

Michigan Trail Riders ASSOCIATION, INC.

5806 E. State Rd., Hale, MI 48739

989-473-3205

www.mtra.org

Garry Randall, Pres.
989-539-6838

Chris Rayner, Sec/Treas
raynechris@gmail.com

February 2010 – NEWSLETTER

2010 Ride Schedule & Other Important Dates

Ride Registration forms and Ride Calendars included

February 27.....	Northern MI Horse Expo & Tack Sale in Cadillac.....	9:00 am-6:00pm
March 12-14.....	Michigan Horse Council's 2010 Horse Expo in East Lansing.....	need volunteers
March 20	Annual Banquet & Election at Doherty Hotel in Clare.....	6:00 pm
March 21.....	Board of Director Meeting at Doherty Hotel.....	9:30 am
May 7-9.....	Work Bee.....	Luzerne (clean up camp, need lots of helpers!)
May 15 – May 23	Blossom Ride.....Luzerne to Mullett Lake.....	Pre-register by Apr 15
May 27-31.....	Work Bee at South Branch Trail Camp (clean up camp & trails).....	noon on 27th
June 3 – 13.....	1st June Ride (trophy).....Lake Huron to Lake Michigan.....	Pre-register by May 5
June 18 - July	2nd June Ride (trophy).....Lake Huron to Lake Michigan.....	Pre-register by May 15
June 26.....	Board of Director Meeting at 4-Mile Truck Stop in Grayling.....	3:30 pm
Aug 13-15.....	Work Bee.....	Elk Hill (set picket poles, clean up camp)
Sept 9 – 19.....	September Ride (trophy)Lake Huron to Lake Michigan.....	Pre-register by Aug 10
Oct 2 – 10...Color Ride (Flip Flop Ride)....	Cadillac to Scheck's to Cadillac.....	Pre-register by Sept 2
October (TBA).....	Board of Director Meeting (Location TBA).....	3:30 pm

2010 Annual Banquet & Elections

The Doherty Hotel is gearing up for the invasion of the trail riders on March 19th & 20th. We will have a DJ on Friday and Saturday nights with a fun-filled day on Saturday with shopping, historical displays, pool activities available and lots of networking with fellow MTRA members. The mouth watering feast will begin at 6:00 pm with the General Membership Meeting to follow (about 8:00 pm) which will include voting for Board Members. To top off the evening, dancing will follow with Wally Pike as the DJ. Sunday morning will start with the Board of Directors' Meeting at 9:30 am which is open to the public. Please join us to see your Board in action. Included with this newsletter is a form for membership renewal and Banquet tickets. If you wish to make reservations for a room at the Doherty please call 877-2-DOHERTY or 989-386-3441. If you have any questions, please call or email Chris at the MTRA Office.



MHC Horse Expo slated for March 12, 13 & 14, 2010

All MTRA members are welcome to volunteer at the Horse Expo at MSU in East Lansing with the following slots needing to be filled: Friday – 12-3pm, 3-6pm, 6-9pm, Saturday – 9am-noon, 12-3pm, 3-7:30pm, Sunday – 9am-noon, and 12-3pm. Our booth is situated in the “Trails Room” and is open for the duration of the Expo. Therese and Dave Kline have graciously organized our display and handle all of the scheduling of volunteers. Thanks guys!!! **Free entrance** to the Expo is available to all workers.

All volunteers must remember that the booth cannot be left unattended. Also, the entrance passes must be returned to the check-in desk **BEFORE** the time for the next group of volunteers. If you are interested in helping out at this great event or have questions, please call Therese or Dave at 517-625-3173.

Al Dennis honored as Trail Warrior for 2010

Our own Al Dennis, current member of the Board of Directors and longtime member of the MTRA, is being honored by the Trail Blazer Magazine as its 2010 Trail Warrior. He will be highlighted in the November issue of the magazine and you may be able to read the article online at the following address: http://trailtownusa.com/trail_savers.php. The MTRA is also listed as a Trail Saver under the Organizations. Congratulations Al and keep up the good work! Happy Trails!!!

Secretarial Notes

- 1. Please rest assured that your membership information including phone numbers and addresses is never shared with anyone! If anyone asks to contact you, I will call or email you for your approval.**
- 2. The Youth Riders' Fund is alive and kicking! At the last Board Meeting it was announced that there is over \$13,000 available to support our youth riders with ride registration funding. Thanks to all who so generously supported this endeavor through purchases at the auctions, can drives and donations. A detailed accounting will be available at the Annual Banquet in March.**
- 3. Please email for Board Member Resumes. Absentee Ballots will be available by request only.**

Happy Trails – chris

Board Briefs:

1. At the January meeting a resolution was adopted to pursue the leasing of the three trail camps that the DNR proposed. The resolution was supported unanimously by members present. Thanks to the committee for its work. They will continue to meet with the DNR to iron out the details. Please call Al Davis with questions.
2. We will not water horses **in the river** at the Smith Bridge for the Shore-to-Shore rides this year. Since there is some concern about erosion and damage to the shoreline in that area, we were asked to not use the river at this location between Luzerne and 4-Mile for watering. The Board has had suggestions for alternatives and those are being investigated. Call any Board Member for ideas.
3. For the bus riders in the crowd, if there is only one bus, the time for that bus will be 7:00 am unless otherwise stated at the pre-ride meeting the night before riding to the next camp. It was moved and seconded to adopt this policy after much discussion.
4. The Board is working on a re-route of the trail to avoid riding along S. Down River Rd. between Goose Creek and 4-Mile Trail Camps. This has always been a dangerous situation and we've finally received approval to make changes if we can get agreements from all the concerned land-owning parties in the area.

“They think they can make fuel from horse manure - Now, I don't know if your car will be able to get 30 miles to the gallon, but it's sure gonna put a stop to siphoning”

Billie Holiday (American jazz singer from the 1930s to the 1950s, 1915-1959)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

This institution is operated under special use permit with the Huron-Manistee Nation Forest and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.