We are very excited to officially invite you to our 20th annual meeting! We are proud to celebrate our 20th anniversary with you all by holding the meeting on the trails once again. We feel it is more than appropriate to go back to our roots and hold the meeting on the West Rutland ATV Sportsman’s Club, (WRASC) which is one of VASA’s founding clubs. From humble beginnings, VASA was formed in 1998 and at that time, we had very little trail, no liability insurance, no trail maps, staff or real understanding of what we were getting into. Here we are twenty years later, and we have come so far! We have over 800 miles of legal trail, 17 local clubs throughout the state, a comprehensive map, website and outreach program, a state approved safety course, a headquarters and office and our own trail maintenance program complete with equipment. 2017 was a record breaking year for us and we are hoping 2018 will be even better! Please join us on June 9, 2018 from 9:00 am to noon for the 20th Annual Meeting, and stay for a free lunch. The WRASC will be hosting us directly on their trail head and providing a pig roast lunch. Come celebrate our accomplishments of the past year and find out what our plans are for 2018 and beyond. At the meeting you will have a chance to meet and greet VASA staff, volunteers and other club members, hear staff reports from each department and get a first hand report from our lobbyist about what exactly happened at the state house this year. You will also get to help us celebrate our 2018 members of the year. After business is concluded, lunch will be served and then we can hit the trails! We could never have made it 20 years without our amazing members and volunteers so come help us celebrate! We can’t wait to see you.
From the Desk of the President

From the desk of the President:

What a welcome site spring finally is. I hope everyone has wintered well and is ready for a great 2018 riding season. We have been busy this winter trying to move VASA forward and are slowly gaining each and every day. I am hoping each and every member has a chance this summer to volunteer for your club. We cannot survive as an organization without the help we receive from each of you. Many hands make light work! I would ask that any club or member that can help with Green Up Day does so. It is always a benefit to all. I hope to see a great group of members at our 20th Annual Meeting (2nd Outdoor Meeting) being held and hosted by The West Rutland ATV Sportsman’s Club. I would also like to thank the dedicated employees we have that make all of this possible. Danny, Dani, Emily and David: THANK YOU for everything you do to make VASA an enjoyment for all involved. We as an organization are very fortunate to have four people as committed and dedicated as you are to our members.

Please this season, lets:
- Ride Safe
- Respect Landowners
- Take out what you bring in.
- Volunteer
- Be responsible
- Enjoy yourself

Don’t forget, memberships are available online now!

Changes for 2018

We would like to take a moment to inform you of changes that will be occurring this season. First, online memberships are now available for purchase. You can use your valid registration to purchase your VASA and local club membership and Trail Access Decal right from our website. The process is safe and secure and your decal and map are mailed directly to your home. This is our attempt to make membership easily obtainable for all riders, local or visitors.

Next, we would like to notify everyone that law enforcement will be stepping up their efforts this year. You are likely to see more law enforcement on the trails, and may come across a safety check point. Safety check points will be randomly occurring throughout the state. They will be checking for proper documentation and safety equipment.

VASA currently receives 85% of any ATV violations paid to the State of Vermont. This number will increase to 90% this season and the extra money is designated strictly for law enforcement.

We plan on conducting lots of trail work this year— you may encounter equipment on the trails. Please be cautious and respectful of our trail crew. They are there to make your riding experience better!

Last but not least, we will again be holding our Annual Meeting on a trail system. For many years we have held the annual meeting somewhere in Central Vermont, but this year, because it is our 20th Anniversary, we are having the meeting directly on the trails, at our founding club, West Rutland ATV Sportsman’s Club. We are very eager to see everyone, have a meeting, some great food and then head out for a ride! Rain or shine, the meeting is on June 9.

Keep an eye out for an update on Mt Washington, as tickets will go on sale soon. Save the date for July 29, 2018.

Ride safe, ride smart and have fun!

Don’t forget to thank a landowner and a volunteer for all that they do!

Ride Safe
Respect Landowners
Take out what you bring in.
Volunteer
Be responsible
Enjoy yourself

Don’t forget, memberships are available online now!
The Rats are off and running into spring. We had our first club meeting of the year and we have much work ahead of us. With the loss of our founder and president Dennis we have huge shoes to fill and know now what an important part of our club he was. His knowledge and 100% commitment will be hard to replace, but it is time to nominate and elect officers and he would want us to continue and be successful.

Our official trail opening is May 15, weather permitting our work days will be May 5, 6, 2018. Remember a work day you get $10.00 off your membership...Please also remember Plymouth gates are not open till June 1st, 2018.

We hope to have a good representation June 9th 2018 in Rutland at our annual meeting. Thank you west Rutland ATV sportsmen club, VASA"s first club ever for hosting this historic 20th annual meeting.

In years past we have had a float in the July 4th parade in Reading as this is our annual contribution to our town and its members. A much enjoyed event by our community and our leaders, and much help is needed to complete this project.

We hope to plan a few more work days on the trails and also many club rides so watch our facebook page and send your email if you want to be informed that way, or come our meeting the second Wednesday of the month 7 pm Reading fire department.

Our club has hosted much needed safety class for kids this year in Windsor April 21, and would like to schedule another one if this class is successful. Thank you to all who make this possible, Ride Safe, be respectable and responsible the future of our sport depends on it.

Safety Update

Did you know that VASA has certified over 50 students this year? We’ve held successful safety courses in Northern and Southern Vermont, and are looking to schedule for Central Vermont. The VEST program is a free classroom course for youth aged 12-17 and covers the state’s requirement for a safety course. Remember, it is the law that all riders under the age of 18 have a state approved safety card! Email dluce@vtvasa.org for more information!
Hello VASA friends and members,

Since 2006, the SVTR has been operating our trail system mostly on one landowner’s property in Townshend Vermont. Late last year, that property changed hands. Last week, we met with the new landowner to arrange permission and discuss details only to find out that due to insurance reasons, we will not be allowed access to the property going forward. The SVTR and VASA are working hard to find a solution and we still hold out hope that we will once again be able to use that property. For the time being, we are looking for other opportunities in the area and already have one meeting scheduled to discuss access to a different property. With any luck, the SVTR will have trails opened up and be off to a new start before we get too far into this riding season. Keep an eye on SVTR and VASA’s websites, as any news on this will appear there first.

The Townshend trails were some of our favorites and they will be sorely missed. The SVTR would like to extend our sincere thanks to the previous landowner and the Town of Townshend for allowing us the access we have enjoyed over the last 12 years. And, to all of the SVTR’s dedicated members- Rest assured, while the SVTR may no longer be in Townshend, we are not going away!

The SVTR will be hosting the Mt Washington ride at the end of July 2018. Like last year, this year’s ride will be a sunset ride. The mountain will close to regular vehicle traffic and after the majority of the cars have made it off the mountain, the Auto Road staff will lead us up. Let’s hope for good conditions and another excellent sunset this year as this may be the last VASA sponsored trip up the mountain. Once the sun sets, the Auto Road staff will follow us back down to the parking lot making sure no one is left behind. Please be aware that the facilities atop the mountain will not be open when we reach the top so plan accordingly. When is the last time you looked DOWN at a sunset?

As you may be aware, VASA hit a milestone with memberships last year with a little over 3000 members. While it was nice to break that barrier, it still isn’t enough. We need to significantly grow the membership numbers if we want to continue to move our sport forward. A fairly small percentage of registered ATV’s in VT are also VASA members. The remainder of those registered machines are not contributing to VASA or the progression of our sport. Without any changes in legislation to move those registered ATV’s into the VASA system, it falls to us, the VASA members, to help guide those non-members into the VASA system and grow the membership as much as we can. If you know people with VT registered ATV’s that are not VASA members, try to convey the benefits of supporting VASA, riding legally and growing our sport. The larger the membership, the bigger our voice and the more power we have to move forward.

-Bill Ortlieb
President & Webmaster, SVTR
Hello VASA from CATT. 2018 is shaping up to be an exciting year for all clubs. We will be working hard this year to expand our trail system, the hope is to move north and eventually make our way to the BLRR system. That plan is big, and honestly, it’s going to take a couple years of hard work, but it’s our long term goal and with our great members it’s going to happen. Trails should open May 15th, weather permitting, and we will have a new map with numbered intersections for easy navigation. Our system isn’t the biggest in the network, however we do have a fantastic Pizza place, store, creemee stand/snack bar, and an awesome Atv dealership ON our trails. Absolutely perfect for those short cruises after work on a Wednesday night. So please, come visit and enjoy what we have to offer!

Don’t forget to find us on Facebook!

Tri-Village Wheelers

Hi Everyone,

Well it looks like the beginning of another great year. Our club is ready to go out there and really kick it up a notch. We had a real good second year, our membership doubled from the year before and we are aiming higher this year. We have had some good results working together with our local Snowmobile club and hopefully we are beginning to strengthen the relationship that has been almost nonexistent for a very long time. There are many wonderful trails in our area that would only make riding more enjoyable and the cost of maintaining could be shared. Unfortunately, we have a lot of fences to mend with landowners, that don’t even want to talk about anything with wheels on their property and many instances I can’t say that I blame them. We will continue our efforts to change that and to maybe coexist and make it work for everyone. The Tri-Village Wheelers and the Washington Club are working together, to make a trail happen between Vt. Route 25, Gramps Store and Sion Hill Road. This would not only give rides another place for good food, snacks and gas, but it will also get riders safely off Vt. Route 25 and into the trails. Hopefully, all will go well with landowners, but if we can’t go one way, we are determined to find another. There is also another trail in the works, it is something that will benefit all and will also make us a legal fun trail to an equally fun destination. I think we will leave it till the newsletter, when we have more definite information to share. We wouldn’t want to jinx it, right?? Promise we will keep you posted!!

Well we all have our work cut out for us and we will need all the help we can get to make it happen. First we have to wait for all this late winter white stuff to melt. Mother Nature seems to be flexing her muscles this spring. But just think about all the beautiful sticky mud it will leave behind. Fun, for everyone.

Here is wishing all of you, a great, productive and most of all safe season.

Respectfully,
The Tri-Village Wheelers
Hello fellow riders,

I hope everyone had a good winter. The 2018 riding season is now upon us! Let’s hope that mother nature will cooperate with us this year.

All of our Points of Sales are fully stocked with Trail access Decals. They are: Champlain Valley Equipment in St. Albans, Peak Performance in St. Albans, Andy Bonneau Machinery Company in Enosburg, Bakersfield Village Deli in Bakersfield, Land Air in Essex Junction and Roadside Motorsports in Williston.

Our trail opening date is May 19th, weather pending of course. Stay tuned to northwestvermontwheelers.com and or Facebook for the latest updates on the trails and trail work days. We can always use help.

Speaking of our website and Facebook take a look at them. We have created the 2018 calendar. There are several club rides on it. We hope to see you at them!

Our monthly meeting location is the Durty Nelly’s Irish Pub. 51 Federal Street St. Albans, VT 05478. It’s on the corner of Federal and Kingman Streets. The third Thursday of every month at 6:00 PM.

Justin Rocque
President
North West Vermont Wheelers

2018 NWVV Calendar
- April 19, 2018 - NWVV Monthly Meeting
- April 29, 2018 - Maple Festival Parade (Meet at 11 AM, Parade starts at 12 PM)
- May 5, 2018 - Green Up Day (Meet at the Peaked Hill Trail Head 10 AM)
- May 12, 2018 - Trail Work Day (Weather Pending)
- May 17, 2018 - NWVV Monthly Meeting
- May 19, 2018 - Trail Work Day & Trail Opening Day (Weather Pending)
- June 9, 2018 - VASA Annual Meeting/BBQ/ Ride in West Rutland 10:00 AM
- June 21, 2018 - NWVV Monthly Meeting
- June 30, 2018 - Club Ride at the Border Line Ridge Riders (BLRR)
- July 14, 2018 - NWVV Night Ride 7:00 PM
- July 19, 2018 - NWVV Monthly Meeting
- July 28, 2018 - Mt. Washington Ride
- August 11, 2018 - Club Ride at Westshire ATV Club
- August 16, 2018 - NWVV Monthly Meeting
- August 18, 2018 - Lucas James Williams Memorial Youth Fund Fundraiser / Club Ride
- September 8, 2018 - NWVV Annual Meeting/ BBQ/Bingo or Poker Run
- September 30, 2018 - Trails Close
- October 13, 2018 - Foliage Ride (Weather and Foliage Conditions Permitting)
- October 18, 2018 - NWVV Monthly Meeting
- October 28, 2018 - Roads Close

Top of The World Club trails to open April 15th (conditions permitting), please check with land owners before riding. Top of The World Club will be hosting a poker run on May 19th, please check or website for details (towatv.com). Top of The World Club will be starting sign and trail repairs shortly after April 15th and scheduling completion of trail work not completed in 2018 (Sid’s trail). Top of The World Club will be participating in the Concord Memorial Day parade. We look forward to more member participation for trail maintenance- if you want to continue to ride these amazing trails please remember we need your help! As always, we thank our landowners for graciously allowing the use of their land for the VASA trails. TOW has more than 70 miles of trails.
Tri County ATV Club

Spring, 2018
Tri-County ATV Club

Tri-County ATV Club (Island Pond, Brighton, Morgan) touches the counties of Essex, Orleans, and Caledonia, a.k.a. The Kingdom. To start, we had a great 2017 with our volunteers and VASA trail crew working tirelessly to improve and expand our trail system. We opened access to downtown Island Pond and those that ventured out enjoyed the great trails and town services. It was a VERY busy 2017.

The club has received a lot of positive feedback on our trail system. What many like is the variety of trails. Head north on our system and a true variety with hills, rocks, woods, mud, and great vistas. Head to the south and they are very technical and for only the most experienced riders with rock climbing ledges and deep mud holes. If you make it to the lookout, you've truly accomplished something. Regardless of which direction you go, you'll have fun. With such great trails in the Northeast Kingdom, there's no reason to go any further to ride anymore. The best part may be that not too many have discovered it yet!

The exciting news this year is that after trails closed in the fall, we had three crews out opening another 10 miles of trail in Morgan. Of course, we would like to continue to expand trails, make loops, and connect to surrounding clubs. For this to happen, we really need more volunteers, and we don't mean the physical work in the woods, but those that know landowners and can help establish relationships and get permission to open or create trails. If you can help, please get in touch. One goal we have for this season is to be able to connect to the Borderline Ridge Runners in Derby, but a few short miles between the clubs is proving to be a challenge.

Please remind those you see riding that the success we will have in Vermont depends on respecting the privilege we have. Respect our landowners, slow down on town roads, and patronize our businesses.

Our first meeting of the season will be Saturday, May 12th at 9:30 AM at the VFW in Island Pond. Please join us and share your ideas. We would like to plan a couple club events this year, but need help to do so. Trails are scheduled to open on Saturday, May 26th, but this is dependent on conditions. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook for the official opening date.

Check out our website at www.IslandPondATV.com, sign up for our email newsletter, and like us on Facebook at IslandPondATV.

We hope to see you in Island Pond!!

Tri-County ATV Club
Island Pond
www.IslandPondATV.com
www.facebook.com/IslandPondATV
Bennington Trail Cruisers

We are anxiously awaiting opening day!
Our work in progress includes:
1.) Implementing the forest volunteer maintenance agreement in the state with the forest service.
2.) We have applied for an RTP grant to repair Stage Coach Trail and it is in progress now.
3.) We have also applied for a NWSA grant to do additional work on Stage Coach Trail and to restore Forest Trail 391.
We hope to have these projects completed by fall. Work continues with the forest service to address needed repair on the Sucker Pond Connector Trail which is presently closed. We hope to start restoration work on the Sucker Pond Connector next season. For this season, we have only the Stage Coach Trail and the authorized Pownal Town Roads to ride legally. Please be aware that we expect to see an increased law enforcement presence this season. Safety equipment will be checked, registration for local road use is required, and will be checked as well. Stay on the trails!

Central VT ATV Club

Greetings VASA Members and Fellow Riders. Elections were held at our annual meeting on March 20, 2018. President: Roland Bedard Jr., Vice President: Justin Johnson, Treasurer: Terri Crawford, Secretary: Linda Johnson, Memberships Specialists: Kim and Alycia Martin, Trail Master for Orange: Mike Stone and Trail Master for Washington: Rebekah Goodell. We are very excited for a new riding season. As always, we are making plans for many improvements, especially from our Kiosk in Orange up the Notch Trail. We are always looking to expand our trail system, but as you all know, these things take a lot of time and effort. We have a small group of dedicated volunteers. We always welcome any assistance and manpower. Please feel free to reach out to your local clubs and offer your help. It would be greatly appreciated and you might just have a good time! We are looking forward to Green Up Day, Saturday, May 5th. Each year our club members participate and help our local towns. We make a full day of cleaning up troubled areas designated by towns and then enjoy a nice BBQ. We hosted our 9th Annual Spaghetti Dinner in April, which is always a great event. We look forward to our Poker Run/Pig Roast in the early fall, which is another well attended and fun event of ours. Thank you all for your support of our club. We hold our monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at the Washington Village Fire House. Potluck at 6:00 and meeting starts promptly at 6:30. New members are ALWAYS welcome. As always, we are very thankful to our landowners and truly appreciate the use of their land. We continue to look forward to the many changes coming to Vermont in regards to ATVs. Depending on the weather and the condition of our trail system, we plan to open trails to valid VASA members on Tuesday, May 15th.
Central VT Quad Runners

We held our first meeting of the year on March 28 and elected our officers. They are: President, Ken Carter, Vice president, Chuck Lyman, Treasurer, Dave Lewis, Secretary, Pam Lyman, Paul Morse, Jr. trails coordinator, and Dan Richter, VASA Board of Directors representative. We will be having a work bee weekend on May 12 and 13. We will meet at the trailhead on Stony Brook Rd. at 9:00 am. Everyone who uses our trails is encouraged to help us out.

Lost Nation ATV Club

The Lost Nation ATV Club held its annual landowner appreciation dinner on April 7th at the Roxbury fire station 40 + people showed up in support. We also held our annual meeting and election of officers you're new officers are as follows president Tyler Sabin, vice president Andy Cruickshank, treasurer Lawton Rutter, secretary Cheryl Sabin, and we would like to welcome Jacob Partlow to his first term as member-at-large. We hope to have the trails open for May 19th weather in trail conditions pending. Look for updates on the Lost Nation Facebook page or contact a board member directly. We will hopefully be having a ride in movie night late summer early fall more information will be available at a later date. We hope to see everyone on the trails this summer and as always please ride safe.

Northeast Kingdom Wheelers

NEKW are ready for yet another year of riding. We have many projects planned for our trail system over the summer with better signage in Wheelock and Sheffield, connecting legally to Glover and Barton and we have some work to do this spring as the mud season seems to want to stick around but are in hopes by the time you are reading this, things will be dried and ready. Our membership for 2018 can still be found at All Around Power, Dad’s 4x Tool Supply and at all of our meetings. Also, this year, our memberships will be available online! We hope to see you all out on the trails this summer.

Our club rides are held on the last Sunday of the month. We have a 50/50 raffle at these rides, and we meet at the trailhead at 9:00 am. We have club tee shirts available for sale for $12.00. They can be purchased at Locust Creek Outfitters, or you can call me, Kim Richter at 413-339-4293 and I can get one to you. Sizes are small, medium, and large. Here's hoping for a great riding season, and see you on the trails!
Walking With A Purpose

The Green Mountain Club has been managing and protecting Vermont’s Long Trail since 1910. It is safe to say they know a thing or two about trails. For many years, VASA and The GMC weren’t involved with each other whatsoever. The old way of thinking was motorized vs. non-motorized and our two organizations avoided each other like the plague. In the last ten years, that mentality has changed immensely. We now work together on projects whenever possible, and support each other in our endeavors. Both groups have come to realize that we do not have to be against each other just because we recreate in different ways and in different areas. Much of this new mentality was due to the work of a man named Dave Hardy. Dave volunteered and then worked for the Green Mountain Club for over 30 years. During his time with the GMC, he also served some time on the Vermont Trails and Greenways Council. VASA staff have been involved with the Trails and Greenways Council since the beginning of our organization. Thanks to this common ground, VASA made a true friend in Dave. Dave looked past the negative stereotypes that ATVers often get and realized that both groups could work together and gain more than working against each other. Dave became a true friend to VASA and VASA staff. He publicly supported us in so many ways, including the battle for state lands.

Recently, Dave lost his battle with cancer and passed away. Losing Dave will greatly affect the Green Mountain Club, VASA and all trails in Vermont. After losing Dave, VASA wanted to do something special to honor our friend. We were not sure exactly what we wanted to do but knew that he was most definitely worthy of something. Soon after, we heard that the Green Mountain Club was conducting a winter fundraiser with the Berlin Mall in Berlin Vermont called “Walk the Long Trail at the Berlin Mall.” This fundraiser consisted of folks who would “Mall Walk” the mall’s indoor version of the Long Trail. For every mile walked by registered walkers, the Berlin Mall would donate money to the Green Mountain Club. There were displays throughout the mall, and beautiful pictures that made you feel as if you were actually walking the Long Trail. The fundraiser went from January to April and the goal was for walkers to walk 544 laps at the Berlin Mall, which equals the 272 miles of the Long Trail. Its not an easy feat! VASA staff challenged ourselves to not only participate, but to reach the goal of walking the entire length of the Long Trail, in memory of our good friend Dave. What a commitment that challenge turned out to be! We walked almost every weekday, and not only did we reach our goal, we surpassed it! Our efforts, along with all of the other registered walkers helped to raise over $10,000 for the Green Mountain Club. It was amazing to know Dave and it was a pleasure to walk in his honor.

SAVE THE DATE!
Annual Mt. Washington Ride: July 28, 2017

This is a members only ride! Tickets will be going on sale soon. Watch our facebook and your email for notifications of when tickets go on sale!
**VASA Staff Attend Great Trails Workshop**

VASA Executive Director, Danny Hale and Trail Coordinator, David Gilderdale were invited by NOHVCC (The National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council) to attend a “Great Trails Workshop” in Minnesota. Pictured here are the attendees of the workshop.

NOHVCC conducts these trails workshops in the design, planning, construction, maintenance, and management of quality off-highway vehicle trail systems which are sustainable and fun to ride. The three day workshop consists of one classroom day and two field session days.

Danny and David attended this workshop with the goal of bringing it to Vermont. Stay tuned for updates on the Vermont Great Trails Workshop! Thank you NOHVCC for hosting!

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**The Benefits of Volunteering**

Every year we ask, every year we beg, every year we never have enough volunteers. Lack of volunteers is something that nearly every volunteer association faces. We are well aware of the fact that you all have jobs, families, and a list of responsibilities. People are busy these days, no doubt; but if you want more trails you have to put in some time. If five people put in one hour of their time a month for three months, you wouldn’t believe the world of difference it makes for your local club. There is so much that needs to be done, and it isn’t just trail work. There are lots of administrative tasks that your club needs help with as well. So even if you are not capable of the physical trail work, you can still help out and your time would be so appreciated. For those of you who just love to ride, this is your chance to get in some extra time, and increase your riding opportunities. There are so many benefits of volunteering for VASA—these are a few of our favorites:

1.) New Experiences and Insights! Volunteering for VASA or the local club gives you the unique opportunity to see trail work from a building and maintenance prospective instead of just a recreational perspective and you can learn so much!

2.) Giving back and helping others! Do you realize that many of our members would not be able to enjoy the beautiful woods of Vermont without our trail systems? Your work is allowing your fellow Vermonters and visitors the opportunity to get out in the woods!

3.) Creating Connections with People! VASA and club volunteers are some of the best people out there—they are genuine and giving and a lot of fun. You wouldn’t believe the friends you can make on a trail work day or at a club meeting.

5.) A sense of accomplishment! Nothing feels better than accomplishing a goal!

6.) The rewards of your hard work are more and better trails all throughout the state! Work hard, play hard!

Remember, we all have excuses as to why we can’t. I challenge you to truly evaluate those excuses. Be honest with yourself and ask yourself: “I want more trails, so why don’t I do something about it?”

Thanks in advance for considering donating some of your time to VASA and your local club. If you would like to learn how you can become more involved please email Dani Luce, Operations Director at dluce@vtvasa.org
VASA
14 Don Camp Drive
Barre, VT 05641

Scan to visit the VASA Website
Scan to visit the VASA Facebook Page