

Hello All-

Please check out the following summary and mark your calendars for future events.

Please carefully read Items 6 and 7, and sign up to help at SeaOtter.

MORCA MINUTES for Monday, March 1, 2010 at 6:30 PM at English Ales in Marina. Minutes submitted by Henrietta Stern, Secretary, on 3/3/2010.

Our website is: www.morcmtb.org <<http://www.morcmtb.org/>>
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YOUR OFFICERS FOR 2010:

President: Gary Courtright (also IMBA liaison)

VP: Darius Rike

Secretary: Henrietta Stern (also ESCA liaison)

Treasurer: Bob MacLean

Webmaster: Jim Ryan

Toro Liaison: Ken Chrisman

CSUMB Liaison: Chris Villasenor

ATTENDANCE: 16 folks attended, including all officers except VP.

Welcome to three new faces at the meeting!

1. TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS STUFF -

Bob reported that we have roughly \$3,137 in the combined checking and Paypal accounts. Bob is working diligently to transfer Paypal from Peter's name to current officers etc.

We owe BLM \$200 for February ride fees (40 people participated in 3 night rides). There will be an outlay of roughly \$1300-1400 for the jerseys we ordered.

Reminder: dues went up to \$35 per single or family as of January 1.

See Item 7 below re: 501-c-3/IMBA chapter.

2. ESCA/ FORT ORD "HAPPY TRAILS" UPDATE-

Henri attended the Feb 24 user group meeting. Final steps are still slooowly being checked off to officially declare the North County MRA as Track 1 and expedite transfer to County Parks, which will be the owner and manager. Soon we will need to work with County to ensure all recreation types (including mtb) will have re-access to those trails. Henri is on a committee (led by cyclist Keith Defiebre) to reconnect

users and land managers to discuss vision for longer-term trail network. Henri contacted TV editor with no response to date. Henri wrote letter of support for grant to "Marina in Motion" group, whose purpose is to educate folks about Fort Ord issues and support sustainable communities, bike trails etc. They were one of two finalists for an educational grant.

3. TORO REPORT - Gary (on behalf of Ken) highlighted successful Feb 27 trail day, and additional work still needed on Pipeline Trail. Sixteen mtb-ers showed, about half Morcans and half Hillbillies. Great job to all! MORCA has contributed about 120 man-hours to this effort to date. Gary noted the need for roughly \$500 to build two small bridges across the little creek. Members voted to try to fundraise this amount from lumberyards, bike shops etc, including in-kind contributions of materials. We do not have the budget to fund the \$500 cash ourselves at this time.

Toro has the potential to be a regional bike destination, with mtb being an important source of income for the park. Which reminds me that the \$60 annual passes will be due up in April. Let's show support for the County Parks (Toro, Laguna Seca, hopefully opened trails in Jack's Peak) and other locations with your pass. Gary noted two new trails are being built by Parks staff.

TORO TRAIL DAYS ARE 4TH SATURDAY of the month unless noted otherwise (next one is 3/27). You can help on other days if with a trained person like Ken Chrisman, who is the MORCA contact person re Toro issues and ideas.

4. FORT ORD TRAIL DAY, SATURDAY MAR 20- Continued work on Goat is suggested-future work includes reroute of Outhouse to deal with those nasty ruts.

5. TAHOE TRIP WITH MBOSC, ROMP AND OTHERS, Aug 13-15- Come for trail work, social rides, epic rides, camping out and fun. Gary has advised organizers that 6-10 Morcans will be coming.

6. SEA OTTER CLASSIC (SOC) COMMITMENTS-APRIL 15, 16, 17 and 18- This is SOC's 20th Anniversary, and they have asked us to do more volunteering than we originally planned to do, so discussion focused on that. As a reminder, we have volunteer duties for our booth and the kids short track race each noon. SOC also asked us to help build and take down the kids rodeo structures (though another group is in charge of running this), and to run the timing of the Super-D race Friday 10 AM

-2 PM. We agreed to take on these extra tasks under the following conditions: (a) MORCA gets some payment for our time, and standard volunteer perks, (b) SOC pays for the materials that are purchased, (c) we are given specifics on what needs to be built by March 12, and (d) unless SOC plans to keep the structures for some other use, we get them.

All of you who voted to participate means that you are expected to volunteer! Watch for the website and e-mails about the details. As a summary, here is what is shaping up (see below). SOC Planning team needs to get specifics on times and locations:

- **Before April 14-"construction team" builds modular structures
- **Wed Apr 14-afternoon-- set up MORCA booth and set up kids structures
- **Thursday, April 15-staff MORCA booth, get organized for Fri-Sun
- **Friday, April 16 (big day)-staff booth, run kids short track race at noon, and do Super-D timing, 10-2
- **Saturday, April 17-- staff booth, and run kids short track race at noon
- **Sunday, April 18 -- staff booth, run kids short track race at noon, and do teardown of booth and kids rodeo structures (this might be able to be Monday)

We brainstormed on booth-Gary needs to coordinate with MBOSC re their needs. Jason (new fellow) volunteered an easy up (Henri has one too plus a table if needed). Gary suggested a more inviting setting with maybe a couch or chairs to invite folks in. Joel has laptop that can run videos or slide show of our activities (do we have power??); can Jim print out some of the pix of trailwork, rides etc to make a wall display? Fort Ord maps suggested as a hand-out. How about a Spring Newsletter? Time is running short-who can help? SOC planning committee will likely need to meet and coordinate before the next MORCA meeting April 5.

We need 6 riders racing to get the \$10 discount with a MORCA code. I think we have 3 or 4 now-sign up folks! Come race and wear your new MORCA jersey if it arrives in time.

7. IMBA CHAPTER (rather than our own 501-c-3)

Your officers met before the meeting to go over details of new info received by IMBA. Right now, we are an affiliate of IMBA. A new program, which has been tested in the northwest, is to actually become an IMBA Chapter and obtain our 501-c-3 status through IMBA. We voted to

encourage Gary to seriously pursue this option after reviewing the situation, as pros outweigh the cons (see below). It was suggested that Gary contact other new chapter groups to see how their experience was.

Advantages include-a lot less hassle and paperwork for us to become our own 501-c-3, which is harder now than in the past. We are looking at \$500 in attorney fees plus other costs and a lot of time to do this on our own. Under IMBA, there is minor paperwork and time. Any person in our area (i.e., Monterey County) who becomes an IMBA member also automatically becomes a MORCA member (unless they opt out of being a local chapter member); thus people will pay just IMBA dues each year, and not both MORCA and IMBA dues. This helps grow our club too. We get extensive help with administrative assistance, grant writing, legal, insurance, marketing materials, how-to materials, access to their designer etc. It also better protects local club officers from liability. We have access to grant programs and perks (like Clifbar products for trail work) because we are an IMBA chapter and a 501-c-3. Donating companies get a tax deduction working with us.

Costs include-- \$500 one-time fee to IMBA for admin costs. MORCA would not have its own membership dues anymore-we would get 40% of any IMBA dues received from our area. Importantly, we would keep 100% of any grants and donations we obtain locally. We would need to be consistent with IMBA guidelines, but we are already (shared values).

OTHER AND PREVIOUS BUSINESS

See e-mails re gravel roads.... Chris requested that Gary check with BLM re content of these roads and toxicity of dust. We sadly noted that many of our favorite old roads are now "groomed" as if they were paved. We plan to put reflectors on logs at base of 68 and 70 for safety... suggest moon symbols on carsonite posts for allowable night ride trail (avoid the CTS).

See previous minutes about WILDERNESS FIRST AID, NEWSLETTER FOR SPRING-- Start writing those articles, folks, as we need a nice newsletter for the SeaOtter booth and springtime in general. Members should also e-mail ideas for annual calendar. Or use the calendar on the website.

Monthly work days are usually 2nd Saturday BLM and 4th Saturday at Toro.

BUY TEE-SHIRTS-- we still have lots of sizes.

CAL-STAR MEDI-VAC HELICOPTER INSURANCE-Only \$35 per family per year with MORCA group rate--thanks to Joel who got this group rate together. Need 15 folks signed up to get the rate. Normally \$45 at least. Check it

out on website.

NEXT MEETING-- Next MORCA meeting is Mon, April 5, 2010 at 6:30 PM at English Ales in Marina (Reindollar Avenue) -- all welcome.

That's all for now, folks. See you on the trails!

henri

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