

7 December 2011

MVTR December Meeting

VP Jon called the Pearl Harbor Day MVTR Meeting to order and introduced **Jay McGrath**, representative for Western Powersports (and provider of some of the more popular trail on the Classic Southern Loop). Jay brought along samples of the new 2012 Fly Gear. The new line-up includes a full selection of jerseys and pants in a wide spectrum of colors and sizes; they also cover a wide variety of features and price ranges. Among other highpoints were the new Leatt-Fly cooperative neck brace with a list price of \$359 and a feature laden enduro jacket (that might even run large enough to fit me) for only \$99. He brought along a new Acerbis 'pressure suit' style of armor that he has been personally testing as well.

With fall fast turning toward winter the only recent event to discuss was the **Annual MVTR Fall Challenge**, held on 26 November. With great cooperation by the weather, this was described as being the most organized and best-attended challenge to date. 45 riders and 25 spectators enjoyed some good food and great trails. Dave C. set the fastest time of the day, riding the 6-mile lap in 21:18. When all was over and done, a much appreciated donation of \$430 was made to a local charity, The Shepherds Pantry.

With the **Annual NETRA Sanctioning Meeting** just completed we got a report on our events for 2012. The New England Classic Charity Trail Ride is on the schedule for 9 & 10 June 2012 and the Rocky Mountain Weekend Hare Scramble; Jr. Enduro and PeeWee event will take place on 28 & 29 July 2012. For several years we have hosted an enduro on alternate years. 2012 would have been an 'off year' had Luis not volunteered (with anticipated additional help from Sea Coast Trail Riders) to Trail Boss the Mountain View Turkey Run on 7 October 2012. This will take place on trails not recently used in the Wolfboro/Ossipee area.

Another new addition to the schedule will be Mike & Karen's '**Youth Ride/Family Ride**' on 22 July 2012. Described as a 'glorified Nervous Novice' day, the date was intentionally planned so that this non-competitive ride would coincide with a Hare Scramble, giving the fast and furious an outlet to 'get it on' while preserving this as a new/young rider friendly event, where parents can get some seat time with their not quite ready to race offspring.

Building upon the success of this years "Ladies Day In The Dirt", Sarah is planning to expand it into an 'all invited', "**Family Day In The Dirt**" for 2012. No date has been selected; the venue is anticipated to be Alton.

It is looking as though 2012 will be another full year with 17 HS, 9 Enduros, 14 Jday's and a plethora of turkey runs, short courses, and etc. on the schedule so far.

A report on the **NETRA Comp Committee** annual meeting showed that there were not too many rules changes for 2012 but there will be some 'tightening up' in a few areas. Sound Test failures are to be reported to try and limit the 'it passed fine last week' situations. Riders will have numbers on their bikes by their second race and will be expected to 'declare' their club affiliation (and thereby, which event they will be working) at the beginning of the season. There will be no 'backdating' of club memberships; riders will not accumulate any seasonal point until they are listed on the club roster in the NETRA database. It remains the rider's responsibility to ensure that they have been entered. The 2012 scoring contract was awarded to Amanda.

The last of the mileage markers have been 'installed' in **Hop-Ev**. A sizable group of volunteers created a nearly 4-ton block of concrete to stabilize the River Loop suspension bridge over the Veteran's Weekend. Word has it that Brian has gone back there alone to complete the project but as he always says 'If there are no pictures then it didn't happen!'

John and JD have been out reconning some potential new trail to add to the **Classic Northern Loop** for next year.

Chairman Don brought up "**Ice Box 2012**". The date will be 1 January or the first Sunday with enough/adequate/safe ice. Since winter weather can change conditions rapidly, you really want to be on the 'Winter Riding List' to get notified as to when it actually happens. Several improvements have been made for this event, a new floor is in place for the tent and a pig roast is planned. Don did mention that the number of crock-pots present had been declining and that he would like to see that reversed. Snow removal equipment would be an asset; a couple of 4 wheelers would be welcome – provided that they are equipped with plows.