

MVTR GENERAL MEETING NOTES - 4 May 2016
Freedom Cycle - Concord

Presiding President Tom Levesque called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm with approximately 55-60 members present.

Hop-Ev Riding Area

V.P. Steve Semuskie has taken the lead on the paperwork management for the riding area. He has been working on completing the Grant-in-Aid (GIA) application which is due Friday afternoon at the Bureau of Trails in Concord. MVTR is applying for funds to replace the 1996 Grizzly four-wheeler with a new six-wheeler, to obtain a custom lumber hauling trailer, and materials for various maintenance projects.

Andre Marois is the official Trail Administrator, with his focus on the hands-on management of trail and equipment maintenance. Last weekend work parties cleared all of the trails of downed trees except for the beginning section of River Loop. Volunteers are leading 2016 work parties: Bruce and Sarah are installing concrete blocks on a hill on the Sugar Hill trail. Tucker is jacking up the long bridge on the Stark Pond Trail. Andre is re-routing River Loop off of private property. MVTR is working with the Weare Winter Wanderers Snowmobile club on rebuilding the Choate Brook bridge.

Unfortunately the Bureau of Trails has no funds to deal with the ongoing problem of rising waters due to beaver dams. Currently we have high water damaging the long bridge on Stark Pond trail and the Choate Brook bridge on the main corridor out to the four-corners. MVTR can take the matter into their hands, but the allowed mitigation tactics are limited.

The area is currently closed for Mud Season, reopening 23 May.

Ron Sousa will resume the Wednesday evening club rides when the area reopens.

New England Classic

Glenn Harvey has signup sheets for volunteers. Volunteers can e-mail or Face Book PM him to sign up.

Saturday's north loop Trail Boss Jared Szurley states that being a sweep or pre-rider comes with responsibilities. A volunteer must ride the course in a work party at least twice before the event. One must know where he or she is at all times, and the best access points for first responders.

Sunday's south loop Trail Boss Chip Fredette reiterated the need for volunteers to ride the course. He has enough volunteers for this year, but would like to recruit more for next year.

Kid's Classic Trail Boss Jay Lees has the usual suspects signed up for volunteers. He has 21 kids preregistered, which is more than he usually has this far in advance. The cut offs are 45 kids on 30 May.

MVTR Hare Scramble

now has the moniker "The Rock Crusher" Andy Anthony reported that the 5.2 mile course is complete. There is still a 3/4 mile connector to complete just before the July event. The final route of the connector is dependant on activities in the working pit area.

A Go Pro video preview of the course will be posted on You Tube.

Competitors, and other attendees will be prohibited from entering the property before 4:30 pm on the Friday before the event. This fact must be well advertised in advance to prevent vehicles from lining up on the street before then. Only volunteers on a list will be allowed in early.

Open fires in the camping area are subject to restrictions that may be imposed at that time by the state due to potential draught conditions.

HB 521 - The Club Incentive Bill

As described in more detail at previous meetings, those who do not belong to a NH OHRV club will pay \$30 more for OHRV registrations, with all of the extra money going to Grant-in-Aid trail maintenance. Several ATV clubs that maintain trails are in an even more precarious financial condition than MVTR, and facing bankruptcy.

The bill faces another vote on 11 May. President Tom will be sending out an e-mail to MVTR members to contact their state legislator to voice support for the bill.

Recent Events

- Bob Fitzhenry has written an article for the AMA magazine about supercross, including photos by Art Pepin.
- Several folks attended the Netra Dam Fun Day in Thomaston, CT. More trails were accessible than those used for the hare scramble.
- Rummel Kids Camp had 50 youth riders, split up into 5 ability groups. There were 5-6 test sections for them to work on skill sets.
- The Seacoast Trail Riders held a kids class for 40 youth riders. The STR are collecting bikes to provide to students. If you have a small bike collecting dust, please consider donating it to them.
- The recent Netra Morning Side Hare Scramble in Hurleyville, NY was held on town owned property. The town welcomed the event with open arms and pulled out all the stops to make it a success.
- The Nutmeg Vintage Scramble is Mother's Day weekend in Eastford, CT. Bring Mom.
- Ron Sousa is working on a MVTR casual wear clothing project for sale to members.

New and Returning Members

Steve was a member in the 70s. Paul recently moved up from RI. Jack was a member in the early 70s. Joe rides a XT250. Mark was last a member in 84.

Rob Nye from Tucker Rocky Distributing made a presentation.

Arai helmets are the best. MT16 tires are harder to come by because the only demand for them is in the roots and rocks of the northeast. The trials - knobby combinations and dual compound tires are taking off in popularity. Users of the TubeBliss system seemed to be pleased, however installation technique is critical: all sharp edges of the rim must be sanded smooth.

50:50 raffle Winner Mike Bishop walked away with \$100. Thanks to Ticket seller JD Mott for offering a windfall to meeting attendees and paying for the pizza.

Tom adjourned the meeting at 8:54 pm.