

October MVTR Meeting

The October meeting was called to order @19:18 hours by President Tom, following the conclusion of the 2011 Classic Committee. Winter hours are definitely now in effect with daylight rather than meeting time limiting the hours for any pre-meeting rides.

First up for consideration was information on the progress of the **Jericho** single-track. We voted at last meeting to purchase some bridging material, which is scheduled for delivery on Friday (8 October). The current plan calls for a crew to head up to Berlin on Saturday, move the materials into place, do additional trail clearing and work on burning in the loop. Following the Noble Woods Turkey Run on Sunday another group will be traveling north on Monday to construct the bridge(s?), continue with trail clearing and the trail burn-in. Posting on NEDB since the Holiday Weekend would indicate that the plan did indeed fall together as intended. Still to be determined at present is whether we can in the future apply for Grant-in-Aid funding to help finance future work in the park.

On a connecting note we have been notified that there will be a Trail Administrator Meeting on 20 October at Cannon Mountain. Topics include Recreational Trails (layout?), Grant Funding and Signage & Mapping. The meeting is scheduled to run from 18:00 to 20:00, it appears that we will have at least one member attending.

Rocky Mountain Weekend 2010 is now long past, several attempts have been made to bring all the section leaders together for a de-briefing but something always comes up to interfere (business, pleasure, injury). Shawn (Sunday Trail Boss) covered much of his story last month. Tammy (PeeWee TB) reported that the PeeWee event went very smoothly. They had a 1.9 mile loop which included a few tough sections, perhaps the most technical of the season. They had not (as of yet anyway) heard of any complaints. Shawn did his best to cover for Andy in reporting that the JR Enduro had covered an 8 mile loop of Rocky terrain, things ran well and that the many volunteers who showed up and manned the checks were much appreciated. Art (all things audio, visual or technical) reported that they had between 50 and 75 people show up for Saturday Night at the Movies. A variety of bike related stuff was viewed and the audience hung in until quiet hours at 22:00. Tuck (I think) told us that there had been issues during Sundays Start. Apparently just the sight of a Green Flag whether it is being raised, dropped or hanging still is enough to launch dirt bikes off the line (couldn't possibly be the riders, right?). We will try to have additional Red Flags (or Black Flags?) positioned down the course to recall those riders who can't figure out for themselves that if they are that far Out in Front, they weren't supposed to have left the start line yet. Shawn did note that he had tried to round up all the available video evidence right away in order to sort through any forthcoming protests over the start. As it turned out, you really can't win the race in the first 10 seconds and the final results were not affected. Lynne (our Financial Comptroller) was not present, something to do with a race, a dirt bike, a tree, a cast, etc. (heal quickly!!), consequently we did not have a detailed financial report from the weekend. The short form report was that this year we reversed last years red ink and made some \$\$\$\$. Mission Statement, as a club we have tried repeatedly to raise the bar at our events wherever possible and will continue to do so. Last year (and a few others) we got hit with some torrential rainfall causing bottomless mud, this year it was instead drought and the dust that comes along with it, nonetheless, it was a great weekend of racing.

Classic notes tell us that Peter and JD are figuring out what will need to be done to get Trail 22 back into shape at Bergeron's before snowmobile season is upon us. Part of it was used in the

Classic 2010 hero section. Peter has been spearheading a couple of work parties in Devils Den. This resulted in about a mile of new trail there, which will cut out (some of?) the two-way traffic we had to include in this year's Classic.

In **Hop-Ev** the logging is about over and that means that it will be time shortly to get things cleaned up for late fall and winter riding. A suggestion was made that perhaps some careful placement of Jersey Barriers in the parking lot would be useful to curtail the racing that seems to be never ending there. Any changes of that nature would have to be approved by both the Bureau of Trails and the Corps of Engineers before implementation. Look for a work party to be announced shortly.

A number of **Events** have found MVTR riders present in the last month. Several of the usual suspects made their way to this year's **Buckfield International** for what was described as 150 miles of the best imaginable riding. 46 riders participated in the mini Colorado 500, about 40 of them were stopped by Maine F&G who seemed quite surprised that a) they were all legal and b) they were not exactly a bunch of kids. There were no performance evaluations earned by the group. Among the MVTR riders to accept the **Unadilla** challenge, JD said it was his 4th trip, the driest and the most fast & fun. Dave ranked 70th in C250 and 40th in C Senior while Shawn took Silver in A 200 while being 51st overall finisher. Tuck rode injured at **Stateline**, his motorcycle skills apparently not making the transition to staying on top of a hay wagon. Many learned the importance of proper air filter prep and maintenance, Shawn reported that it was super dusty but fast. Mark took a 2nd at **Hard Knox**, Dave ended up 30 seconds ahead of Shawn and Tom secured his No.1 Place for the season in Masters.

In **Upcoming Events**, the Sea Coast Trail Riders have (had) **Noble Woods** over the Columbus Day Weekend. Starting 20 miles further north than usual, at the Acton Fair Grounds it will feature 90 miles of riding with only about 15 being dirt or tar roads. The move will allow some of the trails used in their very well received National Enduro earlier this summer rest and heal. There are apparently some riders who can't understand the concept of trails being open **ONLY on the Day of the EVENT**, vehicles have shown up, unloaded bikes and headed out riding in the yards of landowners who allowed use of their property for the National which is surely going to make it a hard sell to get permission in the future. Our own Jim Nash is hosting the **1st Annual Past to Present Trail and Enduro Riders Gathering** at Pats Peak Ski Area in Henniker on 14 November. The day will include a vintage bike display, buffet style dinner, guest speakers Bob Hicks (founder of Trail Rider Magazine) & Paul Clipper (past commander in chief at Trail Rider) as well as comedian Bucky Lewis. Tickets (get them before 15 Oct.) are available at 603-428-6086 or 603-566-9709, also by email <mailto:oldetrailboss@yahoo.com>.

Because it was necessary to share the date with the **Pilgrim Sands Toys for Tots Ride**, Jim is asking everyone to bring an unwrapped toy to be donated to supplement those collected at the ride!

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Those not riding the **Gypsy Moth** or **Jack Frost** enduros should consider heading down to lend a hand as check workers (they will offer On the Job Training).

Next month it will be time for the membership to decide what event(s) they wish to sanction for 2011. Potential Trail Bosses should be ready to bring their proposals forward!