

Wisconsin Off-Highway Vehicle Association's

Badger Tracks

From the desk of the CEO

CEO WOHVA UPDATE 2015 First Quarter

2015 is starting off great for WOHVA. The Spring Trails meeting at Royal St. Patricks was well attended. Our trail guide group is growing again. Keeping new blood involved each year is a testament to the quality experience provided by our volunteers.

Our upcoming annual meeting has a FISTA class on Friday followed by our annual volunteer banquet in the evening. Saturday kicks off with our annual membership meeting followed by educational speakers, a luncheon with local dignitaries and politicians. Saturday afternoon and evening consists of a couple of informative sessions and the WOHVA board meeting. Saturday night closes out the annual meeting with a group dinner.

Great Northern Trail Ride is coming up in August. Registrations are coming in steady. Sponsors are coming in steady and all expectations are high for another record year.

Switching gears-as we do so often and so easily in our trail rigs; first quarter is a time when memberships get paid and decisions are made. I'm asking you to make the decision to jump in with both feet. Join WOHVA, rejoin your local 4x4 club, join Blue Ribbon Coalition, join United Four Wheel Drive, join SEMA, join AMA, NOHVCC join everything you can afford to and be a part of the groups that put on the events that keep our sport moving.

Once you have signed up, live the life. Go out and volunteer. Work on the trails, take tickets, sell raffle tickets, park cars, feed bikers and spread the message. We aren't hard core, we aren't elite, we actually aren't any different than bike clubs, fishing clubs, hot rod clubs or girl scouts. Nothing we talk about matters until we join and show up. Show up and be a part of every event you can. Tell people why you and your friends and or family go out and enjoy nature in your vehicles. You get what you put in. WOHVA doesn't pay you a dime but it has millions to offer in laughs, good times, great friends and memories and experiences not available outside this group.

Be responsible. Every action you take, every impression gathered by those that see you, every post you make on social media- it is all out for the world to see. Don't live in fear, live with the assurance that you are putting out a positive image for the form of recreation you love.

Have fun. Nothing attracts the general public more than a group of people having an absolute awesome time together. The positive energy created by our trail workers and guides the last couple years has sucked in many new active members for life. Only we can improve this or stop this.

It has been my pleasure to be your CEO for another year and I hope to do so again for the 2015-2016 year. I'm just one cog in the gear that keeps this association rolling down the trail. Thank you all.

See you in the woods,

Dan Bergin

MISSION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Off-Highway Vehicle Association exists for the sole purpose of proactively assuring that public and private off-highway vehicular recreational opportunities are expanded in Wisconsin for safe use by this and future generations.



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11th Annual Wisconsin OHV Enthusiast Workshop

WOHVA's Annual Wisconsin OHV Enthusiasts Workshop has become the premier information venue for Badger State motorized recreation trail advocates. WOHVA continues to stress personal and environmental safety through hands-on education and training again this year.

Come join us as we celebrate our 11th year!

Friday April 10, 2015

- Back by popular demand is our FISTA Chain Saw Training Seminar. This is an all day event with real hands on experience. FISTA provides safety training and education to workers in forestry-related industries to:
 - Decrease the number and severity of logging related accidents
 - Improve productivity and professionalism
 - Promote awareness and practice of environmentally sound principles
 - 10th Annual Volunteer Dinner free for pre-registered 2014 WOHVA Volunteers.
 - 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Saturday April 11, 2015

Whether you're looking for detailed information regarding current WOHVA Events, the Wisconsin Off-Road Vehicle Park Project, information regarding WOHVA (the corporation), have lunch with local land managers and your elected officials, spend the night on the gaming floors, just want to attend a fantastic banquet with your fellow environmentally responsible trail enthusiasts, or just want to lounge around the pool and dream about the upcoming warm summer weather, WOHVA has arranged the perfect venue for you. There is simply something for everyone during this day-long event. Come and be a part of:

- WOHVA's Annual Membership Meeting
- Understanding the use and function of Spill Kits
- WOHVA's Annual Luncheon with Land Managers and Legislators
- Update on changes to the forest on the Mole Lake Reservation
- DNR / EPA / OSHA Compliance at the Off Road Vehicle Park
- 11th Annual WOHVA Membership Banquet (Pre-Registration Required)

Additional information including registration materials and the detailed weekend itinerary can be found on the WOHVA web site at <http://www.WOHVA.com>



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Location: Royal St. Patrick's Golf Links Crosswinds Sports Pub and Grille. Wrightstown, WI

The WOHVA Spring Trails Meeting was held once again at the Royal St. Patrick's Golf Links Crosswinds Sports Pub and Grille in Wrightstown, WI. It was a sunny morning with temperatures expected to travel up into the 50's for the better part of the coming week. Even though there was some snow on the golf course, we all knew that this would be short lived and that spring was right around the corner.

The meeting started at about 10:00 am with approximately 31 people attending. Many participants brought a dish to pass, snack or beverages to share when we broke for lunch. John Lewins (C.O.O.) provided the welcome statement and each participant shared their name and what their participation in WOHVA has been over the past year. We enjoyed seeing some new faces at the meeting as well as long term members of the off highway organization.

John continued to speak about some of the changes to trails on the Mole Lake Reservation. For this coming year, it had been decided to drop the Black Trail designation. There are plans to develop two new Orange trails to mitigate the change.

John continued by reviewing the upcoming year's work days and shared some information on the WOHVA Spill Kits. A couple of other things that were stressed during the Spring Trails Meeting were improving communication and trail safety. With regard to communication, John stressed the need to share our ideas with him and to use the website Forum to get those notices out to people so that they knew what was happening. On the Trail Safety side, John discussed the upcoming Chain Saw class during the Annual Meeting and Winching demonstration at Greg Voss's on April 25th.

Schedule is always a significant factor in planning events by the team. John Lewins reviewed each of the events on the upcoming WOHVA schedule for this summer. Our first scheduled Trail Day is June 6th. Other significant dates that were reviewed were: July 11 - JJ USA Trail Guide run through; July 15-17 - Northwoods/Mole Lake JJ USA; August 14-16 - Great Northern Trail Ride; Labor Day weekend - Final Work Day and trail Clean up.

Cont. on Pg. 4





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Cont. from Pg. 3

Next up was Joel Kasper with a presentation on the "4 Wheel to Heal" project. 4 Wheel to heal is a trail riding opportunity for wounded, disabled, or recovering vets through their national organization. This program would give WOHVA a chance to "give back" to the community. "We are targeting the last weekend in July" stated Joel Kasper. "We are hoping to get as many volunteers and sponsors needed for the event so as to not overburden the group". Joel stated that "the volume of vets is unknown at this point; we are still exploring this opportunity". This would be a one day trail ride with arrival on Friday evening, trail riding on Saturday and perhaps a shared meal on Saturday night. Our objective would be - Interaction with wounded Vets just 4 fun. Joel stated that he was open to suggestions for planning the day.

A reminder was shared that the Annual WOHVA Conference was coming up fast. The meeting will be held the weekend of April 10-11 at the Mole Lake Hotel and Convention Center.

As already noted earlier JJ USA is rapidly approaching as well. John Lewins noted that it is a long process to open up new areas for wheeling such as the Rice Lake area. With 105 Jeeps in attendance last year, the question was raised regarding the maximum number of attendees.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Stephens
WOHVA Chief Communications Officer

John stated that the maximum attendee number was established at 125 vehicles. He will also try to keep it to 10 Jeeps per group to allow for a more enjoyable experience for the participants. We also discussed the use of two way radios between trail guides to improve coordination on the trail. All ideas were received very well.

Dan Bergin (C.E.O.) discussed a new opportunity to get our message out to other motor enthusiasts. Dan discussed the N.E.W. MotorRama that was being held at Shopko Hall in Green Bay next weekend. This was an opportunity to display some of our vehicles and meet/greet the public.

Dan continued with a few brief updates on the new sponsors on board for WOHVA, Wisconsin Off Road Vehicle Park Inc and the off road Sticker Program introduced to the State Legislature last session. Dan also reminded everyone of the Annual WOHVA Golf Outing to be held at Royal St. Patricks Golf Links on October 3, 2015. He assured everyone that the weather would be better this year than last year. That raised a great laugh because it couldn't get much worse. With that, the meeting ended and the food was shared. All were invited to share the lunch, beverage and snacks that were provided by attendees.



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State News

WORVPI's 2nd Direct Mailing

Monday, 19 January 2015 21:05 | Last Updated on Monday, 19 January 2015 21:10 |

Earlier this week, WORVPI's second Direct Mailing (see below) was delivered to every home and business in Forest County. This is the second in a series of informational outreach pieces to Forest County residents.

Our goal is to address the misleading and often completely untrue statements being made about our Park Project. Often, individuals and media reports have made very negative statements about our Project. They have regularly fabricated outlandish, fictitious and untrue statements which they then promote as facts. Through our Direct Mail Campaign, WORVPI is aiming to provide accurate information to the deserving residents and struggling business owners of Northern Wisconsin.

On the bottom of our Direct Mailers we include a list of "Proud Partners." WORVPI continues to work on expanding our list of groups and organizations with which we have signed a MOU/Partnership Agreement. We're actively seeking additional Partnerships with motorized advocacy groups within Wisconsin (as well as nationally). If your club or organization is interested in becoming a WORVPI Partner please have a representative contact WORVPI at president@WORVPI.org

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Editors note: The following information is from the WI DNR website. For more information and current updates, please visit their website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/lands/masterplanning/SaukPrairie/>

Property Master Plans Sauk Prairie Recreation Area

The Sauk Prairie Recreation Area, located in southeastern Sauk County, consists of a portion of the decommissioned Badger Army Ammunition Plant (BAAP). The property has a natural and human history that is significant on many scales. The former BAAP is, or will be, primarily owned by three parties: DNR (3,400 acres), Ho-Chunk Nation (1,600 acres) and Dairy Forage Research Center (2,100 acres), approximate acreages. Our master planning process focuses on the DNR



The Wisconsin Army National Guard will conduct a site survey on the grounds of the Sauk Prairie Recreation Area on **March 28**.

The Department of Natural Resources and the soldiers of the 105th Cavalry are teaming up for an exercise that will support the unit's duty readiness. The Cavalry will perform a final, thorough inspection of the grounds, roads and fencing prior to opening the state-owned portion of the property to the public for full time use later this year.

Updates

March 17, 2015 [Parcel R Final Case Closure \[PDF\]](#)

Jan. 8, 2015 [Parcel V1 Final Case Closure \[PDF\]](#)

Dec. 18, 2014 [November's round of groundwater monitoring results \[PDF\]](#)

Dec. 16, 2014 Ho-Chunk to receive acreage, Finding of Suitability to Transfer underway

Dec. 4, 2014 [Residential Groundwater Test Results](#)

[Residential Groundwater Test Results Summary](#) - October 2014 Sampling Event





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The National Front

The Minnesota 4 Wheel Drive Association (MN4WDA) are in the early stages of developing a Border to Border Trail from East Grande Forks to Grand Marais Minnesota. This proposed 350-500 mile Off Road Vehicle (ORV) trail will be the first and only trail of its kind for ORVs (Jeeps) in Minnesota and the Midwest. Hopefully once established it will build the basis for a greater network of trail riding opportunities for our users, as well as a national attraction for the region.

The first step in this process, is gaining the addition of year round OHV use to the Taconite State Trail which is an already existing 145 mile long Snowmobile, Mountain Bike, Hiking, and Horse back riding trail in Northeastern Minnesota.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is in the process of reviewing the master plan for the Taconite State Trail in northeastern Minnesota... Currently the Minnesota DNR is in the process of looking for Public comment through a questionnaire for the Taconite Trail Master Plan.

DNR planners are seeking input from citizens and stakeholders, that will be used to help develop the master plan. We have been in touch with key DNR staff on the project and the best way to provide input at this stage is to submit questionnaires provided by the DNR to the department. The MN4WDA and our users need the help of the UFWDA to attract national attention and comments for this process.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/mgmtplans/trails/taconite.html>

The Taconite linkage through Bear Head and McCarthy Beach state parks are critical and controversial connectors through the Chippewa and Superior National Forests. This connection is key to the Border to Border Trail that we are proposing. Our Action Alert can be found here;

<http://mn4wda.com/content/194-Land-Use-Action-Alert-Taconite-Trail-Master-Planning>

One Million Dollars of New Mexico Sticker Funds Now at Risk

March 17th the Senate Finance Committee, and then the full NM Senate, passed an amended version of the 2015 State Budget. The \$500,000 raid on the sticker fund (to prop up State Parks budget) was still in the bill. The Senate also added \$500,000 to help fund a forest restoration initiative (this new state program is described by HB38)

The OHV sticker fund (aka the trail safety fund) has only one source of money - the registration fees we pay when we register our dirt bikes and ATVs. The fund was established by the 2005 OHV Act and is supposed to be "dedicated funding". This means that since the money only comes from special user fees, the money is only to be spent only on items described in the Act.





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Mole Lake Northwoods Jeep Jamboree USA

July 2015



Great Northern Trail Ride

Aug 2015





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Wisconsin Off-Road Vehicle Park Individual Annual Membership Application Form

Please complete application, attach payment for \$10 (payable to WORVPI) and mail to: WORVPI, 116 South Lake Avenue, Crandon, WI 54520

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

www.WORVPI.org

Wisconsin Off-Road Vehicle Park Association/Club Annual Membership Application Form

Please complete application, attach payment for \$100 (payable to WORVPI) and mail to: WORVPI, 116 South Lake Avenue, Crandon, WI 54520

Club/Association Name _____ Name of Contact Person (also voting representative) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

www.WORVPI.org

