



PANHANDLE RIDERS ASSOCIATION INC.

PO BOX 61 PONDERAY, ID 83852

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

Email to:
panhandleriderassociation@yahoo.com

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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 and 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**

It's hard to believe a year has come and gone since you first elected me as president of the Panhandle Riders. It's been a great year, and I've learned a lot. I appreciate your re-election as president during the September meeting, I'll do my best to serve and represent the club. This year's election results are as follows:

Brian Dunham-President
Chuck Polan-Vice President
Lloyd Potter-Treasurer
Chuck Luetzgerodt-Secretary

Richard Shellhart, Board Member
Chuck Polan, Board Member
John Fitzgerald, Board Member
Graff Moore, Board Member
Bill Johnson, Board Member

Thank you to all our officers and board members, both the new ones coming on board, and those that have served.

Many of you may have noticed a new format to our newsletter this month. That is because we have a new newsletter editor, Robbie Gleason. Robbie has done a great job so far, and has some great ideas for our web site; check in regularly to see what's happening. Thanks Robbie.

Bonner County has a Trails Advisory Group that was established about 1 ½ years ago. John Finney and I have attended, when time permits. Among other items, this group is attempting to identify what trails (motorized and non-motorized) exist and what ones need designation and protection from closures due to development. There are various sub-areas that are having meetings to solicit input. The one for the Clark Fork area is this Thursday, September 16th, from 5:00-7:00 PM at the Clark Fork City Council Chambers, 110 E. Third Ave. Hopefully we'll have some members make it to that meeting, please attend if you can. There are others to be held; I'll send out notifications as I learn of them. This will tell you more about the trails group:

<http://www.co.bonner.id.us/planning/Documents/TrailsMasterPlan2010.pdf>

September brings us the start of the big game hunting season with archery elk and deer and rifle season for bear. October brings the general rifle season for elk and deer. This time brings on some seasonal closures in parts of the Kaniksu Forest with most of the OHV trails in the CDA district closed already. It's more important than ever to stay on top of what areas are open to us, both to avoid tickets, but also to avoid conflict with other users.

I hope to see you at next month's meeting, till then, ride safe.

Brian Dunham
President

NEWS FROM OTHER SOURCES

If you have not signed up for the *ARRA's Washington Newsletter*, do yourself a favor and do so now. *ARRA (Americans for Responsible Recreational Access)* has timely articles relating to what's going on in Washington, D.C. that we as ATV/UTV riders should be aware. <http://www.arra-access.com/site/PageServer>

Here's one we should be following closely and writing our State Representatives about. In December 2009, the U.S. Forest Service published a Notice of Intent (NOI). This NOI was used to prepare the way for an environmental impact statement as required in order to develop a new land management planning rule. Multiple public hearings have been taking place all this year as the first steps in getting this rule passed. It is the belief of the *ARRA* that this new planning rule could jeopardize our recreational access.

The Forest Service's NOI states that the new rule is necessary to "...guide land managers in developing, amending, and revising land management plans for the 155 national forests and 20 grasslands in the National Forest System (NFS). A new planning rule provides the opportunity to help protect, reconnect, and restore national forests and national grasslands for the benefit of human communities and natural resources."

Because the *ARRA* believes that the NOI all but ignores and in fact marginalizes recreational use especially motorized recreation, it sent the Forest Service a letter in March of 2010 detailing their concerns. It believes that the proposed planning rule instead focuses on "sustainability, restoration and managing for climate change" despite numerous assurances from the prior Chief of the Forest Service to the contrary. Read more about it at:

http://www.arra-access.com/site/DocServer/ARRA_comments_USFS_land_planning_rule_2-10.pdf?docID=181

By September 2010, it now appears that the Forest Service officials are beginning to back-pedal and are agreeing that recreational use is indeed a primary focus for them in their new planning rulewhich of course means the function of the Service. Despite the mollifying tone of the Forest Service, *ARRA* stills believes that when the dust settles, the final proposed rule will "come up seriously short in addressing recreational issues. In the coming days there will be some important steps taken to send a strong message to Forest Service officials on this very point." As the *ARRA* says, "stayed tuned..."

Robbie Gleason
Newsletter Editor

SAFETY LETTER BY LLOYD POTTER

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



Let's talk about the safety aspect of ATV vs. UTV. As we know with all motorized equipment, balance is the main key to performing safely. It's keeping the rubber side down and the shiny side up.

With a one up ATV, your weight is designed to be centered on the machine. This enables you to move easily to the uphill side of the bike to maintain a safer balance. Riding two people on a one up machine is not recommended, because this puts the rear rider behind the rear axle, thus throwing off the balance of the ATV. Two up ATV's are extended approximately eight inches, moving the axle behind the rear rider. This greatly increases the balance for two riders.

Ok, now the UTV, or known as the side by side. This machine was originally designed for ranch or farm use. It's not recommended for trail use, because many trails have side hill areas. With your weight on the down-hill side of a trail, these machines are prone to roll over. Now I know that some of the newer side-by-sides have a lower center of gravity, meaning the seat is lower to the ground. This will help, but you are still putting your body weight on the down-hill side, so caution should be taken on side hills.

Remember, figure out the type of riding you want to do and get the best machine for that.

Ride responsible and ride safe,

Lloyd E. Potter



WEBSITE NEWS

As indicated in last month's Newsletter, we are working to making our Club's website, found at www.panhandleriders.com/, more robust and useful to our membership. It

will soon be redesigned by adding additional links and moving many of the sections normally found in this newsletter to those links. This will of course shorten the Newsletter, leaving it strictly for important updates and articles relating to riding. While some recent ride photos will be included the Newsletter, the majority of the photos will be archived to the website for permanent access. The intent is to make the website your primary place to go for important up-to-date information regarding rides, maps on rides, event photos, newsletter archives, officer contacts, perhaps even a Chat Room for members, etc. The Newsletter will still be sent out monthly to all members by email, so please keep your email addresses current.

Please help us give you what you want on the website. Send us your ride photos and suggestions and/or articles of interest that you would like shared with the membership.

Please send them to:

panhandleriderassociation@yahoo.com

Robbie Gleason
Newsletter Editor

RIDES COMMITTEE ARTICLE

Hi,

I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Geoff Smith. I'm a member of this club as well as a business sponsor representing *Sandpoint Marine & Motorsports* (Polaris dealer). As one of this club's Founding Members and until recently an active Board Member, I believe the most important reason for this club's existence is so fellow ATV and UTV riders can join together and explore new areas to ride in our many public lands.

A club such as this affords its members the comfort of being able to explore the back country in the safety and camaraderie of a group of people who know where they are going and how to do it with fun. However, our rights to explore are not guaranteed and are being threatened.

A strong, active membership base is essential in helping us fight for our rights to access the back country. It should be no surprise to anybody in this club that there are large more organized and better funded groups trying to close down the back country to everybody except hikers. Do not under estimate their power and influence over our government. There will come a time, when this club needs to join forces with other clubs (i.e. ATV, Snowmobile, Horsemen, etc.) in demanding our right of access.

While I chose to step down as a Board Member this past month, I have agreed instead to work on our newly created Ride Committee. My 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.

Please get involved and stay involved. Do so first by coming to our General Meetings held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Elks Club. We need your input, and you'll make new friends. Second, participate in the rides. Finally, pay your annual membership dues. Your dues help defray our operating costs, and are used to help in our fight....keeping the back country open!

Protect the Future of ATVing,

Geoff Smith
Rides Committee Chair

***GUEST ARTICLE
BY
BRIAN DUNHAM***

A group of 6 riders associated with the ATV Nation website (ATVNation.com) met south of Darby, Montana to ride and camp on the "McGruder Corridor." This is a Forest Service road between the Frank Church River of No Return and Selway-Bitterroot wilderness. The road is about 120 miles each way. The trip was a new experience for many of us, both in terms of exploring a new area, and camping with just what we could carry on the quads for 4 days. For most riders, camping from the ATV was a first. I must admit...I cheated. After last year's campout, I came to appreciate a little luxury and splurged with a small trailer from Harbor Freight. This allowed banishing freeze-dried food and bringing along some "real food" via a cooler.

The first day we road about 90 miles including several side-trips to check out the Selway River and some lookout towers with camping at "Observation Point." This was a spectacular little campground at 8000 ft. with a great view and a small stream running through camp. After a hearty breakfast, we headed onward with the goal of reaching Elk City for fuel and food with the night spent part way back on the trail. We had reason to hustle, according to the Forest Service, there were some fires burning that threatened to close the trail. In the end, the weather quieted the fires and we made it back with no drama...after another nearly 100 miles day. We camped at Granite Springs...unique in that we never did find the springs. Day three was a mild day of riding. We split up with two riders investigating the local fishing holes, while the remainder hiked to Salmon Mountain lookout at nearly 9000 feet. The view was spectacular...even with the smoke from several fires. I mentioned fires a couple times already...it was surprising to me just how much of the road went through prior burns with standing, dead trees. One hint, if you do this ride, bring a chain saw; even modest winds result in downed trees in the road.

The final day we woke to cold weather and rain. We broke camp and made the run to the rigs in somewhat numbing weather. Did I mention that this was August? Riders going the opposite direction ran into snow. All in all, it was a great trip and a great chance to make some new friends. Plans are in the works for next year's ride to be

bigger and better. We saw a sign for Red River Hot Springs...doesn't that sound like the place to go after a couple days on the trail?

Brian Dunham
President

p.s. See photos of this trip under *Some Memorable Moments* below.

SOME MEMORABLE MOMENTS

McGruder Corridor Ride



CDA FOREST AREA

Reminder: The “new” maps are out, and they are a must-have item. You can pick them up at any of the Forest Service offices. They are free, so the price is right. You should have one with you, when you are up in the mountains...especially if you get stopped by the Forest Service and are on a wrong trail. It will save you some headaches and maybe a monetary fine.

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 of 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, October 6, 2010.

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.

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

EARLS RIDE SATURDAY, SEP 18TH (INTERMEDIATE)

Earls ride leaving from Wallace parking lot at 9:00 AM. Guaranteed to be a great ride. There will be Lunch available in Murray or bring own.

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.
- 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.
4. **POLARIS SNOW PLOW** bought new and only used a couple of times. Should fit all models except Mule and Ranger. Asking \$175. Call 208-266-1643 or email emmerjeff@yahoo.com for pictures.

2010-2011 CLUB OFFICERS/COMMITTEES

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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.