

# Trail Trek 2018 Explores New Horizons

By Roger Hirsch

The 16th annual Trail Trek event—Lincoln's largest cycling event—is in the books!

Event planners “rolled the bones” a little on this year's June 23 event and tried some new things to keep the event fresh. The response is still being evaluated, but the results of the money-raising event were pleasing.

Trail Trek 2018 included an expanded number of sponsors, and once the bills are paid, a nice chunk of money will be deposited with the Nebraska Trails Foundation for the benefit of the Rock Island/Jamaica North Trail connecting bridge to be built across railroad tracks at the western edge of Densmore Park. The Great Plains Trails Network (GPTN) is involved in raising \$1.3 million for the long-desired south Lincoln connection between the two trails. Once the bridge is in place, Trail Trek will be sure to include it on a future event ride.

Planners were forced into one experiment—shifting the event to Saturday—when a conflict arose with the Lincoln Saltdogs schedule. It doesn't represent a permanent shift, and GPTN

will work closely with the Saltdogs on Trail Trek 2019. Participation was a little lighter than 2017's event, but for the most part the results were the same. Some 647 riders, including 90 volunteers, again made the event a success.

Trail Trek 2018 also included a re-introduced Corporate Challenge, won by Lincoln Electric System riders, and that impacted trail selection. This year's event had seven starting times in order to incorporate the Challenge, and make sure riders had a wide choice of trail lengths. This year the event took riders all the way to Elmwood for lunch, and some participants even went a little further towards Wabash on a 62.1 mile monster ride.

A 10-mile ride for families with children proved popular, and the Pioneers Park ride—an 18-mile 'out-and-back' trek—was again very highly attended. The Cool Roots entertained at Pioneers Park, and Chris Sayre—a Trail Trek mainstay—provided entertainment at Elmwood.

Drawing on statistics gathered from previous events, start times were carefully staggered to insure that as many riders

*Continued on page 4*

## Rock Island & Jamaica North Trail Connector

*The City of Lincoln is building a pedestrian bridge over the BSNF Railroad to connect the Rock Island and Jamaica North Trails near Densmore Park and the Cooper YMCA. GPTN is raising \$450,000 to support this important trail connection. Please consider donating to this exciting project.*



### Make contributions payable to: Nebraska Trails Foundation

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

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

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

Designated Project: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: GPTN**

**P.O. 82902**

**Lincoln, NE 68501-2902**





# Great Plains Trails Network

since 1988

*dedicated to the goal of developing a network of commuter and recreational trails within Lincoln and Lancaster County*

2018

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Newsletter comments, questions, corrections  
gbentrup68@gmail.com

## A Note from the President



### Thank You to Our Volunteers

In this edition of the GPTN newsletter, you will read about our 16th Annual Trail Trek event. The final dollars raised aren't in yet as we wait for the expenses to be paid, but we had 647 riders at the event, 12 financial sponsors, 7 in-kind sponsors and a wonderful media sponsor in Alpha Media. Thank you to Cycle Works and the Bike Rack for donating 20 bikes for the drawing – they have been with us from the start. Without the support of our community partners Trail Trek would not be the successful fundraiser it has become.

A big thank you to our Trail Trek committee for all their hard work. Trail Trek was run by our two chairs Roger Hirsch and Dale Arp. These two GPTN veterans knocked it out of the ballpark – great work guys! Our committee members included Greg Rosenboom (GPTN VP), Rachelle Hadley, Jon Taylor (City of Lincoln), Connie Parrish, Edie Matteson, Jeff Kimble, Elaine Hammer, Tim Haegener (Hy-Vee), Joy Patten (Alpha Media), Kent Henning, Matt Baumeister (Bike Rack), and Marynelle Greene. These committee members make a big commitment spending 11 months planning and organizing.

We also need to give a big shout out to our 90 Trail Trek volunteers listed in this newsletter. We had help with registration, tour guides, SAG stops, communications, crossing guards, parking, and Haymarket setup and tear down. Some of the volunteers worked from 6:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. monitoring for the last riders to make it back to Haymarket.

Trail Trek is an amazing event because of all the people involved and this year I'm happy to say all the dollars raised will be going towards building the bridge to connect the Rock Island trail to the Jamaica North trail. This will give us all the ability to ride an urban trail, connect to a rural trail and ride to the Kansas border. Amazing!

The Great Plains Trails Network also turns 30 this year and we're going to celebrate! Come join current and former GPTN Board Members for cake and ice cream, coffee and conversation to reflect on the good times and the hard work over the last 30 years! At the Jayne Snyder Trails Center on Sunday, September 30, 2:00 pm—4:00 pm (see pg 8). Hope to see you there!

## GPTN NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

January - July 2018

### Welcome to these new members:

David Asper, Justin Aumann, Andrew Cano, Paul Christensen, Donald Davids, Diane & Bill Edwards, Cindy Elder, Rick Fahrnbruch, Kerry Florell, Kathy Foster, Eric Fuentes-Ruiz, Jim & Terri Gross, Galen & Sue Hageman, Michael Henry, Gerald Hilde, Jeff Jensen, David Johnston, David Juiliano, Brent Kalemkiarian, Kim Keister, Darrell & Julie Knight, Jodi Koehler, Rich Koehlmoo, Larry Kunc, Deanna Leyden, Sheri Paneitz, Elisha Mackling, Cheri Miller, Larry Pierce, Jim & Julie Pittenger, Terry Pramberg, Dylan Schenk, Rich Rogers, Jason Samsel, Wayne Schaber, Diane Schneider, John Simms, Jennifer Snyder, Karen Stelling, Melinda Varley, Kimberly Walker, Frank Weirman, Randy & Vicky Winter, Ronald Wolfe, Joel Zuerlein.

### Thank you to renewing members:

ABC Electric, Margaret Allington, Mary Andelt, David & Kathy Anderson, Dorothy Anderson, Erik & Carol Anderson, Wade Anderson, Max Antoine, Dave Armknecht, Dale & Peggy Arp, Charlie Bacon, Larry & Ruth Cada, Marybell Avery & Stan Campbell, Cathie Bailey & Dave Dinsmore, Charlie Bacon, Brett & Noelle Baker, Pam Baker, Beverly Barry, Sean Barry, Jolene John-Beckstrom, Sandra Mathews & Dale Benham, Patty Beutler, Joe Billesbach, Lori Blum, John Blumer, Anita Boeselager, Larry Bond, William Bonacker, Chad Brasil, Daniel Brown, Cliff & Colleen Brugman, Lary & Ruth Cada, Rebecca Caldwell, Mary & Doug Campbell, Steven & Beth Carveth, Brian Catlin, Jeff Chevront, Patrick Clare, Max Clegg, Dean Cole & Cindy Rutan, Jim & Judi Cook, Donita Consbruck & Dave Scoby, Cornhusker Bank, Jim Craig, Jason Cyboron, Steve Danahy, Judith DeGraff, Gene & Andrea Dinkelman, Sarah Disbrow, Doug Dittman, Terry & Judy Dougherty, Todd Douglas, David Dryburgh, Pat & Candace Dussault, Karrie & Bruce Dvorak, Deborah Eagan, De Edgar, John Eggers, Dean & Maria Eisenhauer, Deb Eisloeffel, Mark & Barb Engler, Ingrid Esparza, Jim Evans, Mark & Bailey Feit, Jim Nora & Julie Filips, Linda Faris, Barry & Lisa Forbes, Kevin Fitzgerald, Larry & Cindi Fosler, Judy Garlock & Tex Richters, Barb & Terry Genrich, Randy Gerke, Jane Goertzen, Richard & Ursula Goodban, Angie Graham, Amy Gammel, Jay & Ruth Gerber, Mike & Pat Germer, Nancy & John Gerrard, Robert Geschwender, Beth & Ron Goble, Brian & Jocelyn Golden, Carrie Grant, Jim Green, Larry Gregg, Karen Griffin & David Wood, Christine Grosh & David Pitts, & Angie Graham, Ted Hamann & Susan Bockrath, Elaine Hammer, Matt Harris, Paul Harrison, Dick & Karen Hawley, Yvonne Heakin, Tim Henkel, Veryl Herr, Greg & Mary Heidrick, Tom & Candy Henning, Steve Hensel, Dennis & Rosemary Hicks, Sandra Hilsabeck, Roger & Bette Hinrichs, Gloria Holbert, Marie Hitz, Arnold Hottovy, Dena Hupp, J.P. Jamison, Sarah Janiak, Lynn & Susan Johnson, Sheri Johnson, Donice

Kaspar, Con & Barbara Keating, Mary & Jim King, Christian & Mary Kingery, Anne & Brian Kitten, Terry Klein, Art & Earlene Knox, Al Koontz, Ed Kouma, Mike Kreikemeier, Lois Doug Kriger, Doug & Dianne Kuppig, Diane Laffin, Shirley Laffin, Carla Lasley, Sherry Lawton, Randy & Sue Leach, Scott Leigh, Louis Lemon, Jim & Doris Lewis, Luke Lionberger, Cindy & David Loope, Joe Loudon & Michelle Manning, Cynthia Love, Vara Mae Lutz, Jeff Madsen, Melanie Mangers, Martin Adkins & Pam Manskers, Christopher Marks, Jay Marshall, George Marvin, Erin & Chris Masada, Matt Maw, Bonnie Maschka, Ken & Irene May, Tina McCracken, David McChesney, Russ & Janine McClintock, Dallas McGee, Jane & Jack McVay, Edith Meints, Jordan Messerer, Bonnie Meyer, Gretel Mientka, Steve Miers, V. T. Miller, Dale Minter, Sue Moore, Bill & Jeanette Moser, Francis Moul, Mike & Lynn Murman, Mark Mundorff, Mike Murphy, Nebraska Sports Council, Jim & Patty Neid, Craig Nelson, Kristi Newcomb & Topher Hansen, Dale & Sherri Nielsen, Don & Patati Niven, James Nora, Pilar & Chuck O'Connor, Jim & Gail O'Hanlon, Patrick O'Neill, John Oswald & Gerry Oligmueller, Connie Parrish, Ted Parsons, Lois Paschke, Don & Joanne Pepperl, Sheppard & Marlene Perkins, Jeff Kirkpatrick & Glenda Pierce, Don Pinkley, Dick & Jody Pitsch, C. Pittman, Chris Pro, Helen Raikes, Barbara & Benjamin Rader, Mike & Cathryn Rasmussen, Daryoush Razavian, Gareth Rees, Alan & Karen Reiners, Roger Renken, Mary Beth & Rich Rice, Arlan Ristow, Bob Robinson & Jennifer Lyons, Ruth Rodden, Gerry & Karen Rehm, Susan & Rich Rodenburg, Craig Roper & Sydney Lynch, Brook & Brian Rote, Larry & Pat Ruth, Hink Schulz & Heidi Sahls, Susan Samson, Nick & Sherry Savener, Jay Schlukebier, David M. Schmidt, Dennis & Carla Seeba, Cathy Seybold, David & Sharon Sinkler, Fred & Virginia Scheclert, Joyce Schiermann, Ron Leslie Schroeder, Robert Shanahan, Albert Sherman, Jerry & Patty Shorney, Nadine Skupa, Kathy & Steve Smith, John & Jean Slieter, Peter Smith, Jenifer Snook, Kris Sonderup, Richard & Sue Spangler, Kate Speck, Gayle & Mary Starr, Pat Stehly, Susan Steider, Don & Lynn Steinkruger, Jerry Stanley, Dave & Tani Stempson, Linda Stephen, Ray & Karen Stevens, Mrs. John Stewart, Martha Stoddard, Susan & Clayton Streich, Steve Stromberg, John & Gloria Stroepe, Del Stuefer, Michelle Svehla, Dave Swartz, & Don & Sue Sylwester, Marilyn Tabor, Alison Krohn & Carey Taylor, Neal & Lois Thomas, Dan Lynn & Beth Thacker, Bob Torell, Mary Torell, Beckie Tuttle, Rick & Penny Urwiler, Tom & Sharon Vandenaack, Monica Vandergriend, Joyce & Lyle Vannier, Dennis & Wanda Vodehnal, Kevin Wailes, Denise Walter, Marty Walter, James Warren, Beth Whitaker, Terry Werner, Luke Wilke, Lynn Willey, Mark Wilson, Mary Wingert, Wisnieski, Brianne Wolf, Larry Worth, Kevin Wright, Steve Zabel, Laurel Erickson & Larry Zink, Connie Yori, Gary Zellweger, Brad Znamenacek, Joeth Zucco.

*Thank you from the 2018 GPTN Board of Directors. Your memberships are crucial to GPTN's efforts.*



*Back row (L-R) Ray Stevens, Brett Baker, Dale Arp, Rachelle Hadley, Dena Noe, Shelby Robinson, Bill Wehrbein, Marynelle Greene, Steve Dunbar, J.P. Jamison, Corey Godfrey. Middle row (L-R) Jamie Warren, Kent Henning, Jeff Kimble, Jim Krieger, Mary Torell, Bob Torell, Greg Rosenboom, Ann Ringlein, Jordan Messerer. Front Row (L-R) Charlene Dunbar, Gary Bentrup, Ron Case, Noel Briseno, Karen Griffin, Parks Coble, Elaine Hammer. Not Pictured: Matt Baumeister, Chris Heinrich, Jesse Petersen, Kris Sonderup.*

# Lincoln Track Club Membership Application

The Lincoln Track Club, Inc. was established in 1975 by an eager group of track enthusiasts. Although our title contains the reference to track, we have become a distance oriented club. Our membership includes some of the nation's finest road racers as well as a great number of fun runners.

In essence, our club is a nonprofit community service organization, established to promote running throughout this area and provide educational assistance for its runners. Our quarterly newsletter has become an informational running publication for local runners. The LTC is a member club of both the Road Runners Club of America (RRCA) and USA Track and Field.

The Lincoln Track Club is not just about running. It's also about volunteering. This is the one ingredient that makes LTC work. The whole organization is made up of volunteers and we can always use more.

Please consider joining one of Nebraska's finest volunteer-run organizations. LTC members receive entry forms for all LTC races, FastTimes (our newsletter, which is e-mailed quarterly), an invitation to our annual meeting, and a discount of an entry fee for a single LTC road race. All memberships expire at the end of the calendar year (December 31).

## 2018 LTC Calendar

- 3/24 State Farm (10M/5K/1M)
- 4/7 Tabitha (10K/2M)
- 5/5 Mayor's Run (1M)
- 5/6 Marathon/Half-Marathon
- 6/2 Havelock (10K/3K)
- 7/8 Lincoln Mile
- 7/15 Uplifting Athletes Run (5K/1M)
- 8/4 GSK (5K/1M)
- 9/9 Buffalo (5M)
- 10/21 Capital City (15K/5K/1M)
- 12/2 Holiday Run (5K/1M)

To join the Lincoln Track Club: [www.lincolnrn.org](http://www.lincolnrn.org)



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

## 2018 TOUR DE LINCOLN

By Mary Torell

Lincoln cyclists had plenty of ways to celebrate National Bike Month in May, and enjoying the Tour de Lincoln Bike rides was one way! The Great Plains Trails Network (GPTN) and Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department had another successful year for the annual bicycle rides.

As they have done for nearly 14 years, GPTN and the Lincoln Parks & Recreation sponsored Thursday evening bike rides designed to take participants to different quadrants of Lincoln and explore the trails. All rides started and stopped at the Jayne Snyder Trails Center at Union Plaza Park. This year's bike rides took place the last four Thursdays in May. At the start of the first ride on May 10 Joe Harris, KLNK Channel 8 TV reporter, did a live interview with Tour de Lincoln organizer, Mary Torell, as well as videotaped the riders for their evening broadcast.

Members of GPTN's Board of Directors lead each ride, provided mechanical support and made sure there were no riders left behind. The rides varied in distance from 12 to 16 miles each, and were designed to acquaint the city's cyclists with different trails, conditions and features. People of all ages and families came out and enjoyed the rides. Lots of positive comments were made on how much cyclists enjoyed the rides. In spite of some hot weather days, there was a good turnout of people for all the rides, and there were approximately 200 total cyclists who participated. Popsicles provided at the end of the rides were very popular and appreciated!

## IMPROVING 13TH FOR DRIVERS, PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS

The city plans to convert 13th Street, between Lincoln Mall and South Street, from four traffic lanes (two each way) to three lanes (with a center turn lane), making room for a bike path on each side of the street.

The proposed improvements to 13th Street include:

- Adding a center two-way, left-turn lane
- Enhancing crosswalk safety
- Adjusting on-street parking to meet local needs
- Adding bike lanes in additional street area
- Converting street lights to energy-saving LEDs
- Replacing aging or diseased trees



Cities don't build many four-lane undivided streets any more, because it is not a good street design for safety and for operations said Lonnie Burklund, assistant director of transportation for the city.

To understand how a three-lane street would perform, Lincoln residents only need to travel further south on 13th Street.

At South Street, 13th Street turns into a three-lane street with a two-way, left-turn lane. Side-by-side comparisons of four-lane 13th Street with three-lane 13th Street show the potential for increased safety and increased traffic volumes with a three-lane design. The portion of South 13th Street that is already three lanes carries 40 percent more traffic and is 3x safer.

For more information: <https://lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/projects/13th/lincoln-mall-south/#s>

## TRAIL TREK 2018 EXPLORES NEW HORIZONS

*Continued from page 1*

as possible returned to Haymarket Park for lunch and the bike drawing. Attendance at the drawing and lunch affirmed this experiment. Mayor Chris Beutler again attended to help with the bike drawing.

### And The Winners Are....!

Thanks to The Bike Rack & Cycle Works, 20 winners rode away on new two-wheelers:

Margaret Buck	Nicole Peterson
Theresa Codr	Terry Read
Ty Eichele	David Rigg
Ryan Fosler	Clint Runge
Fred Helmink	Stephanie Schriener
John Kredjci	Tim Stentz
Tim Loseke	Jerilyn Sykes
Brenda Love	Frank Tate
Michelle Manning	William Taylor
Heather Niemeyer	Sara Werner

Many, many thanks go to the sponsors of this year's event. Bike shops Cycle Works and The Bike Rack again donated bicycles for the popular free bike drawing at the conclusion of the event. Hy-Vee provided lunch, ice and snacks for riders at the Haymarket and SAG stops. Promotional services were

donated by AlphaMedia: KFOR 103.3FM/1240AM, EAGLE 92.9, KFRX106.3, 104.1BLAZE, ESPN 101.5FM/1480AM, and KX96.9. The Lincoln Journal-Star also helped with promotions.

Pepsi provided water and sodas, and Screen Ink made the popular t-shirts. Trail Trek's presenting sponsor was Lincoln Electric Systems. Platinum sponsors were Allo, Sutton Dermatology & Aesthetics, Great Plains Trails Network, and the University of Nebraska Federal Credit Union. Other sponsors included Olsson Associates, Union Bank, Good Life Fitness, Enterprise Car Sales, Cornhusker Bank, OHDBS, and Genesis Health Clubs.

The event also profits greatly from the use of the Haymarket Park staging area, and thanks go to the Saltdogs for the use of that area.

The City of Lincoln and GPTN were the primary sponsors, with GPTN members providing much of the coordination and volunteer assistance.

Planning for Trail Trek 2019—precise date not known at press time—begins immediately, after the planning committee gets its breath back.

And, oh yes....the weather was perfect!



Mayor Chris Beutler with the 2018 Trail Trek Bike Winners.

### Sustainable, Responsible, & Impact Investing



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## BICYCLING LINCOLN™

BicyLincoln is a community group that supports and promotes bicycling in the city of Lincoln. Our mission is to provide information and a unified voice for bicycle advocacy in an effort to make cycling in Lincoln more friendly, safe, easy, accepted, and "so that more people bike and bike more often."

Check them out at <http://bicyclincoln.org/>



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**HOURS:**  
Monday - Friday 10 AM - 6 PM  
Saturday: 10 AM - 5 PM  
Sunday: 12 PM - 5 PM



## Ride. Share.

That's what the Great Plains Bike Club is all about. We actively promote bicycling with rides for all levels of riders in and around Southeastern Nebraska.

Weekly rides with a leader | Show 'n go rides  
Ice cream & coffee shop rides | Moon-lit rides  
Hammering training rides | Trail rides

We sponsor the Spring Fling ride in April and Heatstroke 100 in August. We also promote bicycling safety through community-sponsored events. For more information and an on-line application to join the club, go to [greatplainsbikeclub.org](http://greatplainsbikeclub.org).



The Nebraska Bicycling Alliance is a nonprofit corporation primarily supported by public donations, memberships and grants. Our mission is to promote health and safety for all who ride bicycles in Nebraska.

The vision of the Nebraska Bicycling Alliance does not compete with existing clubs or organized bicycling groups, but rather enhances and supports all of these groups, bike shops, health and safety groups, city planners, policy makers and NDOR. We plan to promote bicycling in Nebraska when needed at the State and local levels in any way we can with project design, seeking federal funding, promoting safe routes for kids, and public education.

Learn more at: <http://www.nebike.org/>

## EVENT CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER

- 23 —Streets Alive
- 30 —GPTN's 30th Anniversary Celebration (see below)

### OCTOBER

- 6 —Market to Market Relay
- 14 —Historic Bike Ride to Pioneers Park (stay tune for more information).



The Great Plains Trails Network turns 30 this year and we're going to celebrate! GPTN was founded in December 1988 to help develop and maintain a trail system in and around Lancaster County, Nebraska. Here we are in 2018 with over 131 miles of wonderful trails and GPTN still working hard to make improvements and expand the trail system. There have been so many people over the years who donated their time, ideas, and financial support to make this all happen and we want to celebrate these accomplishments and thank you for making them possible.

Come join current and former GPTN Board Members for cake and ice cream, coffee and conversation to reflect on the good times and the hard work over the last 30 years!

### GPTN 30th Anniversary Open House

Jayne Snyder Trails Center  
 Sunday, September 30, 2018  
 2:00 pm—4:00 pm



## CAN YOU CATCH THIS GUY?

Wouldn't it be fun to try?

**Homestead Trail**  
**Oak Creek Trail**  
**MoPac East Trail**



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH  
 natural resources district  
[www.lpsnrd.org](http://www.lpsnrd.org)



## TRAIL UPDATES

### Murdock Trail Renovation

The City of Lincoln will be paving the Murdock Trail from 56th to 70th Street this September. An adjacent gravel sidepath will also be constructed for runners and walkers who prefer a softer surface. An open house for the project will be held on August 30th from 5:30 to 6:30 at the Easterday Recreation Center, 6130 Adams Street.

### Wilderness Park South Bridge

The City of Lincoln has submitted a grant application to aid in funding the replacement of the South Bridge in Wilderness Park. Construction is expected to begin in 2019.

### 33rd and Cornhusker

The BNSF railway currently carries nearly 65 trains daily on the double-track mainline railroad through northeast Lincoln, resulting in at least 3.5 hours per day that each of the at-grade railroad crossings at N. 33rd Street and Adams Street are blocked to vehicular traffic.

The Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD) is leading the charge to make travel in this vicinity safe and efficient for all transportation types, including pedestrians and bicyclists. Find out more about this project at: <https://www.33rdcornhusker.com/>

LINCOLN MPO **LincolnBikePlan**  
 On-Street Bicycle Facilities Plan

We need your input to help make Lincoln more bike-friendly!

**Public Meeting Opportunities:**

- Review and provide input on the draft Bike Network
- Share your ideas about project phasing and implementation
- Review preliminary education and outreach strategies

Join us at a public open house  
**Monday, August 20, 2018**  
**4:00-6:00pm**  
**Turbine Flats Gallery**  
**2124 Y Street**  
**Lincoln, NE**

meeting location

Questions? If you have questions or need special accommodations at the public meeting, please contact:  
 Kellee Van Bruggen  
 402-441-6363  
[KVanBruggen@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:KVanBruggen@lincoln.ne.gov)

[www.LincolnBikePlan.com](http://www.LincolnBikePlan.com)

FELSBURG HOLT & ULLEVIG

## Thank You To Our Many Trail Trek Volunteers!

Marge Abelbeck	Phil Bohaty	Marynelle Greene	Jeff Kimble	Dena Noe	Bob Torell
Bruce Abernathy	Noel Briseno	Sue Guild	Jim King	Sven Noe	Mary Torell
Kim Albright	Ron Case	Rachelle Hadley	Mary Bruce King	Heather Nunn	Barry Urtel
Jill Alley	Parks Coble	Paul Hadley	Dave Kloepfer	Connie Parrish	Rick Urwiler
Dale Arp	Charlene Dunbar	Elaine Hammer	Timothy Kovar	Joy Patten	Penny Urwiler
Charley Bacon	Steve Dunbar	Kent Henning	Jim Krieger	Jesse Petersen	Sandra Villa
Brett Baker	Deborah Eagan	Lisa Henning	Therese Liegl	Ave Pickering	Peggy Volker
Noelle Baker	Joyce Ely	Mike Heyl	Nancy Loftis	Ann Reicks	Kenneth Volker
Byron Barner	Sue Ferguson	Steven Hile	Jerry Luedtke	Greg Reicks	Loren Warren
Matt Baumeister	David Fikar	Jayden Hile	Judy Luedtke	Dalyce Ronnau	Jamie Warren
Michael Bayne	Deb Fisher	Roger Hirsch	Edie Matteson	Greg Rosenboom	Bill Wehrbein
Cara Bentrup	Dean Fisher	Roddy Humeniak	Esa Matteson	Katie Shepard	Amy Windle
Gary Bentrup	Kevin Fitzgerald	Lisa Janssen	Kent Mattson	David Sinkler	Roy Wolgamott
Mike Bernoltz	Mark Forster	Stan Johnson	Gretchen Monroe	Ken Snyder	Carolyn Wolgamott
Barb Bohaty	Tammy Green	Owen Kimble	Robert Nazareus	Jon Taylor	Kaitlyn Young

## And Thank You To Our Many Trail Trek Sponsors!



## CONNECTING ROCK ISLAND & JAMAICA NORTH TRAILS!

For many years, trail users have asked for a connection between the Rock Island Trail and the Jamaica North Trail in south Lincoln near the Cooper YMCA and Densmore Park. That wish is now becoming reality!

The City of Lincoln, the Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD), and GPTN are partnering together to provide a 350-foot pedestrian bridge over the BSNF railroad, safely connecting the two trails. RTSD is contributing \$600,000 to this project to enhance safety issues around the railroad tracks and to eliminate illegal crossings over the tracks. City of Lincoln is providing \$250,000 while GPTN is raising the remaining \$450,000 for this \$1.3 million dollar project.

Construction should begin in Fall 2019 and take eight or nine months, if the weather cooperates. Currently, the project is referred to as the Rock Island and Jamaica North Trail Connector Bridge, however it will likely have a snappier name by the time it opens.

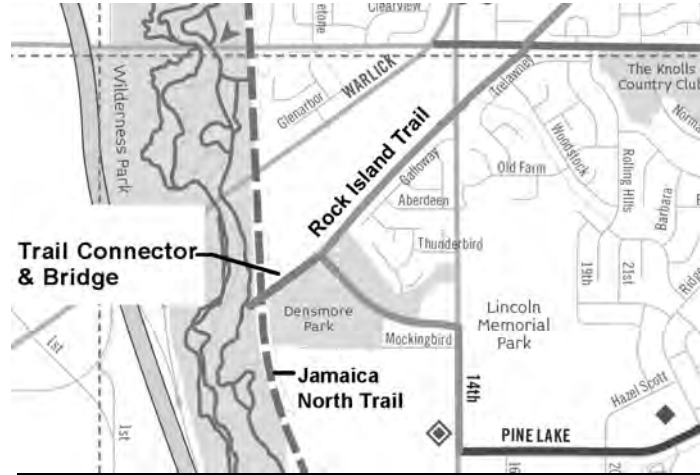
See the back panel of this newsletter for more information on how to donate to this exciting project or go online to [www.gptn.org](http://www.gptn.org). Your donations are greatly appreciated!



Architectural rendering depicting the Rock Island and Jamaica North Trail Connector Bridge near Cooper YMCA.

## GIVE TO LINCOLN DAY RAISES OVER \$22,000 FOR THE BRIDGE

This year's Give to Lincoln Day on May 31st was a huge success. We received over \$20,000 from 164 donors plus over \$2,000 from the Lincoln Community Foundation Challenge Fund. Final take-home amount was \$22,276 which will be used to support the Rock Island and Jamaica North Trail Connector and Bridge. Thank everyone for your generous donations!



Location of the Trail Connector Bridge near Cooper YMCA.

## LINCOLN'S BIKE SHARE PROGRAM ON A ROLL

Launched in April, Lincoln's bike share program called BikeLNK offers 100 short-term rental bikes available at 19 kiosks across the city. Since the launch, ridership has exceeded expectations according to Jamie Granquist, manager of the BikeLNK program. In July, an average of over 100 rides a day was recorded. The service is accessible through the BikeLNK website, app and kiosks. Passes range in price from \$3 for a 30-minute "Quick Tripper" to \$80 for an annual membership. The annual pass is available for \$10 to

University of Nebraska–Lincoln students, faculty and staff. For more information: <https://bikelnk.bicycle.com>

### July Numbers

3,352 trips taken     10,153 lbs of CO2 offset  
 10,754 miles ridden     426,935 calories burned



<b>PURCHASE</b>	<b>RIDE</b>	<b>RETURN</b>	<b>UPGRADE</b>
Buy \$3 Quick Tripper on the kiosk screen to get a bike. Get up to four bikes per credit card. All riders under 12 years of age must be supervised by an adult.	Trip starts when you check out a bike and ends when you return it. All trips longer than 30 minutes cost extra. Ride safely!	Return your bike to any BikeLNK station. To ride again, purchase another \$3 Quick Tripper.	Love this ride? Purchase one of the three access passes for unlimited trips.
<b>QUICK TRIPPER</b>	<b>VISITING VOYAGER</b>	<b>MONTHLY MEMBER</b>	<b>ALUMINUM ACCESS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$3</li> <li>30 minutes</li> <li>One trip</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$10</li> <li>72 hours</li> <li>Unlimited 30 minute trips</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$12</li> <li>31 days</li> <li>Unlimited 30 minute trips</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$80</li> <li>One year</li> <li>Unlimited 30 minute trips</li> </ul>
AN ADDITIONAL \$3 (PER 30 MINUTES) WILL BE CHARGED IF THE INITIAL 30 MINUTE LIMIT IS EXCEEDED.			