



Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association

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FNHA
NEWSLETTER

THE FNHA

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Working His Magic
Robert-Runyon, Working with Nature
to Create the New Pavilion.

END-OF-YEAR GIVING HELPS YOU AND FNHA

As we approach the holidays few of us think about taxes, we are focused on family and celebration. Take just a moment to consider an end-of-the-year gift to Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association (FNHA). Before the end of the tax year you could make a gift and get the benefit on your 2007 tax filing. Think about it!

If you are fortunate enough to get a bonus, have appreciated stock or any other form of capital gain that could move you into a higher tax bracket, consider helping yourself by reducing your tax liability and at the same time helping FNHA to meet its preservation and conservation needs. In such a gift you gain the full-appreciated

value of the stock, bond or investment as a tax-deductible donation to a 501 (c) (3) charity. FNHA can then sell your donation for its full value and continue its mission. It's a win-win situation.

End-of-the-year giving can go beyond the traditional stocks and bonds or cash gifts.

There could be an appreciated collectable that would make a gift. Again, the appraised value would be your tax-credit.

Enjoy the holidays! At the same

time, think creatively about how you could give a gift to FNHA that would preserve or conserve critical green space in Fayetteville.

If you have questions please call: Walt Eilers 479-582-0784 or email your question to walteilers@sbcglobal.net.

Article by: Walt Eilers



Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association Accepts a Check at the Grand Opening of the New Sam's Club. Pictured are Bob Calk, Karen Rollet-Crocker, Mike Adelman, Tom Lonon and Chairman Pete Heinzelmann

CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE TRAILS UPDATE

Construction of Fayetteville's most anticipated trail, Scull Creek Trail, is progressing rapidly with a total of 1.2 miles now open to the public. The 9 member in-house trail construction crew has increased the productivity and cost efficiency of trail construction and will continue to work on Scull Creek Trail until it is completed. In its entirety, Scull Creek Trail will

be 4 miles in length – connecting from Mud Creek Trail and following Scull Creek south to Wilson Park. From Wilson Park, Scull Creek Trail will become Frisco Trail and continue an additional 0.6 miles south along the Arkansas-Missouri Railroad across Dickson Street to the Walton Arts Center parking lot where it will meet up

with Frisco Trail.

Scull Creek Trail is currently the highest priority trail for the City of Fayetteville because of its central location and strong north-south connectivity with many businesses, parks and neighborhoods. Once complete, Scull Creek Trail will form the backbone for the trail network in the adopted Fa-

A NATIONAL AUDIENCE HEARS FNHA'S PRESENTATION ON FOREST CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT FOR FAYETTEVILLE

On November 14, Bob Caulk and Karen Rollet-Crocker will present a talk on "How to Select Community Forest Opportunities" at the National Conference of Partners in Community Forestry, Baltimore, Maryland. The conference is sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation and Home Depot Foundation. FNHA was selected to make this presentation because our forest assessment project

garnered one of 6 honorable mentions for the Home Depot 2007 Awards of Excellence for Community Trees. We were selected by a group of experts in fields of urban forestry, environment and sustainable community development and were showcased at the U.S. Conference of Mayors' meeting in June.

In addition to the invited presentation, Bob and Karen will be attending

three days of sessions on topics ranging from trees and community development, social and educational programs, and tree inventory and canopy goals. They expect to return with a considerable store of information and contacts with community forestry organizations and individuals across the country.

They have received funds for travel costs from the Arkansas Forestry Commis-

sion 2007 Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Grant in Education (in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service), and the Home Depot Foundation. In return, a brief overview of knowledge gained will be submitted to the Forestry Commission.

Article by: Karen Rollet-Crocker

IN ORDER TO REMAIN SUCCESSFUL IN SAVING OUR IRREPLACEABLE NATURAL HERITAGE, FNHA NEEDS YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY.

YOU WILL FIND THE STATUS OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP ABOVE YOUR NAME ON THIS NEWSLETTER'S MAILING LABEL.

People Can and Do Make a Difference

People do not have the power to create the wonderful things in our natural world - the plants, animals, mountains and streams - but we certainly have the power to preserve and enhance them. Here are some of those people who come to mind. Neil Compton and Ken L. Smith started the Ozark Society and were vital in saving the Buffalo River. Tim Ernst who has piqued our interest in the Ozarks with his books and pictures. Marion Orton and Art Hobson who fought for and got a sign ordinance in Fayetteville - thank goodness. of the most beautiful stretches of roadway in Arkansas is interstate 540 heading south from Fayetteville to interstate 40. The

northern stretch from Fayetteville to the State line is a stark contrast marred with billboards from one end to the other. Who made this wonderful trip south happen? Eunice Noland spearheaded the drive to make it a scenic highway free of billboards. Many others including Brenda Theile and Mary Alice Serafini together with the League of Women Voters joined the effort with the support of the State Highway Department and many other concerned citizens. Again, thank goodness someone stepped forward to make it happen!

Mayor Dan Coody was instrumental in saving Mount Sequoyah Woods, establishing a trail system in Fayetteville and directing our community toward environmental sustain-

ability. Wade Colwell and Frank Sharp established parks and preserved natural areas. The members of the Board of Directors of the FNHA for all their work (and talent!) -- Karen Rollet-Crocker, Duane & Judy Woltjen, Bob and Sara Caulk, Tom Lonon, Nancy Varvil, Walt Eilers, Doug

James, Dennis Petersen, Steve Hatfield and Mike Adelman. And, of course, all the many citizens of Fayetteville who have worked to preserve our Natural Heritage.

Pete Heinzelmann

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



Sunrise on I-540. Between Fayetteville and Fort Smith
Photo by Steve Hatfield

City Trails Update

etteville Alternative Transportation and Trails Master Plan (FATT plan) and provide a safe and efficient alternative transportation route through the heart of Fayetteville. Based on the vision of the FATT plan, numerous other trails including Clabber Creek Trail and Town Branch Creek Trail will extend east and west from this backbone to create an interconnected network of trails. The trails program received a very significant boost with the passing of the September 12th, 2006 transportation bond program, allocating an additional \$2.1 million for trail construction to be used primarily for the completion of Scull Creek Trail.

One of the most important and most challeng-

ing aspects of creating an interconnected trail system is right of way acquisition from private property owners. Over the past two years, the City has been actively obtaining multi-use trail easements and property for



Scull Creek trail. Thanks to the great support from the property owners along Scull Creek, right of way has been obtained from 17 properties resulting in 17.54 acres or 2.5 miles of trail corridor. Of these 17 properties, 14 donated the easement or land free of charge to the City. Currently, access from only 9 properties remains to complete the connection from Mud Creek Trail to Frisco Trail and negotia-

tions are underway with several nearing final signatures. Support from property owners is essential to the realization of the dream of an interconnected network of trails within the City of Fayetteville.

Currently the trail construction crew is nearing completion of Phase II of Scull Creek Trail. This 1.2 mile section will connect from Gordon Long Park south through a newly installed tunnel under Gregg Street and along the east side of the University of Arkansas Agri Farm, crossing Poplar Street near Chestnut apartments and on to Sycamore Street. Lighting will be included at regular intervals along the entire trail to allow for extended use, safety and increased flexibility as a transportation route for commuters. Design of the five trail bridges over

Scull Creek is also underway with anticipated installation by the end of this year. Benches will also be included along the trail to take in the scenic views of Scull Creek.

In addition to Scull Creek Trail, the trail construction crew is finishing up work on Hamestrung Creek Trail, a 0.62 mile trail through Wildwood Park, just west of I-540 in the Pine Valley Subdivision. Over the past year, the trails crew has completed a 1.2 mile extension of Lake Fayetteville Trail and a 0.65 mile section of Clabber Creek Trail. In addition to continued construction of Scull Creek Trail, construction will soon begin on the first section of Owl Creek Trail from the new Owl Creek School west to Broyles Ave.

For more information please visit

www.accessfayetteville.org

Article by Matt Mihalevich,

W H O D O Y O U C A L L ?

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- Dennis Petersen, 443-2406, Dennis.Petersen2@cox.net
- Robin Buff, 442-0535, buffayar@aol.com

"The challenge goes on. There are other lands and rivers, other wilderness areas to save and to share with all. I challenge you to step forward to protect and care for the wild places you love best." Dr. Neil Compton 1919-1999

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