



TRAILS & TALES

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March 25 2016

NEWS FROM OUR PRESIDENT *John Evans*

Dear Fellow Riders,

Spring has sprung! I know for some of you spring could not come soon enough. For others of us it has sprung too soon. I have been sulking around the house for a couple of weeks now thinking of how the snow never really appeared and what we did have left so soon. As I mourn the loss of one season I am constantly surrounded by those who are ecstatic that winter is over. In fact I am married to one.

We are looking forward to another great season for riding and enjoying the outdoors. It looks like we are about a month ahead of schedule for spring thaw. With that in mind it might be an earlier season than we have had before. That being said I would like to share a story about my son. With the snow disappearing I began switching inventory around here at the house. Away with the sleds and out with the summer toys. One of the things which I brought out of storage was my son's new dirtbike. He immediately spied that it was out and asked if he could ride it. So I told him he could as long as he kept it in the driveway and did not get on the lawn and make a muddy mess. He agreed to the terms and put on his gear and began riding around the driveway. A couple of days later his school work was done and the sun was shining and he was ready to ride again. This time as he began to ride around the driveway his territory began to expand. Through the garage window I watched as he began to inch his way onto the front lawn and before long had a nice muddy trench outlining the edge of the driveway. After a discussion about our agreement and his breaking his side he washed the dirtbike off and got out his new way of passing the time, a rake.

I tell you because as I watched it play out I couldn't help to think this is the same way we get caught up riding where we are not supposed to be.

The trails will be closed till after **MUD SEASON** and signed as best we can. The temptation with the weather being so nice is that we will all have our wheelers out and driving around the yard. Then like my son we will say to ourselves let's just go see how the trail is. Before we realize it we have ended up driving down a trail, making trenches on someone's land and getting landowners upset. So please till the trail posted signs come down, don't give into temptation and stay in the driveway.

We have been busy in the off season working on a couple of different things for our club. We have been talking to some of the neighboring clubs about making some more trail connections. It would be wonderful to expand our trail system in a day and age where all too often a trail system tends to get smaller. Eric has also been helping to get a new website up and running for this next year. We look forward to better utilizing that as a club. We have also during these winter months done all the necessary paperwork and received our grant money for the work done this past year. Thanks to all those that have been working on these things.

We look forward to another great season of riding and with that we also have some projects lined up for this summer. As always your club membership and involvement is what makes it possible for us to enjoy these trails. Hope to see you at the next meeting and remember that this is the time of year to renew your memberships.

See you then, John Evans

1st Club Meeting for 2016

Our 1st Club Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, April 7, 2016** and will be held at the Nazarene Church Undercroft at 84 North Main St. because the Legion Hall will not be opened at that time. It will be a combined meeting with the Snowmobile Club.

Scholarship Information (continued)

Applications for the Sandy River Riders ATV Club scholarship are due by April 30. We will award one scholarship this year to be paid the second semester to the attending school of the lucky winner. These are limited to a one time only per student and they must be a paid up member of Sandy River Riders or related to a paid up member of this club.

For more info or an application, contact Betty at 207-652-2227 or bssnell@tds.net

There is also a scholarship available thru ATV Maine. I also have those applications and Info and are due by June 1st.

Can & Bottle Drive

Les is still taking donations of bottles and cans to benefit the club Equipment Fund. He has turned in \$21.00 so far this year. You may call Les or Betty at 207-652-2227 or bssnell@tds.net if you would like us to pick up locally or Les has his truck available at all meetings for your donations.

Trails

As a reminder to you all.... All Trails are closed to all ATV's until they are opened by the clubs. This is **Thru Mud Season!!!** Trails will be posted until weather and soil conditions are O.K. to open them. Remember, that if you ride on closed trails it could cause us to lose permission and closure of the trails. **Please Respect the Land and the Generosity of our Landowners.**

State Laws now provides for severe penalties and fines for riding on closed trails. All riders are encouraged to obtain a copy of the ATV Law Book and become familiar with the laws. These books are available at all Town Offices.

Join a club as it helps pay for upkeep of trails.

An application is included with this newsletter. Our address is: PO Box 66, Strong ME 04983



*"I realize you like to baby your ATV,
but shouldn't WE be sleeping in the tent?"*

can-amforum.com 