



Trail Time

Kentucky Rails To Trails Council, Inc.

KY RT Statistics

Trails with RT sections: 18
Trail Projects: 17 (22 mi. funded)
Longest contiguous section of RT:
6 mi, Muhlenberg RT

vol 8, no.2 April, 2005

WRITE LETTERS FOR THE DAWKINS LINE

R.J. Corman Rail Group has started to remove the rails from the Dawkins line in Eastern KY. This abandonment is located in Johnson, Breathitt and Magoffin Counties and is 36 miles long. The timing has never been greater to get a rail trail in Kentucky that can literally put us on the map. Information about the project can be found on the KRTC web site, www.kyrail-trail.org

The Kentucky Rails to Trails Council is asking that members and RT supporters write Governor Ernie Fletcher, Commerce Cabinet Secretary Jim Host, Congressman Hal Rogers, State Legislators, and the Judge Executives in each county stating their reasons for taking the necessary steps to turn this abandonment into a railtrail.

The time is ripe for all rail trail supporters to write letters encouraging state and local leaders to strongly consider a rail trail for this abandonment. Some talking points include.

- The trail would provide an economic boost to the area. Trails create new opportunities for outdoor recreation and non-motorized transportation. The Dawkins Trail would be 36 miles in length and could be used by hikers, cyclists and horseback riders and will draw users from across Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia and Virginia. It will be in the same class of trails as the Virginia Creeper Trail (34 miles) in Virginia.
- Trails of this length are non-existent in Kentucky. It will be a "one of a kind" for many years. The longest trail in Kentucky at present is 6 miles in western Kentucky.
- This trail would provide an improved quality of life. Trails encourage physical fitness and healthy lifestyles. People will be able to use them for walking and cycling; two of the most economical and healthy forms of exercise. Lack of opportunity to safely bike and safely walk is a major reason why these forms of exercise are not done more.
- This trail will attract national attention because of its unique combination of tunnels, trestles, elk, coal tips, and mountains.
- The trail keeps the corridor intact. If there is a need in the future for train service over the line, the corridor is available. Using the trail now for recreation and alternate transportation preserves the infrastructure.

- This railtrail would be an amenity to the community. Trails encourage outdoor activities that promote community. They preserve culturally and historically valuable areas.



Addresses:

Governor Ernie Fletcher
700 Capital Ave. Suite 100, Frankfort, KY 40601

Mr. W. James Host, Kentucky Commerce Cabinet
Office of the Secretary, 24th Floor, Capital Plaza Tower
500 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

The Honorable Bill W. May
Magoffin County Judge Executive
Magoffin County Courthouse
Salyersville, KY 41465

Honorable Lewis Warrix
Breathitt County Judge Executive
Breathitt County Courthouse
Jackson, KY 41339

Honorable R.T. Daniel
Johnson County Judge Executive
Johnson County Courthouse
Paintsville, KY 41240

Congressman Hal Rogers
2406 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
District Office- Somerset
551 Clifty Street, Somerset, KY 42501

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Breathitt County

Representative Ted Edmonds (D)
1257 Beattyville Rd., Jackson, KY 41339

Senator Johnny Ray Turner (D)
P.O. Box 5, Drift, KY 41619

Johnson County

Representative Hubert Collins (D)
72 Collins Drive, Wittensville, KY 41274

Senator Ray S. Jones, II (D)
P.O. Drawer 3850, Pikeville, KY 41502

Magoffin County

Representative Ancel Smith (D)
1812 Wiley Fork Road, Leburn, KY 41831

Senator Robert Stivers (R)
207 Main Street, Manchester, KY 4096

Greenways for Oldham County

Greenways for Oldham County met on Thursday, March 3rd in Pewee Valley, KY. A representative from the Oldham County Fiscal Court, Emily Liu, presented an Alternate Route for construction of the Oldham County Greenway project known as the Interurban Greenway. The alternate route was the result of a required environmental impact study and research of available rights of way conducted by the Department of Transportation.

Greenways for Oldham County voted to support the Alternate Route. The Group voted to make a contribution (amount not yet announced) towards the estimated \$100,000 of local match funds necessary for the project. Grant monies already received total approximately \$400,000. Greenway construction and connectivity to existing neighborhoods may require 18-24 months to complete.

New officers were elected: Jackie Kingsolver, President, and Dr. Ashli Collins, Vice President. Dr. Ashli Collins was also selected as the Oldham County Greenways representative to the Kentucky Rails to Trails Council.

Planned Railtrail Promotional Bicycle Relay Ride, Lexington to Ashland, June 11th 2005

Members within KRTC are planning a bicycle relay ride between Lexington and Ashland as a National Trail Day Activity. The ride is to promote interest in developing sections of the abandoned CSX railway between Lexington and Ashland into a railtrail. The ultimate goal is connecting the sections for a continuous railtrail between Lexington and Ashland. To avoid a conflict with the popular MS-150 bicycle tour in central KY the date for the relay will be June 11th, one week after National Trail Day on June 4th. The motto this year for National Trail Day is "Take the Path to a Healthier You."

The relay will start at the Pleasant Ridge Park in Fayette County, mile post 637.1, and end at mile post 532.8 at Rush within Carter County and next to the Boyd County line. The distance over the railroad corridor would be 105 miles. The estimated distance of the cycling relay over nearby paved roads is 140 miles.

The tentative route is Todds Rd., Becknerville Rd., and McClure Rd. in Fayette County. In Clark County the relay will go on US 15, Miller Hunt Rd., Stoner Ephesus Rd. and Ecton Pike. In Montgomery County on Fogg Pike, Old Owingsville Rd. and KY 1331. In Bath County over KY 965, KY 3290 and KY 211 into Salt Lick. To avoid heavy traffic on US 60 between Salt Lick and Morehead the cyclist will hitch a ride in a pickup truck on US 60 or loop south near Cave Run Lake and then continue on KY 174. In Carter County the relay will continue on KY 174 to Olive Hill and then beyond to Rush/ Coalton.

The relay will be done in 20 mile stages at an average pace of 15 mph. This is a not a speed race. The rain date will be June 18th.

Many thanks to all the people who have offered encouragement and support for this idea and those along the route who have helped with mapping the route and provided logistical support for the scouting rides.

If you would like to ride or participate, contact Dixie Moore@insightbb.com or 859-227-6165.

Carter County has received a \$50,000 recreational trails grant to develop a section of RT between Olive Hill and Lawton.

KRTC's Spring Phonaton

Jeanette Coufal, KRTC's Finance Chair, has organized a phonathon for Tuesday, April 19th between 7 and 9 pm. It will be held at Stites & Harbison's offices at 250 West Main Street, Suite 2300, Lexington, KY. Volunteers are wanted. Please contact Jeanette Coufal, jcouf@uky.edu, or call (859) 254-6850. Special thanks to Stites & Harbison's for the donation of their space and the use of their phones.

KRTC's Updated Website!

www.Kyrailtrail.org

I am not given to gushing but OUR NEW WEBSITE IS WONDERFUL!! I hope that all of us, KRTC members, supporters, RT advocates and users of RT's will check in regularly and use it.

The current website is the design of Boyd Shearer, our recently contracted website administrator. He set the new site up during January. In February there were 5576 "visits" to the site.

Authorized KRTC members other than the administrator can post information to the site. A person from each active RT project or group could be authorized to post minutes, pictures and information about events. The more traffic we have on the site the more RT folks will visit it.

KY Rail to Trails now has 4 BLOGS!

A blog is a web site where you write entries similar to a journal. Postings on a blog are almost always arranged in chronological order with the most recent entries featured first. Visitors can easily read what is new, comment or email the writer. Blogs are created with software that allows people with little or no technical background to update and maintain the blog, thank goodness!

KRTC Community News is a blog set up for news for the entire Kentucky RT community. Time sensitive announcements go here. The most recent postings have the first line or two of the posting on the front page and that acts as a link to the more lengthy "post." Great way to keep posted.

Rail-Trail Projects. On this blog is information posted about rail trail projects in the state.

KY Rail-Trail Groups is a blog for news and information about the local nonprofits and local groups that are active. This is where you will find basic information and the history of a local group. If you find inaccuracies or outdated information about your rail trail group, please respond on site or email the administrator so it can be changed.

The Golden Spike. This is a general blog for anything and everything about the use of trails and the pursuit of trailing.

HOW KRTC WORKS

Every month 6 to 15 people gather to strategize and plan on how to increase railtrail and greenways in Kentucky. At this time the major role for Kentucky Rails to Trails Council is to advocate for railtrails, to form public opinion, to provide information on the many benefits of RT and to create "communities of interest" that will support railtrail conversion.

Kentucky Rails to Trails continues to do a whole lot with very little. We could do more with more resources. Our total income for 2004 was \$13,262.43 from memberships, contributions, conference fee and sponsorships. Our expenses for 2004 were \$12,820.37.

2004 expenditures:

Start up grants to local groups	\$300.00
Railbanking Fees/Tyrone Bridge	\$600.00
2004 Biannual Conference Expenses	\$7,452.75
Galt House,mailing, postage, conference gifts, badges, bike rental, food, travel for speaker	
Office Expenses	\$566.19
postage, mailing, quickbooks, checks	
Newsletters (3) and Mailings	\$2,190.08
Promotional Expenses	\$1294.23
decals, festival fees, signs	
Insurance	\$309.00
events/rides, Land Trust Alliance	



(03-21-05 KRTC Meeting. Lee Creech, left, state RT coordinator presented an overview of RT in KY and introduced his successor, Jodie McDonald, second from left in back.)

Tour DeKnobs

The Daniel Boone Rail Trails annual fundraiser and bike tour has been set for May 15, 2005. Sunday. Start at Cave Run Bicycle and Outdoor Center, 995 HWY 801 South, Morehead, Kentucky 40351,(606) 784-1818. Sponsor: Cave Run Bicycle & Outdoor Center. Registration form at www.caverunbikeshop.com.

Correction: In the last issue of TrailTime Representative Joe Barrows, Versailles, 56th district, was incorrectly referred to as "Ed Barrows". Our apologies.

New & Renewing Members

Thanks to our members who joined or renewed for the year 2005. One of our goals for 2005 is to have an active and CURRENT membership of 200. We are well on our way to that goal with 170 dues paying members as of 3/15/05. Kentucky Rails to Trails Council is the only state wide organization that supports rails to trails. Our newsletters reach across the state and the new updated website is a forum for RT information of interest to all.

Members have had an option for the past year of giving to a local group and the state wide Kentucky Rails to Trails Council through one donation to the Kentucky

Rails to Trails Council. When amounts are not specified, all of the donation is funneled to the local group except for \$15.00 kept for administrative support of KRTC's newsletters and website.

Kentucky Rails to Trails has its main membership mailing and renewal drive in January of each year. Members can join or renew at the individual level (\$15), family level (\$25), patron level (\$50), benefactor (\$100), engineer (\$250) or greater.

Following are members who renewed or joined for the year 2005. A very sincere and grateful "THANK YOU". Without the continued support of our members we would not be able to exist. If there are omissions or errors in the list, contact dixiemore@insightbb.com.

Benefactor

Jane Bramham
& Camilla Collins
Stephen S. Burchett
David & Karma Cassidy
Marion C. Clark
Martin Douthitt
Hall-Harmon Engineering
Phil Holoubek
Jim Hoskins Mem. Fund
Glen & Rebecca
Proudfoot
Robin Reams
& Ronald Smolka
Forrest Roberts
William.& Erin Rouse
Team Enviroment
James C. Van Meter

Phyllis Jenness
William Johnston
Dennis & Chrisi Karounos
Laura D. Keller
& Bill Schveri
Lori Kincaid
John E. & Sarah Little
Keith Lovan
Joan P. Mayer
James Kevin
& Cynthia Ann McCurren
Marla & Charles McElroy
Mohammad Nouri
Mimi Porter
B. Scott Southall
R.J. Tompkins
Ronald Schneider
Cheryl & Stephen Wyatt

Cynthia B. Deitz
Floyd Donley
Ken Durham
Jack & Carol Eicher
George Ely
James Ewalt
Eddie C & Kristin Farrey
James R. Fischer
Beverly & William Fortune
Mary Jo & Marc Freeman
Marcy S. & David Gagnon
Todd Geddes
Julie Gee & Michael Adams
Susan & Steve Goldstein
Doug Greene
James J. Greenlee
Michael & Carol Guidry
Rebecca S. Guthrie
April Haight
Judith A. & Ralph D. Hall
Boyd Hammond Ins Agency
Chris Haney
Tom F. Hayes
Jim & Annie Herbert
E. Paul Herrington
William E. Herron
W. Thomas Hewitt
Scarlett G. Hibbs
Steele Hinton
Deborah Holloway
John D. Hoskinson
Jackie L. Houk
Roger & Libby Jones
Ronald M. & Jayne Kayser
Richard Kerbaugh
David Kjelly
Joni Kling
Carl Lee
Joan S. Lindop
Adam S. Lobert
London-Laurel Co.
Tourist Commission.
Rebecca & Edward Lundy

Ollie McCormick
Gary L. McIntyre
Rebecca McNall
Ted & Dorcas Merhoff
Philip G. Meyer
Bill Micou
Allan B. Morris
Ted Moss
Kenzie Nelson .
Delores Nelson
Denise O'Meara
Mary Farrand O'Nan
Don & Ginger Pabst
William M. Parell
David M. Parker
Denver Parks
Martha & Darren Payne
Brenda L. Pelfrey
Dennis & Wendy Price
N. T. Ricker
Julia Rowand
John & Carol Schoen
Jody Schultz
Sandy & Paul Shafer
Rick & Sallie Showalter
Dean Shupe
Helen T. Siewers
Vance Simmons
Stanley Sirandovich
David & Sally Stevens
William E. Stillwell
Ed & Sue Stodola
Don Stosberg
Richard C. Taft
Stuart Tobin
Julie & John Tressaloni
Johnnie L. Turner
Michael Vank
Tom & Bonnie Walters
Alice S. Wells
Jack A. Wilson
Ben Woodard

Patron

Bluegrass RT Foundation
Mary & Ray Barry
Rebecca Beyerle
Jeanette Coufal &
Gregory Brock
Ernest Crown-Weber
Jo Ann Czekalski
& Jim Stokes
Alan & Rose Dejarnette
Gerald C. Doss
Anne Ely
Hiram Ely
Claire & Rolf Embertson
Sarah Emmons
& Tim Wilson
Ann Fitzpatrick
Maureen A. Flannery
A. & Sue Fosson
Edwin & Karen Gritton
Phyllis R. Hasbrouck
Debra Hausrath
Charles R. Holbrook

Family

William O. Alden
Lisa Aultman-Hall
Herbert & Nina Beach
Alan Bell
Ben & Kelly Bishop
Tom & Beth Blackman
Emily C. Boone
Joseph Bramer
John & Thea Breitenbach
David A Brown
& Elizabeth Bacon
Joan Brown
Andrew Cammack
Al Capehart
Wendy Carlin
Robert J. Clark
Tina & Charles W. Coates
Gary & Pamela Conn
Jennifer Crossen
& Joan Callahan
Jerry Crouch
Holly Crovo

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)
 Barry Zalph
 & Katie Whiteside

Individual

Eddie Boden
 Jan Dacci
 Sue Fowler
 John Fulton
 Charles Gregg
 Julie Kay Lamkin

Jerald M. Messer
 Rosemary & Lewis Miller
 Dixie Moore
 Steve Morris
 Arthur D. Rabourn
 Larry Ridenour
 Charles R. & Yol K. Sither
 Terry Shofner
 Carola Sprague
 Mary Travelsted
 Jennifer White

**BCC Breathitt County Ride along
 the "Dawkins Line" and
 the headwaters of Quicksand Creek**

This is an opportunity to see part of the railroad right of way of the proposed RT in eastern KY. Terrain is remote, scenic and near reclaimed strip mines. **May 22nd Sunday, 12 noon at Lambric, Ky.** June 5th alternate day if rain or bad weather. For those who want to convoy, cars can meet at the McDonalds in Jackson at 11 AM and then travel together to Lambric. Directions will be posted on the website. Jackson is approximately 90 miles from Lexington and Lambric is an additional 31 miles.

There will be a 15 mile loop over back roads of gravel, packed dirt and asphalt with an additional 15 mile out and back. Appropriate for experienced riders who can maintain a 10 mph pace on a mountain or hybrid bike. There is no rider support and riders should have their bikes in good repair and carry tubes and emergency repair supplies. Thanks to Walter Begley and friends in Breathitt County who researched the ride. Dixie Moore ride leader, dixiemore@insightbb.com, 859.227.6165.

Our First Corporate Sponsor

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Pedal the Planet as a corporate sponsor. They have joined the KRTC family with a corporate sponsorship of \$1,000. See their advertisement on the back page. Pedal the Planet is a full service bike shop located in Lexington. The owners, Mark and Wendy Trimble, are very supportive of Rails to Trails and are willing to help us build more rail trails in Kentucky. They will also be providing benefits for our members. Visit their website at www.pedaltheplanet.com.

Kentucky Rails to Trails Council, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION , DONATION &/or RENEWAL for 2005

- \$ 15 Individual \$ 25 Family \$ 50 Patron \$ 100 Benefactor
 \$ 250 Engineer \$ 500 Trail Blazer Other Donation \$ _____
 Address Correction

I am making an additional donation of _____ to: (check one)

(If a local group is checked and no additional amount indicated, the donation will go to the local group minus \$15 for KRTC general expenses.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bluegrass Rails Trails Found. (Fayette, Clark & Montgomery Co.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Daniel Boone Rails-To-Trails (Rowan Co) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenways of Oldham Co. (Oldham Co.) | <input type="checkbox"/> High Bridge Rail Trail (Jessamine Co) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Cumberland Trail Foundation (Pulaski Co) | <input type="checkbox"/> Little Mount Trail Commission (Montgomery Co.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Muhlenberg County RT | <input type="checkbox"/> Pennyryle Rails Trail Foundation (Christian Co.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tyrone Bridge & Rail Trail (Anderson Co.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Project in _____ |

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ County: _____ State/Zip: _____
 Phone: H W C _____ Email: _____

The Kentucky Rails to Trails Council is always in need of volunteers, e.g. writing newsletter articles, being an officer or board member, , fundraising, giving presentations, contacting landowners, checking maps, web site design, letter stuffing. I would like to volunteer with KRTC.

**Please make check payable and mail to: Kentucky Rails to Trails Council, Inc.
 Post Office Box 597, Lexington, KY 40588-0597**



US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 1
Lexington, KY

Kentucky Rails To Trails Council, Inc. is a 501 c (3) non-profit tax-exempt organization founded in 1995.

The Kentucky Rails to Trails Council promotes and advocates for the establishment and use of rail trails and associated greenways in Kentucky.

Contributions and dues are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Kentucky Rails to Trails Council, Inc.
Post Office Box 597, Lexington, KY 40588-0597
Website: www.KyRailTrail.org

Newspaper Editor, Dixie Moore, 8A, 121 Prosperous Pl.
Lexington, KY 40509, dixiemoore@insightbb.com

PEDAL THE PLANET

Pedal The Planet proudly sponsors the Kentucky Rails to Trails Council!

Come check out the official 2005 Rails to Trails jerseys. We have teamed with Gore to donate 5% of the purchase price to Rails to Trails (½ Gore, ½ Pedal the Planet).



**Mon-Thurs 10-7, Fri & Sat 10-6
Open Sundays 11-5**

3 miles from I-75 (Exit 104)
½ mi. from Man 'O War at 3450 Richmond Road
Tel. (859) 264-1923, Toll Free (800) 830-9925