

NESS Express

Snow Phone: 741-NESS Check Us Out, On Line!!! WWW.SNOSEEKERS.COM

Trails Open December 15th!

If there is snow, you can ride to the meeting.

November 2008

Next General Meeting: December 18th at the American Legion Tillman Post in Akron at 7:30PM Next Board Meeting: December 11th at the American Legion Tillman Post in Akron at 7:00PM

NORTHERN ERIE

Sno-Seekers P.O. Box 167 Akron, NY 14001

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NORTHERN ERIE SNO-SEEKERS, INC.®

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2008/2009

NAME	(First Name, Sp	ouse's First Na	ame, Children's First Name, Last Name)		对承恢			
ADDRESS_					MOBILECT			
CITY/TOW	′N		STATEZI	P	www.sno-seekers.com			
		E-MAIL (We do not share personal information)			(716) 741-NESS (6377)			
*NAME AND A	DDRESS MUST MATO	CHSNOWMO	OBILE REGISTRATION FOR DISCOL	NT. See below.				
All memberships are from April 1 to March 31 to coincide with NYSSA Voucher's \$5.00 of this fee is for membership to NYSSA who will donate .25¢ to the NYS Snowmobile PAC. NOTE: If you do not wish to donate the .25¢, please check here If you are already a member of NYSSA (through another club) you may deduct the \$5.00 if you wish from amount below and write the club name club name and voucher ID# here								
□ NEW MEMBER □ RENEWAL (Please check all that apply) □ LANDOWNER □ SINGLE \$ 25.00 □ FAMILY \$ 30.00 (Incl. spouse and all children age 17 and under			*Membership in this dub entitles you to NYS Snowmobile Registration fee of \$45 on each snowmobile registered to the name and address above. A voucher will be issued upon club membership payment. Please bring this application to the monthly meeting or mail it to:					
residing at the same address above) CLUB HOUSE DONATION \$			Northern Erie Sno-Seekers, Inc. R PO Box 167 Akron, NY 14001-0167					
We are a 100% volunteer, 501(C) 3 not-for-profit organization that relies on member support to make our club a success. Everyone has <i>something</i> they can contribute and <i>any</i> assistance (no matter how big or small) is greatly appreciated. Please check any area(s) where you can help us say: "The Best Trails in WNY!"								
□ Advertising/PR Committee □ Trails/Landowner Committee □ Groomer/Equipment Committee □ Newsletter/Website Committee □ Emergency Response Team □ Safety/Education Committee □ ASSUMPTION OF RISKS, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, AND WAIVE to: other snowmobiles, changing weather conditions; natural or univisibility, snow grooming equipment, or other vehicles, or negligence			Club Historian Other AIVER OF CLAIM: I am aware that snowm r un-natural objects: trees, stumps, the condit gence of other drivers or on the part of NESS	your busi advertis spots in along t Please ca	If you are interested in promoting your business we offer many forms of advertising. You may choose from spots in our newsletter, trail guides, along the trail or on our website. Please call us or visit our website for more information. In in involves many risks, dangers and hazards including, but not limited of snow or ice; changes in the terrain; blind spots or areas of reduced s members to safeguard or protect me from these hazards. I am aware so officers, members, or sponsors from all liability and waive any and all			
Signature			····	Date_				
	"SNOWMOBILERS RESPECT LANDOWNERS - STAY ON THE TRAIL"							

Club Officers

President: Eric Glassman 741-4334

Vice President: Dan Dressel **Secretary:** Scott Trapp

Treasurer: Rich McNamara 741-4819 Trail Coord.: Al Wolbert/Mike Oliver

Board Member: Curt Watts Board Member: Bill Peronne **Board Member:** Frank Schroeder **Board Member:** Dale Dunkelberger Board Member: Jeff Glassman **Board Member:** Kevin Karuschke **Board Member:** Dave Witmer

Committees

PR/Marketing & Advertising **Committee**

Chairperson: OPEN

Social Committee:

Chairperson: OPEN

Membership Committee:

Chairperson: OPEN

Groomer/Equitment Committee:

Chairperson: Rich Wood 759-8528

Trails/ Landowners Committee:

Al Wolbert/Mike Oliver

Safety/Education Committee:

Chairperson: Al Osborne

Trail Guides Committee:

Chairperson: Sandy Gaulocher

Newsletter/Website Committee:

Chairperson: Matt Priebe Contact # 741-NESS

Looking for replacement

Snow Phone: 741-NESS

Club Headlines

Trails Open December 15th! Have you called to help yet!

Call 741-NESS or 741-4819 and lend a hand or there may not be trails to ride this year.

- **Next General Meeting: December 18th** at 7:30PM at the American Legion Tillman Post at 9 Eckerson Avenue in the Village of Akron. On the Trail – Obey Signs.
- Christmas/Landowner Party Dec. 13th. Newstead Fire Hall at 5PM.
- Trail maintenance continues....Lets all chip in and get the trails ready to ride. Call 741-NESS and leave message if you can help!!!

Next General Meeting: December 18th at 7:30PM at the American Legion Tillman Post in Akron, NY.

Next Board Meeting: December 11th at 7:00PM at the American Legion Tillman Post in Akron, NY.



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President's Page

Time to thank the landowners

The first hard frost is over and that means we're on our way to the snow season. We can only hope it'll come early and stay late. Our trail installation is continuing and the trail captains are always looking for help to finish up some gaps that we have. We've attended several open houses and fairs this past quarter and received some positive feedback from the members. Our clubhouse fund is taking hold and we hope it'll continue. Looks like we're ready for snow.

Remember our <u>Landowner Appreciation Party</u> is Dec 13. WE NEED YOUR HELP! We're looking for donations for the Chinese auction so help us "shake the tree" and ask your employer, associates, neighbors and friends! Gift baskets, certificates, clothing, food, car washes, homemade gifts, etc. Anything is fine! We also need <u>desserts</u> so fire up the oven and bake away! Please call the Sno-phone 741-NESS or Sue at 741-4334 and let us know! We're counting on everyone's help!

Thanks, Fric



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BIKE PATH WORK SESSION SAT. 12/6 9AM

We will be installing barrels along the bike path trail on Sat 12/6.

Meet us at the Barnum Rd crossing at 9AM.

Please bring any stray signs or markers you have laying around.

Also a screwgun or 2 would help.

We still need to arrange for water filling and have the gates removed for access.

A crew will meet at 8AM at the storage trailers to load the barrels. If you have a trailer, please call us and let us know so we can coordinate the crews.

If we all pitch-in, we'll be done in a few hours! Thanks for your help!

A Few Upcoming Events

Christmas Party December 13, 2008 Newstead Fire Hall

This years Christmas Party will be on December 13, 2008 at the Newstead Fire Hall starting at 5pm. Start looking for prizes for the chinese auction and drop them off at the monthly meetings. The sooner the better

NYS Snowmobile Safety Course - Shawnee - Dec. 6th - Shawnee

Shawnee will be holding the NY State Snowmobile Safety Course December 6th at the Fire Hall from 9:00 A.M. on. Volunteers are needed to help with paperwork. Also, if you are interested in becoming an instructor you should attend. For more information contact Rodger Johnson at 731-2174. Lunch will be provided for volunteers.

-- For course attendees, pre-registration is required-call Gary Broderick at 731-1719 or Pat Daunce at 731-9451. Students should arrive approx. 8:30 a.m. and bring a lunch. Snacks/beverages will be provided by the club. Parents should plan to pick up their children at appox. 3:30 p.m.

To all trail captains!!

Please schedule your fall trail work sessions. We need to inventory all signs and stakes and let us know the count. We need to plan for this fall and its tough if we don't know what we have!

Remember: We need to start clearing brush and repairing bridges as soon as possible. Talk with your landowners and discuss with them when work can begin. Also, don't forget to ask each landowner if there were any problem areas lest year that need to be addressed this year.

Thanks!

Attention Members and Landowners

This newsletter will be going electronic in the coming months.

Members and Landowners will need to make sure the Northern Erie Sno-Seekers have your current email address. Call the Snow Phone at 741-NESS if you need to make changes

No email address? Call an officer and let them know so arraignments can be made to get a newsletter to you. Some ideas are:

Mail copies to members/Landowners requesting them.

Distribute copies local businesses for you to stop in and pick up.

Have copies available at the general meetings

FREE TO GOOD HOME!!!

Small section of trail in Niagara County. Beautiful view, low maintenance, awesome snowmobiling!

Over the past few years we've developed a great trail system in Niagara County. Unfortunately, we've lost some of the trail captains in that area and now need your help! We need 4-6 people that can each take a small section and call it "their own". Requires no experience. We provide great benefits, assistance, and training! Give us a call at 741-NESS, stop in to a meeting, or call Mike Oliver at 772-7687- the future of our trail system depends on it!

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Stop In for Your "FREE" QUOTE TODAY!



Classifieds

For Sale:

Polaris 2000 700 XC deluxe, 4300 miles, \$1500. Clarence Center RVacanti@aol.com

Polaris 2005 340 edge touring 2 up, 700 miles, like new. \$2000. Clarence Center RVacanti@aol.com

2004 Arctic Cat Sabercat 600 EFI EXT. Excellent condition. 1700 miles. Female ridden, 144" track, reverse, electric start. \$3500 864-2589 - Justin

1996 Polaris Classic touring 1700 miles \$1600 861-0898 - Robert

Email your classifieds to Priebe.matt@gmail.com. Also, see more at www.snoseekers.com

Help Wanted – check out the great benefits!!!

We're looking to fill a few spots to fill to help our club grow and become what it can be. The success depends upon you, not others to help make that possible. Take a look and see what you can do to help

- Newsletter editor. Now that we're going "electronic", it'll be even simpler! What a great job for a student or anyone who can do it right from home! I'll bet it'll even count for school credit!
- Social/safety committee. Need to coordinate 2 or 3 safety training sessions/yr. We have instructors ready to go – just need a champion to coordinate! Also, how about a club ride or summer picnic??? Even simpler when we can get 2-4 people to arrange it! Think about the benefit to our club...hey!!
- Trail captains. Take a small chunk of trail and call it "yours". Get your buddies to join and help you! Let's see....get on your sled and ride the trail to make sure its marked safely and no trees fell or whatever....sounds hard huh? Report on how much snow is in your neighborhood. Where do I sign up?
- Board member/officer. This is where we decide on what the club will do! We run the business side of things and all help to get it done. Ask any one of the present or past members and I'll bet nobody will say they regretted it! It is really is fun!

Trail Guides for 2008/2009

We're looking for 3-4 people to help to distribute these guides to local businesses. Simply drop off a handful around their neighborhood and replenish as needed. Call Rich at 553-4819

Northern Erie Sno-Seekers advertising plan. 2008-2009 season

N.E.S.S. has 3 separate types of advertising each suited to a different need.

- 1. <u>Trail Heads</u>. 6 billboards approximately 4 feet wide and 7 feet tall to be placed at the main intersections and/ or trail head locations around the 125 mile+ trail system. These trail heads are where most snowmobilers stop to rest, view the guides, and gather information about the trail system. Each ad will be approx 12"x 16" one-color vinyl decal affixed to the billboard.
- 2. <u>Trail signs</u>. These signs can be placed anywhere along the trail and are highly visible way to advertise or direct traffic to a location. Typically they will show the establishment name and an arrow with distance to a location. They will be approx 16"x 24" one-color, lettered, corrugated plastic attached to a stake, post, or tree
- 3. <u>Newsletter ads</u>. These ads run in our monthly e-newsletter that is sent to all 700+ members and 200+ land-owners. Artwork copy is easily made from a business card.

All seasonal ads/signs are lettered only. Add \$15 to prices below for additional artwork or logos. Buy 3 or more and get a free ad on our website. Ads will run the entire season from fall to spring (except e-newsletter and website which run for 12 months). Deduct 50% for ads starting after Jan 31.

Ad type	Cost \$					
	Number of signs or ads					
$\downarrow \downarrow$	1	2	3	6		
1	\$ 50	\$75	\$100	\$150		
2	\$ 50	\$100	\$125	\$200		
3	\$30 (1/8 page)					
	\$50 (1/4 page)					
	\$90 (1/2 page) Website only - \$25					

Please call us @ 741-NESS or visit us at: snoseekers.com. Thank you for your support



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M ALWAYS IN THE DOG HOUSE



Committees in Need of Volunteers

Administration

Board members/Officers -

Attend the board meetings (once a month) and as a group decide on club issues and what is best for the club.

Legal -

Help with legal club issues. From our non-profit status to possible legal action against the club.

Membership/PR

Advertising/Trail Guides -

We all shop there or stop in for a bite to eat.

We need ads from local businesses in our newsletter and trail guide.

Newsletter -

Write the monthly newsletter you're reading right now.

Website -

Help keep it updated and moderate what is on it.

Social

Fund raising -

Raffles, parties, booth at events. Just a few ideas. We get money from NYS, but sometimes it isn't enough.

Events-

Help let the members know of things happening in the sport and community.

Club activities-

Christmas party, club rides, summer party. Just a few things we need to improve. Lets get together as a club.

Trails

Landowners -

Answer our landowners questions and help with their problems. Let's keep them happy and always thank them for allowing us to use their property.

Trail captains -

Take care of and pride in a 3 or 4 mile stretch of trail.

Maybe an area near your home. Get your buddies to help.

Grooming/Equipment -

Things break and need maintenance.

From the groomer and drag to a chainsaw. We have a lot of stuff to fix.

Or, Turn on the tunes, up the heat, and head out. Remember, late evening is the best time and we'll train you to drive.

Training

Safety courses -

Help the young and old ride safe. Set up and organize safety courses and discussions at meetings.

Emergency response -

Help the community or a rider in trouble. Sometimes only a sled can get the job done and you know the area well.



Newsletter Information

Message from the editor

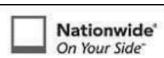
I am looking for information to put in each month's newsletter. As you can see, the newsletter looks very similar month to month. **I need information about our club.** Also, I am looking for events, information, news, anything to do with snowmobiling that may interest you and the rest of our members, landowners, and other readers. PLEASE DO NOT SEND .pdf FILES.

Email me at Priebe.matt@gmail.com

Also, remember, we do sell ads by the month as well as a full year. So let us know if you want to place an ad. The rates are very reasonable and the money goes to help us keep the best trails in wny up and running.

Matt Priebe, NESS Newsletter Editor





The Getzoni Agency, Inc. 8427 Main St. William sville, NY 14221



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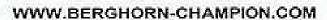


Champion Auto Locators

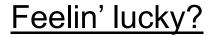
11678 Main Road Akron 716-759-1995

Quality Used Automobiles, Snowmobiles, Atv's and Golf Carts

> **New Triton Trailers Amsoil Products Trades Welcome**



Snowmobile and ATV service available. Any make or model.



We will now be having 50/50 draws at our general meetings. The proceeds will be used to support our newly founded clubhouse fund! You now have 1 more reason to come join us!

Braun's

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Location A-3 On Trail Guide www.hawgwings.com



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JEFF RANDALL Director of Golf Managing Partner



Attention Landowners Let Us Know!!!

Please contact the trail coordinator, any officer, or leave a message at 741-6377 if any area of you property needs attention this year. We greatly appreciate the use of your land for our trails and will do what we can to keep the ATV's and trespassers off.

If you have any concerns or recommendations on how to keep ATV's off your property, let us know. We can address trouble spots while removing the snowmobile trails.

Thanks again for all of your support, without your generosity, we wouldn't have these wonderful trails.

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Wanted! NESS Newsletter Editor

After 7 years of writing the NESS Express, I am looking to step down and hand over the editor reigns to a different member. Over the past few years, my sleds have been replaced with other hobbies and family priorities. I will miss sitting at home writing the newsletter and helping to inform our members and landowners of the club, NYS, and snowmobile industry. However, I feel that the job may be performed even better by a member with more dedication and participation in the sport of snowmobiling.

It only takes a couple hours a month. Really!

Most of the officers and board members supply the info you need.

The rest can be found easily by the NYSSA website and other internet sites.

Thanks, Matt

New York State Snowmobile Association

PO Box 612 Long Lake NY 12847-0612

Tel: (888) 624-3849 Email: jimjennings@nyssnowassoc.org

www.nyssnowassoc.org

Fall 2008 Newsletter

Dear NYSSA Member:

Thanks to National Income Life Insurance Company (NILICO), we are able to provide all members with a brief update. First of all, please read the benefit change letter from NILICO and **return the enclosed card or respond securely online at www.nilife.com/benefits/sgaav**. Over the years, member's families have benefited from this program and, with great enthusiasm, we are pleased to announce an increase in the benefit from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for Accidental Death and Dismemberment at no cost to you or your family.

Join our Mailing List

NYSSA is not publishing a print magazine due to the unexpected increase in price; however NYSSA does publish a monthly Online Magazine. The Online Magazine is packed with information each month, including a synopsis of every Board of Directors Meeting, news from our Trail Coordinator, and upcoming events. You can view it online on our website; it is also emailed to all members who have furnished their clubs/NYSSA their email addresses. If you are not receiving any information and have an email address please add your name to our mailing list by going to the NYSSA website www.nyssnowassoc.org and click on "Join our Mailing List".

Register-Register-Register!

The first snowfall of the year came through New York State this week. With less than two months before the official start to the snowmobile season, club volunteers have been busy preparing the trails for the winter, but it is that first snow that gets the juices flowing! Nothing like getting out in the woods on a chilly fall morning to pound stakes while walking on a thin crust of frost to set the mood. So- now that you have that beautifully poetic image... REGISTER YOUR SNOWMOBILES!!!

NYSSA is working hard to increase trail funding for the upcoming season. In fact, Governor Paterson set the trail budget at \$5.3 million but the catch is of course that we need registrations to provide the funding. If you are a NYSSA member who isn't able to make trail work days but still wants to do something to help, get your registrations in the mail to the DMV as soon as you can. November's registration totals will set the timing for snowmobile trail funding grants, so it is very important to NYSSA clubs to get as many snowmobiles registered before Thanksgiving. By registering on time, you can help the cash flow and keep NYSSA clubs in the black.

Join WHEREVER You Ride

The NYSSA online membership system makes it easy to join additional clubs. As you complete the membership form online, remember to support the clubs wherever you ride. Since the NYSSA membership is not collected when you purchase "secondary" memberships, it costs just \$20 for an additional single membership. That small amount can go a long way to help the clubs provide safer trails and a great snowmobile experience. If you have already joined a club, it is just as easy to go online now or during the season and add clubs to your membership. If you regularly ride on trails outside of your home base, make it a point to help out by joining. It is quick, affordable, and the right thing to do.

Keep it Safe, Keep it Fun!

Since snowmobiling is an off-road activity taking place in an unpredictable natural environment, it is not practical or possible to maintain all trails uniformly or to remove all unexpected or unknown trail conditions. The grooming and maintenance of trails, when provided, is meant solely to enhance the comfort and enjoyment of safe and prudent riders. When you venture out in to the winter cold, safety should be first and foremost. Keep in mind these tips so that your ride will be safe and enjoyable!

- Ride sober: don't consume alcohol prior to or while riding.
- Ride in control: at a prudent and reasonable speed for conditions.
- Ride Right: stay to the right side of the trail to help avoid collisions.
- Yield to Groomers: Grooming takes place at all hours, and groomers have the right of way at all times.
- Cross with care: Know the unique and particular dangers of ice and road crossings.
- Obey posted signs: Respect the landowners who have allowed the trail to pass over their lands Stay on the trail! Dress for success:
- Clothing and boots designed especially for snowmobiling will be water-resistant, have reflective piping, and will keep you warmer than ordinary winter clothing.
- Avoid loose clothing or long scarves that could become caught in the machine and endanger you.
- Layering is the best way to dress because it is warmer and allows adjustment for changing conditions.
 Temperature, humidity, wind chill, and amount of protection from your snowmobile's windshield can vary greatly.
- New York State law requires all snowmobile drivers and passengers to wear a Snell or DOT approved safety helmet except when operating on private property owned by the driver or passenger.
- A helmet must be properly fitted and buckled up to provide protection. It should be snug but not uncomfortably tight
- Always wear a smile, and be sure to pass it on to other winter trail users!

Trail Signs

Anyone that operates a snowmobile needs to understand that a snowmobile trail is not an engineered route. It follows the lay of the land. Trail signage is undertaken by clubs to make trails safer but only happens when each snowmobile operator does their share. Trail signs are subjected to weather and other conditions including, unfortunately, vandalism and theft. Trail signage does not replace operator responsibility when operating a snowmobile. There are a few things that each snowmobile operator can do to make their snowmobile experience safe and enjoyable:

- 1. Always Stay Right on the trail. Hills and curves are particular areas in a trail system where staying to the right is especially important.
- 2. As your line of sight down the trail diminishes, so should your snowmobile speed. No snowmobile operator can predict what is oncoming or what any particular snowmobile operator may do.
- 3. Know and obey trail signs. Do you know what the Object Marker sign looks like and what it means?
- 4. Most trail signs are put up in the fall (by the hundreds of signs) and removed in the spring (by the hundreds of signs). A way to make trail safer is to help club volunteers. Contact your club so you can help.

Protect the Trail Fund
Renew your Club Membership/Register your Sleds
Visit www.nyssnowassoc.org for more information



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1227 GILMORE ROAD



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Now on the Trail!!!

Thank You!!!!

American Legion L.L. Tillman Post No. 900

For accommodating us for our

Board Meetings and General Meetings

9 Eckerson Ave. in Akron (that's were Rte 93 and the bike path meet). Remember, we are open and on the trail. Ride in and have a drink and get warm. Your Add Here

Call 741-NESS for information



SNOWMOBILE FORUM log on today and register



SNOWMOBILE FORUM log on today and register



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\$35.00 per shock

\$40.00 with resevoir (seal kits extra if needed)

9300 County Rd. E3 Clarence Center, NY

2008-2009 Northern Erie Sno-Seekers Memberships

Renewal for club membership is available at: http://www.nyssnowassoc.org (this is the NYSSA website)

On home page, click on the blue box half way down the page on the right side

The box states: Join a Club Online -Click Here-

On the next page, scroll down to MEMBER LOGIN

This will ask for two items: First, your 6 digit NYSSA ID # (this can be found on your Blue NYSSA membership card from last year). Every renewing club member should have the membership card and will have a member id #. We have entered all 2007-2008 member info into the NYSSA site. The email address you have previously provided to us will be the email to which instructions will be sent.

If you have never logged into this page before, you will need to put your member id # in and then click the box to RESET PASSWORD. This will email you instructions and the link to reset your password.

Once you login your member information and your current club info will pop up and you will be able to renew membership by clicking on RENEW (highlighted blue).

This will bring up club info for you to select the club you wish to join. You will also have the option to join as an individual or family by clicking on the blue highlighted INDIVIDUAL or FAMILY (you must select one).

This will take you back one page where you will scroll down to the bottom of the page and you will see 1 item in your Shopping Cart click on PROCEED to CHECKOUT (highlighted in blue). You will then be able to enter your credit card information, the number of sleds you intend to register and your email address.

Click on the Pay Now button; this will bring up the page where you will be able to select a club. Click RETURN TO HOME (blue highlighted) to view membership and print voucher. Scroll down and click on VOUCHER (blue highlighted) this will take you to a pop up screen. To download, click on OPEN: voucher will open Adobe Acrobat. Print out your voucher and sign.

Any problems give me a call

Richard E. McNamara Treasurer Northern Erie Sno-Seekers, Inc. P.O. Box 167 Akron, New York 14001-0167 Office 716-741-NESS (6377) Fax 716-741-4819 Cell 716-553-4819 Email mcnamaraent@aol.com



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ADOPT A HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP REPORT

OCTOBER 26, 2008

TIME: 9:00 AM

WHERE: NIAGARA LABEL, LEWIS ROAD (RT. 93) AKRON, NY

Eight wonderful NESS members volunteered to clean up route 93 from Lewis Rd North to Swift Mills Rd. Sunday morning October 26th, 2008. Thank you to Ron Rosenberg, Emily Wulf, Eric Glassman, the Schifferle's: Bob, Mike and Maria the "bag lady"!, and Rich Wood. Take of the day was 8 bags of garbage! Find of the day? One usable pen and an Irish floating 2" bath tub duck! The weather was fine and the help outstanding. That winds up the 2008 season....now get ready to ride! Liz Wulf

International Snowmobile Safety Week January 11-17, 2009

Snowmobile safety has always been a high priority with the snowmobile community. Beginning in the late 1980's the manufacturers, working closely with the International Association of Snowmobile Administrators and the state and provincial snowmobile associations, agreed that a specific week in January of each year should be set aside to highlight the snowmobile safety campaign.

This year, the International Snowmobile Safety Week will be held on January 11-17, 2009. Snowmobile Clubs and Associations are encouraged to sponsor safety related events to draw special attention to safe snowmobile behavior during that week. Elected Officials, community leaders, school teachers, safety trainers and more all work together to heighten the awareness for the need to have safe, responsible behavior while snowmobiling.

An integral part of safety week is the Safe Riders! You make snowmobiling safe safety campaign that was initiated in 1995. The safety program is widely endorsed and supported by snowmobile enthusiasts. 80% of all snowmobilers recognize the Safe Riders! Logo and understand the safety campaign position statements. The position statements of the campaign are clear and are as follows:

- Snowmobiling and alcohol don't mix, don't drink and ride.
- Know before you go! Always check local ice conditions.
- When night riding, slow down! Expect the unexpected.
- Ride safe, stay on the trail. Respect private property.
- Know the risks, be prepared and make every trip a round one.
- Cross with care. Don't become road kill.
- Snowmobiling is a fun family sport. Join us today.
- Ride smart, ride right. Stay in control.
- One is the loneliest number. Never ride alone.
- Promote your right to ride. Get involved.
- Smart riders are safe riders. Take snowmobile safety training.

The above position statements are all contained on the 11 separate 4-color posters that are available to state and provincial associations. Chambers of Commerce and Visitor and Convention Bureaus are encouraged to prominently display the posters and help communicate the positive messages to the snowmobiling public.

Materials in the Safe Riders! campaign also include the updated, Safe Riders! 22-minute safety video and TV and Radio ready public service announcements. The safety video serves as an excellent visual support for safety training and can be used at home and or in hotel lobbies to familiarize guests and family members of the importance of safe snowmobiling and related issues.

The campaign recognizes that many accidents occur because the rider has consumed alcohol which affects reaction time and judgement. Reaction time and judgement affect speed, cornering, good judgement and understanding the need for safe behavior. The manufacturers support the Safe Riders! campaign and all of the safety related efforts promoted by grassroots snowmobilers throughout North America. We encourage all of the snowmobile community members to visit the ISMA web site at www.snowmobile.org and order some safe riders!

Materials are available for distribution during your safety week efforts and throughout the year.

Mark January 11-17, 2009 on your calendar as a special week to recognize and promote safe, responsible snowmobiling behavior.

Source: Ed Klim, ISMA





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