

2020 Summer Newsletter



It is hoped that all of our membership is doing well, and we have not had any unfortunate experiences with the virus, and have been able to weather the inconveniences it has brought upon us. With the summer weather upon us at least we can get out and enjoy the fresh air and get some activities in.

Membership

Our membership stands at 262, being made up of 32 business, 202 families (family counts as 2) and 28 Singles.

We have 3 business, 82 family and 13 singles that have not renewed from last year. If you happen to be in this group it would be appreciated that you send in your club renewal payment as soon as possible

Trail and Route Status

New Enterprise Forest Trail

Our new trail is being enjoyed by a lot of people, and we have received very favorable comments on it, especially the bridge and view over Noisy Creek. In fact, we find at times there can be a little traffic jam at the bridge as people stop to take in the view and get some pictures. So what we are thinking of doing is creating a small parking area just to the east of the bridge for about 5 or 6 machines, just so they can pull off the trail and not hinder traffic.

Keep in mind this provides another option to head towards the Lincoln Country trails, making a nice loop so one is no longer back tracking on the same trail. Just a note though, Barry and Sherri's Town and Country is closed so if your ride includes a stop for lunch or beverage do not count on them being open.

Hodag Enterprise Forest Trails

Both our trail and the Hodag trails in the forest have to be maintained and it is the two club's responsibility to maintain them removing overgrown brush, larger rocks, watching for washouts, maintaining signage, etc. With the purchase of the large tractor this job becomes a lot easier, and through a cooperative agreement with the Hodag Club we assist them in the grooming of their trails as well. The clubs are reimbursed through the state's ATV Trail Maintenance program for labor hours and equipment usage and the Hodag Club reimburses our club for time spent on their trail which helps offset the expense of the tractor and equipment. If you would like to volunteer to help in this please let a board member know.

Enterprise Forest Roads

Last fall Paul Hagan-President of the Hodag Four Wheelers, and myself requested that the Oneida County Forestry Department open up for ATV/UTV use the remainder of the county forest roads. Always a concern of theirs was wear and tear from ATV/UTV use, and maintenance. As part of the request, we offered that the clubs would jointly assist in maintaining the roads via grading as necessary.

I am pleased to report that in the July Forestry Committee meeting the committee approved the request and all roads in the Enterprise Forest Block will be open to ATV/UTV use once they are properly signed. We expect them to be open by early August, until that time **PLEASE DO NOT RIDE ON THEM, THEY ARE MARKED NO ATV USE!**

Special thanks goes out to Paul Fiene-County Forestry Director, Eric Rady-Assistant Forestry Director for their work on this, and to our County Supervisor for our area, Bob Mott, for supporting for and voting to approve the request as a member of the Forestry Committee.

Dump Road to Monico-Monico to Forest County Line

The Oneida County Forestry Dept. has formally submitted a grant request to the ORV Counsel for the trail development from Monico to the Forest County Line. Forest County is looking into finalizing the remaining mile or so of trail along Hwy 8 from Cole Rd/Mays Bar to the County Line. We won't know the status of the request until fall when they make their decisions on what club requests are approved.

Regarding the old Dump Road in the Town of Schoepke on the north side of the lake, we had a verbal agreement in principal with Forest Land Group on opening this trail up, unfortunately we have not been able to receive a reply from them regarding the requested meeting between our club, themselves, and Oneida County Forestry Department to discuss the project further.

If any of our members has a legal background or is a lawyer, and/or has grant writing experience we could use some assistance on this project. There may be another option, however it would require some legal background work. If you have the experience and can donate your time, please contact me.

Hwy 45 Right of Way

At this point we have determined that it is probably impractical to develop the old railroad right of way into a trail due to lack of DOT cooperation as well as expense. This leaves the decision to use Hwy 45 up to the Town of Schoepke, and does not involve the club. The club did offer to buy two electronic speed limit signs to show vehicle speed to help control the speed concern should town decide to open the highway to ATV/UTV use. Should the town still want us to pursue the ROW, we are willing to discuss it further with them.

Rhineland Access

Just a reminder, 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.** Note that the No ATV's on Lincoln Street heading west starts at the 2nd stop light by Friendship House and Walgreens, where you can go either right or left, but not straight.

Recent Law Changes

There have been a number of recent law changes regarding ATV/UTV use. The most important I have summarized below. For a comprehensive listing please go to the DNR Website.

UTV Definition Changes

The legal definition of an UTV has changed. No longer are low pressure tires required. Now simply 4 or more tires are required. How the width of an UTV is measure has changed. UTVs are required to be originally manufactured, and must have at all times a width of not more than 65 inches as measured laterally between the outermost wheel rim on each side of the vehicle, exclusive of tires, mirrors, and accessories that are not essential to the vehicle's basic operation.

ATV Passenger Rules

Previously only on the roadway were passengers restricted only to those ATVs that were designed and intended for passengers. Now that requirement has been extended to all other areas. **ATV operators cannot have a passenger riding in or on any part of an ATV that is not designed or intended to be used by passengers.**

Lighted Headlamp Display Requirements

Previously ATVs and UTVs were required to have a lighted headlamp & tail lamp during hours of darkness or during Day light hours when within a highway. **ATVs and UTVs are now required to have a lighted headlamp & tail lamp at all times during operation.**

New ATV & UTV Auxiliary Lighting Restrictions

No person (except EMS personal) may operate an ATV or UTV that is equipped with any of the following:

1. A lamp that emits any color of light other than white or amber and that is visible from directly in front of the ATV or UTV.
2. A lamp that emits any color of light other than red, yellow, amber, or white and that is visible from directly behind the ATV or UTV.
3. A flashing, oscillating, or rotating lamp that emits any color other than yellow or amber.

Any person operating an ATV or UTV must dim his or her high-beam headlamps and any auxiliary lamps when within 500 feet of an approaching ATV/UTV or vehicle, and within 500 feet to the rear of another ATV/UTV or vehicle. In addition, an operator must dim his or her backup lamps unless actively backing.

Speed and Law Concerns

We are having issues in the area regarding not only the speed some people want to drive, but also following the laws.

The following was in the Parrish Highlander Newsletter, written by their president, Russ Cook.

Over Memorial Day weekend I received numerous calls from different areas in our ATV system, with concerns on rider's speed on closed county highways & township roads. Some riders have come up with their own idea that every road in Langlade County is open to them, with no speed limits. I was passed at 60mph in my vehicle on one of our county highways not open to ATV/UTV travel, by not one UTV but 4 UTVs. We as a club can put up all the signs we have & it will not change because most riders are not reading them.

Unfortunately I too had my own unpleasant experience just the other day on Enterprise Lake Rd. Seems a UTV could not wait to pass his buddy on an ATV so he decided to pass him on a curve at high speed, only to find he was looking at hitting us head on, forcing himself to veer sharply back in his own lane.

We have posted speed notice signs in the local businesses, but as Russ says, people either do not read them, or read them and ignore them. If you see people speeding, please let them know **the law is the lesser of 35 MPH or the posted speed limit, no exceptions.** The option is we could lose the right to ride on the County and Town Roads!

Russ also had this to say:

Also received a call from our county forester, Erik Rantala, a county sheriff was called out because a UTV was stuck on Cinder Grade, between Langlade County Highway Q & Route 17. This trail is signed as closed & will remain closed due to high water. One quarter mile east of highway 17 on Cinder Grade trail. It is marked at Highway 17 west also at 200 feet west of the West Loop on Oneida county trail system. I know some people have noted their inconvenience due to this closure, but look at a Langlade County trail map & you should be able to work out a reroute on your own.

Again folks, I cannot emphasize enough, OBEY THE SIGNS, OBEY THE LAWS.

For those that have a hard time doing that, where are you going to ride that \$15-\$20,000 machine when everything is shut down, and who is going to buy it from you when there is nowhere to ride. THINK ABOUT IT!

A lot of clubs have what is called a Trail Ambassador, which doubles as a Trail Safety coordinator, if anyone would like to volunteer for his we will pay for the training, as well as a sign and lights for your machine.

Upcoming Events

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting will be held on Saturday, August 1st, 2020 at the Elcho Clubhouse starting at 11:00 am for the meeting. Due to the Covid 19 concerns we will not be doing a full meal, but instead the club will be furnishing Pizza's. We will not require any dishes or deserts from members, only the Pizza will be served. Please RSVP to Jeff or Joy Herman if you plan to attend or email pelchomuddnutz@outlook.com

A reminder that at this meeting we have three board members coming up for election. The incumbents are as follows: Gene Dallman, Gary Dominski and Jeff Herman.

The county requires that the majority of the Club Board are residents of Oneida County. 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 to run for the board.

Brat Fry and Bake Sales

Due to the Covid 19 Virus, we cancelled the first two Brat Frys, but will still hold the Sept 5th Brat Fry, and will run from 10:00am to approximately 3:00pm. We will be looking for baked goods donations as well as cooking and serving help on that day. Please let Joy or Jeff Herman know if you can help on any of those days, and/or donate baked goods.

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

The 11th Annual Fischer's ATV/UTV Rally with the Parrish Highlanders was cancelled due to the uncertainty surrounding large groups and the virus.

Boiling Springs Fall Ride

Reminder for 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.

Raffles

With the cancelling of Fishers Rally, which was the clubs largest fund raiser, we have elected to do a number of raffles.

We have two raffle coolers and two 100 Square 50/50 boards. These are being circulated in the Pelican Lake/Elcho/Post Lake area and the Lake George area just east of Rhinelander. In addition, we have a 115 pc Tool Chest being raffled, this being circulated in the Pelican Lake/Elcho area. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the business location of the cooler, and is greatly appreciated. For additional information and pictures of the cooler raffles and Tool Chest please go to our web page <Pelchomuddnutz.com>

We will also be doing the \$7500 50/50 raffle with the Parrish Highlanders. Tickets are \$50 each, there are only 150 available and it pays 10 places: 1st-\$1000, 2nd-\$750, 3rd & 4th-\$500, 5th-\$300, 6th \$7th-\$200, 8th thru 10th-\$100.

If you wish to purchase a ticket please send your check to: Pel-Cho Mudd Nutz, P.O. Box 98, Pelican Lake, WI 54463 We will complete the information on the ticket and mail you the stub as receipt.

We would like to thank the following businesses for their donations to the raffle. Please patronize them and show your appreciation for their support of your club:

Rocky's Roadhouse, Lake George Campground, Vern's of Antigo, Bob's Power Center, AutoZone, J & P Liquidators, Antigo Yamaha, Boiling Springs, Musky Mart, O'Reilly's Auto Parts, Wagner Shell, Fuller's Sales & Service, Enterprise Storage, Weezies, Gerrits' Lakeview, Twin Oaks, Sammy's, Elcho Club House, Roadside Pub, Pelican Lake Campground, Builders Service, Fisher's on 17, Advance Auto Parts

Clothing and Accessories

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

Website, News Letter Comments, Feedback, Questions and Volunteering

The website for the club is... <https://pelchomuddnutz.com/> 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.*

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

Gary Dominski

Club Treasurer

Treasurer_Pelchoatvclub@yahoo.com

Please patronize our business sponsors whenever you can, they are great supporters of your club

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Antigo Yamaha

Boiling Springs Tavern

Chet & Emil's Resort LLC

Christians Campground

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Lake George Campsite & Bar

Leach Enterprises & Transport

Lil Hummers Hideaway

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