

# VERMONT ATV SPORTSMAN'S ASSOCIATION INC

WINTER 2018

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**...and more!**

## **Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative Update. By Frank Stanley**

Through an Executive Order this spring, Governor Phil Scott created a task force in an effort to bolster economic activity around outdoor recreation in Vermont. The steering committee, known as the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC), is a fifteen-member panel of state officials, business owners and leaders of nonprofits lead by Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation, Michael Snyder. There are about 34,000 jobs in outdoor recreation in Vermont, and the sector brings in about \$2.5 billion annually in consumer spending. The VOREC steering committee's purpose is to engage with businesses, government, the nonprofit sector and the public to identify specific outcomes that promote business opportunities, increase participation opportunities, and strengthen the quality and stewardship of our recreational resources. VOREC had several meetings over the summer and fall including a large multi-day conference where over sixty professionals from all aspects of the recreation

community came together to share information and ideas on how take advantage or, heighten and promote Vermont's outdoor recreation assets by strengthening networking and creating partnerships. VOREC also held seven public informational and brainstorming sessions across the state and solicited public comment through an online survey. All the information, comments and ideas were compiled and reviewed by members of the task force with a goal to have a list of recommendations sent to Governor Scott in December 2017 for possible legislative action. In November, VOREC had a day-long meeting to go over in detail recommendations of the different members of the task force and find consensus where possible. As a result, a list of draft recommendations has been sent to Governor Scott's office for review and the final recommendations will be available in the coming weeks.

The categories for the various recommendations will include ways to:  
Support the Outdoor Rec-

reation Business Sector in Vermont  
Improve and Enhance Marketing of Vermont's Outdoor Recreation Assets  
Support a Pathway to Outdoor Recreation Careers and Entrepreneurship  
Create High Quality Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Asset and Opportunity Maps/Tools  
Strengthen Incentives for Private Landowners  
Increase Appropriate Outdoor Recreation Access Opportunities and Participation  
Create and/or Enhance Funding Sources for Outdoor Recreation Initiatives  
Create and Market a Vision for Statewide and Regional Connectivity of Recreation Assets  
For more information about VOREC visit <http://fpr.vermont.gov/VOREC> or contact Jessica Savage, Recreation Program Manager for FPR at [Jessica.savage@vermont.gov](mailto:Jessica.savage@vermont.gov).



# Online Memberships for 2018

Online Memberships!  
For the first time ever, VASA will be offering the option to purchase your Trail Access Decals (TADs) and membership online! All you need is your valid ATV registration and a credit card.

2018 Memberships will be available April 1, 2018. Just visit our website, <http://www.vtvasa.org> and click the JOIN tab. You'll be directed to a membership application. Fill it out, pay and print your temporary Trail Access Decals! Your temporary TAD will be valid for 10 days after you purchase it. Just print it and carry it with

you, or save the image to your phone and carry your phone with you. Your actual decals and membership paperwork will be mailed to you within those 10 days. Once you receive your supplies, place your decals on the front and rear of your machine and you are ready to go!

Not a computer person? Don't worry, your local VASA point of sale will still be fully stocked with memberships, so you now have the convenience of choice regarding your ATVing this summer! Run down to your local ATV dealer or hop online- either way, be ready for riding season 2018!



**AVAILABLE  
APRIL 1, 2018**

## A Note from the Vice President...

**MISSION  
ACCOMPLISHED!**



It doesn't seem that often that an elected official shows their appreciation for their constituents' accomplishments. I said we had a goal of 3000 members, congratulations, with YOUR help, we made it! I want to thank each and every one reading this for your part in reaching this goal! I am very proud to be your Vice President. Thank you to all of the volunteers who spend their invaluable time making our organization so robust. Lastly, Thank you to Danny, Dani, Emily and David for your hard work and dedication!

Thank you and Congratulations!

-Adam Lane, Vice President of VASA

# Fighting Ethanol (from WCAX)

**BERLIN, Vt. (WCAX)** The cold and snowy weather has the state's network of snowmobile trails buzzing, but riders say ethanol continues to damage their engines.

"We had some real early snow and even before that we had really cold weather which started to freeze the ground up," says Matt Tetreault, trails administrator for the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers. That's a perfect combination, according to Tetreault. On Monday, 30 miles of trails in Berlin and Barre were perfectly groomed for a VIP rider -- Congressman Peter Welch.

"I wish every Vermonter could have had the opportunity to do this morning what I did, which is to get out in the deep pockets of rural Vermont, places that you just don't see from the road and to enjoy the extraordinary beauty," Welch, D-Vt., said. Welch is promising to continue efforts to eliminate ethanol from gasoline. The federal government requires gas to contain 10 percent ethanol. Corn-based ethanol advocates say it makes for cleaner fuel -- but Welch and others say it does more harm than good.

"It does a lot of damage to our small engines, including our snow machines that are small engines. There's a lot of contamination that goes in to those engines," Welch said.



Mike Beaudet owns Gilles Sales & Service in East Montpelier. He said the ethanol in gas shortens the lifespan of small engines.

"It cleans the systems and it brings all of the garbage that's been collecting and runs it through the engines," he said.

Welch said it takes too much energy to make ethanol, and there are environmental consequences -- like overplanting of corn. It's also driven up the cost of food for humans and livestock.

"It's turned out to be a well-intended flop," Welch said.

Congress has kept the 10 percent mandate from rising to 15 percent. And a fifty-five-cent-per-gallon subsidy has been eliminated, as have tariff protections on foreign ethanol. Welch says he hopes to eliminate the mandate altogether -- but he's been working on for years.

(From WCAX)

VASA's very own Executive Director, Danny Hale had the pleasure of participating in this ride. Danny has been an avid snowmobiler for 50 years in addition to his combined work and passion for ATVs. He had the opportunity to speak with Congressman Welch about the effects of ethanol on ATVs as well as snowmobiles.

This is yet another opportunity that VASA and VAST have had to come together and work as a team to accomplish common goals. VASA would like to say thank you to VAST for including us in this ride.

*Pictured above is Congressman Welch addressing participants before their ride.*

**WWW.VTASA.ORG**

## Northwest Vermont Wheelers

Hello fellow riders,

Wow its hard to believe that 2018 is upon us. With that being said lets make this a great year to ride in the state of Vermont.

The next three meetings we will be creating our 2018 calendar. So if you have a ride or an event you think we should take part in please be sure to attend these meetings. Our goal is to do more group rides this year.

We have a saying "the we needs to be a bigger we". We're always looking for volunteers when it comes to finding area's to ride. So please let us know if you know of someone that will allow us to use a piece of their property to build a trail or if you don't mind doing some research and knocking on doors. The more we do together the better the riding will be.

Remember we can be found

at [northwestvermontwheelers.com](http://northwestvermontwheelers.com) and on Facebook.

Our monthly meeting location is the Dirty Nelly's Irish Pub. 51 Federal Street St. Albans, VT 05478. It's on the corner of Federal and Kingman Streets. The third Thursday of every month at 6:00 PM. We hope to see you at our next meeting on February 15, 2018.

Justin Rocque  
President  
North West Vermont  
Wheelers

## Caledonia All Terrain Travelers



Hello VASA,

I am very excited to be the new CATT president; there is a lot of growth opportunity for growth in this area. We are fortunate enough to have 2 stores, a snack bar, a pizza joint, and a very, very supportive ATV dealership in Buffalo Mountain Power Sports, right on our trails. You can even shop for groceries, or go apple picking if you desired. There is going to be expansion this year, and I need your

help. If you're reading this, and you're living in our area, we are going to build new trails. Right now we have 1 new loop in the works, and hope to have something opened by mid-June. The ultimate goal is to move north and eventually connect with BLRR. Kind of a lofty goal, with enough volunteers, we will make it happen. We will have trail days planned for 2018, and I hope to have a full schedule of all events out by March/April. Our meeting schedule will remain the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, 6pm, at Buffalo Mountain Power Sports, beginning in March.

To kick off the 18' riding season

we are talking about having a "swap meet" of some fashion, where folks can get together and buy/sell/swap ATV related items. The goal is to have a central location with other clubs involved. Stay tuned to Facebook and get on our email list stay up to date.

Thank you for the support in our sport, see you on the trails!

Adam Lane  
[adam@harvequip.com](mailto:adam@harvequip.com)



# Top of the World ATV Club

Top of the World's trails will officially be closed December 15<sup>th</sup> for the season. We would like to thank Danny Hale for the work done on our trail off Ladd Road. We look forward to a great 2018 riding season. TOW meets monthly and directly after the meeting we head out

for trail and sign maintenance. We will be posting our first meeting on our web page and Face Book. We look forward to more member participation for trail maintenance- if you want to continue to ride these amazing trails please remember we need your help! As always, we thank

our landowners for graciously allowing the use of their land for the VASA trails. TOW has more than 70 miles of trails.



## Lost Nation ATV Club

Lost Nation ATV Club hopes that all of the clubs had a happy and safe holiday season! We would like to welcome Tyler Sabin as acting interim VP for the remainder of our membership year. The 2018 riding season will be upon us soon!

Please make sure to like us on facebook so you can get updates on all things LNAC!

Search:  
Lost Nation  
ATV Club.



## Green Mountain ATV Riders

Hello VASA Members!  
Just wanted to send a big shout out from the Green Mountain ATV Riders. Many of you probably haven't heard from us in quite some time. We took a lot of the fall season and winter so far to work on revitalizing our club. We are now operating under new leadership and are trying our best to bring some new and enthusiastic blood into our

club. We are asking that if you live in Lamoille county and enjoy AT-Ving for you to join our club and help us get more trails. We have lots of opportunity for a heck of a lot more riding, but we need the man power to do it. We have opportunities to connect to the Borderline Ridge Riders out of Newport, the Northwest Vermont Wheelers in Franklin County and

possibly even to the Hardwick trails maintained by the Caledonia All Terrain Travelers. We have a chance to have some of the best trails in the state, and all we need is some eager volunteers. If you are interested in more trails, please attend one of our meetings. We look forward to a very productive 2018 and hope your new year is happy and healthy!

# ANNUAL MEETING 2018

# June 9, 2018



Did you know that this year will be VASA's 20th Annual Meeting? That's right, the VT ATV Sportsman's Association is celebrating its 20th year and we couldn't be more proud.

That being said, we are getting back to our roots and taking the annual meeting back to where we were born... RUTLAND!

The West Rutland ATV Sportsman's Club was VASA's first club ever and we will be holding our 20th Annual Meeting in Rutland, directly on the trail head. Delicious food, give aways, awards, dealers and much more! We will also be having a ride after the meeting. This is your chance to meet your fellow club

members, as well as members from other clubs around the state, board members and staff.

Celebrate the accomplishments of 2017 and find out what is in store for 2018! Special thanks to WRASC for hosting us on their trails! You won't want to miss this meeting!

## Happy 20th Birthday VASA

## WANTED: Your Special Club Member



We are looking for the club member you have that deserves to have their name on the VASA plaque.

Every year we ask you to send us your recommendation, and every year we receive 1 or 2 letters.

This year we are asking at least 1 member from every club send us a letter telling us who your favorite club member is and why you think they should be recognized.

Please feel free to submit more than one member or letter.

Our goal is to recognize every VASA supporting member we have. In order for us to do that we need your help. Please send your letters as soon as possible to.

Lloyd Church

Adam Lane

Dani Luce

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# WE WANT YOU!

# Southern Vermont Trail Riders

Hello VASA friends and members, 2017 was another successful riding season here at the SVTR. With the assistance of our land owner, our members and VASA, we have been able to open up some new trail as well as repair and improve quite a bit of our existing trails. As 2017 is now over and we look to the 2018 season, we find our trails to be in excellent condition and hope that this will make for an easier start to next years riding season.

As in years past, SVTR once again is making annual donations to some of our local community organizations. We are supporting the Town-

shend food shelf, the Townshend Volunteer Fire Dept and the Newbrook Fire Dept. This is our way of saying thank you to the community that has welcomed and supported the SVTR over the years.

The property that the SVTR trails are on has recently been sold. We would like to extend our gratitude to Mike Charles, the previous land owner, for allowing us to use the property for the past 11 years. Without him, the SVTR would not have had a home! We look forward to meeting the new land owners and developing a good working relationship with them in 2018 and beyond.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers at the SVTR that help make this club what it is. From those that turn out for work parties, the committee members that handle our picnics, merchandise inventory and sales, our trail bosses and our board members both past and present. You all have helped to shape the SVTR and make this the respected organization that it is! I'm proud to be a part of the SVTR.

-Bill Ortlieb  
President, SVTR

## 2018 Mt. Washington Ride

VASA would like to send a huge thank you to the Southern Vermont Trail Riders who have volunteered to host VASA's 2018 Annual Mt. Washington Ride! Please mark your calendars for Saturday July 28! Tickets will need to be pre-purchased (sorry, none will be available on the day of the event!) from the VASA office. Sales will be open to valid VASA members only, so make sure you get your 2018 membership early! All sales will be purchased online. Prices will be the same as last year, \$37 for an operator and \$12 for passengers. This is a sunset ride, so everyone will need to arrive no later than 6:00 pm. Again, tickets must be purchased in advance. Tickets will go on sale in late spring or early summer— more info to come. Keep an eye on VASA's facebook page or send an email to [dluce@vtvasa.org](mailto:dluce@vtvasa.org) if you'd like to get an email notification when tickets go on sale. If you've never done this ride before, you won't want to miss this. All sales are final, no refunds, rain or shine. Stay tuned!





WWW.VTVASA.ORG

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Website



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