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# Trail Riders of Houston



## Newsletter

December 2008

“Dedicated to the Sport of Off-Road Motorcycling”



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Volume 41 Issue 12

Editor: Jack Jennings

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### December 2008 President's Report By: Jack Jennings

#### **Our December Meeting is the Christmas Party Meeting**

Our annual Christmas Party will take place after the General Business Meeting. It will be a potluck party as in the past. Please bring a covered dish of some sort, a dessert, a meat tray or whatever it is that you like to eat or snack on during the Christmas season. Santa has promised to fly in early for our meeting, so make sure you bring the kids! He's a jolly ole guy and really likes little kids. Last year he tried to keep some of the toys. I just hope his team of Reindeer don't make a mess on the roof again this time. It took the lodge crew 2 days to get that "stuff" all cleaned up last year. We have asked him to feed his sleigh team AFTER the meeting this year! Come one, Come all! Get in the Christmas Spirit early!

Have some FUN! Water & soft drinks will be courtesy of the TRH. Cash Bar will be open!

#### **The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Caney Creek Enduro is a Great Success!.....Finally!**

Our annual Caney Creek Enduro was held on November 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Sam Houston National Forest. Robby Austin, the Event Chairman, this year, with the help of his Co-Chairman, Girard Lall, Trail Boss, Ed Keeley and many, many dedicated TRH'ers, provided the participants and spectators with an event layout that got positives comments from everyone. The event was laid out in the "Start- Restart format just like the AMA National Enduro Series events to prepare us for a National in 2010. The trails were in "primo" condition with very little dust and super traction! The weather cooperated with us also. Rain was forecast but it held off for this one.....finally! Robby was seen doing "Anti-Rain Dances" outside Girard's motor coach on Saturday night (or was he having nervous twitches the night before the event?). Thanks to everyone for helping again this year! Let's have a BIG hand for Robby! Thanks for all the hard work Pal!

## New 2008 Family Enduro Series Schedule

The revised dates for the 2008 Family Enduro Series are below:

<u>Round</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Chairman</u>
#1	June 15 <sup>th</sup>	Skull Creek	Tommy Fabregas
#2	July 27 <sup>th</sup>	<del>Sam Houston NF – North Side Trail</del> Head	Mark Littlefield
#3	December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Sam Houston NF East Side Trail Head	Mike Bartay/Tracy Jeffcoat
4	TBA 2009	Skull Creek or SHNF	Jeff Wilson or Vaughn Ivey

## The November General Meeting is Election Time for 2009 Board Positions

Please be thinking of names of deserving individuals that would like to serve on the TRH Board of Directors for 2009. Nominees for Board positions for next year are as follows (so far):

President – Tommy Fabregas and Shelli Townsend  
Treasurer – Duggan Hartzog  
Public Relations Coordinator – Vaughn Ivey  
Membership Chairman – Greg (Gregorio) Draper  
Newsletter Editor – Beatrice Wilson and Luke McElroy  
Legislative Representative – Robert Applegate (incumbent)  
Property Master – Sam Stacy (incumbent)  
Database Coordinator – no nominee

These terms will become effective January 1 and will run through December 31, 2009. If you've ever had a desire to get involved in the inner workings of the TRH, now is the time to get involved.

We will take additional nominations for the TRH Board of Directors positions listed above at the December General meetings and will vote on them at the close of nominations.

## **TRH's Next Family Enduro to be held on December 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Our next Family Enduro will be Chaired by Mike Bartay and held in the Sam Houston National Forest. It will originate from the East Side Trail Head and all of you that choose to ride will be treated to most of the 2008 Caney Creek Enduro course that we just used. Mike and our Family Enduro Series Chairman, Mark Littlefield, promises that this will be a neat event! As always, food and refreshments will be served to all during the break between the morning and afternoon loops! Come on out and enjoy the great Texas December weather! We believe you'll have a great time no matter what!**

**The official Key Time will be 10AM. Wipe the dust off of those dirt bikes and come on out and have some fun! The trails are in great shape right now. Only one big mud hole to negotiate!**

## **The 2008 Hall of Fame Inductee will be Announced at the December Meeting**

**Please remember to vote for your 2008 Hall of Fame Inductee and if you haven't mailed it in yet, please print a copy off of the TRH website or off of this newsletter, vote, sign and bring it to the meeting on Monday night. Your votes will be tallied one lucky individual will enter into an Elite group of TRH'ers who have went "above and beyond the call" and have remained loyal to the TRH over the years. Please use the attached ballot and make sure you sign it. Unsigned ballots will not be counted. Only one vote per family membership.**

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# 2008 TRH Hall of Fame Ballot

Please choose one of the names below for the TRH Hall of Fame

Mail ballot to TRH @ P.O. Box 270242, Houston, TX 77277 or bring to the December General Meeting.

- Danny Erdeljac**
- Duggan Hartzog**
- Mark Littlefield**
- Sam Stacy**
- Rena Townsend**

Please check the candidate you think would best deserve to be placed in the TRH Hall of Fame. TRH Hall of Fame nominees are required to be a TRH member for at least 5 years and be someone that you feel has served TRH above and beyond the call.

Please return ballot as soon as possible by mail or bring to the December General meeting.

**Only one ballot per family membership.**

**Ballot must be signed to be counted!**

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

All ballots will be confidential and the new Hall of Fame member will be announced at the December General Meeting

## TRH to Hold a Tag Team Hare Scrambles Event at Skull Creek in Early 2009

We are planning to hold a Family type Tag Team Hare Scrambles event at Skull Creek sometime early in 2009. This will be a fun event! No "Blood and Entrails" please! We haven't figured out all of the details yet but this one will be fun to ride and fun to watch for you, your families and friends. We'll keep you posted. Again, always check our website.

[www.trh-cycle.org](http://www.trh-cycle.org)

## TRH to Hold a Dual Sport Ride in December or January

We have successfully laid out a one day Dual Sport Ride originating from the New Waverly ISD property (same as the Caney Creek event headquarters site). It is 80 miles long and consists of Farm to Market roads, Sam Houston National Forest trails, Forest Service roads, blacktop roads, gravel roads, and Texas Highways. You will definitely need to be street legal to ride this one!!! It will be open to anyone that wants to ride TRH & Non-TRH. There will be NO entry fee but we will be accepting donations to help defray medical expenses for Colin Hughes' son Garrett who is very ill. We'll keep you posted as we get this one completely planned out.

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## November General Meeting Minutes

### TRH Meeting November 3, 2008

Minutes of the September meeting approved.

Minutes of the October meeting approved.

Hare Scramble at Rio Bravo was a great success. Thank you Danny, Thank you Brian.

So many people were so excited about the event. Gary Miller flagged all weekend, and lots of folks came out to help in every way. Many people recalled enjoying Bravo as much as thirty years ago. David Stevens, head EMS guy at the event, enjoyed it so much that he came and joined the club tonight. Brian was presented the chairman check and returned it to the club treasury.

The rescheduled Caney Creek is November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The course is still there, but mileage is all messed up because of fallen trees. We'll have work days next weekend to fix the arrows. We're still in need of help race day.

Robert Applegate, Mark Tracy, and Pat Thomas have spent a lot of time working with the Forest Service. As representatives of TRH, they are doing a great job and that is very much appreciated.

Danny Mac will find a date in December or January for a tag-team fun event.

Ed and Jack have laid out an 80 mile dual sport ride in the New Waverly area. Because it uses about 13 miles of forest trail all riders will need the state sticker and day trail permit. There will be no entry fee, but donations accepted to help with medical expenses for Burl's grandson who has lymphoma. Watch for date on the TRH website.

There is an article in October Cycle News about TRH.

We are taking nominations tonight for board positions to be voted on at the December meeting. Nominated are:

- Database Coordinator – Dan Sell
- Property Manager – Sam Stacy
- Treasurer – Duggan Hartzog
- Legislative Representative – Robert Applegate
- Newsletter Editor – Mel Austin
- Membership Chairman – Girard Lall
- Public Relations – Vaughan Ivey
- President – Tommy Fabregas

Other nominations can be presented at the December meeting before the election.

Keith Hall of LangstonRacing.com is here tonight exhibiting some of their products.

Bobby Beamer told the members about a NOHVCC conference to be held the first week of March in the Houston area. Steve Thompson of Texas Parks & Wildlife and Kathrine Albers of the National Forest Service will be organizing a two-day ride in the forest for attendees. They will need volunteers from TRH to help on the ride with guidance, bikes, and ATVs. Send email to [Bobby@texasoffroad.net](mailto:Bobby@texasoffroad.net) if you can help. He will get details to TRH newsletter.

Jack talked about some happenings at AMA Congress, including a new lower sound level rule going into effect in 2011. He also learned that we have been doing sound checks incorrectly.

## BOARD REPORTS

Jeff offered thanks to Danny for tonight's entertainment.

Robby has no Skull Creek news.

Shelli has shirts and stickers. She won her class at Rio Bravo and first place in expert women in the STORM series.

Tommy said Christa has agreed to help him redesign the TRH tri-fold brochure.

Ed has Texas off-road permits.

Danny Mac will find dates for dual sport and tag team events.

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- Greg for go-go dancing with an XR 400 at Rio Bravo.
- Lanette left Chad at Rio Bravo Saturday evening.
- Lee had way too much air pressure in a BMW.

Gregorio takes it.

Lynn Bailey presented an award plaque from the Air Force to Danny Erdljac and Tommy Fabregas for the Skull Creek Band. The group played at Ellington Field for an event last summer.

The December meeting will be our holiday party...bring a snack or covered dish to share. Santa will be on hand with gifts for the kids.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Rena Townsend.

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## **Sam Houston National Forest**

**Be sure to call the Sam Houston National Forest service to check PMT trail closures before venturing that direction. The toll free number is (888-361-6908) or long distance (936-344-6205).**

## **TRH Skull Creek**

### **WARNING! WARNING! WARNING!**

**The sand piles on the south end of the campground are OFF LIMITS!!! This means that all kids, adults, and bikes must stay out of the sand pile area. This is not a request but a hard rule. Violators will be asked to leave the property and potentially lose their Skull Creek membership. The gravel company continues to complain that our children are continually putting themselves, TRH, and the gravel company at risk when people are in the sand pile. When leaving the campground to the west, please use extreme caution and situational awareness due to the gravel trucks and operations being conducted.**

**As always we ask that you ride with care and pay attention to the area that you are riding in. They are still working the sand dune areas and the terrain changes on a daily basis. If you invite guests to ride at Skull Creek please inform them of the dangers and stress that they obey all the Park Rules.**

**Please ride with care and have fun at Skull Creek!**

### **New TRH Skull Creek Motorcycle Riding Park Guest Pass Rules**

The TRH Board of Directors has adopted a new set of Guest Pass rules for Skull Creek. The most significant change was to add a clause that limits an individual to the use of a maximum of 3 guest passes (total for the year) before he or she is asked to join the TRH as a Skull Creek member. It's each Skull Creek Member's responsibility to adhere to and/or enforce the Skull Creek rules. Please report violations to the Skull Creek Park Committee or post them on the website. See Below:

**Web Site: <http://WWW.TRH-CYCLE.ORG>**

# **Membership Rules for the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park**

## **TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park Guest Policy**

Each year a member will be given four (4) guest passes which may be used until the beginning of the next year's membership renewal date on January 1<sup>st</sup>. A guest is defined as a person who rides a motorcycle at the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park. A non-riding guest is considered a family visitor, like a parent, relative, or friend who comes to the park with you but does not get on a motorcycle. A non-riding guest does not require a guest pass but is required to sign a release form. All guests and visitors are subject to all the rules and regulations of the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park and are the responsibility of their host/member. A guest or visitor must be accompanied by the host/member while they are at the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park.

Guests will be allowed to ride at the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park a total of three (3) times per year. After an individual uses a third Guest Pass, he or she will be asked to join the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park. A guest may use the passes from more than one member but may only use an aggregate total of three (3) per year. After a third pass is used, a membership request will be sent to the individual and he or she must join the TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park if he or she wishes come back for subsequent visits to the Park. Violators/abusers of this rule will be asked by a TRH member to leave the property or be forcibly removed by the local authorities.

**Guest requirements:** All guests/visitors shall complete and sign a TRH Skull Creek Cycle Park release form. A \$10.00 fee per guest rider per visit and the appropriate guest pass release form shall be put in an envelope in the Guest Pass lock box in the TRH clubhouse at Skull Creek.

We want you to be able to ride with your friends but please do not abuse the Guest Pass privilege.

Members get top priority and we respect the fact that members pay the full membership fee each year and perform trail work and upkeep. Do not give a non-member, guest or visitor the gate combination.

We will allow a Skull Creek Cycle Park member to beg, buy or barter for another member's guest pass(es) if the other member does not plan to use it or them. This will allow some flexibility for members to invite guests (potential members) even if he has no passes left for the year.

For specific questions not answered in this policy, please contact the TRH Hot-line at 713-910-3131

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**The Following Dealerships Support TRH**  
**(Some offer discounts to TRH Members)**

**AJ Foyt Cycles**

Maxine Shields  
9650 North Freeway  
Houston, TX 77037  
281-445-4227

**Columbus Cycle Shop**

Charlie Marshall  
1004 Mentz Road  
Columbus, TX 78934  
800-807-9910

**Cycle Shack North**

Carl Hope  
830 S. Frazier  
Conroe, TX 77301  
281-353-1705

**Galveston Honda**

Randy Cook  
4525 South Gulf Freeway

La Marque, TX 77568  
800-342-7151

**Goe Kawasaki,  
Harley-Davidson**

Mark Sherrill  
1350 S. Hwy. 288B  
Angleton, TX 77515  
800-460-8274

**Honda of Houston**

12655 West Rd.  
Houston, TX 77041  
713-467-2426  
[www.hondaofhouston.com](http://www.hondaofhouston.com)

**Adventure Yamaha**

26300 Katy Freeway  
Katy, TX 77449  
281-391-2628