



## 2014 Annual Meeting at Ottawa

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The 2014 Annual Meeting of Kanza Rail-Trails Conservancy will be held on **Saturday, November 15** in Ottawa. Doors will open at 10:30 a.m., with registration beginning at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. An update on Phase I of the Flint Hills Nature Trail Project will be given by engineers from CFS Engineering and plan-

ners from RDG Planning and Design. The President's remarks, division reports, and election of board members will take place at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at **Smoked Creations** located at 222 E. Logan. Lunch is \$11.00 per person. Please RSVP by Nov. 10 by emailing [info@kanzatrails.org](mailto:info@kanzatrails.org) or returning the enclosed form.

### Board of Directors

The KRTC membership will elect directors to the Board of Directors. Directors whose terms are expiring are Scott Allen, Clark Coan, Dan Larson, and Dan Pickert. All will be re-nominated by the Board.

Around 2:00 p.m. we will adjourn to enjoy the Flint Hills Nature Trail's magnificent autumn beauty and serenity.

### Highlights of the Flint Hills Trail:

- Longest trail in the Sunflower State.
- Seventh longest rail-trail in the America.
- Follows the general route of the Santa Fe Nat'l Historic Trail.
- Forms a component of the American Discovery Trail.
- Traverses tallgrass covered hills and oak-hickory forest.

## \$1.9 million Awarded for Flint Hills Trail

The Kansas Department of Transportation announced in July that it awarded \$1.9 million in federal Transportation Alternatives funds to the Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism for Phase II of the Flint Hills

Trail Project for as far west from Quenemo as funding will allow. Phase II funds must be obligated by Oct. 2015. This is in addition to the \$2.4 million in Transportation Enhancement funds allocated last year for Phase

I. Bids for Phase IA between Ottawa and Pomona will be let this fall. Bids for trail development between Lomax and Pomona and between Ottawa and Rantoul under Phase IB will be let by Jan. 2015.

## *New Campground along Flint Hills Trail*



A new campground has been established by the Kaw Nation at the 168-acre Allegawaho Heritage Park located 3.5 miles Southeast of Council Grove on the Flint Hills Trail. Ten primitive campsites with fire rings have been built. Plus, a parking lot has been constructed

north of the trail. Picnic tables will also be installed soon and a groundbreaking for a shelter has been held. Walking trails which pass by stone cabin ruins and the "Monument to the Unknown Indian" are also available for use. The Kaw Nation dedicated the park in 2002.

The tribe lived on the land from 1847 until 1873. Trail users can begin their journey on the Flint Hills Trail from the park and go east ten miles through rugged tallgrass-covered hills to Bushong. The campground and park are open to the public year round.

## *Landon Nature Trail links historic trails*



Remarkably, the 38-mile Landon Nature Trail is the only trail in America which crosses and connects both the Santa Fe and Oregon National Historic Trails! It intersects both the Union Ferry Branch of the

Oregon Trail at SE 42nd Street in Topeka and the Santa Fe Trail north of Overbrook. "There is no other trail in America that links these important historic trails," remarked Vice-President Doug Walker. In

Overbrook, a short side trail can be built to allow trail users to view swales or ruts of the Santa Fe Trail." Plans are underway to install informational signs at the historic trail crossings to educate trail users.

## *Interpretative signs on rail-trails*



Henry Fortunato, Director of Public Affairs for the Kansas City, MO Public Library and a Humanities adjunct professor at KU, is promoting what he calls "Applied Humanities". One such idea is to have

his students prepare interpretative signs for rail-trails to increase awareness of historic and natural features and boost trail use. Since many of the state's rail-trails are not particularly scenic, other methods for in-

creasing trail attractiveness include interpretative signs. Rail-trails that might have interpretative sign projects include the Flint Hills and Landon Trails. Lawrence's Burroughs Creek Trail is the current project.

## *Landon Trail connection finally a reality*

Shawnee County Parks and Recreation this past summer completed laying crushed limestone on the previously unfinished link on the Landon Trail between SE 45th St. & SE 51th St. in south-east Topeka (.75 miles).

Trail users can now freely travel 11.7 miles from 15th and Monroe St. to Tecumseh Rd. A trail dedication ceremony followed by a bike ride was held on Sept. 6. The Landon Trail connects with Topeka's pop-

ular Shunga Trail. Usage of the trail is expected to soar as Topeka trail users continue south out of the city. This will increase visibility of the historic and natural features of the trail, thereby boosting the demand for the trail to be completed to Quenemo.

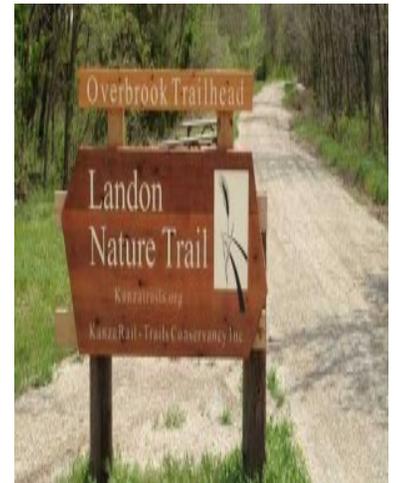


## *Landon Trail segment dedicated at Overbrook*

A dedication of a one-mile section of the Landon Trail at the Overbrook Trailhead was held on May 10. Overbrook City Council member Carol Baughman helped dedi-

cate the trail segment. A bike ride/walk was held after the ribbon-cutting. A side trail could be built from the trail section to the Overbrook Cemetery where Santa Fe Trail ruts may be

seen. There are several sites associated with the Santa Fe Trail in the Overbrook area. The trailhead and trail segment were partially funded by the Lattner Family Foundation.



## *KRTC Annual Meeting RSVP Form*

**Complete, enclose check, and mail to KRTC**

**KRTC**

**P.O. Box 3863  
Topeka, KS 66604**

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of persons attending Luncheon:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**At \$10 per plate**

**Total Amt. Enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Checks may be made out to:*

**Kanza Rail-Trails Conservancy**

Mail remittance along with this form to: \_\_\_\_\_



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Topeka, KS 66604

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## *Membership Renewal Form*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$15/household

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$50/business

City: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Mail remittance along with this form to:

KRTC  
P.O. Box 3863  
Topeka, KS 66604