

## Topsham Trailriders August Meeting



Date: Monday, August 26th, 2024

Location: Topsham Fairgrounds, Topsham, ME 04086

Executive Board Present: Jenny Little

Tim Williams

Tim Moody

Jessica Emmert

Board of Directors Present: Michael Little

Randy Bickford

Sam Bulmer

Rick Emmert

Anika Emmert

Board of Directors Absent: Matt Nixon

James Belanger

Don Curtis

Brad Hoskins

Noah Herrick

Dan Parlin

Charlie Parkinson

**Meeting Called to Order at: 6:32 pm**

**Meeting Adjourned at: 7:53 pm**

Approximately 19 people attended the meeting and signed the attendance sheet.

### **Secretary's Report**

Jessica Emmert emailed a copy of the July minutes to all club members. No one in attendance requested for any additional edits to be made to the minutes that were sent out.

- Motion was made by Dan Pellegrini to approve the Secretary's report.
- Motion Accepted by Kyle MComiskey
- Was passed with no opposition

## **President's Remarks**

During the meeting Jenny Little provided updates on the following:

### **Topsham Fair – Volunteer Appreciation**

Thank you thank you thank you to all of the club volunteers who helped during the Topsham Fair. The entire week overall was a smashing success. The electronic sign-up sheet seeking volunteers was a huge success! And most importantly the Fair is very pleased with how things went.

Another huge thank you to all of the volunteers who volunteered their time during this week. We know it was late hours but it is because of your generosity we can continue to use some of the Fairs facilities for our events. I would also like to thank Charlie for all that he did for TTR to help facilitate our booth at the Fair! Job well done by all!

UPDATE: During the meeting, Jenny inquired if TTR would be interested in creating TTR volunteer t-shirts. It was mentioned because she thought perhaps next year if a volunteer works two or more nights during the Topsham Fair they would receive a free shirt. It was mentioned that we should really distinguish these shirts such as adding language of the TTR VIP Crew! A TTR Crew shirt could also be offered to our volunteers who exceed a certain amount of hours.

### **Municipal Grant Update**

I am happy to share that since our last meeting we received approval from CMP and Bursey Enterprise was cleared to begin doing the work on sections of trails 1c and 1d on the West side. From talking with Alex (owner of Bursey Enterprise) early last week they should have the work completed sometime during this last official week in August. They had some small mechanical issues come up which delayed things. We've also submitted our first expense reimbursement to the Town of Topsham last week! I am excited to see all of the work completed!

### **Winter Meeting Location**

A reminder that last year we relocated and also changed the date of our meetings beginning in November and continuing until March because the Exhibition Hall is used as a storage unit during the winter months. Earlier this year, we contacted the town (Fire and Police Departments) and they have offered us the use of a conference room during our winter meetings. I am merely looking to mention this to get the location change on our radars!

## **Treasurer Report**

Tim Moody reported that as of 08/24/2024, we had \$510.00 in the cash box and a balance of \$2,372.64 in the checking account and \$7,503.79 the savings account. Tim also provided an update of the apparel account which now has a balance of \$1,535.35. He also shared that the food events account currently has a balance of \$2,043.82. The account pertaining to Events/Raffles has a balance of \$2,890.83.

Motion was made by Tim Williams to approve the treasurer's report as provided on the agenda

Motion accepted by Kyle McComiskey

Was Passed with No Opposition

Tim Moody abstained from the vote

UPDATE: Jenny will contact GotVinyl to inquire if we have had any additional clothing sales from our digital store.

Jenny and Tim are also working with Paypal to get them connected to our new checking account.

## **Trail Master Update**

Charlie Parkinson was not able to attend the meeting but asked Jenny to provide the following update:

### **East Side**

Last week a work party was held on the East side. Happy to report that the trails are holding fairly well aside from the typical trail maintenance like cutting brush back and working the road crossings located at Middlesex Rd and Village Drive.

### **West Side**

Charlie and Sam were recently out on the West side to help a couple of stranded riders with bad winches and Charlie noticed how wet some sections of the West side trails are. He is hoping during Tuesday's August 27<sup>th</sup>, September 3<sup>rd</sup> and September 8<sup>th</sup> work parties which are being held on the West side that folks can work on draining some of the larger water holes.

A reminder that portions of trail 1c and 1d were recently worked on by Bursey Enterprise so please tread lightly over these sections to allow them time to pack down.

### **Upcoming Trail Work Parties**

**Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 9 am (Ready to work at 9)**

**West Side Work Party – (First one in a long time)**

The work party will be held on our West side. Charlie has shared that during this work party he would like to have the bridge approaches looked at and repaired, if necessary, replace any boards on bridges that need to be replaced, cut brush back, and also if the large water holes are still large please create a sloping water bar to help drain them.

Please arrive well before 9 am to ensure you are ready for when the work begins at 9 am. We will be meeting at the dirt parking lot located next to the Nouria Gas Station located near 211 Lewiston Road in Topsham. Please bring your machine, brush cutters, shovels, and a positive attitude! Lunch will be provided!

The Facebook event and website event have been updated with these additional details.

### **Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 9 am (Ready to work at 9)**

#### **East Side Work Party – MAJOR WORK PARTY**

The work party will be held on our East side to help prepare for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual BBQ & Ride event being held on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Charlie has shared that during this work party he is hoping to have a tractor join us to help load trailers with crusher dust for the mats hill, and to haul rocks to certain areas on the trails. We will also need to cut brush back on the East side but he is hoping to do the brush cutting during the Tuesday night work party on 9/17.

Update: Harold Stoddard has offered to bring his tractor to help load the machines and trailers during this work party. Harold will work with Mike Little as to where he should park with his tractor to access the trail easily.

Please arrive well before 9 am to ensure you are ready for when the work begins at 9 am. We will be meeting at the dirt parking lot located at the entrance of Mt. Ararat High School across from the bus garage located at 68 Eagles Way in Topsham. Please bring your machine, brush cutters, shovels, and a positive attitude! Lunch will be provided!

The Facebook event and website event have been updated with these additional details.

### **Ongoing Tuesday Night Trail Work Parties**

Jenny Little provided the following update:

We will continue to host Tuesday night trail work parties through the month of September. I would recommend reviewing either the Facebook / Website event for the location for the work party. There is a chance that the locations will vary week to week so please check frequently. Otherwise, please plan on arriving well before 5 pm so you are ready to hit the trail by 5 pm.

## Committee Updates

### BBQ Committee

Jenny provided the following update on behalf of the committee:

Date of the Event: Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>

Ride: 10 am

Meal: 12 pm

The cost of the tickets will be \$20.00 per person / or \$50.00 per family (2 adults & 2 children). The cost will include both the ride and the meal being provided.

The ride and meal is scheduled to occur on our East side similar to last year.

The event will once again be held in the pulling ring on the Topsham Fairgrounds. A reminder that club members donated all of the food needed for this event which minimized the cost of the event. An email was sent out earlier this month to solicit food donations. Every donation we receive for this event minimizes the club's expenses so we thank you for your help! Thank you to those folks who have already signed up. Additional emails will be remitted to members to continue seeking donations for the event. Anyone here at the meeting who would like to sign up please see me at the end of the meeting.

Please note that we will NOT be selling any tickets ahead of time for this event this year but will create a registration form for folks to inform us how many will be coming.

There is a volunteer sign-up sheet circulating this evening seeking help with the BBQ. Similar to previous years we are planning on setting up for the event the night before 9/27 beginning around 6:00 pm and we will need help the day of the event too. I am hoping with all of us here this evening we can fill that sheet right up but if needed we can accompany the sign-up sheet with the minutes of this meeting.

UPDATE: If you are reading this and are interested in helping please contact Jenny at [topshamtrailriders@gmail.com](mailto:topshamtrailriders@gmail.com).

A friend of Mike and Jenny's, Jeremy Johnson has offered the pork for us at no cost!

UPDATE: Prior to our meeting, Tim Moody connected with Leon Brilliant, President, of the Topsham Fair about allowing us to set up the night before and allowing us to use their picnic tables. The fair approved all of our requests.

During the meeting we discussed that our grill had been pressured washed therefore causing the sealant/cooking surface to dissolve. Dale Rowe has offered to pick up the grill top and get the grill re-seasoned and prepped for the BBQ.

UPDATE: During the open member portion of our meeting, John Bursley, made a recommendation that since the club house committee will soon kick off that perhaps it is time to kick off the fundraising process also. John inquired if the proceeds from the BBQ event could be designated to a clubhouse account. We will have an additional account created for the clubhouse. What a FANTASTIC idea John!

### **Apparel Committee**

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The apparel committee continues to be extremely busy. Earlier this month we sent all of our business logos to Got Vinyl and asked her to create a mock-up of what the shirt would look like. We are waiting to hear back from her. As soon as we have a copy of it we will remit it to the board to receive their approval before adding it to our store. If you haven't visited the store recently here is the link: <https://www.gotvinyl207.com/topsham-trailriders!>

UPDATE: We are aiming to remove the majority of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary gear from our store in early October.

### **Maine Sportsman Show Committee**

Jenny provided the following update on behalf of the committee:

There is nothing new to report at this time.

### **Ride for a Cure**

Jenny Little provided the following update:

During our July meeting the club voted in support of hosting a 2<sup>nd</sup> Ride for a Cure event here in Topsham on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Our event is set to acknowledge the 5<sup>th</sup> year anniversary that Ride for a Cure has been around. Since our meeting I was invited to join in on the Ride for Cure committee to discuss their upcoming event being held in October of this year.

The group is prepared to help Topsham but they are also willing to give us a little bit of freedom to facilitate the planning of this event to our style. I am very excited that TTR stepped up for this event but we will all need to work together to make this event a smashing success. Early last week I emailed a group of possible volunteers along with the folks who signed up during our last meeting to begin creating the Ride for a Cure committee.

Since this will be our first go around with an event of this size I do anticipate kicking off the monthly meetings in January after the holidays. It is my hope that we will be able to hold these meetings via Zoom. Brandy Marchetti has offered to help facilitate these meetings. I fully recognize that everyone will not be able to attend each meeting and that's okay because a lot of work will be done outside of these meetings! Topsham is doing great things and it is because of our community focused members like yourselves.

There is another Ride for a Cure committee meeting scheduled for September 4<sup>th</sup> via Microsoft Teams. I would like it if someone else joined me during this meeting to help the brainstorming process for this grand event. Please let me know so I can send along the meeting invite to you.

If you are interested in helping with this committee and did not receive our email, please let me know.

### **Clubhouse Committee**

Jessica Emmert provided the following update:

An email was sent out early last week to the folks who expressed an interest in joining this committee. We are hoping to schedule our first meeting in the near future.

Jess also mentioned that the committee is going to revisit how to connect the west and east side once again. Having the two sides of the trail system connected will only increase the search area.

UPDATE: Jenny applauded that this is rising to the occasion by exploring the reconnection of the east and west sides. She encouraged everyone not to hear the negative feedback but rather continue to move forward with this goal.

If you are interested in helping with this committee and did not receive our email, please let me know.

### **Ride Coordinator Update**

Mike Little provided the following update:

This past weekend on Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> we headed to the Onawa Trestle. Unfortunately it was closed the day prior and will remain closed until the 2025 riding season. A great ride was still had by all!

Here are the other rides/work parties scheduled for September:

Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> – West Side Trail Work Party

Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> – Waterford / Norway

Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> – MAJOR East Side Trail Work Party to prep for the BBQ

Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> – Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual BBQ & Ride Fundraiser

Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> – Lakes Region Apple Orchard Ride

If you have any questions about these events, please do not hesitate in reaching out to either myself or the club.

As a reminder, all of our official events and trail work parties have been posted on our Facebook page and website so please check them out for additional details. If you have any questions about these events, please do not hesitate in reaching out to either myself or the club.

### **Update from the Membership Chair**

Dan Parlin provided the following update about our current membership totals for TTR:

As of August 25, 2024, TTR has the following for club memberships:

Total Number of Memberships: 117

Business Sponsors: 10

Of the 117 Number of Memberships;

They can be broken down to:

97 Regular Members

64 ATV Maine Members

24 MSA Members

10 Honorary Members

6 Associate Members

### **Old Business:**

#### **Landowner Appreciation**

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Since our last meeting we have purchased the gift cards that we will be sending out to our landowners in the next couple of weeks! Thank you to Jessica E. and Tim M. for their assistance with getting those cards purchased. A reminder that our letter will be occupied by the personally signed TTR logo. Please remember to sign the logo before leaving if you did not sign it last month.

#### **Elections**

Jenny Little provided the following update:

As a reminder our annual meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. It is during this meeting that we hold the annual elections for club officers and board positions. All of the positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer as well as the 5 Board Positions) are elected annually. Nominations for all of the positions listed above will be accepted during September's meeting while the voting will occur in October.

It is always in a club's best interest to avoid volunteer burnout or to prevent a club from becoming stagnant to see new folks join the board so if anyone has any interest, please either let myself or any member of the board.



To ensure that elections are fair and impartial an elections committee was created. The two members who have graciously accepted this responsibility are both Bob and Cici Eberle. Thank you to the both of them for doing this!

### **ATVing Santa**

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Last year, Mr. & Mrs. Claus reached out to Topsham Trailriders for their assistance to help spread Christmas cheer in downtown Bath as well as the local Senior homes. All who participated brought their wheelers which were decorated in holiday gear and some members even dressed up as reindeer and elves. This year Main Street Bath is looking at doing the same type of event perhaps with a few small changes and Topsham Trailriders will once again be spreading Christmas cheer. The event is scheduled for Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> beginning around 10 am.

We are limited to only 10 machines and all of the spots have already been spoken for.

UPDATE: Since the meeting Jenny has spoken with the Director for Main Street Bath and she has kindly asked that no trailers are used in any capacity.

### **CPR Class for members of TTR**

Jenny Little provided the following update:

During our meeting last month Stephanie Burnham inquired if the club should consider inviting the American Red Cross to facilitate a CPR / First Aid course. Out of abundance of caution I reached out with the club's trail coordinator to find out if liability shifts if its club members take this type of course. Here is the language copied from the email exchange: ☺



**Jenny Little <topshamtrailriders@gmail.com>**

Jul 30, 2024,  
5:08 PM

to Brett

Hi Brett,

So yesterday evening we held our monthly meeting and a member asked a question about CPR / First Aid training. She inquired if the club might consider participating in a

first aid / cpr class in the event of a medical episode occurring during a club event. My question pertains to the club's liability. If we take this type of course would it make the club more liable if a situation arises? Or, would there be no liability change?

If there is someone that I should direct this question to please do not hesitate in letting me know.

Thank you for your time!

Jenny



**LeBlanc, Brett A**

Jul 30, 2024,  
5:30 PM

to me

Hey Jenny,

Obsoletely not, as a private citizen you are not obligated to render aid to anyone. If you do help you can be legally liable however, if you provide aid that doesn't meet the standard of your training or you exceed the level of your training and certification. I think it's great to take FA and CPR. I have had WFR and WFA from various jobs and have had to use them.

You become liable to render aid when it becomes a professional obligation. I believe even in your group rides this is legally referred to as a common adventure group. Everyone there is there on their own accord and no one is paying to be guided or looked after so everyone is on their own and responsible for their own person. I took classes on that in college and used to work as a winter mountain guide on katahdin but also lead some free common adventure trips on the side. But those were topics we learned and how they applied. Beyond that I'd speak to an attorney but that was always what we were taught.

Brett LeBlanc  
Regional Trails Coordinator  
ATV / Snowmobile Program  
207-592-3436

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So, I attempted on a few occasions to reach out to our local American Red Cross located in Topsham but I have received no reply as of yet. I also chatted with a current member Matt Abbott and he has a connection with a couple of medical professionals and he is seeking their input or guidance about possibly the next steps should be for us.

I would really like to see TTR consider our options about enhancing CPR training! I am hoping that Stephanie Burnham will be able to continue researching this for the club.

UPDATE: Tim Williams offered to bring this to Stephanie's attention.

### **CarPort (Canvas Covering our Storage Unit)**

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The tent is starting to present a few holes in it and we should consider replacing it before winter. Late last week I had a vendor visit the tent with me. He said he would be happy to create a slightly more durable cover that would probably cost us more than we might be looking to spend at this moment. He inquired if we had given any thought of possibly adding metal siding to it.

Two years ago, we purchased a replacement canopy for around \$250.00. I will continue to complete a little more research on options that the club should consider and will bring them before both the board and the general membership during our next meeting.

### **New Business:**

#### **Roadside Clean Up**

Jenny Little reminded everyone in attendance that Topsham Trailriders has scheduled a roadside clean up on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9 am. The meeting location to kick off this event will be the dirt parking lot located near the Nouria Gas station on Rt. 196 (211 Lewiston Road Topsham ME). Lunch will be provided. Jenny will also reach out to Warden Decker to notify of this event and inquire if he would like to help.

#### **American Legion Post 202 February Softball Tournament**

Jenny Little provided the following update:

I was recently contacted by a member of the American Legion Post 202 in regards to the upcoming 2025 Softball tournament. A reminder that earlier the Topsham Trailriders was contacted by the American Legion / 99.9 The Wolf asking if we would consider making a donation to their annual softball tournament to help bring the radio station to their event. The board voted and approved making a \$250.00 dollar donation. After that donation request the board discussed how the club should consider handling donation requests. It was our intention

to have added language to the club by-laws but unfortunately, the task got lost in our pile of other tasks.

My initial recommendation was to reach back to the American Legion to inform them that we would be happy to consider it upon receiving a letter from them.

UPDATE: During the meeting everyone agreed with Jenny's recommendation about seeking a letter from the Legion. Jenny will contact Bob from the Legion Post 202 to ask for a letter to be mailed.

### **Trunk or Treat – Town of Topsham**

Jenny Little shared that for the past couple of years Topsham Trailriders have participated in the Trunk or Treat Halloween event facilitated by the Parks and Recreation department from the Town of Topsham. We are assuming that we will soon be receiving information about this event from the Town of Topsham.

Tim Moody has been the point of contact with the Parks & Recreation Department at the town for the past two seasons. Tim, would you be interested in doing it again this year? Tim Moody will connect with the Parks & Recreation Department at the Town of Topsham for additional information.

### **Social Night**

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The next social night for the club is scheduled for Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. The social will be at Buffalo Wild Wings in Topsham. The restaurants appreciate 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**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at \_7:53\_\_pm was made by Harold Stoddard

Motion was accepted by Tim Williams

Was passed with no opposition

### **Upcoming Topsham Trailriders and WE ATV 207 events**

September 3rd - 5pm - Topsham Trailriders Tuesday Trail Work Party  
September 8th - 8:45 am - Topsham Trailriders Trail Work Party– West side Park and Ride  
September 10th - 5pm - Topsham Trailriders Tuesday Trail Work Party  
September 11th - 6pm - September Social Night- Buffalo Wild Wings in Topsham  
September 14th - 11am - Topsham Trailriders Membership drive at MOMS Topsham  
September 15th - 9am - Roadside Cleanup  
September 17th - 5pm - Topsham Trailriders Tuesday Trail Work Party  
September 21th - 8:45am - Topsham Trailriders Trail Work Party– East side  
September 24th - 5pm - Topsham Trailriders Tuesday Trail Work Party  
September 28th - 9:45am - Ride & Barbque Club Fundraiser  
September 29th - 6:30am - WE-ATV 207 & TTR head to Bridgton  
September 30th - 6:30pm - Regular Membership Meeting

Submitted  
Jessica Emmert  
08/01/2024

The August 2024 minutes were approved with no edits during the September 30th meeting. JLL