

**Shooting for another 500  
new members in 2020**

## **ATVAM Newsletter - February 29, 2020**

Newsletter of the ATV Association of Minnesota (Est. 1983)

*"Your Voice for ATV Recreation In Minnesota"*

- Send your comments, club news, photos and article ideas to: [dvhalsey@gmail.com](mailto:dvhalsey@gmail.com).
- Forward this email to club partners and business sponsors if they aren't ATVAM members already.
- All members should receive this newsletter and MN OffRoad magazine. Let us know if you're not.

**Please note:**

Send member renewals to new mailing address: ATVAM, PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079

E-newsletters are now archived on [atvam.org](http://atvam.org) to refer back to on topics.

**In This e-Newsletter:**

- Grant Programs Large & Small
- Ride & Rally & Big Air
- Registration Open For OHV Trail Workshop

- Get To Know Your ATVAM Secretary
- Invitation To Be ATVAM Regional Director
- Register Now For Vision Conference
- News & Notes From Around MN
- Fun ATVAM & ATV Club Events Coming Up
- Invite Friends To Join ATVAM

## Grant Programs Large & Small To Check Out

### ***First in a series on raising funds for ATV clubs.***

*By Dave Halsey, ATVAM Communications Director*

In addition to Federal RTP Grants, and the Minnesota DNR Grant-In-Aid program, many companies have grant programs focused on outdoor recreation in their local areas, including ATV clubs. The most popular and well-used by ATV clubs across the country are the Polaris and Yamaha grant programs, aimed at providing ATV clubs with funds for qualifying projects. Most ATV clubs in Minnesota know about those; many have funded projects with them.

### ***But did you know?***

A number of other companies and organizations also have community-minded support programs. They vary in eligibility requirements, area they serve and monetary amounts. Some give out grants to clubs for safety education or trail cleaning. Some have deadlines of once a year, or donate only to specific 501c non-profit groups. But they are worth looking into. Below are their titles and links to their websites. Let us know if you have success with the smaller grant programs if you apply for them. Also, send us an email about other grant programs you know of that aren't listed below. We'll put them all on the ATVAM website.

### ATV Manufacturer Grant Programs



**OUTDOOR  
ACCESS  
INITIATIVE**

**Yamaha Outdoor Access Initiative**  
<https://www.yamahaoai.com/>



**Polaris T.R.A.I.L.S. Grant Program**  
<https://www.polaris.com/en-us/trails-application/>

### Other Corporate & Organization Grant Programs



**Bass Pro Shops & Cabela's: Conservation Foundation**  
<https://community.basspro.com/conservation-leadership/>

**Affairs Program**



**Carhartt: Community**

<https://www.carhartt.com/content/community-affairs>



**Extreme Terrain Clean  
Terrain Initiative  
Program**

<https://www.extremeterrain.com/clean-trail-initiative-program.html>



**Fleet Farm: Community Involvement  
Program**

<https://newsroom.fleetfarm.com/community-involvement/>



**DEPARTMENT OF IRON RANGE  
RESOURCES & REHABILITATION**

**IRRRB - serving northeast MN  
communities**

<https://mn.gov/irrrb/>



**Right Rider Access Fund**

<https://www.riderfund.org/Default.aspx>

Supported by OHV manufacturers through MIC, SVIA

**State Farm: Community**



**Grants**

<https://www.statefarm.com/about-us/community-involvement/community-grants>

*Do you know of other grant programs? Tell us about them and we'll add them to the list and post them all on the ATVAM website. Email to: [d.halsey@atvam.org](mailto:d.halsey@atvam.org)*

**2020 ATVAM State Convention:  
Ride & Rally ... And Big Air**



*Reprinted from the Ely Echo:*  
The Ely area will host a major ATV event in September. The local club is going all out to make sure the new Prospector Loop trail system is completed in time. "We are very excited to host the ATV Association of Minnesota Ride and Rally event which serves as the state organization's annual convention," said Nick Wognum, president of the Prospector Alliance and the secretary of the state ATV board.

The Ride and Rally kicks off on Friday, Sept. 18 with a VIP ride leaving from Embarrass after a pancake breakfast at the Timber Hall. "We would like to show some of our elected officials and others what kind of trail system the Prospector is for northeast Minnesota," said ATVAM President Ron Potter. "The section from Embarrass to Tower has some very scenic locations and we're looking to have lunch on the shores of Lake Vermilion."

Friday evening the ATV Big Air Tour will perform in Babbitt with a series of high flying jumps by everything from motorcycles to ATVs. "Getting the ATV Big Air Tour to come here is a really big deal," said Wognum. "They have performed all across the country and have been a big hit at the Hay Days event every year."

**September 18-20, 2020 in Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass & Tower  
ATV Minnesota State Convention 2020**



Hosted by:



**ATVAM Ride and Rally  
Sept 18-20, 2020  
Schedule of Events**

**FRIDAY 9.18.20**

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

**SATURDAY 9.19.20**

- 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 ATVAM
- 5-7:30pm ..... ATVAM Ride and Rally Banquet
- 7pm ..... General Membership Meeting & Election  
ATVAM Live Auction to follow

**SUNDAY 9.20.20**

- 9am ..... ATVAM board meeting at Grand Ely Lodge



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

Register for Ride and Rally 2020 at [ATVAM.org](http://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.

On Saturday the event ramps up with a pancake breakfast in Ely followed by guided rides throughout the 250-mile Prospector Loop. "It's been interesting planning rides on sections of trails that aren't built yet but we've got everything lined up for the trail to be completed by September," said Wognum. The Prospector Loop connects Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass and Tower along with the Finland and North Shore trail systems.

"The one thing to keep in mind with the Prospector is your gas gauge because some of our sections take you into remote areas like the Trestle Inn which isn't far from Lake Superior.

"Plus we have shorter segments so if you don't want a long ride we can accommodate that as well. We also have the Echo Trail as an

option to ride to Crane Lake and check out the new bridge over the Vermilion River and the trails they have put in place," said Wognum.

The Prospector Alliance was formed in 2013 with representatives from each community. Volunteers have been meeting monthly to make the trail system a reality.

"Right now we're used to seeing groups of snowmobilers coming to our communities and spending money. ATV riders will do the same thing and provide a boost to our local economy especially in the shoulder seasons," said Wognum.

Following the different trail rides in the area on Saturday, there will be a banquet and auction at the Miners Dry building on the historic Pioneer Mine complex in Ely.

"We have a great group of people who have already been meeting for several months to plan this event and they are doing a fantastic job," said Wognum. "Businesses should look for a sponsorship letter and we're hoping for good support from the community. It's taken us a long time to get to this point and we're very excited to host the state

convention."



For more information, a schedule of activities, and to register to attend, go to the ATVAM website:

[atvam.org](http://atvam.org). ATVAM is the state association representing 70 ATV clubs across Minnesota. Established in 1983, it serves the interests of ATV owners in Minnesota by advocating for ATV recreation, advancing the safe use of ATVs, building trails economically and environmentally sustainable, providing information, and participating in legislative and

regulatory activities related to the use of all-terrain vehicles.

## ***Registration Is Now Open!*** **2020 Minnesota OHV Trails Workshop** **April 24-25, Duquette MN**

**(Maximum: 40 people)**



The 2020 Minnesota OHV Trails Workshop will be in Duquette, Minnesota, with field demos on trails in the Nemadji State Forest.

The workshops are always well attended, with all kinds of great information on building and maintaining sustainable OHV trails. The class has a maximum of 40 participants. Register today at [atvam.org](http://atvam.org).

### **2020 Minnesota OHV Trails Workshop**

Dates: April 24-25

Classroom Location: Kerrick Township Town Hall, Duquette, MN

Field Locations: Nemadji OHV Trails (multiple locations)

Overnight Lodging: options available in nearby Moose Lake, MN

Registration: Open at: [www.atvam.org](http://www.atvam.org) (Max 40 people)

Cost: \$40 per participant, includes classroom and field materials, lunch each day

Sponsored By: Minnesota DNR, ATVAM, ARMCA and MN4WD

Designed For: OHV Clubs involved in Trail Maintenance, Local Government Unit Sponsors & Land Managers, GIA Administrators, Minnesota DNR Staff

Topics to include:

Four E's of OHV Management: Education, Enforcement, Engineering, Evaluation  
Water Management / Storm Water Run-off /Creating Sustainable Trail Conditions  
Trail Management Coordination  
Trail Management Objectives

## Get To Know Your ATVAM Executive Board Members



**Nick Wognum, ATVAM Secretary**

-Lives in Ely, Minnesota; married to Mary, children Jacob (29), Megan (26) and Evan (21).

-Publisher of the Ely Echo and Babbitt Weekly News; owner of a printing business.

-"I've been involved in numerous community-related boards including Little League, Ely-Winton Historical Society, St. Louis County Historical Society, Ely Library Board, St. Louis County Community Development Block Grant Board as well as various city boards and committees. Trail-wise I

served as the President and Trail Administrator for Ely Igloo Snowmobile Club as well as the Mesabi Trail Advisory Committee for a number of years before switching to the toughest trails to build, ATV. We formed the Prospector Alliance in 2013 to connect the communities of Ely, Babbitt, Tower and Embarrass.

"At one point my 'Garage Logic' cylinder index was 58, but sadly it has fallen to the 40s at this point in my life. I've owned Kawasaki, Arctic Cat and Honda ATVs and dirt bikes. Now we own a Can Am Defender 800 and have put miles on from Ely to Crane Lake as well as numerous trips on and off the Soo Line.

"Up until this year we were a snowmobile family, at one point having five sleds so we could all ride together. While my kids are still avid snowmobilers, Mary and I have focused on ATVing, including accessorizing our Defender with a light bar and a kick-butt sound system so we can rock and roll down the trails. We love to ride out by our hunting shack and look forward to the day we can ride the trails from Ely to get there. New friends, new places to ride and learning about issues across the state have been great reasons to join the ATV Minnesota executive board.

**The ATV world is changing fast and your state organization is focused on how to keep up with the changes,** put more trails on the ground and best represent riders from city hall to St. Paul. Membership is the key to our success in the future. We need people to be members so we can better represent them. I'm excited about new clubs forming across the state and I think back to where we started 7 years ago. We had a dream for a 250-mile trail system and now it's becoming a reality. Let's find ways to do that all across Minnesota!"

*(Thanks to Nick and Mary for the work they put into their club and into ATVAM, to Nick as ATVAM secretary, and to both for the many hours ordering ATVAM gear, fulfilling orders and selling gear at ATVAM events. Nick is also leading the club's effort on the 2020 ATVAM State Convention in Ely.)*

## **Thanks To Those Who Responded To Our Call For Regional Directors**

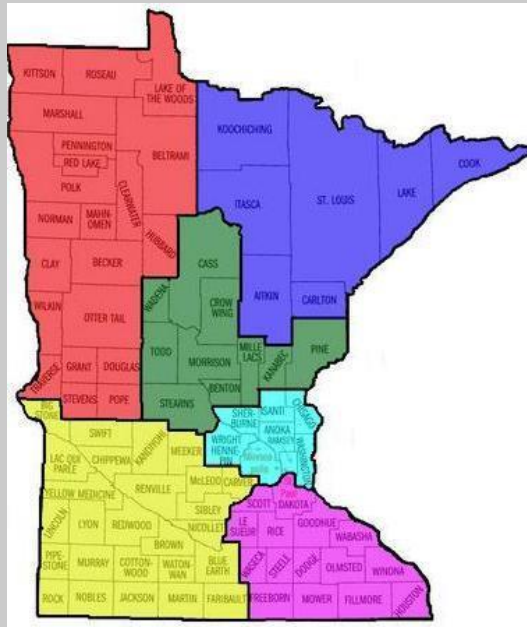
***MORE ARE WELCOME!***

Are you motivated in promoting ATV Recreation in your region of the state?

Are you motivated in developing a Regional ATV Trail Master Plan?

Do you like working with ATV Clubs in your region to communicate the great things they are doing?

If this sounds like you, please consider putting some of your time and talents to work as an ATVAM Regional Director. ATVAM is seeking to add to its Regional Director ranks. For more information regarding the position of Regional Director please contact ATVAM at [atvamoffice@atvam.org](mailto:atvamoffice@atvam.org).



***Make Sure Your Club Is Represented!***  
**Register Today For The  
2020 ATVAM Vision Conference**





**March 21-22, 2020**  
**ATVAM Vision Conference**  
**Treasure Island Resort/Casino**  
5734 Sturgeon Lake Rd  
Welch, MN 55089  
800-222-7077  
www.ticasino.com

This two-day gathering is always well attended and a lot of fun, with lively discussions at the Saturday Vision Conference, and Sunday General Membership Meeting. Join the Executive Board, Regional Directors and ATV club

members from across Minnesota as we tackle a wide range of topics, with one goal: a clear Vision for ATVAM, creating the Action Items needed to move it and its 70 member clubs forward, and advance our state's awesome ATV trail systems.

It's also your chance to buy new ATVAM gear, reappoint and elect new Regional Directors...and more. If you can make it just Saturday, great! If you can stay for the Sunday morning general-membership meeting, even better.

**We need a headcount for lunch. Please register today at [atvam.org](http://atvam.org)**

Registration fee: \$25 per person (includes Saturday continental breakfast, deli-style lunch, and Sunday bagels, juice and coffee).



**Schedule:**

**Friday, March 20** - evening social gathering, location TBD

**Saturday, March 21** -

7 a.m. - Doors open for registration/visiting/networking.

8 a.m. - Meeting starts, full agenda, lots of great topics and DNR updates.

**Sunday, March 22**

9 a.m. - State Board & General Membership Meeting (to about noon)

**Lodging:** A block of 15, special-rate

rooms is reserved under ATVAM: \$139 for Friday, and \$159 on Saturday (plus fees, taxes). Other lodging options are available in nearby Red Wing, including:

-St. James Hotel: 651-388-2846 (12 miles from Treasure Island)

-Super 8 by Wyndham: 651-347-6954 (10 miles)

-Country Inn & Suites: 651-388-9000 (7.7 miles)

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**Make it a family weekend at Treasure Island: bowling, water park, live entertainment & more.**

**Reminder to all ATVAM Clubs:**

ATVAM's State Board of Directors is made up of the Executive Board, Regional Directors, and Representatives from all ATVAM Clubs. Every ATVAM Club has a voice, through its designated ATVAM Representative, who are invited to participate in the monthly board calls and the in-person meetings at the annual Vision Conference and Fall

Ride & Rally. This is your club's opportunity to provide input and shape the direction and actions of the ATVAM Executive Board. If your Club's ATVAM Rep (usually the club president) isn't receiving the monthly e-mail invitations, let us know by sending an email to: [atvamoffice@atvam.org](mailto:atvamoffice@atvam.org). Thanks!

## News & Notes From Around Minnesota



### **Polaris Introduces RideReady Service**

You probably use the internet to schedule service for your car or truck. You choose the dealer, date, time, tap in your vehicle's year, make and model, services requested, dropping off or waiting, and so forth. If you have a boat, the marina you use for service may even pick it up, service it and

return it, with a transport charge.

That and more is what RideReady is all about. It's a new program Polaris is introducing first with Polaris dealers in Minnesota, and then across the country. It's the first of its kind service-and-maintenance website that lets riders access vehicle information and how-to videos, schedule service, even pay online, and includes dealers that offer mobile and transport services. Log in, enter your contact information and the VIN numbers for your ATVs and SxSs (of any brand). If your vehicles are already part of the "Garage" feature on Ride Command, they will automatically appear on your RideReady account. "We're super excited about it because it's the first of its kind to focus on service in the powersports industry," said Cathie Tidball with Polaris. "We talked to riders all over the country and built it based on what they told us they wanted." You can learn more, see the list of dealers in Minnesota currently offering the service program, and schedule service now before the trails open, at [ridereadyservice.com](http://ridereadyservice.com).



## More Fun At ERX Motor Park

Last year, dozens of ATVAM members signed up to help with parking and security at ERX national truck races. ATVAM is partnering with ERX Motor Park again this year, at the ERX Off Road National race event, July 10-11. ATVAM members will be invited to assist, and given free passes, camping and more. A sign-up calendar will be up and running soon. Keep an eye on this newsletter and the ATVAM Facebook page

for more details.

## Southeast Minnesota ATV Safety Training Classes Scheduled, Register Your Young Riders Now

*From Michael Halvorson*

*ATVAM Region 5 Director*

Here are the Bluff Country ATV Club's ATV Safety Classes scheduled for 2020.



**April 18, 2020** - in Elgin, Mn. Registration 9:00am at Peace United Methodist Church, 275th Avenue, Elgin, MN.

**May 16, 2020** - Rushford, Mn. Registration 9:00am at Valley Crest Riders Snowmobile Club, 907 Larson Lane, Rushford.

**September 19, 2020** - Rushford, Mn. Registration 9:00am at Valley Crest Riders Snowmobile Club, 907 Larson Lane, Rushford.

To register your young riders for one of the classes, contact Heidi Halvorson at 507-864-2636 or by email at [kidsandstamps@hotmail.com](mailto:kidsandstamps@hotmail.com). Requirements: Must be 10 years of age before class start date listed above.

Students 10-15 must take the on-line ATV course prior. Details on this class and other ATV classes around Minnesota at:

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



*This year's Northern Traxx ATV Club Polar Bear Ride attracted 120 vehicles and 200 riders from around the state, enjoying a fun winter ride on the Chisholm ATV trail in late February.*

## **Fun ATVAM & ATV Club Events Coming Up**

***Send your club schedule for rides/work days to: [d.halsey@atvam.org](mailto:d.halsey@atvam.org)  
Many ATVAM members do not belong to an ATV club and are looking for one to join, ride with and build trails.***

**-Next ATVAM State-Wide Board Meeting - March 22 at Vision Conf.**  
All ATVAM clubs have one spot on the board to participate and vote.

**-March 21-22 - ATVAM Vision Conference**

Register today at [atvam.org](http://atvam.org)  
Treasure Island Resort and Casino, 5734 Sturgeon Lake Rd  
Welch, MN 55089 800-222-7077  
[www.ticasino.com](http://www.ticasino.com)

**-April 24-25 - MN OHV Nemadji Trails Workshop**

Meeting /Classroom Location: Duquette Community Hall  
Field Location: Nemadji OHV Trails  
Time: 9 am to 5 pm each day  
Limited to 40 people. Registration open at [atvam.org](http://atvam.org)

**-May 15-16 - 2020 Ride & Roast**

McQuoid's Inn, Isle, MN  
Register at [atvam.org](http://atvam.org)

# FIRST BEST RIDE OF 2020 ATVAM RIDE & ROAST



imgflip.com

**September 18-  
20 ATVAM  
Annual**

## **Conference / Ride & Rally**

Host: Prospectors ATV Club/Ely Friday Trail Rides, Big Air ATV Tour  
Saturday Trail Rides, Banquet/Meeting/Auction  
at Grand Ely Lodge, 400 N. Pioneer Road, Ely  
Registration and lodging/campground options at [atvam.org](http://atvam.org)

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## **Region 1 Club Rides & Work Days:**

Please submit for next newsletter.

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## **Region 2:**

**Carlton County Riders - Vintage Ride**



## Carlton County Riders

### Vintage Ride

Ride Vintage Atv, Atc and Vintage Dirt Bikes or just bring some junk to swap

**When:** May 16, 2020 10:00am Meet 11:00am Ride

**Where:** Doc's dirt lot Sturgeon Lake, Mn

\*People's choice awards for nicest Honda and nicest NOT Honda\*



[www.Carltoncountyriders.com](http://www.Carltoncountyriders.com) 218-380-8730 for more info or check out our Facebook page

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### **Region 3:**

**-April 18 - ATVAM Region 3 All-Club Meeting**

9am - 1pm, Ironton American Legion Post #443

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### **Region 4:**

Please submit for next newsletter.

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### **Region 5:**

Please submit for next newsletter.

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### **Region 6:**

Please submit for next newsletter.



**ATV MINNESOTA**  
**"Your Voice To Ride"**  
**Dedicated Volunteers**  
**Building Fun & Sustainable ATV Trails**  
**For The Riding Public.**

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**Invite friends and family  
to join today!**



**See the mailing label on *MN OffRoad* magazine for the renewal date of your ATVAM membership.**

Be sure to include your email address on renewal form to receive ATVAM e-newsletters. And send renewals to ATVAM's new mailing address: PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079

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

**As a family or individual member for just \$20 you receive:**  
-A subscription to *Minnesota OffRoad* 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 and Vision Meeting in the spring, and the ATVAM Fall Ride & Rally, 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, and website listed in each issue of the *MN OffRoad* magazine and on our website
- Discounts on advertising in *MN OffRoad* magazine
- An official ATVAM membership certificate for display in your business

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



**[ATVAM](#)**

**Follow us for all the latest news!**

ATVAM, PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079

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