

3 September 2008

September MVTR Meeting

The pizza arrived at 1943 and was quickly enjoyed by all present, particularly those who have been at the recent past meetings where the offering has ranged from slim to none. President Tom was out of state for work; Vice President Jon took the reins but lacked the experience to get the meeting underway while most had their mouths full. He was in truth a part of the steady line of MVTR members at the parts counter hoping to repair what they broke at the Grassy Knoll in time to partake in the Ammo, Stateline or Alton work party this coming weekend (but I thought, my version sounded better).

The meeting began at 8:00 pm dull (20:17) with a report on the pre-meeting ride. 21 miles of fast and dusty trail was run by a number (missed writing down how many) of club members. I have to wait for official word but think that next month's meeting may be moving back to a 19:00 start time. Pre-Meeting riding may continue but with a sunset at 18:25 next month the riders should be in early enough, but it might be close.

Grassy Knoll

A number of MVTR riders traveled down to Somers, CT to partake in the Grassy Knoll Hare Scramble over the holiday weekend. Dwayne was again on the podium with 2nd A Senior. JD said he wasn't at the top of his class and Pete explained how some strategy decisions in his first ever HS moved him down to 4th in class.

Rocky Mountain Enduro

Our enduro is moving along toward its scheduled date 26 October 2008. The Labor Day work party brought out 10-12 volunteers to clear trail and help burn it in (the afternoon reward for coming out on a holiday to work). There is still some trail to be ridden and cleared of blow downs and face slappers but most of the trail cutting is complete. It was 25 miles with a newly cut 3 more added in it is getting close to 60 miles for the two-lap day. All the new stuff is reported to be ride able regardless of what we may see for weather, the older stuff is The Rocky, not smooth and flat but no stoppers reported. Not mentioned in the flyer, there will probably be a gas truck or trailer positioned out on the Bergeron property (about mid-lap) for those who aren't sure about finishing a 30-mile lap on an MX bike. More work remains to be done both before and during the event. This Sunday (0800, @ Alton Traffic Circle McDonalds) there should be a group working (unless we are in the midst of Hurricane Hanna, Ed. Note). Our host has again requested some help in removing rocks from a new hayfield date TBD. Lots of help needed on event day to run/help with sign-up, tech (mostly sound), checks and sweeping (got a good headlight? Sunset @ 17:45 that day).

Colorado 500

The New England Rough Riders once again made the pilgrimage to the dirt Mecca of Colorado. This was Tucks 20th trip to the 500 which was appropriately honored, word is that his custom painted commemorative helmet will be preserved for ceremonial use in a display case rather than abused while trail bossing the Classic. The riders rode 700 miles over 5 days (not including a side trip some made to Moab). Art and Rupert (this year's rookies) reported on the experience from the first timers perspective. Chip described almost being knocked off the trail in a place where off the trail meant a 2,000 drop. One of our groups had the honor of being joined on Friday by Malcolm (YES, that Malcolm) who requested to ride with them. Neal was acknowledged with a Perseverance Award, including special commentary. Neal, I think we need helmet cam footage or at least pictures to fully appreciate the Jeep incident. It sounded as though all were ready and waiting to make the journey again.

Legislative

Peter Jacobs has stepped forward to replace Dave as our representative to NHOVA. Thank you.

Jim is still trying to determine whether or not MVTR can have its own representative to the Bureau Of Trails. If it is allowed, Tuck will consider filling that spot.

Upcoming

Things to look forward to in the next month:

- 9/7 The Sateline HS in Hoosick, NY
- 9/7 The Ammonoosuc Turkey Run in N. Haverhill, NH
- 9/7 The Rocky work party in Alton, NH
- 9/14 The Hell in the Hills enduro in Sandisfield, MA
- 9/21 The Newark enduro in Fairville, NY
- 9/28 The Rocktoberfast enduro in Lee, MA
- 9/28 Unadilla

And don't forget to mark your calendar NOW for the Rocky Mountain Enduro on 26 October 2008.