



Trail Notes

Publication of the Mexico Trail Riders, Inc.

March 2001



Let it snow, Let it snow, Let it snow!!



The Next Meeting and the 2000- 2001 Raffle and Party is on March 14th 2001!

It's finally here, our 2000- 2001 Fundraising raffle party and meeting will be held Wednesday March 14th at Arena Eis House at 7:30 pm. If you weren't able to attend any of the previous Mexico Trail Riders functions please make every effort to be at this one. We have not had many calls for additional tickets but if you need more to sell prior to the March 14th deadline please call Leslie at 598-9557. Members are always saying what the club needs, but it all costs money, and fund raisers are one of the ways we can meet our needs. All tickets sold and unsold must be received by or on March 14th 2001 with any money collected (don't forget the stubs). First prize: a double, 10 ft. enclosed trailer, Second prize: a side of organic beef or \$250 in cash, and Third prize is \$100 in cash. And remember the winner does not need to be present to win they just need to purchase a ticket.

Youth Safety program yet another success ...

Our second Youth Safety program for our young snowmobilers was held on February 17th. Thanks again to Paula Dryden, Mark Dryden, Jim Myers, Audrey Myers and Don Myers. Also a special thank you goes to the Mexico Volunteer Fire Department for allowing us the use of their facilities to hold the class. Like the first class we had an overwhelming response from the public and, once again, had to turn people away due to the class filling up so quickly. This year we had a total of 52 students and now have 5 certified instructors. Considering this is our first year participating in hosting these safety courses this is outstanding accomplishment. Once again, a big thank you to those who volunteered their time to put on both of these classes and let's look forward to a better turn out next season.



Have A Safe St. Patrick's Day!!!

Trail Notes Continued

NYSSA Speaker...

Dan Middleton, our Oswego County Director for the New York State Snowmobile Association (NYSSA), spoke and circulated letters at our February meeting. Governor Pataki has requested in his budget to increase the snowmobile registration fee by \$10.00. All of this money would go to the trail fund! At present clubs receive \$160 for each mile classified as corridor and \$80.00 for each mile classified as secondary. IF this budget item is passed, the reimbursement will be up to \$300.00 per mile. If it is NOT, it could be as low as \$96.00 per mile. Secondary trails will be affected in the same manner. Please write your representatives to let them know you support these efforts and would like to see this increase take place for the good of the individual clubs.

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February's Poker Run...

Harry Bartlett's on a roll. No pun intended. The *Mexico Trail Riders*, specifically Harry, was able to organize yet another Poker Run on February 17th. This one was announced in enough time for all to enjoy. Thank you to businesses that helped us and especially to Harry Bartlett. The winners for the February Poker Run were:
1st prize \$180 Audrey Myers
2nd prize \$112.50 Christy Broadwell
3rd prize \$45 Steve Lombardon
Congratulations to all and to our last place grand winner of a *Mexico Trail Riders* sweatshirt Judy Bartlett.

We Are Still Looking For A Permanent Treasurer...

If you can balance a checkbook and write a check you could be our next treasurer. If you're slightly interesting but want to see what it involves, talk to one of your Board members. We really need someone to step up and help with this position.

We Still Need People To Be Active In Our Committees...

Trail expansion, increasing membership, grooming, increasing sponsorship, and just giving a positive public image. We need people who would like to see our trails expand and be able to donate a "little" of their time to see that goal come through. It is a committee so its shared time among many.



Trail Notes *Continued*



Trail News...

If you haven't noticed yet the trails are not as well groomed as we would like them. And it's not Mother Nature's fault this time. The groomer continues to plague us with mechanical issues, predominately they are engine related. When it is running it does a great job, however, keeping it running is another matter. Many hours have been spent keeping the machine functional let alone grooming. There will be much discussion around this over the next month or so. Although the trails may only be in so-so shape it doesn't seem to be an issue for the renegade riders. Those snowmobilers who do not believe in riding only on marked trails, but rather create their own as they go. This is a major concern for all: snowmobilers, property owners, the club and local government. If an area is not marked it is not a trail, even if you see snowmobile tracks this still does not make it a trail. The true definition of a trail is an area that has been officially approved by agreement between the club and property owners and is designated and marked as an official trail. **It is also a place where you will not receive tickets if you are riding on them!!!**

Trail News...

Continued

An area of Major concern is Granger's Tree Farm. The Granger's have been more than gracious to us and have allowed us to build a trail next to their small seedlings. However, people have ventured off the marked trail and run over some new plantings. Again stay on the marked trail or we will loose the right to ride! This is not the image we want to project and it is definitely not what we want our future relations with landowners and government officials to be based on. Just remember that although you may not be the renegade rider, it may be someone you ride with. Explain to them the importance of obeying trail signs and markings as well as all the work that goes into building and maintaining these trails. A little education can go a long ways in preventing the loss of our trails.

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