



# OVER THE HILLS GANG

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOL 69 | SEPTEMBER 2025



**25 YEARS OF TRAILS**  
Over The Hills Gang ATV Club  
Emily-Outing-Fifty Lakes

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2002 - OTHG starts an annual event called the Pork-N-Ride.

2002 - Meri Lynne begins her 15 year stint as Club President (2002-2017).

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2005 - OTHG hosted ATV/MN Fall Convention, now known as Ride & Rally.

2006 - OTHG starts the annual Ladies Only Ride. The ride theme was "Where's The Moose?"

2014 - OTHG opened the Emily Outing Grant-In-Aid ATV Trail, which includes Moose River Trails.

2015 - OTHG begins Polar Bear Ride, now called Getting Loose on the Moose.

2016 - OTHG begins the annual Exploring Minnesota Ride.

2017 - Perry May becomes Club President (2017-2022).

2017 - OTHG hosts WCCO Liz Collins and Chris Schaeffer in 'Goin' to the Lake' segment.

2018 - OTHG starts ATV Safety Day on the Trails.

2021 - OTHG opened the Emily Blind Lake Grant-In-Aid ATV Trail (1<sup>st</sup> ATV Selfie Station in State of Minnesota).

2022 - OTHG hosted the ATV/MN Ride & Rally in Fifty Lakes.

2022 - OTHG joins the Northwoods Regional ATV Trail Alliance.

2022 - Steve Beneke becomes Club President (2022-present).

2023 - OTHG starts Pizza Party multi-club event.

2024 - OTHG begins Winter Grant-In-Aid Trail on Moose River Trails.

2025 - 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of OTHG!

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**OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS**

Annual Adopt-A-Highway clean up on County Highway 58 in Outing.

Annual Youth ATV Safety Training event. 2-3 classes per year.

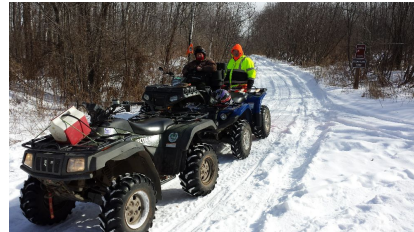
Annual Emily Day Parade participation.



## 2001 Ride and Club Meeting



Original Color Logo  
1st Winter Ride 2016



## Media & Communications

[Check Out Our Events Calendar](#)

### Events

[2025 Event schedule](#) is here! Go to our website and print out a copy for your fridge!  
[HERE](#)

These events don't happen by accident. They are planned, organized and staffed by volunteers. Like You! If you would like to get involved, check our website in the coming months, or [email](#) the club.

**September 6th:** Club Meeting 9:30am

**September 13th:** Ladies Only Ride

**September 20:** Northwoods ATV Trail Alliance Jamboree

**October 4:** Autumn Log-N-Ride



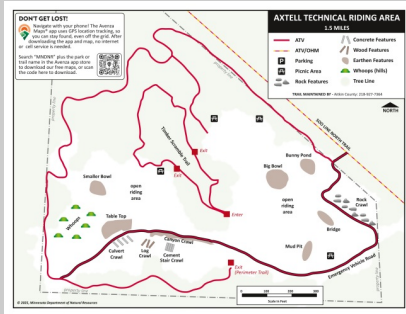
October 4, 2025

- Fall Colors Ride
- ATV Raffle
- New Club Merch

No guided rides for this event, but club volunteers will be on hand to make route recommendations so you can try a new trail.

We will raffle off the 2025 Polaris Sportsman 570 ATV at 4:30pm!

Starts at 10am at the Log Cabin Bar in Emily, MN



Over The Hills Gang members: Test your riding skills at the Axtell Technical Riding Area just north of McGregor, MN on the Soo Line North ATV Corridor Trail. Experience mud pits, sandy hill crawls, banked turns, one-way trails, and other obstacles.

We will be meeting up with members from the other 11 clubs which make up the Northwoods Regional ATV Trail Alliance to celebrate the largest 500-mile interconnected trail system in Minnesota. Axtell is managed by Aitkin County, and a key county sponsor for the Northwoods Regional ATV Trail System.

OTHG club members will depart (on ATV's) at 10am on the morning of **Saturday September 20th**, from the Village Inn, located at 6524 Co. Rd. 58, Outing MN. We will be riding some township and county roads on our way to Axtell, so that we can give you enough time to enjoy the park. It will be approximately a 70-mile road trip, and gas is available in the town of Palisade. Free hot dog lunch begins at 1pm. Bring your own beverage. Donations to the Trail Alliance are encouraged. Perry May will be the ride leader. Call 612-919-5806 for additional details.

*NEW OTHG club merch will be available at the Autumn Log-N-Ride on October 4th!*

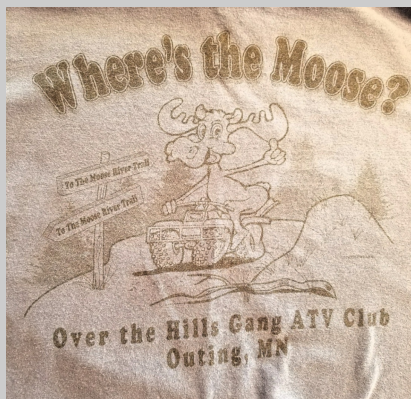
## Ladies Only Ride

This year we're offering 2 guided group rides. One for "Advanced" riders, and the "Main" ride. The "Advanced" ride will head northwest via some rugged and dirty trails to the Anchorage Inn in Longville and have a catered lunch of



sub sandwiches, chips, and water at the Camp Lake campground along the way. The “Main” ride will head straight north to explore the beautiful Moose River Trails and have a catered lunch of hot dogs, chips, and water at the White Oak Lake campground area. The \$10 ticket price (per person) gets you a spot on the ride, a catered lunch, and a door prize ticket. Check in is at 9:15am, group photo at 9:45am, then hit the dirt by 10am! Rides will be back to the Village a little before 4pm for the door prize drawing. This ride is open to ALL ladies. You do not have to be a club member to attend.

[TICKETS](#)



### History of the Ladies Ride:

Credit for organizing the first Ladies Only Ride in 2006 goes to the late Lynda Lou Halstensen. The story behind the first ride:

Lynda, as the organizer, knew how to get to the Moose River Trails from her cabin on Washburn Lake. The Ladies participating in the ride wanted to gather at Luscher's Park in Outing. Meri Lysne thought she knew the way to the MRT coming from the south. As the group left to go north to the MRT, they ran into a timber harvest that wiped out the old trail. They could not find the trail leading into the MRT and found their way into a gated property along MN Hwy 6 instead. They got out of there quick and eventually made their way down to Granny's (the current Pickled Loon) well south of Outing. They never did find the Moose River Trails.

The Ladies had a good laugh about their follies and coined the phrase "Where's the Moose" which was printed on early club T-shirts.

This great ride continues! As Paul Harvey would say, "...and now you have the rest of the story"



## **Fundraiser Raffle: Tickets Still Available**

This year we are holding our annual fundraiser raffle on October 4, 2025 at The Log Cabin Bar drawing at 4:30PM. This is our largest fundraiser of the year! Need not be present to win. This year's prizes are:

GRAND PRIZE - 2025 Polaris Sportsman 570 (\$7,999 Value)  
2nd Place - (2) Day SxS Rentals in Outing (\$900 Value)  
3rd Place - \$500 Cash  
4th Place - \$250 Power Lodge Gift Card  
5th Place - \$100 Power Lodge Gift Card  
6th Place - OTHG Swag Bag (\$100 Value)

If you'd like to purchase some raffle tickets, they are **\$5.00 each** and can be purchased multiple ways:

1. They can be purchased from local Emily/Outing area businesses.
2. You can email the club [HERE](#) or at [overthehillsgang@gmail.com](mailto:overthehillsgang@gmail.com) requesting to buy raffle tickets and we'll email you back with how to pay for the number of tickets you want. (please allow us time to process email requests) We will then email you a picture of the tickets you purchase.
3. You can also send us a check with "raffle" written in the memo for the amount of the tickets you'd like to purchase and we'll email you a picture of the tickets you purchased.

If you'd like to help us sell tickets, please email us.



## Marketing

**25th Anniversary Merch is now available!** Orders will be taken until September 22nd, then the store closes. ALL ORDERS MUST BE PICKED UP ON OCTOBER 4th AT THE AUTUMN LOG-N-RIDE.

No shipping is available for the Anniversary merch.  
Anniversary merch available [HERE](#)

Visit our Shop



## Ladies Only Ride Shirts

Ladies only ride shirts are available for purchase [HERE](#)

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## New Trail Features

Keep your eye out for these adorable animals hanging out in the trees along the trails!

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## Off-Highway Vehicle Regulations



**ATV**

**Safety Update:**  
**Know the MN Law**  
**Effective July 1, 2025**

**NEW Seat Belt Requirement for ATV Riders**  
**ALL** operators and passengers of a Class 2 ATV with factory-equipped seat belts **MUST** wear the seat belt, including both the shoulder and lap belt (if so equipped), at all times when operated on or within the right-of-way of a public road. (Statute 169.686, subd. 1)

**What is Required for Riders?**

**HELMETS**  
**Class 1 and Class 2 ATVs:**  
A helmet approved by the Commissioner of Public Safety is required for **ALL riders under age 18** when riding on public land, public waters, or on private property.

**SEAT BELTS**  
**Class 2 ATVs Only:**  
If the ATV has factory-installed seat belts, **ALL operators and passengers** must wear them when operated on or within the right-of-way of a public road.

**Class 1 ATVs**  
 Width 50 inches or less

**Class 2 ATVs**  
 Width greater than 50 inches but not more than 65 inches

**What is the Right-of-way?**  
Driving the ATV either directly on a public road or within the area that is legally designated as part of the road, known as the **right-of-way**. The right-of-way includes the road itself, shoulder, ditches, sidewalks, etc.

**Enforcement & Penalties:**

- If you are **15 or older** and violate the law, you can be fined **\$25**.
- If you are the **driver** of the vehicle, you are responsible for:
  - Your own violations.
  - Any violations committed by passengers under 15 years old.You can be fined **\$25 per violation**.

**RIDE SMART!**  
**HELMET ON. BUCKLE UP.**  
*It's the Law & Could Save a Life.*

**NETS** **BUCKLE UP** [BuckleUpMN.org/off-road-vehicles](https://BuckleUpMN.org/off-road-vehicles)

Every August 1st, the MN DNR publishes the latest version of the Off-Highway Vehicle Regulations. This includes new laws/ regulations passed by the Minnesota Legislature and signed by the Governor. Class 1 and Class 2 ATV's are just one classification of OHV's in Minnesota. If you do not have a 2025 booklet, the new regulations can be found [HERE](#). See above flyer on new law regulating ATV seat belt use.



## Trail Washout



The OTHG Trail Coordinators were busy in August repairing a mucky washout on the new reroute trail near Little Emily Lake Park. We received a trail "impassable" report from the MN DNR Volunteer Trail Ambassadors who first reported the issue to the club. Upon inspection, storm water runoff gathered in the low area with no outlet. ATV's using the trail began forming a new trail around the low area. Lots of clay contributed to a difficult area to repair. Trail Coordinators excavated an outlet for the water, then ditched the sides of the trail to raise the trail bed. By mixing washed sand with iron ore chip rock, the trail once again is in good riding condition. Thank you to all the club volunteers that helped in the repair.



### Club EMS Members are honored

Club members Lynn Remington and Cindy Thompson were recently selected as Emergency Medical Services (EMS) members of the year. Their dedication to providing emergency medical response, driving the ambulance, or teaching safety, create a safer community and safer trails. Congratulations Lynn and Cindy on this award! Well deserved.

We are blessed to have some of the best ATV trails in Minnesota. One of the great unknown features of our ATV trails is Emergency Response to ATV accidents.



Recently, an ATV accident in Fifty Lakes received emergency response within 15 minutes of the 911 call. I reached out to Fifty Lakes Fire Chief Jesse Anderson to learn about his First Response Teams training when a call comes in for an ATV accident. Some key points included:

The injured rider called 911

Location of the accident with injuries was quickly identified (The apps Active911 or What3words) are helpful

Members of the first response teams were knowledgeable of the trail

Active training for a rider with injuries is practiced during the year

Pre-determined Ambulance and /or Medevac Helicopter staging spots are well known

The response team is trained in trauma assessment and care

Our local Crooked Lake Township, City of Emily, and City of Fifty Lakes have great First Responder Teams. Just part of having a great ATV ride, is knowing that if we are involved in an accident which may involve injuries, we have great emergency medical services personnel to get to us quickly. Faster response times are crucial when critical conditions are present and significantly improve survival and patient outcomes.

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## Membership

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### Membership and Renewals

Our calendar year runs Aug 1st to July 31st.

Memberships follow the same calendar. Currently we offer a Business Membership and a Personal membership. Personal are either individual or family. All members with a valid e-mail address will receive our monthly newsletter.

Our Facebook and Website site is dynamic, filled with new events and information about the club. Your membership directly supports riding opportunities in the Emily /Outing areas by contributing to the club portion of grant-in aid matching funds needed for trail maintenance and improvements. Local ATV Clubs maintain the trails, and without a club, there will be no trails.

Please encourage your friends and neighbors to also join and participate in the activities. You can request a membership from [overthehillsgang@gmail.com](mailto:overthehillsgang@gmail.com), or join and pay with PayPal on our website, [Overthehillsgang.org](http://Overthehillsgang.org)  
You can also follow the links below.

[Renewals](#) [New Members](#)

Would you like to EARN your membership? You can do so by volunteering for at least 2 hours at 2 Club Events, or by performing 4 hours of Trail Work. Check our last newsletter for the results of this offer in 2024!

Become a Member!

Contact Us:  
[membership@overthehillsgang.org](mailto:membership@overthehillsgang.org)



## Volunteer Opportunities

*We need your help to make our events happen! Volunteer at two Club events and we'll give you a complimentary membership! Get started by helping with one of these events. Email us at [overthehillsgang@gmail.com](mailto:overthehillsgang@gmail.com) if you're able to assist.*

*Get involved in your community by helping the Outing Area Chamber of Commerce! They help the club A LOT so let's help them right back! We have several exciting volunteer opportunities--whether you can help just once or become a regular, we'd love to hear from you.*

*Volunteer [HERE](#)*

Upcoming Volunteer Events	Weekly Volunteer Events
<b>August 31 - Purse &amp; Gun Bingo</b> <b>Location:</b> The Pickled Loon, Outing, NH <b>Time:</b> Afternoon (approx. 2-5 PM, final timing TBD) Support the Outing Chamber of Commerce by helping spot winners, cheer up, and assist guests.	<small>Join our core team of community helpers at our regular weekly events. Even just once or twice a month makes a big difference!</small> <b>Tuesdays - 5 PM</b> The Pickled Loon, Outing, NH Folding tickets & helping with bingo.
<b>September 16 - Purse Bingo at The Log Cabin</b> <b>Location:</b> The Log Cabin Bar, Outing, NH <b>Day:</b> A Sunday in September (exact date to be announced) Help the Chamber run another purse bingo event by spotting winners.	<b>Wednesdays - 5 PM</b> The Log Cabin Bar, Outing, NH May need a caller, help running bingo.
<b>October 18th - Logtoberfest: World's Biggest Raffle</b> <b>Location:</b> Downstream Outing (near Log Cabin) There's a raffle around 2 PM. We need ~20 volunteers to help hold 30,000 tickets for this massive community raffle!	<b>Thursdays - 5 PM</b> The Pickled Loon, Outing, NH Folding tickets & helping with bingo. <b>Saturdays - 5 PM</b> The Log Cabin Bar, Outing, NH Folding tickets and possibly assisting with raffle (no bingo on Saturdays).



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## By-Laws

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### No new updates

Committee members:

1. Perry May
2. Tim Sink
3. David Thompson
4. Kim Dylla

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## Thank you to our Business Sponsors!!

2ND STREET CUSTOMS | ANDERSON CARPET SERVICE | ANGELL'S HIDEAWAY | ANIMAL HOUSE PET  
RESORT ASCEND NORTH ADVENTURES | BRAINERD WATERPROOFING |  
CASS COUNTY CONSTRUCTION | CHANNEL BAR AND GRILL |  
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UP A CREEK CAMPGROUND | XTREME DETAIL & CARWASH | CROSSLAKE | ZIRC INC

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## OTHG Board of Directors

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Steve Beneke, President/Memberships  
Rod Wegner, Vice President  
Stacy Barrett, Secretary  
Melissa Sink, Treasurer  
Tim Sink, Trail Coordinator #1  
Terry Sewill, Trail Coordinator #2  
Kent Korman, Trail Coordinator #3  
Perry May, Grant Manager  
Mike Kautz, Director at Large



[OVERTHEHILLSGANG.ORG](http://OVERTHEHILLSGANG.ORG)

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