



Trail Notes

Publication of the Mexico Trail Riders, Inc.

May 2007

General.... We need more help raising money to allow us to maintain our trail system. Tell your friends and family to come join in on all our fun! Plan on attending our next membership meeting.

President's Corner...

As we held elections for this year's slate of directors and officers at the meeting on April 11th, I couldn't help but think back to last year's elections and remembering the nervousness associated with becoming club president. For those of you that remember my first President's Corner, it simply said "Tracy and I are greener than grass and we need all the help we can get". At the time I didn't realize how true this statement was.

This is a large organization and continues to grow. Individual membership is approaching 900, trail miles increased by 50% over the last few years; green or not anyone in a position of leadership in this organization needs the support of the several volunteers involved on an almost daily basis.

To the clubs good fortune, many of the folks that have been involved for many years continue to participate making their institutional knowledge available and providing guidance from past experience. We are equally fortunate to have several new folks stepping up to help out and bring new thoughts and energy, nudging us out of our comfort zones and encouraging us to try new things.

So go the elections this year. As you will see below much of the leadership remained in place while a couple new folks stepped up to the plate. Please join me in welcoming John Washer to the Board of Directors and Sally Piepoli as secretary. Their fresh perspective and energy will most certainly be an asset. They will be replacing Dean Harper, who has been a major contributor for many years and key to the club's fundraising efforts and Mark Dryden, who...well let's just say his contribution to MTR and the sport in general is bigger than I can put into words. MTR thanks you both for your time, energy and commitment.

The next meeting is May 9, 2007 at the Eis House. The focus of this meeting will be the 07-08 season as well as ratification of a few by-law amendments as outlined at the last meeting.

Hope to see you there!

Barry

Upcoming events...

Snowmobiling is an all year long sport - we need participation from the general membership to help make all our events successful. If you are interested in helping out please contact Tracy Carvell 598-6033 or edgex600@netzero.com

Motto Master's - Information Table - Date TBA

Oswego County Fair - Information Booth - June 29th - July 4th

Mexico Parade - MTR Float - July 19th

Hair Scramble in Palermo - Food Fundraiser – July 22nd

3rd Annual Fall Fling - Food, Music and Much More - Nov 10th

Keep an eye on your mail - MTR will be sending out a membership involvement form, we need your responses back as soon as possible, remember this club is fun and worth all you put into it. Look forward to meeting & working with some of you through out the year. Tracy Carvell

Club Clothing... Paula will have lots of new and exciting club clothing to look at and order at our next meeting! We now have women shirts, couple of different styles, hats, turtleneck shirts, Henley's, and denim shirts. Be sure to stop in and see what she has and give ideas as to what you would like to see. She is open to all suggestions and comments. Do not forget we still have tees and sweatshirts available! **Show your pride for the Mexico Trail Riders and wear some new clothing with our logo and name on them!**

Trails... Are closed for the summer! We thank the many landowners that have given their permission to cross their land with our snowmobile trails. Please remember that permission is for snowmobile use only. When the trails are closed please respect the landowner rights and stay off the trails. No permission has been asked for any other purpose than travel over snow on a snowmobile.

Public Relations... As always we are looking for ways to increase our presence in the local community. If you have any suggestions please come to the next meeting or Email any of us through our web site.

From the Editor...

Spring is here, time to clean up the trails and put the sled away. I found this checklist on the web, hope it helps your storage prep.

Spring	Condition
Inspect engine, carbs/throttle bodies, exhaust, muffler, wiring, cables, hoses for leaks, wear, loose or shifted parts	
Inspect clutch, belt, brake & cowl parts for damage, wear, looseness misalignment and repair as needed	
Inspect chain case, adjust as needed, repair as needed (leaks, wear, etc)	
Inspect suspension arms, linkages, springs, shocks, track, heat exchangers for damage, wear, leaks, corrosion	
Inspect track slides, ski carbides, repair, replace as needed (or note condition for repair later on)	
Inspect driver controls, instrumentation, air intake, cowl, hood, belly pan, seat and bumper for damage, loose parts	
Inspect front end alignment, adjust as needed (or note for repair later on)	
Inspect rewind start rope for wear, repair as needed (Don't overlook this as it's the backup starter for electric start.)	
Check all fasteners for proper torque (no loose bolts/nuts on suspension, engine, etc...); use thread locker as needed	

Remove all foreign debris from under hood 'collection areas', suspension, exhaust & track areas
Remove all accessory bags, clean & store separately, clean out trunk and other storage areas.
Wash & Wax sled - exterior & interior
Perform "as needed list", make repairs or plans for follow up repairs in fall (make list and/or flag parts for service)
Check engine coolant level, adjust as needed; if over 3 years old flush system, follow service manual for bleeding air
Fill Gas tank & Add fuel stabilizer and Dry gas (isobutyl alcohol) - run engine until treated fuel reaches carbs
Fog engine internals, run engine spraying through carbs/TBs, remove plugs and spray in cylinders.
Squirt oil in cylinders with plugs removed, pull over by hand several times, reinstall plugs or desiccant substitutes
Clean exhaust valves, spray fog oil in engine cylinder passages
Drain carbs of fuel to prevent deposits from fuel evaporation
Change chain case oil, inspect gears, chain & tensioner for wear, replace as needed
Change Brake fluid as needed (Every other year if dot 3 and trail use only; every year for Dot 4 and/or racing use)
Unhook battery, remove, trickle charge and store on wood surface in cool area
Mark direction and remove drive belt, store separately from sled (store on side un-tensioned -'as it lays')
Remove spare belt and store separately as drive belt so they are round, not out of shape / tensioned
Clean clutches, lube as applicable - TRA clutches use Teflon bushings - using any petroleum product will cause harm
Remove secondary clutch and lube shaft with anti seize, reinstall and torque bolt
Cover clutch belt areas to prevent corrosion (tape cardboard around outside to 'seal' belt areas)
Spray all under hood and suspension parts with fogging oil to prevent rust/corrosion, DO NOT get on clutches!
Lube brake rotor hub at shaft with anti seize (do not get on rotor or pad surfaces), wiggle rotor to worked in
Grease all zerk fittings: suspension, steering, drive axle/speedo bearing, etc...
Oil all pivot points that are not greased: steering pivots, posts, suspension arm bushings, torsion springs etc...
Spray metal track clips with rust preventative or penetrating oil to prevent rust
Coat shock piston shafts with a light oil or petroleum jelly to prevent corrosion, rust and pitting
Loosen track to reduce tension and stretching (record how many turns so you can restore tension in fall)
Adjust spring preloads to lowest settings to reduce sag tendencies (record initial setting for fall restoration)
Clean air filters on cowl and air box, cover cowl filter(s) with rags to prevent dirt/dust intrusion
Remove handle bar pad and retorque mounting bolts
Touch up any paint chipping or rust of parts as deemed appropriate, hood/belly pan, suspension/springs not oil coated
Touch up paint exhaust pipe & muffler with hi-temp, alternative is to use fogging/ penetrating oil, to prevent rust
Add fabric sheets or moth balls to trunk and under hood areas to deter critters and absorb moisture
Plug exhaust holes and / or other opening in belly / hood to prevent critter homemaking
Store with suspensions extended (lift track/skis off ground to prevent rot & sag) support by belly pan / running boards
Cover sled with canvas or other breathable cover to prevent dust and moisture accumulation (not plastic type)
Store sled out of direct sunlight, away from active areas and heat sources
Clean and repair personal gear (Helmet, boots, gloves, bibs, coat, etc...)

John Crane

If you have comments or an opinion you would like to express E-mail me at our website at www.mexicotrailriders.com