

Topsham Trailriders July Meeting



Date: Monday, July 29th, 2024

Location: Topsham Fairgrounds, Topsham, ME 04086

Executive Board Present: Jenny Little

Tim Williams

Tim Moody

Jessica Emmert

Board of Directors Present: Michael Little

Charlie Parkinson

Sam Bulmer

Board of Directors Absent: Matt Nixon

James Belanger

Don Curtis

Brad Hoskins

Noah Herrick

Randy Bickford

Dan Parlin

Meeting Called to Order at: 6:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:53 pm

New Member Introductions were completed. Approximately 18 people attended the meeting and signed the attendance sheet.

Secretary's Report

Jessica Emmert emailed a copy of the June 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 Tim Williams 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:

Maine Summer Adventure Race

I recently heard from the facilitators of the Maine Summer Adventure Race (aka The Strong Race) and they said everything went very well. The event occurred during the overnight hours from July 13th into July 14th . They were very pleased and appreciated our help. Although not necessary but since they used our trails they have made a donation to the club. Their donation is very much appreciated and will help us maintain our trails.

Topsham Fair – Volunteer Sign-Up

The Topsham Fair is approaching rather quickly. The Fair is scheduled from Tuesday, August 6 th to Sunday, August 11 th . Topsham Trailriders is generously allowed to use the Exhibition Hall to host our meetings in exchange of us cleaning some areas during the Fair. The areas that we are responsible to clean up the trash are the grand stands, pulling ring, and the Exhibition Hall. A volunteer sign-up sheet has been emailed a handful of times out to the members to help acquirer volunteers for each evening. Thank you to the folks who have signed up but we are in serious need of volunteers for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Remember that signing up to volunteer you will receive a voucher to get in each evening! If you know this evening that you are able to help please feel free and let me know. I am happy to complete the registration for you. Otherwise, when the minutes are sent out they will once again include the link for the volunteer sign up.

Please review the available slots below by clicking on the link below and sign up when you can:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BA4A822A0F4C34-49996756-topsham>

Municipal Grant Update

A reminder that Topsham Trailriders was awarded a municipal grant in the amount of \$37,500. I am hopeful that in the near future that Bursey Enterprises will be allowed to complete his work on the trail. This is only the second year that TTR has utilized a municipal grant and each time we seem to learn something about the entire process. Last year we learned about the reimbursement process and this year we learned how to acquire permission from CMP. For those who are interested and in very general terms we learned that we needed to complete a CMP trail maintenance application with the Bureau Parks and Lands who sends it off to CMP for review.

Ride for a Cure

For the past few years a non-profit called Ride for a Cure has been hosting a grand event in Ellsworth. Perhaps you have heard of it. The event occurs the first Sunday in October and has been held in Ellsworth. Their main focus is to raise funds for Beth C Wright Foundation out of Ellsworth, Christine B Foundation in Bangor, and Team Hailey Hugs in Bethel. Earlier this year during the Sportsman Show in Augusta, Brandy Marchetti, the committee chair for Ride for Cure, had a discussion about their 5 th year anniversary which is scheduled to occur in October of 2025. Brandy has heard from folks that they would love to support Ride for a Cure but they

often can't make the first Sunday in October or make it to Ellsworth. During the Sportsman Show in Augusta, Brandy and I had a discussion about their upcoming 5 th year anniversary which is scheduled to occur in October of 2025. She shared with me that she has been exploring the possibility of hosting another Ride for a Cure in perhaps a more Southern Region. She inquired

if Topsham might be interested in hosting the grand event! We reviewed the October 2025 calendar and would love to have this event scheduled on the official 5th anniversary of the Ride for Cure which is Saturday, October 18th.

The reason I am bringing this up during this meeting is to get the club's approval. Would Topsham Trailriders be interested in creating a Ride for the Cure committee and begin planning for this grand event? This event would become our last official in-town club event for 2025 if approved.

UPDATE: During the meeting folks made mention that we do have parking that could accommodate this event and we should also contact the Town about possibly working with us for road crossings. Kyle made mention that he would be willing to make a flag for this event and Rick also mentioned that it would be a great opportunity to do another TTR event shirt.

Motion was made by Tim Williams to approve the October 18 th , Ride for Cure event in Topsham.

Motion Accepted by Kyle McComiskey

Was passed with no opposition

Treasurer Report

Tim Moody reported that as of 07/25/2024, we had \$510.00 in the cash box and a balance of \$2,286.37 in the checking account and \$8,323.44 the savings account. Tim also provided an update of the apparel account which now has a balance \$1,535.27. He also shared that the food events account currently has a balance of \$2,043.73. The account pertaining to Events/Raffles has a balance of \$2,890.74.

Motion was made by Kyle McComiskey to approve the treasurer's report as provided on the agenda

Motion accepted by Tim Williams

Was Passed with No Opposition

Tim Moody abstained from the vote

Trail Master Update

Charlie provided 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 adding more crusher dust onto the mats which I anticipated would be needed.

West Side

The week prior to our 25 th anniversary night ride we held a few work parties on the West side to ensure the trails would be prepared. Given the volume of that evening the trails did fairly well.

Miscellaneous Trail Update

Charlie informed the club that he had purchased a trimmer for the club that cost \$150.00. Until the update at the meeting, we were not aware of this purchase.

UPDATE: A communication was sent to the trailmaster including the club treasurer to remind him of what is written in the by-laws by club expenditures.

Completing the Trailer Repairs and Putting Tires on Club Machine

Jenny Little provided the following update:

There are a couple of outstanding trailmaster tasks items that need to be completed which include finishing the trailer repair that we kicked off in June. And also, getting the tires placed on the club machine. Hopefully we can find a time this evening to help Charlie get these items completed since the maintenance will be done at his home. Below are designated times for each of the tasks:

Completing the Trailer Repairs

Vice President, Tim Williams, will be attending the work party on 7/30 and is planning on picking up the wood and trailer and will take care of getting the trailer maintenance completed.

Putting Tires on the Club Machine

A couple of members will be gathering at Charlie's house on 8/1 at 5 pm to finish the club trailer. Thank you to those members for stepping up to help Charlie.

UPDATE: This has been completed.

Upcoming Trail Work Parties:

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 August with Tuesday, August 6th being optional. August 6th we will be busy working at the Topsham Fair cleaning but some members may opt to head to the trails for cleanup. Otherwise, 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 th

Ride: 10 am

Meal: 12 pm

I propose that we keep the cost for the event at \$20.00 per person / or \$50.00 per family (2 adults & 2 children). The cost would include both the ride and the meal being provided. Does the club agree?

UPDATE: The club approved the pricing for this year's event.

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. We will be sending out the sign up to solicit food donations in early August. Every donation we receive for this event minimizes the club's expenses so we thank you for your help! The BBQ committee is seeking approval of \$500.00 to facilitate this event. This will include operating costs and possibility of purchasing some food items such as the pork butts. Please note that last year (2023) our expenses were \$213.77 and in 2022 the expenses were \$310.65.

Motion was made by Kyle McComiskey to approve the BBQ's Committees request to spend up to \$500.00 to help plan this event

Motion accepted by Tim Williams

Was Passed with No Opposition

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.

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

UPDATE: Phil Rawl made a suggestion to reach out to Market Basket to ask them if they might be interested in making a donation for this event. Jenny has offered to look into this on behalf of the club.

Apparel Committee

Jenny provided the following update:

The apparel committee continues to be extremely busy. As you may remember In the middle of June we were able to officially launch our digital store and our initial priority was to get the 25th Anniversary clothing added to the store. It is with much excitement that I share with you since the launching of the store well over 20 orders have been placed. When Tim went to GotVinyl to pick up and pay for the club shirts that we had ordered for the night ride he received a check in the amount of \$299.00. Remember that all orders that are placed online we receive a portion of the sales. Outstanding!

I should note that the 20 shirts and 5 hats we purchased cost us \$400.00. Our work will continue because now we will work on creating the traditional TTR shirts with our business sponsors on the back. Those will be added to the store along with a few additional items. If you haven't visited the store recently here is the link:
<https://www.gotvinyl207.com/topsham-trailriders!>

Maine Sportsman Show Committee

Jenny provided the following update on behalf of the committee:
There is nothing new to report at this time.

Ride Coordinator Update

Mike Little provided the following update:
Thank you to the folks who joined us in Madawaska. Our fearless leader Real did not disappoint again this year. We were able to put on some miles and see some beautiful scenery. Our first ride in August is scheduled for Saturday, August 3rd. We will be riding the new Kennebec Valley Trail from Fairfield to Bingham. For this event I am happy to meet anyone at the Topsham McDonald's but please note that I am leaving promptly at 7:00 am. Parking is going to be tight for this event but the Trailmaster for Central Maine ATV Club has worked his magic and received special permission for our event and will be opening up a lot for us tomorrow when they bushhog it. We will be heading to that park and ride and the address will be communicated via email tomorrow (7/30) once we receive it from Central Maine ATV club. Please remember to bring a bagged lunch and extra fuel if you are concerned about your fuel consumption.

Here are the other rides scheduled for August:

Friday, August 9th to Sunday, August 11th – Out of Town Ride in New Hampshire
Scheduled riding on Saturday and Sunday only at this time. Remember that this ride requires a New Hampshire registration.
Saturday, August 17th – Central Maine ATV Club's Glow Ride
Saturday, August 24th – Hailey's Wind Tower Ride in Roxbury
Don't forget that this event will be collecting legos so please consider bringing a set or two.

UPDATE: Motion was made by John Bursley for the club to purchase up to \$100 dollars of Legos for Hailey's Wind Tower Ride on 8/24
Motion accepted by Phil Rawl
Was Passed with No Opposition

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 these events, please do not hesitate in reaching out to either myself or

the club. And as always if anyone would like to receive a copy of the riding schedule, please see me.

Update from the Membership Chair

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

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

Total Number of Memberships: 109

Business Sponsors: 10

Of the XXX Number of Memberships;

They can be broken down to:

91 Regular Members

61 ATV Maine Members

19 MSA Members

10 Honorary Members

6 Associate Members

Old Business:

25th Anniversary of TTR

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Our 25th Anniversary Night Ride on July 20 th went very well. The board and I would like to thank all of the businesses and members helped to make this event a HUGE success. We couldn't do what we do as a club without your help and support. We had over 50 machines and over 75 people in attendance! As someone said on social media, "You know it was a great event when the ATV lights run as far as you can see!"

During this event we raised \$1,795.29!

Event Breakdown:

Gift Card/Raffle: \$390.00

Misc Donations: \$15.29

Pizza Table: \$268.00

Apparel Table: \$292.00

Registrations: \$750.00

50/50: \$80.00

Expenses Breakdown:

Soda: \$58.00 +/-

Balloons: \$21.00 +/-

Pizza: \$314.23

Ice: \$21.00 +/-

Everyone should be proud of how well it went.

Landowner Appreciation

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Since our last meeting we have received an official copy of all of the TTR landowners from Trailmaster Charlie. Jessica Emmert and Jenny are working on getting the cards purchased. However, there is one thing we need your help with tonight. We've printed a thank you like TTR logo/letter and we kindly ask that each of you sign it before leaving. We will be copying this and including in the landowner packets that we will hopefully be soon mailing out.

UPDATE: During our meeting next month we will have the sign out again to acquire additional signatures.

Moxie Days Parade

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Despite having to make a last minute change to our pre-parade meeting location the event went exceptionally well. The weather certainly cooperated and a fun time was had by all! By a show of hands should the club consider doing the parade again next year?

UPDATE: The general consensus from the club is to make the Moxie Days Parade an annual tradition.

TTR Tent Set-Up for the Topsham Fair

During the Topsham Fair each year we put a up a tent to serve as a meeting point for nightly clean up. Tim Moody chatted with Leon Brilliant from Topsham Fair and they have agreed to allow us the same location as last year.

The plan is to set up the TTR tent on Sunday, August 4 th at 10 am. We will need just a couple of volunteers to help with this. Is there anyone here at the meeting who would be able to help setup the tent? Charlie? Mike?

UPDATE: Due to weather, the tent set up has been postponed to August 5th at 5pm. Same location.

New Business:

Elections

As a reminder our annual meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 28 th which during this meeting we will hold the annual elections for club officers and board positions. It may be a little early but according to the by-laws during our next meeting (August) we would be creating a nomination/elections committee if necessary to help facilitate the nominations that occur in September. All of the positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and the 5 Board Positions) are elected annually. It always in a clubs best interest to avoid volunteer burnout or to prevent a club from becoming stagnant to see new folks join the board. If anyone has any interest, please either let myself or any member of the board know.

ATVing Santa

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 maybe looking at doing the same type of event with a few small changes and would like to inquire if Topsham Trailriders would be interested in helping once again. Is the club in favor of participating in this event again? Mr. & Mrs. Claus do not officially know the date yet but they will soon know.

A motion was made by Kyle McComiskey for Topsham Trailriders to once again assist with the ATVing event in Bath.

Motion accepted by Tim Williams

Was passed with no opposition

UPDATE: Kyle McComiskey offered to once again make a themed ornament for this event and it was recommended to check in with Pauline McKenney to inquire if she would be interested in knitting a few things.

TTR Clubhouse

Jenny Little provided the following update:

I've said it before and I'll say it again. If you have a club related idea please know you are encouraged and welcomed to bring before us. I recently heard a fantastic idea from Jessica Emmert. Here is one of these ideas that I think it is worth seriously pursuing. Jess would you like to tell us a little more about your thought?

Topsham Trailriders has been riding all over the state and on more than one occasion we've seen clubs with beautiful clubhouse. As we end our 25 th Anniversary year Jess would like to see the club seriously look into getting a clubhouse for TTR. It would be great if the club house had trail access along with the option of storing our items. During the meeting Jess acquired names of anyone who would be interested in joining the committee.

The members who offered to join this committee are:

Jenny Little

Jessica Emmert

Matt Nixon (by Jenny Little)

Katherine Race

Tim Moody

If you would like to join this committee, please contact Jessica Emmert or send an email to topshamtrailriders@gmail.com.

It was also mentioned that the committee might wish to contact the Vocational School to

explore the possibilities with them.

Social Night

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The next social night for the club is technically scheduled for August 7th . However, we do not have a restaurant booked for this because we will be working at the Topsham Fair that week. This month all are invited to come to the Topsham Fair to support them for the evening.

Open Member Comment

First Aid / CPR Training

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 Jenny wants to check with the club's trail coordinator to find out if liability shifts if its club members take this type of course.

Car Port (Canvas Covering our Storage Unit)

Jenny Little shared with the group that she has been to the TTR storage tent where all the gear is stored recently. She noticed that the tent is starting to present a few holes in it and we should consider replacing it before winter. Jenny will complete some research and review options to present to the board in the near future.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm was made by Michael Little

Motion was accepted by Tim Williams

Was passed with no opposition

August 6th - Topsham Trailriders Trail Work Party 5pm- Tentative

August 9th 5pm- WE-ATV & TTR Ride in New Hampshire

August 13th 5pm - Topsham Trailriders Trail Work Party 5pm

August 20th 5pm - Topsham Trailriders Trail Work Party 5pm

August 24th - WE ATV 207 & TTR's Ride in Roxbury 7am

August 26th - Regular Monthly Meeting- Topsham Fairgrounds at 6:30pm

August 27th - Topsham Trailriders Trail Work Party 5pm

Submitted

Jessica Emmert

08/04/2024

The July 2024 minutes were approved with no edits during the August 26th meeting. JLL