



# TRCER

## Three Rivers Competition Riders



"Western Pennsylvania's Premier Off-Road Club"

[www.trcr.org](http://www.trcr.org)



Member PA Off-Highway  
Vehicle Association

<http://www.paohv.org>

## October 2008 NEWSLETTER

### THREE RIVERS COMPETITION RIDERS

President - Steve Stiller [stevestiller@comcast.net](mailto:stevestiller@comcast.net)  
Vice President - Mike Perry [mikejktm@yahoo.com](mailto:mikejktm@yahoo.com)  
Treasurer - Nicholas Milan [ncmilan@pghmail.com](mailto:ncmilan@pghmail.com)  
Secretary - Keith Marburger [kmarburger59@comcast.net](mailto:kmarburger59@comcast.net)  
Legislative Affairs/USFS Liaison - Mike Babusci [babusci@pbworld.com](mailto:babusci@pbworld.com)

### EVENT CALENDAR

Visit [www.district5ama.org](http://www.district5ama.org) for updated HS, MX, GNCC & AWRCS race schedules

### Club Meetings

November 3 Dan's Transmission Shop 20710 Route 19, Rear Cranberry, PA 16066

Dec 1 TBA

### Rides

**October 19 Mountain Ridge Trails Resort**

Toys for Tots ride 10am

**November 22 & 23 Natrona Heights**

Toys for Tots Ride by Steve Stiller & Co. (see attached flyer for more info)

## **December 7 Bruin, PA**

Toys for Tots Ride by Steve Stiller & Co. (see attached flyer for more info)

**PLEASE... Everyone...** Print copies of the attached Toy Run Flyer and ask your local shop or anywhere else there may be riders, to display. We need to reach as many people as possible to support these events.

### **Ride Reports**

#### **Nutcracker 200 Dual Sport Ride by Jeff McCall**

Over the weekend of September 27-28, I attended the NutCracker 200. The event is held just outside of Logan, OH. I heard that about 150 riders attended the dual-sport ride. I never did hear how many attended the adventure ride.

Bill Kaepfner is the organizer of the event, and the ride starts and ends at his farm. We were the first to arrive. The first day we rode miles and miles of true single track trails. The trails are not well marked. It's planned that way so that others don't see the markings and ride the trails. It made it difficult for the riders to find the trails at times, but in the end was worth it.

Ohio is big KTM country and there were plenty of orange bikes at the ride. Here's a bunch of them trying to find the trail.

We rode in and around the Wayne National Forest, and once in the forest, rarely touched a road. We ate lunch on Day#1 at Murray City VFD.

At lunch one of the guys I had hooked up with took off his knee brace and gave it to someone to take back to camp for him. Soon after that we were back on the trail and he fell on that bad knee. He had to slab it back to the campground from our after lunch gas stop.

Here are some trails after lunch.

At the end of Day#1, I had been on the trail for almost 7 hours. Some were out longer.

Had a pig roast Saturday night.

Sunday brought more great trails. Some were difficult and had many bikes and bodies over heating.

I was cutting thru some tight trail when a stump or log caught my left foot, pulling it off the peg and twisting it back around behind the bike. In an attempt to keep from falling, I twisted my back. Soon after I dropped off a 3 or 4 foot drop and made a quick right hander up an embankment, twisting my back the other direction. The pain was immediate and my day ended up shorter because of it.

We rode a number of farms and woodlots.

Three miles from the lunch stop, I got a flat. To make matters worse, I pinched the new tube. I finally got it fixed and got back on the trail.

Sunday afternoon, there was no need for a routesheet. The entire 28 miles of trail started and ended at the Kaepfner farm and was marked with arrows. Kinda like a hare scrambles.

I cut the afternoon short due to my aching back, but the weekend was still full of great riding.

#### **Taylor Park Colorado Ride**

By Jeff Pflugh

In late August, Mark Augustine, Dave Caughey, Dan O'Banion, Vinny Kabay and I ventured back to Taylor Park for 5 days of trail riding nirvana. Taylor is near Crested Butte and Gunnison, over the Continental Divide from Colorado Springs. For those of you who've never been to the site which has, arguably, the most single-track in the country, you simply MUST get it on your list of things to do before exiting the planet. When doing CO, your choices are to ride the alpine stuff or the trails. The alpine stuff is mostly jeep roads above the tree lines that go back and forth over the passes. We did a lot of that last year. I prefer sticking to the trails. This year, we mapped out loops that kept us in the woods for the most part – still over

10k in elevation in most places, but on single-track trails. There are, no exaggeration, 100s of miles of single-track trail in Taylor. To cover it all would over a week. Taylor is around a big dammed reservoir between the Divide and the Gunnison/Crested Butte area. It was pretty dry this year so tire choice wasn't much of an issue. But big 4-strokes are still the bike to use in my judgment since you lose about 15-20% of your power due to altitude. Rejetting is a must. If you have a 2-stroke, a 300 is nice. But, then again, I saw some 200s out there last year and this year and Vinny was his usual stellar self on his enduroized street legal RM250. My 315 ran good but I longed for a 450 on many of the steeper climbs with step-ups.

Day one, we rode the Fossil Ridge trail, which the locals say is the hardest trail in the Taylor Park area. And it's LONG. Maybe 40 miles across. We rode it in back-to-back hail storms. An experience I would not recommend to any of you b/c the storms in the Rockies whip up fast out of nowhere and usually contain deadly lightening. In fact, I've read the Rockies are one of the top three sites for lightening strikes along w/ the Grand Canyon and west coast of FL. Anyway, I'd seen Fossil Ridge Trail on the map last year but thought it was a hiking trail. Well, turns out that isn't too far from the truth. I got the new Latitude 40 map which is very detailed (just came out) and saw that it is a single track trail open to dirt bikes. It is perhaps one of the best kept secrets out there. It's a beautiful trail through a lot of aspen and pine forests – very little of it above the tree line. Although there are a few nasty rocky switchback climbs, I don't recall any cliff-type stuff. What makes the trail tough is its length and technicality in the actual woods. We barely got into it and the hail started. Thankfully, we were in the pines where we hid out while TWO INCHES of hail accumulated and pounded on us. It made for a near-survival type ride out of there. After one hail storm stopped and we rode a few miles, another one hit us. Once off the mountain ridge, rather than riding up the CO Spur trail to Taylor, we took the road. We were whipped. It's easy to talk about it now, but no one at the end of day one was saying they had fun. But to have survived it made it pretty neat. In retrospect, it wasn't the best trail to ride on day one, getting used to the altitude on such a tough trail.

Day two, we rode over toward Cement Creek and back via Matchless Mt., something we wanted to do last year but the Taylor River was too deep. Matchless is very tough to come down. LOTS of switchbacks, many of which require getting off the bike. I can't imagine trying to go up it but now that we know how to map it, we have to try it next year! While crossing the river, Vinny went down in the swift running Taylor River but he didn't take on too much water – after removing the air filter and draining the carb and he was running again. It was a righteous day of almost entirely single-track trail.

Day three, we rode Star Trail to American Flag Mountain. Star is the benchmark tough trail. It's not impassable for even a C rider but has some rock gardens and moderately difficult climbs that leave the best of us huffing and puffing – some of us much quicker than others (got to lay off those pastries!). We then continued on to Crested Butte South for lunch and gas. Then we rode Cement Creek Trail north and got up on Double Top Mt. and rode further north to Taylor Park road and back to the cabins. That was a 100+ mile day.

Day four, we rode the infamous Timberline Trail. In prior years, we always hit Timberline at a place called Pieplant. I realized from the new map that it actually begins several miles above there. I sort of wish I had never discovered that. Now I see why they recommend you ride Timberline from south to north. When you ride that northern most section from top down, it has some wicked Rocky Mountain climbs that go up over 12 thousand feet. They are the kind

where the bigger bikes shine. I was boiling the 315 on some of them and even though I was making progress, I was spent. I baled at a point half way south that got me back to the cabins while the rest of the group rode south to the cool little mining town of Tincup. I loaded the bike in the van and met the guys at Frenchy's for lunch there. After that, we were ready to leave Taylor and ride our last day further south where we'd be checking in to a hotel with nice beds and full bathrooms – a welcome change.

So, for day five, we had moved on down to Salida (about 50 or so miles south) to go ride the very famous Rainbow Trail for the first time. For those who never heard of it, Rainbow is a 100 mile long trail (top 60 miles are single-track, no ATVs) that begins in Salida and runs along the Divide southeast to the Great Sand Dunes National Park. **It is the all around best trail I have ever ridden out west – maybe anywhere.** A lot of it will remind you of home – woods, switchbacks, some mud and stream crossings in little valleys. But some of it is unmistakably Rocky Mountains. – dry climbs w/ loose rock, steep switchbacks, some requiring getting off the bike. And the ledges. Eighteen to 24-inch trails cut into the sides of very steep mountains that wind around until opening up into some less steep terrain that you could fall down on and survive. Even though I'm not wild about some of the drop-offs, I found them tolerable. You just have to concentrate your attention on the trail ahead and move through them. I thought they were all plenty wide (unless a bike comes the other way - yikes!) and wasn't too unnerved by them. Some guys really freak out on the ledge trails. The rest of the trail itself makes up for it. None of it is like Timberline w/ the impossible climbs of loose rock. There are lots of pine and aspen wooded sections and stream crossings and my only regret is that we couldn't keep riding south. You see, it's a down and back trail – not a loop. There are only a few access trailheads along the trail so wherever you start to ride out, you need to come back. Which isn't necessarily a bad thing because a trail this long with terrain that varied, looks entirely different when you ride it in the opposite direction. We started at the very top end of the trail near Kismuth Mine west of 285. By starting there, you get a lot of nice stuff that is west of Salida. We rode 30 miles down and 30 back – 60 miles of single track that day. For me and Vinny, it was the best day of the week. On the way back north, we were in race mode and it was a total hoot.

We rode a total of about 350 miles in 5 days, about 75% of that on nothing but Colorado single track. Anyone who wants info on the area – cabins, maps, logistics – can feel free to email me. Like I said above, you don't know what you're missing till you make this trip. I now have little desire to go to Hatfield McCoy. It's just a big letdown riding only 10 miles of single-track down there. In Taylor, it's the opposite, there are more bikes than ATVs and no shortage of single track.

One other helpful hint - going out w/ a bike that at least LOOKS street legal is helpful to get gas in the fringe towns. Otherwise, you can be pretty limited in your loops. If you have a headlight (even a non-working one) and a plate (from whatever state or country), you're good to go.



Home for the first 4 days.

See attached files Colorado 2 & Colorado 3 for additional photos.

**Race Report**            No Submission

**How to...**                No submission

### **President's Report**

By Steve Stiller, Club President

**\*\*\* Volunteers are needed for the Natrona Heights and Bruin Toy Rides. Both prior to and the day of the events. If you can spare some time, please call me at the shop 724-545-1070**

### **Secretary's Report**

By Keith Marburger, Club Secretary

Octobers meeting at Bohn Cycle had a nice turn out with 22 members in attendance. Thanks to Ron, Nicki and the guys for the pizza and soda.

The 2008 picnic had 36 in attendance. We spent slightly less than \$300 and took in \$253 in new memberships and donations. Not bad when you consider it was free to current members. The food was good with burgers, dogs, corn and some great side dishes. Thanks to Steve for donating the property. Nick & Chuck for getting the beer, pop, water, etc, and organizing. Dan for cooking. Bill, Rich & family & a few others for setup & cleanup. Special thanks to Chuck for donating the dogs and Dave for organizing the

beer & corn for many years in the past. It was a beautiful day to ride, picnic was great. If you missed it, shame on you...

### **Minutes of [last] Membership Meeting**

By Keith Marburger, Club Secretary

- 2008 picnic discussed
- Steve discussed upcoming toy runs
- Discussion on how to grow the club. Currently 60 paid members and 6 legacy members
- Steve has had conversations with a property owner in the Red Bank area with 1300 acres to potentially lease the property
- Nomination of officers was discussed, no one nominated for any positions
- Don Adams discussed the Columbus Endurocross. Would be a great club spectator event if it returns next year

### **Treasury report**

By Nick Milan, Club Treasurer

**CLASSIFIED** - (ad will run for 3 months only, unless renewed)

**MOTORCYCLE (or anything else) CARRIER** - Designed for a class 3 receiver with 3" square side channels. 700 lbs.capacity. Hitch bar extended so camping or house trailer can be towed. Intended design was for a Suburban towing a trailer home. Complete with straps and ramp.

Nicholas M. 412-916-8090

### **2002 Wells Cargo Cycle Hauler enclosed motorcycle trailer**

12' x 7' low profile. 15" wheels, tandem axles, torqueflex suspension, 4 wheel brakes, spare tire & mount. Bubble nose on front, ramp door with beaver tail floor at rear, stainless lower panels sides and front. Setup for 2 full size road bikes or 3 dirt bikes with ability to squeeze a fourth in front. Excellent condition, low miles. \$3500.

Keith Marburger 412-276-6567

**2004 KTM 200 EXC** Excellent condition. Low miles. GPR steering stabilizer, Cycra Pro-bend hand guards, Pro Action Suspension front & rear, Rekluse Auto clutch. Tires are like new. \$3,500 or best offer.

Denny Whitehead 412-795-1596 (evenings or weekends)

**TRCR's DISCOUNT DEALERS** Please be sure to visit these dealers, accessory shops, and other service providers. By showing your TRCR membership card you receive a discount from the bike and accessory shops. Most give 10%.

**BOB TRACEY'S World of Cycles** 604 Narrows Run Rd Moon Twp, 412-269-9999

<http://www.worldofcycles.com>

**BOHN CYCLE** 2015 Saw Mill Run Blvd Pittsburgh 412-882-4330 <http://www.bohncycleshop.com>

**CROSSROADS MOTORSPORTS** 5375 William Flynn Hwy, Gibsonia, PA 724-444-6555  
<http://www.xroadsmotorsports.com>

**CYCLE GEAR** 4848 William Flynn Hwy. Allison Park, PA. 15101

**GOLDSMITH & OGRODOWSKI, LLC**, Attorneys at Law, 247 Fort Pitt Boulevard, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (Fred Goldsmith) 412-281-4340, [www.golawllc.com](http://www.golawllc.com)

**INSTIGATOR RACING** ATV Tires, Wheels, Bumpers, skid plates & accessories, Freeport PA, Mike Fajbik 724-295-3707 [www.instigatorracing.com](http://www.instigatorracing.com)

**MATTHEWS WALL ANCHOR SERVICE** piering, waterproofing service Inc., 7250 Big Beaver Blvd., Beaver Falls, PA 800-284-7471 Bud Norton Sr. 724-462-0082, Bud Norton Jr. 724-462-0091  
[www.wallanchor.com](http://www.wallanchor.com)

**MILAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATES** Prepare now for year-end taxes. Call Nicholas C. Milan, experienced, professional service. 412-782-3773.

**MOTORCYCLE REPAIR** Expert dual sport conversions and general motorcycle and ATV repairs. KTM's are my specialty! Don Adams, 724-972-6723

**SCHULZ CYCLE & ATV** 234 Millers Run Rd., Morgan, PA Parts & access. 15% off, ATK, Husqvarna, Gas Gas, Kasea parts/service 412-257-3188 <http://www.4schulzcycle.com>

**STILLER MOTORSPORTS LLC** 13488 U.S. Route 422, Trader Horn Plaza, Kittanning, PA (Steve Stiller,) KTM bikes, Kawasaki bikes and quads, Can Am quads 724-545-1070  
[www.StillerMotorsports.com](http://www.StillerMotorsports.com)

**TEN GRAPHIX** Signs & Vehicle Markings, Thomas E. Nebel, 1800 Sheridan St., North Braddock, PA 412-824-8889 [www.tengraphix.com](http://www.tengraphix.com)

**VEHICLE MAINTENANCE CENTER** (TRCR member Dan Martin), 68 Camp Horne Road (near Ohio River Blvd.), Emsworth, PA 412-761-1666. Auto and cycle repairs and inspections.



**TRCR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & DUES RENEWAL FORM**  
and  
**ASSUMPTION of RISK, RELEASE, WAIVER of LIABILITY,  
and INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

**PLEASE PRINT NEATLY AND READ CAREFULLY!!!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ AMA No.: \_\_\_\_\_

(check one) NEW MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS CHANGE \_\_\_\_\_  
*New members only – membership is \$3.00 per month for each month remaining in year*

Single Membership \_\_\_\_\_ \$34.00 annual (Anyone age 18 or over)

Family Membership \_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 annual (A family includes parents or guardians w/children under age 18)

*Please make check payable to "TRCR" and bring with this fully-signed form to the next meeting OR mail both to:*

Nicholas C. Milan, TRCR Treasurer  
c/o Milan Business Associates LLC  
827 Butler Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15223-1341

**ASSUMPTION of RISK, RELEASE, WAIVER of LIABILITY,  
and INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

**Please carefully read the following. It is a serious and binding legal contract.**

I, on behalf of myself, my heirs, executors, successors, administrators, assigns, personal representatives, next of kin, and estate, and, if applicable, as parent or guardian of a member or other minor participant under the age of 18, and their heirs, executors, successors, administrators, assigns, personal representatives, next of kin, and estate, AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. I acknowledge, understand, and appreciate that off-road motorcycle and ATV riding is a hazardous and very dangerous activity with inherent and other risks of serious personal injury, death, and property damage. I voluntarily and knowingly assume full responsibility

for all these risks and dangers arising from or related to participation in any Three Rivers Competition Riders (hereinafter "TRCR") sponsored, coordinated, or organized event, activity, meeting, or party, including the negligence of others and negligent rescue operations.

2. I release, discharge, agree to hold harmless, covenant not to sue or file a lawsuit against, and waive any claim or cause of action against TRCR, its officers, directors, trail leaders and members, and their heirs, executors, successors, administrators, assigns, personal representatives, next of kin, and estates, from and for any and all losses, injuries, claims, costs, attorney's fees, expert's fees, court costs, causes of action, liabilities, judgments, or damages of any type or kind, even if any of the above persons or entities are or are alleged to be negligent (whether solely, partially, concurrently, actively, or passively) or otherwise at fault in any way, on account of any personal injury, death, or property damage which may result, directly or indirectly, from my participation in any TRCR sponsored, coordinated, or organized event, activity, meeting, or party.
3. I agree to FULLY DEFEND AND INDEMNIFY TRCR, its officers, directors, trail leaders and members, and their heirs, executors, successors, administrators, assigns, personal representatives, next of kin, and estates, from and against any and all losses, injuries, claims, costs, attorney's fees, expert's fees, court costs, causes of action, liabilities, judgments, or damages of any type or kind, even if any of the above persons or entities are or are alleged to be negligent (whether solely, partially, or concurrently), or otherwise at fault in any way, on account of any personal injury, death, or property damage which may result, directly or indirectly, from my participation in any TRCR sponsored, coordinated, or organized event, activity, meeting, or party.
4. I agree to follow sensible trail riding principles and ride carefully to ensure my own safety as well as the safety of those with whom I share the trail.
5. I hereby consent to and permit first aid and emergency medical treatment if I am injured.
6. I hereby acknowledge that TRCR is an off-road vehicle club which is dedicated to the furtherance and preservation of the sport. I therefore agree to follow general rules of good conduct and sensible behavior at all club functions and wherever TRCR appears in public in any way.
7. Photocopies, fax copies, or electronic/pdf copies of this signed document are just as enforceable as the original.

***I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO BE LEGALLY BOUND BY THE ABOVE TERMS IN THEIR ENTIRETY. I READ AND SIGNED THIS DOCUMENT WHILE NOT UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ANY DRUGS OR ALCOHOL. I SIGNED THIS DOCUMENT KNOWINGLY, VOLUNTARILY, AND WITHOUT ANYONE'S PERSUASION, INFLUENCE OR COERCION.***

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Witness Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_