

NEWS

from CAMBA COUNTRY



PRE-SEASON 2007

TRAIL CLOSURES

The CAMBA trails do not typically open until about May 1. This has been an arbitrary date subject simply to the condition of the trails and how well they have dried out. However, in recent years the U.S. Forest Service has imposed a trail closure through the end of April, effectively making May 1 a firm opening date. CAMBA Trails on the National Forest affected by this closure include all trails starting at the Namakagon Town Hall, Rock Lake, Drummond Ski Trails and Wanoka Lake Trail Heads and the West Fork Trail in Delta. Dirt and gravel road trails in Delta and Drummond are a good option to stretch your early season legs.

There is some confusion as to the actual status of trail closures in the Sawyer County Forest. The recently adopted Comprehensive Land Use Plan suggested closing dates that coincided with road load limit bans. A recent Forestry Committee reversed some earlier decisions that makes it unclear exactly what the intent of the closure rules are. We will

apprise you of the actual closures as it becomes more apparent. Sawyer County Forest trails include those starting at Hatchery Creek, Mosquito Brook, OO and Silverthorn Park Trail Heads.

The only trails so far not affected by a set opening date are Cable Cluster Trails in Bayfield County Forest and Telemark Resort. However, this does not mean that these trail can be ridden if conditions do not permit. It can often be unclear if you do not live in the area whether trails are ready to ride. With a late start to the winter and a lot of snow, it may very well take until May 1 for the trails to be sufficiently dry to ride.

Please do not jeopardize the CAMBA trails by riding them when wet. How do you determine when it is O.K. to ride? Very simply, if there is standing water or you are leaving a noticeable impression in the ground, you should ride the roads, and not the trails. Thanks for your cooperation.

NO FOOLIN' MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE APRIL 1

All CAMBA memberships expire annually on April 1. You may use the membership form in this newsletter to renew.

We would love to see a big jump in CAMBA memberships this year. Please encourage all your mountain biking buddies to become a member. If you haven't been a member for a while, please consider joining again – we miss you. If you're a long-time member, we truly appreciate your dedicated support.

Thanks for being a part of the best off road bike trail organization in the Midwest.

SPRING TRAIL MAINTENANCE DAY – APRIL 28

Ahh springtime, when a young man/woman's fancy turns to... what else? Trail maintenance!

With surprisingly warm temperatures this spring, it won't be long before the trails begin to dry out. And that can only mean one thing – the CAMBA annual spring maintenance day can't be far behind. It's closer than we think... in fact, this year it's on Saturday, April 28.

As usual, the program is relatively simple – get the trails ready to ride. No heavy duty trail construction just yet, mostly cleaning things up and making sure that when the trails are formally open that people can find their way around and any off season trash, debris, brush, missing signs or maps are cleaned up, repaired or replaced.

WHEN: Saturday, April 28 – 9:00 AM;
WHERE: Mooselips Java Joint, Seeley;
WHAT: Dress for a day in the outdoors including rain gear if necessary and work gloves. CAMBA will provide tools, maps and directions. Bring water and a lunch. We typically work until early afternoon. Depending on conditions, you might also bring a bike to ride the town roads if no off road options are available.

We will focus our efforts on the southern clusters of the CAMBA system. Depending on how many people show up we may send a few up north as well. Tell your friends and bring them along – we could use the help.

2007 CAMBA CALENDAR

MARCH 3, 4

Minneapolis Bike Expo

APRIL 5-7

Wheel and Sprocket Bike Expo

APRIL 28

Annual Trail Maintenance Day

MAY 19

Cable Area Off Road Classic- Raffle and Information Booth

JUNE 22, 23

Musky Festival - Raffle and Information Booth

JUNE 2, 9, 16, 23

CAMBA Kids

JUNE 12, 19, 26, JULY 3

Finding the Rhythm of the Trail Clinics

JULY 7

Seeley Art Festival - Raffle and Information Booth

AUGUST 25

Seeley Pre Fat - Raffle and Information Booth

SEPTEMBER 14

Fat Tire Trail Tour

SEPTEMBER 14-16

Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival - Raffle, Merchandise and Information Booth

OCTOBER 6

CAMBA Fall Work Day/Trail Ride

OCTOBER 6

CAMBA Annual Meeting



ENEWS NEWS

CAMBA has recently begun its new Enews from CAMBA Country electronic newsletter. In this e-newsletter we will present brief items to help keep CAMBA members abreast of ongoing activities and developments in our trail community. The e-newsletter will be issued a couple of times during the off season and periodically during the season to help fill in between our regular newsletter or to post news or announce trail work projects on short notice.

Why not just do an electronic newsletter and dispense with the printed version you ask? Good question, and in time that may be the direction we go. Presently, however, we do not have every member's email address and do not want to miss anyone. Plus there are still a few folks out there who don't do email or the Internet and we don't want to slight them either.

If you have not received the Enews from CAMBA Country, you may subscribe by going to the CAMBA website, www.cambatrails.org and click Newsletter. Or, just send an email to camba@cheqnet.net and we will sign you up. All email address will be held in confidence and will not be sold, rented or otherwise distributed.



CAMBA APPLIES FOR 501(C)3 STATUS

CAMBA has been a 501(c)6, tax-exempt organization since 1994. Under this Internal Revenue Service classification, we are exempt from paying income tax on any funds we raise or earn. This classification, however, does not allow contributions to CAMBA to be deducted by the contributor on his/her taxes. It also does not allow CAMBA to apply for certain corporate and foundation grants that require 501(c)3 status. One difference that we believe now qualifies us for this status is the development of several educational programs in addition to the work we already do teaching and advocating about sustainable trail development. The lengthy application has been prepared and was recently submitted. Optimistically we can expect a determination by the end of April.

BYLAWS REVISED

Several short sections of our bylaws have been revised to better reflect how we actually meet and do business. In addition, we have done major revisions of our Statement of Purpose. It is this section that defines who we are and what we do. As you will see, we have begun to move in some new directions, in addition to our usual trail development and advocacy efforts and thus it is necessary to have our statement accurately reflect this. Our Statement of Purpose, which is essentially our mission statement, now reads:

The purpose of this organization is to develop, maintain, preserve and promote the sport of off-road bicycling in the Chequamegon Area in balance with the natural environment by:

1. Educating trail users about safe and responsible trail use.
2. Providing educational trail riding programs for men, women and youth.
3. Developing educational materials to permit greater and easier access to trail riding.
4. Assisting the U. S. Forest Service, Sawyer County Forestry Dept., Bayfield County Forestry Dept. and local townships to develop and maintain mountain bike trails on public lands.
5. Developing and distributing promotional materials to promote sustainable trail-based tourism.
6. Encouraging dialogue between trail users, public land managers, private landowners and other user groups.
7. Educating users, volunteers and the public about sustainable trail design and construction techniques and the values and benefits of mountain biking.
8. Promoting appreciation of and care for public lands.
9. Building, maintaining and promoting trail systems on public land for public use.
10. Organizing trail-based public events.

MINNEAPOLIS BIKE EXPO

CAMBA recently partnered with the Cable Area Chamber of Commerce, Telemark Resort, American Birkebeiner, Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival and Firehouse 50 for a substantial presence at the Minneapolis Bicycle Expo on March 3 and 4. The event, only in its second year, was again a tremendous success, despite a major late winter snowstorm. A special thanks to those volunteers who helped transport materials and staff the booth.



CAMBA KIDS

CAMBA Kids is a new program set to debut this summer. Modeled after the popular Nordic Kids cross country skiing program, CAMBA Kids will introduce young riders to off road riding and instruct them in the ways of the trail, safety, riding techniques and basic cycle maintenance. CAMBA board members Jeff Jackson and Darren Winchester have been instrumental in moving this project forward.

The purpose of CAMBA Kids is to provide an introduction to mountain biking for kids, encourage parent involvement and involve volunteers and local bicycle shops and mechanics. The inaugural season will run for four consecutive Saturday afternoons, June 2, 9, 16 and 23 from 2:00pm – 4:00pm. The cost will be \$10 for CAMBA family members/\$25 for non-CAMBA members which includes a set of CAMBA maps, skill set reference cards, and a milestone certificate upon completion as well as other goodies. Registration information will be available shortly.

The course will include: Safety First – wearing proper safety attire including helmet, gloves, eye protection and safety instruction; the Rules of the Trail – IMBA's basic guidelines for proper trail etiquette and responsible trail riding; Bicycle Maintenance – introduction to bicycle maintenance including tire pressure, repairing a flat tire, chain lubrication, brake adjustment and shifting adjustment; and Riding Skills - stability and the line, transitions, starting and stopping, riding over objects, you and the handle bars, learning to sit back when climbing, when a seat is not a seat, pedal power, lifting the front wheel and rear wheel (bunny hops) and putting it all together.



CAMBA ON THE TUBE

Last fall, several CAMBA volunteers joined Discover Wisconsin host Stephanie Klett and Producer Steve Jandacek for a day of filming on the Rock Lake Trail - Hildebrand Loop. The majority of the day's footage will be featured in a program on Wisconsin "extreme sports." A significant amount of time was spent at several locations along the trail, including the "No Hands Bridge" crossing. We are quite confident the program will very positively represent the CAMBA trails in general and this specific trail in particular.

This program is expected to air sometime early summer. When we get the actual airdate, we will let everyone know.



On Camera L-R: Jeff Jackson, Ron Bergin, John Leighton and Discover Wisconsin Host Stephanie Klett.



Discover Wisconsin crew interviews CAMBA board member John Leighton near the No Hands Bridge.

FINDING THE RHYTHM OF THE TRAIL

CAMBA board member and enthusiastic trail volunteer, John Leighton, has authored an instructional guide to riding single track trails titled, Finding the Rhythm of the Trail. Leighton's 6,000 plus-word booklet has already been used as the foundation of a course he taught to some of the Birkie Girls last summer. The content of this book will also be utilized in the CAMBA Kids program. The book will also be available for sale from CAMBA and in local bike shops. The proceeds will benefit CAMBA trail development efforts. A mid-summer publication date is anticipated.



RAFFLE TO HELP BUILD TRAILS

CAMBA will be conducting a fund raising raffle this season. The Grand prize will be a Trek 8000 mountain bike facilitated by Riverbrook Bike & Ski. Second prize is a Garmin GPS training system facilitated by New Moon Bike Shop. A weekend for two at Cresthill Resort will comprise the third prize and two 2008 Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival entries will go to the lucky fourth place winner. Tickets are \$5.00 each or five for \$20.00. The drawing will be held on Sept. 16, 2007 during the Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival.

YOU CAN HELP!

Enclosed with your newsletter is a book of raffle tickets, which we encourage you to sell to your friends and bicycling comrades. All proceeds will go to help fund our ambitious trail construction projects. Thanks for your assistance.

TRAIL BUILDING DVD AVAILABLE - FREE!

The U.S. Forest Service and IMBA have produced a free DVD called "Building Mountain Bike Trails - Sustainable Singletrack." It is the DVD companion to the IMBA Trail Solutions book. Free copies of the DVD can be ordered at www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/trailpub.htm.



HATCHERY CREEK TRAIL UPDATE

It was a remarkable year in the realm of new trail development in CAMBA Country. The new Hatchery Creek singletrack construction started in June and continued through mid August, with additional work later in the season. Approximately six miles of trail were constructed. Plans call for completing the initial loop and then discussing continuation of the project with Sawyer County Forestry Committee with a new loop north of Mosquito Brook Trail Head. Crew leader Steve Morales deserves a major pat on the back for shepherding this project along.

ROCK LAKE SEMI-PRIMITIVE NON-MOTORIZED AREA EXPANSION TO BE IMPLEMENTED

The Rock Lake trails lie an area of very large hard woods that have not been logged for decades and probably will not be logged in the future. For many years this area has been designated by the U.S. Forest Service as a semi-primitive, non-motorized area to provide the silent sports enthusiast a truly wonderful wilderness experience.

Three years ago as a result of the new management plan for the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, the part of the Namakagon Cluster lying west of FR 203 (Lost Land Lake Road) and FR 206 was added to the non-motorized area. This designation will be implemented in 2007. The Forest Service has posted road-closing signs on the roads to Patsy Lake and Wilson Lake. Both of these lakes have campsites that in the future will be accessible only by non-motorized means. This is a great opportunity for those seeking sanctuary and solitude.



FOREST SERVICE SEEKS COMMENTS ON TRAVEL MANAGEMENT RULE

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest is requesting public input on its Travel Management Rule, which essentially covers all motorized travel on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. More information can be found at www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf/rec/tmr/index.html.

In a nutshell, the rule will determine which forest roads and trails can be used for motorized travel.

To offer comments, go to www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf/rec/tmr/Public_comment_form%20010107.pdf.

FUND RAISING INITIATIVES CONTINUING

To tackle the major trail development projects this past season, CAMBA had to undertake an aggressive fund raising effort. This initiative took many forms, from mail solicitation, grant writing to good old personal contact. We were fortunate to receive several large grants and donations as well as numerous smaller donations. CAMBA is extremely grateful to everyone who contributed to this cause. But (you knew there had to be a "but"), we are far from finished with our trail projects and our financial needs remain daunting, though realistic. We will continue to require assistance from members, businesses, the community and many other sources. If you know of any appropriate potential funding sources, please let us know so that we may submit a proposal.

Thank you ever so much to those who contributed this past season to this significant project:

GRANNY GEAR GANG

Up to \$99

Ann Amundson
 Anonymous
 Steve Ashley
 Walt Baiby
 John Becker
 John Bogdanske
 Bob Bryan
 Mike Coleman
 Ronald Coltman
 Joshua Colton
 Karen DeBoiose
 James Emden
 Marcia Engrebretson
 Jeanine & Charlie Evenson
 Lonn Franson
 Mike Gerke
 Rob Grott
 Mike & Michelle Haag
 Jeff & Melissa Hall
 Mary & Gerry Hansen
 Hayward Super 8
 Chuck Henning
 Gregg Hietpas
 Ron Caple & Abett Icks
 Mellisa Dupke & Jacque Jardin
 Mark Jalovick

Edwin Janssen
 Martin Jarvis
 Ian Johnston
 Ann & Mike Jorgenson
 Steve Kapun
 John Kern
 Carolyn Krampe
 Scott Kuehn & Yvonne Kraimer
 Dave Larson & Desneige Emmons
 Russ Locuks
 Elger & Barbara Lorenzsonn
 Rich Malen
 Marketplace Foods
 Joe & Marlo McGaver
 Deno & Carolyn Mense
 Clair Morud
 Mt. Borah, LLC.
 Edna Mullen
 David Panzer
 Terry Penman
 Gary Pennington
 Perry Plank
 David Ramsfield
 Treeland Resort
 Ann Roberts
 Ray Samide
 John Schneider
 John Seiler

Kelly & Brad Skillicorn
 Tim Sonsalla
 Bob Strachota
 Brian Struble
 Cindy Storm & Cindy Bijold
 Sun Flour Market
 Kevin Supple
 Larry Swanson
 Roxanne Thomas
 Bruce Thomson
 Rodney Toogood & Gretchen Rowe
 Barry Torgerson
 John Uffenbeck
 Brian Watzke
 Roger Wollenzien
 Chuck Wolske
 Dick & Laurie Woodbury
 John Wyland
 Randy Zarecki

Sue Funk & Wood Kidner
 Nina Gilberg
 Peter Gleurm
 Gregory Gohman
 Grainger's Air Repair
 Outdoor Ventures Ltd.
 John & Gerda Saunders
 John Schneider
 Craig Smith
 The Club Tap
 Tremblay Sweet Shop
 Visitor Publications
 Jim Yoder

BIG RING CLUB

\$500 to \$5,000

Dynea Overlays, Inc.
 John & Carol Fitzgerald
 Hidden Bay Graphics
 Jeff Jackson & Family
 Ed Juda
 Terrence Kingston
 New Moon Bike Shop
 Round Lake Bike & Land Preservation
 John Scholz
 Fred Scheer/Up North Retreats
 Zeigler Inc.

MIDDLE RING MOVERS

\$100 to \$499

John Becker
 Jane Bidwell
 Karen & Bill Boyd
 Scott Chapin
 Mike & Cindy Cragg
 Gary Fifield



CAMBA Membership Form

Membership in the Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association is open to anyone interested in joining. We encourage you to join and help support CAMBA in maintaining the trail system.

All memberships expire annually on April 1.

Name/Business _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Dues Enclosed: NEW MEMBER RENEWAL

\$25 - Individual \$40 - Family \$50 - Business/Club \$100 - Premium \$_____ Contribution

Renewing Members only: Please send me a new set of FREE maps Thanks, the maps I have are fine

I am also interested in:

SPONSORSHIP and **AREA MAP ADVERTISING**

VOLUNTEER INFO - Join us for trail work and other projects throughout the year.

MAPS - I do not wish to join at this time; however, please send me the CAMBA overview map and a set of cluster maps for which I have enclosed \$5 plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling.

Clip and mail with your check to: CAMBA - P.O. Box 141 - Cable, WI 54821