



# Capital Area Trail Riders Association

## Newsletter

August 2015

President: Tom Curtin, (518) 237-5671  
Vice-President: Lee Sumner, (518) 898-0694

Treasurer: Bob Young, (518) 399-8442

Secretary: Tony Morris, (518) 269-2005

Corresponding Secretary: Lee Sumner, (518) 898-0694

**Entry Gate Lock Code changes August 1<sup>st</sup>.**

### President's Report

The NYACT (New York Air Cooled Trials) Vintage trails competition will be held on CATRA Land on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The bikes used are older than 1980 so the competition is quite different from our October event. Members are welcome to ride at this event or spectate. The competition is held from 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. Don't have a bike? Call Bob

Young, Pete Lacagninia, 393-3521, or Mike Sciocchetti, 393-3653 for details. A fun and cheap way to experience trials.

Typically the club hosts a membership picnic on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend. Is anyone interested in organizing the event?

### AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days Report *by Mike Sciocchetti*

CATRA members, Lisa Farmer, Mike Sciocchetti, Kurt Spoonogle, and Bob Young made the long trek to AMA's VMD Rally, July 10 - 12, at Mid-Ohio race course for an action-packed weekend of motorcycling. This event is noted for its appeal to a wide spectrum of motorcycling, and boy did it exceed our expectations. Bob Young described the swap meet as "century overload!" (sic sensory). Lisa the instigator of this adventure, came looking for vintage Honda and Suzuki mini bike hardware. Unfortunately she missed out on a pristine TC90 gas tank in a moment of indecision. Kurt, Bob, and Mike came prepared to race XC, Moto-X and Trials events. Rain left Friday's XC course a rutted, rooted, sloppy mess. Kurt described the conditions as "brutal". Saturday dried up nicely, leaving the MX course tacky and dust free. Unfortunately for Kurt, mechanical failure (XC) and class assignment snafus (MX) spoiled his effort at grand champ. Mike finished respectably in the +50 Moto class. Bob and Lisa planned to ride Sunday's Trial only.

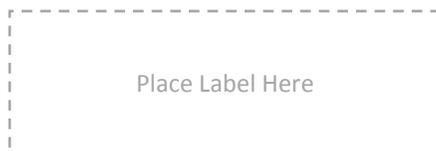
Fatigue started to set in by Saturday evening. Imbibing liquid stress relievers and a tasty cook-out had us all relaxed and sated. The highlight of the evening was an impromptu scrambles race in the field adjacent to our campsite. Started by a couple of mini bike riders racing around and quickly joined by dozens of t-shirt and sneaker clad kids on old DT Yamahas, hopped-up pit bikes, Honda CB twins, clapped-out MX-ers, Scooters and more! Non-

stop heats went on until dusk. Then came the fireworks and golf cart racing. At least 500 spectators had gathered before the mayhem subsided. Surprisingly, not a single track official was seen the whole time and only some prides suffered injury. This alone was worth the price of admission! Kurt was itching to get into the mix. He probably would have schooled them on how to back-it-in on a short TT track, but discretion (and a few too many beers) intervened.

Sunday morning was greeting with a light rain which turned an already saturated trials loop into a total slithery affair. We came too far to let mother nature spoil our fun. The array of machinery contesting the trials was amazing like everything else. For example, Quinten Wentzel, a nationally ranked trials pro and former VMD grand champ, rode a 1960's era Greeves two stroke for no reason other than seemingly sheer challenge. He described his bike as "the worst piece of \_ \_ \_ t I've ever ridden!" The leading link front suspension was so heavy "I couldn't get the wheel off the ground!" But even he, like the soggy and sore rest of us, had a great time pushing old machinery to the limit.

When the AMA calls this the largest motorcycle rally of its kind in the country—they're right! Any motorcycle enthusiast, young or old, dirt biker, road biker, vintage enthusiast, bike builder, racer, rider or spectator will have a phenomenal time at AMA VMD mid-Ohio race course. Try it next year!

CATRA  
PO Box 373  
Burnt Hills, NY 12027



## NETA Trials Competition

CATRA's annual trials competition is coming to CATRA Land on October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Once again we are asking for members to help at this event. NETA will hold a class each morning to show people how to "check" sections. Feel free to bring a friend or significant other to help. Bob Young, 399-8442, will be organizing the volunteers again so please give him a call if you can help. CATRA has hosted this event for 15 years. It's success is truly a result of the help of our members. Thank you.

## 2015 Club Meeting Dates

(first Thursday of each month \*)

7:30 P.M.

January 8	May 7	September 3
February 5	June 4	October 1
March 5	July 2	November 5
April 2	August 6	December 3

**Meetings held at Carney's, Upstairs Meeting Room \***

17 Main St. (Route 146A)

Ballston Lake, NY

\* unless otherwise noted

## Notable Club Events

**NYACT Vintage Observed Trial - Sunday, August 2**

**Family Picnic - Sunday, Labor Day Weekend  
Sept. 6**

**NETA Observed Trial - Columbus Day Weekend  
Oct. 10 - 11**

**Club Elections - December Meeting**

**Christmas Party - TBD**

**Black Fly Hare Scramble**

**3rd Weekend in May: Pee Wee Scramble,  
Vintage Enduro, Hare Scramble**

## Work Parties

*Sundays in August and September*

*to prepare for the October Observed Trial event.*

*Work a little, ride the rest of the day!*

## Newsletter Editor

Michael at [msciocchetti@nycap.rr.com](mailto:msciocchetti@nycap.rr.com)

Please send article information before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for publication in the next issue.