

ATV Minnesota

"Your Voice For ATV Recreation in Minnesota"

March 28, 2021

Newsletter

210 new members this month!
Welcome!

WOW! Our new magazine has created quite the buzz across Minnesota and surrounding states. Over 200 new members joined ATV Minnesota during March. Over 300 so far this year.

Welcome everyone! In addition to our bi-monthly magazine, membership includes this e-newsletter sent out twice a month. Coming in the May/June issue, watch for articles on The May 1 Trail-Opener, New Trails In The Works, Safety Training for New SxS Owners, an ATV Trip to Silverton, CO, and more.

Thanks to all our members, member clubs, business sponsors, and the many businesses and organizations now advertising in Minnesota Wheelin.

We appreciate your support!

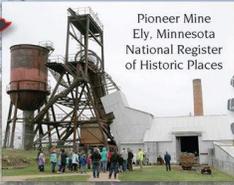


Mailing Delays: Some members still have not received their copy of the March/April issue in the mail . We checked into it. The USPS is telling us that slow deliveries are occurring due to COVID-related staff shortages. We certainly apologize for the delay, as this is the premier issue, much anticipated by our long-time members. Thanks for your patience. We'll keep checking with USPS on the delays.

**Registration Is Now Open
For The ATV Minnesota State
Convention (Ride & Rally)
September 17-19 In Ely**

Save The Dates!

**September 17-19, 2021 in Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass & Tower
ATV Minnesota State Convention 2021**



Pioneer Mine
Ely, Minnesota
National Register
of Historic Places

Hosted by:



**ATVMN Ride and Rally
Sept 17-19, 2021
Schedule of Events**

FRIDAY 9.17.21

8am Registration opens
8am Pancake Breakfast Timber Hall Embarrass
10am VIP Rides Begin
Noon-2pm VIP Lunch on Lake Vermillion
Time TBA ATV Big Air Tour in Babbitt
5pm-7 Dinner Specials at Local Restaurants

SATURDAY 9.18.21

7:30-9:30am Pancake Breakfast by the Volunteer
Fire Dept at the Morse-Fall Lake Fire Hall
8am-5pm Registration open at Grand Ely Lodge
10am Guided ATV rides offered at various
locations including a lunch stop at local restaurants.
Different rides of various lengths/difficulty.
Saturday Night @ Historic Pioneer Mine:
4-8pm Silent Auction to benefit ATVMN
5-7:30pm ATVMN Ride and Rally Banquet
7pm General Membership Meeting & Election
ATVMN Live Auction to follow

SUNDAY 9.19.21

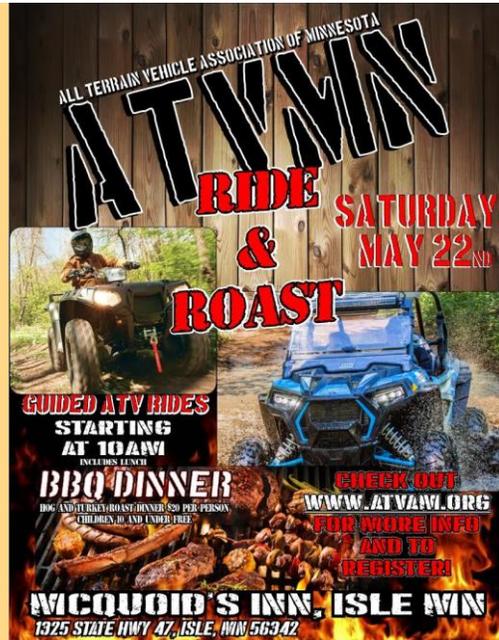
9am ATVMN board meeting at Grand Ely Lodge



**Come & Ride
What We've
Been Building!**

Register for Ride and Rally 2021 at atvam.org. Price for Friday's guided ride and VIP lunch \$10. Guided ATV rides Saturday and Saturday night banquet \$35. Kids 12 and under FREE at all events.

This year our "Ride & Rally" returns to the Ely area with a fun 3-day schedule, guided rides, our banquet, raffles and the ATV Big Air Tour. It's hosted again this year by the Prospectors ATV Club. Details, sponsorship opportunities, and registration now open at atvam.org.



May 22 - ATVMN "Ride & Roast"

This fun annual event is at McQuoid's Inn, Isle, Minnesota. It starts with a pancake breakfast by the Isle Fire Department, followed by guided rides at 10am, with a trail-side box lunch on the Red Top, Foxy Loop and Solana trail systems. A hog and turkey roast dinner rounds out the day. All for just \$20 a rider (children 10 and under free).

Register at atvam.org. McQuoid's Inn is located at 1325 State Hwy 47, Isle MN 320-676-3535. Rooms are sold out for this event. More lodging and camping options are listed on the Isle Minnesota Chamber of Commerce website.

April 10 - Timberland Dirt Devils - Spring Meeting, 9 am, Akeley Regional Community Center.

ATV Minnesota Regions



Regional All-Club Meetings Coming Up

In 2020, ATV Minnesota reorganized into four geographic regions, matching the DNR Administrative Regions: Northwest, Northeast, Central and Southern. Due to COVID-19 precautions, regional meetings that were planned had to be cancelled last year. For 2021, we are restarting regional meetings, with planned conference calls for each Region.

The first two are:

April 8, 2021, 6-8pm:

Northeast Region/33 ATVMN Clubs

April 15, 2021, 6-8pm

Northwest Region/15 ATVMN Clubs

Final agenda details and call-in numbers will be sent to all clubs one-week before the meeting date. There is much to discuss, however we want to focus on three key areas:

1. The ATV State Master Trail Plan
2. Communications between ATVMN and its member Clubs
3. Actionable priorities for the Region

April 24 - Voyageur Country ATV - Spring Ride Watch for details on club Facebook page.

May 22 - Lake Country ATV Riders - Spring Ride at Spider Lake Trails. See Facebook page for details.

June 9-13 - High Lifter Mud Nationals. and

July 7-10 - ERX Off-Road National ATVMN members will be invited to help again this year with parking; a fun ATV Minnesota fundraiser. Details coming soon.

Add your club rides (and work days that need extra volunteer help).

Send details to

d.halsey@atvam.org Thanks!



Question from a member:
What's with all the acronyms?

We get that question often, especially from new riders and new ATV Minnesota members.



There Is Strength In Numbers

In Minnesota there are four State Associations for motorized recreation and their users and

In 2020, clubs in the southeast area of the Central Region planned a brief outdoor meeting and then a group ride. It was attended by eight different clubs, along with ATVMN Executive Board members, and led to a number of actionable steps in the Region, and a chance to network. The meet-and-ride format is something ATVMN wants to continue holding in each Region. I hope each of the clubs in the NW and NE Regions can have one club member attend the April meetings, so that we can get the ATV engine started in all ATVMN Regions in 2021. Thanks!

Perry May

ATVMN Director-At-Large

clubs: 1) **ATVMN** - ATV Association of Minnesota, 2) **MN4WDA** - Minnesota 4WD Association, 3) **MnUSA** - Minnesota United Snowmobile Association, and 4) **ARMCA** - Amateur Riders Motorcycle Association. Their boards work together on common issues related to trails and trail funding.



Catching Up On High Demand For ATV Safety Training Classes

Thanks to all the ATV clubs that are organizing ATV Safety Classes so young riders 12-15 can get their ATV Certificates.

COVID put a stop to classes last year. To catch up to the demand, more and more classes are being organized and listed on the DNR website; they fill up fast. The "MN DNR ENF Safety/Education COVID-19 Preparedness Plan" now allows 25 students/instructors outside, 25 inside. Parents who need their kids to take the hands-on rider course are encouraged to sign up for those still open, even



They Work

Together On Public Access, Education, Mapping, Regulations And More

A few members from each Association are on the boards of two Coalitions:

1) The Coalition of Recreational Trail Users (**CRTU**) focuses on outreach and rider education. Its safety education trailer carries

if they may have to drive a bit to get to one. As of March 27, of 48 classes listed, 36 were full. See the list and register your young rider at this link:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/vehicle/atv/index.html>

Courses				
To view detailed information about a class or field day, click on its title.				
	Date	Title	Location	County
● FULL	04/03/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class	Bertha	Todd
● FULL	04/10/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class	Center City	Chisago
● FULL	04/11/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class	Newfolden	Marshall
● FULL	04/17/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class	McGrath	Aitkin
● FULL	04/17/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class	Barnum	Carlton
● FULL	04/17/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class - 8:00 AM	Buckman	Morrison
● FULL	04/17/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class - 10:00 AM	Buckman	Morrison
	04/17/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class	Henning	Otter Tail
	04/17/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class	Parkers Prairie	Otter Tail
● FULL	04/18/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class - 9:00 AM	Hibbing	Mahnomen
● FULL	04/18/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class - 12:00 PM	Hibbing	Mahnomen
● FULL	04/19/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class	St. Cloud	Stearns
● FULL	04/24/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class	East Bethel	Anoka
● FULL	04/24/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class - 8:30 AM	Willmar	Kandiyohi
● FULL	04/24/21	ATV Safety Online Field Day Class - 10:00 AM	Willmar	Kandiyohi

youth vehicles and a wide range of handouts members bring to the State Fair (photo above) and many off-road and youth outdoor events.

2) The Minnesota Motorized Trails Coalition (MMTC). Its members and each Association's lobbyists meet regularly with the Minnesota DNR Parks & Trails and Enforcement Divisions, tackling a wide range of issues to further the success of all motorized recreation in Minnesota.

Wait There's More!

The Minnesota Recreational Trail Users Association (MRTUA) includes members of the motorized and non-motorized groups representing hikers, equestrians, bicyclists and cross-country skiers. An important MRTUA function is to advise the DNR on the distribution of federal Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grant money.

There are even more acronyms for OHV organizations on the national level...another time.



City Buys Pizzas For Riders Joining Local ATV Club

The City of Fifty Lakes Mayor and City Council extended an invitation to Perry May, president of the Over The Hills Gang ATV Club,

to discuss the possibilities of a new Grant-In-Aid ATV Trail to connect Fifty Lakes to the City of Emily, the Emily-Outing Trail, and the future Emily-Blind Lake Trail. A working group was established, and has met with Crow Wing County personnel to communicate the trail initiative. "We want to be on the map and be an ATV destination," said Mayor Steve Dahlke.



The City also wanted to promote the club. It has taken steps to offer a free 12-inch pizza at the Fifty Lakes Bar for every new

member that joins the OTHG club; a limited time offer.

"Being a club member promotes the goal of safe and informed ATV riding, and helps the establishment of new trails," said May.

The club will be holding its annual ATV Safety Training in Fifty Lakes on Saturday, May 1st. All three safety training sessions are full.



Spring Thaw Closes ATV Trails And

State/Federal Forest Roads

From a DNR News Release: The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will temporarily close some state forest roads and trails because they are not firm enough to support vehicle traffic without causing damage. Depending on weather conditions, the temporary closures could remain in effect until sometime in May. "The annual spring thaw creates wet, unstable road and trail conditions," said Deb Pitt, roads program coordinator for the Minnesota DNR Forestry Division. "Seasonal closures protect these roads from damage. Before heading out, people should check the DNR website for updates, obey the closures, and use good judgment wherever they ride or drive."

For information on road/trail closures, visit the DNR's road closure web page:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ohv/closures.html>

Temporary road and trail closure information is updated weekly on Thursdays by 2 p.m. Signs will be posted at entry points and parking lots. Roads that can handle vehicle traffic during the spring thaw will

remain open but may have vehicle weight restrictions.

For status of Federal Forest Roads, contact the Chippewa and Superior National Forests or see their websites.



Coming This Summer!
All-New Explore Minnesota 2021-22 Trail Riders Guide
Pro Print, our new publishing partner, will be designing, printing and mailing this year's Explore Minnesota offroad magazine. It will be an all-new tourism guide for off-highway vehicle (OHV) riders, distributed at the state's Welcome Centers, affiliates and offroad events, and inserted in the summer issue of Minnesota Wheelin magazine.

Creating A Positive Future For Motorized Recreation In Minnesota



ATVMN Planning For 2021 And Beyond

The annual ATV Minnesota Vision Conference was held March 20th at Running Aces in Forest Lake. Fifty people attended in person or through Zoom for the all-day, agenda-packed meeting, including the ATVMN Executive Board, Regional Directors, members, our lobbyists,

agency partners with the Minnesota DNR Parks & Trails and Enforcement

Divisions, two ATV manufacturers and the Big Air ATV Tour. Here are some of the highlights from the ATVMN 2021 Vision Conference:

-Bylaws: Four areas were updated, to be voted on at the fall State Convention.

-Strategic Plan Update: Discussion, with revisions made due to COVID, details will be provided to the state board in May for approval.

-ERX Motor Park: There will be volunteer opportunities in June at the High Lifter Mud Nationals and in July at the ERX OffRoad National. Details to come.

-DNR Parks & Trails Update: Record use of trails in 2020; improvements to GIA process/funding, progress on new trail projects and ATV camping.

-DNR Enforcement: A report on 2020 accidents/fatalities, increase in citations for youths under 18 not wearing helmets; update on ATV safety training in 2021; new public service announcements in the works.

-Promoting Safety: With the increase in new ATV registrations, Perry May presented innovative ideas for clubs to educate new riders at the local level.



-Legislative Update: Progress during current Legislative Session on bills to remove "low pressure tires" from the ATV Definition, fund trails, and a state-wide Master Plan; discussion on E-15, Clean Car Standards and other issues forthcoming.

-Master Plan Update: Objectives, process involved with club and member input.

-Communications Report: Success of Minnesota Wheelin and our partnership with Pro Print.

-Changing the ATV Definition: A presentation by BRP and Polaris via Zoom was followed by discussion on the pros and cons of increasing the maximum weight in Minnesota's ATV Definition from 2,000 lb. to 3,000 lb., in order to 1) accommodate Class 2 ATVs with 4 seats and a cab, already over 2,000 lb., and 2) electric vehicles being introduced by manufacturers. A motion was voted on and passed by a narrow margin to 1) not oppose manufacturers' proposal to the State Legislature to increase the weight limit up to 3,000 pounds, 2) keep the maximum width at 65 inches, and 3) that no additional changes would be made for the next 5 years. ATVMN and its lobbyists will followup and monitor this important issue.

-Efforts to Grow Membership: Discussion included: over 300 new members this year, pilot project for ATVMN to manage membership for an ATV club with all-ATVMN members, new ATVMN and Minnesota Wheelin websites coming.

- ATV Big Air Tour:** A preview of the show coming to our State Convention in September.
- Winter Riding Opportunities:** An update on our successful educational efforts.
- Regional Directors:** Review of those up for renewal, nominations and vote.



Watch for in-depth articles on many of these issues in future ATVMN newsletters and the Minnesota Wheelin magazine. At the annual Vision Conference, the ATV Minnesota Executive Board, Regional Directors and ATV club members from across the state discuss a wide range of topics, with one goal: creating a clear Vision for ATVMN, and the Action Items needed to move it and its 70 member clubs forward, and advance our state's awesome ATV trail system.

(Top photo: ATVMN executive board, left to right: Nick Wognum, secretary; Mike Devine, 2nd VP; Erv Kleinschmidt, treasurer; Ron Potter, president; Perry May, director-at-large; Dave Clevenger, 1st VP. Middle photo: ATVMN lobbyists Tom Hackbarth (right), Ray Bohn. Lower photo: Ron Potter)



ATV MINNESOTA *"Your Voice To Ride"*

Dedicated Volunteers
Building Fun & Sustainable
ATV Trails
For The Riding Public

< **The Trail Opener is just around the corner. Order your ATV Minnesota gear today at atvam.org**

Invite friends and family to join today. Gift memberships available! See the mailing label on your ATV Minnesota magazine for the renewal date of your membership. Be sure to include your email address on the renewal form to receive newsletters. And send renewals to ATVMN's mailing address: PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079.

Belonging to ATV Minnesota, you join thousands of riders throughout the state, have fun, and help create a positive future of ATV riding in Minnesota.

As a family or individual member for just \$20 you receive:

- A subscription to Minnesota Wheelin magazine (6 issues per year)
- Twice-monthly newsletter by email with the latest news and information
- Membership card and bumper sticker
- Invitation to events, including our Legislative Summit in winter, Vision Meeting and Ride & Roast in the spring, and State Convention "Ride & Rally" in the fall, as well as general membership meetings
- Discounts with many of our business members
- A full-time lobbyist at the State Capitol, helping create pro-ATV legislation, and moving forward important bills that help provide funding for new trail systems

As a business member, for \$75 you receive:

All of the above, plus:

- Your business name, address, phone number, email address and website listed in Minnesota Wheelin magazine and on the ATV Minnesota website
- Discounts on advertising in Minnesota Wheelin
- Opportunities to reach more customers by sponsoring or donating to our events
- An official ATV Minnesota membership certificate for display in your business

To join, contact **ATVAM** or call (800) 442-8826.

ATVAM

Follow us for all the latest news!



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