

# MI-TRALE NEWS

P.O. Box 43

Ontonagon, MI 49953-0043

May 2013

[www.mi-trale.org](http://www.mi-trale.org)

## Under the PRESIDENT's HELMET

I have been asking myself: "Where is the Spring of 2012?" We sure were spoiled last year! Not sure about you, but I am lucky enough to be able to ride my ATV all year. (In the winter it has a blade on the front to move the UP snow around!) I thought that we were headed in the right direction for Spring, as we were getting bare spots where I could actually see the grass again... That was yesterday! After the 4/5 snow, ALL is covered again! But, we know the Spring weather will be upon all of very soon. In fact, too soon for all of the trail work that must be done to ensure that every one of our members and guests are able to enjoy our trail system while being safe and having fun.

Today I have been going through the videos I took during my rides last year. (I made the plunge last Spring and purchased a GoPro Video camera so I could document all of our trails.) When I watch them, it makes me realize how lucky we are to have these trails in the Western UP of Michigan. You are probably asking yourself why I would torment myself like this, especially while it is snowing outside... Well, we are working on a series of videos of our trails to take to the WATVA Annual Meeting, held the weekend of April 20<sup>th</sup>. We figure it is about time Wisconsin riders see what they are missing! If you are in the area, you should stop in to check us out at our booth. Go to [WATVA.org](http://WATVA.org) for the details.

There is fantastic news about the expansion of our trails. The ONF has approved what we are calling the East Connector, (EC). It is 70 miles of new trail that will connect the IRM Route to the BN Route in Mass City. That means you can go North from our most southern route all the way to Copper Harbor. The trail will not open until Labor Day, due to multiple areas of work that must be completed by the USFS and MI-TRALE prior to that date. We will be keeping you up to date on its progress on the website ([mi-trale.org](http://mi-trale.org)) and in this newsletter.

Like all clubs, we are always looking for members to help us support our trails. This does not take much time or effort and you will be with a great bunch of people that share your passion for dust and fun! If you would like to offer some of your time, please contact our Trail Boss, Mike Schulz. By definition, he enjoys putting people to work, but the good news is that he plays hard, (along with the rest of us) as well!

This is turning into a busy year for MI-TRALE. We will be working on all of our trails, completing new ones and looking to grow our membership. Your board thanks every one of you for your ongoing support. It is the membership funds that allow us to provide you the trails that you enjoy today. But (there is always a catch!), we need your help to grow our membership base. April is our Membership Drive Month, so... Ask a riding friend to join, a relative, even a stranger! With your support, we can grow to 200+ members. We need members, but not just for funding. Equally as important, more members give us more power as a serious voice locally, *and* in Lansing. Membership forms are available on our website: [www.mitrale.org](http://www.mitrale.org) and they follow at the end of this newsletter, as well.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you on *your* trails this year. If you are out of the area, come on up and spend a week or, better yet, a weekend. All services for our riders (gas-food-lodging) are located on the trail system. Bring friends and family and enjoy yourselves!

*Don Helsel – Your President*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT – Don Helsel**  
[dhelsel1@charter.net](mailto:dhelsel1@charter.net)

**VICE-PRESIDENT – Tom Chase**  
[tpcgb@aol.co](mailto:tpcgb@aol.co)

**SECRETARY – Linda Schulz**  
[lschulz@runningbearresort.com](mailto:lschulz@runningbearresort.com)

**TREASURER – Dave Bishop**  
[patanddave485@gmail.com](mailto:patanddave485@gmail.com)

**Jim Altenburg**  
[greenlandpitstop@gmail.com](mailto:greenlandpitstop@gmail.com)

**Russ Diethert** [rfd403@aol.com](mailto:rfd403@aol.com)

**Cindy Grams**  
[peppermillgrams@charter.net](mailto:peppermillgrams@charter.net)

**Kim Sims**  
[godsgrace0927@yahoo.com](mailto:godsgrace0927@yahoo.com)

**Cathy Wainio**  
[cndwainio@yahoo.com](mailto:cndwainio@yahoo.com)

**TRAIL MGR. – Mike Schulz**  
[mike@runningbearresort.com](mailto:mike@runningbearresort.com)

**EDITOR – Donna Wolf**  
[donnann.wolf@yahoo.com](mailto:donnann.wolf@yahoo.com)

## 2013 Dates to Remember

**Club Meetings – 7:pm EDT**  
First Monday of the month  
May 6<sup>th</sup> Twilly's-Bruce Crossing

**Membership Drive**  
Started April 1<sup>st</sup>

**Club Rides**  
Fri June 7<sup>th</sup> - Baraga Plains  
Sat. Aug 17<sup>th</sup> Waterfall Ride

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual S.P.O.R.T. Ride**

**Fri & Sat June 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Senior Ride**  
Thurs Sept 26<sup>th</sup> 2013

**Membership Banquet**  
Saturday Oct 12<sup>th</sup> 2013

## **\$\$ NEW TREASURER \$\$**

Dave Bishop was unanimously voted to take over the Treasurer's position at the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting as we reluctantly accepted the resignation of Russ Diethert.

Our **THANKS** to Russ for all his hard work as well as for his decision to remain on the BOD in the capacity of a Director.

## **JIM ALTENBURG NOW ON THE BOD**

We are pleased to welcome Jim Altenburg as a new member of the BOD. He was nominated & unanimously voted in to fill the remainder of the term of Director Roger Mattson at the March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, after Roger had regretfully tendered his resignation.

We say "Thank You" to Roger for his service! Jim is owner/operator of The Greenland Pit Stop. For more info about Jim, & all of our BOD, see their bio's on our website mid-April: New Tab "ABOUT MI-TRALE" and drop down to 'Officers & Board'.

## **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

**The More The Members - The Merrier For MI-TRALE !!**

**Get your recruiting hats on CURRENT Members and bring in your trail riding friends to be NEW Members!**

Copy your application & have them fill it out & send it in to our Membership Coordinator Cindy Grams at P.O. Box 43, Ontonagon, MI 49953-0043. -OR- email Cindy directly at: [peppermillgrams@charter.net](mailto:peppermillgrams@charter.net) -OR- have them go the website: [www.mi-trale.org](http://www.mi-trale.org) & apply.

**AN APPLICATION FOLLOWS ON PG 4. MI-TRALE CAN'T BE BEAT JOIN NOW!**

Like fresh air in the forest? Help horses and riders be happy with clear trails!

**EQUESTRIAN  
SPRING**

**WORK BEE**

Contact Cathy Wainio to be a trail preparing volunteer on the Courtney EQ Trails  
[cdwainio@yahoo.com](mailto:cdwainio@yahoo.com)

### **CLUB RIDES**

#### **June 7<sup>th</sup> Baraga Plains**

Contact TOM CHASE for more info  
[tpcgb@aol.com](mailto:tpcgb@aol.com)

#### **August 17<sup>th</sup> Waterfall Ride**

Contact Linda Schulz for more info  
[lschulz@runningbearresort.com](mailto:lschulz@runningbearresort.com)

More rides are in the planning so keep a watch on the website.

If you have a favorite ride and would like to host a club ride please contact

Dave [patanddave485@gmail.com](mailto:patanddave485@gmail.com)

Or Tom [tpcgb@aol.com](mailto:tpcgb@aol.com)

### **2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL S.P.O.R.T. RIDE JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>TH</sup>**

Come Camp, go on the Ride and enjoy the activities from the ORV Friendly State Parks in Twin Lakes or Baraga

**WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO**

### **6<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SENIOR FALL COLOR RIDE**

**September 26, 2013**

Looking for people to bring their Side by Sides and transport a senior on a beautiful fall color ride. The joy this brings to the seniors will touch your heart!

Please contact Kim Sims for more info  
[godgrace0927@yahoo.com](mailto:godgrace0927@yahoo.com)

**WE HOPE YOU CAN HELP!!**

### **MI-TRALE MEMBERSHIP**

**IS A GREAT GIFT**

Birthdays -Mother's & Father's Day  
Anniversaries

They'll thank you all year  
while you have fun together

### **!!! ATTENTION !!!**

70 Mile Ottawa National  
Forest East Connector (EC)

The new trail **won't be open**  
for riding until Labor Day

If you'd like to help us  
work on the new trail  
contact Mike 906-827-3208

### **SHARE PHOTOS FROM YOUR RIDE**

**5 Categories to submit photos for  
posting on our website!**

**MOTORIZED / LANDSCAPES**  
**NON-MOTORIZED / NATURE / WILDLIFE**

**Submit to:**

**[mi-trale@runningbearresort.com](mailto:mi-trale@runningbearresort.com)**

# Spring Trail Work

**This year we have more work than ever before and could really use some HELP!**

We will be replacing all signs this year on both designated and non-designated trails and preparing the new 70 mile EC trail for it's opening on Labor Day. **That's 520 miles of trails!! WOW!!**

**We have a new incentive program for our volunteers, log your volunteer hours and receive gift certificates from area businesses, maybe a MI-TRALE Proud to be a Volunteer Hoodie or Jacket.**

**We are proud of our volunteers and want to show you just how proud we are!!!**

**Designated trail work needs to be completed by May 20<sup>th</sup> to comply with DNR**

May 11 & 12 - May 18 & 19 are the 2 weekends we will be looking for help

Pickup trucks, 4-wheelers and people power are needed - Lodging opportunities available

Trails include - **Bill Nichols** Trail from Mass City to Houghton, **Pioneer** Trail from Rockland to Bergland, **SB** Trail from Bergland to Sidnaw and the **IRM** Trail from Iron River to Marenisco

**Non-Designated trail work will continue throughout the summer**

Most of these trails are on County roads and can be driven on in a vehicle. If we can get some of the work on these trails done on the weekends above--we will. But, this work will continue throughout the summer, so anytime you can volunteer will be GREAT!

**Spotter Help – important role**

Through out the season we need volunteers to help us keep an eye on the trails. We need people to give the trail a ride and report or repair (which ever you can do) any problems, missing signs, broken posts, fallen trees and overgrown brush. Also to go out after storms or high winds. If you like to take on a trail or part of a trail we'd really appreciate the help!

**To Volunteer for any of the above**

**Please contact Mike 906-827-3208 or [mike@runningbearresort.com](mailto:mike@runningbearresort.com)**

**Keep an eye on the MI-TRALE website.....Things are changing!!**

**[www.mi-trale.org](http://www.mi-trale.org)**

# MI-TRALE Membership Application

Annual Memberships - June 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>

(Please check one)

Individual \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_ (decal for each family member)

Small Business \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Corporate \$75.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks or money orders payable to **MI-TRALE**

With your membership you will receive a MI-TRALE Membership Card, MI-TRALE decal (that we ask you to proudly display on your ATV or at your business) a listing (if you choose) on our web site

Please Print Clearly

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (Family memberships Include  
family members names)

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to receive email updates \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to receive the Email Newsletter

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to purchase Extra decals @ \$2.00 each # \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE send your membership dues to**

MI-TRALE Membership

PO Box 43

Ontonagon, MI 49953-43