

# MIDWEST TRAIL RIDERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter #83 – January 2, 2026

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**2026**

## **MTRA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
January 17	<b>MTRA Christmas Party/Annual Membership Meeting 5 PM TO 9 PM</b> – Classic Bike Headquarters/Mungenast Motorcycle Museum, 1418 Hwy. AT, Villa Ridge, MO 63089 636-451-6144
March 21-22	VTRA Ride Weekend
March 28-29	MTRA Work Weekend – to work on dual sport ride trails (Weather permitting)
April 1	<i>Registration Closes for Dual Sport Ride</i>
April 18-19	<b><u>APRIL RIDE WEEKEND CANCELLED due to Dual Sport Ride Event</u></b>
April 18-19	<b>MTRA Show Me Dual Sport Ride (NO ADVENTURE RIDE THIS YEAR)</b>
May 16-17	VTRA Ride Weekend
June 20-21	VTRA Ride Weekend
July 18-19	VTRA Ride Weekend
August 15-16	VTRA Ride Weekend
September 19-20	<b><u>SEPTEMBER RIDE WEEKEND CANCELLED due to Hare Scrambles at VTRA</u></b>
September 20	<b>MHSC Hare Scrambles at VTRA</b>
October 17-18	VTRA Ride Weekend
November 7-8	VTRA Halloween Ride

**The 2026 MTRA Membership** - Included in this Newsletter is a list of members who have paid their dues for 2026. If your name is not on the list, your membership has expired. Memberships expire at the end of each calendar year and dues are payable each year in January. Please go online to [www.ridemtra.com](http://www.ridemtra.com) to join or 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. Annual dues will increase in 2027 with incentives for volunteering at workdays. Come to the Annual General Membership Meeting/Christmas Party to find out more.

**VTRA (Viburnum Trend Riding Area):** The club's riding area near Bixby Missouri (2611 CR 75, Bixby, MO 65439) is open to the public during the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of each month, March thru October. Membership provides reduced entry fees to the ride weekends. VTRA has trails that are a maximum of 50 inches wide accommodating motorcycles and ATVs. **PLEASE NOTE THAT TWO RIDE WEEKENDS ARE CANCELLED THIS YEAR DUE TO EVENTS TAKING PLACE AT THE VTRA. CANCELLED WEEKENDS ARE APRIL 18-19 AND SEPTEMBER 19-20.**

**January 17, 2026 – MTRA Annual Membership Meeting and Christmas Party-** We will be having a combined annual General Membership Meeting/Christmas Party this year on **Saturday, January 17, 2026, at the Classic Bike Headquarters/Mungenast Motorcycle Museum, 1418 Hwy. AT, Villa Ridge, MO 63089, from 5:00 PM until 9:00 PM.** We will have a short meeting at @ 6:00 PM at which time we will be voting on MTRA Board Members, signing up volunteers to work the various MTRA events, signing up VTRA Gate Keepers for 2026, and signing up volunteers to help with trail work. We plan to have some food available along with non-alcoholic beverages. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the museum due to the possibility of damage to their collection of classic motorcycles.

### **April 18-19, 2026 -- AMA National Dual Sport Ride**



The Show Me National Dual Sport Ride is **scheduled for April 18-19, 2026.** **Registration is online only at [www.ridemtra.com](http://www.ridemtra.com) and the deadline is April 1** for registration and cancellations. **Mail in entries, late entries, and walk-in entries will not be accepted. NO EXCEPTIONS.** There is no single-day option; the cost is the same price whether you choose to ride one day or both days. The event is limited to 100 riders; we encourage you to register early.

**All group leaders and chase riders from 2026,** please contact Doug Thompson at [drtbike@gmail.com](mailto:drtbike@gmail.com) or 636-284-6646 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. Please do not just show up; we need to hear from you in advance.

### **LODGING:**

- FREE camping at the MTRA/VTRA club grounds on **Friday and Saturday night for event participants and workers.** **PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE EARLIER THAN**

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON** AS WE WILL HAVE PEOPLE WORKING ON TRAILS, MOWING, AND GETTING READY FOR THE EVENT.

- Campground sites are not reservable and are first come, first served, with ample overflow camping available in the parking/staging areas.
- 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.**
- The closest motels are in Viburnum, Potosi, and Salem.

### **DUAL SPORT RIDE:**

This ride is for licensed dirt bikes only, featuring mostly single-track trails—no big bikes allowed. **Riders must be at least 16 years of age with a valid driver's license, lights, and a license plate** per the MTRA, AMA regulations and insurance, and Missouri State Law.

The ride will be held on private land pursuant to permission acquired from landowners for this event only. No one will be allowed to ride with a GPS, other than group leaders. Group leaders will check all bikes.

In addition to free camping, participants will receive a gift at sign up; lunch on Saturday and Sunday; dinner on Saturday evening; and attendance prizes on Saturday after dinner. Chase trucks will be available both days with water and tools, and sweep riders will assist if needed.

**NOTE: ALL RIDERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN GAS AND OIL FOR BOTH DAYS AND MUST CARRY THEIR OWN OIL, IF NEEDED. RIDERS WILL RETURN TO CAMP FOR LUNCH EACH DAY WHERE THEY WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR GAS AND OIL.** FAQ's can be found on [www.ridemtra.com](http://www.ridemtra.com).

Sign-up is on Friday afternoon and evening and early Saturday morning. Upon arrival at the club grounds: Please proceed directly to the sign up area and stop **STOP**. **ALL PARTICIPANTS, WORKERS, AND GUESTS MUST SIGN IN, VERIFY AMA INFO, COMPLETE AND SIGN WAIVERS, AND GET AN ARM BAND BEFORE PARKING.** NO EXCEPTIONS. **EVERYONE** MUST SIGN IN. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Riding by event participants in the campground and in the parking lot shall be kept to a minimum. PLEASE DO NOT bring motorcycles or ATVs for family members to ride as they will not be allowed to ride before, during, or after the event.**

SPONSORS:



*AMA membership is required for the dual sport ride as it is an "AMA National Event". 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](http://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.

**September 20 -- Hare Scrambles --** The MTRA will be hosting a **MHSC Hare Scrambles on September 20 at the VTRA. AMA membership is required for this event.** We plan to incorporate some trail clearing for this event and will send out notification when we have a date scheduled for the work weekend. We will also need volunteers on the day of the hare scrambles to help work gate entry, sign up, scoring and check points. **Please contact Denny Arnett @ 314-732-5954 or [kmdarnett@gmail.com](mailto:kmdarnett@gmail.com) if you are able to help with the hare scrambles in any way, either clearing trail before the event or working the event itself.**



## **VTRA NEWS --**

**Scholarships:** In 2025, the MTRA again provided two high school seniors at Viburnum High School each a \$500.00 scholarship to help with their college expenses. The MTRA has been doing this for many years.

**Trail Work, Grounds Maintenance, Events, and Gate Keepers:** Thanks to everyone that helped in any way to cut, clear, and mark trail, maintained the grounds and fields, worked on the campground, as well as worked the 2025 events, and 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:** The MTRA was fortunate to have been awarded Missouri DNR Recreational Trail Grants in 2023 and 2024. The 2023 grant provided funding for new chain saws, weed eaters, herbicides, gravel for parking areas at VTRA, and 3 new Kawasaki Mules. The 2024 grant provided funding for a new Mini Skid Steer (with a 36 inch brush cutter), a rake grapple for our skid steer, herbicides, 2 new shipping containers (a new 40 foot container for storage and a new 20

foot container for event sign up). We are hoping to have both grants completed in the first half of 2026. A special thank you goes out to Stahlman Powersports of Rolla for their generous project donations to our 2023 and 2024 grants.

**In Memory:** We are deeply saddened to say that the club lost a long-time member and friend this past year – John O’Laughlin -- on March 15, 2025, at 68 years of age. John volunteered for many years as an EMT for multiple club events. He was a retired firefighter in the St. Louis area. Our sympathy goes out to his family and may he rest in peace.

**MTRA 2026 INDIVIDUAL AND/OR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS:**

Bald, Rick	Queen, Ronald
Bowers, Mike	Siegfried, Cory
Darnett, Denny	Siegfried, George and Linda
Fritchley, Stevan	Stockhausen, Kevin
Harris, Chris	Thomas, Eric
Hejlek, Al	Thomas, Steve
Hicklin, Bryan	Thompson, Doug
Powell, Michael	Vandenhoeck, Steve

**THANKS TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS:**

