

TOPSHAM TRAILRIDERS NEWSLETTER

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JULY 2023



Boy Scout Troop 202

OFFICERS

Topsham Trailriders/ATV/Snowmobile Club

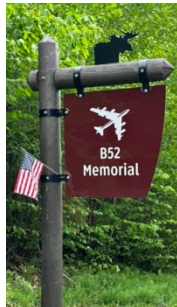
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Notes from our President - Jenny Little

Hello Trailriders,

Despite the soggy weather we've received during the month of June we've kicked off the 2023 ATV season with a bang. The first out of town club ride which was the Pittsfield to the B52 site had a huge turnout of 46 machines.

With the event drawing such a crowd we considered ourselves lucky when it rained just before the event and sprinkled throughout the remainder of the day to help keep the dust down! Next year we will request for the temperature to be a little warmer.

I'm happy to share that our first in-town club event which was a benefit ride for House in the Woods that occurred on June 17th was a huge success. Even with the heavy rain we received that day Topsham Trailriders was able to raise \$1,300 for the organization. We would like to thank the Topsham Fair for allowing us the use of their pulling ring to host our event. We were very appreciative to have a roof over our heads which allowed us the ability to continue on with the event as scheduled. We would also like to thank the local Boy Scout Troop 202 for their participation in the opening ceremony of the event.

As always be safe and hope see you on the trails!



Join us for a pot luck social night at the home of our long

time members Randy and Marcia Bickford. It is scheduled for Wednesday, July 12th. They have kindly opened up their backyard and have offered to host TTR's July social night. It is important to note to everyone who is planning on attending that you will need to bring a dish ready to serve and share. Suggested food items include but not limited to: pizza, wings, kielbasa, salads, buffalo chicken dip, finger sandwiches, chili, and meatballs. We would like to provide our host with a headcount of how many that will be joining us so please mark if you are coming and what dish you will be bringing in an effort to prevent duplicates.

This event is weather dependent so as it gets closer please check back for updates.

We do our socials on the second Wednesday of the month. All are welcome to come and enjoy a good meal and good conversation!



June's Social Night was held at the Fairground Café in Topsham— Thanks go out to Sara and Mary for opening up just for us! Good Times!



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**EVENTS****ATVing/Snowmobiling**

June 26th — TTR Monthly Meeting at 6:30 pm with the Board meeting at 6 pm. A reminder that this month the meeting is being held at the Topsham Fair Exhibition Hall.

July 1st— Rumford ATV Ride

July 12th – TTR's July Social Night at Marcia & Randy Bickford's home—Pot Luck!

July 14th to 17th– Moosehead ATV Ride

July 22nd – Topsham & Oxford Night ATV Ride in Oxford

July 29th — Temple ATV Ride

July 31st — TTR Monthly Meeting at 6:30 pm with the Board meeting at 6 pm. A reminder that this month the meeting is being held at the Topsham Fair Exhibition Hall.

Please read the Ride Coordinator article for more details!

DRIVE SAFELY ON TRAILS**House in the Woods Benefit Ride in Topsham, Maine**

Topsham Trailriders held a benefit ride for House in the Woods located in Lee, Maine on Saturday, June 17th. Despite the weather Topsham had 20 machines in attendance and it is with great pleasure that we announce were able to raise \$1,300 for House in the Woods.

We held a raffle during the event yesterday which generated around \$300 of our grand total. The raffle was created from donations received from members and non-members as well as a business. Thank you to John Hibbard, Michael Little, Darcey Emery, Tim Maddocks, Jacqueline Kassebaum, and Bootleggers Beverage Warehouse.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to both the Topsham Fair for allowing us to use their Pulling Ring as well as the Boy Scouts Troop 202 from Topsham. The Scouts assisted in kicking off this event and we can't thank them enough.

This entire event wouldn't be possible though without the great crew of volunteers we have working behind the scenes to prep the trails, organize the events, and work the tables. So thank you to everyone who contributed to help make this event extra special.

If you were not able to attend yesterday and would still like to make a donation you may navigate to the website for House in the Woods (<http://www.houseinthewoods.org>).

Ride Coordinator Write Up for July Newsletter

The season has officially begun! Even when rain is forecasted our rides have been very well attended. We appreciate everyone who has already come out to join us during one of June rides. I am happy to say that there are other events scheduled for July which include day trips and an overnight trip.

We will hopefully kick off July with a ride in Rumford on Saturday, July 1st. The Rumford trails are temporarily closed because of the large amount of rain that they have received. If we are not able to ride there, we will be sure to replace it with another location. Continue to check either Facebook or our website for updates.

Later in the month, beginning on Friday, July 14th to Monday, July 17th we will be heading to the Moosehead Lake area and spend the weekend riding in that area. Please check the website or Facebook event for motel options if you would like to join us all weekend.

Our next adventure, is scheduled for Saturday, July 22nd where we will be heading to Oxford in a joint night ride with Oxford Trail Ryders. This event does have a coverage charge of \$10.00 per person because it is joint club fundraiser between Topsham Trailriders and Oxford Trail Ryders.

And finally on Saturday, July 29th, we will be hosting another out of town ride. For this event, we are heading to the Temple area. Bingham and the surrounding areas. I will be leaving from the Topsham McDonalds at 7:00 am and head to the Hannaford located at 15 Jay Plaza Lane. We will be leaving from the station at 8:45 am. Please pack both extra fuel and a bagged lunch.

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

As a reminder, all of our 2023 ATV events and trail work parties have been posted on our Facebook page so please check them out. As always if you would like to help during any of these events please contact me, Michael Little, Ride Coordinator, for Topsham Trailriders at 207-522-3780.



Mike Little

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Trailmaster
Charlie Parkinson
207-319-5142

The trail entrance to our west side trails is closed until further notice, this means that there is currently no access to the trails on the west side from or to the gas station due to landowner construction project.

The trails seem to be holding up reasonably well this year except for the Brigham trail with all the heavy rain we've had this spring and people not giving it time to dry out before riding. We would appreciate it if you would please refrain from using too speed on the trails, wet areas will only get worse the more people try to power through them so use 4-wheel drive and slow and steady power.

Please stay off the trails during and the day after heavy rains. This cuts down on the damage that has cost our club a lot of time and money to keep the Landowners happy. Please ride safely out there on or off our trails, fun is to be had without getting hurt. Enjoy the ride this summer and always respect the land to which you ride on and the landowners which allow us to ride.

Operating an ATV in wetlands, marshes, rivers, and streams is illegal in Maine.

Please stay on established trails if not we could lose the use of the trails all together. Please use Marked Bridges to cross WET, STREAM or Marsh areas on the trails. Failure to do so will result in sections of the trail being CLOSED permanently by landowners.

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN, TIME TO REGISTER YOUR MACHINES.

The registration number in the form of stickers issued by the commissioner must be clearly displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle. A registration is valid for one year commencing July 1st of each year, except that any registration issued prior to July 1st but after May 1st is valid from the date of issuance until June 30th of the following year. A person may not operate an ATV that is required to be registered under this section unless registration numbers are displayed in these spaces or as otherwise required by the department.

Permission required. A person may not operate an ATV on the land of another without the permission of the landowner or lessee. Permission is presumed on designated state approved ATV trails or in areas open to ATVs by landowner policy. A landowner may limit the use of a designated state-approved ATV trail on that landowner's property through agreements with the State or an ATV club to address environmental, public safety or management concerns. Written permission of the landowner or lessee is required on cropland or pastureland or in an orchard. As used in this subsection, "cropland" means acreage in tillage rotation, land being cropped and land in bush fruits, and "pastureland" means acreage devoted to the production of forage plants used for animal production.

THINK AND DRIVE

1. Make sure your registration is up to date. Properly attach your Registration stickers.
2. Check your helmet. Invest in a new one if it's damaged by any dents or cracks.
3. Give your ATV a twice-over. Check that all equipment, including brakes, lights, engine, and tires are in good condition and functioning properly.
4. Familiarize yourself with local regulations and bylaws regarding ATV usage.
5. Get your emergency kit ready to go, including any or all of the following: blanket, snacks/food, waterproof matches, a whistle, insect repellent and sunblock, a flashlight, spare fuel, tea or coffee, water/water purification tablets, duct tape, signal mirror, tool kit, first aid supplies, rope, flares, spare keys, a sharp knife, and/or compass.
6. If your children want to ride, ensure they have completed the ATV safety course. If you haven't ridden before or could just use a re-fresher, do the same. Don't let your children use adult-sized ATVs.
7. Consider taking a first aid course. It doesn't hurt to be prepared.
8. Get yourself in the mindset for a great riding season. Have fun!

Dirt bikes and UTV's over 65" wide are not allowed on CMP Property period. This is a CMP rule that the club has no control over. The following trails are on CMP property #1B, RACE TRACK, #1C, and #4 from RT.196 to RT.24. Any dirt bike or UTV over 65" caught on these trails will be charged with criminal trespass.

Landowners have the right to stipulate what can and cannot be operated on the trails that use their property. If these stipulations are not followed the club will lose the use of that landowners' property. Individuals damaging or abusing their property will result in the loss of all trails for everyone.

The Speed limit is 5 MPH on the Trail behind noria shell, this is to help the trail stabilize due to soft soil.

The Speed limit is 15 MPH in the power line behind the shop on rte. 196, if this speed limit is not followed the trail will be closed permanently.

The Speed limit in residential areas like Bay Park and Topsham Crossing is 15MPH to help keep dust and noise to a minimum.

All ATV trails are operated on privately owned land, individuals damaging or abusing their property will result in the loss of all ATV trails for everyone.

TRUCKS AND CARS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON ATV/SNOWMOBILE TRAILS IN THE STATE OF MAINE WITHOUT LANDOWNER PERMISSION.

RESPECT LANDOWNER'S - STAY ON MARKED TRAILS AND ONLY MARKED TRAILS AND OBEY ALL POSTED SIGNS. USE IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT. RIDE AT OWN RISK.

While riding please wear proper protective equipment and keep speeds at a safe level. Ride Smart, Ride Safe, Ride Sober. Again, if you're out on the trail please bring a pair of clippers or even a small saw to help cut back the new growth from the summer. Every snip helps.

Golden Rules for Safe ATV Operation

1. Always wear a helmet and other protective gear.
2. Never ride on public roads – another vehicle could hit you.
3. Never ride under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
4. Never carry a passenger on a single-rider vehicle.
5. Ride an ATV that's right for your age. The CPSC age/size guidelines are:

Age 6 and older	Under 70cc
Age 12 and older	70cc – 90cc
Age 16 and older	Over 90cc
6. Supervise riders younger than 16; ATVs are not toys.
7. Ride only on designated trails and at a safe speed.
8. Take an ATV Rider Course; to enroll call toll free (800) 887-2887.



Recent TTR trail work with help from many volunteers - Thank you!

MIDCOAST

GLASS & WINDOWS

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Student Representative

Tara Hoskins

The Board of Directors meet on the Last Monday of each month at 6:00 PM See our Facebook Page for Location!

******NOTICE******

This Newsletter is the official publication of the Topsham Trailriders ATV/Snowmobile Club Inc. 2003. WE MEET AT 6:30 PM ON THE LAST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH SEE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THE LOCATION OF OUR NEXT MEETING!

THE MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR A FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL IS \$35.00 A YEAR.

EDITOR - Daniel Parlin

ASST. EDITOR - Jenny Little

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Topsham Trailriders

PO Box 421

Topsham, Maine 04086

Our regular meetings will be the **LAST** Monday of each month.
We meet at the Topsham Fairground Exhibition hall at 6:30pm