

GRAND FORKS ATV CLUB HOSTS SPRING FLING EVENT

The Grand Forks ATV Club put on a great Spring Fling event this past May long weekend. Setup in the Overwaitea parking lot, the club supplied the public with information regarding All Terrain Vehicles. The Quad Riders ATV Association of British Columbia (ATV/BC) provided their promotional trailer which was stocked with safety, licensing and registration information. Don Frew – the ATV/BC Director for the Grand Forks ATV Club – was on site, providing safety information with his knowledge as a CSC ATV Safety Instructor. The local club signed up half a dozen new members and with BBQ's going the events committee sold numerous hamburgers, hot dogs and refreshments. Many people came from out of town to show their support and took part in the activities that were happening. Later that evening there was a dance going on at a local hall with B&W Music providing the entertainment. Approximately 30 people gathered, sharing stories and dancing the night away. Sunday morning the ATV Club assisted the Elks Lodge #493 as they hosted a pancake breakfast in the Overwaitea parking lot.



“That’s what people come here for, is to ride” said Don Frew, and the Grand Forks ATV Club delivered. Saturday, Ray Johnson took a group of 16 ATV’s just west of town on an excellent ride up and around the Phoenix ski area. After stopping for a quick snack at an old abandoned home site, the group continued on to the Merritt Mine where a snow and hail storm brought the tour to a halt for half of an hour. The group carried on to the old City of Paris mine site, followed by McCarren Creek, the Phoenix Mine and ending at the Phoenix ski hill where they enjoyed an outstanding view.

Sunday, Ray Johnson took a group up toward Jewel Lake, while Cody Zorn led a group just east of Grand Forks. Ray's group travelled north on the Trans Canada Trail to Eholt. The riders had an opportunity to stop and view some spectacular scenery while heading towards Jewel Lake. The riders rested at Eholt before travelling on to Pelley Mountain. From there they took the stump trail that brought them out at the north end of Jewel Lake where they stopped for lunch. After lunch, the plan was to ride up to the lookout on Mt. Roderick Dhu, however, due to deep snow in the shaded areas the tour instead headed down the Eholt trail stopping at Boldue Lake. From there they made a large loop near the Rock Candy Mine, returned to the Rathmullen trail and stopped to view the old B.C. mine site before returning to the parking area.

Cody's group left Morrissey Creek Rd. heading towards Sand Creek Rd. The club was proud to host two directors of ATV/BC, two others that were directors in the past and a CSC ATV Safety Instructor. There were ATV Club members from Vernon, Sicamous, Elkford, and the West Kootney's.

After informing the riders that the area is known for Rattlesnakes, the group headed past Lost Lake toward Sand Creek, stopping at the old Starchuck's Sawmill for a lunch break. The group then proceeded up the power line road and hooked back into Morrissey Creek Road. Almost to the top of Morrissey lookout the riders were brought to a halt when they came across three



feet of snow in a shady area. Returning back the same way the group continued down Morrissey, then up to a beautiful lookout over Grand Forks (see group picture on next page) before finishing the ride at Lost Lake, which was recently fenced off in an effort to restore and preserve the lake.



Monday there was another ride up Hardy Mountain. The three hour trip was made with fourteen machines taking part. The ride commenced from a parking area off Hwy. #3 west of Grand Forks. An old trail that was badly washed in areas led to Crook Lake, from there to the power line, then down the Hardy Mtn. road to a trail on Eagle Mountain. At a view point on this trail you can see the City of Grand Forks, the Kettle River valley in Canada and the U.S. and east to the Santa Rosa summit. After enjoying the view, taking photos and having a snack, the riders returned to the parking area.

The Grand Forks ATV Club has been working hard to support the ATV community in and around Grand Forks. The overall public perception of the sport has never been that great and the club is working to improve that. The club signed up and certified twelve local riders through an ATV Safety Course. The local club is also working to create better ATV trails in the area, with maps indicating where people can and cannot ride. ATV/BC offers a variety of trail signage to ATV clubs throughout the province. The Grand Forks ATV Club would like to thank all the volunteers and guests that participated in this event, Overwaitea foods for their support and a special thank you to the Grand Forks ATV Club Events Committee for making it happen.