

Observer

The newsletter of the New England Trials Association

Meriden Fun Trial

Meriden will have a fun trial the day before the August 6th NETA event. This will be self checked, gated trial. The entry fee is \$20.00 and all proceeds will be donated to the Nerden Camp for handicapped children. The event will start at 12:00 noon, to give travelers a little extra time, and last 4 hours. Food will be available Saturday afternoon/evening and Sunday. Onsite camping is allowed Friday and Saturday night.

For those not familiar with gated trials, here's the general idea. We will have eight sections and five loops. All riders will ride the same eight sections, regardless of their riding ability. A section consists of a ribboned area with a relative easy line through it that can be ridden by novice riders, vintage machines and even non-trials machines. In the section will be gates marked with arrows or flags.

Each section will have at least three gates. Each gate has a value assigned to it, low values for easy obstacles, high point values for more difficult ones. The rider earns 1 point for successfully negotiating the section without riding through any gates. The value of each gate successfully ridden is added to the rider's score. BUT, if the rider dabs, even once, all points are lost for that ride of that section.

Add up the points and the rider with the HIGH score wins. Because you ride only the gates you want, all ability levels can ride together and have a great time trying to talk each other into riding gates they probably shouldn't.

Meriden ran some gated fun trials a couple of years back and a great time was had by all. Come down have a great time and help the Nerden Camp. Steve Nichols, Meriden Motorcycle Club



2006 Youth Nationals

The NETA Youth Team had a great time at the Youth Nationals at The Trials Training Center in Tennessee. Here's the podium from the Women's Open Expert class where Caroline Altman narrowly beat out Caroline Allen for the win. Full report and more results inside.

August 2006

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WWW.NEWENGLANDTRIALS.ORG

Results from Round 3, New England Trials Association 2006 Regional Championship
Woody World, Salisbury, New Hampshire
Rock and Roll Trials Club
June 11, 2006

Expert: 1. Daniel Allen 79; 2. Albert Parente 95; 3. Keith Dumaine 103; 4. Charlie Ives 110.

Advanced: 1. Wayne Galvin 58; 2. Ryder Schnaithman 68; 3. Ryan Bottesi 75; 4. William Altman 77; 5. Louis Gagliano 90; 6. John Altman 91; 7. Brad Williams 97; 8. Jeffrey Salois 114.

Intermediate: 1. Abram Lefebvre 17; 2. Caroline Allen 25; 3. Rick Fecteau 28; 4. Caroline Altman 31; 5. Donald McCabe 42; 6. James Mason 56; 7. Luis Colom 57; 8. Scott Armstrong 57; 9. Charles Gray 72; 10. Carlos Semeghini 91.

Novice: 1. Shawn Phelps 8; 2. Craig Buonanni 12; 3. Mike Green 18; 4. Thomas Hall 27; 5. Mark Leipert 27; 6. Bill Jessop Jr. 31; 7. Steve Singer 38; 8. Dale Miner 45.

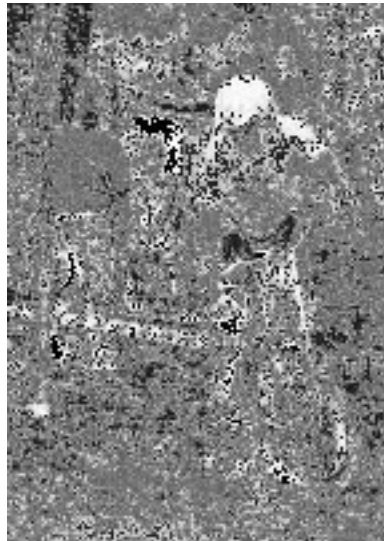
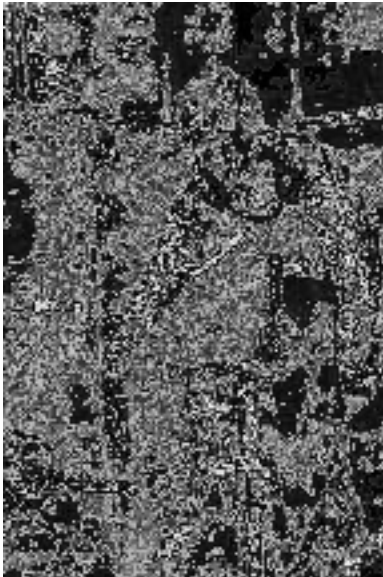
Senior Advanced: 1. Joe Antonelli 59; 2. J.N. Lemmon 68; 3. Jack Tierney 81; 4. Dave Allen 85

Senior A: 1. Jason Thibodeau 1; 2. Alan Gasbarro 16; 3. Peter Lacagnina 21; 4. Carl Swanson 26; 5. Butch Ives 28; 6. Hub Brennan 29; 7. Mike Scioschetti 35; 8. Kerry Coon 43; 9. Robert Kwalek 46; 10. Mike Felano 48; 11. Bob Doyle 49; 12. Ray Costantino 59; 13. William Bonneau 68.

Senior B: 1. Bill McCormick 1; 2. John Cheresko 3; 3. George Truesdale 6; 4. John Thomas 7; 5. Alan Carey 16; 6. Robert Young 19; 7. Richard Bouchard 21; 8. Leo F. O'Shea 23; 9. Brian Beck 29; 10. Ron Fraser 39; 11. Sam Singer 76.

Beginner: 1. Robert Thorp 1; 2. Austin Gray 12.

Photos by Jimmy Grabbert (L to R):
Abe Lefebvre; Bill McCormick; Robbie Thorp.



NETA Schedule Heats Up

Here it is almost August, and we've only had three events so far this season. Don't despair, we have five days of competition coming up in the next six weeks along with two fun events and a National. Here's the directions.

Meriden, CT: From the North: I-91 South to exit 20. Left onto Middle St. Right at Stop sign onto Country Club Rd. After 1.4 miles take right onto Stantack Rd. From the South: I-91 North to exit 20. Left onto Country Club Rd. Straight through the stop sign, then 1.4 miles to Stantack Rd on right. Watch for arrows and sign that says "Motorcycle Event Today"

Foxboro, MA: Route 495 to Exit 14. Route 1 North for 2.5 miles. Highrock Road on right. Follow the arrows.

Smith Berry Farm, RI: From Rt-95 take Rt-102 South (long ride) to Rt-4 South. Rt-4 South becomes Rt-1 South. 1/4 mile after the junction of Rt-138 turn Right onto Shermantown Rd. Follow Shermantown Rd for one mile. Smith's Berry Farm will be on the left.

Highgate, VT: I-89 North. Take Exit 21 (Swanton). Take a right off the ramp and an immediate left onto Frontage Road. Follow 3 miles to stop sign and go straight through onto Fortin Road (1 mile). Watch for

arrows. Parking will be on the left.

Exeter, RI: From RT-95 exit 5B to RT-102 South. Turn right onto RT-3. Follow Rt-3 for approx 2 miles to junction of Rt-165. Turn right onto RT-165 and follow for approx 6 miles. At top of hill turn right onto Escoheag Hill Road. Watch for arrows. From the West: Rt-165. Left on Escoheag Hill Road. Watch for arrows.

Check the NETA web site for changes and for GPS coordinates.

Don't forget that the Youth events at all NETA events start at 10am.

2006 NETA Schedule (NETA events are in bold and start at 11am. See www.newenglandtrials.org for directions.)

August 5	Meriden Fun Trial	Meriden, CT
August 6	Meriden Motorcycle Club	Meriden, CT Steve Nichols, (203) 245-1304
August 13	King Philip Trail Riders	Foxboro, MA Abe Lefebvre; (401)726-9884
August 26-27	Rhode Island Trials Club	NATC/AMA National Event: Smith Berry Farm, North Kingston, RI
September 2-3	Green Mountain Plonkers	Highgate, VT Rick Fecteau (802)872-5897
September 16	Rhode Island Trials Club Vintage Trial (9am) and Stepping Stone Challenge (1pm)	Exeter, RI Dave Allen, (508)285-6074
September 17	Rhode Island Trials Club	Exeter, RI Dave Allen, (508)285-6074
October 7-8	Capital Area Trial Riders	Northville, NY Peter Lacagnina, (518)393-3521
October 22	Meriden Motorcycle Club	Meriden, CT George Eddy, (203)237-2377

The Plonkers Need You!

Rick Fecteau reports that the Green Mountain Plonkers are in desperate need of checkers for the two events they are running over the Labor Day weekend. Rick would really like volunteers to sign up ahead of time. Anyone wishing to check can contact him through the GMP web site e-mail address: info@GreenMountainPlonkers.org. Because of the shortage the club may also need someone to take the Pee Wees around on each day.



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Rhode Island Trials Club plans a weekend of trials action.

The Rhode Island Trials Club is planning a weekend of exciting trials action at their facility at the Arcadia Management Area in Exeter, Rhode Island. Three events will be crammed into the weekend of September 16, 17. There will be something for everybody who can get their hands on a trials machine, and it also promises to be a great weekend for spectators (admission is free for spectators on both days).

The weekend kicks off at 9am on Saturday morning with an event for vintage trials bikes. The location at Exeter marks the site of the first-ever round of the World Trials Championship in 1975, and much of the same terrain will be used for this year's event. There will be three classes for riders of different ability (expert, intermediate, and novice), and the difficulty of the sections will match the rider's skill level. There will also be separate sections that will cater for vintage sidecars and for beginner riders. Riders will tackle six sections and make five laps of the course. Riders of modern machines are also invited to participate if they want to sharpen their riding skills and enjoy the challenging sections. A full set of vintage rules is available on the club's web site at www.ritrialsclub.com/vintagerules.htm

At 1pm on Saturday riders of

modern trials bikes are invited to compete in the Stepping Stone Challenge. Previous events have matched the best trials riders in New England against a course that pushed their skill to the limit. This year the format of the event will differ. The aim is to make it more rideable and fun for a wider range of competitors, while still maintaining a challenge to the top riders. All proceeds from this event will support the US team at this year's TdN in France.

Riders will make three laps over a short course. They will face three traditional sections on each lap, but they will also be forced to ride two Moorland Gate Trials sections, and a timed section. The rider that can put together the best combination of control, precision, and speed will be crowned the winner of the Stepping Stone Challenge.

On Sunday morning Round 8 of the New England Trials Association (NETA) Regional Championship starts at 11am. NETA offers classes for riders of all abilities, and the club has promised a course at Exeter that will be friendly towards Novice riders although Expert riders don't expect to get off so easily. Riders cover five laps and are scored through eight sections on each lap. The top riders compete on sections that are separate from the novice riders. More information about NETA's regional series and directions to the events can be found at www.newenglandtrials.org

Camping is available at the Embers Campground across from the Stepping Stone Ranch on Escoheag Road. You may wish to make reservations for hookup sites (www.oakembers.com).



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Advertising in the NETA newsletter

We would like cover part of the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter with money raised from advertising. We would really like to encourage season-long business card sized ads. The following are the advertising rates: A season of business card ads is \$50. (4-5 issues) A season of half-page ads is \$200. A season of full-page ads is \$500. A one-off business card ad is \$20. A one-off half page is \$50. A one-off full page is \$100. Support the dealers that support NETA.

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2006 Youth Nationals and Women's Open

By Caroline Allen

Every year the Youth Nationals and Women's Open has been a huge success and a lot of fun. The Trials Training Center in Sequatchie, Tennessee does a great job putting the event on. This year proved to be the same.

My family drove down this year in our motor home for the event. We left a few days before the competition was scheduled to begin. It took us seventeen hours of driving to get there, but it proved to be worth it. (We got to ride for a whole week down there!) Fortunately, we didn't have any problems with the motor home on the way down, such as flat tires, engine problems, etc. We arrived at the Trials Training Center the day before the first day of competition. I was very anxious to ride because I would be riding against kids my age from all over the country!

The first day of competition was located along the mountain side on the limestone rocks. I was extremely nervous going into the first section because all of my competition was watching me ride the section as they walked it. However, after cleaning the first section, I was not as nervous. The sections were mostly tight turns and hits and were probably the hardest of all three days of competition. The first day of competition was a lot of fun, but the temperature was extremely hot!

The second day of competition was located along a dry riverbed. I was a little nervous before the event, but after the first loop I knew it would be a fun day of riding. The sections were mostly turns on roots or bumbly rocks and hits, similar to the first day.

They were probably the easiest sections of all three days of competition. My first two loops were really good, but then I got lazy in a section on the third loop and got a five. Then, my third and fourth loops were not so good, but it was still fun!

The last day of competition was located in the same area as the second day. The first section had two camber turns on a hillside, which was clean

able at first, but loose dirt and roots made it hard by the end of the day. The sections were mostly turns on a hill or bank and a hit on a rock or log. The sections were mostly easy, but there were some hard ones too. Luckily, it didn't rain during the competition or the sections would have become virtually impossible. The last day was a lot a fun, but I was somewhat relieved that the competition was over!

My family stayed for the week after the competition. During the week, there was an American Trials Camp taking place. This was for teenagers from all over the country to get together at the Trials Training Center and ride together for a whole week with Bruce le Riche and David Chaves. The camp is really good because you get to hang out with other kids your age and riding together pushes everyone to do bigger stuff, they may not do when riding by themselves. My brother, Dannny, took part in the camp, but I just rode for fun all week instead.

The Trials Training Center has an awesome riding area that is a lot of fun just to practice on, not to mention have an event on. Overall, going to the Youth Nationals and Women's Open is a great experience and I recommend to anyone who has never gone to the Trials Training Center to go because it is a lot of fun!

Results from 2006 Youth Nationals

12-year old: 8. Spencer Cary

13-year old: 6. Caroline Altman; 8. Caroline Allen

14 year-old: 2. David Aldo

Open Youth: 6. William Altman

Womens Novice: 3. Lily Altman

Womens Expert: 1. Caroline Altman; 2. Caroline Allen

Womens Open: 1. Louise Forsley

Photos by Bill Ibsen (top to bottom): Louise Forsley, Caroline Altman, Caroline Allen.



Checkers Wanted for Rhode Island Trials Club National

The Rhode Island Trials Club will be hosting Rounds 7 and 8 of the North American Trials Council's National Trials Series August 26th and 27th at the Smith Berry Farm in North Kingston, Rhode Island.

We need your help as checkers to make this event a success. Not to slight the people who put many many hours into clearing the woods and setting up the sections but on the day of the event the checkers are one of the most important ingredients of a successful trials event. We cannot do it without you.

If you are willing to check either day or both please reply to this letter or send me an email. If you see me at an event and tell me that you are going to check; I might misplace your information. If you send me a letter back I will have your mailing information so that I can send you your section assignment and rules information before the event.

I already said this once; but I cannot understate how important the checkers are to these events. New England has a very good group of people who have checked national and international trials and I know you will support this event as you have in the past.

If you have never checked an event this is a good chance to learn how and to get experience working with some of the best checkers in the country. Even better you will get to see the best riders in the country closer and much more personally than you would as a spectator.

I am looking forward to getting your response; let me know whether you can check on Saturday or Sunday or even better both days. If you want to check with someone let me know and I will try to put you in the same section.

Send your reply to

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How many Rhode Island Trials Club members can you spot as Dougie takes his Montesa through tech inspection at the Tennessee World Round in May?. Club members manned the medical crew at the event on Saturday and Sunday under the supervision of rider/physician Hub Brennan.

Photo by Travis Johansen
(tjsphotography.blogspot.com)

NETA Newsletter

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