

3rd Annual Member Appreciation Weekend

I didn't receive hardly any pictures, but we had a great turnout for the weekend and at the meeting. Thank you to everyone who was able to make it, we hope everyone had a good time. The meeting minutes follow as well as a few pictures of the turnout at the meeting. The next General Membership meeting and appreciation weekend will be January 25, 2003. Hope to see everyone there!

Minutes from the General Membership meeting July 27, 2002



Bruce Shirey opened the meeting at 1:10pm with Introductions of the Board.

He gave a short overview of things that have been done over the last 6 months:

1. Built the pavilion
2. Completed the office.
3. A mower has been purchased with an articulating boom to help with trimming some of the trails.
4. Hit our 2000 member base

Bobby Beamer gave a short synopsis of the TMTC "Vision Statement" - TMTC has tried to set an impression that we are the Management Team to come to for guidance in management of property. To build trust in people so that TMTC is the first organization that they think of.

We need more input from the user groups for what they need or want. And we need to bring more qualified people in to pass on the legacy to.

TMTC has and will do whatever they can to help other people open up their own parks in other areas.

TMTC does not want to get politically involved. We need to keep our focus on the "Big Picture".

Trails Update:

We have always tried to keep a group of volunteers to adopt trails and help maintain them. There are still trails available to adopt. Especially ATV & Motorcycle trails.

We want to formalize the Trails Committee. Don Pierson, Bobby Phillips and Tim Crosswell have volunteered to help on the committee.

It has been decided to set up 3 weekends a year for trail maintenance on the whole property. As the policy has always been if you come to the property to work on the trails there is not a charge to ride for that weekend. You must, however, be willing to put in a full days work.

The weekends that have been set aside as Organized Trail Maintenance Weekends are the 2nd weekend in April, the 2nd weekend in July and the 2nd weekend in October. Attending these work weekends does not end any commitments of the trail adoptees.

Tom Mitchell stated that they are still working on the east side of the property on the motorcycle and ATV trail system and are looking for people to help out there.

Property Manager report:

Clyde wanted to thank everyone for all the help on trail maintenance. He said that they have been working on erosion control. The Omega Trail has been bulldozed and ruts filled in. They also put in a lot of water breaks to help control erosion on some trails. Clyde asked that you report any potential problems that you may find on any of the trails, so that it can be taken care of.

They have also started a "Trail Assessment Check Sheet". You may be asked to take one out with you and evaluate the trails or you can request one the next time you are on the property.

Mapping:

There have been some new signs put up pointing which trails are which directions. Hopefully this will help you find where you are on the map. There was a suggestion from a member to name the main roads to help with directions. This was thought to be a good idea and the trails committee will look into it.

Bobby Beamer stated that he is currently working on a project to obtain the resources to start mapping all the trail systems in the State of Texas

Other BMRA Stuff:

Bruce stated that the board has been talking about getting some cabins to set up on the mountain for rent and asked what the members thought. The general consensus was that it was a great idea.

There are plans to add sides to the pavilion and what it looks like will happen is bringing the sides down from the roof 4 ft. on two sides to add more shade throughout the day. The plan is to make this area "Event Central". Eventually they may completely close it in and make it into a classroom-like setting and build another open pavilion somewhere else on the property.

We currently have an "Adopt-a-Campsite" program in force; however, currently it is not really used. There are plans to start advertising this program more and we would like people to start finding some areas to establish campsites and adopt and name them. The "adoptee" would have first reservation rights on the camping area when they are on the property.

Littering on the mountain has always been a problem. Although it is better than it used to be, litter can be found easily anytime you are out there. One of the biggest problems is glass containers. Glass does not burn in an ordinary campfire and broken glass is a hazardous problem on the roads, on the trails and in campsites. The question has been brought up whether or not we should ban glass containers on the property. A decision has not been made, but the problem exists and the board will discuss how to handle it.

Halloween is on Thursday this year, so it was decided to open BMRA for an extended weekend from Thursday - Sun. If there were a club that would like to set up a "haunting" ride or any other activities, we would support them and do what we can to help.

Current Scheduled Events:

August 16 -18th is the Jeeps of North Texas Lone Star Trail Fest. The last day for early registration is today, however, you will be able to register up to the day of the event at the higher price, (BMRA will be closed to normal use for this event.)

December 7 -8th is the Superlift/TMTC event. This event is part of the Superlift 4xAdventure Series. There will be 2 major 4x4 publications on site covering the event. (BMRA will be closed to normal use the weekend of this event.)

Elections:

There is no one that is running opposed in this scheduled election. The nominees are as follows:

- Vice President - Bruce Shirey
- Treasurer - Jimmy Jones
- ATV User Rep (2 year term) - Gary Hazel
- ATV User Rep (1 year term) - Carol Smith
- Motorcycle User Rep - Mike Haynes
- OHV User Rep. - Paul Beidelman
- At Large User Rep - Bobby Beamer

There were no objections sent in or voiced at this meeting, therefore based on Robert's Rule of Order and the SOP's governing TMTC, these positions are filled by acclamation.

A letter was printed in the last TMTC newsletter from a TMTC member requesting a change in the current by-laws to allow a member who lives out of the State of Texas to run for a TMTC board position. As outlined in the TMTC By-laws, changes can only be made to them by vote of the membership.

After a discussion and many questions, suggestions and concerns a motion was made:

Change the by-laws to allow the odd year elected At Large User Rep position to be open to any member in good standing whether they reside in Texas or any of the four adjoining states (New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana or Arkansas).

The motion was seconded and will be sent out through the TMTC voting process to all TMTC members before the next General Membership Meeting.

Other TMTC Stuff:

Angelina MOU - basically this means that we have an agreement to possibly reach an agreement with the Forest Service. They have approached us about possibly managing the trail systems in the Angelina Forest.

Next TMTC Park - unfortunately we don't have a lot to report on this. The grant process has been started and the request has been turned in. We have requested another \$990,000 in grant money, but we do not yet know what they will award. We do have bids in on a couple of pieces

of property waiting on the grant award, however, we cannot, at this time disclose the exact locations of these properties. We can tell you that they are south & west of BMRA.

The grant awards are scheduled to be published on August 29, 2002. One of the drawbacks with the TP&W grant monies is that once you have been awarded a grant, you have to spend the monies up front and then they will reimburse you. There are more programs that the TP&W are looking at starting. One of them is the possibility of them purchasing property and getting someone to manage them. They are also looking into TXDOT money from gasoline taxes.

501c3 Status - We are currently a "not for profit" organization, but we are not a charitable organization. We are nearing a point to be able to file for charitable status. One of the areas that we have been working on is educating people. We have had the ASI - ATV Safety training classes on site for a while and FWD-FWD has just recently started offering the M.O.R.E. - 4x4 training classes on site.

ASI Class - the schedule is posted in each newsletter; they are usually held twice a month. If you are ASI certified you can use the BMRA ATV's to get around the mountain.

M.O.R.E Class - the schedule will be posted in each newsletter; they are currently scheduled to be held quarterly at BMRA. Even for the "seasoned" 4-wheel drive person they can be educational and a lot of fun.

Newsletter Advertising:

The TMTC newsletter has very reasonable advertising rates. There are advertising request forms available at the office, through the User Reps or by contacting the editor, Chris Pagan directly.

Bruce Shirey notified everyone that Frank McKinnis has expressed his wish to resign from the TMTC Board as of August 31, 2002. In accordance to the TMTC By-Laws Bruce Shirey will take on the duties of the President until such time as the BOD appoints someone or the position is brought up to the general membership for a vote.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00pm.

