

West Rutland ATV Sportsman's Club
Sherry Smith – Secretary
March 7, 2009

Mailing Up Date For Members Without Email

Reminder for the April 8th WRASC Meeting at the Vermont Achievement Center on Park Street in Rutland at 6pm. The April 8th meeting is the annual meeting/potluck dinner at the VAC in the cafeteria room instead of the conference room. Parking is still outback of the VAC pool for the annual meeting and we will be using the side door instead of entering through the conference room. This meeting will take place at 6:30pm. However, we will be allowed into the VAC at 6pm to set up for our potluck. So come early and bring a dish to share. If your doing a hot dish please bring in a crock-pot since we wont be using the ovens. The annual meeting is where officer elections are done for the 2009 season and get a handle on the spring clean-up of our trails so the riding season starts out smooth. Please come and enjoy a good dinner and help us make this year out to a good start. We also will be pulling the name for the 2009 membership raffle at this meeting. Regular meetings are on the second Wed. of each month at 7pm in the conference room at the VAC.

The following is a brief of what has happened over the fall/winter months.

September : We have a photo book with all the articles for the 2009 season in it. It will be used to archive all future articles of the club. The new apparel shop is all set to do our t-shirts and embroidery. 3 days work was done on Woodlawn trails to fix water bars. Danby Quarry upper side is very steep and dangerous. Please always wear a helmet and do not ride alone in this area. Riverside Farm looks good. Please ride around the wet spots when possible. There are a few trees down that need cutting but can be ride around them. More help will be needed for trail work next season! The club trailer was re-lettered and has a new logo. It looks great. The new club website is up and running. Bernie did a great job taking it over and getting it working. We hope to have all our club trails on the VASA Trail map for 2009. We need to GPS some of the trails still. Vernon Stone is working on a trail extension in the Danby area for the 2009 season. Officer binders are being worked on by Sherry Smith to help the officers get things done in a timely fashion.

October: New t-shirts and embroidered club jackets can be ordered. Sweatshirts, hoodies, zip-ups, long sleeve shirts, or just about anything is available. Embroidery can be done on a jacket you already own if there is no seam down the back. The machine can not sew over a center back seam. VASA BOD Meeting – VASA websites' club pages need updating. The Vt. State Police are offering a ATV safety course but it does not include a hands on portion. VORA (an off-road 4-wheel and more organization) and VASA are joining forces. VASA has members on VORA's board of directors, secretary, and members at large. WRASC trails are all closed until after hunting season except Riverside Farm which closes Nov. 1st. Danby trails reopen Dec. 15th. Officer binders are finished and ready to use. We need to work on finding locally used unofficial atv trails and make them part of the VASA network by locating the landowners and obtaining contracts. Members also brought a reminder to tread lightly on trails. Those that make a deep footprint make it bad for the rest of us.

November : Holiday newsletter will have an article from our club in it. End of the riding season potluck at Riverside Farm was in many of the local newspapers. We discussed clearancing out old apparel at events this coming season. New items are available by order. Day Pass for VASA was brought up at the VASA BOD Meeting by our officers. The issue was pushed until we got an ok for our own club to have a daily pass for events as long as we had a signed affidavit, proof of insurance and registration from non-members at the event. Still need to push this issue to get it state

wide but it is a start and will work for us in the 2009 season. VASA would like to standardize open and closing dates for all VASA trails. However, it would be difficult since it is set by landowners and some restrict time and some are open almost all year. VASA is looking for a club to host the 2010 annual meeting. All WRASC trails are closed. Danby will reopen Dec. 15 after hunting season is over. Discussion of spring trail work schedule to be done before season starts. Gathering more trail info for new trails or legalize existing regional trails. Discussion of needing a gravel pit for aggressive drivers. North Country club has one and it works well for them. Dec. meeting was cancelled for the holiday observance.

January: Possible spring events – Mall Outdoor Show in April, Green-up Day the first weekend in May with possible work on the swamp area near Whipple Hollow Road in West Rutland – and Loyalty Day Parade also the first weekend in May. We had a 2 page spread in the VASA newsletter. T-shirt/sweatshirt orders take 2-3 days and embroidery orders take about a week for turnover at the new apparel place. Maps for VASA are submitted. All our riding areas were entered except the quarry. We are checking into the clubs tax requirements and updating the non-prophet paperwork. We need to be re-instated with the government and IRS confirmed we do not have to file taxes with the state or the government. Ray & Dave both are working the VASA booth at the Yankee Sportsman Classic weekend.

February: Mentioned plans for spring events to be involved with the mall show in April if it is planned and to do Green-up day and Loyalty Day Parade the first weekend in May. VASA newsletter article was submitted for spring edition. New email account set up for club but we need to snail mail reminder of annual meeting to those who do not have email. VASA was well represented at the Yankee Sportsman Classic and VT. Farm Show. VASA Annual meeting had a good turn out and was attended by Ray, Vernon, and Dave. They brought the club banner to be displayed and club brochure that Sherry made for the event. VASA hired an Assistant Trail Administrator. This is a new position for VASA. VASA is also looking into purchasing property for a new office complex in the Barre area. They have one they are interested in. VASA 2009 maps will hopefully be in for March. Spring trail work for WRASC is replacing a bridge and Dutch Hill has been logged again and will take a few days work to re-clean and mark the trails. The rest should just have general clean-up work to be done. We will make some weekend groups and some weekday groups to accomplish this. This will be set up closer to the spring season. Memberships for 2009 are in and Dave is working on the renewals to send out. Maps will follow when we get them in. Concern from members was when we would start spring clean-up. We will focus on early April if weather permits. If anyone does go out cutting and cleaning trails do not go alone in case something happens. Always work with a buddy! Annual meeting is in April. Potluck dinner is the usual for this meeting. We will see if the VAC will let us use the cafeteria for this event this year. A free 2009 membership raffle will be drawn at \$1 per chance. Elections are also at this meeting.

I hope this updates you on what has transpired over the last several months. We have been trying to keep closer contact with our members these last 7 or 8 months. If you do have an email address, please pass it on to us so we can get you the month to month email update. This will let you know what happened at the monthly meeting and what is new and up coming club events between meetings. If you don't have an email but have someone who can get a copy of the email to you through their email – give us theirs – or give any of the officers a call. We will gladly update you on anything that has been going on. My phone is 518-282-9781 Sherry Smith - WRASC Secretary. We really want to keep everyone involved in the process. Remember – April 8th Annual Meeting/Potluck at 6 pm. Meetings are at the Vermont Achievement Center on Park Street in Rutland behind the therapy pool area. Park out back there and the regular meetings are in the conference room on the second Wed. of each month and the April Annual Meeting will be in the side entrance in the cafeteria. There will be signs to help you on your way to the annual meeting.

Hope to see you there !

Sherry Smith – WRASC Secretary – wrasc@yahoo.com