

# **MIDWEST TRAIL RIDERS ASSOCIATION**

## **NEWSLETTER #56, APRIL 15, 2005**

**www.ridemtra.com**

[ridemtra@hotmail.com](mailto:ridemtra@hotmail.com) **314-434-5095 (Event Hot-Line)**

**Attention all MTRA Members!** The US Forest Service has released their new Draft Forest Plan. You can check it out (all 600+ pages) at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/marktwain>. We have reviewed the document and have prepared the attached sample letter for you, or you can reword the letter to your liking or read the document and express your own thoughts. This new Forest Plan will be used to manage the Missouri's Mark Twain National Forest for the next 10 to 15 years. The last revision of this document in 1986 resulted in significant changes and reduced riding opportunities for motorized trail users. It is important to express your views. Do not hesitate to make an additional 3 copies of your letter and send them to your US Senators and Representatives shown on the letter. They also need to hear from you! Your letters/comments must be postmarked by 5 May 2005 to be counted! The letter can also be downloaded from our Web page at [www.ridemtra.com](http://www.ridemtra.com)

**VTRA Status:** On March 19 several MTRA volunteers assembled a 20x40-foot shelter near the VTRA parking area. Thanks to all the volunteers, the shelter looks great! See the upcoming event schedule for the next "open ride" weekends at VTRA. VTRA is really starting to shape up! We are still looking for a couple of members to help with the gate keeper duties. If you are interested, please call the MTRA Hotline at 314-434-5095 and leave your name and number.

**New MTRA Board Member!** Yes, Denny Arnett is the new MTRA President. Thanks to Denny for "stepping up"

**Special Thanks to Alan Gibson** for serving as the MTRA President and Treasurer for the past 8+ years! Alan has also again accepted the MTRA Chairmanship for the 2005 Country Fair Races. Thanks again to Alan for his years of dedicated work and continued 2005 support!

**Help!** We are looking for a new full time Web Master! Anyone interested? Just a couple of hours per month. If you might be interested, please contact us! We really need to make the most of the web site! We will even train you!

### **Upcoming events:**

**April 16/17 VTRA Ride Weekend.** . \$5 per truck load per day to ride. Everyone must be a current MTRA member. Anyone can join the MTRA at the gate. Directions to VTRA can be found at our web page: [www.ridemtra.com](http://www.ridemtra.com)

**April 23/24 MTRA/USFS Earth Day.** We will have our annual Earth Day event at Sutton's Bluff Campgrounds on Saturday April 23. We start our volunteer efforts at 9:00 AM and will provide a late lunch and attendance prizes around 4 PM. Free camping for all volunteers, campfire Saturday night, and trail riding on Sunday.

**May 21/22 VTRA Ride Weekend**

**June 4/5 MTRA National Dual Sport.** The event is sold out, but we are looking for another chase truck driver. So if you can help with the event, please contact us (314-434-9056)

## OTHER 2005 EVENTS:

June 18/19 VTRA Ride Weekend  
Aug 6/7 MX Washington Town and Country Fair  
Sept 10/11 VTRA Ride Weekend  
Oct 2 Viburnum Woods Poker Run  
Oct 29/30 Halloween Campout Trail Ride

July 16/17 VTRA Ride Weekend  
August 20/21 VTRA Ride Weekend  
Sept 18 Missouri Hare Scrambles at VTRA  
Oct 15/16 VTRA Ride Weekend

## 2005 MTRA SUPPORTING DEALERS/BUSINESSES *(Please support those who support the MTRA efforts)*

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RENTHAL, REKLUSE MOTOR SPORTS, SCOTT USA, EXCEL, RK CHAIN, AXO SPORT AMERICA



This is the new shelter at the VTRA site. We will be getting electric and a BBQ grill installed in the next couple of weeks. The VTRA site is really looking good!

