

2020 Spring Newsletter



Spring greetings to all club members,

Your board hopes that all of our members have had a nice winter, enjoyable holidays with families and friends, enjoyed some great snowmobiling or skiing, for our ice fishing members some awesome fishing as well, and for those that travel south some great weather and safe travels was had as you met up with friends and family from last year.

As our winter wanes and with the chief weather forecaster Punxsutawney Phil predicting an early spring I am sure we are all anxious to get this one over with and have the spring warm weather well on its way. However, just as a reminder, the track record of Phil's more recent predictions, however, is a disaster. In each of the last three years, the furry critter has missed the mark, and certainly was not even close last year. Let's all hope that we do not have a repeat of that again this year.

Membership

With this newsletter you will find the 2020-21 season membership Invoice. It has been an active year for the club which you will read about shortly, and it is hoped that your club's efforts through the years since its founding are appreciated, and you will renew your membership for this year as well. And remember, anything you can do to promote those individuals that have machines and use the roads and trails in becoming members of the club themselves is greatly appreciated.

Please make sure to send your dues in by May 1st, 2020

Trail and Route Status

Just a note, Oneida County ATV trails typically open on May 22nd. Langlade County Trails typically open May 1, 2020, weather permitting. This includes the Parrish Highlands, Augustyn Springs, Pickerel/Pearson, Antigo and the White Lake/Elton ATV trail systems

However, the opening date is as we know somewhat weather dependent. It is in the realm of possibility that a late spring thaw could delay our normal opening. Please watch our Facebook page for updates as opening season nears.

New Enterprise Forest Trail

Our new trail opened in July and we hope that you have had a chance to take a ride and check it out, it certainly turned out better than expectations and with the terrain, and crossing a beautiful creek it is a very picturesque ride, and provides for another option to head towards the Lincoln Country trails, making a nice loop so one is no longer back tracking on the same trail.

With this new trail though, does come the club's responsibility to maintain it, removing overgrown brush, larger rocks, watching for washouts, maintaining signage, etc. The club is reimbursed through the state's ATV Trail Maintenance program for labor hours and equipment usage that is expended to keep the trail in good, safe riding condition. If you would like to volunteer to help in this please let a board member know.

Dump Road to Monico-Monico to Forest County Line

The Oneida County Forestry Dept. has been doing preliminary work on the Monico to Forest County Line leg of this trail. However, they also have a multitude of requests from the other ATV/UTV Clubs in the county for development of trails in those areas as well so it becomes a matter of prioritization of all of these requests, identifying which ones should be worked on when.

The problem we have, as most of you know, is that for us to establish a trail from Pelican Lake to Monico we have to use the old Dump Road in the Town of Schoepke on the north side of the lake. After numerous conversations, again, with Forest Land Group, and with some changing of requirements on their end, we still have an agreement in principal to work together on opening this trail up, unfortunately though the devil is in the details of such agreement.

Towards the end of last year, Forest Land Group requested a meeting between our club, themselves, and Oneida County Forestry Department. Unfortunately timing of the various groups involved did not work out, plus with the uncertainty of leadership at the Oneida County Forestry Department at that time the meeting was postponed until 2020.

The development of this trail would be an extensive undertaking for the club, and involves potential significant expense as well as easement negotiation. A rough cost estimate for this project would range in the area of \$50,000 to \$75,000 depending on final arrangements with Forest Land Group and DNR Requirements.

Hwy 45 Right of Way

In working with the Town of Schoepke, the two options would be to use the ROW or ride on Hwy 45. The latter was not a favorable choice due to safety reasons, the former has some significant issues to resolve with the DOT.

After a meeting with the Town, the DOT, DNR and State Representatives, we thought we were making some progress on using this old railroad ROW only to find at the end of the year the DOT actually came back with even more restrictive requirements to develop this than what they started with. In pursuing conversation with them they were to do some additional work and coordination and report back to us last fall, unfortunately we have not heard any response to date since then.

A rough cost estimate for this project could run anywhere from \$11000 to \$45000 depending upon final DOT/DNR requirements.

Because of the potential expense exposures these projects present to the club, we believe that both of these should be a key topic at our Annual Meeting and the decision to continue any further should not be made without the input of our membership. Please try to attend the meeting, but if you cannot yet still would like to offer your opinion please let me know.

Rhineland Access

Great news, thanks to the hard work and diligent effort of Paul Hagan, member of our club, and President of the Hodag 4-Wheelers, all county highways leading into Rhineland are now open for ATV/UTV use. Please obey all laws, and remember Lincoln and Stevens Street are the two streets ***that are not open to ATV/UTV use.***

Maps

2019-2020 Maps are available at the local businesses or from one of the Board Members. They are \$2.00 each and cover the area between Summit Lake and the Town of Pelican, Rhineland as well as from the Oneida/Forest County Line to the Enterprise Forest Trail System, including the new trail in Enterprise Forest Block. Maps are updated every other year.

Oneida County ATV/UTV Council

Special thanks to Jeff Herman and Tim Wolfgram for representing our club to this Council. It appears it to be well on its way to accomplishing what Gene and I envisioned when we first proposed the idea to the county. To date they have defined geographic boundaries of each of the clubs so we are not duplicating effort, and currently the council is identifying all club projects which will then be prioritized with the Forestry Department.

Upcoming Events

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held on Saturday, May 16th, 2020 at the Elcho Clubhouse starting at 3:00 PM for the meeting, with dinner afterwards at 5:00pm. As in past years the club will furnish the main course chicken and ham, and if members would bring the sides, salads and desserts it would be appreciated. Please RSVP to Jeff or Joy Herman if you plan to attend, and what you will be bringing. Either put a note in your dues payment, or email pelchomuddnutz@outlook.com

Please note that at this meeting we do have three board positions coming up for election. The positions and incumbents are as follows: Gene Dallman-President, Gary Dominski-Treasurer, Jeff Herman-Vice President/Trail Boss.

Gene will not be available as president as he has moved from the area, and I myself am uncertain of continuing as part of the board due to conflicts of time and availability. It is critical that we have individuals who can step up and fill these board positions so please, if you can, give it serious consideration.

Brat Fry and Bake Sales

We will again be holding Brat Fry and Bake Sales on Hwy 45 in Pelican Lake this year. The dates are May 23rd and Sept 5th, they run from 10:00am to approximately 3:00pm. Last year we did great on the first two, but lacked baked goods to sell on the last one which cut our profits in half. So with that said, we will be looking for baked goods donations as well as cooking and serving help on those days. Please let your board members know if you can help on any of those days, and/or donate baked goods.

Music in the Park-Elcho

This year we have an opportunity to participate in the Music in the Park program in Elcho. The date will be June 3rd, and the featured group will be Slidin' On Ice with food and baked goods being furnished by our club. The food service starts at 5:30pm, attendance is typically around 75 or so people depending on weather. We will need ideas for what to serve, have baked goods donated, and of course volunteers to staff the event. Please let us know if you can help.

11th Annual Fischer's ATV/UTV Rally and Poker Run

The 11th Annual Fischer's ATV/UTV Rally will be held on Saturday, June 27th in conjunction with the Parrish Highlanders Club at Fischer's Bar on Hwy 17 and Q. This event has proved to be a great moneymaker for the clubs, and we expect the turnout to continue to grow. In the past Gene and I have coordinated this event, however neither of us can commit for this year. So we will need one or two people to be the club representatives, responsible for all coordination with the Highlanders and Fisher's Bar, as well as coordination of the volunteers on Saturday to man our tent, clothing sales, membership, set-up on Friday night and cleanup on Sunday morning. Please let one of your board members know if you will be able to help out this year.

Boiling Springs Fall Ride

Mark the date, and don't miss out on one of the largest ATV/UTV Poker Runs in the North Woods. The Boiling Springs 5th Annual Fall Ride and Poker Run will be held on Saturday, October 3rd come rain or shine. Starting time is 11:00 am, 5:30 return, 100% payout. Food and door prizes to follow. Watch for posters for more information.

Adopt-a-Highway Program

The Adopt-a Highway Program proved to be a great success for 2019, and our appreciation goes out to Nancy Rasmussen for coordinating this effort.

We will be looking for volunteers for this program for 2020, if you have an interest in helping please so indicate on the reverse of the membership form or let Nancy Rasmussen know. Please watch email and Facebook for dates and times of cleanup events.

Volunteering

Please note that all of our events are posted on the reverse of your Annual Dues notice. If you can volunteer and help for any of these events please so note it on the reverse of the renewal, or on the face of the renewal if you are available to volunteer for any other activities.

Special Thanks

A huge thank you goes out to our neighbor and strong supporter, the Sokaogon Chippewa Community, for their donation of \$2000 to help support our club. They have been great supporters since our inception, so if you get chance take a run over and visit the Casino, or dine at Café Manoomin, fill up at the convenience mart, or stay a night or two at the Mole Lake Lodge. It would be greatly appreciated!

Also special thanks go out to the following for helping in the tornado storm cleanup: Steve Rochon, Tim Rochon, Mike Haupt, Don Fuhs, Paul Schmidt, Stan Zander, Paul Hagan, Bill Christian, Bob Young, and hopefully I did not forget anyone. Not only did they help on our trails but we pitched in and helped the Parrish Highlanders on their trails, and thanks to them our club was reimbursed for the labor and equipment hours expended on the Highlander Trails. A great example of club cooperation, working together.

Lastly, thanks to Mike Christian for storing the trailer under cover and moving the tractor and to Ronnie Raith for providing inside storage for the tractor.

Equipment Update

With the completion of the new Enterprise Trail the maintenance and grooming as mentioned before falls on the shoulders of the club. As a result, the board approved the purchase of a 60Hp Tractor with a three point hydraulic operated grader blade. The cost for the tractor will be covered thru the trail maintenance reimbursement received from the state, as well as secondary income should the Hodag Club wish to have us grade their trails as well.

Clothing and Accessories

Just an update, club clothing can be seen at Dave's Roadside or Boiling Springs Tavern, both on Hwy G. Clothing can be purchased at Boiling Springs Tavern.

We will also have cooler cups for sale with the club logo and don't forget about our flags for your machine.

News Letter Comments, Feedback, Questions and Volunteering

The email for the club is.....pelchomuddnutz@outlook.com

If you have any questions, comments or would like to volunteer for any club event or make a donation you can easily let us know by emailing us at the above email address or my address below. We will be happy to respond to any inquiry or suggestion, as well as extend our appreciation for any additional donation or support you can offer.

Also, regarding e-mail, we are trying to limit postage expense for the newsletter, if you can receive it via e-mail but are getting postal mail now ***please let us know to change to your e-mail address to simplify things and minimize cost.***

Closing

Just a reminder as we did from last year, as our season is rapidly coming upon us, now is the time to go over your machine to make sure it is trail ready for riding.

- *Reinstall the battery if you removed it for storage, and charge it fully. Be sure the battery holds a charge.
- *If you did not change the oil and oil filter before storing the ATV, do so now.
- *Check the spark plugs, and replace them if necessary.
- *Fill the fuel tank with fresh gasoline, and make sure the engine starts.
- *Check all the lights, and replace any burned-out bulbs.
- *Check the tires for damage and inflate them. Tires may wear or flatten if left on the ground for long periods of time.
- *Check for damage caused by rodents, such as blocked pipes or chewed wires and cables.
- *Check for any other damage that may occur during storage. For example, parts made of rubber or plastic may deteriorate over time.

And two of the most important items to check

*Is your registration current?

*Refresh your memory on Wisconsin ATV/UTV Rules and Regulations, as well as all of the courtesy hand signals.

For more information please refer to the following link <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/atv/>

We thank each and every one of you for being a member, and hope to see you out enjoying the trails and routes as our season opens. Remember, please drive safe, drive sober, drive responsibly, and enjoy your fun with the club.

Gary Dominski

Club Treasurer

Treasurer_Pelchoatvclub@yahoo.com

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