

2018



# RAUSCH CREEK TRAILRIDERS

Volume 11, Issue 1  
January 5, 2018

## Goodbye 2017, Hello 2018!

2017 was a year filled with violence, upsets, political issues, Trump, wildfires, harassment, more Trump, and science. Will women have more power as “me too” slogans bring awareness of sexual harassment? Is a flood of red in world politics the right answer for democracies? What was learned and what was lost? The answers will most likely not be in the near future, but regardless, there is much reflection to be made. Our little corner didn't change much except for more growth in our membership numbers.

### JANUARY

- 2017 Event Schedule were announced
- 139 killed in attack on Instabul nightclub
- Serena Williams becomes player with most wins in major tournaments in one era
- Donald Trump took over at the 45th president of the United States
- The Women's March on Washington was quite the publicized event due to protests
- Scientists in central China reveal oldest known human ancestor - 540-million-year-old Saccorhytus in a fossil.
- Walter's Services sent a note letting members know how to prepare for the cold as they found many potty's to be frozen and weren't able to complete their job...service was discontinued until March.

### FEBRUARY

- WELL, the groundhog says to expect another six weeks of winter. The campground was one sheet of ice; all members were asked to use extreme caution when entering the campground.
- Rex Tillerson is appointed as 69th Secretary of State.
- The New England Patriots defeat the Atlanta Falcons 34-28 in one of the greatest comebacks in Super Bowl history.
- Donald Trump accepts the resignation of national security adviser Michael Flynn over his dealings with Russia.
- Famine is declared in Unity State, South Sudan,

- affecting 4.9 million people.
- The Sweetheart Day offered FREE cocoa and treats in the office in honor of Valentine's Day.
- Quick reminder of that the March 5th “grace period” was sent out.
- It's about time we got our own facebook page...check us out and give us a like. @RCTRailriders

### MARCH

- Spring Ahead the clocks changed...Awww, SPRING
- Donald Trump accuses former President Obama without offering any evidence of wiretapping Trump Towers during the presidential campaign via Twitter.
- Arctic records its lowest ever winter ice cover at 5.5 million square miles, according to US National Snow and Ice Data Center.
- Hegins Township “OK's” alcohol to be sold at Redners.
- Anti-corruption protests in Russia result in hundreds arrested. Moments like this makes me proud to be an American.
- The U.S. confirms the airstrike in Mosul, Iraq that led to the collapse of a building that killed more than 100 civilians was an American attack. Moments like this make me unproud to be an American.
- Donald Trump signs Energy Independence executive order undoing Obama climate-control measures.
- It's OFFICIAL Trail 7 rides are now Scheduled.
- The St Patty's Day Ride CANCELLED due to winter storm Stella
- The Beauty of Stella's aftermath—March 17th: Camp & Trails CLOSED until Further Notice. It's a park at the office and walk kind of weekend. No stay overs were permitted.
- 2017 Spring Hunting Season dates announced.
- March 24th Weekend...we welcome everyone back after snowstorm. Still 1-6 inches throughout the property. Snow was melting fast.

### APRIL

- It's Spring, It's Spring!!
- A warning sent out to rethink about unwinterizing...frost advisory doesn't lift until May. Although, temps rose very quickly and stayed steady all season.
- The office closes for the Easter holiday.
- The County enacted a BURN BAN until May 21st.
- The Syrian government unleashes a chemical weapons attack on Khan Sheikhoun, Syria that kills more



ONE YEAR  
AND  
COUNTING

RIDING OR  
NON-RIDING ALL  
GUESTS MUST BE  
SIGNED IN UPON  
ARRIVAL! THE GUEST  
WAIVER IS ON THE  
OUTSIDE OFFICE  
WALL 24/7.

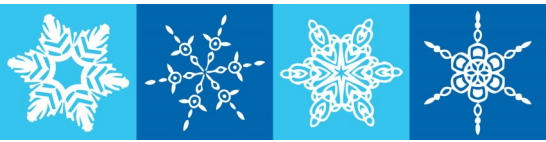
### WEATHER FORECAST

- Fri Partly Cloudy**  
10° F | 3° F
- Sat Partly Cloudy**  
13° F | -2° F
- Sun Mostly Sunny**  
18° F | 11° F

Need the Lockbox  
Combo for the gates?

Call the office at 570.682.1075  
and leave the following info:

- \*\*Member Number
- \*\*Member Name
- \*\*Campsite Address
- \*\*E-mail Address



than 80 civilians.

-Donald Trump

orders a missile strike on a Syrian airfield after chemical weapons attack on Khan Sheikhoun, Syria.

-Footage of a passenger forcibly removed from United Airlines flight in Chicago after flight overbooking causes outrage nationwide.

-Suicide car bomb kills 126, 70 of them children. The terrorists targeted buses carrying Syrian evacuees in Rashidin.

-Fox News confirms they would be letting go of Bill O'Reilly after allegations of sexual harassment.

-Trails close down the annual Spring Cleanup.

-Overflowing dumpsters prompted RCTR to ask for more courtesy to our fellow trash man. One bag per site limit is set.

-Members aren't following "Please Keep Off" signs as pictures show riders tracks on crops.

-The pumphouse finally reopens at the end of the month.

## MAY

--Fireworks done at the Valley View Park done legally by a club called the Cracker Jacks. What a great display!

-Sarge's Memorial Ride is postponed to May 20th due to heavy rainfall in the forecast.

--507 campsites booked...an all time record at RCTR. We are busy busy busy

-Structures and stone is prohibited to delivery on a week day only; #1 it is not safe and #2 it can tie up much needed manpower on the weekends.

-Donald Trump dismisses FBI Director James Comey because he didn't want him to investigate Russian Collusion in the election.

-Suicide bombing at Ariana Grande concert kills 22 and injures 59 in Manchester, England.

-The rocky hill on Trail 2 has been groomed with a fresh coat of dirt and over growth was pushed back to make for a more enjoyable ride. Also fixed was an area on Trail 1.

-RCTR trails are finally complete! Sarge's plaque has been set and will remain there long after we are all gone. Give a little nod or salute as you travel on Sarge's Pass...this guy deserved it!

-Summer store hours began Memorial Day weekend—open till 6pm.

-200 members joined us this time around for our annual Members Only Poker Run. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and all we heard were rave reviews on the different route this year. Music to our ears!



## JUNE

-Donald Trump announces the U.S. is withdrawing from the Paris Climate Agreement.

-Terrorist attack in Borough Market, London. Three men drove their van into pedestrians then proceed after by stabbing pedestrians. Seven were killed and 48 wounded after attackers were shot dead by British police.

-Ariana Grande creates benefit concert for victims of her Manchester concert bombing, featuring Coldplay, Miley Cyrus, Justin Bieber and Katy Perry.

-Otto Warmbier returns to the U.S. in an unresponsive state after being held in North Korean jail for 17 months.

-U.S. Senate approves new sanctions against Russia as punishment for meddling in the 2016 election.

-Amazon announces it is buying Whole Foods for -\$13.7 billion.

Bill Cosby trial for aggravated assault declared a mistrial after jurors couldn't reach a verdict.

-A first full genetic study of cats published in "Nature Ecology and Evolution," reveals domestication occurred 9,000 years ago, descended from one species (African Wildcat).



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-Mark Zuckerberg announces Facebook has reached 2 billion monthly users.

-Germany votes to legalize same-sex marriage in a snap vote.

-Jammin' June events.

-FREE Youth ATV Safety Course...4 kiddos took advantage.

-Ahoy Mates! Participation was awesome for our annual Treasure Hunt. About 96 members participated in finding all the landmarks. Don't forget to thank the local businesses that were generous enough to donate prizes to our participants.

--What's that sticker on my camper? A special sticker is or has been placed on your portapotty or camper. The driver from Walters Services dates and initials the sticker to show he was on site.

## JULY

-North Korea tests first successful intercontinental ballistic missile into Sea of Japan.

-101 people reported shot, 15 killed in Chicago, Illinois over 4th July weekend.

-France announces it will ban petrol and diesel cars by 2040.

-Tesla Motors produces its first mass-market car, the Model 3. This will be the first Tesla vehicle affordable to the middle-class at roughly \$35,000.

-Giant iceberg breaks away from Larsen C Ice Shelf in Antarctica, about 6,000 sq km in length..

Donald Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner says he did not collude with Russia after meeting with Senate investigators.

-Great Britain announces it will ban gasoline and diesel cars by 2040.

-Terrorist plot to bring down a plane averted in Sydney, Australia, 4 arrested.

-Russian President Vladimir Putin announces American diplomats in Russia cut by 755 in response to American sanctions

-Anthony Scaramucci removed as White House Communications Director after less than two weeks.

-Christmas in July Trail 7 ride—everyone enjoyed their presents

-Summer has been wet, dry, hot and soggy. Mother Nature just can't make up her mind.

-Kids Scavenger Hunt was so fun and kept the kiddos content for an hour.

-Reminder that we sell batteries in the office.

-Schuylkill County Fair and Pottsville cruise night.

## AUGUST

-The bonfire was HUGE and spirit of giving was high as we raised our highest amount yet for the Valley View Fire Company.

-First successful gene editing in human embryos to repair disease-causing mutation reported by scientists in "Nature."

-Walt Disney Company announces plans to create its own streaming service, canceling ties with Netflix. This isn't good for what Disney does in December.

-North Korea says it plans to fire rockets on U.S. territory Guam in continuing escalation of tension between it and the U.S.

-President Donald Trump declares opioid addiction a national emergency.

-"Unite the Right" march in Charlottesville, Virginia turns violent when car rams protesters killing one and injuring 19.

-Scientists genetic study of the apple reveal its origin was in Kazakhstan, published in "Nature Communications."

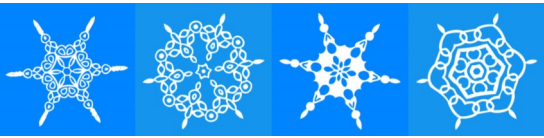
-Baltimore city council removes confederate statues under cover of darkness in response to Charlottesville violence.

-The trails were groomed crossing the road on Trail 1 and the bridge on Trail 1 was widened to accommodate larger side x sides.

-Bears were spotted making their usual yearly rounds through the campground. Campers were asked to stow their trash and to remember







you're in their territory.

- Total solar eclipse visible from North America.
- Category 4 Hurricane Harvey makes landfall in Texas northeast of Corpus Christi with 130 m.p.h. winds.
- Hurricane Harvey downgraded to a tropical storm, National Hurricane Center warns of "multi-day rainfall disaster."
- Riders visiting the days after Harvey said the trail stats were muddy. The rain carved new bumps and grooves...everyone was asked to be careful on their next venture.
- Former five-weight world boxing champion Floyd Mayweather Jr. defeats MMA fighter Conor McGregor in his debut match in the 10th round in Las Vegas.
- Hurricane Harvey sets rainfall record (51.88 inches in Cedar Bayou) from a tropical cyclone in the continental U.S., according to U.S. National Weather Service.
- The holiday had everyone so excited to be riding that there was a crazy amount of speeding in the campground...what the hay?!
- Free guest rider passes given to those who volunteered their time at the Rally in Bear Valley. We are so very thankful to the few that volunteered.
- 990+ riders head out on our trails during our annual Rally in Bear Valley fundraiser ride for the local fire companies.

## SEPTEMBER

- Fall Hunting Riding Restrictions announced.
- Office Hours change back to being open until 5pm. Kids go back to school
- Another Free Youth ATV Safety was offered...no one took advantage.
- Hurricane Irma becomes the most powerful Atlantic Ocean hurricane in recorded history with winds of 185mph.
- Consumer credit reporting agency Equifax reports earlier cyberattack could affect 143 million Americans. That's over half of the adult population of America.
- Apple unveils premium iPhone X costing \$999, along with iPhone 8.
- Hurricane Maria passes over the Caribbean island of Dominica as a category 5 hurricane, destroying 90% of structures and killing 27.
- Hurricane Maria makes landfall on Puerto Rico as a category 4 hurricane, knocking out all power and killing 25.
- Discovery of the first brainless animal that sleeps, the jellyfish Cassiopea, research published in "Current Biology" by Caltech scientists.
- Ex-New York congressman Anthony Weiner sentenced to 21 months in jail for sexting underage girl.
- Saudi Arabia announces it is overturning its ban on women driving--last country in the world to do so
- Hugh Hefner dies
- Back to School for our smallest Rausch Creekians, this is the time of year every thing slows in the office, a much needed break after the crazy busy summer we had. Thank you for being so kind to us in the office.
- The Mud Run, oh the Mud Run!! Moved to the beaver trail on a dark and dreary day...it just rained and rained. Everyone who hit the mud had a good time and spectators wore their rain gear.



## OCTOBER

- Hunting Riding Restrictions begin.
- Local District 6 MotoTrials event has chilly weather.
- On the same day as the trials event, a bunch of dual sport riders came through our area during the local fire companies dual sport event.—an annual event done by Reading Off Road Riders.
- At a concert in Las Vegas Stephen Paddock kills 58 people and injures another 489 in the deadliest mass shooting in American history.
- Tom Petty, the American classic rock singer, dies of a heart attack at 66.
- "The New York Times" publishes an investigation into sexual harassment behavior by Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein.
- Wildfires ignite in Northern California wine country, killing at least 41 over the next week, with 20,000 evacuated.
- Producer Harvey Weinstein is fired from The Weinstein Company after

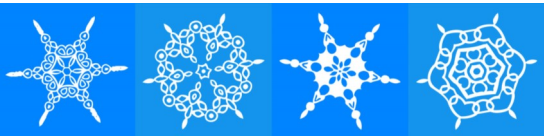
- allegations of sexual abuse.
- Archaeologists announce the discovery of Arabic characters "Allah" and "Ali" on Viking funeral costumes from a grave in Gamla Uppsala, Sweden. Not sure how this happened but this is too cool!
- Terrorist bomb attack on a truck in Mogadishu, Somalia leaves more than 300 dead and hundreds injured.
- 500 wildfires occur in Portugal and Northern Spain fanned by winds from Hurricane Ophelia, killing at least 35.
- Actor Kevin Spacey issues an apology after actor Anthony Rapp accuses him of inappropriate sexual behavior when he was 14.
- Terrorist attack in New York when a truck mows down people on a cycle lane, killing eight and injuring 10.
- HALLOWEEN BASH—pumpkins to paint, games to play, a trick or treat hayride, AND a campsite decoration contest...it was a looong day! But everyone had a great time.
- The last Trail 7 ride of the season was our Fall Foliage ride. It was a fun day of riding with beautiful fall foliage.
- RCTR visits the PA Powersports Show for a few days of advertising.



## NOVEMBER

- The final event of the year only brought a few members to the Turkey Feast and feast we did. The race between the bikes and quad ended with the quads winning again this year. The final count raised was announced for the Hegins Food Closet.
- The pump house closed for the winter.
- Fall Back—turn back those clocks!
- The wind howled through the valley at the beginning of November. Some tree branches, canopies and fences were sent for a ride, but not too much damage to report.
- Sadly, a rash of petty theft that has been plaguing the surrounding area has found its way into the campground. Four generators have gone missing. State and Local Police are investigating the theft of the four generators. We assisted the authorities and are still working on securing the property, but the property is vast and there are many ways in. Securing your valuables is very important.
- 2018 rates finally announced.
- The combination to the lock box at the office which contains the current gate combination is only available on via the forum on the Rausch Creek web site. No more emails are sent.
- Walter's Services (the sanitation company) sends a reminder for member's to winterize their tanks so contents don't freeze.
- Office closes for Thanksgiving.
- After a brief backorder, the new sticker rolls arrive for printing the 2018 helmet credentials and vehicle passes. Gold is the new choice color for 2018.
- Gate access was being abused at the end of the campground. An investigation was made.
- Houston Astros win their first baseball World Series defeating the LA Dodgers 5-1 in game 7 at Dodger Stadium.
- Pakistani woman charged with poisoning 17 members of husband's family in an attempt to escape a forced marriage in Punjab Province.
- Gunman shoots 26 dead and injures 20 at a church in Sunderland Springs, Texas.
- U.S. Democrats dominate off-year elections; Ralph Northam wins Governor of Virginia and Philip Murphy Governor of New Jersey.
- Alabama Republican Senate candidate Roy Moore accused of sexual misconduct with teenage girls in "Washington Post" report.
- World's earliest wine-making uncovered from Khramis Didi Gora, Georgia, in clay pots from 6,000BC.
- Oumuamua comet, 400 meters and reddish, first known comet from another star system revealed by scientists.
- Uber admits hackers stole personal information affecting 57 million people worldwide and paid \$100,000 to keep quiet.
- American TV host Matt Lauer is fired from NBC's "Today" show after an allegation of sexual misconduct.





## DECEMBER

- 2018 rates discount expires on the December 15th.
- Prep is made for the holiday season closures.
- First pizza party in space held by astronauts of the International Space Station.
- Thomas fire begins and spreads to Ventura, California.
- Russia is banned from the next Winter Olympics in South Korea over state-sponsored doping.
- Time Magazine names their Person of the Year "The Silence Breakers," people who came forward to report sexual misconduct.
- President Donald Trump officially recognizes Jerusalem as Israel's capital, announcing plans to move US embassy there.
- "Supermassive" most distant black hole discovery announced by astronomers in the journal "Nature," 13 billion light-years away, 800 x bigger than the Sun.
- Virtual currency Bitcoin rises in value, passing \$18,440 on some exchanges.
- Same-sex marriage is legalized in Australia.
- Saudi Arabia announces an end to its 35-year ban on cinemas.
- Six wildfires in Southern California now cover an area larger than New York City and Boston combined.
- Democrat Doug Jones defeats Republican Roy Moore for Alabama Senate seat in upset win marked by allegations of sexual misconduct against Moore.
- The Walt Disney Company buys most of 21st Century Fox for \$52.4 billion.
- U.S. media regulator the Federal Communications Commission votes to end net neutrality. Netflix could cost more now.
- U.S. House and Senate pass \$1.5 trillion tax bill, biggest tax overhaul for decades.



*Another year older, another year wiser. A lot has happened over the course of the year...yes, bad things happened but good things did too. We look on the bright side and head into the future with RCTR. Thank you all for such a great year, we look forward to serving you this year.*

*Happy New Year Everyone!*

### TIP OF THE DAY

#### IT'S COLD; IT'S ICY

During the winter months, snow and icy conditions may temporarily prevent passage through some of the camp roads. Some of the more steep hills are icy. Just be aware that driving on the camp roads are at your own risk. 4-wheel drive vehicles are highly suggested.

So don't make the drive without giving us a call and be sure to bring a shovel. Just in case.

### LOCAL TO DOS

**Pine Grove Movie Theatre**

**Playing**  
Movies every weekend!



### 2018 Event Schedule

**\*EVENTS WILL BE  
ANNOUNCED  
NEXT WEEK**

**HUNTING SEASON**

**NO RIDING BEFORE 9AM,  
Excluding Sundays**

**\*UNTIL January 27**