

PANHANDLE RIDERS ASSOCIATION INC.

PO BOX 61 PONDERAY, ID 83852

<http://www.panhandleriders.com/>

Email to:
panhandleriderassociation@yahoo.com

Volume: 4 issue 5 November 2010

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Just a reminder, Club Membership dues are not prorated and run from **January** through **December** annually. **Renewals for all current members are due January 1st with one exception.** For *new* members who join during the last quarter of any year (October through December), their renewal is not due until one year from the first of January following their joining. This is the only exception.

Please mail your dues renewal to the above address with the enclosed *Application Form*. **Please complete this Application Form in order to confirm current contact information on file. (i.e. address, email and phone.** Thanks to all those that have already paid their dues; your support is greatly appreciated.

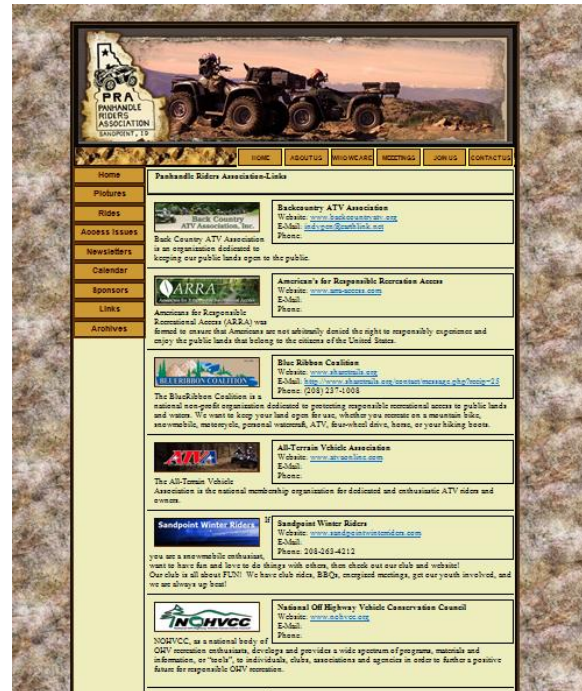
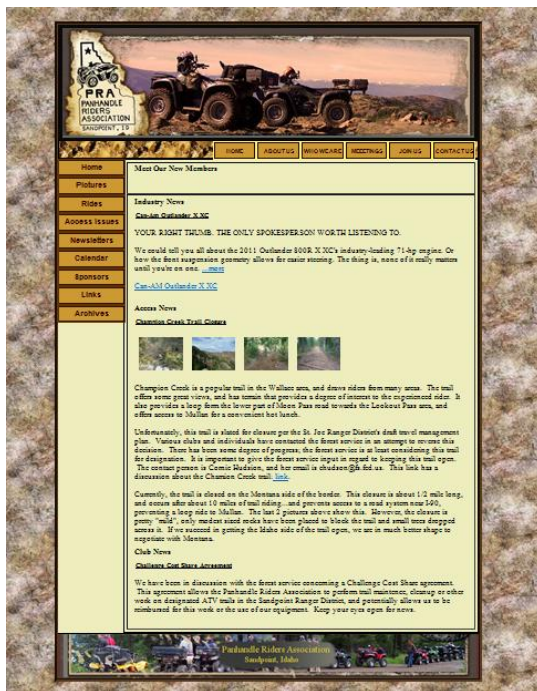
Original and renewal dues are as follows:

- Individual Member \$15.00
- Family Membership \$20.00
- Business Sponsor \$25.00

PRESIDENT'S LETTER BY BRIAN DUNHAM

Web site changes are coming!

You can expect to see some changes to the look and format of our website. <http://www.panhandleriders.com/> Why you ask? Well, the intention is to make the site more dynamic, with regular updates of articles of importance to ATV riders in North Idaho. Things like industry news, new products, access issues and a section with ride descriptions, maps and GPS tracks will be part of it. There are plans to add a "chat room" where members can ask questions, plan rides or just keep in touch. Hopefully this will be in place by the next Newsletter.



Screenshots of the new website.

Champion Creek Trail Closure

Champion Creek is a popular trail in the Wallace area, and draws riders from many areas. The trail offers some great views, and has terrain that provides a degree of interest to the experienced rider. It also provides a loop from the lower part of Moon Pass road towards the Lookout Pass area, and offering access to Mullan for a convenient hot lunch.



Views from the trail

Unfortunately, this trail is slated for closure per the St. Joe Ranger District's draft travel management plan. Various clubs and individuals have contacted the forest service in an attempt to reverse this decision. There has been some degree of progress; the forest service is at least considering this trail for designation. It is important to give the forest service input in regard to keeping this trail open. The contact person is Cornie Hudson, and her email is chudson@fs.fed.us. The following link has a discussion about the Champion Creek trail:

<http://www.atvnation.com/forum/index.php?showtopic=34931>



Closure of the trail in Montana

Currently, the trail is closed on the Montana side of the border. This closure is about 1/2 mile long, and occurs after about 10 miles of trail riding...and prevents access to a road system near I-90, preventing a loop ride to Mullan. The last 2 pictures above show this. However, the closure is pretty "mild", only modest sized rocks have been placed to block the trail and small trees dropped across it. If we succeed in getting the Idaho side of the trail open, we are in much better shape to negotiate with Montana.

Challenge Cost Share Agreement

We have been in discussion with the forest service concerning a *Challenge Cost Share Agreement*. This agreement allows the Panhandle Riders Association to perform trail maintenance, cleanup or other work on designated ATV trails in the Sandpoint Ranger District, and potentially allows us to be reimbursed for this work or the use of our equipment. Keep your eyes open for news.

Ride safe, and see you on the trail!

Brian Dunham
President

RIDES COMMITTEE

Geoff Smith of *Sandpoint Marine & Motor Sports (Polaris)* is our new Rides Committee Chair. As he stated in last month's newsletter, his "goal will be to help create bigger and better rides for all to enjoy, and to strengthen are membership in numbers while still enjoying our great back country."

As he stated, "please get involved and stay involved." If you wish to be on Geoff's Rides Committee, please contact him at his dealership (208) 263-1535 . Geoff will be happy to explain what is expected of a Committee member.

SAFETY LETTER BY LLOYD POTTER

When We Ride - - Remember It's Safety, Safety, Safety



Now is the time of year when we slow down a little on riding our ATV'S. So think about setting them up a little bit better for the next big year; I mean safety wise. You probably already have a storage bag of some sort on your machine, so think of things that will help out in an emergency situation.

First thing to think about is a First Aid kit. Most kits are incomplete. Get a little larger bag, so you can add to it. Things to include are a small bottle of Hydrogen Peroxide and/or Saline Solution for cleansing a wound. Make sure your kit has at least two arm

slings and two to four splints, just in case someone, God forbid close to you, gets a fracture. Add in some pain meds, extra gauze and tape.

As you go you will think of other items to add as needed to this kit. Now think of survival. You may not be able to move this person, until professional help arrives. So make a shelter to keep the wind and rain off the injured party. The easiest way is with a tarp...say a 6'x8' or 8'x10' tarp that will fold up and lay flat in the bottom of your storage bag. With the use of two sticks or two ATV'S, some twine or rope, you can make a quick A-frame over the patient.

Now, I know it could take a semi to haul all the stuff you would really like to bring with you, but if you think it out you can build a good compact First Aid and Survival Gear Pack. A simple bandage to stop the bleeding and protect against infection could be invaluable out on the trail.

Let us be prepared and ride safe,

Lloyd E. Potter



**GUEST ARTICLE
BY
JOHN FITZGERALD**

Earl's Ride in Wallace Idaho (9-18-10) was another great ride for all those that braved the rain and came out for a good time. I decided to arrive on Friday afternoon and stayed at the RV Park down by the Depot. Sure is a great place close to downtown.

We met at the parking lot off exit 61 at 8:30 a.m. and with our leader Carol Hunt out front, we headed for the hills. As always Carol leads a very enjoyable ride, taking us through some easy roads and trails to some a little more difficult.

For those that don't know, EARL Castleberry was a great rider and friend of Carol's who passed away in 2006. He felt the forest belonged to him and spent most of his life trying to get a ticket for riding in his forest, so that he could take the case all the way to the Supreme Court. It never happened, but Earl was always ready. When he passed away *Back Country ATV* in CDA made a plaque and on the first Earl's Ride that plaque was placed high on tree at the top of Earl's favorite trail. Every year Carol takes the club up to the site, and we share remembrances of Earl. We then headed out to Murray for a great lunch at the Sprag Pole Restaurant and Museum.

After lunch and a look through the great museum, we were off for the ride back to Wallace taking many different roads and trails. As always, Carol made the ride interesting and we all had a great time.

Thanks Carol, hope to see you next year for Earl's Ride.

SOME MEMORABLE MOMENTS OF EARL'S RIDE



BUSINESS SPONSOR DISCOUNTS

We greatly appreciate our *Business Sponsors* and for the following discounts extended to the members of our club upon presentation of their *Club Card*.

MAY'S HONDA in Sagle gives a 10% discount to our club members on all parts and accessories.

PONDERAY YAMAHA gives a 10% discount to our club members on all parts and accessories.

SANDPOINT MARINE & MOTOR SPORTS (Polaris Dealer in Ponderay) gives a 10% discount to our club members on all parts and accessories.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING INFORMATION

The *General Membership Meeting* will both be held at the Elks Lodge Bar area on Wednesday, November 3, 2010. **This will be the last General Membership Meeting of the year. There will be NO December meeting.**

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS: Meetings will start at 7:00 PM on the first Wednesday of each month unless otherwise advised.

Notice: Dinner is on your own @ the Elks starting at 6:00 PM.

We strongly encourage you to attend our *General Membership Meetings* as your input is very important to our Officers and Board Members. Also, it's a great opportunity to meet other members and form new friendships.

NEWS FROM OTHER SOURCES

Back Country ATV <http://www.backcountryatv.org/> recently received a letter from the **Idaho Forest Owners Association**. <http://idahoforestowners.org/> BCATV was kind enough to publish that letter in total in their November Newsletter.

IFOA is "an alliance of private forest landowners dedicated to the management use and protection of private forest resources in Idaho." Apparently, as more and more public land is being closed to ATV enthusiasts, they are venturing onto private property open for public use. An example would be Potlatch property, but there are many other examples. See their website for more detail. Their letter is well drafted and is intended to educate the ATV community regarding the use and misuse of private forest land open for public use. Following are excerpts from that letter.

IFOA states: “Many of our members allow recreational use of their property, but sometimes severe resource degradation results when excessive traffic under saturated soil conditions results in significant erosion and sediment delivery to streams. Most enthusiasts are sensitive to the need to protect natural resources, but may not recognize how their activities do not support that objective.”

Furthermore, IFOA’s letter requests: Encourage your association members, friends, and relatives to follow some simple best-use practices:

- Know where you are.
- Respect private property: ask first.
- No fires without specific landowner permission.
- Keep equipment out of wet draws and saturated meadows as much as possible.
- If you must, slowly cross streams where there is plenty of vegetation or rock to protect the bank and a rock bottom to protect the bed. Minimize crossings.
- On a road with cross-drainage, cross the drain at the deepest point (usually on the down-slope end). Yes, it slows you down, but erosion of the shallow “high side” will eliminate the effectiveness of drainage control. Gradual riling erodes the running surface and makes travel more difficult. Eventually off-road bypasses are developed which magnify the erosion problem. Annual road maintenance costs to meet state and federal forest practices regulation are huge. Any activity that adds to them is met with dismay. Destruction of road drainage control, more than any other issue except wanton destruction of property, leads to road closures.
- If a road gate does not have an ATV bypass, do not construct one. Most IPF and some private forest landowners reluctantly provide these to avoid the expense of replacing destroyed gates. But some roads are deliberately blocked to all traffic for a reason.
- Report unauthorized “mud-bogging”, gate destruction, wood cutting, hill climbing, littering and general vandalism activities to landowners and encourage them to contact authorities. We know you do not approve of these activities and suffer from the bad “rep” they generate for all ATV enthusiasts.

As Richard Lambert, President of BCATV so aptly states, “So, not only are road/trail closures coming from the Forest Service, but now it appears that the private sector is taking a stand. We all should be more responsible about our riding practices.....or else!”

Thanks Richard for the heads-up and the commentary.

***IMPORTANT NOTICE
REGARDING UPCOMING RIDE SCHEDULE***

While ride schedules are posted in advance, changes may be made from time to time. Rides may be cancelled or modified. Always look to the current newsletter for the latest ride information.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND RIDES

The legend below provides you the information about that particular trails characteristic. This should be of some help in determining if the ride is appropriate for you.

SUGGESTED RIDING SKILL LEVEL LEGEND

EASY – Beginner riding skills (i.e. mostly flat trails, no side hills, stay on designated trails)

INTERMEDIATE – Experienced riding skills RECOMMENDED. (i.e. Roads/trails, possibly some steep slopes, side hills, or loose rocks)

COMBINATION – Combination of difficulties, various terrains (i.e. Intermediate to Difficult abilities)

DIFFICULT – Experienced riding skills REQUIRED. (i.e. Trails require 4WD, obstacle navigation, rocky, side hills, and slower travel)

NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME.

****MILEAGE IS APPROXIMATE AND IS FOR THE ROUND TRIP. ALL RIDES ARE A “RAIN OR SHINE” TYPE RIDE**

2010 RIDE SCHEDULE AS AMENDED

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO THE PRIOR MONTH'S LISTED ITEMS WILL BE ANOTATED IN EACH NEW NEWSLETTER IN BLUE, ITALICIZED AND UNDERLINED

There are no more “scheduled” rides for the remainder of this calendar year; however, as unplanned rides become available, the membership will be notified by email.

CLASSIFIED SECTION

WANTED

Ride Leaders are needed to recommend and lead rides. Contact Geoff Smith, Rides Committee Chair at SANDPOINT MARINE & MOTOR SPORTS (POLARIS): (208) 263-1535.

FOR SALE

- DUST MASKS:** I have many colors and designs of dust masks. They are adjustable to fit and work great in the cold, pollen and dust and washable. Only twelve dollars (\$12.00); call Bert at 683-0526.

2. **CLUB SHIRTS:** We have club shirts for your enjoyment for sale. You can see the shirts and purchase them at our monthly meetings or call John Fitzgerald @ 266-0218 to order.
3. **ATV:** 2009 Yamaha Grizzly 450 4x4; has 240 Miles, Winch & Plow. Clean and runs excellent. Call Tony in Noxon, MT @ 406-847-2632.

2010-2011 CLUB OFFICERS/COMMITTEES

OFFICERS

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HELP KEEP OUR PUBLIC LANDS OPEN

Organizations who are dedicated to help keep our trails open; some local and some are national.

**Americans for Responsible
Recreational Access (ARRA)**
www.arra-access.com

All Terrain Vehicle Association
www.atvaonline.com

Blue Ribbon Coalition
www.sharetrails.org

Idaho State ATV Association
<http://www.idahostateatv.org/>

**National Off-Highway Vehicle
Conservation Council**
www.nohvcc.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Panhandle Riders Association, Inc. is a volunteer and membership driven organization of Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) enthusiasts committed to:

- Growth and development of all types and forms of recreational OHV activities.
- Sponsored OHV events, safety forums and training.
- Equal freedom for responsible OHV recreation activities on public and private lands, including but not limited to Idaho Panhandle National Forests lands and State of Idaho managed lands.
- Creating and encouraging outdoor recreational OHV events that are fun and safe for the entire family.
- Enhance, develop and promote recreational OHV activities for the benefit of participants, spectators, organizers and industry participants.
- Ensure stability, growth and social and political acceptance of OHV activities.
- Work with local, regional, state and federal government agencies and private land owners to better implement, maintain and develop standards for responsible recreational OHV activities and opportunities on public and private lands.

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