



# THE GREENWAY NEWS

July - September 2010

Ozark Greenways Membership Newsletter

Volume 17, Issue 3

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## Springfield to Willard Paved!

Over eight continuous miles of the Frisco Highline Trail are now paved, from Springfield through Willard! Trail traffic has been steadily increasing and we're getting dozens of calls with positive feedback from families and individuals who are excited about the latest improvements. People with disabilities, children and the elderly are especially appreciating the new hard surface as a safe predictable corridor to recreate and travel on.

Work is ongoing along the Polk County section to clear overhanging limbs and encroaching vegetation. Volunteers are always needed on that section to keep the trail in tip-top shape. If you or someone you know might be interested in helping out for a few hours here or there, let Terry know at 864-2014. Groups are always welcome also. This trail is such a great asset for our community and it just keeps getting better and better! We'd like to thank Polk County Bike Club, Coy Hart and Richard Rice for their commitment to helping us maintain the trail—thanks, guys.



APAC was the winning bidder to complete the most recent section of paving work on the FHT into Springfield.

## Trail Update

We've gotten a lot of great news about our trails and on-street bike routes recently. Springfield was awarded the bronze level "Bicycle Friendly Community" designation by the League of American Bicyclists, which is all at once a pat on the back and recognition of what still needs to be done. Both infrastructure and public education are the cornerstones of any bicycle-pedestrian-oriented community. Luckily, there's a lot of support for this effort—as shown in the recent renewal of the capital improvements tax by 70% of the vote. Public Works will be administering this funding for on-street bike route signage.

The next big excitement was announced in June, when South Creek Greenway was selected to receive the National Recreation Trail designation from the National Park Service! This makes a triple crown of sorts for our region, including Galloway Creek Greenway (first urban trail in Missouri to become an NRT) and the Frisco Highline Trail. (Continued on page 2...)

## IN THIS ISSUE...

<i>Biking is changing lives in Springfield</i>	2
<i>Message from President, Chris Flouer</i>	4
<i>Outdoor Fitness Festival will include Ozark Greenways 5K</i>	5
<i>Fall fundraising dinner — Thursday, September 30</i>	6



# Trail Mix

- We're transitioning to a new quarterly volunteer workday schedule starting on a Saturday in November. Date TBA...
- Bart and Rita Williams recently opened *Frisco Trail Mini Storage*, a business with bike storage and a bike loaning program along the Frisco Highline Trail! (See photo on the right.) We hope their business does well and that trail users utilize their services at 4175 N. Willard Rd., or call 742-0222.
- The OG board held its long-range planning session in June to review its 5-year plan and evaluate current and future priorities of the organization. The consensus is that we're on track, continuing collaborative initiatives to increase awareness of bike/ped infrastructure needs both publicly and privately, while dealing with major ongoing funding issues, and keeping pace with an ever increasing workload.
- Volunteers are needed to help at "Evening at Rockspan", Sept. 30.



*The winning team, Ridge Runner Sports/Downhill Bikes, heading into the final stretch toward the finish line at the 11th annual fundraiser, the Ozark Greenways Adventure Race, May 22, at Gasconade Hills.*



*"Frisco Trail Mini Storage" with bike storage and a bike loan business has opened along the Frisco Highline Trail in Willard. Stop in to say hi to Bart and Rita and see what they've got going on! (see Trail Mix, left)*



*Scout troop 193 helped build a dog-walking trail for the Southwest Missouri Humane Society in June. Way to go, guys!*

**Thank You  
Sponsors of  
the 11th annual  
Ozark Greenways  
Adventure Race**

**CoxHealth**—Naming sponsor

- Larson Law Firm
- Ozark Adventures
- Rosie Laughlin, Life Coach
- New Belgium Brewing Co.
- Burgess Aircraft Management / Ozair Charter Services
- Ozarks Multisport Club
- Bass Pro
- Ridge Runner Sports
- O'Reilly Auto Parts
- McCann Printing
- Hogan Land Title



## President's Column

I have had the pleasure of using the greenways trails for all 20 years of their existence - living in or near the Gallo-way area - and had the pleasure of being a Greenway member for many years. Also had pleasure of participating in the adventure race and fall dinner, working with the staff and serving on the board for the last 4 years. Although that has been all *my* pleasure, each time I visit a trail, I am reminded of the pleasure our trails provide to folks from every walk of life, from every level of physical condition, from every age - we serve everyone; for *their* pleasure.

So, what goes into creating all of this pleasure on the trails? There are more things that go into it than I could have imagined before joining the board. The newsletter is full of things that are going on with your favorite trails and information about the efforts involved to make it happen, but as you read about these great things, you may still be asking how you can be more involved. Getting involved can happen in many ways. We have opportunities to get involved with events, committees, trail workdays and board positions that could give anyone great satisfaction in being involved. Another great way to get involved is to become a Greenway advocate with your family, friends and neighbors and recruit them as members of Ozark Greenways. Each new member becomes an important advocate for green space preservation, health and wellness, pedestrian and bike commuting and all the great things that this organization stands for. There are some small ways (and large) to get involved. Choose your level of involvement and if we can provide you information about opportunities to help, please give us a call at the Greenway office at 864-2015.

It has been my pleasure to serve Ozark Greenways and it's membership, and I look forward to the remainder of my term as president. Reach me at [chris.flouer@coxhealth.com](mailto:chris.flouer@coxhealth.com), if I can do anything to help your involvement.

— Chris Flouer, President

# New & Renewed Members

## APRIL THROUGH JUNE 2010

### New

Timothy Branavy  
 Bill Clayton  
 Duck Creek Technologies  
 Dynamic Earth  
 Warren Farmer  
 Hammons Products Co.  
 Donna Johnson  
 Cindy Johnson  
 Eric & Lissa Johnson  
 Beth Kick  
 Tyler & Michelle Moles  
 Chad Spencer  
 Bart & Rita Williams

### Renewed

Benjamin & Becky Alexander  
 John Bell  
 Joe Bolton  
 Steve & Elena Brady  
 Wilbur & Lorene Brill  
 John & Linda Charles  
 Nathaniel & Barbara Clark  
 Andy Cline & Lola Butcher  
 Genelle Deaton  
 Steve & Renee Eiffert  
 Roger Fillmer  
 Tom Finnie  
 Robert Helm  
 Charlotte & Wilbur Hiebert  
 Ted Hillmer  
 Hogan Land Title  
 Mike & Zita Horan  
 Donald Lieberwitz

Richard & Faye Loeb  
 Kay Mason  
 Ed Matthews  
 McCann Printing  
 Max Moore  
 Gary Rader  
 Ridge Runner Sports  
 Carol Robinson  
 Fred & Melanie Schattauer  
 Sam & Edna Lois Smith  
 Tim Smith  
 Pat Walker  
 Mark & Jane Wand  
 Ray & Kathleen Williams  
 Rosalie Wooten  
 Marty Wright

### New Corporate Members

Creekside Homeowners Association  
 Burgess Aircraft Management/Ozair Charter Service  
 Fitness Showcase  
 Ozarks Multisport Club  
 Rosie Laughlin

### Renewing Corporate Member

Associated Electric Cooperative  
 Bass Pro Shops  
 CoxHealth  
 Drury University  
 Larson Law Firm  
 New Belgium Brewing Company  
 O'Reilly Auto Parts  
 Ozark Adventures  
 Ozark Mountain Ridge Runners

*Membership is  
 the key to  
 our success!*

*[ If you need another membership decal, contact us  
 at either 864-2015 or lori@ozarkgreenways.org ]*

**Yes,** *I want to help preserve greenspace and  
 provide family-oriented recreation in the  
 Springfield community.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_NEW MEMBER      \_\_\_Tell me about Endowment Fund Giving

\_\_\_RENEWAL      *Planning your will? Consider a gift to Ozark Greenways.*

- Endowment Fund
- \$500-Corporate Member
- \$100-Trail Blazer
- \$50-Greenway Friend
- \$40-Family
- \$30-Individual

**Checks payable to Ozark Greenways, P.O. Box 50733, Springfield 65805**

## Biking is Changing Lives in Springfield: Irene Schaefer's "Crazy Bell Ladies", and Jackie Mayo

We're always talking about the benefits of our trail system in Springfield, but the importance takes on extra special meaning when hearing personal stories about how trails are directly impacting lives. Here are two we heard recently.

**The Crazy Bell Ladies**, Irene Schaefer's exercise group of 6 woman, all over age 50, have been working out together 4-5 times a week for almost 25 years. This year they decided to branch out from their usual aerobics and running routines to buy bikes. None had ridden a bike since they were a kid, but it helped that Irene lives next to the newly opened South Dry Sac Greenway near Truman Elementary School. They've been absolutely loving it and now ride 10-12 miles practically every day, visiting each of the trails regularly.

"We have a ball. It's as much mental as it is physical," says Irene. These six women lean on each other for support, no matter what. The team effort keeps them going - rarely do any of them miss a day. They've taken a class on bike maintenance and proper riding etiquette, and a couple of them are now even taking biking vacations to places like Portland, known for its biking facilities.

What Irene calls "spreading tribal knowledge" has gotten them known now by a way cool name too. If you hear several enthusiastic bike bell ringers politely announcing, "on your left", it just might be them. What great role models!

**Jackie Mayo** takes advantage of the motivation she gets from participating in Ozark Greenways' annual Commuting Challenge, leaving her car behind to get to and from work in May. In fact, the advantage is all hers because she's kept it up and already lost 15 pounds! She even got support from a co-worker when she needed to run home to check on a pet during her lunch hour one day and he loaned her his car. With creative planning, she reorganized her routine to allow for daily bicycle commuting. Way to go, Jackie!



*Stephanie Shadwick, of Butler Rosenbury & Partners Architects & Engineers, has been rallying her co-workers to participate in OG's annual Commuting Challenge to leave their cars behind each May for several years now. Her efforts have paid off in many ways.*

## Trail Update (...Continued from page 1)

So with all this national recognition, you might think that news would be plenty for this trail update, but no, there's more:

South Dry Sac Greenway is now officially open! With the Park Board's recent completion of the Lost Hill Park Trailhead on north Grant Avenue (just north of Hillcrest High School), we're excited to invite the public to explore this beautiful 2-mile section of a trail we hope will eventually connect from Ritter Springs Park to Valley Water Mill. If you need to park, you can do so at Lost Hill or Truman Elementary School. Check out the new trail map, now on our website ([www.ozarkgreenways.org](http://www.ozarkgreenways.org)).

Watch the pavement... for new stenciled messages on the trail surfaces, including "Announce when passing". Also, Boy Scouts have been repainting the 1/10-mile markers on the surfaces of South Creek and Galloway Creek greenways.

Don't forget: As always, remember to watch for low-water crossings on the trails during flooding! They don't call 'em floodplains for nothin'...

### Congratulations Trophy Winners of Bike-Bus-Walk to Work Week Commuting Challenge in May!

Rountree Elementay School  
Butler Rosenbury & Partners  
CoxHealth  
CopyBiz





# CALENDAR

**Evening at Rockspan Bridge**

Thursday, September 30 (6-9pm)  
13th annual fundraising dinner  
Reservations required  
(Details below)

**2nd annual Yoga on the Trail**

Saturday, September 18 (9-11am)  
Enjoy yoga on the beautiful Iron Bridge  
Proceeds go to Ozark Greenways  
(Details on page 3)

**Bass Pro Outdoor Fitness Festival**

September 10—November 7  
Get the scoop from their website  
[www.basspro.com/fitness](http://www.basspro.com/fitness)

**12th annual****Ozark Greenways 5K**

Sunday, November 7  
At the Bass Pro Outdoor Fitness Festival  
Proceeds go to Ozark Greenways!  
[www.basspro.com/fitness](http://www.basspro.com/fitness)

**New Volunteer Workday Schedule**

*Quarterly schedule!*

Starting in November, Date TBA  
Saturdays (9AM—1PM)  
Check our website for specifics

**(417) 864-2015**

[www.ozarkgreenways.org](http://www.ozarkgreenways.org)

## Bass Pro Outdoor Fitness Festival to Include Ozark Greenways 5K

The Bass Pro Outdoor Fitness Festival is right around the corner! As you probably know, this is a multi-weekend event including all sorts of outdoor activities, including a 5K to benefit Ozark Greenways.

- September 10-12: Great Outdoor Days will offer canoeing, fishing, games, a pre-1840's Mountain Men Rendezvous, s'mores and more.
- Saturday, October 2: The Branson Landing will host kayak and canoe races, from 3 to 23 miles in length. Should be exciting to watch or enter!
- Saturday, October 23: Cyclists can ride from 9 to 100 miles in the Tour de Bass. Kids age kindergarten through eighth grade can run at the Springfield Underground.
- Sunday, October 31: The Dogwood Canyon 25K/50K off-road trail run caters to hard-corps runners with a course full of water crossings, mud and beautiful scenery at Dogwood Canyon.
- Saturday, November 6: Walkers are invited to bring their pets, families and friends to the Wellness Walk.
- Sunday, November 7: A runners dream! The Ozark Greenways 5K, the Cohick Half Marathon, the Marathon Relay and the Bass Pro Conservation Marathon will all take place starting at Bass Pro.

For complete information about the Outdoor Fitness Festival and all of the events taking place, go to [www.basspro.com/fitness](http://www.basspro.com/fitness).

## Fall Dinner

On Thursday, September 30, we'll host our 13th annual fall fundraising dinner! Join us at Rockspan Bridge, the lovely property of Dick and Ellen Chiles, for a fun outdoor evening of socializing and dinner under the stars with fellow greenway supporters. The night wouldn't be complete without the infamous art and adventure silent auction, so be sure to bring the checkbook. Whether taking home an original piece of local artwork or something else that catches the eye, all proceeds benefit the growing greenway system. Seating is limited to 120 guests, so let us know if you'd like an invitation.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*When planning your estate, consider a gift to Ozark Greenways*

**In This Issue...** Become a fan of Ozark Greenways on Facebook... (yeah, we're there!)

**Happenings during Bike-Bus-Walk Week in May**



*Queen City Cycles gave away a brand new Kona bike to one lucky winning student at Rountree Elementary School during Bike-Bus-Walk Week.*



*Rountree Elementary won the elementary school category in our art bike contest with their "Picture Yourself on a Bike" photo collage bike.*

Third grade teacher, John Walstrand, rallies students and teachers every year for the annual Commuting Challenge.



*Here's a twist on the use of cart corrals! Shopping at Lowe's takes on a whole new perspective when you're on a bike.*



*Pershing Middle School art teacher, Jeannene Whaley, props up a wing on her class's winning art bike displayed at Bikefest on the Square.*

