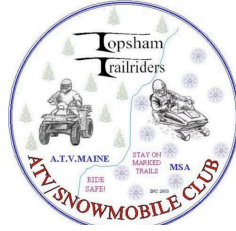


Topsham Trailriders February Meeting



Date: Monday, February 23rd, 2026

Location: Virtual via GoogleMeet due to (yet another) snow storm

Executive Board Present: Jenny Little

Ron Carey

Tim Moody

Ashleigh Rolfson

Board of Directors Present: John Bursley

Mike Little

Marie Carey

Board of Directors Absent: Matt Nixon

David Sheain

Rick Emmert

Brad Hoskins

James Belanger

Randy Bickford

Tim Williams

Stephanie Burnham

Secretary's Report

Ashleigh Rolfson emailed a copy of the January minutes to all club members. Ron Carey requested to have Marie Carey's name added to the Board of Directors as present during the January meeting. There were no other edits requested.

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

Motion Accepted by Pauline McKinney

Was passed with no opposition

President's Remarks

During the meeting Jenny Little provided updates on the following:

Special Collections

Due to the inclement weather we received, tonight's meeting is being held electronically via

Google Meet. As a result, members are welcome to bring their diaper donations to either our next Social Night on Wednesday, March 11th, or to our next regular meeting on March 30th, which will be held in the Don Russell Meeting Room.

For the month of March, our community collection will focus on non-perishable food items. If you are unable to get to the store before our next gathering, monetary contributions are also welcome. All diapers collected, along with the non-perishable food items donated throughout March, will be delivered to our local Topsham food pantry.

Legislative Update – LD 19

As many of you know, there is currently legislation under review in Augusta—LD 19—which proposes increasing the maximum allowable weight of an ATV from 2,000 lbs. to 2,950 lbs. The intent of the bill is to update the definition to reflect newer machine models. Our discussion during this meeting is focused on the potential effects the bill may have on trail access, landowner relationships, and club operations.

Landowner Concerns

Several TTR landowners have already contacted me directly prior to this meeting to express significant concern regarding LD 19. They shared that they hope the club is not in support of the proposed weight increase and noted the potential impact heavier machines could have on trail conditions and long-term sustainability. I've assured them that the club values their interests and respects their authority to determine what is appropriate for their property.

It is important to note that some clubs in the state have already received written communication from large landowners, including major organizations such as Maine Woodlands, stating that ATV trail access would be closed on their properties if the weight increase were to pass. This information contrasts with some public statements suggesting that trail closures would not occur, and it underscores that decisions ultimately rest with individual landowners.

Landowners also expressed concerns about the difficulty of enforcing machine-weight limits at the club level. Many believe that increasing allowable weight could place additional pressure on volunteer organizations already operating with limited enforcement capability. Unfortunately, they, including myself, do not feel that signage will be sufficient to deter them from riding on their property hence why closures will occur.

Impact on Trail System

Maine's ATV trail system currently includes an estimated 6,000 miles of interconnected routes across the state. If LD 19 should pass there stands to be a significant loss to the state trail system. This potential outcome highlights the importance of ongoing communication among riders, clubs, and landowners, and careful consideration of how legislative changes may affect trail longevity and landowner partnerships.

Call to Action Discussion

During the meeting, members discussed the broader implications of LD 19 and noted that changes impacting ATV access could potentially influence other motorized trail uses in the future. Several attendees expressed concern that if trail closures occur due to ATV weight

changes, similar decisions could eventually extend to other recreational uses, including snowmobiles. This point was raised to emphasize the importance of active engagement and awareness within all motorized recreation communities.

UPDATE: There was also discussion regarding LD 19 following an inquiry from Ron Carey about which groups may be advocating for the bill and whether any have direct ties to Topsham Trailriders. Based on general observations and deductive reasoning, he expressed a suspicion that ATV Maine may be playing a significant role. Ron questioned whether the priorities being advanced by organizations like ATV Maine supporting LD 19 align with the interests of our club and our trail system. LD 276 was also mentioned, as it focuses on machine width while LD 19 addresses machine weight. Several members shared concerns about the direction of both proposals, along with noticeable displeasure regarding ATV Maine's current advocacy efforts. Jenny noted that this topic will require additional discussion in the coming weeks, and members will more than likely receive a communication between now and March seeking input before the Board engages in further deliberation. A decision will need to be made in the near future regarding whether the club will continue its partnership with ATV Maine at this time.

Members further noted that the current definition of an ATV in Maine — which has been in place for several years — is one that our landowners have become familiar with and have grown comfortable supporting. They understand and have accepted the long-standing limits of machines weighing 2,000 pounds or less and no wider than 65 inches. LD 276 seeks to reopen the discussion on width, while LD 19 seeks to alter the existing weight definition. The concern expressed during the meeting was that changing either of these established parameters could jeopardize the trust and stability the club has built with landowners. While members acknowledged the pressures faced by dealerships and the market trends pushing larger machines, the group agreed that without our landowners, we have no trails to ride — regardless of machine size. For that reason, several members emphasized that now is the time to act, to stand with our landowners, and to ensure their interests remain the priority as these legislative proposals move forward.

Trail Intel Meeting

As discussed at our previous meeting, Topsham Trailriders is in need of updating our trail map. While a preliminary draft layout has already been created, the club is exploring additional tools that may streamline this process and enhance our overall member experience.

The club has scheduled a meeting with representatives from Trail Intel, the company that developed the mapping and membership management portal. Some members may already be familiar with this platform. Trail Intel offers features not only for map creation but also for digital membership management, including online renewals and automated welcome packets. While this would not replace our Membership Chair, it may provide helpful support and a convenient digital option during the membership process.

A small group—including Jenny Little, Ron Carey, John Bursley, Rick Emmert, and Tim Moody—will be meeting with the Trail Intel team to review the platform's capabilities and determine whether it could benefit Topsham Trail Riders. An update will be shared with the board once the meeting has taken place.

If you would like to attend the meeting, please contact me (Jenny).

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 January meeting.

Motion was made by Ron Carey to approve the treasurer's report as provided at the meeting

Motion accepted by Merle McKinney

Was Passed with No Opposition

Tim Moody abstained from the vote

Trail Master

Ron Carey provided the following update:

East and West Side Update

Our club trailmasters have been busy grooming and working on the trail system all month and we have received good reviews from the community because of their hard work. Good job Brad, Tim Doyle and Mike, thanks for all you've done this season.

It's hard to believe we have almost come to the end of February and our snowmobile trails are still open! While we have had some recent issues with off-trail riding, beer can litter on the trails and a couple of other issues, it has, for the most part, been a great riding season. The aforementioned behavior however has led us to the unfortunate closure of a lengthy section of our trail system. This is in order to maintain landowner relations. Trail 5 is closed until further notice!

Looking forward, March 21st is right around the corner. Watch closely for more information on our first trail work party.

Upcoming Trail Work Parties:

Saturday, March 21st – (Possibly)

- Location TBD – Check Facebook and/or our website for updates

On Going Trail Related Club Projects

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The agenda items for club inventory, the landowner project, map development, and reroute planning have been kept as placeholders due to ongoing seasonal limitations. If trail work remains restricted, our focus will likely shift toward completing the club inventory and preparing for updates connected to our upcoming discussion with Trail Intel. We anticipate having more information soon regarding the map project, and once that work progresses, the landowner project should also be nearing completion.

In the coming weeks, the club will begin preparing the Municipal Grant application for 2026, and a critical part of that planning will involve work on the reroute project. Participation in this effort is *not* assumed. Members who wish to take part in the reroute planning committee will

need to reach out to Jenny, Tim Williams, or any of the Assistant Trail Masters. Member involvement is strongly encouraged—this club relies on collaboration, and these projects cannot move forward without the support and teamwork of our volunteers. Whether you are reading this at home or are present at the meeting, please consider contributing if you are able.

Committee Section:

Apparel Committee

Jenny Little provided the following update:

I am pleased to report that, based on the helpful feedback received from members, several updates have been made to our digital clothing store. New items have been added, including performance wicking shirts, additional color options for existing styles, sweatshirts, long-sleeve shirts, and more. If you suggested an item earlier in the season, there is a good chance it has now been incorporated. Please navigate to the updated store to check it all out!

Here is the link: <https://www.gotvinyl207.com/topsham-trailriders>.

In addition, the club will begin exploring the possibility of partnering with a local embroidery provider. The initial concept is that members could either purchase an item through our digital store and have it embroidered locally, or—if the provider allows—bring in their own apparel to have the TTR logo added. At this stage, we are still determining feasibility, cost, and limitations. Not all logos or variations may be suitable for embroidery, and there will likely be a need to decide which logo(s) are the priority for setup. Because establishing embroidery files does involve setup fees, this is strictly in the exploratory phase for now. More details will be provided once the club has gathered additional information.

UPDATE: During the meeting, Ashleigh Rolfson offered to connect with the business that previously digitized one of our logos and will inquire about having an additional logo digitized for the club. In conjunction with this, the club will also look into other potential options for logo digitization to ensure we have the formats we need for future apparel and branding projects.

Maine Sportsman Show Committee

Jenny provided the following update on behalf of the committee:

Date of the show: Friday, March 27th – 1 pm to 8 pm
Saturday, March 28th – 9 am to 7 pm
Sunday, March 29th – 9 am to 4 pm

Prior to the meeting, I received an email from the Maine Sportsman Show in Augusta noting that all nonprofits attending this year are being asked to donate back to the event by facilitating a seminar.

UPDATE: She informed the group during the meeting of this recent change, and there was brief discussion about possibly offering a “Wheeling 101” session. Jenny and Mike shared that they had existing content available, and several members — including Ron, Charlie, Tim Moody, Mike, and Jenny — offered to assist if the club chose to pursue that option. Following the

meeting, Jenny informed the group that the Board has decided the club will instead pay the required difference, given the volume of business the club will be handling through the end of March.

Show Set-Up

- The club paperwork needed for the table include ride schedules, membership forms, and information sheet is nearly all printed.
- Slide Show

A reminder that this year we will be offering a membership discount of \$5.00 for all memberships completed during the Sportsman Show. For example, if an individual either new or renewing would pay \$30.00 rather than \$35.00 for their annual dues.

Needs for the show from Members:

Raffle

- The committee is still seeking donations to help create a raffle. If you would like to know what we are still seeking please see me! Remember that the proceeds from the raffle sales will be utilized into our reroute trail!

Volunteers

- If you are interested in volunteering at any point during the Sportsman Show—Friday, Saturday, or Sunday—and did not have a chance to mention it this evening, please reach out to me (Jenny) by email or message. We will be officially circulating a sign-up sheet in February, and it will be mission-critical that we fill every slot; it's a great opportunity to kick off the ATV season and represent TTR proudly.

Ride Coordinator Update

Mike Little provided the following update:

There is really nothing to report during this time of the year! The countdown has begun though:

26 days remain till March 21st TTR's first trail work party (MAYBE)

104 days remain till June 6th TTR/We-ATV 207's first out of town ride which is the Ken Snowdon Memorial Ride – Pittsfield to Greenville (Hopefully unless LD 19 screws it up for us!)

And a quick reminder: if you plan on joining us for any of our upcoming events, please do us the courtesy of updating your Facebook status. "Interested" doesn't help with planning, and even "Going" has become a bit questionable lately, so accurate RSVPs are a huge help. This is also a great time of year to download or re-familiarize yourself with Polaris Ride Command, since we rely on it heavily for our group rides. The group ride feature makes staying together on the trail much easier, and having the app ready to go ahead of time keeps things running smoothly.

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:

We're holding steady at the same number we've been reporting for the past couple of months.

TTR Active Member Counts		
<i>Membership Type</i>	Total Memberships	Total Members
Associate	11	19
Honorary	15	26
Not Active	1	0
Regular	72	165
Grand Total	99	210

As reported last month, we are still actively looking for a Membership Chair. This role is responsible for maintaining and updating our membership records, including email addresses, mailing addresses, phone numbers, and any other member information that may change throughout the season. The Membership Chair will also work closely with myself and Tim Moody during the busy part of the year, particularly when we need to report membership numbers and submit payments to ATV Maine and MSA.

I also want to share that in our upcoming meeting with Trail Intel, we will be learning more about their membership portal. This system is capable of managing our membership process in most of its entirety — including sending automated welcome emails and maintaining updated information. While Trail Intel offers many helpful features, especially on the membership side, we would still love to find an active member who is willing to embrace the direction the club is moving and help oversee our membership efforts. If you are willing to step up and support the club in this important role, please contact Jenny to start a conversation, and we'll go from there.

A reminder that club memberships expire at the end of March so mark your calendars that your 2026 memberships are due April 1st.

Ride for a Cure

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The Topsham Ride for a Cure Committee has not met since our last club meeting; perhaps having one full year under our belt has left us a bit more comfortable and familiar with the process. Even so, I want to note that our next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:30 p.m. If anyone is interested in joining the committee and helping with this important event, please do not hesitate to contact me or any current committee member, and we will make sure you receive the meeting invitation.

We expect to have a much more detailed update to share at the end of March once the committee reconvenes and planning begins in earnest. Thank you to everyone who continues to support this effort.

Addiction Recovery Benefit Ride

Marie Carey provided the following update:

The Addiction Recovery Benefit Ride Committee met on Feb 19th.

We have a lot of details squared away.

The tee-shirts are almost ready to go! Coleen & Brandy have done an amazing job with the tee-shirt details. Looking to get them up for sale very soon.

We have 2 food trucks: The Smothered Spud and Goodie Goodie (Dessert Truck). Have contacted "Sips Beverages". They sell different soft drinks, light snacks, etc.. Waiting to hear back from them. Still looking for a food truck that serves the classic Hamburgers, hot dogs, etc...

Port-a-potties will be at both Oxford and Mechanic Falls Park and Ride's.

Digital Routes being worked on.

Coordinating trail ride leaders.

Locations for 50/50 sales, drawings being discussed.

Sponsor packets have been emailed to all of the clubs. Fundraising has started! If anyone needs sponsorship packets, please let us know.

Old Business:

Ski Joring

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Earlier this month, Topsham Trailriders once again assisted the Topsham Fair with their annual skijoring event. For the most part, the day was a success; however, we are saddened to report that there was a tragic incident in which a horse suffered a severe leg or hip injury and had to be humanely put down. Despite that heartbreaking situation, the event as a whole ran smoothly, and our group contributed meaningfully throughout the day.

A special note of appreciation is owed to Kody and the entire NextGen Landscapes crew and our trail crew for their exceptional work preparing the track. Kody was consistently inclusive, inviting members of the Topsham Trailriders to participate hands-on in the prep work, and he made it clear how valued our presence was. It was also evident that accomplishing this level of preparation on our own would have required starting roughly two and a half weeks earlier—so their help was instrumental.

We also extend a huge thank-you to Jon Rolfson (Ashleigh's husband) for bringing his tractor and equipment, which made quick work of clearing the infield, grandstands and gate areas. To all the volunteers who came out—though we were few in number, we were strong, effective, and deeply appreciated by the Fair staff.

The Topsham Fair generously made a \$400 donation to the local food bank in our name as a gesture of thanks. While we don't participate for financial recognition, it is meaningful to know our efforts helped support the wider community. The Fair has already announced the tentative date for the 2027 skijoring event—February 6, 2027.

One final note: Kody mentioned his interest in beginning track preparations earlier next year to further improve conditions.

China Four Seasons Needs our Help

Jenny Little provided the following update:

I would like to extend a huge thank-you to John Bursley, Ron Carey, and Mike Little for spending both days of that weekend representing the Topsham Trailriders. You three showed exceptional dedication, and I know that I personally am incredibly appreciative of your willingness to come out, pitch in, and help. Your involvement even sparked some new ideas—Ron especially has some wheels turning already. Most importantly, China was extremely pleased and grateful to have us there, and truly valued the help and support we provided. Your efforts made a real difference, and I can't thank you enough.

They actually enjoyed having us there so much that they invited us to come back and help again in just a couple of weeks, on March 7th. Mike and I are planning to be there, and if anyone else would like to come out, lend a hand, or even just watch, you are more than welcome. The more support we can offer, the better—and it's a great opportunity to stay involved and continue strengthening that positive connection.

New Business:

Social Night

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The next social night for the club is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11th at 6 pm. We will be dining at 104 Main Public House restaurant located at 104 Main St in Topsham. The restaurant appreciates receiving a headcount as to how many folks will be coming. Please let Jenny know if you will be coming by either updating your status to going within the Facebook event or by contacting her personally.

Open Member Comment

During the open member portion of our meeting, Marc Costantine, President of the Moosehead ATV Riders, brought to our attention an email he had received from Maine Woodlands. While we could not fully capture his comments directly from the email, we navigated to the Maine Woodlands Facebook page and have included a portion of their post, as this was specifically referenced during the discussion.

Maine Woodland Owners

Two bills are moving through the Maine Legislature that would reverse the ATV Task Force Agreement and ignore landowner concerns about property impacts and enforcement.

LD 276: A new bill that aims to eliminate the size restrictions on ATVs and replace them with a classification system that has no upper limit.

LD 19: An ongoing bill that increases the legal registration size for ATVs by nearly 50%, raising the limit from 2,000 pounds to 2,950 pounds.

We are asking Mainers to take two actions to stop the legislation and protect our private woodlands:

1. Sign a letter to the Legislature in support of Amendment B of LD 19.
2. Ask Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Committee Members to oppose LD 276 by contacting them directly or testifying at the public hearing (Feb 25 at 1pm).

We believe the burden should be on the state to honor its pledge to landowners, not on you to police nearly 3,000-pound industrial-sized equipment on your property. Tell the Legislature that landowner courtesy is not a blank check and they should keep the commitment they made to landowners through the ATV Task Force agreement.

Learn more and take action: www.mainewoodlandowners.org/atvbills

A second matter was raised by Tim Doyle regarding a housing development project currently being explored by the Town of Topsham, which is scheduled to go before the Planning Board this Thursday. The project is located near Meadow Cross Road. Upon further review, Charlie does not believe this development will interfere with our existing reroute; however, we will continue to monitor the situation closely and report back should anything change.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 pm was made by Michael Little
Motion was accepted by Ron Carey
Was passed with no opposition

Upcoming TTR Events 🕶️

March 3rd - **Ride for a Cure Committee Meeting** - Via Google Meets at 7:30pm
March 7th - **TTR Helps China - Snowmobile Drags** - 7:30am - China's Clubhouse
March 11th - **TTR Social Night** - 6pm 104 Main Public House - 104 Main Street, Topsham
March 21st - **(TENTATIVE) Trail Work Party** - Location TBD - Check Facebook for Updates
March 27th to March 29th - **TTR Heads to the Maine Sportsman Show in Augusta** - Augusta Civic Center
March 30th - 6:30 pm— **Monthly Club Meeting** — Don Russell Board Room in the Municipal Building— 100 Main St. — Topsham ❄️ **Winter Location** ❄️

Submitted,
Ashleigh Rolfson
2.26.2026

The February meeting minutes were approved during the March 30th meeting. JLL 02.30.2026