



Tri-County ATV Club

August 2009 *Newsletter*

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President's Message

Dear Riders,

This is the half way mark of the riding season. Three months down, three to go. I haven't done much riding because of the rain. I think we can count on some better weather soon.

I would like to remind everyone to please refrain from riding after heavy rain periods. From what I have seen, most people have stayed off the wet trails.

I have spent most of my time with Dave and Bill filling out paperwork for a couple trail projects in Morgan. One project is detouring a hill, and the other is an increase of five trail miles heading north. A third project was completed and paid for last month. Thank you to all the volunteer labor that made these projects possible. VASA counts your labor at the Vermont minimum wage rate of \$8.06 per hr. The labor dollar amount is used in a formula to determine how many dollars VASA contributes to a trail project.

I was informed by VASA that our website trail map download had to be removed. I also received seven membership renewals back from VASA because they did not have an original signature on the original document. This was because I tried to renew some memberships by mail, and having the signature on paper other than the original document was not acceptable with VASA policy. The memberships in question have been sent back to each member to be signed and returned.

The 'snail mail' list has been updated. If you did not renew your membership, and did not request to remain on the mailing list, you were dropped. LESS PAPERWORK! Also, we will save the club some money.

I highly recommend the Mount Washington ride by ATV. The only way I have ascended the mountain is by ATV. I think it's smarter to go up on an ATV than a car. The train looks like a disaster waiting to happen. That train barely seems to have enough power to make it up.

I hope to make plans at the next meeting for an end of season party for September. Your thoughts and help planning the party will be appreciated. See you soon.

Thanks again,

Ernie Pappas, TCATV Club President

Vice President's Message

Dear Riders,

Well it's still raining and the trails are not drying out too good. Thank you to the members who are trying to stay off the trails with all this heavy rain we have had the past few weeks. It really shows our landowners we can tread lightly.

We have received bad news about using a couple of streets in getting into Island Pond. At this time the town's selectmen have declined our request. Rest assured that we have not given up on the idea, and work is still in progress.

I would like to thank Ernie for the time he has set aside to drive to Barre to meet with the trails committee for all the trail fund requests we have been doing this summer. It is a lot of hours that are put in for a job that does not come with a salary. Not just Ernie, but all the volunteers that have helped. Thanks to all.

Thanks,

Dave Beloin, Vice President, TCATV Club

Treasurer's Report

Hi All,

Wow, what a summer...The trails are all flooded and hopefully not being used too much. Our treasury is in good shape, and because we haven't had too much trail work or activities this summer so far, we are financially sound.

Hopefully, the weather in August will be much better. The alternate trail around the difficult bit of trail after the 111 trail head headed south is now useable. I have been told that one of the people in a camp on Wilson Trail (No Hope Alley) has a pit bull that he doesn't leash, so be careful up there. We are checking on this, more later. The Topsham trail riders are planning a club ride on our trails August 15th. If any of our club members would like to join them, they will be leaving from the Rose brook trail head. Could be a great day of fun. Not too much else to report. Hope to see you all at our next meeting.

Thanks,

Bill Bailey, Treasurer, TCATV Club

Our next meeting is at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 8, at the Clyde River Hotel.

What's up this month for Tri-county ATV Club?

August 2nd is the Mount Washington Ride In (up and down). There's a BBQ to follow, served up by a southern Vermont ATV club (fee). Support their effort and join in with other members from around the state to share your stories and concerns. This is a good chance to help each other grow and support our sport through learning and sharing time and knowledge together.

Visit other club sites for up-to-date and late posting events near you, at www.vtvasa.org. This past month, after our monthly meeting, we had a club ride-in. Great fun was had by all. Some of the highlights were; lots of fun in the mud and sun shine, riding for four plus hours (some went longer – some shorter, to fit their time schedule and terrain preferences), we covered most of the clubs major trails. Some riders continued on and rode on almost all the main trails. We had some visitors join in during the afternoon. They were from the central and western part of the state (state registered and VASA members), they said they enjoy our trails because they are for ATV's only and there is very little use of roads. A lunch break was taken at one of the club picnic tables, just a little south of the Morgan parking area. One courageous soul in our group made it through the beaver dam trail (NOT recommended). The rest of us watched and helped. We also tidied up along the way, repaired a few signs and added a couple others for better trail interpretation. The pace was leisurely, with sunshine and a light breeze all day, and almost no bugs. Because of all the rain some spots were tough, but we all helped each other out with routing through the tough spots and an occasional tug with the winch. We hope our next ride in will be as much fun with more members and the weather just as nice. Our next meeting is August 8 at 9:30 at the Clyde River Hotel in Island Pond.

Our neighbors to the south in Concord are holding their annual Field Day on August 16th. In the past, they have had mud bogs for ladies, gentlemen and youth, a poker run, safety inspection (optional) but you get a sticker from the State, trail ride, and skill events, food vendor all day and a dance in the evening. Check out this years schedule at www.vtvasa.org, and find Top of the World ATV Club, for more information.

Our new inches on the ground will soon be miles of trails and connecting with other clubs, lend your hand and earn a credit on club dues for next year. Watch your email and the website, www.tricountyatvclub.org for trail work days. **Riding into the sunset...Andy Aldrich, TCATV Club Public Relations**

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