



Volunteer Rider Newsletter

President – Preston Teague

Vice President – Gary Pugh

Secretary – Alan Smeltzer

Treasurer – Brian Kimmitt

September 2016

Volume 21

Issue 9

Club News

- **Recent Work Days**
 - No major group work days recently due to summer heat.
- **Kenda TKO (Tennessee Knockout)** – The Vol Riders had a pretty good turnout for the TKO this year, both in terms of Riders and Spectators. Some of the local riders included Will Presson, Danny Pressley, Drew Kirby, Ros Kingery, David Rowland, David Skraggs, Devin Ferguson, Brandon Whitehead, and Richard Hutchenson. Will and Drew both made it to Day 2, finishing 25th and 31st respectively in TKO Race 2 with the Pros. This equates to 4th and 7th respectively among the amateurs!
- **Sportsmen Group Rides** – If you prefer a more relaxed pace with more frequent breaks, then keep an eye out for rides tagged as “Sportsmen Group”.
- **Vol Riders Stickers!!** – Think we still have some of the Vol Rider stickers available to bling your bike out! Stop by the meeting this week and pick up a set for your bike or truck!! They come in sets of 2 stickers each, \$10 a set.
- **Windrock/Coal Creek permits** – Everyone, please be sure to purchase your annual permit for Windrock. They are starting get a bit tougher on enforcement of permits and even checking at the Brown’s parking lot. Don’t want the club sending out bad vibes by having a member get caught without one. See notes at end of newsletter for purchase info.

Words from the VP

Best therapy on earth is dirt...

So I have hundreds, maybe thousands of friends around the world that I have met racing and building powerboats. Strangely though, really never had any friends in Knoxville where I was born and raised, that is until I started riding dirt bikes and joined the Volunteer Riders in particular. Now that we have opened a dirt bike shop, I am meeting even more interesting people. It is one of the more enjoyable aspects of the shop, you never know who might walk in next. Granted, there have been a very few that has Beverly and I looked at each other and asked, "What was that?"

One day recently my phone rings and the guy asks if we are open and he reckons we are since I answered the phone. I replied, "Actually I am still having lunch but I will be there by opening time of 12:30." He replies, "Ok, I need to come and get a back tire for my CRF450". "See you there then" I replied.

The guy shows up and he said he had shredded his Kenda Equilibrium on the rocks at Wind Rock and he wanted something a little harder, so we selected a Shinko 524 Intermediate. "I am riding this afternoon, can you put it on for me?" Sure I said, "Do you have your wheel with you?" He pointed to his Honda on the back of his truck, and I said, well that is a little different, but sure, roll your bike in the shop and I guess we will be like a regular tire store and take the wheel off too! I don't like changing tires while the customer is standing there watching, I usually do something stupid, so I sent him on his way and told him he could pick it up on his way to Wind Rock.

It turned out to be one of those days when I had more customers coming in and calls to answer, so I was not quite finished when he showed back up to get his bike. We engaged in casual conversation as I finished my work and he mentioned that if I ever wanted to ride during the week, that he was available because he was on full disability. I am processing this in my mind and before realizing my quick wit sometimes gets me in trouble, "Well, you are healthy enough to ride a dirt bike, so you must be off in the head!" The guy got serious and told me he was a former Army Ranger in Special Forces and he sustained injuries in Iraq. First time occurred when his unit was on patrol and a bomb blast hit their Humvee, and even though it didn't penetrate, he suffered a pretty bad concussion. This was enough to grant a discharge and a ticket home, but being a Paramedic, he did not want to leave his unit, so when he was deemed fit, he went back to action.

Later they were on a mission to rescue a unit pinned down in Bagdad, plan was to do a static line jump from a helicopter and go in and get them. Things went wrong when his parachute got caught in the line and it ripped every muscle and tendon in his arm. He was left dangling from the chopper and since they were under enemy fire they could not set down to free him. They flew 15 miles with him banging on the side of the chopper and he went unconscious. He woke up in a hospital and he started his long road to recovery, this time he was sent home. Three years later he came down with Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome, and it got so bad he did not leave his house for five years. They tried all kinds of treatments and drugs, but nothing worked. Eventually the feeling started coming back in his fingers and regained use of his arm and hand. This is when he decided to get back on a dirt bike, something he grew up doing, and he was always happiest when he was out in the woods riding. Riding in the woods turned out to be such good therapy, he started being able to go out in public some, but he still cannot be in a crowded room with people he does not know. "So you never go to say Chick Filet or some place like that?" He said "Absolutely not, I would go berserk." The therapy is working so well, the Army is allowing all of his dirt bike expenses to be tax deductible!

So now when he starts getting stressed and not doing well, he heads for the woods and all is well again. I think this works for all of us, but on different levels.

I was never one to say "Support your troops" the way many have just to align themselves with a certain political party, but I am 100 percent behind helping these young men that put life and limb on the line without questioning the reason for being there, right or wrong.

Meet Dustin Roberts, Knoxvilleian, soldier, husband, father, dirt bike rider, and although maybe you did not realize it, some of you rode with him on the Fall Kick Off ride!

See you on the trails, GP

Upcoming Events/Club Rides:

- **Monthly Club Meeting** - Meeting this Thursday September 15th at Time Warp Tea room, 7:30 pm.
- **Night Ride #2 – Browns Flats** – For those that didn't get enough of riding in the dark last month, we're doing it again! Exact meeting time and other details to be worked out at this week's meeting, but in general meeting at the normal parking lot before it gets dark. More than likely there will be an afternoon/evening ride while there's still light out, so feel free to get there early.
- **October 1st or 2nd** – We have tentatively scheduled a club ride for the first weekend in October, time and place to be discussed at the next meeting.

New Members/Visitors

John Griffith out of Crossville, TN, riding a Yamaha 2-stroke (WR200?)

Permit Info

For TWRA managed land - Now known as the North Cumberland Wildlife management Area. (WMA) (Royal Blue/Sundquist/Brimstone sections) This includes what we have known for years as Royal Blue, and what use to be the lower half of Brimstone. \$61 Annual Resident OHV Permit, **OR** you can get a type 01 hunting/fishing license (\$28) **and** a \$17 Type 093 WMA small game permit (for a total of \$45). You can get it at any Walmart.

Coal Creek / Windrock – Annual permits are \$88 and **MUST** be purchase at the Windrock General Store at the main entrance in Oliver Springs. Daily permits are \$17 and can also be purchased at the General store, at the Shell Station in Oliver Springs, or Ginger's on Hwy 116. Ginger's is on the left (coming from Briceville) just before you get to the intersection of 330.

2016 Club Points

Club points standings for September 2016.

Last Name	First Name	Totals
Teague	Preston	1700
Collins	Jason	1300
Klepper	Patrick	1300
Teffeteller	Craig	1300
Braun	Jeremy	1200
Goins	Allen	1200
Pugh	Gary	1200
Roth	Matt	1100
Smeltzer	Alan	1100
Thomas	Greg	1000
Hutcheson	Richard	900
James	Kerry	900
Kimmit	Brian	900
Teffeteller	Tristan	900
Cox	Justin	800
Fitzgerald	Sean	800
Staab	Steve	800
Eubanks	Jimmy	700
Kelley	Roger	700
King	David	700
Cox	Scott	600
Eldredge	Curtie	600
Farmer	David	600
Humphress	Andy	600
Mynatt	Jeff	600