

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathie Brennan, President  
 Mark Goforth, Vice-President  
 Roger Allison, Treasurer  
 Jeff Goetter, Secretary

Garrett Doak, Board Member  
 Stephen Thompson, Board Member  
 Tim Seener, Board Member  
 Jim Schneider, Board Member



Fall Mega tread repair on the Courtois



AmeriCorps crew after a day of GAOA work



Tread restoration by the newest event crew leaders

# POWERED BY VOLUNTEERS

## 624 MEMBERS



9,919 HOURS VOLUNTEERED



975 VOLUNTEERS



294 INDIVIDUAL WORK DAYS

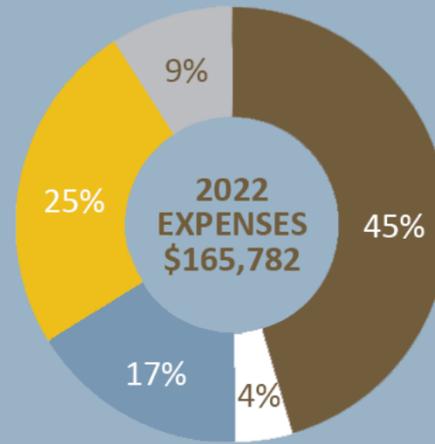
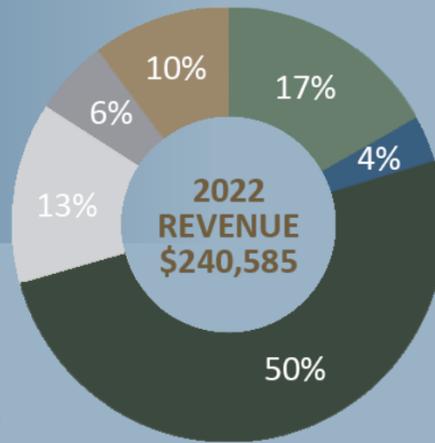


430 MILES MAINTAINED ANNUALLY



VALUE OF TIME CONTRIBUTED \$297,074.05

**OUR MISSION:**  
 TO DEVELOP, MAINTAIN, PRESERVE, PROMOTE,  
 & PROTECT THE RUGGED, NATURAL BEAUTY OF  
 THE OZARK TRAIL.



## 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

- OTA membership peaked at 624
- Held record number of C&M and Outreach events
- Continued work on the Great American Outdoors Act to address deferred maintenance
- Updated the Adopt-a-Trail incentive program
- Hired two trail crew members
- Received REI, David Risberg Memorial and Carl Morrow Annual Giving Program grants

# WALL OF FAME

## LIFETIME LEGACY AWARD

JEFF GOETTER



As a founding member, Jeff has served in multiple capacities professionally and faithfully and has been an irreplaceable resource of the OTA's history. Jeff's love of cooking resulted in becoming a major component of any event by cooking the traditional after-work dinner and his most sought after stuffed peppers. We cannot imagine where the OTA would be today without Jeff's presence.

## LIFETIME LEGACY AWARD

KATHIE BRENNAN

If you've been to an OTA event in the last 17 years, you probably know this very special lady. She has participated in more events than anyone in the history of the OTA. Kathie is no stranger to hard work and serves as a USFS certified sawyer, crew leader and President of the OTA. Her endless energy is contagious and she loves sharing her passion for the outdoors with kids of all ages.



## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

BETH LITTLE



After moving to Missouri, it didn't take long for Beth to discover the Ozark Trail as right off the bat, Beth adopted 4.8 miles on the Between the Rivers section. Not limiting her activities just to the OT, Beth displays a willingness to roll up her sleeves and pitch in wherever there is a need. In just a few short years, Beth earned her Red Jacket and has hiked the entirety of the OT.

## MAINTAINER OF THE YEAR

ROBERT BECKER

With his willingness to roll up his sleeves and dive in to make significant contributions, Robert became an adopter of two sections totaling 8.2 miles and also received USFS sawyer certification. His devotion to the trail is evident by his support across the OT by joining other volunteers in maintaining other miles of the OT.



## ADOPTER OF THE YEAR

ROB NATIONS



Rob enjoys multiple recreational activities including horseback riding, mountain biking and trail running. This year Rob is representing the unsung heroes, those who go above and beyond by adopting portions of the Ozark Trail. Rob provides maintenance throughout the Wappapello and Victory sections.

## BACKBONE AWARD

ROGER ALLISON

From being President to crew leader to sawyer to his current role as Treasurer, Roger has mentored many volunteers throughout the years. Instrumental with his knowledge, he has provided expertise in multiple areas and has proven to be an invaluable resource to the entire organization. His passion is evident by his long and steady involvement.



## TAKING IT UP A NOTCH AWARD

STEVE LIESCHIEDT



Never taking "no" for an answer, Steve has shown many of us how to "Take it up a notch." Retiring from a successful career in sales, he has utilized those skills over the past five years as the creator of the Ozark Trail Hike & Float Challenge, which has become not only a major fundraiser for the OTA, but a premier fun event.

## PARTNER OF THE YEAR

USFS MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST

With currently 364 miles within the MTNF, it is by far the OTA's largest amount of trail miles to maintain on public lands. With the recent Great American Outdoors Act funding, the US Forest Service is the largest and most sustainable financial contributor to the ongoing maintenance of the OT.



# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2022

## GREAT AMERICAN OUTDOORS ACT

As we close out the first two years of the GAOA funding, we were able to touch "every section of the Ozark Trail within the MTNF." Significant work was completed by volunteers alongside AmeriCorps and OTA trail crew members that were hired to lead and develop GAOA-specific projects. Totals across the 364 miles include 192 miles assessed of the 364 miles with plans to assess the remaining miles in the next two years. With 49 construction and maintenance events, a total of 49.5 miles of trail received heavy maintenance including tread restoration and trail re-alignments. Among other GAOA projects, deferred maintenance was performed at various trailheads across the Forest. Thanks in part to successful implementation of the GAOA funding and the efforts by OTA members, the Ozark Trail will continue to be the beneficiary of additional funding through 2024 to address additional deferred maintenance.