



MOTOR POOL MESSENGER

Military Transport Association of North Jersey

July 2001

David H. Ahl, Editor

Trail Ride This Weekend:

Come to the trail ride at the Mahlon Dickerson Reservation (with or without a vehicle) this Saturday, June 23. We'll be on the trail for about six hours, so you'll be home in time for dinner (if that's your wish). Intrepid enthusiasts can make it into an overnight camporee if they wish.

We'll meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Jefferson Township Municipal Building on Weldon Road in Milton. From I-80, get off at exit 34 in Wharton and take Route 15 north. If you're coming east on I-80, take exit 34B, bear hard right, go through the light and stay in the right lane. Go 4.8 miles and take the Weldon Road exit at Hurdstown (right turn before overpass). Go about six miles, pass the Jr. High School and High School on the right, then right after Sparta Mountain Road comes in from the left is the Municipal Building on the left.

Come prepared: full jerry can, plenty of water, working winch or good tow strap, first aid kit, radios, and food for lunch and snacks. And remember, what we bring in, we take out.

There will be plenty of vehicles so everyone will be able to find a ride, even if you don't take your own vehicle on the trails. The trails are relatively narrow and have low, overhanging branches, so no deuces.

For more information, call Randy Emr evenings at 973-770-6629 or Sat. morning on his cell phone, 973-219-4499.

And a special thanks to John Headley for helping with the arrangements for the trail ride.

Upcoming Independence Day Parades

Sat, June 30, MONTVILLE PARADE: 10:00 a.m. Gathering Rd off Change Bridge Rd. (Co. Rt. 621) 1.8 mi. north of US 46 at Pine Brook or 2.5 mi. south of the US 202/Montville exit off I-287.

Tues, July 3, FAIRFIELD PARADE: 5:30 p.m. Church at west end of Hollywood Ave. near intersection with Horseneck Rd. 0.8 mi north of US 46 on Plymouth St.

Wed, July 4, FLORHAM PARK PARADE: 8:15 a.m. at Treasure Island parking lot on Columbia Tpk in center of town.

Wed, July 4, MONTCLAIR PARADE: 9:15 a.m. Fullerton Ave. off Bloomfield Ave., 4th light eastbound after museum

Wed, July 4, CHATHAM PARADE: 9:30 a.m. Hillside Ave. on the south of Main St (Rt. 124) at east end of town near Chatham exit off Rt 24. (Sandwiches and drinks will be provided at end for all participants.)

Sat, July 7, RANDOLPH PARADE: 10:00 a.m. Dover Armory on West Clinton St. (Rt. 15) north of Dover. From there, we will convoy with the Nat'l Guard to the parade form up point at Quaker Church Rd and Dover-Chester Rd.

**If you need a parade map,
call Dave Ahl: 973-538-3385**

Minutes of May Meeting:

Setting a new world's record, Mr. Sobotka called the May 14 meeting of the NJ MTA to order at precisely 8:00 p.m. This was done so Mr. Adams could make a presentation and then get to another function. Mr. Sobotka fast forwarded to Old Business for the presentation and then rewound to the start of the meeting. We'll put the presentation where it actually belongs.

Please Return Videos!

Other people want
to borrow them.

There were no first time attendees or guests among the 37 members in attendance, so Mr. Sobotka skipped to minutes (accepted as printed in the newsletter) and treasurer's report from Mr. Frei. Deposits: \$40 memberships, \$48 50/50, \$795.75 sale of jackets. Disbursements: \$247.50 jackets, #121.55 newsletter, \$15 tax filing. Closing balance \$2,255.37. Payments of \$1625 were received from Memorial Day Parades but not deposited yet. Mr. Frei apologized for getting behind on MTA business in the last 18 months as a result of being caught up in extended family problems, a new job, etc. We understand, Rick.

Committee Reports

For the **Parade Committee**, Mr. Axelrad and Mr. Eichenlaub announced our participation in and passed around sign-up sheets for the six parades listed in the first column. We are driving in the Randolph parade gratis as a favor to the National Guard. Psssst, don't tell anybody.

For the **Trail Ride Committee**, Mr. Emr described the trail ride to take place on June 23. See first column.

For the **Restoration Committee**, Mr. Sobotka said the Chief Laner at the Dover Armory was collecting needed bits and pieces for the M38A1. Mr. Headley reported that a church had a parts M38A1 that they would give us in return for a donation of \$100 or so. It was moved, seconded, and voted on (sort of) to do this. Mr. Headley will pick up the jeep.

Old Business

The early presentation by Mr. Adams was information about a possible new meeting place, namely the Whippany American Legion Hall. This is near the intersection of Whippany Rd. and NJ Rt. 10 3 miles west of our current location.

A second alternative was suggested by Mr. Pavlick, namely the Netcong VFW Hall. This is relatively close to I-80, about 22 miles west of our current location.

We will be taking a vote on the preferred location at the July 9 meeting. However, if you are a member but unable to attend, you can call, fax, or e-mail your vote to the secretary, Dave Ahl (phone: 973-538-3385, fax 973-539-5934, e-mail: DaveAhl@aol.com).

Here are a few of the pros and cons of the different places:

	<i>Godfather</i>	<i>Whippany</i>	<i>Netcong</i>
	<i>Pizza</i>	<i>Am Legion</i>	<i>VFW</i>
Food served	Yes	No	No
Close take out	n/a	Yes	Yes
Food delivery	n/a	Yes	Yes
Bar	No	Yes	Yes
Room for displays	No	Yes	Yes
Member flea market	No	Yes	Yes
Cost	Free	\$50/night	Free

New Business

Several possible upcoming events were brought up and briefly discussed. Specifically, we have been invited to put on a static display at the NJ State/Sussex County Fair on Saturday, Aug. 11. This is a 1-o-n-g day lasting from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and the fair organizers emphasized that any vehicle on display must be there the full time from morning open to evening close. There is plenty to do at the fair as long as you don't mind leaving your vehicle unattended. If enough members go, we can arrange to always have one or two people stay with the vehicles while other go off and see other events.

A question was raised about the Red Ball/MTA picnic at Sven Johnson's. This has now been scheduled for Saturday, August 11, so members will have to decide on either the Sussex Co. Fair or the joint club picnic.

We will definitely be driving in the Mendham Boro Labor Day parade on September 3. This parade is over about 11 am. Question: should we plan to hang around for a picnic lunch? We can park in a nice grassy field next to the carnival with its rides for kiddies and midway of games you can't win.

A possible event is a static display at McGuire AFB on the weekend of Sep. 15-16. Look at your calendar and come to the next meeting prepared to make a commitment.

The McGuire event unfortunately overlaps the Red Ball Rally at Tobyhanna, Sept. 13 to 15. However, as these rallies seem to be running earlier and earlier, there is no reason not to go to Tobyhanna on Thursday and/or Friday and to McGuire on Saturday and/or Sunday.

And of course, there is the fall American Truck Historical Society (ATHS) show at Adams Metal Products (colloquially known as the Ray Bentley Show), which would be really nice if it were on Sept. 9, but given our history of conflicts, will probably be on Sept. 16.

The Pocono & Fishawack Districts Boy Scouts have invited us to furnish vehicles and drivers for their Camporee on Oct. 13 at Rivers Bend campground on the Delaware River. They would like at least ten vehicles to give trail rides to the scouts.

And lest we forget,, Mr. Mundy reminds us that the Salute to Sussex County Veterans Committee is looking for military vehicles to join in a big event to honor veterans at Sussex County Fairgrounds on Sat., Nov. 10. Start thinking about it now and call Jim Mundy for details at 973-770-0262.

Following up on getting club decals, Mr. Coward got prices for 6" and 4" vinyl emblems and 3" decals. Prices ranged from \$2 to \$5 and it was left that he would get some samples of one of them for the next meeting.

For the Good of the Club

A dozen voices raised in chaos, each wanting to go first. It was not a pretty sound and I confess that I had trouble making order from it, but here goes.

Mr. Sobotka said that he and Mr. Covart cannibalized a ton of M35A2 parts in the pouring rain from 15 or so junked trucks

at Roxbury Auto Wreckers on Dewey Ave. (near Costco).

Mr. Sobotka thanked Mr. Anthony Falzo for donating batteries to the 2-way radios that Mr. Eichenlaub loans to the club for various events. These radios were a great help in the Parsippany-Dover convoy (speaking as the one who was bringing up the rear).

Thanks also go to Mr. Markert for making up colored name tags for members to wear at meetings and events. Mr. Axelrad emphasized that members should wear the name tags. Mr. Rooke suggested that there be a "badge penalty" of 50¢ assessed to any member not wearing his badge at a meeting. We will vote on this at the July meeting.

Mr. Ahl gave reports of the ATHS National Convention in Reno, NV (17 hours to get there!) at which 600+ trucks were shown including 13 military ones. The location in the main parking lot of the Reno Hilton was absolutely perfect. A side tour to Fallon Naval Air Station (Top Gun school) was great!

Mr. Ahl also reported that he and Mr. Ratzburg took a field trip to Katz' junk yard in Stroudsburg (a different mix of stuff), Coleman's in Millersburg, PA (getting pricier by the day, but still lots of good surplus stuff and camping/hunting gear), and Saturn Surplus (great selection and prices on M151, HMMWV, generator, and modern surplus parts).

Major James Winbush of Picatinny Arsenal sent a letter and plaque to the club for its participation in Armed Forces Day on May 12. Mr. Rooke remarked that the live fire demonstrations were especially good.

Mr. Bancal called the attention of members to an incident in West Haven, Connecticut in which Philip Roklen, 51, the driver of an M8 armored car (like Brian's) was arrested near the beach because some bystanders thought it was some sort of armed insurrection. Making matters worse, Mr. Roklen's registration had expired so instead of walking away with a slap on the hand, Mr. Roklen wound up with an expensive ticket. Of course, the local papes and the Associated Press called the vehicle a tank, but... Lesson: be sure your paperwork is in order and up to date.

Mr. Headley again reminded members that the Red Ball club will be doing a convoy to Ft. Lee for the MVPA Convention and urged MTA members to join in. From NJ, it will be a 3-day convoy each way.

Ms. Zelaskowski reported that the WWII Weekend at Reading was absolutely spectacular with lots of planes, MVs, re-enactors, vendors, and much more.

Mr. Ahl apologized to Ms. Zelaskowski and Mr. Muchmore for having them come to his house on memorial Day to drive his M151 and then having it spit and sputter. Turned out that the problem was (I hide my head) two reversed plug wires.

Lots of door prizes were provided by Mr. Sobotka, the 50/50 was held, and the meeting mercifully drew to a close at 9:40 p.m. —respectfully submitted, David Ahl, Secretary

Random Notes:

If you want to get something into the newsletter, please give it or send it to me on a **piece of paper**. Although I have a steel trap memory, sometimes it traps things so well that they don't get back out (actually, most of the time). So if you tell me something and you don't see me write it down, figure that it's water through a sieve. I say again: write me a note—DHA

If you didn't get a big 160-page **Belle & Blade Video Catalog** at the meeting, call 973-328-8488 and they'll send you one. Remember to quote account 012001 to get a 10% discount.

Need to **move a vehicle**? John Doyle has a dump truck and

trailer available at a nominal cost.

Club Videos. Mr. Rooke donated another video to the club library bringing our total up to 19. Unfortunately, many of them seem to already be missing. If you borrowed a video, please bring it back the next meeting!

Mr. Spence notes that the current issue (#12) of *Weird New Jersey* has a complete list of Nike missile sites in the state. Just in case you were wondering where to spend your vacation.

And speaking of weird, I received a strange application form from Jeffery Cox on behalf of "The Letter Writer," which seems to be some sort independent movie-production group involved in making a feature film of WWII as seen by a combat photographer. They are seeking re-enactors and people with WWII vehicles and uniforms to take part. For information and an application, contact The Letter Writer, 118 Wyndmoor Rd., Springfield, PA 19064.

Classified Advertising:

Five 6.00x16 tire flaps, new. M38 passenger seat, new. Hank, 201-891-0835.

7.00x16 military tires and tubes, 90% rubber. \$35 ea. Joe Botto, 973-278-6850.

From the Bernardsville News: WWII era jeep in US Army livery, soft top & doors, 4wd, runs great, goes anywhere, lots of fun. Asking \$5000. 908-234-1129.

New field pants, 2XL, waist to 44, OD, \$20. Dave Ahl, 973-285-0716

1950 ¾-ton Chevy panel truck, does not run, \$500. Call Ed, leave message, 973-347-3866.

1942 BSA military bike, all original. Fairlawn. Buzz, 2010-791-5663.

M416 trailer w/spare tire, \$500. Wally Carter. 973-366-5140.

Wanted: 11x16 tires and tailgate for M37. Mike Solomon, 908-233-1498.

Wanted: Khaki overseas (flat) cap, prefer one with officer's braid, but any is okay. Size 7-5/8 or 7-3/4. Dave Ahl at 973-285-0716 or 973-538-3385.

Member Services:

Starting soon, business card size ads (2" x 3½") for member services (and others) will cost \$10 per year (a bargain!).

Landscaping, Retaining Walls, Patios, Walks Don Covart, Fox Hollow Landscaping, 973-263-8106, 335-4367

Tree Services John Boyle, Boyle Tree Service, 908-964-9358

Welding, Sheet Metal Work, Machine Work Brian Bancale, Brian's Custom Fabricating & Repair, 973-209-0454

Used Cars & Trucks—Buy or Sell Dan Lacey, Empire Auto Sales, 800-94EMPIRE, 201-440-3323

Add-A-Level, Additions, New Homes Randy Emr, Emr Construction Co., 973-663-5130

Vehicle Repairs & Restoration Joe Detauda, 570-686-3121

Mobile Sandblasting—Commercial, Residential, Metal John Peterson Enterprises, 732-777-6828

Amazing WWII Factoids:

• The first German serviceman killed in the war was killed by the Japanese in China in 1937.

Officers for 2001:

President	John Sobotka
	37 Mountain Trail, Hopatcong, NJ 07843, 973-398-3692
Vice President	Brian Bancale
	56 Newton Ave., Sussex, NJ 07461, 973-875-6985
Secretary/Newsletter Editor	Dave Ahl
	12 Indian Head Rd, Morristown, NJ 07960, 973-285-0716
Treasurer	Rick Frei
	P.O. Box 628, Blairstown, NJ 07825, 908-362-5045
Sergeant of Arms	Mark Jezewski
	11 Godfrey Ave., Roseland, NJ 07068, 973-228-7086

Calendar:

Meetings, parades, and events that are officially sanctioned by the club are listed in **BOLD UPPER-CASE TYPE**, while other events are listed in standard typeface.

Sat. June 23: MTA Trail Ride. Details on page 1.

Sun. June 24: Princeton 17th Annual Car Show & Swap Meet, Sarnoff Corp, Rt. 1 & Washington Rd. Info: 856-299-5372.

Sat. June 30 thru Sat. July 7: Six Independence Day Parades. Details on page 1.

Mon, July 9: MTA MEETING. Godfathers Pizza, Pharmore Plaza, Rt. 10, East Hanover (7:00 eats, 8:00 meeting)

Thu. July 19 - Sun. July 22: MVPA Intl Convention. Ft. Lee, VA, 3 mi east of Petersburg. Info: 800-365-5798. The MTA will convoy with Red Ball to this event. Call John Headley for details, 973-697-3576.

Thu. - Sat. July 26-28: 14th Merrimack Valley Club Rally, Weare, NH, off Rt 114 behind Center Woods School north of town. Lots of trail rides, big flea market, displays, more. Info: Larry Damour, 603-529-2884.

Mon, Aug. 13: MTA MEETING. Godfathers Pizza, Pharmore Plaza, Rt. 10, East Hanover (7:00 eats, 8:00 meeting)

10 Reasons to Own a Military Vehicle

10. None of that metric stuff.
9. No "jelly bean" styling or colors.
8. You like the smell of canvas.
7. More economical by the pound.
6. Helps balance the Federal budget.
5. Makes the neighbors worry.
4. No need to wax the paint.
3. Safer than a Harley.
2. Cheaper than a Corvette.
1. Elvis may have driven it.

—submitted by Samuel Norris

Lack of Parts Causes Military to Cannibalize

Washington:—The Pentagon system for dispensing spare parts for aircraft, tanks, and other equipment is broken and officials aren't sure how to fix it.

At least 154,000 times a year, a military mechanic takes a part from one airplane and puts it on another because a new spare part is not on hand, says a report by the GAO.

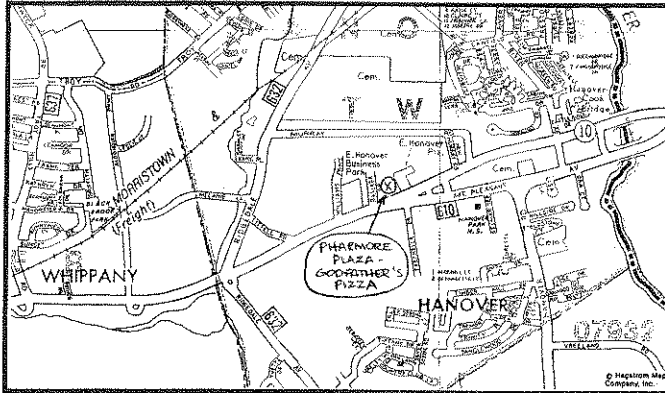
This practice is called "cannibalization" and it's eating into readiness," Rep. Christopher Shays (R-Conn.) Said yesterday.

Cannibalization is also a waste of time and money—costing taxpayers 1 million extra work hours per year.—AP, 5/23/01

[Do people really think cannibalization is something new? Heck, it's the American military way—always has been and probably always will be.]

Military Transport Association of North Jersey

a chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association



Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of every month at Godfather's Pizza, Pharmore Plaza, Route 10 West, East Hanover, NJ. Come at 7:00 p.m. to eat: pizza, sandwich, spaghetti, soda (bring your own beer if you want). Meeting starts at 8:00 p.m.

Join Now and Receive:

- ☛ FREE MTA baseball hat, T-shirt, and embroidered patch.
- ☛ 12 issues of *Motor Pool Messenger* (this newsletter)
- ☛ FREE classified sales and wanted ads in the newsletter
- ☛ Notices of parades and events in which you can participate
- ☛ FREE annual picnic and FREE annual pizza party.

To join the Military Transport Association, send this form (or the same information on a blank sheet of paper) with \$10.00 annual dues to the address below.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Military vehicle(s) owned _____

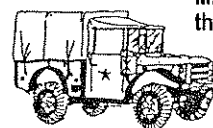
Mail completed application with \$10.00 dues to:

Military Transport Association of NJ
12 Indian Head Road
Morristown, NJ 07960

Military Transport Association

The Military Transport Association of North Jersey is a non-profit membership organization for people interested in collecting, preserving, and displaying historic military vehicles. The club holds monthly meetings and participates in 15 to 20 parades, educational events, shows, and veteran activities.

Restoring a Military Vehicle?



Military Vehicles magazine is the world's leading source of information about Jeeps, HMMWVs, armor, trucks, Mules, Unimogs & more. How to buy, restore and operate. Lots of detailed tech tips. Historical vehicle development and deployment articles, objective book reviews, detailed photos, event calendar. More than 100 pages of ads every issue.
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