

Montgomery Mountain Bike Association

MMBA News

MMBA Calendar

July 26th—MMBA will be running the grill for the Jay Mountain Marathon as a fundraiser for the chapter.

September 13 & 14—Fall Mountain Bike Fest. Rides on both sides of the mountain, and the band has been booked for the Montgomery Rec Center on Saturday night.

Sunday Afternoon Races/Rides—Times and locations to be announced

Friday Night Potlucks—Next stop. Johnny Witherspoon's on Friday, July 25th at 5:00pm, with a ride on the new "Lois Lane" loop.

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Mid-Season

Since the start of the season, MMBA members have been busy at work and at play. Starting with National Trailwork Day on June 8th, continuing with Mountain Bike Fest the following weekend, and into the peak riding season with better weather and buff trails, riders in the area have taken advantage of the expanding and improving trail network in the Jay-Montgomery area.

In fact, mountain biking organizations are growing across the state, with more than 17 bike clubs now, and three more in the works. As one of the earliest clubs, MMBA has grown as well to over 50 members. Additionally, MMBA actively supports statewide biking advocacy by sending a rep to VMBA meetings, and helping to fund the executive director's position,

which VMBA hopes to expand to a full-time position. For those who have met the current director, Pat-



Don, Noel, Patrick & Meredith replenish after the MMBA Mountain Bike Fest rides.

rick Kell, you know him to be a passionate rider and advocate who has worked to form partnerships, find grants, and coordinate efforts to increase mountain biking opportunities throughout the state. Some of Patrick's most recent projects include working with the Depart-

ment of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, the Department of Tourism, the Mad River Recreation

District, and The Bikes Belong Coalition for over \$50,000 in grants. In addition to continuing to raise money through grants, VMBA is working with the Green Mountain National Forest to hopefully open their existing trails for mountain bike access. According to Patrick, they should make a decision this summer.

With all of the exciting developments statewide and locally, MMBA members should all take pride in the important roles we play in land stewardship and recreational access opportunities.

Name & Logo Contest

MMBA is in the process of updating our name and logo and we need your help. Submit your ideas for a new name and logo on the website. The winners will receive \$50 gift certificates to the Belfry.

A perennial favorite in the injury contest, Donnie showcases his latest brush with the local flora. As Jason Haddick remarked, "Donnie, why'd you pick the tree with the rough bark?"



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Submissions

We are always looking for more material for the newsletter—stories, pictures, events, recognitions, etc. Please send your ideas to Chris or Meredith at cyoung@craftsburyschools.org or mpyoung@comcast.net

Fundraising

Fundraising efforts help support many endeavors, including keeping costs for events such as Mountain Bike Fest down, buying tools and materials for trail improvements, the VMBA executive director position, landowner appreciation fund, and local youth programs. Please try to support, either through donations of money, time, or materials, the cause.

We are planning on cooking for the Jay Challenge Marathon again this year, which will result in a \$1000 donation to MMBA. Denny Lyster is the chief cook for the event. We need as many people as possible for the July 26 event.

Many thanks to Johnny Witherspoon and his friends from Biking For a Better World (www.bikingforabetterworld.org) for sharing their experiences biking from Alaska to Argentina. Not only was it a wonderful story of perseverance and generosity, but also motivating on many different levels. The evening raised \$94 for MMBA and a free season pass for Mark Cellucci, winner of the raffle.

A big thanks to Rob at the Snowshoe Lodge for donating \$434, proceeds from winter's pull ticket sales.

Trail News

The Xmas Tree Trail in Jay has benefitted from several new bridges and a new loop. The bridges make the ride clean, and with the new loop there is almost 4 miles of trail. The best way to access the route is to park at Firsttrax East, bike up Gendron Road to Sargeant's Way, and hit the trailhead from there. Riding just the trail up and back and avoiding the road climb makes an more interesting, and more challenging ride. The river crossing is now doable as well (hint: aim for the white rock in the middle and everything comes together).

More terrain is coming on line on the Jay side due to a partnership between the Jay Land Committee and MMBA. Town-owned land is open for trail development,

with most of the effort being focused on the former Xmas Tree Farm. This is an area that should provide many riding options for all abilities in the upcoming years.

With more access to new areas comes more responsibility. Please respect the land and the landowners generosity by riding respectfully and taking care of the trails. The more we police ourselves, the more likely we will be to open even more trails.

Johnny's work....



...pays off for Noel



Keep your hands away from their mouths! Jake Webster and Jason Had-dick hit the buffet hard.

Potluck Season!

Potluck rides and festivities are in full swing, with Gary Wetherbee hosting more than his share to start and many more in the works. We especially thank Gary for providing fresh-caught salmon from his Alaska trip, and Micky Doheny for cooking all of the great recipes people brought for the Great Salmon Cook-Off. It was a tough call for the judges, but Chris Young's MMBA Summer Daze Glaze took top honors. Check the MMBA website for the recipe.