

The

# OHIO TO ERIE TRAIL

Winter 2011

Newsletter #44



## Hoover Scenic Trail Ribbon Cutting (Delaware County)

It was a momentous October 23rd as the ribbon was cut to open the Hoover Scenic Trail in Delaware County. The one-mile trail begins on Plumb Road just west of Old 3C Highway, bridges Plumb Road and continues north on Weise Road. The trail passes through the Hoover nature Preserve on the northwest side of Hoover Reservoir.



*Hoover Scenic Trail Ribbon Cutting  
L-R: Jim Flaherty (Ohio to Erie Trail Board member), Dave Bender, Rita Au, and Jerry Rampelt (OTET Executive Director)*

## New Email and Phone Number

614-918-3636

[ohioerietrail@gmail.com](mailto:ohioerietrail@gmail.com)



*First riders cross the Hoover Scenic Trail Bridge*

## Camp Chase Trail Update (Franklin County)

Work to pave 3.5 miles of The Ohio to Erie Trail from Olmstead Road to Georgesville Road began last fall. Asphalt was then laid. Once the bridge between Olmstead and Alkire roads is placed, the final paving can be completed.

Franklin County Metro Parks continues to work on design and engineering of the remaining trail sections. ODOT is funding a portion of the trail from Galloway to Sullivant Avenue. A separate bridge over I-270 will be built, allowing maintenance of traffic on I-270. Approval to bid on the work is expected sometime in 2011.

## Newly Paved Trail (Knox County)

The Heart of Ohio Trail in Knox County had 3.7 miles of trail paved in Mount Liberty last fall. A parking lot will be constructed at Simmons Church Road. Users can now travel to the bridge west of Graham Road on an asphalt surface! The project was funded by the Landers Foundation, Knox County Park District and ODNR (Clean Ohio Trails grant).



*Bill Daehler, vice-president of the Ohio-to-Erie Trail Board (3rd from left), looks on as dignitaries cut the ribbon to celebrate the paving of 3.7 miles of the Heart of Ohio Trail in Mount Liberty.*

## Towpath Trail, along the Cuyahoga River, Closer to Completion (Cuyahoga County)

In Cleveland the Ohio Canal Corridor along with the Trust for Public Land, acquired 11 acres along the Cuyahoga River, in the area known as The Flats, for a \$4.8 million. The 11 acres is crucial to finishing the Cuyahoga County section of The Ohio to Erie Trail.

The property will connect to the proposed Canal Basin Park, a 20-acre park at the site where the Ohio & Erie Canal once tied into the Cuyahoga River.

This purchase will contain about a half-mile of the Trail. The Ohio office of the Trust for Public

Land had previously tried to purchase the property since 2001. The properties, near Scranton Road, were slated for riverside residential development. The landowners eventually decided to work with the trust.

## Roberts Pass Trailhead Dedicated

Thursday, October 28, 2010, was a chilly day, but that did not keep bikers and others from participating in the dedication of the Roberts Pass Trailhead on East Center Street along The Ohio to Erie Trail.

Approximately 50 people, some on bicycles, joined city and county officials and trail supporters, for the dedication. The trailhead project was a joint effort of the City of London, Madison County Park District, Madison Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Friends of the Madison County Parks and Trails.

The parking lot is made from pervious paver stones that quickly absorb surface water which will better manage storm-water runoff and forestall stream bed erosion. A City of London fire engine released 500 gallons of water to demonstrate how the pavers quickly dispersed the water.



*Wayne Roberts (Ohio to Erie Trail Board member) and Gene Pass cut ribbon in Madison County*





*Tom Alexander of Glenmont riding the rock cut in Baddow Pass in Holmes County.*

## **Baddow Pass (Holmes County)**

*By Jerry Rampelt*

Tom Alexander lives in Glenmont in Holmes County and invited me to ride a three mile section of the old rail bed of Baddow Pass. This is not a paved trail and will become part of The Ohio to Erie Trail when paved. The route is between Glenmont and Brinkhaven. The three mile section of rail bed is in good condition and quite suitable for a mountain bike, but not yet for a street bicycle.

As we headed southwest from Glenmont I noticed that we had a steady uphill climb at what seemed to be a 1 to 2% grade for the entire route. The rail line was constructed in the late 19th century, and the rock that was cut was quite impressive.

## **Park Closes The Ohio to Erie Trail (Clark County)**

The Clark County Park District closed The Ohio to Erie Trail in mid-November after voters chose not to support a levy that would have raised \$360,000 a year to help maintain the local section of the Trail.

The closing of this span in the middle of the Columbus-to-Cincinnati route represents a new challenge for supporters of The Ohio to Erie Trail. The economic downturn has caused local communities to make cuts in governmental services, and many more will face the same problem as Clark County. The closing of the trail will impact tourism, bicyclists who commute to work, and recreational use.

According to Cyndy Jividen, the Clark County Park District's assistant director, without the funding, the trail cannot be maintained, thus creating a safety issue for the district. She noted that they have had volunteers to mow and maintain the trail, but she stated that the district cannot pay for the gas in the mowers.



*Trail Barricade in Clark County*

**The  
Ohio to Erie  
Trail**



118 Graceland Blvd. #146  
Columbus, Ohio 43214  
www.ohioerietrail.org

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U. S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Columbus OH  
Permit 5466

**A network of trails from  
Cincinnati to Cleveland, using  
lands formerly occupied by  
railroads and canals.**

## **The Ohio to Erie Trail Fund**

### **Board of Directors**

Tom Moffitt, PhD, Butler County, President  
Bill Daehler, Franklin County, Vice President  
Elizabeth Watts, Franklin County, Treasurer  
Carolyn Sullivan, Summit County, Secretary  
William Baker, Holmes County  
James Flaherty, Delaware County  
Melodee Kornacker, Franklin County  
Tim McCormack, Cuyahoga County  
Don Noble, Wayne County  
Dan Rice, Summit County  
Wayne Roberts, Madison County  
Jim Schneider, Greene County  
Steve Schmid, Wayne County  
Sam Speck, Franklin County  
Brad Westall, Franklin County

### **Executive Director**

Jerry Rampelt

### **Legislative Advisor**

Dan Ritchey

### **Advisory Board**

Stephanie Vesper-Gephardt, Hamilton County  
Greg Lashutka, Franklin County  
Ted Short, Wayne County  
Tom Offut, Lake County  
J. Gilbert Reese, Licking County  
Charlie Ruma, Franklin County  
Oliver Seikel, Cuyahoga County  
Ellen Tripp, Franklin County

### **Address Changes:**

Email changes to - ohioerietrail@gmail.com  
Telephone Number changes to - 614-918-3636

## **AN APPEAL FOR HELP!**

**This is the time for our annual appeals campaign.  
Please consider making a contribution.**

**An envelope is enclosed in the newsletter for your contribution. All contributions to  
The Ohio to Erie Trail Fund are tax deductible.**