

The Ammonoosuc River Turkey Run

Hosted by the Norumbega and Montshire Trail Riders

(History 01/2019)

The Ammonoosuc River Turkey Run is a non-competitive dual sport charity motorcycle event that has been held for over 40 years. The originators of the event were locals from Littleton N.H. In 1976, The Norumbega Trail Riders (NTR) took over the challenge of hosting this event as the founders were moving on. The Norumbega Trail Riders is an off road motorcycle club based in Massachusetts. The Montshire Trail Riders of Vermont partnered with NTR in 2010 to host a Saturday event. The NTR club is a charter member of the New England Trail Riders Association (NETRA). NETRA has an approximate membership of 3000 riders across the six New England States.

The two day ride is a sanctioned event with NETRA. The State of NH grants a permit for this event as well. All motorcycles are registered for street use. To assist us in policing the event the Grafton County Sheriff's and Haverhill police departments are requested to and have provided a uniformed officer at the starting area.

The Saturday and Sunday events at present are each over 100 miles long and held annually the first weekend after Labor Day. Both events start from the North Haverhill Fairgrounds in NH. The Saturday scenic ride goes through many communities in Vermont which include Topsham, Newbury, Bradford, Corinth, West Fairlee, Washington and Vershire. The Sunday ride passes through New Hampshire and Vermont including the towns of Haverhill, Swiftwater, Landaff, Lisbon, Lyman, Bath, and Woodsville NH. in VT., the towns of Wells River and Newbury. The course uses a combination of class 4 & 6 unmaintained roads, town roads and private land. The event draws riders from not only the New England area but as far away as NY, NJ, and Canada (2014 from South Africa!). In 2015 the South African came back to ride again!

The clubs are a not for profit organizations. The proceeds raised at the event are donated back to the communities that the ride passes through. Over the years the recipients range from the 4H, VFW, Life Squads, Senior Centers, Jimmy Fund, Shelters, Special Needs for Children, Historical building renovation, Covered Bridge Restorations, Schools, Police, Fire and even a town Gazebo. To date more than **\$154,000.00** dollars in gifts and financial donations have been given back into the communities. The landowners that help & work with us to put on this event are also asked for suggestions where donations could be made at the local level.

In 2003, **ZOLL Medical Corporation** located in Chelmsford Massachusetts and The Norumbega Trail Riders entered an agreement for the purchase of ZOLL's Automated External Defibrillators (AED's). With ZOLL's assistance and commitment to advancing resuscitation at the local level, the club intends to make AED donations an annual event.

2018: 4 ZOLL AED defibrillators are once again to be donated. (2 AED's from each day's ride NH. & VT) Bringing the total number of AED's donated to **51**. The defibrillators are going to Lisbon NH EMS Station, Town of Landaff NH Town Hall, Town of Newbury VT Town Hall and the Town of Groton VT Highway dept. Financial donations from this year's event are in excess of \$8000.00. The N.H. distributions are: Lisbon Lions Santa Fund, Newbury (VT.) Food Shelf, Operation Santa Clause (Bradford VT.), Woodsville (NH.) Food Pantry, Grafton County 4-H Teen Club, North Haverhill F.D., Friends of Bath (NH.), Newbury Alumni Scholarship fund, Lisbon Life Squad. As of 11/28/18 the VT distributions have not been finalized.