



UP & DOWN NEWSLETTER

DIESELBIKES

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November 2008

What's The BUZZ

Spooktacular Halloween Festival — Post Report

Our first ever Spooktacular Halloween Mountain Bike Festival was a complete SUCCESS! On Saturday October 25th, Dieselbikes was happy to host a Halloween event in Lynn Woods Reservation; Lynn, MA. This event was the testing ground for many new operations we will be employing in future events. The weather was great with cool temperatures and cloud cover making it perfect for mountain biking in the woods!

This event was a host to a number of returning sponsors who participated in past Dieselbikes's venues along with the addition of Starbucks Coffee and Monster Energy Drink as new participating sponsors. Both Starbucks and Monster were a big hit during the event providing free coffee and sport drinks for attendees and staff. Many local sponsors like Wheelworks had Demo bikes on hand for test rides as well as bike related products available for sale. Attendees were able to browse vendor's product selections, ask technical questions and purchase any required items before our riding season ends. We attempted to have a bicycle flea market based upon request received through our website. Unfortunately we had 4 independent vendors signed up and pre-paid for this flea market venue, but none of them showed. This was a disappointment to some event attendees who came to check out the flea market, but our sponsors definitely filled this void.

MountainUni.com was on hand holding the first Unicycle Trials Competition in Lynn Woods. This was an exhibition venue for event attendees to watch an unparallel display of balance. MountainUni had a number of wooden stunts that were configurable to provide an endless array of technical challenges. There were 8 registered contestants competing for some pretty cool prizes. The contest consisted of a gap jump, vertical to rubber up jump and negotiation of an obstacle course. This was a show to watch as everyone wondered how it was possible for these riders to execute such technical tricks on a unicycle. Every trick they performed appeared to defy physics! In addition, MountainUni provided short beginner demo lessons for anyone who wanted to learn how to ride a unicycle and also held a unicycle ride in the woods. These guys and gals were having fun and it was great to see a different aspect of technical riding regardless it was on just one wheel. Hats off to MountainUni and we look forward having them attend other events in the future.



[- Click on this link for the full report including event pictures!](#)

Big thanks to our event sponsors!





Trail Threads

Lynn Woods: Lynn, MA

October was a busy month in Lynn Woods with the completion of our last 2008 trail work day. This month we will sit back, relax and reflect on this past year's work. Much was done to enhance the trail network and we look forward continuing this work next year. Aside from trail work, we held two separate fund raising events to support the park ranger fund. Both events were successful and we are planning on hosting both events in 2009!

With winter fast approaching we will begin to shift our efforts towards planning for 2009 trail work. As many know, this will be our 5 year of sustainable trail work in Lynn Woods and we still have TONS of work that needs to be completed. We hope 2009 will become a banner year for Lynn Woods and we look forward getting our plans approved by the City.

The fall season is here and this is the perfect time to get out and ride the trails in Lynn Woods. The colorful foliage provides a beautiful backdrop during your ride that is relaxing and surreal. Thanksgiving is just around the corner and we will be attending the 19th annual Lynn Woods Thanksgiving Ride. This group ride is leaded by two local Lynn residents and is a great way to kick turkey day off. This ride is not published and or announced, it more or less just occurs. This ride is open to anyone who wants to get out on their mountain bikes in Lynn Woods. The general meeting/ride start time is 8:30am down at the Ballfield parking lot. If you like to join us, please feel free to do so.



Tompson St. Reservation (TSR) / Bruce & Tom's (B&T's): Gloucester, MA

Last month Dieselbikes in conjunction with Sinister Bikes and NSNEMBA complete the second and last trail work day for 2008. This has been a big year for Tompson St Res. (B&T's) with the completion of two separate trail work days, the creation of a (draft) trail management proposal and a bunch of miscellaneous work that is making this riding location better each day. Tons of more work is on the horizon and we will be working closely with ECG land managers to gain approval. We will be scheduling additional with ECG to lay the ground work for 2009. For now be on the look out for a ton more news as we keep you updated on changes that affect you.

As always, please remember that Tompson Street and B&T's trail networks spans land owned by Essex County Greenbelt and a number of private landowners. Currently mountain biking is allowed year round on Greenbelt managed property called Tompson Street Reservation (TSR) and adjacent private property. We ask that you use some common sense when riding there. Stick to the main trail that you know and do not cut new lines/braids.

If you come across a change in the trail that you think is illegal, please do not change anything. Report it to Dieselbikes, Sinister Bikes and or NSNEMBA. We have plenty of members that ride this location and will resolve such matters to reduce any potential conflicts. There will be new efforts to make the network better and this will take some time to accomplish with proper land manager approval. So again just use common sense when riding.

Below is a listing of some recreational activities ECG will be hosting in the coming month.

Sunday November 16

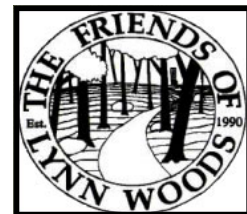
Greenbelt's Mountain Bike Ride at Willowdale Meadow – Topsfield, MA

Mountain bike rides lead by NSNEMBA. Come on down and join us as we explore a new section of conserved land located within the beautiful Willowdale State Forest. The ride will be appropriate for beginner & intermediate bikers. Helmets are required; please bring water and a snack.

Location: Willowdale State Forest – Topsfield, MA

Directions: From Route 1, take the exit for Ipswich Road in Topsfield, heading east. Drive 1.75 miles (if you reach Gravelly Brook Road you have gone too far) parking is on the left.

Please Support These Local Organizations



www.flw.org



www.ecga.org



Picks & Shovels Report!

Tompson St. Reservation (TSR) / Bruce & Tom's (B&T's): Gloucester, MA

On Sunday October 5 the second Tompson Street Reservation trail project was completed with great success. It was a beautiful sunny day and the work completed by all the volunteers was immense. This trail project was a combined effort by Dieselbikes, Sinister Bikes and NSNEMBA with approval by Essex County Greenbelt Land Managers. The general scope of this project was to cut a new trail to eliminate an existing section that had become severely eroded.



The new trail utilized a few old existing trail sections that became over grown in the past decade. An estimated 0.25 miles of trail was added to the existing system. This new trail utilizes many natural terrain features and has tons of flow in both directions. The name of this trail has not been assigned but its location is known by many riders who frequent this riding location. If you do not know where this trail is, we can only suggest that you pair up with some local riders and/or join us on a Dieselbikes group ride when we visit this location.

Going forward, we ask riders in the bike community who know where this trail is located, to get out and ride this trail to begin the natural packing of the thread. We will be out in the spring making any adjustments if required to ensure a long lasting suitable trail thread. Please visit Dieselbikes for more trail project information and/or [click on this link](#) to view more pictures of this trail day. We thank all the volunteers that attended this trail day and look forward seeing them at future maintenance work.



Lynn Woods: Lynn, MA

On Sunday October 12 the fourth Lynn Woods Reservation trail project was completed with great success. This was the last work day for 2008 and the work completed by all the volunteers was vast. This trail day was what we like to call a "Polishing Trail Day". We revisited a section of Ridge Run Trail we cut back in May and spend the day enhancing the trail. These enhancements included rock armoring, installing sweeping berms and flow definition.

This was the first of many polishing trail days to come in the future. It was defiantly a change of pace then just cutting a new and/or re-routing a section of trail. Our volunteers spend hours sculpting their specific section of trail they were assigned to make these enhancements. The hours working paid off as the top downhill section of Ridge Run is now fast and flowy. The climb up from the Blue Water Tower has been rock armored making it more sustainable. Once at the top, you begin your downhill decent through a natural kicker into a bunch of twist-and-turn followed by yet another natural kicker. We are sure once you ride this trail, you will want to make the climb back up to ride it again!

The trail thread is packed down and we will be out next spring to make any adjustments if necessary. Please visit Dieselbikes for more trail project information and/or [click on this link](#) to view more pictures of this trail day. We thank all the volunteers that attended this trail day and look forward seeing them at future maintenance work.





Local Business Shout-Out!



We at Dieselbikes occasionally need to give a local business shout-out to companies that contribute and or support our club's efforts. With that said, we need to give a shout-out to Cape Ann Brewing Company located at 27 Commercial Street Gloucester, MA 01930. Cape Ann Brewing happily donated a few cases of delicious beer to Dieselbikes and Sinister Bikes to help quench our thirst during a difficult day out on the trails. Well the truth is...it was more like a few cases of Fisherman's IPA and Fisherman's Ale, but who is counting. We were well motivated to complete the required work at the Sinister Compound, having this well balanced, flavorful and refreshing brew ready to drink after a long day.

If your planning to visit the Gloucester area in the near future, you should consider scheduling a brewery tour and tasting before hand by contacting Cape Ann Brewing in advance. Any time you can visit a brewery, you most likely will walk away with a smile. We look forward working with Cape Ann Brewing in the future regarding other bike related projects and or club sponsorship for 2009. Again, thanks to the crew at Cape Ann Brewing, keep up the good work and great taste!

- Visit Cape Ann Brewery's website by [click on this link](#).



DB Group Rides — Season Ending

Our seasonal club group rides have come to an end for the 2008 season. It was quite a season of riding and we were happy to have meet a ton of new riders and make some new friends. From our weekly Tuesday night rides in Lynn Woods to our weekend trips to Diablo Freeride Park, Highland Mountain and Sunday River, we had FUN!

Our groups rides will resume next year during the month of April. Dieselbikes will be looking into the possibility of expanding our rides to other local locations and entertain a bi-weekly all women's ride. This will all be based upon community demand, so except to see group ride surveys during the winter months.

BTW...Just because our group rides are over does not mean Dieselbikes will not be riding during the winter months. Guaranteed you will see us out on the trails. If you bump into anyone of us, please feel free to join the ride. Until next year, happy trails to all!





Important Announcement!

We all have crashed from time to time, but we don't let ourselves dwell on what a really bad accident might entail...Like, "What if I don't walk away?" Well, someone we know and you may know as well is having to think about it. On September 20th, Matt Kapolka of Somerville, MA, a Dieselbikes rider, regular at ImprovBoston, and Abbot BeMex from last years "Wheels of Fury" had a mountain bike accident resulting in a severe head injury. Matt is making progress everyday in recovering his physical and mental faculties but the recovery and rehabilitation will take months. We at Dieselbikes have begun a fund raiser to assist Matt financially during this difficult period. We are asking for monetary donations from the local community. We all realize how inherently dangerous our sport is. Now one of our own is down and we need support him at this difficult time.

Donations of any amount would be gratefully accepted to assist Matt through the next couple of months while he attends rehab. His family and friends are doing their best, but his limited medical insurance will not cover all expenses. This is a serious matter and we would not be asking for help from the community unless it was necessary!

Please visit the Dieselbikes homepage (www.dieselbikes.com) to make your donation. This fund raising effort will be added to our Spooktacular Mountain Bike Festival on October 25 for anyone wanting to make a cash donation directly to Matt's recovery fund. We want to thank everyone in advance for your generous support!



Update on Matt (as of November 1st)

Matt has been released from the hospital last month after spending two (2) full months recovering from a head injury. He is on the road to recovery but still has months of therapy to undergo. With that said, Matt can still use your help. We have been able to generate over \$1,000.00 for Matt since we started this fund raiser. This money has helped Matt cover some of his living expenses, but he can still use any help and support from the riding community. If you like to donate to his cause, please visit Dieselbikes homepage (www.dieselbikes.com) to make your donation. We thank all who have supported Matt during the past months!

Support Your Local Trail

We at Dieselbikes want to stress the importance of supporting your local trail network. Many of us take for granted the trails we ride and the impact as a user group we have on those trails. Regardless you ride locally, or travel to ride other places, the fact remains mountain bike trails do not take care of themselves. Many individuals, groups and official organizations throughout New England repair trail damage caused by YOU the single rider.

In today's society, supporting your local trail has become more important then ever. With declining State park budgets, land development contracts and a increased perception of our recreational sports destroying the environment, we as a bike community must band together to support and maintain our beloved trails.

We ask all riders in the community to step up and support your local trail network. This is a rather an easy task to accomplish in two simple ways. First, volunteer for as many local and regional trail days. Second, if you cannot volunteer, donate money to such bike organizations that help maintain our trails. It is that simple! Without your support, our bike trails will disappear forever.





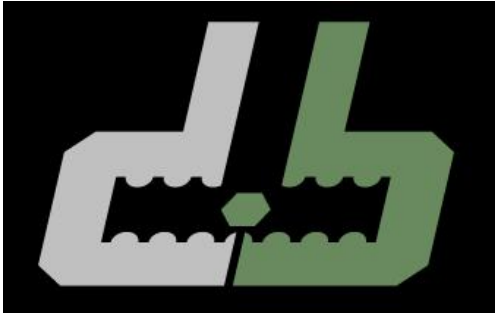
DIESELBIKES

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***“New England Mountain Bike
News and Trail Information”***



Who We Are:

We are just a group of riders who started this web-site to quietly get into the mountain bike industry. We do not expect anything big from this venture but to have fun doing what we love, RIDE OUR BIKES!!! Over this past year we have seen a huge following for Dieselbikes and plan on turn this hobby into a business to help support and expand New England mountain biking.

Our Roots:

The roots of Dieselbikes starts in the City of Lynn better know as the "City of Sin." Over the past years we have added riders to our team whom brings their own unique style of riding and personality. Our local (unofficial) freeride park is none other than Lynn Woods. You will find us riding there 3 ~ 4 times a week during the biking season. Whether working our day and/or night jobs, we all find the time to make that blissful ride of downhill descends, jumps, hucks and friendly camaraderie that is only found when we RIDE OUR BIKES!!!

Mission:

Our mission is expand, promote and create a distinct portrait of mountain biking in and around New England. We believe that New England is one of the best places to mountain bike and feel by bringing all mountain bikers together, we will create a VIBE which will help expand this sport!

Whether posting pictures, videos, local trail maps and/or scheduling biking trips, we are starting small and keeping it simple. Someday our secondary goal is to build downhill/freeride bikes and or bike components for anyone who wants bulletproof products tested on FLAT DROPS here in New England.

Group Rides

Our 2009 group rides will begin in April 18th with our 4th Annual Lynn Woods Opening Day Ride.

Dieselbikes will begin posting weekday and weekend group rides on our web-site. You can view these dates as they become available at the following link below:

DIESELBIKES GROUP RIDES

If you would like to be placed on our group rides list, please feel free to contact us at the following e-mail address:

dbgrouprides@dieselbikes.com

Our group rides have no set pace or rider level. We are just out riding our bikes and having fun. All rider styles and levels are welcome.

