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# NEWSLETTER

Local Dirt Bike News

March 1998

It's February. Not much going on with dirt bikes this time of the year. Oh, sure, the supercross season has started, but between ESPN2, the big time magazines and the internet, they have that pretty much covered. But did you see Lusk reach up and straighten his front fender 30 feet in the air over a triple? Wild! Speaking of the internet, I thought I would fill up some of the space in this issue discussing the neat stuff about dirt bikes on the net. I hope I don't bore anyone.

If you race, by the time you read this, both the Missouri State Hare Scramble series and the Black Jack Enduro Circuit will have started. I've got to spend some cold nights in the garage to get ready; you know, tires, piston, change the fork oil, grease the linkage, new chain and sprockets and more.

## CHADWICK

I called Jim Voyles at the National Forest Office in Ava to ask him about the expansion at the Cobb Ridge campground at Chadwick. At the time we talked, February 12, he had not heard of any appeals being filed. Any appeals had to be post marked by February 9, so it is possible there may be one or more in the mail.

We discussed what the campers are supposed to do when they get to Cobb Ridge campground after the expansion is finished. Jim said the standard practice is for the camper to pick a site, then go back to the host to pay. If you are going down to ride, but not camp, you will need to park at Camp Ridge campground or down at the pavillion in the KC campground. They are going to see how things work out, but the riding permits will still be purchased at Kay's in Chadwick.

## OMTRA

Things are looking good with the Ozark Mountain Trail Riders. We have had several very successful events, like the float trip back in August, October's enduro, the New Year's Day clean up and trail ride and most recently the work day at Chadwick on February 1. Membership is up over 50 members! We already have a couple of things on the calender for 1998, like a rider awareness day in May and a Black Jack enduro in October.

## THANKS

It looks like things are starting to settle down with the newsletter. I want to thank all the advertisers, without them this newsletter would not be possible.

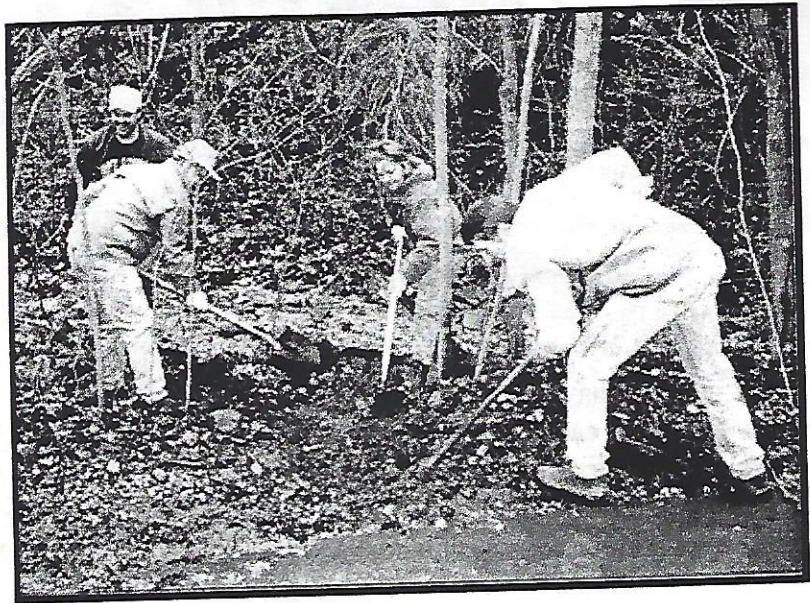
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# CHADWICK WORK DAY

As I mentioned last month, nine members of the Ozark Mountain Trail Riders Association spent February 1 putting in drainage ditches along 101. This required that we dig trenches draining the huge water holes that had developed on the trail.

This was hard work. We had pick axes, rock bars, shovels and even a hoe. Now, we are talking about the Ozarks. This means rocks. After a while we developed a system. Someone with a rock bar or pick axe would loosen up the ground, then someone else with a shovel or the hoe would move the dirt out of the way.

Of course, a few interesting things happened that day. For example, we had Joy's four wheeler to carry



L to R Dale Willis, Larry Scharnhorst, Joy Reynaud and Rusty Reynaud

things, including a cooler with some sodas. Nine dirt bikers, but no one brought a tie down to secure the cooler to the rack on the four wheeler. I finally gave up and used my belt to kinda hold it on. Rusty did finally get it to bail out, spilling its contents and Larry Schornhorst in the process.

Then, Joy "Goggle Police" Reynaud managed to splash herself while digging one of the ditches. This was easy to do considering the conditions. Joy, what would your mother say if she knew you were out there in the woods without your goggles!

We used Dale Willis' truck to transport us down the two track leading out the back of Cobb Ridge camp ground as far as possible. Now, on

*(Continued on page 3)*

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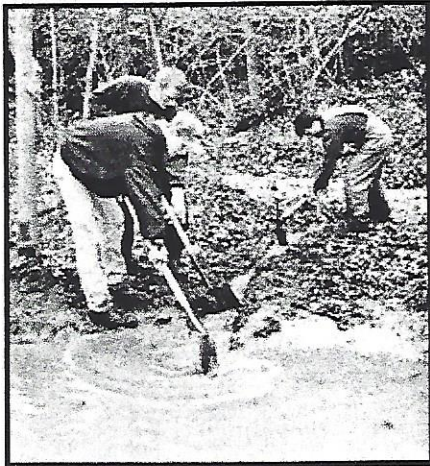
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(Continued from page 2)

a bike this is a wide open trail. But, in a three quarter ton Ford pickup with extended cab and a long bed, this seems like the tightest single track. Thanks, Dale.



L to R, James Grier, Justin Choate and Dwayne Mikili

We finished up at the intersection of 101 and 122D. This is also called Boy Scout camp. We tried to talk Rusty into taking the four wheeler up 122D, a very nasty rocky climb, and going back to the pavillion to get another truck and give us all a ride back.

Rusty didn't want to take the four wheeler up the hill. He said it was too tough. Joy thought she had ridden the four wheeler up this hill. Rusty thought if Joy had tried to ride the four wheeler up the hill, she would have still been there. You gotta love it.



Here's the rest of the story: June Grier supervising the crew.

So we had to walk back to the truck. 101 is a lot longer when you are walking it.

Again, thanks to everyone who helped. It sure was nice the next time I rode 101!

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# DMTIRA

## Minutes from the February 9 meeting

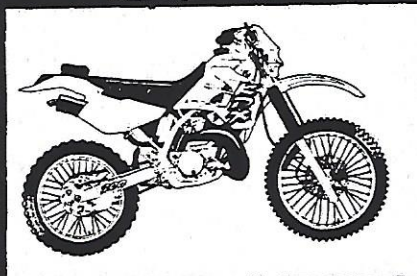
Now, this is really going to be a trick, since I did not show up until the last few minutes of the meeting. Which means by the time I got there the meeting had degenerated to a pretty good bench racing session.

We are shooting for the rider awareness day at Chadwick sometime in May.

Jerry Sharp is putting on the Missouri State Hare Scramble on April 26 just north of Bolivar. He is looking for a few good people to help him with the event. OK, a few warm bodies that can help arrow and score. I fit those qualifications and I am going to try and help.

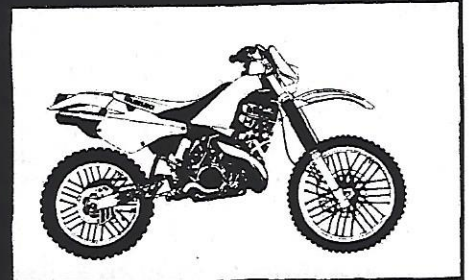
The next meeting is March 19 at the Repair Shop at 2251 E. Kearney at 7:00 PM.

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It must be interesting being Tony Kirkup. Tony tried to unload his bike without removing both tie downs. You get the picture. Enough said.

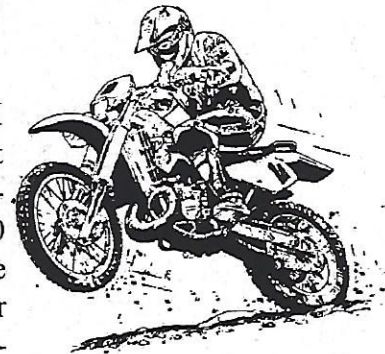
I received a note from Greg Lowe about the MO-ARK Hare Scramble Series. He said, *This is a well ran series. I rode all 4 last year. Rider turnout probably averaged 50-75 bikes, although I expect more this year. Good people involved in this series, lots of fun!* The dates and locations are included in the Mark Your Calender section of this newsletter.

The date for the Stillwater enduro has changed. Several times actually. Now, the date is April 5. The date in Keytime is incorrect *It was*

*correct at the time it was printed. It just got changed.* I understand the Tulsa Trail Riders are going to hold a European-style enduro at the Stillwater riding area. If you are unfamiliar with European, also known as qualifier style, enduros, they are different from the standard time-distance events. Instead of going a set speed average with secret checks, the check locations are known and you can arrive early, but you cannot go into them early without penalty. Then, you have special tests where the purpose is to go as

fast as possible. The winner is usually determined by the rider that has the fastest combined time through the special tests.

The last time I talked to Mel at Action Cycle, approximately 400 people have made reservations for the St. Louis supercross.



Casey Haynes is on the disabled list, again. He was up at Collins and managed to dislocate his shoulder, hurt his knee and bruise some ribs. This is the same person that had pins sticking out of his arm less than a year ago. He told me that he was tired of the hospital time and might get something mellower than riding a full on motocrosser in the woods. See, he is trainable.

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Randall Mathis gave me these photos taken at the fall Chadwick enduro.



Shawn Hall, OMTRA Chairman, has just presented Rick Moon, National Forest Representative, a plaque thanking the Forest Service



Jim Moon presents the sign dedicating the picnic shelter to Aggie St. Clair.

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# Riding the Net

You're thinking to yourself: *Why do I want to read this article? I don't know a scroll bar from a food bar. Ok, I do know a food bar when I see one, in fact I take food very seriously. But, I don't have a computer and I am NOT a nerd. What can a dirt biker do on the internet?*

First, there is e-mail. This is so handy if most of the dirt bikers you know require a long distance call. When you sign up for the internet, you get to make up an e-mail address for yourself. It

makes it very easy and fast to send a message to other people with e-mail, and if you want to send copies to other people, this can be done with just a few simple mouse clicks.

Then, there are web pages. Every manufacturer and almost every aftermarket company has a web page. Most of these web pages are just advertising; they give you bike specs etc. On of the aftermarket side: [www.eric-gorr.com](http://www.eric-gorr.com) is one of my favorites. He has a lot of good technical

stuff. Eric Gorr used to do the "Ask Dr. Dirt" in Dirt Rider until he quit in November. It looks like he will be focusing on a new company, Max Power Cylinders Inc., a British joint venture located in Madison, Wisconsin.

Another good web site is [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com). You are asking yourself, what does the weather channel have to do with dirt bkes? You can use it to get a local five day forecast for any major city. This is very handy when the race is eight hours

*(Continued on page 7)*

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(Continued from page 6)  
away.

Then of course there is [www.cyclenews.com](http://www.cyclenews.com). They have the virtual grandstand. They have someone at all the Supercross races to update the website as the race progresses. You get to find out the results of the race as soon as it is over. This is the first one to add to your list of favorites! I just found out it was an all Yamaha podium for the 250 class in Atlanta with McGrath, Button and Windham.

[www.motocross.com](http://www.motocross.com) is another popular site. They have a motocross/dirt bike chat room.

This is kind of interesting. You just don't know who you will find in there. Sometimes it is just a bunch of 15 year olds. And since I have not been 15 for a very long time, I find this kind of boring. Other times there will be more older riders. (They also have a vet chat room, but most of the time I find this empty. Maybe I have just been there at the wrong time.) There is a moderator, so if one of the kids gets out of hand, like sending the same message over and over, thus filling up the screen, or using bad language, they are booted.

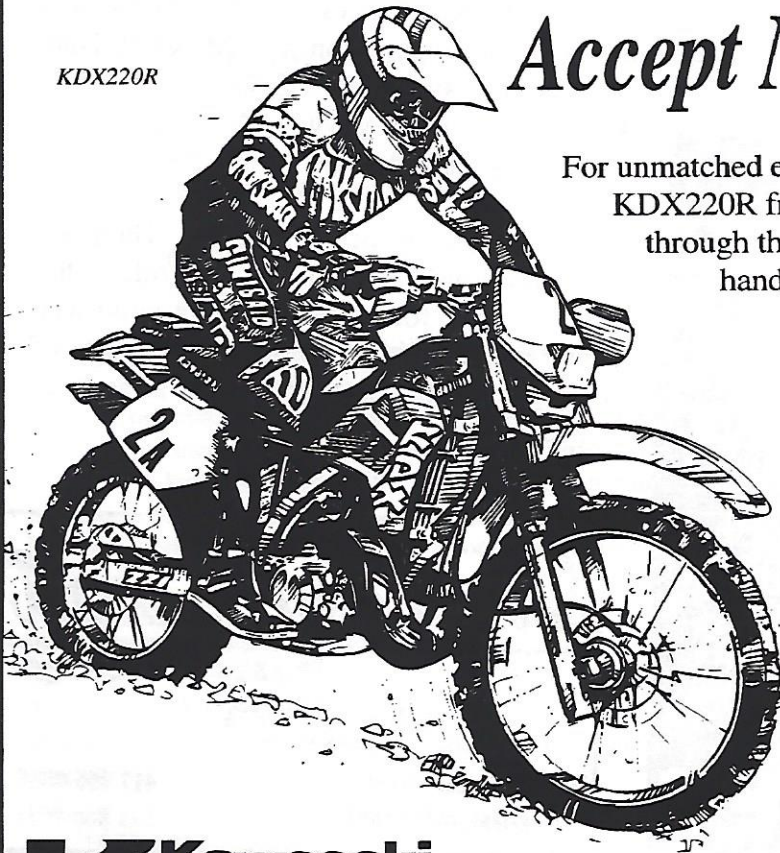
If you do find older riders, it is fun to just start bench racing. I

have started "chatting" with someone and found they are from around here and have ridden in races that I have ridden in or have ridden at Chadwick.

One of my favorite things on the internet is called a newsgroup. The one for dirt bikes is called [rec.motorcycle.dirt](http://rec.motorcycle.dirt). It gives you access to dirt bikers all over the country. If you have a question about some obscure brand or older motorcycle, there is a good chance somebody might be able to help. When a new model is released, you will see posting asking about it, for example, you might see a message like "has anyone ridden the new

(Continued on page 8)

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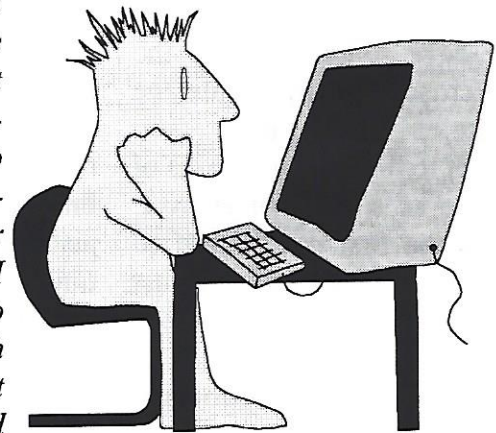
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YZ400F." Then, there will be responses and maybe more questions.

Something very similar to the the newsgroup is the message board at [www.motocross.com](http://www.motocross.com). It was through the message board that I started communicating with an enduro rider from Finland. I received this e-mail from him. I have not edited it, so you can see a few errors in his English, but he writes much better English then I write Finnish. *Hi Bob, my name in Jani Hovi and I'm from Finland. You were interested about Finish enduro. Our National series start at 1.March and it has seven races and it finishes at fall. Our races are the same like the Six days enduro. Races are about 100-150 kilometers all but one race, the one race is called Päijänteen Ympäriaajo it is at 17.-19. April and it is about 1000 kilometers long. It has about 30 special stages, and the special stages lasts 10 minutes to one hour. We start the race at friday at 2.00 pm and come to break at 6.00 pm. At saturday we start at 6.00 am and finish the day at 6.00 pm. And the final*

*day sunday we start also at 6.00 am and finish the race about 3.00 pm. It long and we hard race. Normaly our races lasts only one day and start about 9.00 am and finish about 4.00 pm. In normal races we have about 6 - 8 special stages and last 10 minutes to 40 minutes per stages. I have to finnish now but I send you another messege later.*



What do you think of that? It doesn't sound like many wimps are going to ride or at least finsh the Päijänteen Ympäriaajo.

There are three web sites including race schedules and information on the Missouri Hare Scramble Championship Series. They are [www.atving.com](http://www.atving.com), [www.xoffroad.com](http://www.xoffroad.com) and [www.harescramble.com](http://www.harescramble.com).

This is just the tip of the icebreg. There are many more web sites to visit and other chat rooms. I have found the internet a good way to find out what is going on in other parts of the country or find out race results as soon as they happen.

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