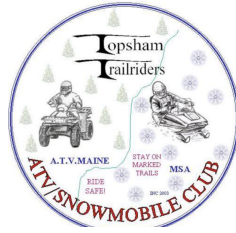


Topsham Trailriders July Meeting



Date: Monday, July 27th, 2026

Location: Exhibition Hall on the Topsham Fairgrounds — Topsham

Executive Board Present: Jenny Little

Ron Carey

Tim Moody

Board of Directors Present: John Bursley

Mike Little

Marie Carey

Randy Bickford

Tim Williams

Board of Directors Absent: Matt Nixon

Rick Emmert

James Belanger

David Sheain

Brad Hoskins

Ashleigh Rolfson

Stephanie Burnham

Meeting Called to Order at: 6:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:11 pm

Approximately 18 people attended the meeting.

Secretary's Report

Ashleigh Rolfson emailed a copy of the June minutes to all club members. No one in attendance requested any edits to be made to the minutes that were sent out.

Motion was made by Ron Carey to approve the Secretary's report

Motion Accepted by Tim Williams

Was passed with 1 member abstaining

President's Remarks

During the meeting Jenny Little provided updates on the following:

East / West Side Reconnection

A reminder was provided that the Topsham Trailriders trail system remains disconnected, with two separate trail networks currently being maintained and commonly referred to as the East Side and West Side. The East Side trail system is accessed from the Park & Ride area at Mount Ararat High School and provides access toward the Lovers Lane and Bay Park areas. Access to the former West Side staging area adjacent to the Nouria station was lost following property ownership changes, resulting in the need for a reroute.

An update was also provided on efforts to improve access to the West Side trail network. A property has been secured that will eventually serve as a parking area for ATV access to the West Side trails. The site is not yet open for use, as work is currently underway to prepare and establish the location. Once completed, it is expected to provide a dedicated location for parking and access to the West Side trail system. Securing the property represents an important step forward while longer-term efforts continue.

Additional discussion focused on the ongoing effort to establish a permanent connection between the East and West trail systems. Over the past year and a half, work has included coordination with landowners, Town officials, and various agencies while exploring potential solutions. The current proposal seeks ATV access along a portion of Route 201, which could provide a connection between the two trail systems. Following preliminary discussions with Town officials and the acquisition of necessary landowner permissions, the proposal was presented to the Select Board on July 16th. The next step in the process is a public hearing scheduled for August 6th at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance at the public hearing was encouraged, as community support will be important throughout the approval process. It was also noted that a portion of the proposed route includes an area with a posted speed limit of 50 mph, which may present additional challenges during the review process. Even if approved by the Town, the proposal would still require review and approval from the Maine Department of Transportation. While several steps remain, reaching the public hearing stage represents meaningful progress toward reconnecting the trail system.

East Side Trail Reroute Needed

In late May, the club was contacted by a newer landowner on the East Side near the first road crossing at Middlesex. The landowner advised that a portion of their property will be cleared and requested that the existing trail be relocated. This section of trail is currently under review, and those directly involved in the process have been identified to ensure coordination remains efficient and manageable.

A potential reroute will require coordination with an abutting property owner. Since learning of the situation, efforts have been made to connect with that landowner; however, schedules and timing have not yet aligned to allow for a conversation. Contact remains a priority, as discussing potential options and determining whether a mutually acceptable reroute can be established will be a critical next step in the process.

At this time, it is anticipated that the situation can be resolved through cooperation and ongoing communication. Maintaining positive landowner relationships remains a priority, and updates will be provided as additional information becomes available.

Topsham Fair Volunteer Sessions

A sincere thank you goes out to the members who stepped up and volunteered their time to assist the Topsham Fair. Whether you came out for one day or multiple days, your willingness to support a community partner and represent the club is greatly appreciated. The feedback received from the Fair has been extremely positive, and it is clear that the hard work and dedication of our members did not go unnoticed.

The relationship between Topsham Trailriders and the Topsham Fair continues to grow stronger each year. Based on the feedback received, there may be additional opportunities to assist with projects at the Fairgrounds in the future. If anyone is interested in helping with future projects, particularly those involving construction, carpentry, or general maintenance, please contact Jenny and a connection can be made. Once again, thank you to the members who came out and helped make these volunteer efforts a success.

Treasurer Report

Tim provided a printed treasurer report which will be attached to the minutes when they are sent out which is an update since our June meeting.

Motion was made by Tim Williams to approve the treasurer's report as provided at the meeting
Motion accepted by Ron Carey
Was Passed with 1 member opposing and Tim Moody abstaining from the vote

Trail Master

Ron Carey provided the following update:

East and West Side Update

As we approach the end of July we are seeing our hard work starting to bear fruit. Our trail work party on Saturday the 11th was a big success with several projects being started and a couple being completed. Our west side looked great during our 3 Club Ride. This is due to a dedicated crew of brush cutting animals, attacking any branch that even dared to encroach on the trails, not one "face slapper" was seen during the ride. Several comments were overheard about how well groomed our system was during the ride, this is due to the hard work of the trail work crews. Their dedication is the reason that we have the wonderfully groomed trails we have, good job to those trail work crews.

With the work on the new west side park and ride progressing and our east side projects in a holding pattern we have done well to log a total of 238 hours of trail work thus far this season.

As we ride into August and the brush growth slows, soon we finish up projects that we have held over for one reason or another, our work parties diminish and become just one or two people out inspecting signage and trail damage. August is typically a month that we support our community by helping the Topsham Fair and this year is no different. Therefore; while we don't

expect to have any organized work parties, that doesn't mean we won't have one, so keep following along to stay up to date. If you do ride out on the trails doing inspections, or brush work please report the hours to Jenny so they can be logged.

We see more horses on our trails in the late summer and fall. When encountering horses on the trails it is proper to pull over, shut your machine off and allow them to pass completely before restarting and riding on, respect our equine friends and riders. Share the trails.

With all that said, please remember, we access our trail system because of the graciousness of our landowners. Their allowance of our access is a gift, it is not a right. You can help us to respect our landowners by reporting any trail damage immediately, by remembering to carry in/carry out and also, by remembering to tread lightly, especially on hills or wet trails. Remember ride right and ride safe!

Tuesday Night Work Parties

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Consistent trail maintenance remains essential to keeping the trail system open, safe, and enjoyable for everyone. While the club typically focuses heavily on trail work during the spring months, maintaining a balance between work and riding opportunities throughout the season is also important.

Although several volunteer opportunities over the past month were focused on assisting with Topsham Fair activities, the club's Tuesday night work parties continue and are especially important at this time of year. Due to the Fair schedule and other club activities in August, a formal monthly work party is not currently planned. As a result, the Tuesday night work parties provide an important opportunity to complete needed trail maintenance, inspections, and small projects throughout the trail system.

Tuesday night projects may not always be organized or led by the Trail Master or Assistant Trail Master; however, that does not mean work is not needed. The best way to identify priority projects is to contact the Trail Master team for guidance. The East Side trail system has not been inspected in several weeks and would be a good area of focus. Tasks may include brushing trails, removing obstacles, checking trail conditions, and reporting any issues requiring follow-up attention.

Anyone choosing to work independently is asked to communicate when work begins and when it is completed so volunteer hours can be accurately tracked and the club can maintain awareness of activity occurring throughout the trail system.

Upcoming Trail Work Parties:

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Tuesday, July 28th at 5 pm

- Meet Up Location: Recommending that if anyone would like to go out to try and do the east side of our trail system

- Tasks: cut brush back, general inspection and screw a couple of boards back on the bridge leaving the park and ride
- Tools: Trimmers or clippers, drill, machine, and a positive attitude

Committee Section:

Apparel Committee

Jenny Little provided the following update:

There were no major updates regarding club apparel at this time. Orders can be placed using the provided link, with options for direct shipping or coordinated pickup through Got Vinyl 207. It was also noted that if there are items individuals would like the club to consider adding to the apparel offerings, suggestions are welcome and can be submitted through club contacts for review.

Topsham Trailriders Got Vinyl 207 Link:

<https://www.gotvinyl207.com/topsham-trailriders>

Maine Sportsman Show Committee

Jenny Little provided the following update:

A quick update on the 2027 State of Maine Sportsman's Show in Augusta. MOMS Topsham has once again generously agreed to sponsor the Topsham Trailriders booth at the show. Their continued support is greatly appreciated and helps make the club's participation possible each year. A sincere thank you goes out to Moods of Topsham for their ongoing partnership and generosity.

With that commitment in place, the countdown to Augusta begins. As a reminder, the 2027 State of Maine Sportsman's Show takes place March 26–28 at the Augusta Civic Center. The show runs Friday, March 26, Saturday, March 27, and Sunday, March 28. Additional information, including booth staffing opportunities, will be shared as the event gets closer.

Ride Coordinator Update

Mike Little provided the following update:

• Machias Overnight Trip | July 31st - August 3rd

Our one and only overnight club trip of the season is finally here! Folks are welcome to arrive anytime on Friday, July 31st. No rides are scheduled that day, allowing everyone time to travel, get settled in, and enjoy the area. We plan to ride all day Saturday and all day Sunday before making the trip home on Monday, August 3rd. For anyone interested in joining us for a day ride, the departure location is the Park & Ride across from the Machias River Inn. We plan to leave each morning at approximately 8:15-8:20 a.m. at the latest.

• Thorndike/Unity Ride | Saturday, August 8th

Join us as we explore the Thorndike/Unity trail system. Riders wishing to convoy are invited to meet at the Topsham McDonald's at 7:00 a.m. If you're heading directly to the ride location,

please be ready to depart at 9:00 a.m. Please pack a lunch, and riders concerned about fuel range may want to bring extra fuel.

- **Topsham Fair Week | August 11th-16th**

While we do not have any organized rides scheduled during fair week, many of our members will be attending and supporting activities throughout the week. We're especially looking forward to the Mud Runs on Tuesday, August 11, sponsored by MOMS Topsham.

- **10th Annual Hailey's Wind Tower Ride | Saturday, August 22nd**

This year marks the 10th anniversary of this great event, and we're looking forward to being part of the celebration. Riders wishing to travel together should meet at the Topsham McDonald's at 7:00 a.m. Food will be available for purchase at the event, and cash is preferred. We hope you'll join us in supporting Team Hailey Hugs and enjoying a great day on the trails.

Believe it or not, after that we'll be turning the page toward September and the final stretch of another busy riding season. Let's make the most of every mile between now and then!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me (Michael Little), Ride Coordinator, for Topsham Trailriders at 207-522-3780.

Update from the Membership Chair

Jenny Little provided the following update on behalf of Rick Emmert:

The following membership update is provided on behalf of the Membership Chair. All 2025–2026 memberships that had not renewed as of the end of May are removed from the active database. Membership records, including email distributions, are updated during the first week of June to reflect the new membership cycle. Appreciation is extended to Rick for his continued work managing memberships and coordinating with Trail Intel.

Individuals who have not yet renewed may still do so using the provided link.

Trail Intel membership renewal link:

<https://app.trailintel.com/club/topsham-trailriders-atvsnowmobile>

As of July 26th, current membership numbers are:

TTR Active Member Counts		
<i>Membership Type</i>	Total Memberships	Total Members
Associate	10	14
Honorary	7	15
Regular	76	141
Grand Total	93	170

Jenny would like to schedule a meeting with Rick and Ashleigh in hopes of fully transitioning our membership to TrailIntel.

Ride for a Cure

Jenny Little provided the following update:

A Ride for a Cure update is provided. Planning continues for the event scheduled for Saturday, October 17, to be held at the pulling ring at the Topsham Fairgrounds (32 Community Way, Topsham). The club is proud to partner with the Dean Snell Cancer Foundation, supporting patients receiving care through New England Cancer Specialists, and remains committed to this important cause.

Event Details (current planning):

- **Event Date:** Saturday, October 17
- **Location:** Pulling Ring, Topsham Fairgrounds
- **Registration:** 8:30 AM
- **Drivers' Meeting:** 9:30 AM
- **Departure:** 10:00 AM
- **Route:** Anticipated use of the east side trail system

The countdown is on! The deadline for inclusion on this year's Ride for a Cure event shirt is Friday, July 31st. Once that deadline passes, the committee will move into the next phase of the project, including finalizing the shirt design, adding sponsor names, and preparing to launch the online merchandise store. There is still time to participate, so don't miss the opportunity to have your name, family, or business represented on this year's shirt.

Sponsorship efforts continue to gain momentum. Currently, 28 shirt sponsors have been secured, with additional commitments still being collected, and fundraising totals have reached \$1,853.08. While sponsor participation matches where we were at this point last year, overall fundraising is currently behind pace. At this time last year, fundraising had reached nearly \$2,400, making continued outreach and corporate sponsorship support especially important. The goal remains 40 shirt sponsors, and there is still plenty of time to help close the gap. Sponsorship opportunities remain available for businesses, organizations, families, and individuals, including those wishing to participate in honor or memory of a loved one.

The next Ride for a Cure Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28 at 7:30 p.m. and will be held electronically. Anyone interested in helping with the event is encouraged to join. A major focus of the meeting will be finalizing event details and discussing additional activities that could enhance the overall experience, including the possibility of an obstacle course and other new attractions.

Volunteers, corporate sponsors, and silent auction donations continue to be needed. If you know of a business that may be interested in supporting a great cause, please help spread the word. Every sponsor, donation, and volunteer helps to make the event possible.

Important Dates

- July 31 – Deadline for shirt sponsor
- August 3 – Digital merchandise store opens
- November 6 – Digital merchandise store closes

Anyone interested in joining the Ride for a Cure Committee is encouraged to reach out and be added to the meeting list.

Ride for a Cure – Police Escort Discussion

During the meeting, members discussed securing a police escort for the Ride for a Cure event on October 17, 2026, similar to previous years. The Ride for a Cure Board has already approved sharing the cost of the escort, contingent upon approval by Topsham Trailriders. Members discussed the benefits of having a police escort to help ensure participant safety and support the orderly movement of the ride.

Heather Benson motioned to allocate up to \$500 toward the cost of a police escort for the Ride for a Cure event scheduled for October 17, 2026.

Motion was accepted by Dan Pellegrini.

Motion passed with no opposition.

Jenny will contact Marc Hagan to officially coordinate the work detail.

Old Business:

Club 501c3

Jenny Little provided the following update:

There is no significant update to report on the club's 501(c)(3) application process at this time. The next step remains coordinating a meeting between Randy, Tim, and the attorney to review the necessary information and discuss the path forward. Efforts are ongoing to find a time that works for everyone's schedule, and additional updates will be provided as progress is made.

Topsham Fair – Volunteer Sign Up Sheet

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Topsham Trailriders has access to the Exhibition Hall and other facilities on the Topsham Fairgrounds because of an agreement that we have with the Topsham Fair. The agreement is during the Topsham Fair we (TTR) cleans the grand stands, pulling ring, and the Exhibition Hall in exchange for using this hall for our monthly meetings. As a reminder the 2026 Topsham Fair is Tuesday, August 11th to Sunday, August 16th.

A sincere thank you goes out to everyone who has already signed up to volunteer during Topsham Fair week. The support is greatly appreciated and helps ensure the club maintains a strong presence throughout the event. However, there are still several openings that need to be filled, particularly on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, all having the greatest need for volunteers.

If you're planning to attend the Fair anyway, please consider signing up for a shift. Not only does volunteering help the club, but it also ensures you receive volunteer recognition and admission benefits. Otherwise, you'll be paying to enter an event where the club could have used your help. Even one or two shifts can make a significant difference.

As was done last year, volunteers who commit to at least two volunteer shifts will be eligible for a volunteer appreciation item at the conclusion of the Fair. If you know you'll be at the Fair, please take a moment to sign up. The club especially needs additional coverage on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to ensure all volunteer positions are filled.

Topsham Fair Volunteer Link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BA4A822A0F4C34-64318784-topsham>

Landowner Appreciation

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The importance of recognizing and thanking the landowners who make our trail system possible continues to be a priority. As part of those efforts, discussion continues around creating a Topsham Trailriders calendar to distribute to landowners as a small token of appreciation. The calendar would feature trail photos, club activities, and volunteer efforts throughout the year.

Anyone interested in helping with this project, including photo selection, design, or overall planning, is encouraged to contact Jenny. Additional volunteers and fresh ideas are always welcome.

Multi Club Multiple Trail Systems Ride

Earlier this month, Topsham Trailriders, Riverside Trail Riders, and Over the Hill ATV Riders came together for the first-ever Three Club, Three Trail System Ride. By all accounts, the event was a tremendous success. Participation was strong throughout the day, with riders enjoying the opportunity to experience all three trail systems while spending time with fellow enthusiasts from across the region.

A sincere thank you goes out to everyone who participated, volunteered, helped coordinate stops, and supported the event. The success of the ride was truly a team effort. Just as importantly, thank you to those who chose to come out and support their local trail systems. Sometimes it's easy to focus on traveling to distant destinations, but this event served as a reminder of the outstanding trail systems and dedicated volunteers we have right here in our own backyard.

Perhaps the most rewarding aspect of the day was seeing members from Topsham Trailriders, Riverside Trail Riders, and Over the Hill ATV Riders attend and support all three portions of the ride. That level of participation and cooperation speaks volumes about the relationships between our clubs and the shared commitment to strengthening ATV recreation throughout the region. Feedback from all three clubs has been overwhelmingly positive, and there is strong interest in making this an annual event. Hopefully this is something next year's Ride Coordinator can find room for on next year's schedule—hint, hint!

Topsham Fair – Mud Runs

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Planning continues for the Topsham Fair Mud Runs on Tuesday, August 11. MOMS Topsham has accepted the club's offer to assist with the event once again this year. A volunteer team is already in place, and no additional volunteers are needed at this time. Volunteers should plan to arrive around 6:30 p.m. for setup, with final details on timing equipment and course logistics still being reviewed.

For those not volunteering, consider coming out to support the event or, better yet, bring your machine and participate. The Mud Runs are always a fun part of Fair week and provide a great opportunity to get involved, enjoy the evening, and, let's be honest, everyone likes playing in the mud once in a while. Social media promotion will begin soon as the event approaches.

New Business

Annual Meeting

Due to a scheduling conflict in late October, a proposal was brought forward to move the club's Annual Meeting from October 26 to October 19. Making this adjustment now would provide ample notice to the membership while avoiding potential conflicts later in the month. As a reminder, officer nominations will take place during the September meeting, with elections and other voting matter are scheduled for the Annual Meeting in October. No objections to the proposed date change were raised during discussion.

Motion was made by Ron Carey to adjust the date of the club's annual meeting from Monday, October 26th to Monday, October 19th provided that the Exhibition Hall is available.

Motion was accepted by Tim Williams

Was passed with no opposition

Social Night

Jenny Little provided the following update:

There will be no official Social Night during the month of August, as it traditionally coincides with Topsham Fair week and that will once again be the case this year. Between Fair activities, club events, and a busy riding schedule, August remains a full month for many members.

Members are encouraged to enjoy the Fair, attend club activities throughout the month, and take advantage of the many riding opportunities that August has to offer. Regular Social Nights will resume following the Fair season.

Open Member Comment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11_pm was made by Ron Carey

Motion was accepted by Tim Williams

Was passed with no opposition

Upcoming TTR Events 🕶️

July 28th — **Tuesday Night Trail Work Party** — 5:00pm — East Side – Meeting at the dirt parking lot located across the bus lot at the entrance of Eagles Way

July 31st – August 2nd – **Out of Town Weekend Trip to Machais** – Check Facebook event for details.

August 4th — **Tuesday Night Trail Work Party** — 5:00pm — Location TBD

August 8th -- **Out of Town Ride- Thorndike & Unity** –21 Praire Road Unity ME 9:00 am

August 11th — **TTR Helps during the Topsham Fair Mud Runs** — 6:30 pm — Location Topsham Fair

August 18th — **Tuesday Night Trail Work Party** — 5:00pm — Location TBD

August 22nd – **Out of Town Ride- Hailey's Wind Tower Ride** – Leaving the Topsham McDonald's at 7:00 am

August 25th — **Tuesday Night Trail Work Party** — 5:00pm — Location TBD

August 31st at 6:30 pm— **Monthly Club Meeting** – Exhibition Hall— Topsham Fairgrounds — Topsham

Submitted,

By Jenny Little on behalf of Ashleigh Rolfson

07.27.2026

The July meeting minutes were approved during the July 27, 2026 meeting with no edits requested. JLL 08.31.2026