

5 October 2011

MVTR October Meeting

Vice President Jon called the October meeting to order at 19:00.

With our **Rocky Mountain Enduro** literally just days away, it was the first topic for discussion. Rick first gave us an update on Luis' daughter, she is now home and making slow but steady progress in recovering from the accident. They both were able to enjoy the Deerfield Fair but Luis stated that he was getting fatigued at the end from pushing the still necessary wheelchair.

As of meeting time the trail work was about 95% done and they were closing in on having the logistics under control as well. The course was being pre-ridden today and the route sheet would be "proofed" on Friday. There would be a work party beginning at 09:00 on Saturday and any available bodies were desired for help on event day (Sunday) starting at 0'dark thirty. Later in the evening, Alex got a phone call from Peter confirming that he was now out of the woods (with the help of a headlamp), having completed arrowing and recovering his drowned bike.

In associated "news", the Sea Coast Trail Riders are looking for sweep riders to assist with the upcoming **Russ Henry Turkey Run** (the current incarnation of Noble Woods). Let them know if you can be there.

In recent events we had riders attending hare Scrambles at **Remsen** (a new course, fast with few rocks but a 6 ½ hour ride to get there), **Stateline** (fast), and **Richardson's Farm** (muddy, quite a few buried bikes and fast – at least when the throttle was stuck open according to Andy). The **Mudslinger** enduro in the Berkshires was held entirely on private land. It was reported to be somewhat milder than years past although certainly no "cakewalk" with only two "C" reported to have finished before houring out. The **Ammonoosuc River** turkey run was, as always interesting. Many riders found themselves having route sheet issues on Saturday while Sunday got rave reviews for great weather and trails. There were some who wished for better signage, had they known that a "beverage stop" was coming soon, they would have put off resting until they got to it. The **Hawk Ride** managed to somehow elude almost all of the rain. 25 riders enjoyed what was reported as, a great route sheet (there were no arrows), great trails and an "interesting" bridge. At the **Buckfield International Two Day** ride, Steve, Tuck and others enjoyed riding with the 'slow', "C" group but arrived close behind the very fast "A" riders. Neil reportedly did not break his wrist.

In **Hop-Ev** news, the mileage markers have been posted on all but the single-track trails so far. It is hoped that this will simplify locating injured riders and also help pin down areas that are in need of some maintenance attention. In a recent work detail the prison transitional work force moved several pallets of concrete block out into the woods and "installed" it into a bridge to prevent it floating away again. There will be a work party on **12 & 13 November** to rework the suspension bridge out on the River Loop.

All available hands are requested in **Jericho** on **29 & 30 October** for a work party consisting of bridge building; trail cutting and some burning-in of the single track.

Tom was unable to be present at our meeting because he was attending a Comprehensive Land Use meeting at UNH. I expect that we will hear a report about that next month.

The **New England Classic Charity Trail Ride** committee is already hard at work, preparing for the 2012 event to be held on 9 & 10 June. Looking for ways to make the event even better and involve more of the club members, they are planning to split some of the "jobs" into more manageable proportions. They have already recruited 'some new guy' (Jarrod) to oversee **Tech Inspection**, he will take the responsibility for having the testing equipment and 'technicians' in place during all the hours that tech is supposed to be available. There are more vacancies to be filled, ideally there will be:

A **Logistics Coordinator** to be on site Friday through Sunday. This job would entail getting people set up to work or camp in the appropriate locations, signing and enforcing (with 'deputies'?) the track's speed a quiet hour rules, having some workers and tools on hand to be dispatched to trail "issues" as found by the pre-riders.

A **Raffle Coordinator**, the event traditionally has two raffles, a CF raffle and the MVTR raffle, both happening concurrently with the Banquet. Rumor has it that the club raffle might be changed to a "cup" (?) format where you would buy your tickets and drop them in the 'cup' at the item you would like to win, then a winner would be drawn from that cup for the item. In past years a ticket would be drawn and the chosen person would go through what is available, while fun it can make for a long evening.

An **Information Booth**, available throughout the weekend, someone would be available to answer questions, give directions, provide spectator maps(?), etc. There also remains a vacancy to be filled as **Big Bike Rally Trail Boss**, someone to plan a route, write a route sheet, figure out a lunch stop, recruit a sweep rider or two and generally ride herd over the group of Big Bike Riders.

The **NETRA Competition Committee** will be meeting in early December. If you have an idea for a rule change it needs to be submitted to a club Competition Committee Representative before 1 November 2011. The club will be voting on which events it would like to host for 2012 at the November meeting (2 November 2011), be there to support the events that you want to see happen next year.

Bruce