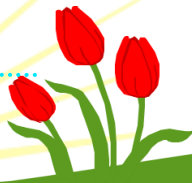


May 3, 2024

Volume 17, Issue 10



**RAUSCH CREEK  
TRAILRIDERS**



# Ah-MAY-Zing!

## Weather Forecast

**Fri Partly Cloudy**  
75° F | 48° F

**Sat Cloudy/Rain**  
61° F | 48° F

**Sun Periods of Rain**  
61° F | 54° F

What makes May so merry? It's an ah-MAY-zing month, that's what! May is so fresh and warm beckoning Summer blue skies and bright sunshiny days. And how are you going to fill those sunny days? By joining us at our events, silly. Check out our these upcoming event.

**Saturday, May 4th Sarge's Ride**—Meet at the pavilion 10am **SHARP** Peter Lee passed away October 17th, 2015, from a sudden heart attack while doing what he loved best—participating in a reenactment of the Hurtgen Forest battle not too far from RCTR. He was an active member, one of our guides for the group rides and a strong supporter of Rausch Creek Trailriders. To everyone here he was known as Sarge. In honor of all he had done for the Trailriders facility, we host a ride on one of his favorite trails that has come to be known as Sarge's Pass. All are welcome even if you didn't know Sarge...he wouldn't like such a fuss; he just wanted to ride.

**May 25th Memorial Day Poker Run**—This members only Poker Run is not your ordinary Poker Run...it's off-road at its finest on a pre-marked trail. Pick a card at each designated landmark and return to the pavilion. Best hand wins a FREE membership! We'll be the judge.

Have an Ah-MAY-Zing month everyone!

*Need the Lockbox combination for the gates?*

Call the office, 570-682-1075, with your camp address. The Andrew Gate is permanently CLOSED -Honda, Polaris West, & parts of Valley View permitted to use gate

# SQUEAKY CLEAN

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**THE REWARD WAS WAITING  
BACK AT CAMP FOR ALL  
WHO PARTICIPATED....**



**BEAUTIFUL WEATHER,  
BROUGHT US 145 SO  
APPRECIATED  
MEMBERS TO THE  
CLEAN UP!!**



**WITHIN A  
COUPLE OF  
HOURS THE  
ROADS WERE  
CLEANED & THE  
TRASH PILE WAS  
WAITING TO BE  
TAKEN AWAY...**

**THANKS TO  
ALL THE  
MEMBERS  
WHO  
SHOWED UP  
AND  
GAVE US  
THEIR  
TIME....**



**YUMMY  
ROASTED PIG AND ALL  
THE FIXIN'S. OH,  
WHAT A TREAT!  
THANKS AGAIN!!**



*Thank You!!*  
☺





# TIP OF THE DAY

## Baking Soda?

Eliminate the gaseous side effects of baked beans by adding a dash of baking soda while cooking.

Keep cauliflower white and its odor under control when boiling or steaming by adding 1 tsp of baking soda to cooking water.

Add a pinch of baking soda to the water when boiling cabbage to tenderize and avoid overcooking.

A pinch of baking soda thrown into potatoes while mashing will make them fluffier.

Test the freshness of baking soda by pouring a small amount of white vinegar or lemon juice over 1/2 tsp of baking soda. If it doesn't actively bubble, it's too old to use.



## LOCAL TO DO'S

Crossroads Market & Auction Open Fridays  
10am -8pm

Kenny Stehr & Sons Farm — Produce List on Facebook — Order & Pick Up Fridays and Saturdays

♥May 6th– 11th Tower City Carnival @ 1 Midway Rd South 10th St –6pm –11pm

♥May 11th Beauty Bee Storefront Grand Opening 10am vendors, food trucks, raffles, & more

♥May 18th Liberty Hose Co Craft/Vendor Fair in Lykens 8am-3pm

♥June 22 Hegins Valley Shine, Wine and Brews Festival @ the Hegins Park 12pm

♥ The Valley View Park has many different bands each Friday or Saturday playing on the stage beginning in May

♥Benigna's Winery has many different events and activities through the spring & summer months

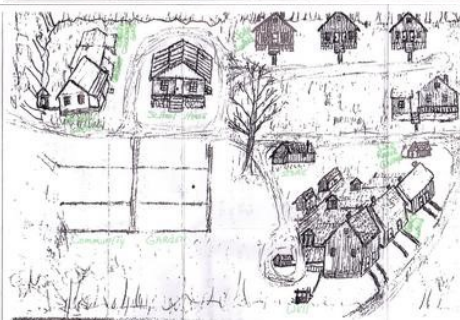
## 2024 SCHEDULE

- May 4 Sarge's Memorial Ride
- May 25 Members Only Poker Run
- June 15 Treasure Hunt
- July 6 Member Appreciation Day/Swap Meet
- July 20 Kids Scavenger Hunt
- July 20 Christmas in July Ride
- August 3 Bonfire Bash
- August 31 Mud Ride
- October 6 Dual Sport Ride
- October 19 Trick or Treat Day
- November 2 Fall Foliage Ride
- November 16 Turkey Feast

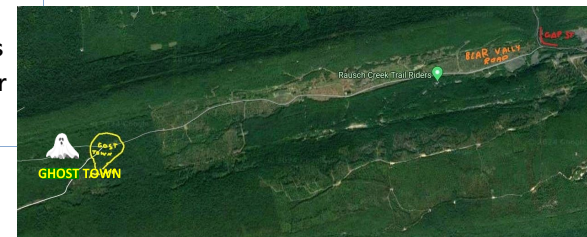
## History in Bear Valley

Ever hear of the town Bear Valley? .....Yes there was a village that existed near the RCTR Club! From about the mid 1800's till as late as the 1960's people lived passed the entrance road of the club. In fact it was about 2 miles farther west of the camp entrance, just beyond the gates on the "State Game Lands". The village was created to house the workers of the Susquehanna Coal Co. Made up of a dozen primitive homes with no running water. The ruins of the mine still exist today. The mine closed around 1930, but some residents continued to stay for the solitude of mountain living; just like many of members here who come for solitude. These miner families lived a very crude life style. Not much of the town remains today, even the clearing has grown full of trees. (see the diagram of the town). The old general store owned by Jennie Artz (pictured) sat in the middle of the town until the mid 60's. There was one lonesome man living in the old store around that time; no other buildings. Old foundations remain in the woods on the right side of the left branch of the Y that were still slightly visible in the 90's but

now are covered in ever growing trees and brush. Bear Valley even supported a small one room school house (see the 1916 class photo).



The coal from the mine that supported the small town was transported through a big service tunnel called the Williamstown Tunnel. The tunnel was bored completely



through the southern side of the Big Lick Mountain. The tunnel was over a mile long and some of the miners actually walked through it every day to work. On weekends it was used for recreation. On the southern side stood the town of Williamstown and a huge breaker that processed the coal (see picture of the Williamstown Tunnel). Because the land is now owned by the State Game Commission, they closed it off the tunnel for safety reasons.



I hope you have enjoyed a bit of the deep history of the lands that you now ride and camp.