

Topsham Trailriders August Meeting



Date: Monday, August 25th, 2025

Location: Exhibition Hall, Topsham Fairgrounds

Executive Board Present: Jenny Little

Tim Williams (by phone)

Tim Moody

Ashleigh Rolfson

Board of Directors Present: Michael Little

John Bursley

Sam Bulmer

Stephanie Burnham (by phone)

Cindy Sheain

Rick Emmert

Board of Directors Absent: Matt Nixon

Isaac Ruehl

James Belanger

Anika Emmert

Brad Hoskins

Meeting Called to Order at: 6:33 pm

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:59 pm

Approximately 25 people attended the meeting and signed the attendance sheet.

Secretary's Report

Ashleigh Rolfson emailed a copy of the July minutes to all club members. The club did receive one edit request via email. The member made us aware that in the Treasurer's report section it, Tim Moody was listed as abstaining from the vote but he was not present for the meeting. We will strike that line from the minutes. Another edit was requested during the meeting. In the

trail master section, there is mention of a metal hook connected to a rock but that is not correct. The rock has a hook shape.

Motion was made by Kyle McComiskey to approve the Secretary's report with the edits mentioned above

Motion Accepted by Ron Carey

Was passed with no opposition

President's Remarks

During the meeting Jenny Little provided updates on the following:

Exploring the Possibility of Reconnecting our East and West Side

The club is in the very early stages of talking with the town about regaining our permission to use Rt. 201 to kick off our reconnecting our two independent trail systems. I am excited to share that we've heard back from the Police Chief who chatted with a few other key town officials and they said when we do approach the selectboard they would speak in favor of exploring this option with a couple of contingencies. They did mention that they would prefer to see this tried for a year first. I was also made aware that we would need to connect with DOT because of the urban compact line.

As exciting as this sounds, we need to be realistic. One critical piece in this reconnection is having the West side reroute complete and ready for use.

West Side Reroute Update

Earlier this year, the club was notified of a landowner development project that resulted in the closure of one of our trails leaving the West side park-and-ride. While we fully respect the landowner's rights and decisions regarding their property, this closure required us to begin exploring a reroute option. The club has since filed the necessary paperwork with CMP and is currently awaiting a response. Our trail coordinator has been in direct communication with CMP to emphasize the urgency of this matter, and we are hopeful that a decision will be rendered in the coming weeks. In preparation, a crew has conducted scouting of the area. A portion of the potential reroute follows a previously established section, formerly known as Trail #3, and has been reviewed as a suitable option moving forward provided, we complete some basic maintenance to it.

The next step in this process will involve securing funding to support the project. As a reminder, the State of Maine voted in November 2024 in favor of Trail Bond Question #4, which passed. The first application round for the trail bond funding is due September 26nd, and the Board has

agreed to apply in an effort to obtain financial support for the reroute. If awarded, these funds would provide a significant opportunity to establish a sustainable trail from the start and open it for use by multiple user groups over the span of at least 2 years if not longer. Notification of funding awards is expected by November 1st.

In the meantime, work continues to prepare a complete application packet which needs to be delivered before September 26th. Additionally, Bursey is expected to visit the site within the next one to two weeks to explore the reroute opportunity and provide an early ballpark estimate of project costs which will be included in our grant application. Once CMP provides formal permission, the club will meet with the other landowner to finalize trail placement.

UPDATE: During the meeting it was mentioned that we have a few sections of board walk that need to be removed from trail 1. In an ideally situation we would be able to remove them from one section and relocate them to our new trail once and if we receive approval.

September 13th Scheduling Conflict

If you have reviewed the club's event calendar for the month of September you have noticed that the club is double booked on September 13th. At this moment we are scheduled to participate in the return of the Western Maine Toy Run as well as MOMS Topsham Open House, and I am tentatively scheduled to attend a Southern Maine meeting being facilitated by our trail coordinator.

We have been contacted specifically by MOMS Topsham to inquire if the club would be able to cook up some burgers and hot dogs that day. I informed Peter that we are double booked and that I would check with the group for a member who might be able to coordinate things with me for this event specifically. In the past, MOMS Topsham has been very generous and often purchased all of the supplies we use that day and I would assume that continue. Are there any volunteers here this evening who can 200% without a shadow of a doubt commit to helping make this happen?

UPDATE: At the end of the meeting, we had a few members volunteer to help during this event. Jenny will coordinate with those folks the week of the event. If anyone else is interested in helping during this event please let me know.

Upcoming Elections

Jenny Little provided the following update:

As a reminder our annual meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 27th. 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 our 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 has been 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!

Winter Meeting Location

A reminder that last year we relocated our meetings beginning in November and continued until March because the Exhibition Hall is used as a storage unit during the winter months. Earlier this year, we contacted the town and they have offered us the use of the Don Russell Board room located in the Municipal Building. I am merely mentioning this to get the location change on our radars!

UPDATE: It was decided during the meeting to make our annual meeting in October a pot luck meeting similar to what we did in April of this year. Both the Facebook and website event will be updated as well as having a sign-up document created to prevent too much of the same things.

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 July meeting.

Motion was made by Kyle McComiskey to approve the treasurer's report as provided at the meeting

Motion accepted by Ron Carey

Was Passed with No Opposition

Tim Moody abstained from the vote

Trail Master

Tim Williams provided the following update:

East Side

All of the trails on the East side are open and are still in fairly decent shape. The plan is to focus the work parties this month on the East side to prepare the trail system for our upcoming Ride for a Cure event in October.

West Side

All the trails that we have permission to use are still currently open and dry. Hopefully Bursey will be able to get out there sometime in the next couple of weeks.

Tuesday night work parties

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The Tuesday night work parties will continue until Tuesday, September 2nd.

Upcoming Trail Work Parties:

Tuesday, August 26th at 5 pm

West Side Work Party

Meeting Location: West Side Park and Ride

Tasks: Clean up the access trail leaving the park and ride

Tools: brush cutters, weedwhacker and water.

Tuesday, September 2nd at 5 pm

East side work party

Meeting Location: Meet at our East Side Park and Ride located at the entrance of the Mt. Ararat High School (68 Eagles Way, Topsham)

Tasks: We will be brushing back the trail system, cutting small stubs in the trail system, and completing a general inspection

Tools: Brush cutters, chain saws, machines, and plenty of water!

IMPORTANT WORK PARTY

Tuesday, September 27th at 5 pm

East side work party

Meeting Location: Meet at our East Side Park and Ride located at the entrance of the Mt. Ararat High School (68 Eagles Way, Topsham)

Tasks: We will be hauling small stone to the troubled spots mentioned during our recent East side state inspection

Tools: shovels, rakes, hoes, machines, trailer, and plenty of water!

UPDATE: Ron Carey has offered to bring his tractor to help load the trailers during this work party. Jenny will reach out to the landowner near the work party area to inquire if might be able to have some gravel delivered on his property as well as depart from his lot during this work party. Any updates will be made to the Facebook event as well as the website.

Committee Section:

BBQ Committee

Jenny provided the following update on behalf of the committee:

Since our last meeting the board and I chatted about our upcoming clubhouse fundraiser. While I know we had a member who is willing to step up to help facilitate this event, we feel this is a large undertaking. Our concern is that our energy might be better directed toward beginning to physically explore the west side reroute and preparing for what next spring will look like for TTR. We also need to keep focus and momentum building for our Ride for a Cure event on October 18th.

The board and I want to acknowledge that we already have ongoing fundraising efforts in place for the clubhouse, and the reality is we don't yet have a property secured. So, I'm not trying to diminish the clubhouse, we would just like to refocus our energies toward the priorities directly in front of us. We opted to cancel the clubhouse fundraiser scheduled for September 27th to give us the bandwidth to focus on the west side reroute and get the east side ready ahead of October.

Apparel Committee

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Since our last meeting, there has been progress with our apparel. I connected with Kim at Got Vinyl 207, and she was able to complete branding on the vest, which we have since received and used. In addition, the dual combo shirt (We-ATV 207 & TTR) has been added to our digital store. Kim and I are currently working on our TTR Crew shirt design. Please note that our digital store has been refreshed and is ready to accept any and all new orders. Here is the link:

<https://www.gotvinyl207.com/topsham-trailriders>.

Looking ahead to our Ride for a Cure event on October 18th, the question was raised whether we should consider purchasing a small supply of traditional TTR t-shirts and possibly sweatshirts

to have on hand at the event, or if we prefer to continue directing individuals to the digital store.

UPDATE: There was much discussion on what club apparel to order from Got Vinyl to replenish our apparel stock. The general consensus of the group was to order long sleeve shirts the following:

2 – 4XL

5 – 3XL

8 – 2XL

8 – XL

6 – L

2 -- M

Jenny will coordinate color selection with Got Vinyl.

Ashleigh is going to work on having our logo digitized so we can have some beanie hats made.

It was also suggested to explore having jackets added to the store. If you have other items that you would like to see added to the store, please let me know.

Maine Sportsman Show Committee

Jenny provided the following update on behalf of the committee:

Mark your calendar with the dates for next year's show:

Friday, March 27th

Saturday, March 28th

Sunday, March 29th

There is nothing new to report at this time.

Ride Coordinator Update

Mike Little provided the following update:

August was a jam packed month, and September is shaping up to be just as busy. Here's a look at what we have coming up:

Upcoming Rides

Saturday, August 30 – West Paris

- Some technical riding expected
- Pack a lunch

Saturday, September 6 – Baldwin with Saco River Riders

- Approx. 6 hours of riding (plan for a full day)
- Pack a lunch
- Consider extra fuel if you're concerned

September 19th–22nd – Houlton- Overnight Weekend

- Must have an ATV Maine sticker on your machine
- Should also belong to a club that supports the Irving Woodland area

Reminder: The club utilizes Polaris Ride Command on events we facilitate to help keep groups together. If you haven't signed up for this free app yet, it is a very useful tool and I would highly recommend it.

If you have any questions about 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

Rick Emmert provided the following update:

Here are the membership numbers as we stand today:

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

Ride for a Cure

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Summary of Ride for a Cure Meeting

Thursday, August 21st, 2025

Date for our Ride for a Cure ride is: October 18th, 2025

Event Location: Pulling Ring on the Topsham Fairgrounds (32 Community Way, Topsham ME)

Registration begins at 8:30 am

Drivers meeting at 9:30 am

Departure time 10 am

Cost: \$20 a machine

Only 56 days remain until our Ride for a Cure event. The Ride for a Cure Committee continues to meet on a regular basis and will soon be increasing their meetings to bi-weekly meetings to ensure we remain up to date on all of the details.

Some of the details include:

Ride for a Cure Digital Store

The Ride for a Cure Digital store is still active and accepting orders. Colleen heard from Kim that she's received 28 shirt orders thus far. A reminder that we will NOT have the special event shirts available for purchase the day of the event. I encourage everyone to navigate to the store to place an order ASAP.

Here is the link for the store: <https://www.gotvinyl207.com/ride-for-a-cure>

Also, if you place an order before October 1st the Ride for a Cure committee will coordinate a pick-up of orders to have available for pick up the day of the event. If you do place an order please either contact me directly or remit an email to topshamtrailriders@gmail.com to make us aware of your order.

If you have any questions, please contact me (Jenny Little) for further assistance.

Ride for a Cure Flyer

We have an event flyer unique to our event and we need your help to spread the flyers out in both our local community along with your local community. I've printed a few this evening and would like to ask you to take one with you to hang on a local community board.

Day of Event

There will be a variety of activities scheduled for that day. Some of the items include Face Painting, cornhole, giant jenga games, along with a local musician.

At this time China Four Seasons has generously paid the rental fee to acquire the Tilt Master (aka Hilltop Rocker) for the event. If you attended the Autism ride in Waterford you saw the Tilt Master first hand. The mission is to find that sweet spot when you balance the rocker. It is my understanding that no one has yet to conquer the Tilt Master! Challenge accepted – right?

During our recent committee meeting we discussed the Tilt Master in much more detail to devise an opportunity to have some fun with it along with raising a little extra funds for our event.

The committee has decided the following:

1. All participants who pre-register for the Topsham Ride for a Cure will receive one free ticket to try the Tilt Master.
2. Additional chances to try and conquer the Tilt Master can be purchased at the following cost:
 - a. One attempt is \$5.00
 - b. Three attempts is \$10.00
3. The committee reserves the right to limit how long the Tilt Master is going to be used.
4. All participants must be over the age of 16 and have signed a waiver
5. A prize is still being discussed. At this moment, the winner of said prize will have conquered the Tilt Master in the shortest amount of time and remain balanced for 5 seconds.

Let us not forget that there will also be a pie contest. Folks will have a couple of opportunities to purchase a chance at possibly throwing a pie at me, Tom Rump, Mike Worthley, Brandy Marchetti and Doug Dickinson. Next month we will elaborate a little more on those chances. I think this goes without saying that the pie contest is intended for fun and not to bring harm to anyone. If you're purchasing a chance to maliciously smack that pie in their face please don't.

Road Crossings for day of event

The event is being hosted on the East side of our trail system and there are a couple of road crossings we will need to contend with during the event. The first road crossing will occur when we leave the Topsham Fairgrounds but there is a traffic light to help facilitate crossing Rt. 196.

However, the other crossings occur on both residential roads and major town roads which present both traffic and safety concerns. The committee is in the process of hiring one police escort for this event to help alleviate this.

Corporate Sponsorships / Silent Auction

And finally, I know that I sound like a bit of a broken record but one of the most important pieces of this event is the corporate sponsorship! The committee is hopeful that each TTR member is able to ask one or two businesses. Having your generous support would help to make this event exceptionally successful. Similar to previous month's we will include the updated corporate sponsorship letter for your convenience.

Volunteer Opportunities for the Day of

We have created a digital volunteer sign-up sheet to help acquire folks to help during this event. If you would like to scope out a printed copy of the sheet, please see me at end of the meeting. Otherwise, the link will be included in the minutes for all to access. Here is the link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BA4A822A0F4C34-58103226-ride>

Let us not forget that this is a celebration and there will be cake acknowledging the official 5th year birthday of Ride for a Cure! Invite anyone and everyone to attend this event!

Account Balance in the Topsham Trailriders Ride for a Cure Account:

As of 08.25.2025 - \$4,690.04

Clubhouse Committee

Jenny Little provided the following update:

TTR is still actively seeking a Clubhouse Committee Chair! This person will work alongside yours truly, Jenny, to help coordinate meetings and begin creating some items we need to have in place to ensure we can begin seeking out funding. It's not an overwhelming task—I promise, we're a fun group to work with! But to find a future clubhouse, we need someone willing to help take the lead. If that sounds like you or someone you know, please reach out to me. And as always, we're still collecting bottles through our CLYNK program—let me know if you need any green bags!

Old Business:

Topsham Fair – Volunteer Appreciation

Thank you thank you thank you all of the club volunteers who helped during the Topsham Fair. The entire week over all 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. Job well done by all!

UPDATE: The participants who signed up and worked two or more nights during the Fair will be receiving a specialized tshirt as a token of appreciation. Jenny will be in contact with those individuals to acquire their size.

Landowner Appreciation

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Similar to last year the club will be purchasing gift cards for our landowners. Our goal is to mail these letters before the end of the week.

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 may be 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. The event is scheduled for Saturday, December 13th beginning around 10 am.

Similar to previous years we are limited to only 10 machines. As of today, all 10 slots have been spoken for. I am happy to take one or maybe two additional machines as possible alternates.

New Business:

Road Side Clean-Up

Jenny Little provided the following update:

We have arrived at another weekend that the TTR calendar is double booked. A reminder that Topsham Trailriders have scheduled a road side clean-up for Sunday, September 21st beginning at 9 am. This is the same weekend that some of the club members could be participating in the out-of-town Houlton trip. The club has not officially registered with the state as of yet but before I complete any registration I wanted to inquire if there would be someone who knows 200% that they would help coordinate this event with me on behalf of the club. Also, are there folks who are planning on participating in this event?

UPDATE: Despite our best efforts during the August meeting to find a chairperson to lead the project, no one came forward. For that reason, we'll be canceling the roadside cleanup for September 21st.

That said, we're still exploring options to hold a cleanup either later this fall or first thing in the spring. Stay tuned for updates, and thank you as always for your support and willingness to pitch in when these opportunities arise!

Social Night

Jenny Little provided the following update:

The next social night for the club is scheduled for Wednesday, September 10th at 6 pm. The social will be at Buffalo Wild Wings located at 105 Topsham Fair Mall Road 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

Tim Doyle informed us that Brad Hoskins wouldn't be opposed to TTR placing a trailer on his property.

Randy Bickford informed us that rock that was worked on earlier this month isn't quite wide enough yet. He had a hard time going through it. The trail crew advised that they would review it during the September 2nd work party.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:59pm was made by Kyle McComiskey

Motion was accepted by Ron Carey

Was passed with no opposition

Upcoming TTR Events

Saturday, September 6 - Out of Town Day Ride in Baldwin ME - Leaving Topsham McDonald's at 7am - Check facebook event for details

Wednesday, September 10 - TTR Social Night - Buffalo Wild Wings - 6pm

Saturday, September 13 - Out of Town Day Ride in Farmington ME - Leaving Topsham McDonald's at 7am - Check facebook event for details

Saturday, September 13 - MOM's Topsham Open House -Topsham Fair Mall *Let us know if you would like to volunteer for this

September 19-22 - Out of Town Weekend Trip to Houlton - Check Facebook Event for Details

September 27 - BIG Trail Work Party - 8am - East Side - Meeting at Park and Ride - Hauling Gravel

September 29 - Monthly Club Meeting - 6:30pm - Exhibition Hall, Topsham Fairgrounds

Work Parties - LAST Tuesday Night Work Party - September 2nd, 5pm - Check Facebook for that day's specific details

Submitted,
Ashleigh Rolfson
08.30.2025

the following edits requested by the members:

1. Kyle McComiskey - correction to last name spelling (missing an E)

The August 25, 2025 were voted and approved during the September 29th meeting. There was one edit mentioned above. JLL 09.30.2025