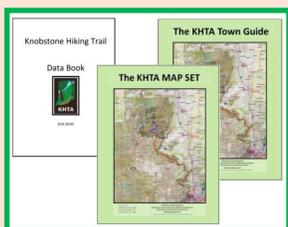
KHTA Ball Caps Now Available

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

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



The 5 maps include all of the trails on state and federal land in the area covered. 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. 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 Go to <https://www.knobstonehikingtrail.org/shop/> - Thanks For Your Interest & Support!

Collaborators In The Trails Movement

COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION OF
MORGAN COUNTY



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



Hoosier Hiker Babes:



OAK HERITAGE
CONSERVANCY

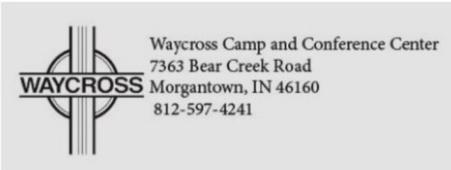


TRAILS **A**-Team

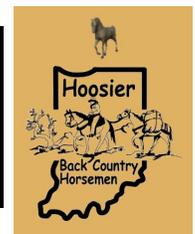
ULTRALIGHT JERK



HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL
Boy Scouts of America



meetup



ORVIS



Nay-Ture's Hill Top Farm

