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ATV Minnesota

"Your Voice For ATV Recreation in Minnesota"

April 5, 2023

110 New Members This Year

Welcome...LET'S RIDE!

Followup To "Action Alert!"

The ATV Minnesota statewide board is made up of club presidents and representatives from 70 ATV clubs across the state.

One of our prime functions, and top reasons to be a member, is that the ATV Minnesota executive board and these club leaders work on behalf of all the clubs that build the trails, and all owners of registered ATVs in Minnesota, protecting access to public lands and our sport.

Anti-OHV Bill Would Set Motorized Recreation Back 20 Years. (With your help it was defeated.)

Senate File 1324: “Deja Vu All Over Again”

That famous Yogi Berra quote perfectly describes Senate File 1324, authored by metro-area State Senators Kelly Morrison and John Marty during the current session of the State Legislature. It's just the latest anti-OHV legislation introduced at the Capitol, as pointed out by a newspaper clipping from 21 years ago (below).

Way back on March 18, 2002, some of the same individuals and groups supporting the current bill were at the Capitol during a standing-room-only meeting on off-highway vehicles. Simply put, then as now, they were opposed to motorized recreation on public lands. As reported in Minnesota OffRoad in 2002: "OHV enthusiasts outnumbered the opposition as representatives from all off-road communities came together to state their case and support their mutual cause."

Anti messages haven't changed in two decades

If you look at the details of the new anti-OHV bill, the antis' messages and goal are as ridiculous and overreaching as they were 21 years ago: restricting access to public lands, trails near water, and bridges over water, requiring signs on ALL legal routes, and making it not just more difficult for responsible off-highway clubs to build trails, but nearly impossible.

State Association messages show positive change

By contrast, the message from our state's off-road State Associations (ATV Minnesota, the Mn4WDA and ARMCA), their member clubs and off-road riders from across the state was one of progress. That over the past 20 years, great improvements have been made. ATV, dirt bike and Jeep clubs work closely with county, state and federal land managers, meeting their requirements in order to build and maintain trails that are fun and safe for families, and most important to everyone, economically and environmentally sustainable.

ANTI-OHV BILL!

Help Put The Brakes On SF 1324
For The Future Of Our Sport



SENATE FILE 1324 will destroy trail riding for families with ATVs, dirt bikes & Jeeps

- Sets OHV riding back 25 years
- Makes it impossible for responsible clubs to build fun, safe, sustainable OHV trails
- No OHV trails near water or going over water on bridges
- DNR Commissioner can close trails for any reason considered a "good cause"

•Mandatory EAWs for less than 1 trail mile

•All legal trails on county lands must be signed – an impossible ask

What you can do: Contact Your Mn Senator, ask them to vote NO to SF1324

When: Today

Where: Find your Senator and how to contact them on the MN Senate website

Especially: OHV owners in the metro area

OHV Enthusiasts Gather for OHV Hearing at Capitol

It was standing room only at the Capitol on Monday, March 18 as legislators and representatives from a number of recreational groups met to discuss issues at an informational hearing regarding OHV vehicles.

The meeting was called for by Sen. Jane Krenz, DFL-May Township and chairwoman of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee because of concerns about ATV use on public lands. The hearing provided a forum for discussion among the various groups that lasted well over two hours.

Judging from the club logo's and offroad apparel, OHV enthusiasts outnumbered the opposition as representatives from all offroad communities came together to state their case and support their mutual cause.

Deputy Commissioner Steve Morse, Dennis Asmusen and Ron Potter all were on hand to speak on behalf of the DNR. Morse spoke about the mixed directions the DNR has received from both Legislature and the public as of late, noting

the environmentalists lawsuit against the DNR and the troubles they have faced regulating ATVs.

While a House bill currently exists that would fund further enforcement and maintenance of motorized trails, Senator John Hottinger (DFL-Mankato) stated he believes environmental assessments of the routes should be required and ATV users should only be allowed to ride where signs are posted.

Sonia Bartz (ATVAM), Lois Campbell (MN4WDA), Tom Umphress, Don Youngdahl and Al Mathwig (ARMCA) all stood to speak on behalf of the OHV community. OHV enthusiasts came from

throughout the state to support their sport, including club members from the Metro area, Central MN, Southern Minnesota and the Iron Range. Bartz spoke about the importance of designating more trails throughout the state in order to spread out the areas where ATV riders have access to ride. She also criticized the decision made by Minnesota's for Responsible Recreation (MRR) to sue the DNR for not conducting environmental studies in state forests of north central Minnesota.

Members of MRR, Izaak Walton League, and the Jack Pine Coalition were present to voice their opinion. Dave Zentner of the Izaak Walton League said he

believes that nobody should be allowed to use public lands in a way that degrades natural resources.

A letter was also read that was sent from Polaris Industries which reminded the group about the economic repercussions that ATV restrictions would have throughout the state.

The hearing was originally scheduled to be held on March 14 but had to be postponed due to bad weather.



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Word spread quickly
When they heard about SF 1324, Association member clubs got the word out quickly, through their newsletters, social media, emails and phone calls. Their message: *This bill will set motorized recreation back 20 years. Please contact your State Senator today, tell them about your family's positive trail-riding experiences, and encourage them to vote*

NO to SF1324.

The response was incredible. Within days, hundreds of riders of all ages who enjoy off-road riding of all vehicle types, contacted their State Senators. As a result, **SF 1324 did not get a committee hearing, and there was no further action on it.** Watch for a detailed report from our lobbyist Ray Bohn on all our bills being moved through the Session that ends in May, and thanking the Legislators that helped put a stop to the anti-OHV bill.

The battle is won, but the war on motorized recreation will continue, not only at the State Legislature, but at the local and county level by individuals and groups that want to stop families from responsibly enjoying off-road riding on "their" public lands.

Your ATV MN dues are well spent.

Thanks for supporting this effort to stop SF 1324. Watch for future Action Alerts from ATV Minnesota. Your membership in ATV Minnesota is greatly appreciated. Your financial support goes a long way in helping us preserve public access, protect the ATV Dedicated Fund (registrations and gas tax), and build new OHV trails.

New 40th Anniversary Clothing Added To ATV MN On-Line Store

To celebrate 40 years of building trails, teaching youth safety classes, protecting public access, promoting responsible riding and much more, ATV Minnesota and its statewide board of club leaders are proud to introduce a gear-box full of new clothing.

Long and short-sleeve Ts, a cool blue cap, new windbreaker and more. Check out all the new and current best-selling items at atvmn.org. Just tap the "Store" tab to start shopping. Wear it with pride on all your rides, and thanks for supporting ATV MN!



Get Ready For Two Great ATV MN Events!

Register Today For Ride & Roast, May 20 In Isle, MN

This year, ATV Minnesota celebrates its 40th anniversary. Kicking off the year-long celebration and the new riding season is our annual Ride & Roast. It's May 20 at McQuoid's Inn, in Isle, MN. If you were at last year's event, you know how much fun this event is, and the Ride & Roast Committee is gearing up for another great day out on the trails.



Schedule:

Friday, May 19th — Come join us from 5pm to 9pm, for a social gathering with appetizers at McQuoid's event center.

Saturday, May 20th — We kick off the day with a pancake breakfast hosted by the Isle fire department. Free-will donations will be accepted. Guided rides will leave from the parking lot at 9:30am to the area trails, with a box lunch provided. We finish up the day at 5pm with a roast pork and turkey dinner, announcements and door prizes.

Registration is online



at: <http://membership.atvmn.org/rideroast> Just \$25.00 per adult pre-registered (\$30 at the door) includes all Friday evening & Saturday events. Kids 10 years and younger are free.

McQuoid's Inn is offering a 10% discount for one night stay and 15% discount for two nights. A few primitive camp sites are available. Reserve your room by calling 800-862-3535.

Invitation To Clubs:

Please help by providing a door prize or make a cash donation to make Ride & Roast and the anniversary celebration even more special. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Cash donations will be used to purchase a gift in your club's name. For your generosity, you will be recognized at the Saturday evening dinner. **Among the door prizes will be clothing, caps and other items provided by Bronco ATV/UTV, an ATV MN Corporate Sponsor.**



Cash donations and gifts can be brought to the event, or mail them to ATVAM, P.O. Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079. Make your check payable to "ATV Minnesota" and include in the memo it's for "Ride & Roast." Thanks!



Reserve Your Lodging/Camping Now For Ride & Rally, Sept 22-24 In Biwabik, MN
(Registration coming soon!)

It's not too early to reserve your lodging or camping for the 2023 ATV Minnesota State Convention/Ride & Rally, September 22-24 at Giants Ridge in Biwabik.

The host clubs -- Quad Cities ATV Club and Ranger Snowmobile & ATV Club -- are shifting to high gear in preparation for the big event.

2023 RIDE & RALLY LODGING/CAMPING			
HOTELS	NAME & ADDRESS	CONNECTED TO HOST SITE BY TRAIL(S)	2023 RIDE & RALLY SPONSOR
	Lodge at Giants Ridge 6373 Wynne Creek Drive Biwabik MN 55708	Host site	
	Villas at Giants Ridge 6266 Giants Ridge Road Biwabik MN 55708	Host site	
	Green Gate Guest House 400 Main Street Biwabik MN 55708	Yes 3 Miles	
	Super 8 by Wyndham 1080 Industrial Park Drive Eveleth, Minnesota 55734	Yes 14 Miles	Yes Ride&Rally Half-Throttle
	Comfort Inn & Suites 8570 Rock Ridge Drive Mt Iron, MN 55768	Yes 15 miles	
	Quality Inn & Suites 502 Chestnut Street Virginia, MN 55792	Yes 15 miles	
	Americinn by Wyndham 5480 Mountain Iron Drive Virginia, MN 55792	Yes 14 miles	Yes Ride&Rally Half-Throttle
	Country Inn of Hoyt Lakes 99 Kennedy Memorial Drive Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750	Yes 12 Miles	

Their first order of business was putting together this list of places to stay, including the distances to Giants Ridge by trail.

Some of the businesses have already signed up as event sponsors with the clubs, which is great...thanks to all!

Here is a link to the list for lodging/camping:
[2023 Ride & Rally Lodging](#)

CAMPGROUNDS	NAME & ADDRESS	CONNECTED TO HOST SITE BY TRAIL(S)	2023 RIDE & RALLY SPONSOR
	Fisherman's Point Campground 5401 Campground Road Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750	Yes 12 Miles	
	Heritage Park & Campground 4789 Salo Rd Embarass, MN 55732	No	
	Vermilion Trail Campground 6038 Minnesota 135 Biwabik, MN 55708	Yes 4 Miles	
	Sherwood Forest Campground 301 Ore Be Gone Drive Gilbert, MN 55741	Yes 9 Miles	
	West Forty RV Park Fire # 245 Highway 37 Gilbert, MN 55741	Yes 9 Miles	Yes Bronze Corporate Sponsor
	Eveleth Veterans Park 245 Highway 37 Gilbert, MN 55741	Yes 20 Miles	

Be A Ride & Rally Sponsor:

There are 4 levels for businesses, resorts, motels, campgrounds, ATV clubs and others to sponsor. Tap this link for details and to become a sponsor:

<https://membership.atvmn.org/riderrally-sponsorship/>

Coming soon: Online Event Registration!

Schedule:

Friday, September 22nd -- "Presidents Ride" from Giants Ridge Recreation Area to the Iron Trail Convention Center in Virginia. Ride takes us on the newly constructed 3/4 mile boardwalk, then across the Thomas Rukavina Memorial Bridge, the tallest in Minnesota. After lunch we will travel back to Giants Ridge.

Saturday, September 23rd -- Choose from a number of guided trail rides throughout the area. The trail rides will be part of event registration and posted on the ATV MN website. Saturday evening banquet is at The Lodge at Giants Ridge.



Reminder: Membership Dues Increase June 1st

As mentioned in the last e-newsletter: At the March 4th ATV Minnesota Vision Conference, ATV club leaders from across the state, attending in person or by Zoom, discussed options to raise additional funds in order for the State Association to meet increased expenses for membership management, major events, communications, lobbying efforts and other costs of doing business as a non-profit organization. A motion was made and passed to increase the ATV MN individual and family membership annual dues from \$20 to \$30, and from \$38 to \$55 for two years, and to raise the business membership annual dues from \$75 to \$90. The increases will go into effect on June 1, 2023. **Thanks for understanding the need to raise our member dues.** And thanks for your continued support of ATV Minnesota,

promoting safe, responsible riding, and helping clubs build and maintain one of the best ATV trail systems in the country.



ATV MINNESOTA *"Your Voice To Ride"*

Dedicated Volunteers
Building Fun & Sustainable
ATV Trails
For The Riding Public
(And Bridges, Boardwalks,
Kiosks, Parking & More)

**Invite friends and family to
join today.
Gift memberships**

available!

See the mailing label on your Minnesota Wheelin magazine for your membership renewal date. Be sure to include your email address on the renewal form we send you to receive newsletters. Send renewals to ATV MN, 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.



See the mailing label on your Minnesota Wheelin magazine for your membership renewal date. Be sure to include your

email address on the renewal form we send you to receive newsletters. Send renewals to ATV MN, PO Box 300, Stacy, MN 55079. You can also join or renew at atvmn.org.

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

- A subscription to Minnesota Wheelin magazine (6 per year).
- Twice-monthly newsletter by email with the latest news.
- Membership card and ATV MN logo sticker for your ATV.
- Invitations to events, including our Legislative Summit, Vision Conference, Ride & Roast in the spring, and State Convention "Ride & Rally" in the fall, as well as membership meetings.
- A full-time lobbyist at the State Capitol, helping create pro-ATV legislation, and moving forward 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 and contact information listed in our Minnesota Wheelin magazine and on the ATV Minnesota website
 - Discounts on advertising in Minnesota Wheelin. For details, send an email to Creston Dorothy at Pro Print in Duluth: cdorothy@proprintus.com
 - Opportunities to reach more customers by sponsoring or donating to our events
- To join, contact **ATVAM** or call (800) 442-8826.



New Program! As a Corporate Sponsor:

Your financial support will help ensure a positive future for ATV recreation in Minnesota.

Four levels: \$2,500 Bronze / \$5,000 Silver / \$10,000 Gold / \$25,000 Platinum

Each includes ads in Minnesota Wheelin magazine, and publicity of your business, organization or club at ATV MN events, on websites, social media and more!

To learn more, visit atvmn.org and tap the "Sponsorships" tab.



Thanks To Our First Corporate Sponsor: Bronco ATV/UTV

A full-throttle thank-you to Bronco ATV/UTV for being an ATV MN Corporate Sponsor at the Silver Level. Watch for an article about Bronco ATV/UTV, its history building everything from ball joints to winches, sales trends it is seeing, and more in the March/April issue of Minnesota Wheelin. Learn more about its many

products, including videos, at broncoatv.com.

ATVMN.org

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atvamoffice@atvmn.org
www.atvmn.org

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