



**A.T.V. Maine**  
**(Alliance of Trail Vehicles of Maine)**

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**April 16, 2011**  
**Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony**

Call meeting to order at 10:05  
Please turn off your cell phones  
Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Message from the Board of Directors:

We want to welcome you to ATV Maine Annual Banquet and Award ceremony. We want to have more celebration of the clubs that belong to ATV Maine and also to recognize ATV Maine's accomplishments over the past year. We want to get away from the Political piece. We will put together a Political Action Committee to handle those things. It is part of our core to know and understand legislation that affects our sport. We are trying to have more social and less business at the annual meeting. We want to teach safety and bring together the voice of ATV Maine.

Introduction of officers:

President—Dan Mitchell  
Vice President—Real Deschaine  
Secretary—Rose Sack  
Treasurer—Nadine Stover

- ❖ Jim Brown United Ins.—Please contact United Insurance through the link on the website or contact Tami and she will get you in touch with United Insurance. Flyer went out to all clubs this week with contact information and some general information about the insurance. One recent common question is around the loan/rental of equipment to the club. The situations need to be handled on an individual basis on the loan/rental of equipment to the club. Liability Insurance covers club but does not cover the equipment or operator. It is imperative that the equipment have its own insurance.

United will send a flyer to the clubs with some general parameters on the insurance.

We will look at the number of events now that we have a better definition of what an event versus a ride is. If you are having an event make sure you submit an application and the company will decide what needs to be covered. Another important point is that if several clubs are running an event together they all need to have insurance.

The policy does not cover for wrongful acts. It only covers for bodily injury and property damage.

There are too many clubs in the State for Jim to get around to each individual club but feel free to call their office with any questions you might have either through e-mail or phone.

We are encouraging as many clubs as possible to purchase this policy as the more that participate, it will decrease the per club cost.

- ❖ Commissioner Beardsley--Bill Beardsley, Commissioner of Maine Department of Conservation. Public Land—There are 600,000 acres of public land. Purpose of this land is for public access. 80% of Maine people don't own more than a house lot, so the role of the Department is to be champion of Hunting, Fishing, ATV's, Snowmobiles or other recreational activities.

The Department needs to make sure a variety of interests are protected as well as strengthen the economy. Multiple use trails can work as evidenced in the rail bed Down East. The Department is trying to get the workers out in the field and out of Augusta so that we can understand what needs to be done.

The Department is trying to pick up parcels that allow us to make connections, so that people can get multi day trips in.

ATV Maine wants the Commissioner to think about some landowner incentives. We are working with the University of Maine on trying to figure out some incentives for landowners to provide access.

- ❖ Charlie Corliss, Down East Trail PowerPoint. This was a joint effort between the Department of Conservation and the Department of Transportation. Charlie reviewed his presentation to explain all that has gone into the Sunrise Trail. It is an 85 mile long trail at this point. It has taken four years to complete this project. It was started in 2007. There was a lot of beaver damage along the trail that had to be fixed. Several bridges needed to be built and lots of culverts had to be put in. There is plenty of wildlife and birds for viewing. For more information go to the trail website at [www.sunrisetrail.org](http://www.sunrisetrail.org) or you can go to [www.parksandlands.com](http://www.parksandlands.com). The trail is currently closed until approximately May 15<sup>th</sup>. The entire cost of the project was paid for by the sale of the rails. At this time there are no plans to go beyond Ayers Junction.
- ❖ Lunch at twelve--We did the raffles and the 50/50 and our Pot of Gold sponsored by Can AM. Richard Barter dressed as a leprechaun and showcased our new Pot of Gold container. This month the amount is \$250.00. The winner was Turner Timberland and no one was present so the next meeting the prize will grow to \$300.00 for the winning club.
- ❖ We are going to form a recognition committee to review clubs that should be recognized more often.
- ❖ The newspaper will be published during May.
- ❖ Brian Bronson & Crew D.O.C—For those of you who want it the address for durable paint markers is Durable supply company. Their phone number is 866-354-9431. The website address is [www.durablesupply.com](http://www.durablesupply.com). They are a PX30 paint marker. They do not fade when used to write on the signs.

The Moose Loop will be open this year. This includes connection across the Appalachian Trail. We have been trying to get this going for 10 years.

BMP training will be expanded this year, 3 dates set for the trainings and we will be doing notification mailings, one in Western--May

14, Northern—June 4, Down East--June 11 and there will be one in Southern Maine but the date is not yet set. There will be a variety of different trainings offered. Big landowners will get credit which will help them work with us.

\$1.4 million was spent on ATV Trails in Maine last year. This year Club grant applications were mailed on Friday, April 15. There is a list included with mailing of current landowners. Please verify this listing and get back to Brian with upcoming grant application. Brian needs copies of your permission slip or your verbal permission.

Any changes in club officers need to fill out vendor update form. This is important so it doesn't result in lost mailings.

We have 2,686 landowners we currently work with. Access Routes are not trails. They do not count for trail mileage, can't use regular ATV trail signs, they are public ways covered under Maine Torque act, not covered under the landowner liability insurance.

There were 20,000 volunteer hours during the last year. We had 250 individuals who donated more than 40 hours last year. In recognition we are giving a bandanna and a set of sealed safety glass/goggles.

Reminder that trails are closed until at least May 15<sup>th</sup> and maybe even later for some trails in the North that are still snow covered.

Also make sure that when getting permission from a landowner, make sure that there is a clear communication of their expectations and that you can fulfill that obligation.

We also now have easements on Quimby properties that we have settled on for ATV's.

- ❖ Club Recognition—Longest running Charitable Event organizing the Western Maine ATV toy run—Mountain View ATV club, Western Maine ATV Club, Webb River Valley ATV Club, Brettuns Wheelers ATV Club and Canton Trial Riders ATV Club.

Outstanding Community Leadership—initiating and inspiring roadside clean up. Roxbury ATV Riders Club.

Most Charitable Club in recognition of the Make A Wish Foundation. Cambridge Cruisers ATV club.

Trails Committee is doing an awesome job. We presented Brian Bronson a mug with the logo from the MATS signs.

All the Regional VP's got a t-shirt for their hard work along with new business cards.

- ❖ Legislative update-- Reverse posting status on landowner access. It will require all folks to have permission to recreate on the land and if it is farm land you will need written permission which ATV's need already. They are still alive. There was a lot of support and opposition to this bill. There are several other bills that in some way address this issue, so we will see how it lands.

There is a bill in for a nonresident seven day registration. One of the amendments for this bill now includes a fine for no registration to be \$250.

There is also a bill in to establish a damage mitigation fund. This will be funded from registration fees and increased sales tax. It also includes that non residents would have to pay a sales tax before registering their machine.

- ❖ Trails VP Mats update –Need landowner permissions to put the signs on the State map.

Bill thanked committee members for their participation in the committee.

Signs have been distributed and will be put up this year. We want to thank the Department of Conservation for all of their help in getting this project under way.

ATV Maine will take ownership of this MATS map and eventually will sell the maps.

We need to cover costs of meeting including mileage of travelers to meetings. Folks are coming from all parts of the State to attend these meetings. We have a contract with Department of Conservation to cover some of these costs.

Scholarship Fund—Bill would also like to encourage folks to apply for this year's upcoming Scholarship. We have given our first award and we are hoping for several applicants for this spring. You can get your application from a committee member or on the ATV Maine website.

Presidents Report: One of the frustrating pieces is dealing with legislature on a daily basis. We need to get the 501( c )-3 status in place so we can get corporate sponsorships so we can get someone full-time in Augusta. In Augusta they are making decisions every day and we need someone in place there to be available and understand the legislative process. If we are not there decisions will be made that may adversely affect our sport.

- ❖ By-laws committee update –Have completed their work and we will do first pass of changes at the June meeting and finalize them at the August meeting.
- ❖ New Web-site Presentation done by Rick Sack. This will be rolled out over the next few weeks going live. ATV Maine will host a website for the clubs free of charge. This will begin after the next directors meeting. At some point we will offer a workshop to help clubs get up and running with this if they are interested. If your club has a logo of some sort and you have not yet given it to Tami and you want it incorporated into the new website then make sure you get it to Tami so that she can get it to Rick. There is a lot of information on the updated website. Forms, Links to sponsors, Latest news and information, Map of all the clubs with availability to get directions, etc. This website will also be compatible with Internet Explorer as well as Firefox as well as a couple others. Also included is an ATV Search Effort. This will allow folks to sign up if they want to be involved in a search effort if needed. This will be an e-mail alert system. The Board of Directors is excited to offer this new incentive for clubs to join ATV Maine.
- ❖ ATV Maine has adopted a new logo.

## Regional Vice Presidents:

- Northern—Real Deschaine—Meeting with all clubs to make sure all set with the MATS System. June 11 There will be a Al Langley scholarship ride in St. Agatha. March Dirt Wheels article about Van Buren club.
- Eastern—Ray Archer—Down East Rail Bed is an impressive piece of riding. Can start in Down East and go to the Allagash. One new club will be forming next month. June 11 BMP training on trail conditions. Ray was instrumental in setting up the regional numbering system to go along with the MATS system. Contact your Regional VP if you are interested in marking one of you trails with this numbering system.
- Central—Ken Snowdon—still snowmobiling. One ride in July and a Camp CaPella ride is scheduled for the last Saturday in August. Will participate in the April 29 parade in Harmony for Make a Wish. Trying to head to Kokadjo this year.
- Western—Mike Worthley—April 23 ATV Safety course, roadside cleanup , May 7 starting at 8:00 in the morning. This training is with ATV clubs, snowmobile, LifeFlight, firefighters etc. in Andover. Hoping to have an AED training that day also. Club having a cookout and proceeds will go to Make-A-Wish foundation. Participating on April 29 in the parade in Harmony for Make A Wish. Visited 9 clubs for the MATS trail systems. Moose Loop trail celebration June 25 at 2:00 to 3:15 and a Congressional delegate will be there for the ribbon cutting. June 26 there will be two rides.
- Southern—Ed Coleman—Bunch of Safety courses scheduled in Southern Maine. April 30 East Waterboro will be hosting a jamboree.
- Safety Officer—Rick Sack will be doing a presentation after the meeting on how to set up the safety trailer. He will review the engineered course and how to place the hay bales in order to protect the spectators. The requirements to use the trailer are as follows: The club needs to have insurance, be a member club of ATV Maine and one club member that will be in attendance needs to have taken a train the trainer course. You should have 8 folks to run the course.
- 90 cc for sale at \$800.00. We are selling this so we can buy one larger machine for the ATV Safety trailer for the bigger kids.

ATV Stop gap bill legislatures need to hear from you. If the landowners don't get what they want they will shut down access to some trails. We will end up with a fragmented trail system. We need you to get in touch with these folks and let Dan know what they have to say about this bill.

- Adjournment--Motion made by Ed Coleman seconded by Real Deschaine to adjourn at 3:45. Motion passed unanimously.
- Don't forget we are having a "Train the Trainer" session after the banquet for the ATV Safety Trailer.

Respectfully submitted  
Rose Sack  
Secretary