

NEOTT MotoTrials

Find Your Edge...



NeottNews Monthly Newsletter

Issue #4 : February 2018

Email feedback, articles and ideas to neottnews@fastmail.com

Links to previous newsletters:

[Nov 2017 \(Shack\)](#) : [Dec 2017 \(Kight\)](#) : [Jan 2018 \(McCabe, Cramsey\)](#)



Next Trials Event – Sunday Feb 18, 2018 – [Grand Lake, OK](#)

Round #2 of the new riding season will be at Grand Lake. 8 sections – 3 loops

Group ride, 10 AM riders meeting at the [usual spot below the dam](#).

Fees: \$20 for Members, \$25 for Non-Members

Spectators are always free but please sign the waiver at the sign-in table.

2018 Membership Fees remain the same at \$40\year – membership form is [here](#)

Todd Phillips is the February trials master.

February Issue of On-The-Pegs

As long as we are talking about February, most everyone knows NEOTT's favorite big time national photographer and writer Shan Moore puts out the e-magazine [On-The-Pegs](#). The February issue has lots of great riding tips from Pat Smage, Interviews with Karl Davis Jr. and Louise Forsley and a *[proven method of how to become a millionaire riding trials](#)* (read the Daniel Blanc-Gonnet interview on page 76 – who knew?)

Check it out [here](#). Great job as always Shan!



Rider Profile – Todd Duesterhaus

It all started for me when I was seven years old, when my Dad had a friend that worked at the local Honda Dealership and brought home a shiny silver Honda MR50. I bet I made 500 laps on that bike in one day. I was forever hooked!

My passion for motorcycling from then on has never stopped.

The only one I question was when my Dad brought me home my first Italian motorcycle, a Benelli 125, the reason I say that is the shifter was on the right side and rear brake pedal was on the left, talk about messing with a kids head! I won my first motocross race at the age of 14 on a '83 Suzuki RM250 and I still have a '83 RM250 that I occasionally vintage MX race.



Just a little short story about how much I lived, slept and ate motocross. I was 17 when I had my wisdom teeth removed, thus I have no wisdom LOL, by any how they get ready to knock me out and the anesthesiologist said think of something you like to do and you will dream about it. So when I woke up and still half under the anesthesia, I told my Mom I finished 2nd at the Ponca City Nationals. I'm sure she just laughed, because she still tells the story now and then. And little did I know it would take to the year 2010 when I did finish 8th Overall in the 40+ A-Vet class.



I'm sure most of us have had the broken arm, baseball size knot on the shin, but the one that got me thinking about taking up trials professionally, LOL, was I had a pretty good wreck at River Valley MX in Silom, AR. Missed a triple jump broke five ribs, cracked sternum, punctured lung and was in ICU for a few days. I still ride motocross but as the great philosopher Toby Keith says, *"I ain't as good as I once was"*, that's the cold hard truth.



So I searched the World Wide Web (craigslist) and found a GasGas 280 in Wichita from a guy named Wes Jordan. I bought it and he invited me to one of the Ark Valley trials meets and then I became ate up with this. Then my son Cale got on it and he liked it so I bought him a Sherco. I let Todd Phillips ride mine and he liked it so I sold him that one and bought another GasGas. Then one of us let Chris Shellenberger ride one of ours and he was hooked. Then I coaxed the love of my life Penni Taylor to give it a try and I will let her tell you in her profile why I called her my little Whiskey girl, but not anymore, I got her the right sized bike now.

So I can say I have brought in four of the closest people in my life, besides my Parents and Grandchildren, into trials. And we already have bought Gunner, our first grandson, an electric Mecatecno T8 and I'm sure our little Journey Bug will be on one soon.



40 years later I'm riding my second Italian motorcycle, a Beta 300 SS, and wouldn't you know it the damn kicker is still on the wrong side.

I have truly met some of the friendliest people in trials, even at the Nationals this past year, which was my first, the competition was tough, but everyone, the competitors, officials and spectators want you to succeed. Like I said, I have raced Motocross, Dirt Track Oval and drag raced. There are no better people than trials enthusiasts. I have won several track championships in auto racing and motocross, but trials has been my most challenging and rewarding. I hope to be riding trials till the day I can't swing my leg over it to start it.

Last Event - Jan 21st Grand Lake Shakedown



At the riders meeting, these fine four gentlemen were awarded their 2017 iron man awards for attending every event in 2017 – a new Dunlop D803GP front tire. Membership pays.

Winners are:

1. Todd Duesterhaus
2. Mike Cramsey
3. Kevin Kight
4. Eldon Malone

For the event, 13 riders in attendance on a warm day in January and a great day to ride trials with temps in the 50's. A little breezy at times but otherwise you couldn't ask for a better day this time of year. The icing on the cake was Mrs. Trialsmaster provided plenty of home made chocolate chips cookies for everyone to enjoy.



Eric stylin' on the big hillclimb on Section 7



Chris with a nice up on Section 8



Penni looking to the exit on Section 4

There were a couple of firsts to kick off the New Year:

1. There were four first-time Intermediate riders who did great for their first time in the class. The points were close and any one of them could have won the class. It looks to be a good year in INT class.
2. Also a first time Expert (Shellenberger) and an experienced Sr. Amateur (Anderson) rider get their first class wins.

Spectator wise there were two experienced riders from other moto disciplines that came out to watch expressing an interest in starting to ride trials – hopefully we didn't scare them off with our crazy antics.

Lastly a blast from the past Rex Gibson was out riding around, not competing, but dusting off his GasGas 321 and he had a for sale on it if anyone is interested.

So lots of changes and new experiences to kick off the New Year.

TrialsMaster Mike put together 8 sections and 3 loops with a nice mix of rocks, logs, hill climbs and off-cambers on terrain that mostly consisted of loose roly-poly rocks and/or slippery rocks.

Results:

Exp: Shellenberger (58), Shack (64), Cramsey (67)
Int: Malone (41), Cogburn (49), Duesterhaus (53\7c), Phillips (53\5c)
SrAma: Anderson (14), Kight (18), Gudgel (n\c 21)
Nov: Taylor (11), Kleeman (15)

The official scores and year-to-date standings are on the web [here](#).

Thanks to Kevin for helping set the trials and to everyone that helped pick up afterwards. Also Stacey and Todd P for running the sign-in table and Jon Stoodley for taking all the pictures.

As mentioned earlier, the INT class was close all day. The club's resident data geek threw some advanced data analytics at the scorecards to produce a colorized 'heat-map'. The colors show the low scores in Green and the high scores in Red of the riders in each section. We can see that the riders took their points in different places on the course. All-in-all it was a great first ride out for these INT riders.

NEOTT Grand Lake		Intermediate Sunday Jan 21, 2018				Totals by Section										Counts				
PL	CL	Name	Bike	State	Total	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	P	0	1	2	3	5	
1st	INT	Eldon Malone	SHE	AR	41	7	12	1	5	5	2	1	8		11	2	4	2	5	
2nd	INT	Eric Cogburn	GAS	OK	49	8	6	8	6	6	6	3	6		3	5	6	9	1	
3rd	INT	Todd Duesterhaus	GAS	MO	53/7c	11	3	8	5	10	5	1	10		7	4	4	2	7	
4th	INT	Todd Phillips	BET	MO	53/5c	1	10	7	5	8	4	7	11		5	4	4	7	4	

INT Leaderboard. The following graphic shows who is in 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th place by each section. Todd P managed to steal defeat from the jaws of victory going from 1st for most of the event to 4th based tie-breakers at the last section. Meanwhile Eldon and Eric went back and forth between 2nd and 3rd several times but Eldon having a great 3rd loop sealed the deal and he moved into the top spot. If Todd D remembers where the split cards next month then it will be a very different outcome :-)

[illegible]

EXP class was very close too with the difference being mostly in section 2 with Chris finding a better way through while Mike went body surfing on the slippery downhill a couple of times. Also Chris was really smooth through Section 6. Congrats to Chris on his first EXP class win!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH
NEOTT		Expert																															
Grand Lake		Sunday Jan 21, 2018							Totals by Section										Counts														
PL	CL	Name	Bike	State	Total	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	P	0	1	2	3	5														
1st	EXP	Chris Shellenberger	SHE	MO	58	10	6	6	9	8	3	11	5		2	4	6	9	3														
2nd	EXP	Jason Shackelford	GAS	OK	63	11	9	6	6	9	6	9	7		1	5	2	13	3														
3rd	EXP	Mike Cramsey	BET	OK	67	10	13	6	11	9	7	5	6		0	5	5	9	5														

Sr AMA class had Kyle borrowing a bike from Kevin and then beating him with his own bike (ouch). Afterwards it sounded like Kyle liked the additional flywheel weighting on Kevin's bike and we expect he'll soon be adding a flywheel weight to his own GasGas. Two weeks later we see Kyle has [his bike up for sale](#), looking to upgrade and Kevin has the Beta 4T on the bench and is out riding the 2T GasGas. The battle for Sr Ama supremacy is on! Congrats to Kyle on his first class win!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH	AI	AJ	AK	AL	AM	AN	AO	AP	AQ	AR	AS	AT	AU	AV
NEOTT Grand Lake		Senior Amateur Sunday Jan 21, 2018						Totals by Section																Counts																							
PL	CL	Name	Bike	State	Total	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8	P	0	1	2	3	5																												
1st	SRA	Kyle Anderson	GAS	OK	14	1	4	2	0	2	0	5	0		15	7	1	0	1																												
2nd	SRA	Kevin Kight	BET	OK	18	4	5	0	1	3	4	0	1		15	4	3	1	1																												
n/c	SRA	Troy Gudgel	MON	OK	16	5	3	5	0	0	1	0	2		18	3	0	1	2																												

NOV class went back and forth a couple of times but in the end Penni prevailed. It was a good fun trial for Novices to start the season.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AQ	AR	AS	AT	AU	AV
NEOTT Grand Lake		Novice Sunday Jan 21, 2018				Totals by Section																	Counts												
PL	CL	Name	Bike	State	Total	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8		P	0	1	2	3	5															
1st	NOV	Penni Taylor	GAS	MO	11	0	2	4	2	1	0	0	2			16	6	1	1	0															
2nd	NOV	Bill Kleeman	GAS	OK	15	0	6	0	2	0	0	5	2			18	1	3	1	1															

January's Trials Trivia Game Answer

Answers to Last Months trivia questions (In Jeopardy format):

- Who is Malcolm Rathmell? – The rider on the original NEOTT patch, designed by Mike McCabe – Rob Toole was our winner
– Bonus Question: Who is Ron Lee? – The rider on the current NEOTT logo, designed by Jon Stoodley – Mark Cope was our winner



Classifieds

Looking for a bike? Of course you are – here are some quick links for trials bikes on Craigslist in these nearby cities:

[Tulsa](#) : [OKC](#) : [Joplin](#) : [Fayetteville](#) : [Wichita](#) : [Dallas](#)

On Facebook check out "[Trials Bikes for Sale USA](#)"

ATR Larry also has a [web page just for Trials Bikes](#)

Already have a trials bike sitting in the garage and maybe it has some dust on it? Clean it up, bring it out, ride and rediscover the joy of riding trials. [Talkin' to you "Chuck"! :-)]

Coming Up in the March 2018 Issue:

- Shake down and break down of the Feb Event
- Getting geared up for the March Dam Gate Trial – once-in-a-lifetime chance to get your name on the cup next to Pat Smage's!
- Rider Profile – Eldon Malone
- If anyone wants to write up a short story or a tall tale send it to neottnews@fastmail.com and we'll get it added.

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