

Topsham Trailriders May Meeting



Date: Monday, May 27th, 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
Charlie Parkinson
Sam Bulmer
Dan Parlin

Board of Directors Absent: Matt Nixon
James Belanger
Don Curtis
Brad Hoskins
Noah Herrick

Meeting Called to Order at: 6:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:41 pm

Member Introductions were completed. Approximately 27 people attended the meeting and signed the attendance sheet.

Secretary's Report

Jessica Emmert emailed a copy of the April 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 Dan Parlin
- Was passed with no opposition

President's Remarks

During the meeting Jenny Little provided updates on the following:

Memorial Day Parade

It is important to remember those who served our country and why we participated in the parade today! Thank you to all of the folks who joined us today for the Topsham / Brunswick Memorial Day Parade. We had a great turnout with 21 machines in attendance despite the weather.

Maine Summer Adventure Race

A reminder that the Maine Summer Adventure Race is scheduled for Saturday, July 13th and will continue through the overnight hours into Sunday, July 14th. This year the races will be starting at Brunswick Landing and eventually will be crossing into Topsham in the late-night hours of Saturday, July 13th before ending in Pownal on Sunday morning. They reached out to us because they will be using the vast majority of our trails and wanted to seek the clubs approval. A letter will be sent to our landowners in the middle of June making them aware of this event.

ATV Maine /ATV Maine Banquet

On Saturday, May 4th, Tim Moody and Charlie Parkinson attended the ATV Maine Banquet held in Bangor. It gives me great pleasure to share with you that during the banquet Topsham Trailriders was awarded a 40v Skil Chainsaw which was the second-place award for the most volunteer hours completed in the 2023 season. To refresh everyone's memory we completed a total of 737.5 hours. How many hours did the first-place club remit? Answer: The Flagstaff ATV club remitted a total of 791.5. Just one small additional piece of information is there was a single volunteer who remitted a total of 439 hours! Impressive! Thank you to ATV Maine for their generosity and to all the volunteers who helped make this award possible!

Maine ATV/UTV Expo

Earlier this month the Maine ATV/UTV Expo was held at the Cross Insurance Arena in Bangor. It was the first year this expo was held so it did not have sell out attendance but they are optimistic that next year will be different.

CMPS Volunteer Appreciation 2.0

In the past CMPS (aka Central Maine Powersports Trail Fund) has awarded a \$200 certificate to any volunteer who completed at least 40 hours of trail maintenance. Since our last meeting I noticed a post on the CMPS program that they are launching an adapted version of the volunteer certificate program. ATV club volunteers from central or western Maine are eligible to be entered to win one of seven \$500.00 CMPS gift certificate. Club trail masters with help from other officers must provide the time sheets for volunteers who complete 40 hours or more. This program is open to any club within three hours of Lewiston. Good news – Topsham is in that range! We will be sure to enter in all volunteers who complete those hours!

Topsham Fair – Volunteer Sign-Up

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. We will once again use SignUpGenius to help coordinate the scheduling for Topsham Fair in large part because it can be remitted to all club members. It is an added bonus that it also handles reminders too. The sign up link will be remitted to each club member in early June so please continue to check your emails and sign up for one shift or two. As a reminder the 2024 Topsham Fair is Tuesday, August 6th to Sunday, August 11th.

Winter Meeting Location

Last winter we held the meetings scheduled for November, January, February and March in the Community Room at the library in Topsham. The cost for each use was \$20.00 a meeting. A reminder that they are not open late on Monday's so to accommodate their schedule our meeting date was changed to Tuesday for those meetings. I have already asked to have us penciled in for this coming winter season. There is one small hiccup – the library will soon have a new director and will be managed a little differently than it is now so I will follow up in early August for this location.

I think it would be in our best interest to review some other options. I have reached out to the Police and Fire Departments inquiring if they have a community room in their building. I will also reach out to Curtis Memorial Library. Any other locations that might want to explore?

UPDATE: During the meeting a member suggested that we look into the American Legion in Topsham.

Treasurer Report

Tim Moody reported that as of 05/23/2024, we had \$510.00 in the cash box and a balance of \$4,314.79 in the checking account and \$11,752.50 the savings account. Tim also provided an update of the apparel account which now has a balance \$1,371.15. He also shared that the food events account currently has a balance of \$2,089.78. The account pertaining to Events/Raffles has a balance of \$1,575.33.

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

Trail Master Update

Charlie provided the following update:

East Side Trails

The trails are open on the east and are looking fairly good. We have some minor issues which include a hole near the pond, along with needing to perhaps add some more gravel to the mats hill hopefully soon.

West Side Trails

The trails are now open as of 05/26/2024 on the west side. The west side still needs some critical work but we are awaiting the approval letter for our municipal application to create an appropriate plan of action. Ideally we would like to allow our contractor to take care of a lot of the work that is needed. There is one bridge that needs to be added but we will wait for the approval letter to determine our course of action.

During the most recent work party some of the members hauled dirt into a corner that is extremely soft and muddy. The trail master is hoping that the extra dirt would help the corner. Some of the members would like to see stone of some kind added into this corner to prevent unnecessary wear and tear.

Trailer Tire Repair

During a recent trail work one of the club trailer tires blew out and needs to be replaced.

A motion was made by Jenny Little to allow the club to spend near \$300 to replace both of the trailer tires. If the amount exceeds \$300 the trail master will reach out to the board members.

Motion was accepted by Tim Williams

Was passed with no opposition

Trail Work Parties Lunch

As a token of appreciation to the volunteers who attend our trail work parties we would like to occasionally provide lunch to them.

A motion was made by Dan Parlin to allow for lunch to be purchased by the club during any trail work party

Motion was accepted by Gene Piche

Was passed with no opposition

Upcoming Trail Work Parties:

Sunday, June 2nd at 9 am (Ready to work at 9)

West Side Work Party

The work party will be on our West side. The work party will include cutting brush back on the entire west side trail system.

Please arrive and be ready to work before 9 am. We will be meeting at dirt parking lot located next to the dirt parking lot located near 211 Lewiston Road in Topsham. Please bring your machine, brush cutters, shovels, and a positive attitude!

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

The two parties listed below are dependent of our grant approval. An email will be sent out to the members once we know more.

Saturday, June 15th at 9 am (Ready to work at 9)

****VERY IMPORTANT TTR WORK PARTY WEEKEND****

West Side Work Party No. 1

Plan: This is an important trail work party. There is a bridge that needs to be built and to minimize trail access interruption we will be hosting two parties in one weekend. While the work is being completed, we will need to temporarily shut down the trail that we are building the bridge on.

Unfortunately, there is no other way around the area. Our apologies for the inconvenience this may cause but this work is mission critical.

When: **On Saturday, June 15th at 9am** - we will be hauling in the concrete to the bridge location, filling the forms, and hauling in the lumber for the bridge.

Where? Meeting at the end of Branch Road in Topsham ME 04086

What can I bring? Bring your ATV, drill, chain saw, yourself and a positive attitude!

We could use all the help we can get as many hands makes light work!

The Facebook event and website event will be updated with additional details.

West Side Work Party No. 2

Plan: Continue bridge work from previous day

When: **Sunday, June 16th at 9 am (Ready to work at 9)**

Where: Meeting at the end of Branch Road in Topsham ME 04086

What can I bring: Bring your ATV, drill, chain saw, yourself and a positive attitude!

We could use all the help we can get as many hands makes light work!

Additionally, the work party may include but not limited to riding the trails for inspection, cutting brush back and clearing any fallen trees.

The Facebook event and website event will be updated with additional details as the date gets closer.

Committee Updates

Apparel Committee

Jenny provided the following update:

Great news the results were tabulated and we will now work on getting items created. Over the past couple of years, I have been listening to what folks are seeking for gear from the club. The suggestions have included different colors, simpler shirts, flags, 25th Anniversary gear, and creating bundles. It is hard to accomplish all of those items and keep in mind that promo material changes so quickly. My recommendation is that the club consider breaking down and prioritizing appropriately. The first item that I am

seeking feedback on this evening is – suggestions of items to purchase to honor our 25th Anniversary other than the traditional t-shirts, stickers, hats, and sweatshirts. One item that comes top of mind for me are TTR flags.

The discussion amongst all of the club members agreed that acquiring shirts, hats and TTR flags for the upcoming July night ride is priority. Pauline McKinney will help Jenny look into getting prices prepared. Dan Parlin shared with the group that in the past we've used Bob the Screen Printer in Windham and we should follow up with him.

UPDATE: Jessica Emmert is going to contact Bob the Screen Printer to gather more information.

During this meeting we did not motion for any money but rather to contact the board once we have more concrete numbers for pricing.

UPDATE: Since the meeting Jessica Emmert and Cici Eberle will help Jenny and Pauline too.

Maine Sportsman Show Committee

Jenny provided the following update on behalf of the committee:

The State of Maine Sportsman Show is offering a small discount to vendors who opt to register and pay in full for the 2025 show. The deadline is the beginning of November. I reached out to Peter at MOMS and they have once again offered to sponsor our booth. Thank you to MOMS Topsham! Save the dates for the 2025 show which are March 28th to March 30th.

UPDATE: Tim Moody asked Jenny to remit the completed registration form and he will take care of sending the form and a check to the Sportsman Show to get us officially registered for next year.

Jenny will follow up with Peter at MOMS about the check he is having made for the Sportsman Show.

Ride Coordinator Update

Mike Little provided the following update:

Here it is folks the first ride of the season! I want to take a few moments to discuss the first event is the out-of-town ride scheduled for this coming Saturday, June 1st. We are riding from Pittsfield to Greenville. Consider yourself warned this evening that the event will have large turnout so if you don't like large crowds, you are welcome to join us on the next ride! I will be heading to Pittsfield very early on June 1st so I will not be

able meet the group at the Topsham McDonalds at 6:45 am. We will be driving at a fairly quick pace to ensure we arrive in Greenville around lunch time.

A reminder that we will be departing at 8:30 am so don't be late. Please remember that this event is a memorial ride for Ken Snowdon and lunch is being prepared by the Moosehead ATV Riders and Moosehead Motorsports! Minimum \$10 CASH donations will be collected for Moosehead ATV Riders to honor all that Ken did for the sport and for Moosehead!

Here are the other rides scheduled for June:

Saturday, June 8th – House in the Woods Benefit ride in Oxford

Saturday, June 15th – Important TTR West Side Work Party No. 1

Sunday, June 16th – Important TTR West Side Work Party No. 2

Friday, June 21st to Sunday, June 24th – Out of Town Ride in Lincoln

As a reminder, all of our 2024 ATV 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 May 22nd, 2024, TTR has the following for club memberships:

Total Number of Memberships: 152

Business Sponsors: 10

Of the 152 Number of Memberships;

They can be broken down to:

132 Regular Members

87 ATV Maine Members

28 MSA Members

10 Honorary Members

9 Associate Members

A reminder that annual club membership dues were due by the end of April. Please consider renewing either during our events, social nights, mailing it in, or during our meetings. Please be kind and when you complete your membership forms, please either type them out or print as to make them legible.

Prior to the monthly meeting the board met to review memberships who have not yet renewed. Please do not be alarmed when next month the number drops off significantly from this month.

TTR is always looking to grow and expand and with your help we would love to see 200 members this year! Please spread the word of all the good things TTR is doing and would like to do! If everyone current club member took one membership to a friend, we would easily double our current 145 members!

Old Business

25th Anniversary of TTR

Jenny Little provided the following update:

A reminder that our 25th Anniversary ride is scheduled for Saturday, July 20th at 5:00 pm. The ride is scheduled to occur on our West side and stands to possibly draw a large crowd. This event stands to be a great opportunity for TTR to raise fund for our trail maintenance projects. In regards to food for this event I have been trying for close to a year to acquire a food truck for this event and this task has proven to be extremely difficult. I would like to recommend to the club that we keep it simple and offer pizza and soda. How does everyone feel about that?

UPDATE: All members who attended the meeting this evening were in agreement to explore doing pizza for our night ride in July.

We are working on getting special TTR gear for this event but there is nothing additional to report at this time.

During this event I would like to pool together a gift card raffle that we could facilitate as an opportunity raise additional funds. Similar to the sportsman show raffle I will be sending out an email with a link to all members seeking gift card donations. The idea is to have each of the gift cards received to be in \$25.00 increments. Any and all cards will be greatly appreciated.

During our next meeting (June) we will circulate a sign-up to help facilitate this event. However, if you have an interest in helping and know that you will be there please let me know and I'll get your name added to the list.

House in the Woods Benefit Ride

Jenny Little provided the following update:

We are quickly approaching our House in the Woods Benefit ride. A reminder that the event is scheduled for Saturday, June 8th and is hosted by Oxford Trail Ryders in Oxford.

I'm sure everyone already knows that because everyone has either heard the radio ads or seen it on social media. Binnie Media will continue to promote the House in the Woods event up until the day of the event. The cost to participate in this event is \$10.00 per participant and all registration and 50/50 proceeds will be donated to House in the Woods. We will be departing from the park and ride located on the Number Six Road in Oxford at 3 pm. If you are attending, please remember to pack yourself a bagged lunch.

There are many pieces that go into a successful event. There is a volunteer sign-up sheet circulating this evening. I would love it if we could fill in a large part of the sheet. If not, I will remit an email to all members seeking additional volunteers. If you are interested in helping during the event, please contact me (Jenny).

Also, folks should pre-register for this event. A link will be included in your minutes for easy access to register. LINK IS: <https://forms.gle/9845Zexfxw4DzMGP6>. Or, if you wish to register right away please navigate to our website which is www.topshamtrailriders.com and click on the register link at the top of the page.

I hope everyone is just as excited as I am about this! Having 99.9 The Wolf promote this event is such a HUGE added benefit!

Landowner Appreciation

Jenny Little provided the following update:

There is nothing more to report about this at this time. We will revisit this during our next meeting. Before our next meeting in June I would love to receive suggestions of something the club might be able to do to thank our generous landowners. Please either email me at topshamtrailriders@gmail.com or call me at 207-837-7328.

UPDATE: During the meeting Jessica Emmert thought it might be worth looking into perhaps purchasing a gift card for Irving. We will discuss this further in future upcoming meetings.

Moxie Days Parade

Jenny Little provided the following update:

A sign-up sheet is being circulated this evening in hopes of determining how many will be joining us. The parade is scheduled for Saturday, July 13th. We will be partnering up this year with the Riverside Trailriders to ride our machines in the parade. For this event the club needed to provide proof of insurance so we could officially register Topsham Trailriders for the parade. In order to be able to participate with us you will need to be a member of Topsham Trailriders.

We will continue to gather names of folks for only a little while longer so please let me know as soon as possible if you will be joining us.

UPDATE: Banners celebrating TTR's 25th anniversary will be created for this and future events. Jenny and Mike Little offered to purchase one and Bob and Cici Eberle might be willing to do the same depending on cost.

New Business

Social Night

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The next social night for the club has been confirmed and is scheduled for Wednesday, June 12th at 6 pm. It is being held at Fairground Cafe in Brunswick. The restaurant needs 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.

Upcoming TTR Events

June 8th - TTR & OTR's Ride to Benefit House in the Woods for Veterans- 2:30pm

June 12th- TTR June Social Night - Fairground Cafe, Topsham - 6:00pm

June 15th - TTR Trail Work Party (Tentative pending grant funds) – West Side– 8:45am

June 16th - TTR Trail Work Party (Tentative pending grant funds) – West Side– 8:45am

June 21st-23rd - TTR & WE-ATV 207 Ride in Lincoln Area- See ride schedule for further details

June 24th - Regular Monthly Meeting- Topsham Fairgrounds at 6:30pm

June 29th - TTR & WE-ATV 207 Rides in China - See ride schedule for further details

Submitted

Jessica Emmert

06/03/2024

The May 2024 minutes were approved with no edits requested during the June 24, 2024 meeting.
JLL 06.25.2024