

MAGAZINE

SHARETRAILS.ORG

Voice of the BlueRibbon Coalition

WE NEED ADVENTURE

Ben Burr

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT FAMILY OFF ROAD ADVENTURES

Lawrence Borgens

GO PREPARED KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Mona Drake

PENNSYLVANIA LOOKS TO REVISE OFF HIGHWAY USE POLICIES BOD Kirchner

MOTORIZED RECREATION VS ENVIRONMENTAL PREJUDICE

Mike McGarity

INSIDE

STORY From The Executive Director	AUTHOR Spencer Gilbert	PAGE 5
The President's Desk	Joni Mogstad	8
We Need Adventure	Ben Burr	10
Business Spotlight Family Off Road Adventures	Lawrence Borgens	12
Go Prepared Know Before You Go	Mona Drake	16
Pensylvania Looks To Revise Off Highway Use Policies	Bob Kirchner	18
Motorized Recreation Vs Environmental Prejudice	Mike McGarity	22
BRC Recieves Generous Donation - Bear Lodge Resort	Jack Welch	26
Welcome Crystal Crowder New BRC Board Member	Jack Welch	28
Board Of Directors Elections 2020	Staff	29



OPTING OUT

Please Note: If you would like to "opt out" of receiving a physical copy of the Blueribbon Magazine, simply send an email to "brcirc@sharetrails.org" with the subject "no magazine" (You MUST include your name and address; your membership # is helpful but optional). To receive notice of the digital magazine, add "go digital" to the subject line (e.g. "no magazine go digital" would cancel your physical copy and send you notice of the digital version).















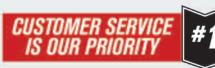






Since 1985, we've worked hard to become your premier destination for parts, apparel and accessories.

Give us a try today and experience the difference of great customer service, quick, free shipping on orders over \$75 and industry low prices. We thank you for your support over the years.













(7AM - 7PM M-F, 8AM - 4PM SAT MST.)







1.800.336.5437

SHARETRAILS

TAGAZINE ISSUE #020, 2020



PUBLISHER

Spencer Gilbert

EDITOR / ART DIRECTOR

Michael Patty

EDITORIAL STAFF

Mary Jo Foster Ric Foster Barbara Larsen

ADVERTISING

Michael Patty

ACCOUNTING

Barbara Larsen

WEB DEVELOPERS

Ric Foster Michael Patty

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Ben Burr

Lawrence Borgens

Mona Drake

Spencer Gilbert

Bob Kirchner

Joni Mogstad

Mike McGarity

Jack Welch

Sharetrails

We Need Adventure (See story, page 10)

SHARETRAIILS.ORG / BRC BOARD & STAFF

Board of Directors

Joni MogstadPresident John StewartVice President Crystal CrowderTreasurer Rebecca AntleSecretary Mona DrakeBoard Member Edward MooreBoard Member Jack Welch.....Board Member

Matt Westrich.....Board Member

Staff/Contractors/Volunteers

Spencer GilbertExecutive Drector		
Mary Jo Foster Chief of Staff		
Ben Burr Policy Director		
Ric FosterPublic Lands†		
Michael PattyWeb/Publications Editor		
Barbara LarsenNon-Profit Specialist		
Andrew Weger Veterans Ambassador†		
Jack WelchSnowmobile Ambassador†		
†These are volunteer (unpaid) positions.		

See board & staff bios online at: http://sharetrails.org/contactus

SOCIAL NETWORKING



BlueRibbonCoalition @sharetrails





Contact Sharetrails / BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC)

Sharetrails Magazine

brmag@sharetrails.org | 208-600-7131

Advertising

brads@sharetrails.org | 208-600-7131

BRC Main Office

brc@sharetrails.org | 208-237-1008

Advertisement Billing brbooks@sharetrails.org | 208-237-1008 (ext. 0)

Change of Address • Membership brcirc@sharetrails.org | 208-237-1008 (ext. 0)

Public Lands / Issues

brrichard@sharetrails.org | 208-237-1008 (ext. 2)

Sharetrails/BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC) • P.O. Box 5449 • Pocatello, ID 83202-0003 | http://sharetrails.org

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Value of This Land is What it Provides to the Soul

"The value of this land is that it provides opportunity to have much more brain power and cognitive thoughts. It's like putting your brain on steroids. The confusion is gone and clarity sets in, opening doors into one's mind that they can't in the flatlands with all the chaos going on around you all the time. I'm not part of the experiment up here. I'm able to clearly see my Paths forward. That is the value and it's priceless!"

—BRC business member Austin Carter, re the Bookcliffs Green River, Utah

TOO OFTEN we lose sight of our purpose; the why of why "we engaged in opening public lands" in the first place. For some it has become a business, for others a political bully pulpit and others (on all sides) it's just another reason to huff and puff in the public square. It's easier and easier to get "likes" and acceptances by taking the extreme, angry position and saying something that makes you a media or social media provocateur.

I'm reminded of what Roosevelt said in his speech, Citizenship of the Republic:

"It is not the critic who counts: not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles

Special thanks to the FMCA
4-Wheelers
for their continued
support...
www.fmca4wheelers.com

Supporters like the FMCA4Ws allow Sharetrails/BRC to continue with its vital mission to protect YOUR recreation access!

by SPENCER GILBERT

or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena,



whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself for a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat."

As a nation we are battling COVID-19, racial strife and economic upheaval. Over the last



several months, I've reached out to some of our older members for advice. They've been through Vietnam, the Iraq war, the 2008 financial crisis and other heart wrenching events. No one has ever seen anything like what we are facing now.

As we monitor social media, we understand how off-roading is portrayed. We know our members, we understand the community, the advocacy coalitions and those that oppose the work we do. We also know we can do better. It would be foolish for us not to take a hard look at ourselves and others. Sun Tzu taught us generations ago (long before Stephen Ôovey) to seek first to understand, then to be understood:

"If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle."

Our concern is twofold:

- 1) how do we turn the corner on what we appear to be to others.
- 2) how do we make sure we are including everyone in the fastest growing sport in America.

Abraham Lincoln remarked: "In this age, in this country, public sentiment is everything. With it, nothing can fail; against it, nothing can succeed. Whoever molds public sentiment goes deeper than he who enacts statutes or pronounces judicial decisions."

Special thanks to **OMIX-ADA** for their continued support...



www.omix-ada.com

Supporters like OMIX-ADA allow Sharetrails/BRC to continue with its vital mission to protect YOUR recreation access!

We don't lose cases or legislative battles on the merits alone. We lose most of our fights because of perception and reputation. Legislators express, privately, concerns about our ability to act graciously in a win and our rabble rousing when we lose.

Many years ago, I wrote a political strategy memo titled:

The Panda Paradox

I argued then that the merits of a policy position, the merits of actually making sound economic decisions, rests not on substance but on the ability of the arguer to offer something "cute". There is power, metaphorically and literally, in the power of cute.

Nature, pandas, etc. are cute and therefore easy to side with and hard to fight against. A dirt

6 Ways to Support Sharetrails / BRC

- 1. Join and renew your membership
- 2. Sign up for alerts and use the info to contact the agency mentioned
- 3. Contact your representatives, let them know you support trails
- 4. Thank the National Forests and BLM agencies in your riding area for keeping trails open
- **5.** Contact BRC if you find changes or closures on your favorite trails (see page 4 for contact information)
- **6.** Add BRC as your charity of choice when shopping on Amazon.Com (For details, see: http://bit.ly/smileBRC)

bike is loud, emits exhaust and carries an adrenalin-filled junkie, or at least that's the perception. If we continue to fightÁ engine vs panda we will lose.

If we align ourselves with one political party or the other, we will lose. We will only accomplish our goals by inviting everyone to join, by opening our clubs to everyone and then promoting the best of each of us.

The media and marketing for our cause matters much more, much much more, than does a well-crafted legal position. I've worked with almost all of the land use advocacy groups and we see it. We understand. We just need us to come together as a community and promote our own "pandas," symbols that represent exactly what Mr. Carter said in the opening paragraph. We need to show the world that our sport represents the best in human potential, the best in exploration. We need to explain better that we, as a society, need adventure. It enlivens the soul and inspires the mind. We are in a race to the bottom. Whomever

can throw the most sludge and mud wins. Society has decided that we win or lose by how much harm we can inflict on others.

I'm asking you all to stand above this. To show the world the better part of our natures.

There are few political strategies I haven't seen and even fewer I don't understand. Divide and conquer is one the baser and easier to employ. Many political tacticians rely on our willingness to "fight back." They are expecting us to exhibit a lack of political savvy that we have become famous for. Clark Collins was very good at molding public opinion for our "base." Our largest group of consistent donors are also our longest members. He left a brilliant legacy. It is time to reach out and capture those "undecided" folks that haven't formed an opinion about off roaders.

Clark told me that almost everyone would be on our side if they could ride with us. He certainly tried. Idaho and Utah are filled with members that rode with Clark one on one.

Now is our moment.



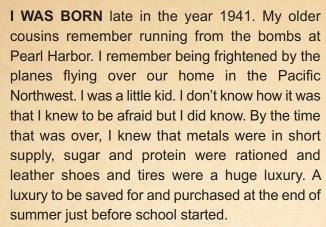
We Support Motorized Access to Public Lands.



THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

INVOLVEMENT & OWNERSHIP - A RELATIONSHIP

by JONI MOGSTAD



Even as a small child, I knew that we were saving the rationed items for the soldiers. We donated the metal lids from out pots and pans to make ammunition. My mother grew a garden and I went with her to the cannery to can the vegetables. My dad worked in a plant where poultry was butchered to feed the soldiers. Everyone had a part to play, a way to participate, a feeling of being needed.

Special thanks to Pirate 4X4.Com for their continued support...





Special thanks to NAXJA for their continued support...

www.naxja.org



Supporters like these allow
Sharetrails/BRC to continue with
its vital mission to protect
YOUR recreation access!

People made a lot of adjustments going into the war, during the war and once the war was over. They were included in the process along the way. At the end of this war, Woody Guthrie wrote his song "This Land is Your Land" describing our country as we all envisioned it emerging from the war.

Since that time, life has happened, revolutions in other countries, recessions, depressions, the Korean War, the Watts Riots in California, the Bay of Pigs, the Viet Nam War and so much more. There was the Women's Rights movement that led to Title IX, The emergence of the Weathermen and the Black Panthers and the demise of the KKK. We marched, we protested, we fought, we joined, we studied, we wrote op-ed pieces, we found new careers. None of this prepared us for the pandemic Covid-19 Virus.

The mantra that greeted us in March 2020 was "Stay Home, Stay Safe" or "Stay Home, Stay Safe, Save Lives." Side note, this all happened about Friday the 13th during a full moon. "Stay Home, Stay Safe, Save lives, Slow the Curve!" I called a local county commission member and asked "How can I help?" He replied "Stay Home, Stay Safe." I said "No! that's not who I am. When faced with a problem I want to begin the problem-solving process, I want to help fix things!" He said the best thing you can do is "Stay Home and Stay Safe." I started to believe he was responding this way because I am "older" and as apart of a unique population he was trying to protect me. Not so, everyone was being told this.

The Stay Home, Stay Safe mantra was soon joined by opportunists stating we are in this together and we are here to help. Those statements came from the wireless phone companies, from Toyota, from AARP, from the medical delivery businesses and many more. They all want a part of the money being directed at the problem of restless people staying home

and unable to work. We are watching our economy crumble and we still hope it can recover.

I am of the opinion it is time for us, the recreation through involvement, develop ownership in the outcome. Document your efforts and notify the BRC/Sharetrails office of your results. Feel needed.

community, to begin moving forward and making sure land managers know that we expect to be included in our recovery and reopening. Show up! Talk to them about what they need to re- open. Ask what you can do to help. Find a job to do where you have a purpose and where your efforts help the movement to re-open. Build a relationship and

Actively participate. You have value. You are needed outdoors.





(BlueRibbon Coalition) would like to express special thanks & appreciation to



for their **EXCEPTIONAL SUPPORT**

Supporters like RMATV-MC allow Sharetrails.Org/BRC to continue with its vital mission to protect **YOUR** recreation access!



- BOILERS
- BURNERS
- CONTROLS PUMPS

2218 9th Avenue North Great Falls, MT 59401 combustionservicecompany@gmail.com

24-Hour Statewide Service Montana Owned & Operated

(406) 453-8372 **David Covert - Owner**

cell: 788-8372

BIG TO SMALL... We have it all!

The Cat Rental Store is your source for late-model, lowhour equipment from over thirty big-name manufacturers including Caterpillar, Genie, Sullair, Multiquip, Toro, and more.

28 locations in California, Oregon, and Washington!

Call (800) RENT CAT today or visit us online at catrentalstore.com!



CRESCO (A) Rental



LAST JANUARY, I was getting ready to head to the Winter 4x4 Jamboree being held at Sand Mountain near Hurricane, Utah. It was a Saturday morning, and I was packing a lunch for day 2 of spectacular wheeling with over 1,000 fellow off-road enthusiasts. At the same time, my wife was also

CRAWL all over this deal at www.crawlmag.com & save 20% when you use promo code BRC17 The Hardcore Offroad Magazine

getting ready to go hiking in Zion with my in-laws. My eleven-year-old daughter was not happy about the plans. She has a health condition that prevents her from fully enjoying outdoor activities like hiking. As she was fighting with my wife about the plans for the day, I pulled her aside and asked if she wanted to come wheeling with me instead.

That changed everything. She was ecstatic to ioin me.

I was riding with a group of Jeeps that included elected officials and local media. As such there were some other groups of families who joined us. She made new friends. While the vehicles and drivers were doing their thing on some of the more difficult obstacles, she hiked around on the rocks and dunes of Sand Mountain with her new friends. Whatever aversions she had to hiking disappeared pretty quickly when combined with driving around in a cool Jeep, with new friends, to an amazing place she had never been.

I knew – and deep down inside I think she knew - we need adventure. She likes hiking and being outdoors, but she wants to experience them on her terms and in ways that recognize her health limitations. Motorized access is what enabled her to experience the therapeutic benefits of being somewhere new, exciting and outside.

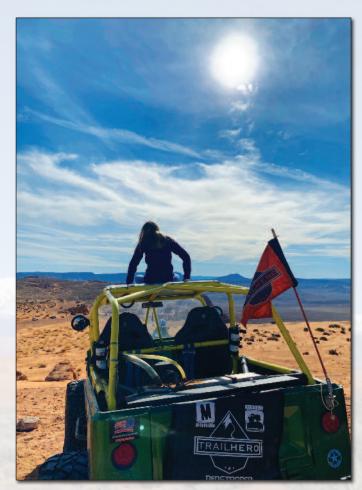
As many of us have spent weeks or months at home during the COVID-19 lockdowns, I think we

need adventure more than ever. While we need to take public health risks seriously, I think we'll be in serious trouble if we become a society who becomes unwilling to take risks. It is part of our nature to want to try new things, challenge ourselves and learn from mistakes. There is nothing more exhilarating than those times when risk turns to reward.

As we transition from the initial shock of the COVID-19 response, it is clear that many off-road clubs and groups are facing uncertain times and an even more uncertain future. The large events that are the life-blood of our movement remain canceled. Meanwhile, political upheaval could very easily shift the ground beneath our feet.

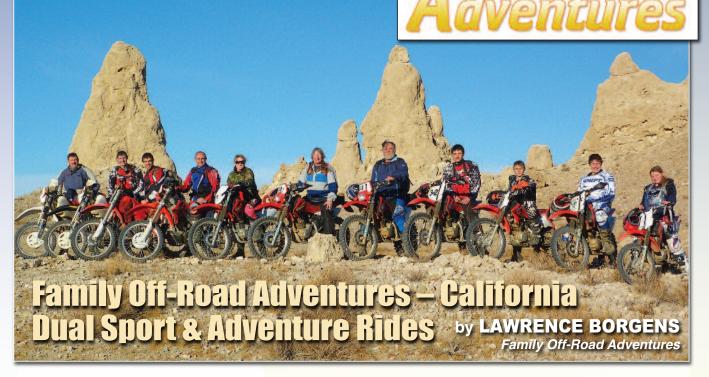
It is more important than ever that we are vigilant and engaged. We would hate to see access that was blocked temporarily become permanent. As we get back out to the places we love and find the adventures that have been waiting for us, now might be a better time than ever to invite someone who hasn't experienced our sport before to come along for the ride.











ramily off Road Adventures (FORA) organizes dual sport and adventure rides throughout California. From the "Lost Coast" of California to the vast expanse of Mojave Desert and the crown jewel, Yosemite! And the best part? These events are a platform that raise money for charities that support disabled children and the BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC)!

"The rides started with some friends going to Baja & the Mojave Desert," says FORA founder Lawrence Borgens. "We got together each year to explore the Mojave Desert for a week at a time. Soon we were taking family and friends down to Baja and riding the epic trails the gold rush areas of the Sierra Mountains."

The next step for Borgens was to turn these activities into an AMA-chartered organization. Family Off-Road Adventures was born. Since the

first Yosemite ride in 2008, hundreds of dual-sport and adventure riders have attended events with FORA

Participants are treated to the most scenic and historic areas of California and are supported with sweep riders, chase truck and the awesome participants that attend these events! "It's always a family atmosphere! Everyone supports each other on the trail," said Lawrence.

Events often include a lunch at a local restaurant or served as a trailside picnic and there is usually a big BBQ dinner and raffle with over \$10,000 of donated merchandise raffled off. The money raised is donated to the BlueRibbon Coalition.

Events are 100% GPS-based. That's right, no roll charts! Participants receive a GPS download of all routes, waypoints and track logs. There is

also a FREE GPS class the night before the ride starts!

Routes are about 100 miles per day of twotrack logging roads sometimes with hard and easy splits. Most events are big-bike friendly and good for beginner riders, but some are specifically for smaller dual sport bikes. Participation is limited to 150 people to keep the events more exclusive.

"Many organizations advertise their events as a "once-in-a-lifetime" ride," Lawrence says. "Family Off-Road Adventures is about taking great people to great places" and a group of great people shows up for every ride. Many have attended the event for several years in a row!

Starting a family business was nothing new for Lawrence, who operates three other businesses. He's an award-winning entrepreneur recognized by the local Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Small Business Administration. Forming a team with family members then using email, web and social media marketing strategies has allowed the company to remain small and still serve hundreds of participants.

Family Off-Road Adventures is truly a family business. Lawrence's business manager is his



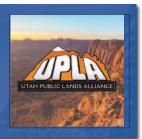






Special thanks to the **UPLA** for their continued support...

https://utahpla.com



Supporters like these allow Sharetrails/BRC to continue with its vital mission to protect YOUR recreation access!

mom, Janet, and the primary event staff are Janet's husband and Lawrence's wife and four children, along with others that make up a great team. "There is family you're born into and family you choose, FORA is a good mix of both," said Lawrence.

The love for off-roading started with Lawrence's grandfather, Darold MacDannald. Even though Darold lost his right leg in a motorcycle accident at the age of 19 (before the invention of penicillin) that didn't stop him from building off road racing trucks and winning some of the toughest races in Baja and the Mojave Desert. He also owned three motorcycle dealerships in Northern California.

Janet's two brothers also raced regularly. One brother, Neil MacDannald, became a professional motocross racer and taught his young nephew Lawrence how to ride a motorcycle at the young age of 6.

Since the beginning FORA has supported the BlueRibbon Coalition and to date has donated more than \$22,300 to the BRC.

These donations couldn't happen without the generous donations from dealerships and manufacturers who step up and donate raffle items. FORA has also chosen to support local

charities that provide services for disabled Together FORA has raised over children. \$72,400. This is all organized by Janet and the team at FORA.

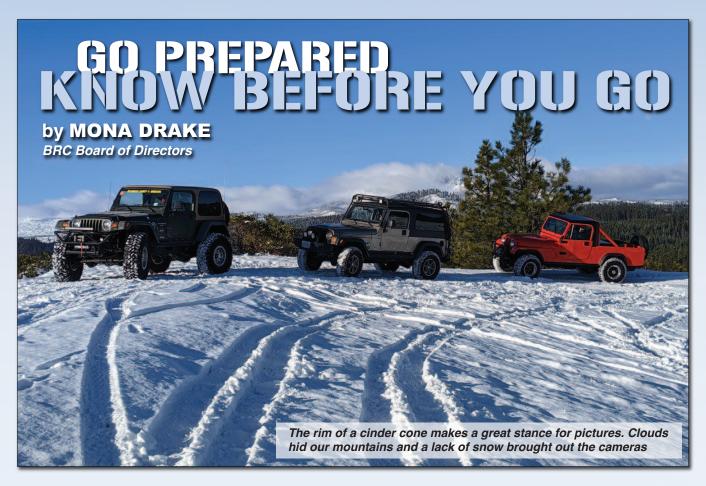
These philanthropic efforts show the giving spirit of the motorcycle community and proves we have some of the best people on the planet. FORA challenges all AMA chartered organizations to partner with charities for the good of the community.

Since 2008 FORA has developed a solid business model for creating, promoting and delivering quality dual sport and adventure rides. They have built an enviable reputation for providing a great ride in great places with great people. They are now looking to expand to other places that fit their unique culture of being a "treehugging motorhead" by enjoying the outdoors while still preserving God's country for generations to come.

If you want to be a part of these unique events then visit FORA online at www.familyoffroad adventures.com for more information.







WINTER WEATHER is a fickle friend. I bought my sled and it didn't snow until... well, it still hasn't and it's January 1, 2020. The rain and snow have come and gone but alas no build up. Thank God my sled was on sale at Walmart \$5.00, but the grandkids have yet to find a decent sled hill.

Cache Mountain, Oregon, is adjacent a wilderness designation area. It's close to town with easy access for horse trailers, ohv trailers, mountain bikers, high school kids and their dads and their dads

Special thanks to ISMA for their continued support...

gro.elidomwone.www

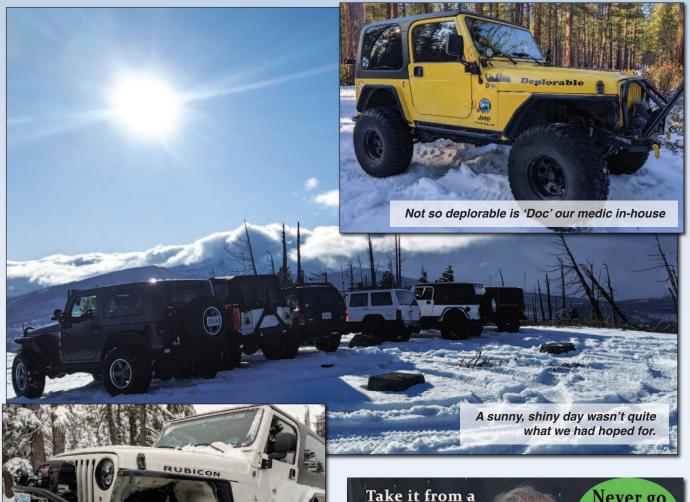


Supporters like ISMA allow Sharetrails/BRC to continue with its vital mission to protect YOUR recreation access!

in 4x4 rigs, anything and everything. Snowmobile enthusiasm for the area runs deep. Searches for Christmas Trees, secluded sledding areas, birding, or just looking for a family memory. Cache Mountain is well loved, a historic rest Astop Asn the Santiam Wagon Trail. Access to the original 100-foot-wide trail is intermittent because of anti-access extreme litigated decisions. Footnote: don't let me get started!

Cache Mountain isn't an unusual situation. Deschutes National Forest is overrun with favorite spots to recreate. Legitimate use of our public lands balances on respect enough to follow the rules. The good news is that there is a process in affect to manage and maintain public use of public lands. The bad news is few know the process, And even fewer do anything to support their use of public lands.

The United States Forest Service has maps with ledgers that inform users where, when and how to access our public lands. Central Oregon is fortunate enough to have clubs of varied users who volunteer often for their respective sport. Santiam Pass Snowmobile Trail Map on the app Avenza provided by Mount Jefferson Snowmobile Club is a wonderful example of volunteers making a difference. Their



map is beautiful, colored, indexed well, topographic and free. Snow depth determines use of a groomer. The map tracks groomed, frequently groomed and other trail highlights.

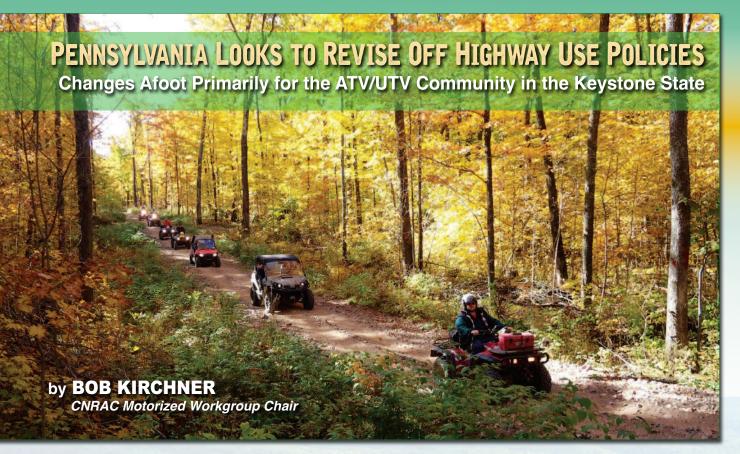
November's mid-month run had more depth than

our December outings

The rules are, if the trail is groomed, other vehicles like 4x4 rigs are prohibited access. Common courtesy and common sense will keep the 4x4 rigs off true potentially 'groomed' trails.

Common sense and common courtesy will send you to your public lands' agencies or app store to know before you go. Like our friends say, 'Go Prepared' or 'know before you go'. Join in public lands process. Access is dependent on the public's participating within the agencies process.





OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE enthusiasts in the Pennsylvania are anxiously watching developments which may lead to increased Off Highway connectivity across Commonwealth of Pennsylvania lands.

Some Numbers

In Pennsylvania the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) manages 2.2 million acres of state forest land along with 121 state parks encompassing an additional 283,000 acres.

Along with the land management and stewardship challenges presented by this role in state government, the DCNR is also tasked with being the registration agency for ATVs, UTVs and snowmobiles. Regular Registrations, priced at \$10 per year, permit vehicle use off the owners' property, while a zero fee Limited Registration permits use exclusively on the owners' property. As of May 4, 2020, there were 177,378 ATV units with a Regular Registration and 118,397 ATV units carrying the Limited Registration.

Some Issues

The 2014 to 2019 Pennsylvania State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

recognized the need for additional ATV trails needs citing "dramatic" growth in the sector over the past couple of decades.

A 2015 legislative change in the distribution of the Restricted Receipts Registration Fund, formerly shared equally by ATVs and Snowmobiles, required that monies collected for future fund balances be spent in an allocation aligned with user group contributions. Since about 85% of the registration funds in the account result from ATV/UTV registrations this activity now receives that percentage of the fund for their use.

Recognizing a need to respond to the growing demand for ATV/UTV opportunities, the Pennsylvania DCNR became the focal point for more ATV access to their land base and drew the bulk of the responsibility, in the eyes of many, for improvement of the overall Pennsylvania riding experience. The challenge for DCNR is how to provide for ATV use while balancing the use of its state forest lands with other recreational & business users.

Search for Solutions

Among Department responses, DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn sought input from the



department's "Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory Council" (CNRAC). CNRAC is an 18member non-partisan group with diverse experience from around the Commonwealth. The Council conducts a public meeting every other month in the State Capitol with the Secretary and others to offer a "citizens' perspective" on issues facing the DCNR. Membership on this council is by Executive and Legislative branch appointment with 6 council members each (no more than 3 from any political party) appointed by the Governor, Senate Pro Tempore, and Speaker of the House.

At the January 2017 meeting of CNRAC, a 6member Motorized Workgroup was formed to address citizens' guidance on this issue. After nearly two years of study a report with the lengthy moniker The Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory Council's Review and Recommendations Regarding the DCNR's Role and Responsibilities to Provide Motorized Recreation Opportunities within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was presented to, and unanimously approved by, the Council on January 23, 2019.

The 19 page report, supplemented by more than 150 pages of appendices, identified eight Key

Findings and fifteen Key Recommendations to address the findings. Also included was a Final Considerations section detailing additional steps that could be taken to improve the ATV/OHV experience in Pennsylvania.





To read the report go to: http://www.docs .dcnr.pa.gov/cs/groups/public/documents/do cument/DCNR 20033876.pdf or simply Goggle PA DCNR CNRAC and scroll down the right hand box to CNRAC Motorized Recreation Recommendations (PDF).

Special thanks to the TS ATV Club for their continued support...



Special thanks to Rekluse Motorsp. for their continued support...

http://rekluse.com/



Supporters like these allow Sharetrails/BRC to continue with its vital mission to protect **YOUR** recreation access!

This report has not been put on a shelf and forgotten. The Motorized Workgroup receiving is bi-annual updates at the Secretarial level on recommendation progress and provides a meeting by meeting update to the full council on the issues at hand. supplement to the report is planned for January 2021.

Some Relevant Facts

It should be recognized that not all ATV/UTV activity occurs on state owned land in Pennsylvania. In addition to two state financed ride parks there are dozens of privately owned ATV riding facilities and numerous land lease agreements between riding clubs and private forest land owners, of which there are 738,000 in Pennsylvania with

ownership of 11.5 million acres of forest land. Township Supervisors in rural areas may decide locally to open their municipally owned roads to ATV travel. There are some 2,650 municipalities in Pennsylvania. The CNRAC report noted these facts and made comment that access is a complex issue, and DCNR is not in a position to remedy all issues concerning ATV opportunities.

There presently are approximately 261 miles of ATV Trail in the DCNR managed state forests of Pennsylvania as well as the aforementioned two state-funded, authority operated, fixed boundary "ride parks" comprised of just over 500 riding miles. Riding is not permitted in any of the 121 state parks which fall under the jurisdiction of the DCNR. The 1.5 million acres of State Game Lands property, under the operational purview of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, prohibit ATV use

Actions Taken

To address opportunities for motorized recreation across the state, DCNR is in the process of revising its current, long standing ATV policy. The policy, developed in 2001, contains a moratorium on expansion of ATV longer distance trails on state forest lands. Briefly paused in 2002 the moratorium has been in place since 2003.

After an internal policy review early in 2020, a

draft revised ATV policy was developed by DCNR staff. The policy was introduced to the public at the January 22, 2020, CNRAC meeting before a packed house. The revised policy rescinds the moratorium and permits DCNR to consider new ATV trails and connectors on state forest lands; continue to explore opportunities to fund development of ATV parks and facilities on private lands; and authorizes the Secretary to designate portions of state forest roads as temporary, seasonal, or permanent ATV trails.

A public comment period ran from January 22 to March 27. DCNR received approximately 830 comments and is currently working on its public response document in regards to the feedback received by the public related to the policy.

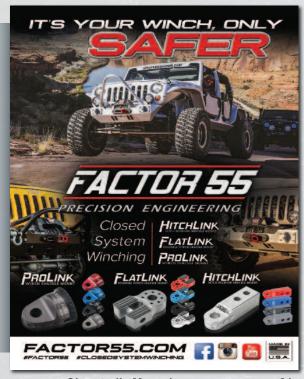
"The purpose of the policy is to provide guidance to DCNR when acquiring, developing and managing lands for ATV use by the public," Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn said. "New ATV trails will be considered, while still balancing the protection of natural resources as outlined in the Environmental Rights Amendment to the Pennsylvania Constitution, and the needs of all types of recreational users on DCNR lands."

In Summary

Over the past two decades there have been several studies and surveys addressing this need. The state funded "ride parks" were an early response. Now ATV & UTV enthusiasts are envisioning more connectivity to towns and services along with longer distance destination rides. What happens over the next few months in "Penn's Woods" will go a long way to determining if that will occur. Stay tuned!

—Bob Kirchner is the Chair of the CNRAC Motorized Workgroup and is a former President of the Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association and the American Council of Snowmobile Associations. He is a long time motorized recreation advocate. Bob resides in St. Marys, Pennsylvania with his wife Kathy and has a cylinder index of 34.





MOTORIZED RECRESTION US ENVIRONMENTAL PREJUTIE by MIKE MCGARITY California Four Wheel Drive Assn.



MOTORIZED RECREATION has reached an alltime high of anti-OHV hate that I've never seen before in my lifetime. We always must fight for our OHV access against the Environmental Prejudice. Much of their given power to discriminate against us is based on the State and/or Federal rules, regulations, policies and/or decisions that intentionally target the OHV community. We must fight to protect our access against VERY disproportionately unreasonable forces. To make matters even worse, we are, as a group targeted, hated, insulted and called names. We are all told to stay in our valley. We are told to not come to where we like to recreate. People who have taken up their residence either along the coast, in the desert or up in the mountains have a sense of power and ownership over our public land. Even people several hundred miles away from popular OHV trails get on social media or public zoom meetings to cry about how horrible and despicable the OHV community is. When they cannot prove we're damaging the environment with their onesided fake science, they smear us with insults, stereotypes, and socio-economic statements.

Since when has this become okay? I would expect that the state agencies who conduct these meetings would shut down such rhetoric!

The character assassinations keep happening. When hateful people generalize another group, it's broad statements that lump everyone into one category. If an individual is driving a lifted truck with a confederate flag yelling inappropriate statements at a park ranger; does this now mean that every lifted truck is bad? Does this mean that every individual in lifted trucks are bad? That we all now don't have respect for the park ranger because of one individual. Don't base all OHV enthusiasts from a few who don't behave or act appropriately. This faulty generalization leads to other conclusions which are incorrect. When trash is not picked up, does this mean that EVERYONE who is out on the trail litters?

Here's what is happening. Anti-OHV people are searching for, interpreting, finding information that will confirm or support their hatred. This is "Confirmation Bias"; which leads to cherry picking to support one's belief and convince others to buy into their fallacies. The interpretation of ambiguous



evidence that ALL OHV behave irresponsibly and that they are against their personal beliefs or values. This all leads to overconfidence in their hatred. They have moved from wishful thinking into truly believing that they are 100% right. Rather than us finding balance, they want it all! True abolishment of all Motorized Recreation seems to be the ultimate end game. Due to this overconfidence, they have made many mistakes. Mistakes within their planning, science and now over generalization of good people. When science has not been enough, there is this recent push in creating emotionally charged public comments attacking all OHV as a whole. The opposing side has become so overconfident in their biases. They have called OHV users out, naming the people who come d Áxecreat^ offËroad. They generalize us as all being from the valley, we're all slobs, we all want to trash the resources, leave garbage everywhere and don't care about the environment. These claims couldn't be further from the truth. When will the propaganda end? The sad reality is by making us evil and bad people it confirms their bias. They continue their ambiguous statements which builds their base. All this does is causes division. Instead of us coming together to work out how to share our great outdoors, we continue to fight and argue over how we all wish to spend our time recreating in the outdoors.

Here is what I want everyone to hear. I want

you to know who most Motorized Recreation people are. We are not slobs. We come from all walks of life. We are teachers, lawyers, law enforcement, part time employees, nurses, business owners, farmers, politicians, etc. We consider ourselves to be just as "environmentalist" as our non-OHV activists. We promote Tread Lightly! and Leave No Trace principles. We work with land managers to maintain the trails and protect the resources. We volunteer hundreds of hours to keep the OHV trails properly maintained. When we recreate off highway there are several things we consider and teach others. We plan and prepare our trips ahead of time. We use GPS maps and travel on designated OHV trails. We travel and camp in approved locations. We are always aware of trail conditions which minimizes soil erosion. We're considerate of water crossings. We travel where the crossings are rock armored. We are aware that the waters we drive through will eventually end up in our reservoirs and then to our homes. We dispose of waste properly. All trash is packed out. Human waste follows proper disposal practices; which in some cases calls for a "wag bag" and waste is packed out. We minimize our use on the trails and within campsite areas. We take actions to lessen our impact on the wildlife and habitats

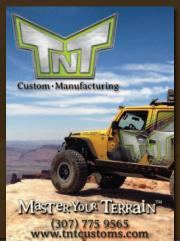




that we're visiting along the way. We have true respect for wildlife and love to see all the beautiful animals, birds, and fish as everyone else does. Lastly, we are considerate of others who are enjoying the outdoors as well. We follow trail etiquette and maintain courteous relations with everyone doing our best to not impact their visit. Are there people out there not following these principles? Sure there are, but those few do not represent the majority. People new to owning an off-road vehicle need to be taught and explained these principles. If you see someone not being a good steward, then say something. Be equally courteous and explain that what they're doing jeopardizes the future of what we love to do. Explain why, then talk with them about these principles. Together we can make a difference. Together we can save our trails, keep our OHV access and educate others along the way.

I'll close with this. I want us to all recreate together and find balance between everyone who wants to enjoy the great outdoors. We must work together. We all have areas to recreate with or without Motorized Vehicles. I've been a backpacker since I was 12 years old. I love backpacking into the wilderness and camping out next to a lake. I go there because I'm away from

vehicles. If I don't want to camp where vehicles are at, I have many options. If I want to take my 4 Wheel Drive and go camp at a lake, then I have limited options. If I want to go hike along the coast, we have 800 miles of coastline to enjoy without vehicles being on the beach. If I want to take my 4 Wheel Drive out on the beach, then I have limited options. I'm limited to a 3 three-mile section on the Oceano Dunes. We can all find balance if all sides would be willing to consider each other's love for their passions in life. This may sound selfish or naive, but I believe we can live life in peace with one another, we can have balance and it can happen between the Environmentalist and Motorized Recreation community.









THIS LAST WINTER, snowmobiling for me started Thanksgiving weekend in the Big Horn Mountains. This is the site for the Annual Bear Lodge Resort Bad Boys Riding Club annual dinner party and season kick off! I was especially honored to have been selected the speaker at their dinner. In attendance at the event, hosted by Roberta and Rick Young owners of Bear Lodge, were over 250 snowmobilers from all over the region. At the event, the leaders of the Riding Club announced a \$1,000 contribution to BlueRibbon Coalition for use in Snowmobile Winter Use Issues, and I was able to thank them on the spot.

The Bear Lodge Bad Boys Riding Club was founded in 2002 by Tom Kostreba and Rick Young. The purpose of the club is to promote year-round awareness of the recreational riding areas in the Big Horn Mountains and the surrounding region open to those activities. The Club has only one activity each year and that is the \$50,000 raffle/donation in which 500 tickets are sold for a \$100 donation each. The main Club event is the dinner party where the drawing is held for the winning tickets for over \$32,000 in prizes, including





the \$10,000 Grand Prize and cash prizes ranging from \$50 to \$500. The remaining \$18,000 raised after the expenses of the raffle and the dinner are used to improve recreational opportunities and safety in the Northern Big Horns and support to snowmobile issues in the region. One example of a snowmobile issue in the region is Yellowstone National Park "Winter Use Issue" along with the Winter Wild Lands efforts to limit snowmobiling.

On behalf of BlueRibbon Coalition, I want to thank the Bear Lodge Resort Bad Boys Riding Club and all the snowmobilers that helped make the event a success and for their support of BlueRibbon Coalition. For more information on Bear Lodge Resort, visit **bearlodgeresort.com**.



shop for common issues and repairs.

Welcoming Crystal Crowder

Introduction by Jack Welch, BRC Snowmobile Ambassador

CRYSTAL CROWDER from Washington State has been appointed to the BlueRibbon Coalition Board (BRC) of Directors to replace long time Board member Bill Kaeppner who passed away last year. She was also appointed to the position of BRC Treasurer.

Crystal is a founding member and current club President of Piston's Wild Motorsports – a multimoto interest club created in 2007. The club's primary intention is creating legal 4x4 trails in SW Washington. For the last 13 years she has been working with the Washington Department of Natural Resources for the permission to develop a 4x4/UTV trail system in the Yacolt Burn State Forest. Because of her leadership in Washington State with grant funding and coordinating over 75,000 volunteer hours, her club, the Piston's Wild, has been instrumental in bringing well over \$2.5 million dollars in donations, grants and capital funding to SW Washington for facilities, E&E, maintenance and new trail construction for motorized recreation.

Previously, Crystal volunteered her time as a land use chair for Region 3 of the PNW4WDA and as a WOHVA board member as Vice President and consultant.

She was a member of many active off-road clubs including: Jones Creek Trail Riders, Pacific Trail Riders, Dirt Church, Red Rock 4-Wheelers and 4XNation. In addition, she was a member of the Mt. Hood Snowmobile club and served on their Board of Directors.

Other positions she holds in Washington State include serving as a grant committee member representing 4x4 interests for the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) - NOVA Advisory Committee which distributes gas tax and OHV permit funding to recreational programs across Washington State. Previously, she served as the ATV representative for the same committee. Her term on the NOVA committee will expire soon and RCO has requested that she transfer over to serve on the RTP grant committee as a motorized representative at that



time - she is planning to accept that appointment.

When she is not volunteering her time as a land use advocate for off-road recreation, she spends her spare time operating the family trucking company, Freight Solutions, which she co-owns with her husband Darel.

Her volunteer vision in motorized recreation advocacy has always been to bring the motorized voice to the table and make certain it is heard – always insisting upon equal treatment for motorized recreation. She strategically maneuvers to ensure the sport is treated fairly and honestly when negotiating, maintaining, or expanding motorized access with governing agencies on their landscape. She works tenaciously to support and encourage any entities and organizations which strive to preserve and protect motorized outdoor recreation on public lands.

As a new BlueRibbon Board Coalition member, she looks forward to an opportunity to be of service to the BlueRibbon Coalition and we welcome her to the Board.

Board of Directors Election 2020

THE BLUERIBBON COALITION/SHARETRAILS

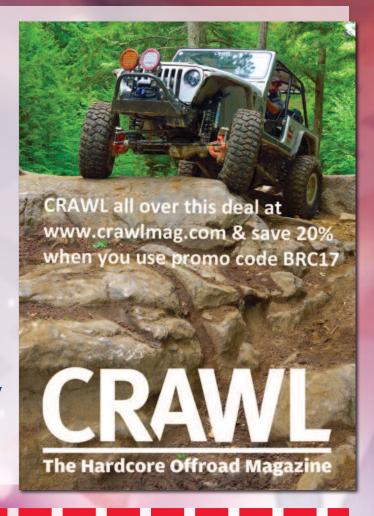
(BRC) 2020 Board of Directors Election is here. This year's board election includes one current board member running for re-election and five new candidates running to fill open seats. The current board member up for re-election is Edward Moore. The five new candidates are Sen. Mark Maynard, Ranch Pratt, Chuck Ramsey, Phil Rawlings and Shannon Welch.

Online voting is now open and will close at 1:00 pm Friday, October 30, 2020. (This deadline is subject to change). Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, plans for the general membership meeting are being reviewed and will be posted on the Meeting Information website (below), as soon as a decision is made.

> All members in good standing are eligible to vote.

https://www.sharetrails.org/online-voting/

Votes may be cast at the meeting, online at the address above or using the absentee ballot below.



BRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION 2020

VOTE FOR UP TO SIX CANDIDATES

SEN. MARK MAYNARD

(see https://bit.ly/SenMarkMaynard-2020)



EDWARD MOORE

(see https://bit.ly/EdMoore-2020)



RANCH PRATT

(see https://bit.ly/RanchPratt-2020)



CHUCK RAMSEY

(see https://bit.ly/ChuckRamsey-2020)



PHIL RAWLINGS

(see https://bit.ly/PhilRawlings-2020)



SHANNON WELCH

(see https://bit.ly/ShannonWelch-2020)

VOTER INFORMATION

Your Name

Address

City

State

Email

Membership # (optional)

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

BlueRibbon Coalition, Board Elections PO Box 5449 • Pocatello, ID • 83202-0003

Absentee ballots must be received no later than October 30, 2020, in order to be counted (This deadline is subject to change)

Updates will be posted on the General Meeting website as decisions are made. See https://sharetrails.org/meeting

