

MVTR MEMBER MEETING 8 Jan 2014  
Notes by John Mesick

President Tom Levesque called the meeting to order at Freedom Cycle, Concord at 7:05 pm. About 25 members were present with two guests and two new joining members.

**Power Shifting**, what is it? Shifting up through the gears without using the clutch or reducing the throttle. According to Tucker and others, KTMs (and most other dirt bikes) are designed to withstand this abuse. Jim Pidgeon says it damages transmissions by bending shift forks, breaking parts, etc. Most riders will use the clutch at least partially on shifts. The general consensus is that while power shifting may not be "bad" for transmissions, it certainly is not "good" for them.

**Winter Riding Q/A**; members have been out at Bear Brook and Clough.

- If there is little snow, with bare ground, short studs are best.
- Once there is a solid snow base, long studs are always better.
- Mike on NEDB has been supplying studded tires for years with great quality, customer service, and prices.
- Several members are riding at night; Duane has LED lights on his bike and helmet. Tucker has a Baja Designs Halogen light kit for KTM.
- When re-jetting a 2-stroke for winter the fuel range on a tank is significantly reduced (but compensated by an increase in power).
- Ride reports from the day of the meeting indicate Clough has better snow cover than Bear Brook.
- The Snow Run Enduro in Connecticut is scheduled for 9 February. Screws are prohibited. Studs will be used, which makes the paved road sections interesting; they feel like riding on marbles when on pavement.

**Ice Box** Mark Stock stated that as of today lake conditions are ideal for his charity ride. He has in place a 1.2 mile road course, and hopes to have an oval the day of the event (12 January). The event starts at noon in Hopkinton. MVTR membership is required to ride the event and Mark is expecting to sign up two dozen new members. He needs volunteers to help with signup. Tucker will bring a tent for signup that has the MVTR logo. There will not be a pig roast this year. Please bring a pot luck food offering and make a financial donation to the "Friends of Aine Foundation."

Mrs. Christine Philips of Bedford, the mother of Aine, described the origin of her charity and it's mission. Three years ago Aine died suddenly of an undiagnosed lung condition. She had a five year old sister for whom there was very limited grief counseling available. The charity's mission is to provide grief counseling and a support group to children who have lost a sibling. Mrs. Philips described Aine as fearless, a formula 1 racing fan, and would have just loved to have been a spectator at an event like the icebox.

**Arena Cross** Several folks attended this past weekend in Worcester, MA. Some rough racing by the pros on Saturday night. On Sunday several NETRA "B" and "C" riders were able to ride the track.

**Cystic Fibrosis Snowmobile Event in Rangeley, ME.** John O'Conner said that the 9 February event has a Maine Event Permit, so that Maine registration is not required. It is unknown if one can ride in from NH without Maine registration or if the sled must be transported. A goal is break the Guinness world record for the number of sleds at an event.

**Medical Cover Stories** President Tom opened a discussion on a thread that Jason Woodward posted on NEDB: What do you tell your Doctor when you get hurt on your dirt bike? The general consensus is to lie, and say you were on a mountain bike. Dirt bikers are generally treated with contempt by the medical profession. Some insurance companies will deny coverage for dirt bike injuries. All should read the fine print of their policies to determine if motorcycling is considered a risky behavior like sky diving, or racing; that may not be covered. It is also recommended that if possible to remove your gear and cleaned up before seeking emergency medical services; as medical personnel may choose to unnecessarily cut off all of your gear (including boots) as "punishment" for being a dirt biker.

**Two New Members** Donnie from Maine is an ex pro skier. John from Keene rides Turkey Runs.

**J-Day Winter Series.** No membership fee is required, just pay \$40 event fee. No extra charge for a transponder.

**NHOHVA** There is a Fish and Game safety meeting on 27 January. Topics include limiting ATV size by youth age, and mandatory helmet use.

There will also be a meeting with Fish and Game, and the Bureau of Trails regarding recommendations for the 2014 Legislative Session. Topics include the NHOHRA proposed \$30 OHRV registration increase/and discount for club membership. F&G and the House Republican leadership oppose this proposal.

NHOHVA is now composed of 13 ATV clubs plus MVTR and Seacoast Trail Riders.

NHOHVA President Harry Brown is actively working to open up the new Ride the Wild trail system in Coos County to trail bikes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Jim Pidgeon won the 50:50 raffle after buying just one ticket. That is all it takes if it is the right ticket.