



Jackson County Trail Riders Launch Website

By Lorry Erickson, Communications Coordinator

Last year the Jackson County Trail Riders Officer Team approved spending some of our grant funds to launch a website, but due to my cancer treatments we didn't get the website created until last month. The site is now live at jacksoncountyclubriders.com.

While we have a Facebook group page, Facebook has become a less effective means of communication. A website gives us another avenue to get the word out about the single-track motorcycle trails at Crawford Hills County Park.

The website features dates of upcoming events, a list of places where county motorcycle stickers can be purchased, trail maps, our new brochure, names of our current officers and a "Join Our Club" section.

We have a new club brochure being printed thanks to a \$2,000 grant we received from the Jackson County Room Tax Commission. You can get a sneak peek on the website.

When the brochure is ready to distribute, we'll have copies at the Black River Area Chamber of Commerce, the Jackson County Forestry Department, Crawford Hills County Park and Keytime Motorsports. If you have a location where brochures can be displayed, let us know.

JOIN US AT TRAIL WORKDAYS SATURDAY, MARCH 21 & MARCH 28 DETAILS ON PAGE 2

The club's officer team — President Bob Ybema, Vice President Dakota Tennant, Secretary Andy Kelly, Treasurer Steve Roof, Trails Committee Chairman Jack Potter and Communications Coordinator Lorry Erickson — met on Sunday, Jan. 18, at TK's 400 Club in Millston. Among the topics discussed included:

- Educating current and future generations in the ways of trail building and trail maintenance.
- Offering youth riding clinics utilizing the two Youth Loops installed recently at Crawford Hills.
- Partnering with Midwest Off-Road Trail Riders to host a long-distance ride between Crawford Hills in Jackson



County and Knobby Ridge in neighboring Clark County.

- Checking into organizing the club as a 501(c)(3) so we could be eligible to apply for grants.
- Updating and improving signage at Crawford Hills.
- Offering Paypal, Venmo or other electronic means of paying club dues. Steve has started establishing a Paypal account, but comment was made that Venmo may be more popular. Steve will check with our bank.
- Adding Bob and Dakota to the club's checking account and removing former treasurer Becky (Potter) Hayes.
- Steve and Andy will take over the membership and communication duties performed by Lorry, due to her cancer reoccurrence. Lorry is stepping down as the club's Communications Coordinator.

Inside this Issue

- Trails Committee Chairman's Report - Page 2
- Questions on Trail Stickers Answered - Page 3
- Recap of 2025 Trail Workday Activities - Page 4
- JCTR Officers Seek Re-Election - Page 5

Trails Committee Report

By Trails Committee Chairman Jack Potter

I want to thank all the volunteers who came to our trail workdays in 2025. We had spring workdays on March 28 and April 5 to clear downfalls and cut brush.

Normally we can't cut trees after April 1, but since the oak trees hadn't started budding, the County Forester let us have a workday in April.

Before the trails opened on May 15, we had an "Inspection Ride" to make sure there were no trees across the trails. That ride was open only to those club members who had helped at the earlier workdays.

We had a few workdays during the summer with just a handful of members to clear trees. You'll see a list of all the workdays held and who participated elsewhere in this newsletter.

We've scheduled two spring workdays - on Saturday, March 21, and Saturday, March 28 - to get the trails in shape for the 2026 season. We'll start at 10 a.m. and work until about 1 p.m. or so.

Again thank you to all our volunteers and see you on the trails at Crawford Hills in 2026.

Where Can I Buy a Motorcycle Sticker?

Jackson County motorcycle stickers can be purchased online at www.jacksoncountyparks.us/parks. Look for the Permits/Products tab. Cost is \$20, plus \$1 for mailing. Or stop at the Jackson County Forestry & Parks office, W9790 Airport Road, Black River Falls, WI 54615.

After April 1, stickers can be purchased at the following area businesses:

- Quality Inn (by the orange moose), Black River Falls
- Black River Power Powers, Black River Falls
- Millston Kwik Mart, Millston
- Rustic Buck Bar & Grill, Pray
- Back Roads Saloon, Pray

If you have issues ordering online, call the Jackson County Forestry Department office at (715) 284-8475.

Crawford Hills Campground Reminders

If you are riding just for the day, please park in the day-use parking area. If you park in a camping spot, you need to pay the camping fee, which is \$20 per night. **Being a JCTR club member does not give you the right to park for free in the camping area.**

The camping fees go to the Jackson County ATV Club and are used for maintaining the campground and making improvements.

The ATV Club took over mowing and other upkeep in 2020 after the county announced plans to close the campground due to a lack of funds and manpower.

Over the past few years, the ATV club has been replacing picnic tables, added grills, playground equipment and made other upgrades. JCTR President Bob Ybema also lends the ATV Club a hand with mowing when needed.

Spring Workdays Scheduled at Crawford Hills County Park

Saturday, March 21 & Saturday March 28

Meet at the Crawford Hills Picnic Shelter at 10 a.m. to break up into teams.

Bring a brush saw, chainsaw, loppers, handsaw, etc., if you have them. The club has two brush saws and chainsaws available for use, too. We also need "wood chuckers" to pair with "cutters" to toss cut trees and branches off the trails.

We'll work until 1 p.m. or so and then go to Pray for lunch.

If we need to cancel due to the weather, we'll post info on our Facebook page and email paid club members.



The founding members of the Jackson County Trail Riders are now 70-plus. We're looking for the next generation to carry the torch!

Questions on Trail Stickers, Club Dues and More

By Lorry Erickson, JCTR Communications Coordinator

What permits are needed for riding the single-track motorcycle trails at Crawford Hills County Park?

If you are riding an off-highway motorcycle, you will need both a Jackson County motorcycle sticker and a Wisconsin DNR Off-Highway Motorcycle sticker.

We don't make the rules, folks!

Jackson County is allowed to have its own motorcycle sticker program as it does not accept funds from the state OHM program for trail maintenance. The county's sticker program actually predates the state program.

The 2026 Jackson County motorcycle stickers (which are purple this year) are \$20.00 and can be ordered online at www.jacksoncountyparks.us/parks/permits_and_products or purchased at the locations listed on Page 2.

The state OHM sticker is \$30 for a first-time registration and \$30 for a two-year renewal. For those with state OHM registrations that expire March 31, 2026, gowild.wi.gov is ready to take renewals.

Non-residents wanting to ride in the Badger State can also purchase OHM stickers through the Go Wild website. A non-resident trail pass to operate on OHM trails is \$35 per year. A five-day pass is also available for \$20.

For more on Wisconsin DNR OHM passes and regulations, go to: dnr.wisconsin.gov/permits/registrations and look for the Off-Highway Recreational Vehicles section.



Jackson County Motorcycle stickers can be ordered online from the Jackson County Forestry & Parks office. They are also from certain local businesses after April 1. We have a list of outlets on Page 2 of the newsletter.

While the Jackson County Trail Riders Club does not receive direct funding from the county's motorcycle sticker sales, the county Forestry & Parks Department does supply the club with gravel, signage and other materials. The club is solely responsible for the labor involved in maintaining the 30 miles of single-track trails at Crawford Hills County Park.

Why does the Jackson County Trail Riders collect dues?

As stated above, the club does not directly receive revenue from the county's motorcycle sticker sales. We need to generate enough income to pay for the club's liability insurance, meals for workday volunteers and other expenses. The membership fee has remained at just \$10 per year since the club was founded.

For those of you who are new to the Jackson County Trail Riders, the club petitioned the county to allow installation of single-track trails in Crawford Hills County Park.

As stated earlier, maintenance of the 30 miles of trails is done by members of this club. And with the original club members now all 70 or older, we very much appreciate the younger riders who are getting involved.

Live too far away to help at trail workdays? Then consider paying the club's \$10 dues so we can continue to provide a free lunch to those who do come to workdays.

Can I pay dues electronically via Venmo or Paypal?

Club Treasurer Steve Roof is looking into offering Paypal or Venmo but we don't have an account established yet. At such time as Steve has that set up, we will notify members via e-mail and on the club's Facebook page.

Until then you can renew your dues the old-fashioned way and pay either by check or cash. A membership form is on Page 6 of this newsletter. You can also bring your dues to our March workdays. Memberships are due April 1.

When are you planning to have trail workdays in 2026?

Depending on the weather, we're planning workdays on Saturday, March 21, and Saturday, March 28. We'll post updates on the club's new website, Facebook page and send email alerts to club members closer to those dates.

If you can help either day, plan to meet at the Crawford Hills County Park picnic shelter at 10 a.m. to break up into teams. Lunch will be provided.

We are prohibited from cutting brush from April 1 to July 15 in an effort to reduce the spread of oak wilt. We try to get out on the trails in March to have them in shape prior to the trails opening on May 15. Additional workdays will be planned as needed for after July 15.

We track the hours club members spend clearing brush and doing other maintenance on the trails, along with the use of equipment they bring to turn into the county. In past years, the county has secured some grant funds for us.

Recap of 2025 Workdays at Crawford Hills



Brothers Wesley Hammond of Red Wing, Minn., and Earl Hammond of Holmen worked on the South Loop during the March 2025 workday. Photo by John Edwards.

March 28, 2025 Workday Volunteers

John Edwards - Onalaska | Jack Potter - Warrens | Sparky Bejin - Chippewa Falls | Earl Hammond - Holmen | Wesley Hammond | Red Wing, Minn. | Ethan Brey - Greenwood | Hunter Bahl - Pray | Ken Schuck - Stoughton

April 5, 2025 Workday Volunteers

John Edwards - Onalaska | Jack Potter - Warrens | Hunter Bahl - Pray | Andy Kelly - New Glarus | Kevin Weivoda - La Crosse | Paul Wagner - Deerbrook | Joe Hunter - La Crosse | Kevin Ferstenou - Thorp | Ryan Mika - Osceola | Jason Reisenauer - La Crosse

May 10, 2025 Workday Volunteers

John Edwards - Onalaska | Jack Potter - Warrens | Hunter Bahl - Pray | Ethan Brey - Greenwood | Joe Hunter - La Crosse.

Riding Season Extended

The trails at Crawford Hills will open May 15 and close the last Sunday of October.

May 14, 2025 Workday Volunteers

Jack Potter - Warrens | Judd Riggs - Warrens

Unofficial Workdays

Several club members worked on the trails on their own or with a few others. These are the instances we heard about:

June 27, 2025

Sparky Bejin - Chippewa Falls

July 13, 2025

Corey Schroeder - Marshfield.

Used a DR brush mower on loan from Power Pac Equipment & Motorsports on 2 miles of McKenna Loop.

Sept. 12, 2025

Dakota Tennant - Black River Falls | Jaysen Sargent - Black River Falls

Cleared a downed tree off the McKenna Loop after dark.

119 Work Hours + 62 Hours Travel Time =

181 Volunteer Hours in 2025

JCTR Club Ride - June 28, 2025

We tried to organize a few club rides this past year. Those who came to the June 28 ride included Joe Hunter, Hunter Bahl, Jack Potter and Kevin Ferstenou. Watch for more JCTR member rides in 2026!



Jaysen Sargent helped clear a downed tree after dark on the McKenna Loop. Photo by Dakota Tennant.

JCTR Officers Willing to Serve Club Again in 2026

The current slate of officers of the Jackson County Trail Riders are willing to continue serving in their current roles. Below are their bios:

PRESIDENT BOB YBEMA

Bob has served as president of the Jackson County Trail Riders since 2016. Bob and his wife, Heather, and their daughter, Carley, live in Black River Falls where Bob owns BRB Motors and several other businesses.

A former flat-track racer, Bob competed around the Midwest and won eight Wisconsin amateur and five professional titles.

Bob first visited the Black River Falls area to ride the ATV trails and said he fell in love with the area. He bought a house in Black River Falls in 2001 and moved to Jackson County full time in 2015.

"I joined the Jackson County Trail Riders to help keep the trails open and running and to show that people still care about having the trails," he said.

VICE PRESIDENT CANDIDATE DAKOTA TENNANT

Dakota Tennant lives outside of Black River Falls with his wife, Logan Marie, and their two children. He owns DMT Tree Service and Last Frontier Seafood Company, both based in Black River Falls. Along with running his businesses, Dakota is a member of the Black River Falls Fire Department and a volunteer with various community organizations.

"My passion for riding dirt bikes started in 2019 when I took to the trails at Crawford Hills on a 2002 CR125, which I still enjoy riding today. I was heavily involved in BMX and mountain biking at Levis Mound. When I discovered the incredible trail system right in my backyard, I quickly

recognized the need for volunteer work to maintain and improve the trails. That's when I jumped at the chance to help keep those trails open, safe and enjoyable for everyone," Dakota said.

SECRETARY ANDY KELLY

Andy lives in New Glarus with his wife, Misha, and their child, Remi. He was elected secretary in 2024.

"I began riding a '94 Suzuki DR 250SE in 2003 and was instantly hooked. When the pandemic shutdown occurred, I found myself with a WR 250F in my garage. Throughout that down time I imagined trail riding and – once I got back to a trail – it felt so natural. I've met so many great people since coming back and I so enjoy this great community," Andy said.

"I believe in a 'Many Hands Make Light Work' mentality and I think this shows with our Crawford Hills trail system. Together we can maintain and show that we are present, we want to ride and we want places to ride. I look forward to continue to serve as club secretary and wish to make an impact as a rider here in Wisconsin," Andy said.

TREASURER STEVE ROOF

Steve is the owner of Keytime Motorsports in Warrens, Wis., and has served as JCTR treasurer since 2005. Steve began off-road motorcycle riding and racing in the early 2000s.

Steve also allows us to use the Keytime address as the club's mailing address and answers calls at his repair shop from riders with questions about the single-track trails at Crawford Hills County Park.

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2026 JCTR Membership Renewal & Officer Election Ballot

Dues are still just \$10 per year. Please make checks payable to Jackson County Trail Riders and send to JCTR c/o Keytime Motorsports, PO Box 21, Warrens, WI 54666. **Please return membership form and ballot by April 1, 2026.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Yes, I vote for the slate of officers listed in the 2026 JCTR Newsletter.