Managing Director’s Report

April 2021

As we approach our Preliminary Annual Meeting, I can barely remember a time that has been this busy. CORVA is involved in numerous areas around the state, with the Forest Service, BLM and State Parks. OHV recreation is under attack, and cannot underestimate how much this is affecting us in the legislature and decisions that State Parks is making at the current time.

The Sierra Club has declared war on off-road recreation AND off-road recreation opportunities. Anyone who receives their email alerts can see that they have increased hateful rhetoric and are actively engaged in the legislature opposing anything that has a connection to OHV. The only exception to that rule has been our lobbying coalition bill AB232 (Gallgher) that has sailed through every committee on the consent calendar. Because it doesn't create new opportunities, expand opportunities and will potentially increase revenue for the state, this bill has escaped the Sierra Club hate campaign. But everything else, every SVRA, the grant funding and all other components of the program are under attack. They're not likely to be successful with all the goals, but having less money allocated by the governor for grant funding next year could have devastating impacts.

As a community, we have to increase our political presence, but through the years we've not been very successful with getting our constituents to respond. Diana has been doing a great job testifying against the Carnegie bills, SB 799 and AB 1512, but NO OTHER OHV groups are objecting to these bills this year. It's specifically surprising for AMA, given that the existing Carnegie is essentially a motorcycle park. It seems they just want to give up.

I have continued working with the Forest Service with the Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Coalition, which has another meeting coming up on Wednesday, April 28th, to cover opportunities in the Eldorado, Tahoe and Plumas National Forests and the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit. Many well known 4WD trails are found in the area, and I hope people will participate in the meeting. This is the third of 5 meetings that cover recreation opportunities in all the 18 forests in California. This includes OHV roads and trails, mountain bike and snowmobile recreation. Getting to know the mountain bike community has been interesting and provided us another opportunity to interact with State Parks, and expand our working coalition.

Jane Arteaga has retired from her longtime position at the BLM of statewide OHV coordinator. Another person has been hired for the position but is moving to California and will start shortly. CORVA will be seeking an appointment with her as soon as she arrives.

We have been restocking our store in preparation of a busy season upcoming with shows and events. We also had to restock brochures and stickers, besides the coozies, hats and shirts. We can't thank Off the Grid Surplus enough for their assistance with our store. Sales will pick up again when the new merchandise arrives.

I have continued working with the OHMVR Commission Subcommittee for NYPUM, Diversity and Inclusion. This subcommittee has received positive attention from the administration.

Looking forward to our meeting on Monday evening and the special guests who will be speaking.

Amy