

MVTR GENERAL MEETING NOTES - 4 February 2015  
Freedom Cycle - Concord

Presiding President Tom Levesque called the meeting to order at 7:25 pm with approximately 35 members present. The meeting start was delayed due to a prior NE Classic meeting which ran longer than it was supposed to.

### **Ice Box**

Mark Stock spoke about the event which occurred on the 17th of January. The weather and ice conditions were perfect. Approximately 35 vehicles participated with many spectators, and maybe a dozen ice skaters. 16 or 18 new MVTR members signed up at the event. As well as the oval, there was a 1.2 mile road course with 18 turns. Approximately \$2K was raised for the benefiting charity, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease).

### **Hop-Ev Riding Conditions**

Andre has been riding several times each week and posting entertaining GoPro videos on the MVTR facebook page. He described the current conditions as very deep dry powder, and difficult. He has also encountered snowmobiles riding in the wrong direction on the OHRV trails. When speaking with these individuals they mistakenly believe the area is closed to OHRVs in the winter and sleds are permitted on the OHRV trails.

### **Bear Brook Riding Conditions**

Jim Pidgeon described the previous day's conditions as very deep dry powder, very bad for trail bikes; great for sleds.

### **J-Day Events**

No MVTR members who were present road last weekend's event. Several expressed interest in upcoming events.

### **Timbersled Conversion Kit Ride Review**

Mark Stock reported on his 60 mile ride last Sunday. He and Zach went up and around Mt. Kearsarge. Mark said the performance was fantastic on deep virgin powder, but a little scary on ice due to the lack of carbide scags on the front ski. He also said it is a more intense physical workout when compared to riding a trail bike with studded tires.

### **The Classic Meeting earlier that Evening**

VP Glenn Harvey gave a quick review. The primary focus was how to increase fund raising. A new tool is setting up an individual's facebook page with a link to the CF website. Facebook friends will see that the person is raising money, make pledge with a credit card, and track the money raised.

Tom spoke about a CF snowmobile event planned for 7 February in Rangeley, ME. They will attempt to set a Guinness record for the most snowmobiles at a rally. A \$10 decal will provide NH registration reciprocity for the event. Activities include food vendors and a Saturday night dance with a live band. There is another CF snowmobile event at the Colebrook Country Club 21 February.

## **Getaways**

Several MVTR members are going to Daytona. Keep in touch via the MVTR facebook page.

JD Mott still has a few openings for his Arizona trail rides the last week of March and first week of April. It sounds like a sweet deal including bike transport, lodging, and local transportation. Studded tires are not required.

## **MVTR Trail Administrator Updates**

Glenn briefly reviewed the TA meeting which occurred at the Anthony's house on 14 January. The agenda included helping Bruce and Sarah with the TA transition and plan maintenance activities for the year. Initial plans include bridges and signage. MVTR will be coordinating with the Blurred Vision ATV club for Hop-Ev maintenance.

Bruce spoke reiterating his commitment to Hop-Ev and some of his plans. He does not have the bandwidth to take on Jericho State Park. The Bureau of Trails is requiring that MVTR finish the projects it started at Jericho. MVTR is also contractually obligated to continue the maintenance of these projects. Tom is reaching out to North Country people to help, and is considering taking on this responsibility himself if he retires from work soon.

Bruce is working to get representatives of the Blurred Vision Club, and Shawn Violett who is the District Manager from the Bureau of Trails to attend our March meeting. Bruce is also coordinating a Hop-Ev bridge project with the Weare Winter Wanderers snowmobile club.

Tom and Bruce are developing a plan to conduct a rider usage survey at Hop-Ev. Game cameras and people counting riders are being considered. We suspect the ratio of trail bikes and ATVs may not be as lopsided as some perceive.

Bruce would like to have a work party in a few weeks to secure the London Bridge on River Loop from floating away. Riders who encounter maintenance issues are encouraged to contact Bruce and Sarah via e-mail at [ta@mvtr.org](mailto:ta@mvtr.org). If you clear down trees or perform other work - let Bruce and Sarah log your hours.

## **NHOHVA and other Politics**

- Tom feels that trail bikes haven't received sufficient benefits in the North Country after MVTR constructed the kiosks for the Ride the Wilds trail system, and has expressed this to Harry Brown.
- However, NHOHVA is still the best vehicle to represent the interests of trail bike riders, and Tom does not want to pull out.
- Polaris has dropped \$10k on lobbying for various legislative issues. Most recently to increase the maximum UTV width from 62 to 65 inches in Coos and parts of Grafton counties..
- The OHRV club incentive registration bill is moving through the legislature without opposition from Bureau of Trails and Fish and Game. (another initiative supported by Polaris)
- NHOHVA is investigating why trail bikes are excluded from state lands such as Nash Stream and 13 Mile Woods, while ATVs and UTVs are permitted. It seems it might be an oversight of semantics; where the terms ATV and UTV were used, whereas the new proper legal term OHRV includes ATV, UTV and Trail Bikes.
- The association is funding a financial impact study to be completed next fall. It will be used to report to the state legislature the funds that ATVs, UTVs, and Trail Bikes bring to area businesses state wide.

Ron had **MVTR Jerseys** available from infant sizes to adult.

Josh Tessier won the 50:50 raffle.

Tom adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.