



PANTRA NEWSLETTER MARCH 2008

Welcome New Members

*BruBaker family- Curt, Jennifer, Mikaila, and Gavin
Britt family- Sam, Susan, and Kaycie
Joe Showen*

Next Club Meeting:

Wednesday, March 12th

Social Hour: 6-7 pm General Meeting 7pm

Meetings are held at the Pizza Factory on the corner of Highway 41 and Mullan Rd in Post Falls. Please join us!



Group Photo from Mattawa- Saddle Mtn Ride February 2008

Get your PANTRA swag! PANTRA has sweatshirts available to get you through those cold winter months and the chilly nights in the spring and fall. They cost \$20 for crew-neck and \$25 for a hooded. Randy will have the sweatshirts at all PANTRA events including the

general meetings. Don't get caught out in the cold without one. Don't forget, PANTRA still has many T-shirts available too!

Upcoming Events

*March 29th Adopt-A-Road

Join us as we clean up along Nettleton Gulch. Bring your gloves and an appetite for camaraderie!! Check out the online forums for meeting details.

April 19-20th Canfield Clean-Up

April 27th Dusty Cleavage/
(Wildcats on Wheels)

May 4th Annual Kids' Ride

May 10-11th LPO Clean-up

May 17th Batey Bould Clean-up

June 7-8th Batey Bould Clean-up

June 14-15th Father's Day Family Campout Ride

July 11-12th Coeur d' Alene River float trip

Ride Reports

Mattawa/Saddle Mtn.- February 17

Approximately 23 of us total travelled the 3 hours to Mattawa to enjoy a beautiful day of riding the desert of Central Washington. With a forecast of mid-40's, we were a bit nervous to be in 23 degrees just outside George. After meeting Tony, aka Hayshaker, we made the trip from George to Mattawa where our hopes were fulfilled...45 degrees and sunny!!! :)

I logged almost 28 glorious miles of sand, rocks, and sagebrush. Those dry, and some not so dry, creek beds were a blast with rocky step-ups and ledges. Most of us even survived the 1200' drop down the 70 degree sand slide into to dunes below.

Once in the dunes, Coeurd scored the best high-mark with his CR500 rocket, but unfortunately got a flat and had to bow out of the ride early.

There were lots of highlights for this ride, but the greatest has to be Tony's hospitality. Thanks for hosting a great impromptu ride....Mike Meehan

Mattawa-Saddle Mtn & Wild Horses-March 1-2

A few of us hit Mattawa Saturday and Vantage Sunday last weekend. Rod, Robb, Ryan, Mike N. Mike G, Curt, and myself started out at Mattawa on Saturday. The weather was a little brisk from the wind.

We started out by the river at the bottom of Haybeck's Hill at the sand dune and started our way up the mountain. It was different for me to start at the bottom and have to hit the hill climb pretty much right off the get go. Mike Grytal who was on his new bike learned real quick why he likes his new WR instead of the old YZ for the smoother power and wider ratio gears. Mike Nichols struggled a bit, but Rod helped him to the top. At the next junction some took the second hill climb and the others went around on the road. Ryan's bike started sputtering, then, when we stopped Mike Grytal's master cylinder had come apart. After working on bikes for a few minutes and realizing we needed more tools and fluids, we headed back to the trucks for repairs.

After repairs we headed back up to the top and rode for a while. The wind intensified on the top of the ridges with 50-60mph gusts. We rode about 22 miles.



Matt James navigating rocky step-ups in Mattawa

The seven of us then stayed in a hotel in Moses Lake so we could ride Vantage and the Wild Horse trails on Sunday.

Sunday morning Matt James, Dave Griffiths, Rod's two sons, Brandon and Kyle, and Dave's friend and his sons met at Moses Lake to ride Vantage Sunday.

Ryan's bike started acting up again so he bailed on the ride and Curt stayed with him. Matt led the group of now 13 toward the Wild Horse Trails. A couple of miles in, Rod got a flat tire. I stayed to help him while the group headed on. A few minutes later Mike Grytal was on his way back with a flat front tire. Unfortunately, I was out of CO2 so I couldn't help him.

Rod and I then met up with the group at the Wild Horses Monument. We rode the rest of the trails out and it was an awesome ride...Randy Nilles



Michelle Smith with her First Place trophy

Airway Heights Outdoor MX Season 2007

Pulled from the archives we finally have a picture of our very own Michelle Smith who won the season title in the Women's Beginner Class during last year's Airway Heights Outdoor MX Series. Congrats Michelle and good luck this season.

LAND USE NEWS

Update on Coeur d'Alene National Forest Travel Plan

The release of the draft EA (Environmental Assessment) has again been pushed back and is now expected to be available "early to mid March."

According to Don Garringer, Asst Team Leader for the CDA NF Travel Plan, most of the employees assigned to the Travel Plan were pulled off to work on timber sale proposals. He reported that it is mostly done and the one person they are waiting for should be back working on it shortly.

Once the EA comes out, we will have 60 days to comment on the EA so stay tuned and be prepared to submit your comments on the EA when it does finally come out.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/cda/travelplan/>

Clearwater National Forest Update

The deadline for submitting comments for the Clearwater NF Travel Management Plan expired February 29, 2008. Now we have to wait until they compile the comments and post a Draft EA. Keep up to date by visiting our forums or by checking out the following link.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater/Projects/TravPlan/ClwTravel.htm>

St. Joe National Forest Travel Management Plan

Tom Wuest has attended the first two Focus Group meetings for the St. Joe Forest's Travel Management Plan. He reports that the Focus Group meetings are just getting organized so stay tuned for more information. The focus group is planning to review maps at the next couple of meetings.

<http://www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/stjoe/travelplan/>

GENERAL NEWS

ITMA Has New Leadership

Mike Meehan, PANTRA Board Member, and Tom Bithell, TVTMA President, have agreed to take on responsibilities as President and Vice President respectively of ITMA. Please lend your support as ITMA seeks to re-organize and re-unite all trailbike clubs/users in the state to fight for continued access to our public lands.

Volunteers Sought for State Committee

The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is seeking volunteers to serve on its Non-highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) Program advisory committee to evaluate grant proposals and assist with program policy development for NOVA activities.

The NOVA Program provides grants to local, state, and federal agencies to help plan, develop, and maintain facilities for motorized and nonmotorized recreation. The program also supports education and law enforcement grants related to NOVA activities.

Interested members can get more info from PANTRA's forums, from an officer or Board Member, or from the following URL:

http://www.rco.wa.gov/rcfb/temp/announce_adv_cmte.htm

2007 Inland Northwest Motorcycle Show

This year's Inland Northwest Motorcycle Show is in the books. Even though our booth was not inside the actual show like we had expected (we were in the hallway just before the entrance), our location couldn't have been better. Since there was only one way in or out of the show, we were able to catch people coming and going. We had lots of exposure. In addition, there was good synergy being next to the Dirt Bike School's booth. I personally had a great time and met a lot of people just on Sunday alone.





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