

MIDWEST TRAIL RIDERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter #81 – January 2, 2024

www.ridemtra.com ridemtra@gmail.com
or visit our Facebook page



2024 -- MTRA Schedule of Events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
January 27	MTRA Christmas Party/Annual Membership Meeting — Bones French Quarter, 14766 Manchester Rd., Ballwin, MO 63011
March 16-17	VTRA Ride Weekend
March 23-24	VTRA <i>Work Weekend</i> to Work on Trails (<i>Weather Permitting</i>)
April 13-14	VTRA <i>Work Weekend</i> to Work on Trails (<i>Weather Permitting</i>)
April 20-21	VTRA Ride Weekend
April 26	<i>Registration Closed</i> for Dual Sport Ride and Adventure Ride
May 18-19	MTRA Show Me Dual Sport Ride and Adventure Ride NOTE: VTRA RIDE WEEKEND CANCELLED; CLOSED TO PUBLIC DUE TO EVENTS
June 15-16	VTRA Ride Weekend
July 20-21	VTRA Ride Weekend
August 17-18	VTRA Ride Weekend
September 21-22	VTRA Ride Weekend
October 19-20	VTRA Ride Weekend
November 2-3	VTRA Halloween Ride

MTRA'S WEBSITE - is where you need to register and pay for the MTRA Dual Sport Ride and Adventure Ride, renew your MTRA yearly membership dues, and renew your AMA membership. **Please use the website (www.ridemtra.com) for sign up and membership.**

The 2024 MTRA Membership - **Please go online and use our website (www.ridemtra.com) to pay your yearly membership dues.** We have included a list of current paid members for the year 2024. If your name is not on the list, your membership has expired, and you will need to renew for 2024. Membership needs to be renewed each year. We hope you will continue to support our cause and renew your membership. Thank you to all members that have joined

over the years and to those who continue to renew their membership. We hope that you will have the opportunity to enjoy our events and get involved! The MTRA does not issue membership cards, but we will have a current membership list at all the events if you need to check your membership status or update your contact information. The VTRA (Viburnum Trend Riding Area) near Bixby Missouri is open for riding the 3rd full weekend of each month, March thru October. **However, this year the May ride weekend is CANCELLED due to the Show Me Ride Events taking place and the property is closed to the public and only open for registered event participants.**

January 27, 2024 – MTRA Annual Membership Meeting and Christmas Party- We will be having a combined annual **General Membership Meeting/Christmas Party** this year on **Saturday, January 27, 2024, at Bones French Quarter, 14766 Manchester Road, Ballwin, MO 63011.** We plan to have some food at 6:00 PM. You will need to purchase your own drinks. We will have a short meeting at @ 6:30 PM at which time we will be voting on MTRA Board Members and will be signing up volunteers to work the various MTRA events and VTRA Gate Keepers for 2024. We will also be signing up volunteers to help with trail work on the work dates listed above in the Schedule of Events.

May 18-19, 2024 -- AMA National Dual Sport Ride/Adventure Ride –



Our Dual Sport Ride and Adventure Ride have been **scheduled for May 18-19, 2024.** **Avoid missing the cut off date and sign up online at our website, --www.ridemtra.com.** All participants will need to register by using the registration and payment procedure on our website and meet the deadline of April 26. Online registration is the only way to sign up.

Mail in entries, late entries, and walk-in entries will not be accepted. There is no single-day option; the cost is the same price whether you choose to ride one day or both days. We have a **deadline of 100 dual sport riders** for this event, so we encourage you to enter on time and online. **Entries and cancelations must be received by April 26 and REGISTRATION WILL BE SHUT DOWN on April 26.**

All group leaders and chase riders from 2023, *please contact Denny Arnett @ 314-732-5954 or kmdarnett@gmail.com to let us know if you will be available this year to help with the event and to also find out the date and details of the pre-ride.*

THE EVENTS:

- FREE camping at the MTRA/VTRA property on **Friday and Saturday night for event participants and workers. PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE EARLIER THAN FRIDAY** AS WE WILL HAVE MEMBERS WORKING ON TRAILS, MOWING, AND GETTING READY FOR THE EVENTS. There are no electrical hook ups. Port-a-Pots will be available. **Our RV dump station will be closed as we have had too many RVs dumping upon entry to the club grounds and this has caused sewer/plumbing issues. Sorry.** Camping is first come, first served. Sites are not reservable.
- The closest motels are in Viburnum, Potosi, and Salem.

THE RIDES:

Dual Sport Ride: This ride is intended for state licensed dirt bike motorcycles. It is not like any other regular dual sport ride; it is more like a trail ride with lots of single track. It is not for big bikes. If you want to ride a big bike, then the Adventure Ride is for you. **Your motorcycle will need to have a license plate on it, and you must be at least 16 years of age with a valid driver's license.** If you show up without lights and a plate, you will not be allowed to ride. This is a State Law and AMA Requirement. It is also a huge liability risk for the MTRA.

It is a well-organized event on private land with only event participants and workers being present; with sign-up on Friday afternoon and evening and Saturday morning; free camping Friday and Saturday nights; gift at sign up; lunch provided on Saturday; dinner on Saturday evening; attendance prizes on Saturday evening after dinner; and lunch provided on Sunday, and the ultimate best camaraderie both days. Chase trucks will be stationed at the VTRA club grounds both days with water, trail snacks, tools, and inner tubes if you have a flat tire, and a truck will disperse when needed. Sweep riders will be available to help you out of a trail if your bike fails or you have an injury. **NOTE: YOU WILL NEED TO BRING OR BUY YOUR OWN GAS AND OIL FOR BOTH DAYS. GAS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED FOR THIS EVENT. IF YOU NEED TWO-STROKE OIL, YOU WILL NEED TO CARRY OIL YOURSELF.**

Adventure Ride: Sign up is on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning; free camping Friday and Saturday nights; gift at sign-up; dinner on Saturday evening; attendance prizes on Saturday evening after dinner; GPS tracks provided to guide you through the course both days; and the ultimate best camaraderie both days. The adventure ride is geared more toward street orientated motorcycles, i.e., Super Ténérés, KLRs, GSs, V-Stroms, KTM adventure bikes, and about any street legal motorcycle, large or small, that will negotiate a gravel road. The route is generally 200 to 250 miles per day for two days, but it is easy to add more miles or short cut as the route is on mapped public roads. Riders ride at their own pace, with other riders, or by themselves. Lunch and gas stops are plentiful, and you can decide when and where based on our suggestions. Two-up riders are welcome as nothing is too challenging or difficult. The route covers gravel forest roads, paved back roads, and 2 lane highways, aimed at being a scenic, pleasant, easy-paced ride. Our goal is to keep our older riders interested, and bring in novice riders, riders that may not be up to the grueling pace and challenges of our dual sport ride but would like to be out there riding and joining in the fun. The GPS download of the route

will be sent to all adventure rider participants about a week prior to the event. **YOU WILL NEED TO DOWNLOAD THE TRACKS TO YOUR OWN GPS.**

Upon arrival at the VTRA grounds:

*****FOR BOTH RIDES, EVERYONE PLEASE STOP  AT THE SIGN UP AREA, SIGN IN, SIGN WAIVERS, AND GET AN ARM BAND BEFORE YOU PARK. NO EXCEPTIONS; YOU HAVE TO STOP AT SIGN UP BEFORE GOING ANY FARTHER. THIS MEANS ALL PARTICIPANT RIDERS, WORKERS, AND ALL GUESTS.**

YES, THIS MEANS YOU, EVEN IF YOU KNOW SOMEBODY, YOU HAVE TO STOP AND SIGN IN BEFORE PARKING. THANK YOU.

SPONSORS:



AMA membership is required for both the dual sport ride and the adventure ride as they are “AMA National Events”. A one-event pass may be purchased for \$20 (only available for purchase at the event) or a full one-year AMA membership for \$49 (online or at the event). Skip the renewal lines at sign up and renew your AMA membership at www.ridemtra.com. If you renew your membership with the link on our website, AMA will send a small portion of your renewal fee back to the MTRA. This is a great deal for everyone and will make the event sign-up and registration much more efficient.

WORK WEEKENDS: Weather permitting, we have scheduled two work weekends prior to the dual sport event to work on trails. Those dates are March 23-24 and April 13-14 at the VTRA club grounds. We will organize into groups to go out and work different sections each day beginning at 9:00 AM, meeting at the main pavilion. On Saturday evening of each work weekend, the club will provide BBQ to those who volunteered their services.

VTRA NEWS --

Scholarships: As we have done for many years, the MTRA in 2023 provided two high school seniors at Viburnum High School each a \$500.00 scholarship to help with their college expenses.

Donations: In 2023 we also provided a donation to the Upper Indian Creek Cemetery to help in cutting several trees down along the cemetery grounds.

Trail Work, Grounds Maintenance, Events, and Gate Keepers: Thanks to everyone that helped in any way and helped cut, clear, and mark trail, maintained the grounds, campground, and fields, as well as worked the 2023 events, especially at our Hare Scrambles race and at the Show-Me Rides. We also thank those who volunteered their weekends to be Gate Keeper for our ride weekends at the VTRA throughout the year. We genuinely appreciate everyone that helped in any way and hope to see you all this year. Thank you all very much for your time and hard work.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources – Federal Recreational Trails Program Grant: MTRA completed and filed an application to obtain a grant from the DNR to help with funding of gravel for the campground and roads, herbicides, and equipment for the club to work on trails. MTRA is required to meet a funding match of 20%. The grant was recently approved and we are currently implementing the grant details.

In Memory:

We are deeply saddened to say that the club lost another long-time member this past year on August 5, 2023 -- Attorney Robert G. (Bob) Kister of Festus, MO, age 68. Our sympathy goes out to his family and two sons, Michael and Matthew. Rest in Peace, Bob.



MTRA CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST -- 2024+ :

YEAR	MEM#	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME
25	3058	HARRIS	CHRIS
24	3188	HARRIS	TIM
40	12	HEJLEK	AL
24	2757	SIEGFRIED	CORY
24	511	SIEGFRIED	GEORGE
24	2	THOMAS	ERIC
40	1	THOMAS	STEVE
24	1052	WHITE	RICK
25	D014	DALE SIGN SERVICE, INC	

MTRA SUPPORTING DEALERS/BUSINESSES *(Please support those who support the MTRA efforts.)*

BUSINESS NAME	PHONE	WEBSITE
ACERBIS USA	800-659-1440	acerbisusa.com
CLARKE MFG.	503-829-2156	clarkemfg.com
DALE SIGN SERVICE, INC	314-966-2620	
EVS	888-724-3005	evs-sports.com
FRED MUELLER SERVICE COMPANY	314-580-1778	
GUTS RACING	530-642-9118	gutsracing.com
KOCH MECHANICAL SERVICES	636-789-4563	
KRYPTONITE LOCK	781-828-6655	kryptonitelock.com
RK EXCEL	760-732-3161	rkexcelamerica.com
ROCKY MOUNTAIN	800-336-5437	rockymountainatvmc.com