



## Volunteer Riders Newsletter

President - Preston Teague

Vice President - Curtie Eldridge

Secretary - Blake Arnold

Treasurer - Brian Kimmit

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### Club News

- **Last meeting** – Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Time Warp Tea Room in the Holler.

- Had a good turnout of some 28 warm bodies:

Alan Smeltzer	Gary Pugh	Matt Roth	Robert McMahon
Andy Humphress	Greg Horner	Michael Doyle	Russ MacIntyre
Brian Kimmitt	Jimmy Eubanks	Nathan Glinski	Russ Townsend
Buddy Berney	John Strange	Patrick Klepper	Silas Ruthorford
Craig Teffeteller	Kerry James	Paul Teffeteller	Tristan Teffeteller
Curtis Eldridge	Kevin Jones	Preston Teague	Troy Beeler
Ed Clark	Mark Patterson	Richard Hutcheson	Wesley Lane

- PayPal Payment Method: Brian mentioned that he has worked up a new option for members to pay their dues or reimburse the Club for purchases such as decals and tee shirts and so on. It involves the use of PayPal for those of you who are familiar with it. Actually, the method is dirt simple. I've already tried it and it works great and leaves an audit trail that makes it easier for Brian to do his bean counting. However, I believe that we will still accept E Pluribus Unum in it's various forms for those who simply wish to remain in the stone age. Brian is planning on an update at the next meeting. We'll try and get his comments posted in the next monthly letter.

- **Club Ride at Bucky Meek's place on September 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Just like the Spring ride, our fall ride at Bucky's was a hoot. Forty-four souls in attendance. Nothing but cheers from all who attended. As far as is known, nobody had to ride the Medivac chopper home. There was one report of a rogue stump attacking a radiator, but that might have been due to the nut holding the handlebars. Can't say enough about Bucky's hospitality to the Club. An appreciation gift will be given Bucky and wife from our collection bucket as a token of our gratitude for their generosity. If your name isn't on the following attendance list, well, you missed a cracker of a time. Sorry 'bout that.

Adam Watson	Cody Bock	Jeremy Braun	Matt Roth	Scott Lee
Alan Smeltzer	Danny Pressley	Jim Gilley	Michael Doyle	Silas Ruthorford
Allen Goins	Danny Tackett	Jimmy Eubanks	Nathan Glinski	Steve Staab
Brad Bochenek	Derek Ford	John Griffith	Nick Staggs	Steve Staggs
Buddy Berney	Ed Clark	Jonathan Flory	Patrick Klepper	Troy Beeler
Brian Bredford	Gary Pugh	Justin Cox	Preston Kear	Wade Thiesen
Casey Lastname?	James Barhor?	Kerry James	Preston Teague	Wesley Lane
Cash Chapman	Jason Bolen	Kevin Jones	Rocky Elrod	Zack Staggs
Chris Wiegand	Jason Collins	Luke Ford	Russ MacIntyre	

- **Work Days at Slate Creek Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>** - Had an excellent turnout at John's place on Saturday, the 7<sup>th</sup>. Club members were joined by numerous other of John's friends and a healthy sweat was worked up by all (well, almost all). John provided the grub and it was quite a tasty little feed for some machete-weary bodies. One adventuresome soul came back on Sunday and braved the rain to work with John and friends. Won't mention any names but his initials are Michael Doyle. Thanks Michael. You bad, you definitely bad. Nineteen trailblazer wannabees turned out to lend a hand, namely:

Craig Teffeteller	Mark Patterson	Robert Ball
Daniel Maley	Matt Roth	Russ MacIntyre
Danny Pressley	Michael Doyle	Scott Lee
Ed Clark	Mike Thompson	Steve Staab
John Strange	Paul Teffeteller	Tony Allen
Josh Siljander	Preston Teague	Tristan Teffeteller
Kerry James		

## Upcoming Club Events/Rides

- **Next Monthly Club Meeting** - Thursday, October 19th at the Time Warp Tea room, 7:30 pm.
- **Club Ride at Slate Creek (John Strange's)** – Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. Oh yeah! That's what I'm talking about!

## Infomercials

- **Vol Riders Decals** – We now have a restock on the fender decals. Right now, you can get them at the meeting. Maybe in a month or two we can set up a store on our webpage to avoid all this toting around. In any case, get some, hear? They come in sets of 2 stickers each, \$10 a set. Also, we've still got hats and tee shirts, I think.
- **Permits to ride on 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.

- **Permits to ride Windrock/Coal Creek watershed** – Annual permits are \$100 and MUST be purchased at the General Store in the Windrock campground 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. UPDATE: unsure if Gingers is selling permits as of now.
- **Club Position on Windrock/Coal Creek permits** – Everyone, please be sure to purchase your annual permit for Windrock. It's 75,000 acres of some of the best riding area that you're going to find. The permits are annual and no matter when you purchase them, you get a full year's use before they expire. This Club supports Windrock and places great value on the resource.

## **New Members / Visitors**

- Russ MacIntyre
- Danny Tackett
- Wade Thiesen
- Greg Horner

## **2017 Club Points**

- It's a secret. Just kidding. We're working hard to bring our points accounting up to date.

## **Talkin' Dirt by Gary Pugh**

### *Looking Forward, Looking Back*

It's a fact of life, we have some "experienced" riders in the club, we have some young guns also, but I would say the majority of us are between 40-60 in age. While that may seem odd for a sport that is pretty extreme, there is a fundamental reason for this. Dirt bikes and trail riding really did not exist until the late 1960's when the sport started to emerge in Europe. In the early '70's, companies from Japan started spitting out decent affordable trail and race bikes and kids were drawn to them in large numbers creating a popular new sport. A whole industry was born, tires, exhaust, engine parts, riding gear, accessories, magazines, and anything to do with dirt bikes was created. Many of these same companies are still in existence, some have fallen by the wayside. Some of the kids in that wave have continued to ride to this day, going through many bikes, riding areas, riding buddies, a few war wounds and have many great stories to tell. Some stopped when they got married, raised a family, worked their way up the corporate ladder, then the kids are gone, empty nest, and one starts thinking about the old days and innocently stops by a bike shop... So when you look around at a Vol Rider meeting and see some gray hair, or maybe no hair, just imagine that person as a 12

year old ripping on a brand new Honda Elsinore, yeah they may be old, but they were young once and they got to experience dirt biking to the fullest. That's not old age, that's someone that has been living life with a grin. Now if only they still had some of those old bikes....

Realizing that not everyone is an aggressive "A" class racer and our trails are not conducive to beginners or more casual riders, I started pushing for what has turned into our Sportsman Group. In the past we witnessed time after time new or returning from retirement, enthusiastic riders get baptized by fire out on the trail, realizing it is way more difficult than they thought, or struggling to keep up with the better, in the groove riders. Many of these guys were "one and done" sadly. It took awhile to take hold, but the Sportsman Group was born and they get together and ride quite frequently and are ready and willing to help newcomers or guys with apprehension about if they can still ride or not after a long layoff. I know of a few pretty fast dudes tag along with the Sportsmen just because they just want to go out for a casual trail ride. One thing I have noticed though, these "Sportsmen" have become pretty dang fast and accomplished at tackling the tough trails, and that was one of the original goals, let them learn at their own pace instead of holding up guys that wanted to ride faster. I think they do take more breaks though...

Thinking about the circle of life, I know some of you have young kids starting on dirt bikes, and I personally have ridden with the Teffeteller boy when they could barely get down the trail and we had to stop and put Paul's chain back on Kawasaki every few feet, now they are two of the best riders in the club. At my bike shop we have sold a big number of the SSR bikes to kids, most who have never ridden before. Some have taken them to the top of Wind Rock Mtn, and at least one has been down trail #3. But sadly, a lot of them don't really have a place to ride except in their yard, or worse, the road. Our trails are just too rough to turn a kid loose on without an experienced parent to help, and the majority of these kids' parents don't ride. I keep envisioning an event just for kids that would entail a decent sized grass track where they can all get out and ride together, have fun, build skills and confidence, and develop a love of the sport that will take some of them to the next level. Obviously having places to do this sort of thing is the problem, but I think it is worth talking about and see where it goes. We seemed to have missed out on attracting the millennials, at least in large numbers, they have been baffling marketing experts trying to reach them. Could be the "New Normal" economy that makes it hard to afford any kind of sport, but they do have money for expensive phones, craft beer, and non-material experiences. As we get to the point where we have gotten some of the best from the sport, it may be time to start giving back and take this opportunity for us to help grow our next generation of riders.

Looking down the road a little further, and being realistic, a new group may be in order, and we will call them the "Old Knobbies" Not sure quite what that looks like yet, but hey, youth is a temporary thing, and life is best not wasted on the couch!

See you on the trails, GP