



Arrowhead ATV Club, Inc.

Mike Levig	President/Membership Coordinator	724-0544
Rick Kolenda	Vice-President	624-0550
	Treasurer	
Jeff Anderson	ATV Representative/Webmaster	525-5627
Susan Romans	Secretary	525-0313

FALL 2009 In this issue:

- Hunting with ATVs
- Fall Colors Ride
- Highway Pickup – We need your help!
- Stimulus Money Helping with Trails
- New Club Openings!

Individual Highlights:

President's View	1
Hunting with ATVs	2
Pictures – Fall Ride	2
Highway Pick Up	2
Sponsor's Page	3
New Club Openings	4
Arrowhead Trail UPDATE	4
ATVAM NEWS	5
Important Dates	6
Club T-Shirts	6
Stimulus Money	6
Petition	7
Legislative News	8
Trail Ambassador Program gets National Attention	9

President's View

With the smell of Fall in the air, you almost forget about the trail closures north of town near the Three Lakes Road and other trails in the Cloquet Valley Forest. The closures were kept quiet from the user groups and I just wish we would have had input before the signs went up. I am somewhat glad that these trails were closed. No, I have not gone crazy, but fortunately, this will now get the attention of individuals who sit back and feel that there is no benefit to joining a Club. By joining a Club, you get updated information and can join individuals with the same goal in mind: to keep as many trails open for ATV use as possible. Joining a Club can not only help spread the word but the monies gained from memberships help support the lobbyist at the Capitol to argue for the rights of ATVerS.

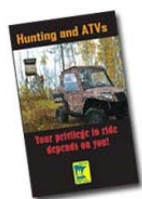
Our Club has gained momentum and has become quite strong over the years. We inform members of Public Meetings, and have gone together as a Club, to show our support for keeping trails open. Many of our members have spoken up at these meetings. This is what it is going to take for us not to lose anymore trails and may even help us gain some back in the future. BUT we are still in need of help. Even though we are close to 95 members, we need more help showing our surrounding communities that we are a safe and family friendly Club. Some of the ways are the Highway Pick Up, doing our part to help maintain a cleaner Earth. We have had many people tell us they see us out there picking up and are quite impressed that an ATV Club is giving

back. We also show our support in providing Youth Training. Many of our members help with the Youth Safety classes here in the Northland, and I want to take this opportunity to thank those individuals. Please think about helping more with Club events. Whether it be taking a new position on the Board, which only takes up 1 hour a month! Or helping distribute raffle tickets, or other participation in club events such as the Highway Pick-up or helping with Youth Safety Training.

Some of our members became Trail Ambassadors and have volunteered their riding time to patrol the trails. I want to take this opportunity to thank Kim Harthorn and Ron Ciochetto for their many hours they put on the trails with me. Many of the individuals we met are very impressed by the knowledge and assistance that our members are able to give to them. Whether it is a map or information about the area and trails to helping with first aid. This type of commitment to our trails shows well when our lobbyist go to the Capitol and are able to explain how Clubs are taking responsibility for teaching kids ATV safety and keeping our trails safe for everyone through the Trail Ambassador Program. You can be a part of that!

Please do not hesitate to come to a meeting or give me a call to find out about opportunities where you can help.

Mike Levig
President Arrowhead ATV Club
Region 2 Director ATVAM



Hunting with ATVs

If you are one of the many hunters in the great state of Minnesota who enjoys accessing your favorite hunting location with an all-terrain vehicle (ATV), you are not alone! Using ATVs while hunting is a privilege, and the responsibility is yours to maintain the high quality and beauty of your hunting area. Being respectful of the landscape and wildlife around you is key to ensuring the next year's hunt, as well as that of future generations.

To find out more information, download the Hunting and ATVs brochure for details regarding use of ATVs while hunting. If you are a hunter who has a registered ATV in the State of Minnesota, you will receive a copy of this brochure in the mail. Or, if you would like a copy, the brochures will be available from the DNR August 20, 2008. Call the DNR Information Center for more information. 1-888-MINNDNR (646-6367)

A Special Thanks. . .



ATVAM was called on by the promoter of the Riverside Country Music Fest to assist with the 1st Annual Country Music Festival in Cotton, Minnesota.

With just a few weeks to prepare, ATVAM was able to secure volunteers to help with ATV patrol during the weekend of the music fest. Mike Levig, ATVAM Regional Director stepped up to the challenge of coordinating the volunteers for the 3-day weekend with the help of Greg Christensen. The rain did not slow down this group of volunteers and all did a FANTASTIC job working the weekend.



FALL COLORS RIDE

Jeff Anderson, AATV Ride Coordinator, took a Fall Ride Sunday, October 4. "The leaves weren't at peak and there is a lot of damage to the trees from an ice storm last spring/winter but the ride was great", Jeff stated. Keep a look out for possible one more ride this Fall!



FALL HIGHWAY PICK-UP
October 25, 2009
@ 9:00 a.m.



Please come and help. The more the easier!



For more info on upcoming rides, contact **Jeff** at 218-525-5627 or jandvtonk@aol.com

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS!!

We wish to thank all our sponsors for their continued support of the Arrowhead ATV Club

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****YOUTH SAFETY and INFORMATION PAGE****

We have certified over 891 kids in the Youth Safety Program to date. This helps cut down on the amount of accidents that happen out on the trails. It is very rewarding to know that we are sending out the next generation with a good solid foundation and knowledge of ATVing and the safety concerns that will affect them.

Please help out by contacting Wayne Laasko.
We want kids to ride safe and stay alive.

Heaven Can Wait, Drive Responsibly.

2009 ATV Safety Training Classes

Where:	When
Proctor Comm. Ctr 100 Pionk Drive Proctor MN 55810	10/24/09 @ 9 a.m.

To register contact Wayne Laasko at
218-624-6069 or
218-391-4972 (Cell)

NEW OPENINGS!

Jeff Anderson is retiring as our *Ride Coordinator*. Jeff has held this position for many, many years and we want to give him a BIG thanks for all his work! We also still have the *Treasurer* position open for anyone who would be interested in keeping the Club's finances and books.

Ride Coordinator Responsibilities:

This position consists of planning, scheduling and hosting rides for Club Members, Out of Town Clubs and/or Government Officials and Local Newspaper Reporters.

Treasurer Responsibilities

This job involves keeping track of Club donations to charities, preparing a monthly report from bank statements and keeping track of any Club Accounts.

Individuals interested in either of these positions, please contact Mike Levig. We appreciate any assistance any members are willing to give! Thank you!

Arrowhead Trail Update

On October 3, I met with the Ellsburg's Volunteer Fire Department and was told that they would like a trailer for the rescue sled that was acquired through Arrowhead ATV Club by a Yamaha grant. The training necessary for the sled has been completed by all personnel who will be utilizing the rescue sled. During training, it was noted that there is additional equipment that would be helpful in the operation of the sled. A request to the AATV was made for a trailer and additional equipment. Since AATV had proceeds leftover from the Yamaha grant, AATV will use the remaining grant money to help with the cost of a trailer and equipment.

In the meantime, I am requesting that anyone interested in helping get the Arrowhead Trail on the ground please contact me. We need to start generating a construction plan and details regarding jobs, equipment and time needed to get this trail started.

Mike Levig,
President AATV, Region 2 Director

ATVAM

It was an election year for ATVAM. There were 3 Board positions open. Mike Levig put his hat in the ring. The Elections were held at the Fall Convention. Unfortunately, Mike was not elected, but we are very proud of our President for wanting to get involved to help out all ATVerS!

**"Mike Levig – President of Arrowhead ATV Club in Duluth, MN
Running for 2nd Vice President for ATVAM"**



I started riding when I got my Maverick 50 AMC Mini Bike that I shared with my twin brother. My wheeling days started when my father bought a Honda 300 Foretrax to be used for hauling the deer and equipment to the hunting lodge near Orr, Minnesota. I am one of the individuals who started up the Arrowhead ATV Club back in 1995 and have been hooked on the sport ever since. I think it's very important to provide safe areas for people to enjoy riding their wheelers and believe that the trails we fight for are for future generations to enjoy.

I have been active in helping ATVAM and have become a lifetime member to show my support in the Club. I recently retired and am committed to spending time helping to keep what trails we have. I enjoy being a member of ATVAM and enjoy the people that I have met over the years. I currently serve as a Region 2 Director and enjoy helping out with the others on ATV issues/problems.

"I was very appreciative to be given a chance to run for election and want to congratulate and wish Kathi Radke, the new 2nd Vice President, the very best." Mike Levig stated. "I plan to continue to running Arrowhead ATV Club and want to focus my attention on getting our trail on ground starting next summer."

ATVAM Lifetime Membership Available

At the State board meeting in September 2007 a LIFETIME membership option was adopted to the ATVAM by-laws. Go to www.atvam.org and click on "join now" to sign up as a lifetime member.

From the ATVAM By-Laws: Article II – MEMBERSHIP

3. Lifetime Membership

(A) Family - This membership is for the family or any one living in the immediate household. This includes children until they reach 18 year of age - \$325.00 for a lifetime membership.

(B) Retirees - This membership is for the member age 63 and over to include spouse or significant other living in the immediate household - \$225 for a lifetime membership.

Please make sure to list your full name and mailing address with your check and send to:

ATVAM P.O. Box 296 • Geneva, MN 56035

Important Dates

REGION 2 MEETING (4 th Thursday of Every Month)	
<u>Where</u>	<u>When</u>
Mtn Iron	Oct 22, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.
Mtn Iron	Nov 2009 TBD
Mtn Iron	Dec 2009 TBD
UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS	
4275 Haines Road Lodge Meeting Room	
<u>Where:</u>	<u>When</u>
Gander Mtn	11/12/09 @ 7:00 p.m.
Gander Mtn	12/10/09 @ 7:00 p.m.
MISC. MEETINGS/EVENTS (1 st Tuesday of Every Month)	
<i>Ellsberg Town Meeting</i>	
Nov 3 @ 6:00 p.m. Melrude, MN	
Dec 1 @ 6:00 Melrude, MN	

Support AATV and Purchase a Hat, Shirt or Bumper Sticker!

T-Shirts 

Green w/Club Logo
Royal Blue w/Club Logo

Short Sleeve \$10.00
Long Sleeve \$15.00
Sizes: Med-XXL

Caps 

Black w/Logo \$7.00

AATV Club Bumper Stickers 

Bumper Sticker \$2.00

Contact Mike Levig: 724-0544

Stimulus Money Helping To Improve Off-Road Trails

We are all familiar with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) commonly known as the "Stimulus Program." It has allocated \$787.2 billion which is to be spent on infrastructure and other projects to help create jobs. You may not know that a portion of that money will be spent on maintaining, developing, and improving trail systems around the country.

Several federal agencies who have authority over off-road trails have received funds through ARRA for projects. For example, the Bureau of Land Management has been given \$320 million, Fish and Wildlife has been allotted \$280 million, the National Park Service has been granted \$750 million, and the Forest Service has received \$1 billion.

The Forest Service is involved in a number of projects that are employing thousands of people to do work to maintain and enhance recreational infrastructure including trails. One such project is taking place at the *Superior National Forest* in northeast Minnesota. It has received \$557,000 to improve the extensive trail system on the Forest.

Kristina Reichenbach, public affairs officer for the *Superior National Forest*, said that the project will specifically accomplish such things as brushing, tread work, installation of water control structures, boardwalk reconstruction, and trail sign maintenance. All sorts of trails throughout the Superior Forest will get a piece of the action including ATV, hiking, portage, cross-country, skiing, snowmobiling, and interpretive trails. The projects started in June.

The Minnesota Conservation Corps (MCC) is providing 41 young adult volunteers to the projects. According to Reichenbach, the *Superior National Forest* has had a decade or longer relationship with the MCC. Over the years, the group has been involved in fish habitat improvements, fish and wildlife surveys, and campground and trail improvements.

Seven MCC crews have been working on this project since June and are expected to work throughout the year. Reichenbach said that by the end of July the crews will have contributed 1,898 hours and have cleared brush from about 100 miles of trail, built about 1,491 feet of trail tread, installed 20 water bars, and removed more than 381 trees that fell on trails during an ice storm last spring.

Trail work accomplished through the ARRA funding will supplement ongoing trails management on the *Superior National Forest* which offers a variety of recreational opportunities. There are 1,573 miles of roads and trails currently available for ATV use including the Big Aspen Trail on the Laurentian Ranger District and the Stony Spur ATV trail on Kawishiwi Ranger District which both provide seasonal opportunities for ATV riding.

By: Robert Janis ATVsource.com

JOIN OUR CLUB Sign this Petition and Help Stop Trail Closures!!!



You may have noticed more and more signs like these are popping up on your favorite trails. The Minnesota DNR and participating counties throughout the State are posting ATV trails within the State Forests as CLOSED to motorized use. And even though they are holding public meetings, the word was not getting out that trails were and are on the chopping block!! More public meetings and public notification is needed. One way to get involved is to join an ATV Club. By doing so, you will get up-to-date information regarding these types of meetings. This gives you an opportunity to join your fellow members and show your support at the meetings.

By signing this Petition, you are stating that you support re-opening some of the trails that have been designated closed as well as asking that there be new public meetings with sufficient notice and advertising.

We, the undersigned, oppose the closure of ATV trails and are requesting to keep them open to motorized use. Millions of acres of public lands are available for recreation by all "users." All users should have a right to fair and equal access to public lands. The current decision to close many trails is showing favoritism to those users who are opposed to motorized recreation.

We, the undersigned, seek to have this issue re-opened and consider new public meetings with sufficient notice and advertising.

PRINTED NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE NO.	SIGNATURE
_____	_____	_____	_____
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Return to: Denise Anderson, 2609 Northwoods Lane, Duluth MN 55803

By Dec. 11th



Legislative News

NEW LAWS

ATV Violation and Confiscation for Multiple Reckless Wetland Violations. This new law created a new violation for wetland violations and targets the "worst of the worst" riders that intentionally damage wetlands and give all OHV riders a bad name. On the first offense the violator will be charged with a gross misdemeanor and lose their privilege to ride for a year. On a second offense the violator will be charged with a gross misdemeanor and have their OHV confiscated. You also lose your privilege to ride for a year if you're riding in a Wildlife Management Area, State Park, or a Scientific Natural Area.

Non-Resident Trail Pass. Each ATV rider (not OHM) from outside of MN without a MN registration will be required to purchase an annual non-resident trail pass for \$20. This also ends reciprocity with other states that have registration. So, no longer will a machine registered to ride in WI be able to ride in MN without this trail pass.

Youthful Operation Technical Change. The law was changed to delete language and leave it broad so that now the adult can supervise however they are able, as long as they are still supervising. Also included in the provision was an exemption for a special use permit. When riding through a ditch you are now allowed to come up onto the roadway to avoid an environmentally sensitive area such as deep standing water, cattails or other things that block your path.

Northshore Trail Name Change. The Northshore Snowmobile Trail was renamed to the "*CJ Ramstad/Northshore Trail*" to honor CJ Ramstad. Rep. David Dill was a close friend of CJ Ramstad and he and Sen. Bakk worked hard to honor CJ and his dedication to outdoor recreation by renaming this trail after him.

Change in definition of an ATV to increase engine size from 800cc's to 960cc's. This was not an ATVAM action item, but was worked on by the manufacturers. Mini-Trucks Defined in Statute A constant problem over the last few years is how the new mini-trucks are supposed to be registered. Now, there is a definition in statute that clearly defines these vehicles, and will exclude them from OHV trails. The mini-trucks are heavier than ATV's and OHM's and would harm the integrity of our trails and create numerous problems.

New Constitutionally Dedicated Funding. The Parks and Trails Fund includes a few provisions that could impact OHV use throughout the state in the future. \$250,000 was appropriated to create a 25-year long term plan for Minnesota's Parks and Trails. The Commissioner of DNR must create a 10-year State Parks and Trails Strategic Plan considering traditional funding sources and the new constitutional monies. \$27,781,000 was appropriated over the next biennium in order to connect people to the outdoors by providing access, education and producing a new parks and trails map that integrates state parks, recreation areas, forest campgrounds, trails, and regional parks and trail authorities, as well as various other things. Unfortunately, this provision was eliminated in the final bill.

Bills or issues that were introduced and were **not** passed into law.

Traditional Forests - closing 50% of each state forest for non-motorized use. This bill was never heard and remains in the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee

ATV open bottle restriction - No open alcoholic containers in possession while operating an ATV on state trails. This bill was never heard in either body. It remains in the Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committees in both bodies.

Allowing ATV's to be used on County Roads. This mandates that the counties allow ATV use on their County Roads, unless they hold a hearing and decide not to allow ATV use on their roads. Currently the law is the other way around and many ATV activists are having a hard time getting their counties to hold the necessary hearings and adopt an ordinance allowing ATV's on the roadways. ATVAM will continue to work internally and with Rep. Tony Cornish.

Changing law for ATV's and certain Disabled Users Provision's The first part is a lifetime disabled permit without a fee for anyone who has a permanent disability. The second part then gives the Commissioner of DNR the authority to designate certain paved bicycle trails as suitable for adjacent use by these specially permitted ATV's. The third part clarifies the use of hunters with this new ATV disability permit to shoot from their machines. It also repeals the language that mandates that guns used by these permit holders be stored in a case. The final part of the bill allows all of the big game restrictions that are lifted for disabled ATV users who hold this permit to also be exempt from the same restrictions when hunting small game.

Bear Baiting -- allows a bear baiter to use their ATV for bear baiting in August and September. Rep. David Dill worked very hard to get this passed but met many objections in the Senate and from The Department of Natural Resources.

Repeal "Managed" classification for trails - Bill would end the "Managed" classification for forests in Minnesota. This would drastically increase the costs of trail maintenance and administration in the DNR. It would also end the "North of Hwy. 2" provision that is so important to access in Northern MN.

Program Gets National Attention! By Leland Owens

Recently the Minnesota DNR Trail Ambassador program received national attention. NOHVCC (National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council) and the National Association of OHV Program Managers held their annual conference in Houston, TX at the end of March. This conference is attended by people from different states throughout the U.S. Capt. Hammer and I were on the agenda to give a presentation about the MN Trail Ambassador Program. We were unable to attend in person but, thanks to today's technology, I took part in a web seminar (webinar). From my office, using a computer, I was able to give the presentation on our program to a group of attendees at the conference! The presentation was well received. This was in an effort to share what we've put together for the greater good of the sport and to give back to other states that had shared info with us about their trail program's. It's a reminder to all of us, that whether we are a volunteer instructor or trail ambassador, people from other states are watching what we do!!

JOIN TODAY!!

ARROWHEAD ATV CLUB INC.
ARROWHEAD ATV CLUB and ATVAM OF MINNESOTA

- ___ **ATVAM Membership** \$20.00
- ___ New Member Arrowhead ATV Club \$10.00
- ___ Renewing Membership \$10.00
- ___ Family Membership \$30.00 (Includes ATVAM)
- ___ Corporate Sponsor \$50.00

Last Name _____
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 Business Name _____
 Address, Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone area code _____ - _____ - _____
 e-mail _____

(Lots of information goes out via the internet. If you have email or access to email include it here!)

- Other information:
- ___ Safety Instructor
 - ___ Trail Ambassador
 - ___ Trails/Rides
 - ___ Officer
 - ___ Attend meetings with DNR and ATVAM

Make your checks out to Arrowhead ATV Club and
mail to:

Arrowhead ATV Club
Mike Levig, President
1738 Carver Avenue
Duluth, MN 55803
218-724-0544



2009 FALL ISSUE

TREAD LIGHTLY



RIDE SAFE - BE RESPONSIBLE



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