



# MMA MEMBER MAIL

## EVENT REMINDERS

### WORK DAY LUNCHEON MEMBERS MEETING GROUP RIDING

**SAT. MAY 16, 2009**  
@ 8 a.m.

**ALL MEMBERS ARE  
ASKED TO ATTEND!**

### ATV TRAIL DAY

**SAT. JULY 18, 2009**  
@ 8 a.m.

**BUILDING AND  
CLEARING NEW ATV  
TRAILS**

### WORK DAY LUNCHEON GROUP RIDING

**SAT. SEPT. 19, 2009**  
@ 8 a.m.

### MMA NIGHT RIDE

**FRIDAY  
OCT. 30, 2009**  
@ 6 p.m.

**MMA CAMP OUT  
BONFIRE  
COOK OUT  
NIGHT RIDING  
HAY RIDES**

**FUN FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY**

**MMA EVENTS HAVE  
BEEN SCHEDULED  
FOR THE ENTIRE  
2009 RIDING YEAR!**

**GO ONLINE TO SEE  
ALL MMA EVENTS!**

## A WORD FROM UNCLE JERRY

Hello MMA Members,

2009 is starting out to be a great year. We have the pavilion, picnic tables, and big grill up and ready for use. Lucas has started installing the trail signs and they look great! This is going to be a huge improvement for our riding park. We waited until after our two races before we started putting them up. Speaking of...our races were a huge success as well. I hope some of you made it out for them. We had a visit from the whoop monster during the hare scramble. If you missed this Lucas got some great action shots and they are posted on our web site: [www.meridianohvpark.com](http://www.meridianohvpark.com) under the photos section. There are some other race photos on there as well. A big thanks goes out to the Ridge Runners Enduro Team and everyone that helped make the races a success. I personally would like to thank everyone that helped me with the kids races. This was my first time to ever be in charge of them and I couldn't have done it without the help that I received.

Another big accomplishment is the smoothing out of our parking/campground road. Pierce Steele and they guys from the city did a great job on the road and clearing the boundary lane. We owe them a big thanks. If you know Pierce, Mayor John Robert Smith, City Manager Ken Storms or anyone else with the city be sure to tell them how much we appreciate their help and allowing us to use the property for our riding area. If you don't know lucky we are to have this land just talk to some of our members from other cities and they will tell you how far they travel to enjoy our awesome riding park.

I can't let the opportunity pass to take time out to thank our club secretary and web site administrator and creator Lucas Hatcher. Lucas has done so much for our club since he stepped up and volunteered his time. It really takes a lot of personal time to maintain the web site, print and mail membership cards and track memberships, mail our newsletters, keep up with special projects and on and on. You can see what I am getting at, poor Lucas didn't now what he was getting himself into, LOL. Please let him know the next time that you see him how much you appreciate his hard work and dedication he has brought to our club. He has brought us into the much needed computer age. Lucas is also expecting a new baby girl soon so he will be tied up (literally) around the middle to the end of May. Hopefully he will have time to print out a few memberships cards between diaper changes.

We have more exciting stuff planned for 2009 so be sure to check the web site often for updates and news on what's happening at the riding area. This is our most timely and effective method for passing along information to you. We will be discussing future plans during our next member meeting/work day in May.

Thanks to everyone for joining up and helping our club grow. Remember this is our off- road park so we need to maintain it and follow the rules so that we ensure that we will have a great place to ride for years to come. I know me and Jeremy are looking forward to many good years of riding out there and meeting many more good friends.

Sincerely,

Jerry Corley – MMA President – AKA Uncle Jerry



*IT WAS A COLD ADULT ENDURO BUT THE SNOW DIDN'T STOP ANYONE FROM RACING!*

## 2009 Bonita Lakes Enduro

On Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> the Meridian OHV Park hosted the annual SERA Ridgerunners Bonita Lakes Enduro! This event draws racers from all over the southeast to our park! Saturday was a full day of kids races. The racing was intense and the kids enjoyed the carefully prepared race courses. Saturday night the kids received much deserved awards for their winning race day!

Sunday was a full day of adult racing. Sunday morning everyone awoke to a huge surprise....SNOW! This snow was no blizzard but the ground was covered. Lasting only a few hours it did not stop anyone from racing. Some riders where heard saying they followed the big black snake! It was a very cold day of racing but the snow made this enduro one no rider will

soon forget. The MMA hosted concessions both Sat. and Sun. We sold lots of food, drinks, MMA memberships, and MMA t-shirts. If you missed this years race then you missed out on a good time. The Hare Scramble and Enduro races are a good source of income for our club and park. I hope that every member will make plans to attend next year's races.

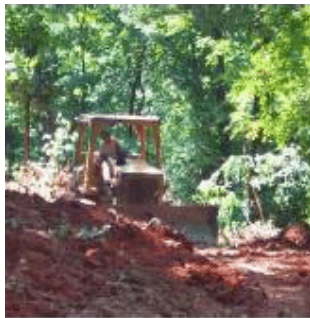
## CRITICAL MMA MEMBERS MEETING – MAY 16, 2009

On May 16<sup>th</sup> the MMA will be conducting an all important members meeting to discuss and vote on some critical topics. The meeting will be held at the pavilion in the parking area after lunch on the work day. Some topics that are up for discussion will be: Park Rules and Rule Enforcement, New MMA Tractor Campaign, MMA Kids Project, new trail signs layout, and 2009 project updates and plans. As always your input is wanted and we ask that all members plan to attend this meeting.

## AS PROMISED . . . MORE ATV TRAILS!

For the 2009 riding year the MMA promised to focus on adding and building new ATV features at our park. As every ATV rider knows much of our riding area disappeared with the closing of White Sands and the area surrounding it. Some trails in our park have been tagged as ATV only and should only be ridden by ATV riders. These include trails such as the Tough Trail, Creek Trail, Back 40, and Boogeyman Loop! More ATV trails are in the planning stages and a ATV Trail Day has been scheduled for July 18<sup>th</sup>. If you are an ATV rider or a off-roader that would like help improve our park...please join us on July 18<sup>th</sup>. We will be adding mileage, clearing new trails, and building obstacles for ATV riders to enjoy! If you have an idea of an area you would like to see utilized for ATV riding then please email your ideas to [lucas@linkedllc.com](mailto:lucas@linkedllc.com).

## NEW MMA BORDER LANE



*Bulldozer cutting the new boundary lane and making the tough trail a not-so-tough trail!*

The MMA now has a lane cleared to clearly define the property line that we cannot cross. On the other side of this property is the land that is utilized but the Meridian Police Department and

homeland security for training. Also on the weekend there is a shooting club utilizing the shooting range so don't think it is safe to go snooping around the shooting range or into white sands. Future plans for the

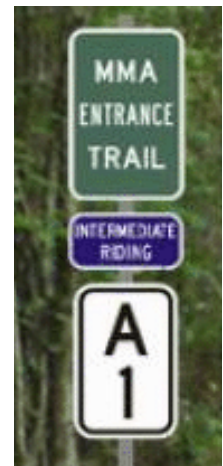
long distance rifle range include extending into white sands so this area is definitely off-limits. Please respect this area and do not cross this boundary line.

## NEW MOTORCYCLE ONLY ENTRANCE TRAIL

The MMA Entrance Trail is the main trail leading into our park from the Parking Area. The entrance trail has been through some drastic changes since Hurricane Katrina blew through Meridian. Katrina knocked down an uncountable number of trees in our park. Many trails changed direction to avoid these heavily damaged areas. The Entrance Trail was one such trail. The old entrance trail followed the property line and took riders on a more uphill direction. Since Katrina the entrance trail has made its way into a muddy and wet bottom. This bottom is not an issue for ATVs but has long been a nuisance for Dirt Bike riders. During our last work day a group of members reopened the pre-Katrina entrance trail and tagged it as Motorcycle Only. This trail will be a much drier path and will remain as Motorcycle Only. The ATVs and Side X Sides should continue to use the existing entrance trail. Eventually everyone meets at the same point but the motorcycles will emerge much drier and with a lot less mud.

## NEW TRAIL SIGNS ARE GOING UP!

Our new trail signs are going up at a rapid pace. These new signs will greatly improve everyone's ability to navigate our trail system. Every trail in our park will receive new signs. Each one way trail has been given a trail name which corresponds with the MOHVP Trail map. Each trail has been given a rating that lets every rider know what kind of skill is expected to complete that trail. The MMA Hwy's have name signs and two ways traffic signs warning riders of on-coming trail traffic. The boundary signs will leave no questions as to where we can and can not ride. Finally, we have established a loop system for Dirt Bike and ATV riders. The Kings MC Loop follows the online loop map and every riders should follow the letters to complete the Kings MC Loop. The Lucky 13 ATV loop follows the numbers and also coordinates with the ATV Loop map online. These signs are the greatest improvement done to our trail system in years and have been needed for a long time. You can find the complete layout with pictures on our website. Please do not hesitate to let us know what you think about the new sign layout. Post a new topic on the Forum or email your board members.



## WHAT IS THE MMA TRACTOR CAMPAIGN?

For many years the MMA has relied on its members and other outside sources for tractors and equipment to do trail maintenance and grounds upkeep. The Ridgerunners Enduro Team and the City of Meridian have done a great job over the years supporting the MMA with this critical need. With nearly 200 members, 800 acres, and 25+ miles of trail (and growing) the need for our own equipment has become a necessity. During our May 16<sup>th</sup> members meeting your board will present to you the MMA Tractor Campaign.



This campaign will allow the MMA to purchase a new or used tractor with attachments for trail maintenance and grounds upkeep. The MMA plans to purchase a tractor within 2 years or less debt free. This can be accomplished through donations and MMA dedicated funds. We will be discussing this campaign in detail during our May 16<sup>th</sup> members meeting. A vote will be taken by all members present and if passed we will move forward with the building of funds immediately. Our park, trails, and members will all benefit from this large purchase. Please attend the meeting and vote for this all important need.

## MMA KIDS

The MMA Kids are the future of the MMA. With membership at an all time high most new members are families with young kids. The MMA is looking at building a play area next to the pavilion for the kids. Also, planned is a Kids Only Trail located in the woods beside the parking area. The MMA is looking for donated playground equipment to be used in this play area. If you or anyone you know has any play equipment they would like to donate to the MMA please contact Lucas or any MMA Board Member.

**MMA PARKING AREA PAVILION UPDATE**

The new pavilion is now complete and has proved to be a great addition to our parking area. With 3 tables, a large grill, and plenty of shade from the summer sun it is sure to be a great place for friends and families to gather. Come out and make a day at the park with loads of riding and a summer cookout!

**PARKING AREA ROADS UPDATE**

Recycled asphalt has been purchase and should be delivered soon. This will complete the 2009 Roads project and we ask that all speeds be kept to a minimum until the asphalt has packed down.

THE MMA HAS MANY OTHER EXCITING PLANS IN PROGRESS! CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND DETAILS ON UPCOMING PROJECTS!

**MMA T-SHIRTS ARE STILL AVAILIBLE!**

New MMA T-shirts are sill available for purchase! Support the MMA and help spread the work by sporting some new MMA swag! Contact Jerry or Lucas to get your MMA t-shirt today. Shirts will also be available at all MMA events.

**AVAILABLE SIZES:**

**ADULT: SM – XXL \$10.00**

**YOUTH: SM – L \$8.00**

**VISIT US ONLINE @ [www.MERIDIANOHPARK.com](http://www.MERIDIANOHPARK.com)!**

**Stay up to date with all the latest news and happenings at The Meridian OHV Park!**

MMA news, maps, events, photos, videos, directions, weather, links, trail conditions, membership forms and info, renewal forms and info, and much much more!

**THE MMA ONLINE FORUM**

Join our Message Board and become an active voice of the MMA!

- Active discussions about our club, our park, off-road racing, and riding.
- Schedule and plan rides, meet other MMA members, and find other places to ride.
  - Get answers in our tech forums.
- Sell or Trade just about anything in our MMA Swap Shop Classifieds.
  - Share pictures and tell your favorite jokes.

**All this and more available in the professionally designed MMA Online Forum!**

**GOT PHOTOS? WE WANT THEM...**

GO ONLINE FOR INSTRUCTION ON LOADING YOUR PHOTOS INTO THE MMA PHOTOBUCKET.COM ACCOUNT. ONCE LOADED THEY CAN BE PLACED ON OUR WEBSITE. YOU MAY ALSO EMAIL YOUR PHOTOS TO [lucas@linkedllc.com](mailto:lucas@linkedllc.com)