



PANHANDLE RIDERS ASSOCIATION INC.

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MISSION STATEMENT & CALL to SERVE

Although posted on our PRA website, it's important to periodically remind ourselves why we are members of this organization and just what it means...the responsibilities and benefits. As we are on the path to reelect new officers this month at our General Meeting on Wednesday, September 7th, it behooves us to remind our members that we need your participation and willingness to serve. Please consider volunteering your time...truly it's not much time, and self-nominate for one of the positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Some Director positions are also open on the Board. Most positions are for a duration of two years. Please come; find out more about the club and consider raising your hand to help. It's a great way to make friends and truly find out more about this organization AND our State and Federal Forest system as it relates to OHVing.

Following is our Mission Statement.

The Panhandle Riders Association, Inc. is a volunteer and membership driven organization of Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) enthusiasts committed to:

- Growth and development of all types and forms of recreational OHV activities.
- Sponsored OHV events, safety forums and training.
- Equal freedom for responsible OHV recreation activities on public and private lands, including but not limited to Idaho Panhandle National Forests lands and State of Idaho managed lands.
- Creating and encouraging outdoor recreational OHV events that are fun and safe for the entire family.

- Enhance, develop and promote recreational OHV activities for the benefit of participants, spectators, organizers and industry participants.
- Ensure stability, growth and social and political acceptance of OHV activities.
- Work with local, regional, state and federal government agencies and private land owners to better implement, maintain and develop standards for responsible recreational OHV activities and opportunities on public and private lands.

All of the above requires a certain amount of commitment on the part of our members to step forward and offer whatever time they can to help make our organization successful in achieving these goals. Please come to the September meeting and step-up to that challenge. It's both fun and fulfilling.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER
BY
BRIAN DUNHAM

In lieu of the normal President's Letter, here's a diary of a great bike trip taken by Brian in early August. I think you'll find it interesting and amusing.

I just got back from a 5-day camping and bike trip up the St. Joe River. I started the trip in Wallace, with a couple of friends on ATVs, me on the DR650. We headed down Moon Pass Road to Avery, where we topped off the tanks and headed south. We went down Fishhook Creek to the 201 Road, working our way east to Dismal Lake. We took a break for lunch and a chance to enjoy the view. Dismal Lake? I didn't see anything dismal about it!

We continued on down the 201 towards the headwaters of the St. Joe, finally dropping down to Beaver Creek campground, where we spent the first night. I was reminded of one advantage of a quad over a bike when the guys broke out the chain saw, dropped a dead tree and skidded it to camp for the evening campfire. Now, just how do I do that with the DR?? We spent the evening telling lies around the fire...like campfires everywhere.

Day 2 we started by leaving the gear in camp, and riding down to Heller Creek, with a side trip to Simmons Ridge. Some beautiful country in that area! The roads were clear of snow...but barely. There were several drifts along the sides. We headed back to camp, broke camp and loaded up the rides. The plan was to head to Moore Lake, near the Montana border. The first two of us headed out, with the 3rd rider right behind. Then...we waited. And waited some more. Finally we turned back to look for rider number 3. He was towing a trailer with his quad...when the two screws that attach the trailer hitch to the frame broke. Some work to right the trailer and a swap of the trailer to the other quad gets us mobile. Only thing is the backup quad is a smaller machine and not able to pull the load indefinitely. We head to St. Regis to look for a shop to make repairs. We found a place...but they can't do so 'til the next morning.

We head out of town, find a campsite and set up. We then collect wood, make dinner, followed by more lies around the campfire.

Day three we head back into town, and get the machine fixed. It took considerable persistence to drill out the broken screws, but the job was done about 11:00. We split up at this point. My two friends head down towards "The Cedars" towards the Clearwater. I have an agreement to meet some other people down near Marble Creek that evening. So, with some time to kill, I take off for Moore Lake, which we didn't make the day before. Turns out...you just can't trust forest service maps. The route I planned to take off the St. Joe River Road turned out to be impassable. It looks like the road hasn't been used in years, lots of brush and deadfall. Continue to the St. Line Road (391) and head south...all of about ½ mile before running into a 6 foot snow drift. Come on, it's almost August. Bummer! I pull out the map, and find a road over towards Diamond Lake. Its road 1222, and turns out to be a very nice ride, up high with some great views. I also saw the biggest black bear I've ever seen on that ride. 28 miles of dirt later, and several checks of the map, and I arrive at Diamond Lake. It was worth the trip, the view is spectacular. Tall towering mountains on 3 sides right down to the lake. Simply breathtaking!

You might be wondering where the pictures are. Well, there's another story. A few weeks ago I went down to the Marble Creek area to scout out a ride for the ATV club. It was rainy and cold...some 75 miles or so later I'm back on the old railroad grade on the north side of the river, headed for Calder. There are a number of old bridges, where the tracks were removed. The bridge surface is 5 inches or so below the road surface. To level things up, the county has laid planks, about 5 inches thick and anywhere from 16-24 inches wide, depending on the bridge. This one was one of the narrower ones. Tired and wet, I go on to the bridge, probably the 10th one I'd been over that day. Not sure what happens, either I get too close to the edge of the planks or the tire slips on the wet wood, but I remember thinking I'm going down, right as I'm about to exit the bridge. Next thing I know, I'm crawling out of the river. Mind you, this was when the river was still at flood stage. To make a long story short, my camera, which was in my jacket pocket, didn't appreciate the swim. Hence, no pictures...but an appreciation for ATGATT (i.e. All The Gear All The Time (motorcycling slang)).

OK, back to our story. Spin around and head back up the 1222 towards the St. Joe River. Back on pavement, I settle down to enjoy the scenery along the river. Spectacular country! I stop at a small campsite to eat, wash up a bit in the river and just kick back. Gorgeous spot, and I am very tempted to spend the night. But I have an appointment to keep with some other people. Back on the bike, with a run to Avery, where I stop for ice cream and replenish the cooler with ice and food. Onward to Huckleberry campground, where I'm to meet the others. I take several laps around the campground and don't see my friends. I finally give up and head across the river to Big Creek campground, where I stake out the last spot. I get camp set up, fire up the Jet Boil and cook up a steak and some Rice-A-Roni. Not bad for a solo dinner. Cold camp that night; no campfire.

Day 4, I'm up early and head down to Calder for a MASSIVE breakfast of scrambled eggs, German sausage and hash browns. Prepared for the day, I head back towards Marble Creek, looking for my friends along the way. Not finding them, I head to Lines Creek historic site. There is a 3-mile hiking trail, with some old trestles and logging equipment, with a nice guidebook to explain the sites. I've wanted to do this trip for several years. After my hike, while I'm loading some gear back on the bike and getting ready to take off, a couple of quads go by, and then loop back. Turns out it's the friends I'd been looking for. The campground we planned on meeting at was full; they needed to go elsewhere. What are the odds of catching up like that? Five minutes earlier and I would still be on the hike, 5 later, on the bike and gone.

I take off and find some nice ATV trails that give me a chance to hone my sorely lacking riding skills. Some loose rock, ruts and hairpins do the trick. I head back down Marble Creek road, and turn onto the 216 road, with plans to head to Fishhook and back to Avery for fuel. Well, after about 20 miles, I run into another 6-foot pile of global warming. @\$%###\$. I turn around and head back to Calder, where I get a prime rib dinner at the Calder Store. This sucker's massive, but I'm not one to waste anything. Get back to camp around 9:00, settle down with a book and a very full belly, which doesn't lead to a great night's sleep.

Sunday I break camp and head towards home. I decide to take Rochart Pass road back over the mountains to Cataldo. I had taken it years ago, and wanted to try it on the bike. The whole road is fantastic for a dual sport. The bottom 10 miles or so are tight, rutted and switch-backed, offering some challenge, but nothing threatening. At the top there is a beautiful view, with a camping/picnic area at Sheep Springs. The high country and scenery continue for a few miles. The northern few miles are a great paved section, narrow with plenty of twisties and views.

Back home and resting after a nice hot shower now. I need to go unpack the gear, and clean the bike. Can't wait for the next trip!

FREE ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE TO PRA MEMBERS

All Panhandle Riders Association members will be getting a FREE, \$2500 accidental death and dismemberment insurance policy. This is done without releasing the members' names or contact info to the insurance company. You will be receiving a mailing (from the club) with contact information should you elect additional insurance.

2011 LEGISLATION REMINDER FOR UNLICENSED OPERATORS OF OHV'S IN IDAHO... THAT MEANS YOUR KIDS

During the 2011 legislative session, the Idaho Recreation Council worked with legislators to pass SB 1001. The passing of this bill brought a couple of key changes to Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) education requirements to Idaho.

All unlicensed riders who wish to operate an OHV on National Forest roads are required to take an OHV safety course beginning July 1, 2011.

All riders age 15 and under who wish to operate an OHV on roads **MUST BE supervised.**

Visit www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov to review FAQ's for additional information.

- Q. Do I have to take a class to ride my OHV on Trails.
- A. No, this requirement is for **US Forest Service roads only.**
- Q. What course does an unlicensed operator need to take?
- A1. Complete a free IDPR Responsible Rider OHV course for ATVs, Motorbikes or UTVs. Class schedules are listed online at: <http://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/recreation/ohveducation.aspx>
A certificate will be issued at the completion of the course.
- A2. Pay a fee and complete a course offered by the ATV Safety Institute or Motorcycle Safety Foundation. A certificate will be issued at the Completion of the course.
- A3. Pay a fee of \$29.95 and complete the online training at www.atvcourse.com/usa/idaho and bring your completion receipt to participate in a 10-15 minute skills assessment. A skill's test can be setup by contacting the IDPR OHV Education Program (ohveducation@idpt.idaho.gov).

**SAFETY LETTER
BY
LLOYD POTTER**

When We Ride - - Remember It's Safety, Safety, Safety



It is hunting season again. Don't forget your hunter orange. It is a good idea to have a hunter orange vest for everyone to wear over your coat for this time of the year. Vests are cheap, and are great insurance. Many moose hunts are in September and bear is mid September. So always start the first of September with your hunter orange.

Ride Safe,

Lloyd E. Potter

SOME RECENT FUN TIMES

Unfortunately, a number of club rides were cancelled in August due to lack of rider interest, but for those of you who passed up on the opportunity to take the Night Ride on August 6th you really missed out on a great time. It was part of the combined Night Ride/BBQ-Campout at Hudlow Meadows hosted by our friends, Back Country ATV. BCA and their families had been camping in the meadows since August 4th, and invited everyone who took part in the Night Ride to join them for a BBQ...which we did. The ride started at 4PM out of the Bunco Parking Lot. Just before 7 PM, we had joined the campers for a great BBQ and social. Following dinner, around 8 PM, there was another night ride...this one in true darkness. Anyone not camping was guided back to the Bunco Parking lot. All in all and despite the dust, it was quite an event and in some cases and adventure. We should have more of these kinds of fun events folks.







SUGGESTED RIDING LEVEL SKILL GUIDE

The legend below provides you the information about that particular trails characteristic. This should be of some help in determining if the ride is appropriate for you.

EASY – Beginner riding skills (i.e. mostly flat trails, no side hills, stay on designated trails)

INTERMEDIATE - Experienced riding skills RECOMMENDED. (I.E. Roads/Trails, possibly some steep slopes, side hills, or loose rocks.)

COMBINATION - Combination of difficulties, various terrains (i.e. Intermediate to Difficult abilities.)

DIFFICULT - Experienced riding skills REQUIRED. (i.e. Trails require 4WD, obstacle navigation, rocky, side hills, and slower travel)

SEPTEMBER 2011 RIDES SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 10th, SATURDAY: DISMAL LAKE RIDE (INTERMEDIATE) 8:00 AM

Ride to a small lake south of Avery. All roads. Beginner and UTV okay, just remember 145 miles is a long day. *Bring lunch and extra gas unless you can make it 115 miles to gas at Avery.*

SEPTEMBER 18th, SUNDAY: CLARK FORK TO SPION KOP (EASY) 8:00 AM

Park at the Clark Fork High School parking lot. *This is an EASY ride, but will be about 100 miles long. Bring lunch, and gas if necessary.* There are some impressive views.

SEPTEMBER 24th, SATURDAY: EARLS RIDE (INTERMEDIATE) 9:00 AM

Earls Ride leaves from the Wallace parking lot at 9:00 AM. Guaranteed to be a great ride. There will be lunch available in Murray or bring own.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Just a reminder, if you have not already mailed in your Club Membership renewal dues for 2011, please do so. Dues are not prorated; membership is from **January** through **December**.

New members who join during the last quarter of any year (October through December) are the only exceptions. Their renewal is not due until one year from the first day of January following their joining.

Please mail your dues renewal to the above address with the *Application Form* found

on the PRA website. **Please complete this Application Form in order to confirm current contact information on file. (i.e. address, email and phone.)**

A big thank you to all those that have already paid their dues; your support is greatly appreciated.

Original and renewal dues are as follows:

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR ALL MEMBERS IS DUE IN JANUARY (with the exception as noted above for *new* members) and is:

Individual Member	\$15.00
Family Membership	\$20.00
Business Sponsor	\$25.00

GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

Our meetings are held on the **first Wednesday of every month, at the Elks Lodge, bar area, 30196 Highway 200, Ponderay.** We meet for dinner starting at 6:00 PM, with the general meeting starting at 7:00. It's a great chance to meet, swap some stories and renew acquaintances. New members are encouraged to show up and meet the riders.

We hope to see you there!

Go to for more information & directions:

<http://www.panhandleriders.com/PRA%20Meetings.html>

WANTED CLASSIFIED SECTION

Until such time as the Classified Section is moved to the PRA Website, it will continue to be published in the Newsletter.

FOR SALE

- 1. 1987 HONDA ATV:** Mint condition. New tires-puncture proof, new seat, new muffler and plow mounts. Price: \$2,000. Call Colleen or Bob at 263-6519.
- 2. DUST MASKS:** I have many colors and designs of dust masks. They are adjustable to fit and work great in the cold, pollen and dust and washable. Only twelve dollars (\$12.00); call Bert at 683-0526.
- 3. CLUB SHIRTS:** We have club shirts for your enjoyment for sale. You can see the shirts and purchase them at our monthly meetings or call Lloyd Potter at (208) 255-6323 or 263-5792 to order.