



June 2011 Newsletter

WWW.SNOSEEKERS.COM

Northern Erie Sno-Seekers PO Box 167 Akron, NY 14001 (716)741-NESS

NEXT GENERAL (COMBO) MEETING:
June 30th at 7:30 pm at American Legion Tillman Post



Member of the New York State Snowmobile Association and Erie County Federation of Snowmobile Clubs Non-profit groups dedicated to the safe and responsible use of snowmobiles





Club Officers

President: Eric Glassman
Vice President: Dan Dressel
Secretary: Mary Beth Kiesel
Treasurer: Rick Johnson
Sergeant of Arms: Ray Somers
Trail Coordinator: Curt Watts
Board Member: Dave Faron
Board Member: Bill Peronne
Board Member: Frank Schroeder
Board Member: Randy Wdowka
Board Member: Al Wolbert
Board Member: Kevin Kruschke
Board Member: Scott Trapp

Committees

PR/Marketing & Advertising Committee

Chairperson: Steve Wdowka

Social Committee:

Chairperson: Scott Trapp

Membership Committee:

Chairperson: Rick Johnson

Groomer/Equipment Committee:

Chairperson: Bill Perrone

Trails/Landowners Committee: Al Wolbert

Safety/Education Committee:

Chairperson: OPEN

Trail Guides Committee:

Chairperson: OPEN

Newsletter Committee:

Chairperson: Mary Beth Kiesel
(temporary)

Website Committee:

Chairperson: Mary Beth Kiesel
(temporary)

Adopt-A-Hwy Committee:

Chairperson: Rick Weitz

Snow Phone: 741-NESS

Club Headlines

Next General Meeting: June 30th at 7:30 PM at American Legion Tillman Post, 9 Eckerson Ave in the Village of Akron.

Come on out and have some fun!

Check us out on-line at www.snoseekers.com

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President's Page

I hope you are enjoying your summer!!

Eric

Feelin' lucky?

Did you know....

We have 50/50 draws at our general meetings. The proceeds will be used to support our club and trail system. You now have 1 more reason to come join us every last Thursday of the month! Hope to see you there!!



"Thank You" landowners for a great season!

Landowner raffle is here.... We drew a name from our landowner list.

The following landowners have won a \$ 50 gift card:

May: Kenneth J. Stephan



Congratulations!! We will have a give-a-way each month!
So please check out our newsletter to see if you are a winner!



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Now on the Trail!!!



Greetings from The Phantom Snowmobiler

Summer is finally gearing up. But, it seems like just a few weeks ago it was getting dark at 5pm, the thermometer was struggling to get to freezing and we were enjoying the best snowmobile season in years! Some people feel the Phantom likes cold weather. Fact is he is not a real fan. It is true he deals with 0 degrees far better than 90 degrees, however he does enjoy a walk through Antique World in shorts far more than snow blowing the driveway in a snow suit. Snowmobiling presents an activity to make the long winter months bearable. With snowmobiling, the onset of winter is something to look forward too instead of dreading. It is keeping with this train of thought that the phantom never wishes away summer, but always welcomes winter. When he gets too old to go out sledding, his view on winter may change. The point of this month's column is to enjoy your Summer, winter will be here soon enough. Until next month..

The Phantom Snowmobiler-he see's ALL



2011-2012 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Membership applications are now available for the 2011-2012 season. Memberships run from April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012. Applications are available on Pages 22 & 23 of the newsletter or drop by a meeting to sign up.

DON'T WAIT SIGN UP NOW.



**PLEASE ENJOY THE 2011
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Basil Toyota 625-8444

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Here are our committees!

How do you want to join in on the fun?

Objective of committee formation: Our club is setting up specific committees to help utilize our membership and to make the process easy for you to get involved. We have tried to simplify and specify the responsibilities of our hard working volunteers.

- Legal Committee:** Responsibilities include handling our by-laws, insurance, legal actions and correspondence.
Sub-committees: To be determined by chairperson
- Emergency Response Committee:** Help our communities in their time of need. Responsibilities would include coordinating, on our club side, a disaster response team including groomers, equipment and sleds.
Sub-committees: Groomer, sleds
- PR/Marketing & Advertising Committee:** Responsibilities include signs, selling ads for newsletters and trail head advertising.
Sub-committees: Signs, selling advertising
- Fundraising Committee:** Coordinate fundraising items from list below.
Sub-committees: Coupon Books, Nyssa Raffle, Groomer boxes, 50/50
- Apparel Committee:** Responsibilities include ordering and distributing our NESS apparel.
Sub-committees: Apparel, Logo
- Social Committee:** Responsibilities include organization of all activities listed below.
Sub-committees: Buck's open house, Don George's open house, Labor Day Fair booth, Labor Day Fair Pizza, Bon Fire, Christmas Party, Club rides, Summer Events
- Membership Committee:** Responsibilities include receiving applications and processing memberships. Producing vouchers for sled registrations and decals with the temporary NESS membership cards. Responsibilities would also include distributing applications to various locations around town.
Sub-committees: To be determined.



8. **Groomer/UTV Equipment Committee:** Responsibilities would include keeping the groomers and drags in working order, organizing the grooming schedules for the winter and organizing groomer education/safety courses. Keeping UTV in working order and organizing UTV usage for trail work.
Sub-committees: Groomer maintenance & Groomer scheduling, UTV/Trailer, Groomer education/safety courses
9. **Trail/Landowner Committee:** Responsibilities would include coordination the county trail captains to see that their 3 or 4 mile stretch of trail is being taken care of and handling all landowner issues and requests. All trail openings and closings are determined by this committee. Erie County - Niagara County
Sub-committees: Trail Captains
10. **Trail Guides Committee:** Responsibilities include distribute maps to establishments and collecting money.
Sub-committees: To be determined by chairperson
11. **Newsletter Committee:** Responsibilities would include creating each month and coordinate input from others and have ready to print our newsletter for either print or website.
Sub-committees: To be determined.
12. **Website Committee:** Responsibilities would include moderating and update with activities and club news. Keeping the website functional and register users for site.
Sub-committees: To be determined.
13. **Safety/Education Committee:** Responsibilities would include Setting up, organizing and running our courses and discussions at meetings.
Sub-committees: To be determined by chairperson
14. **Adopt-A-Highway Committee:** Coordinate Fall & Spring clean-ups on Rt. 93 in Akron.
Sub-committees: Spring Clean-up, Fall Clean-up

How do you want to join in on the fun?

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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.

Attention Landowners Let Us Know!!!

Please contact the trail coordinator, any officer, or leave a message on our website 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.



WANTED! NESS NEWSLETTER CHAIRPERSON

This is a perfect opportunity to volunteer without doing the grunt work on the trails! No experience necessary. All it takes is a few hours a month. Most of the information you need is supplied by the Board members or information can be easily found through the NYSSA website. If you can use Microsoft Word then Microsoft Publisher will not be a problem.

WANTED! NESS WEBSITE CHAIRPERSON

We are looking for someone to help our website. It could use a few changes. Are you up for the challenge?

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We are located in Chautauqua County right on trail C4A of the Chautauqua Snowmobile trail map. You can ride up to our door or we have plenty of parking if you would like to park in our lot and ride from here. We offer a full service bar and restaurant. With homemade soups and chili.

Our hours. Mon - Wed open at 4:00pm



Snowman's Sled of the month:

"The crossover Assault is my dream sled"



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Adopt-A-Highway Program

Did you know...

- NESS participates in the Adopt-A-Hwy Program for Akron, NY. Two times a year we pick up trash. From time to time we even find treasures. We had our one on Sunday, May 1st at 9:00am for our Spring clean-up! It took 2 1/2 hours to get the job done. In case you are a planner, we have scheduled our Fall clean-up for Sunday, October 2nd at 9:00am.
- If you are interested in helping, just show up! We meet at Maple Rd and Rte 93 at 9:00 am.



Thanks to Ron Rosenberg, Mike Schif-ferle, Rick Weitz and Rich Pfentner for working this spring clean up.

We couldn't have been successful without you guys.
Do you want your name added to our list?



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FROM THE TRAIL COORDINATOR SIDE

Here is how things look from the Trail Coordinator:

Hope everyone has time to rest and enjoy the summer because before you know it the club will be asking you to do your fair share. The order for signs has been put together and submitted and would like to get extra stakes early this fall so that they can be painted when it is warm outside. Keep in mind if you have a section of trail that needs to be brushed or maintained, this warm and dry weather is a good time to get it done. Please let the landowner know what is going on so the club does not get a phone call. Also for those of you that want to help this fall, please get in touch with me so that we can get a plan together before it it's time. Thanks for listening.

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WHOLESALE BUILDING MATERIALS



Northern Erie Sno-Seekers, Inc. General/Board Combo Meeting May 26, 2011 Summary Tillman Post Akron, NY 7:30 PM

Officers present:

President – Eric Glassman

Secretary – Mary Beth Kiesel

Treasurer – Rick Johnson

Meeting called to order at 7:45 PM – 15 people present

Meeting ended at 9:15 PM



Welcome: Welcome to all. Thanks for coming!

Business Items:

- 1) NESS Phone. Scott T. is still trying to get the NESS phone transferred. Scott has spoken with Rich M. 741-NESS. Eric will speak with Scott in regards to paying the phone bill. It is still in Rich M.'s name even though the phone number is unavailable to our club. Let's get this done. We are sure we are missing calls.
- 2) Phase III. Curt W. has made some changes to the paperwork he sent in to the three counties. He has not heard anything else at this point. Eric says – no news is good news!
- 3) Phase I. Reroutes and new trails. We will need to make all changes soon. The deadline is June 30th.
 - A. Midland Road – we need to resubmit.
 - B. S46 – not getting paid for 3 miles. We should be all set.
 - C. Peters Corner – we need to speak with landowner about changes.
 - D. Zimmerman – Bonfire property – we need to speak with Dan D.
 - E. Marvin's to Campbell – leave as is.
- 4) RTP Grant. We are waiting for NYS to send us their contract. No news yet.... The next step will be to write a request for proposal for equipment request. Rick J. has set up the E-Pay process already.
- 5) Sending cards. We should send a card to the King Oil family. A relative had their house burn down. Mary Beth will take care of it. Contact List. Mary Beth handed out an updated contact list for board members. It was mentioned that Rich M. is still listed as the contact for our club for the DEC, Parks, Amherst, etc. We will handle each transition as they come up. Mary Beth will also send out notes based on the list she received from Sandy.
- 6) GPS. Mary Beth purchased the DeLorme map program for the GPS map. Eric will give her Map Source also. She is trying to read the file that should have our map on it. Does anyone know how to use either of these map programs?
- 7) Goals. Eric handed out our list of goals and priorities for the upcoming year. We need to prioritize them and make a final list.
- 8) Treasury Report. Our taxes will be different with the groomer grant. We may have a cost for the accounting year end process. We may need an audit. Rich P. should be able to find someone to help us through this process. Rick J. went through his checks to write pile. Rick emailed all board members for approval of 3 checks. Mary Beth motions to accept treasury report. Eric G. seconds. Any questions? No. 15 in favor – 0 opposed. It's accepted. Rick would like approval for 4 more checks. It's all good.

(con't on next page)



- 9) Eric had information on a new GPS map program that would allow our members and other people to download the map on their I-phones, Android phones and computers. Mary Beth will look into the process and cost. She will report at next meeting.
- 10) Paperwork storage. Randy W. has some office space that we could store a few file cabinets. Sandy G. will be sorting and organizing a bunch of boxes we have collected through out the years. Sandy will purchase needed files for this process. Ray S. has 3 cabinets and Dan D. has 1 for the club. Thanks to Ray and Dan for your donation!!

Committees:

1) Marketing & Advertising.

- A. Sign order. We have about \$700 worth of signs on the order at this point. Curt W. has a box of signs also. Stop ahead, trail narrows, corridor, secondary, etc. Eric motions to spend up to \$800 for sign order. Dave F. seconds. Questions? Does that amount include the “Welcome to NESS Trails” signs? No. 15 – in favor. 0 opposed. It’s carried.
- B. Rick J. has sent out a refund check to the Closs Agency. We as a club are unable to have insurance companies advertise due to the fact we are a 501 C (3) organization.

2) Website. What would we like on our home page? Special events section, our trail report, current weather conditions, out of town trail conditions: Ontario, Michigan (JohnDee.com), Vermont, Catskills.... Next meeting section, work sessions – send an email if you want to help...

3) Newsletter. Our May Newsletter has been posted on website. June will also be just on website.

4) Membership. We have 15 members so far this year.

5) Emergency Response. No news.

6) Legal. A. The hearing will be in August or September.

B. By-Laws. The final proof has been set. Eric has not heard yet when we will be receiving the final copy with our questions answered.

C. Insurance Policy. We will be getting 3 applications that we need to fill in. Sandy will fill in what she can and then the board can handle the rest. This insurance may cost upwards of \$2,000. Joe Floss may be willing to come and discuss the process with us.

7) Trails/Landowner.

A. The winner this month of May is Kenneth J. Stephan. Mary Beth will mail our gift card for this landowner monthly raffle.

B. There are still signs up on the trail off Clarence Center Road in Akron. Rick J. will take care of it. Bring your boots!!

8) Social/Public Relations. Christmas Party is all set. December 10th at the Newstead Fire Hall. Mark it on your calendar for another fun event.

9) Trail Guides. We sold \$910 in our trail guides from 1/10 – 3/11. That’s great. Fewer people will get lost on the trails!

(con’t on next page)



- 10) Apparel. Thank you to Rick W. for being the chairman for the Apparel Committee. We appreciate all you did for us. Rick has decided to step down, but, he will still be the chairman for Adopt-A-Hwy Committee. Thanks Rick!!
- 11) Fundraising.
- A. Groomer boxes. We had 5 groomer boxes out this year. Tops, Marvin's, Braun's and Log Cabin. We had \$32.47 in donations. We are excited that the Log Cabin has offered to rebuild the trailhead in their parking lot.
There wasn't a 50/50 tonight.
- 12) Adopt-A-Hwy. We had our spring clean up on May 1st. We had 4 people help out this time. Thank you to Rick W., Mike S., Rich P. and Ron R. Once again – they did a great job!!! We would love to have a few more people for the Fall clean up. We will let you know when it gets close.
- 13) Safety/Education. No update.
- 14) Groomer/Equipment. No update.

Our next Combo meeting will be June 30th at 7:30 pm at the Tillman Post in Akron.
Another Combo meeting will be July 28th at 7:30 pm at the Tillman Post in Akron.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Beth
Secretary

JAN-GEN

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NYSSA wishes to congratulate the 2011 Award Winners

Club Of The Year: Inlet Barnstormers

Groomer Of The Year: Jim Donath / Toad Hollow Trailblazers

Legislator Appreciation - NY Snowmobiler of the Year: Assemblywoman RoAnn Destito

John Albert/Ed Dutcher Most Valuable Snowmobiler: Sandy Bliven / Thous Islands SC

Family of the Year: Hank and Judy Dashnaw / Kingsbury Barnstormers

Dealership of the Year: Country Powersports, Greenwich

President's Award: Dave and Debbie Perkins



(From the NYSSA website)



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Lancaster
Orchard Park

A Few Upcoming Events

Snowmobile Registrations: Snowmobile registrations have arrived in the mail. Don't wait re-register now!

Adopt-A-Hwy Program: Sunday, October 2nd at 9:00 am. We meet at Niagara Label (corner of Hake Road and Rte 93 in Akron).

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APRIL 2011 - MARCH 2012



VOUCHER #: _____
 Date: _____
 Check #: _____
 Cash: _____
 Amount: _____

Mail to: **Northern Erie Sno-Seekers, Inc.** Box 167 Akron, New York 14001-0167

If a family membership, include 1st names of all. Primary name must match NYS snowmobile registration for voucher discount.

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 PHONE (____) _____ E-MAIL _____ (We do not share personal information)

www.snoseekers.com
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**"SNOWMOBILERS
 RESPECT LANDOWNERS -
 STAY ON THE TRAIL"**

All memberships are from Apr 1 to Mar 31 to coincide with NYSSA vouchers. \$5 of this fee is for membership to NYSSA who will donate .25¢ to the NYS Snowmobile PAC. Note: If you do not want to donate this .25¢, check here _____. If you are already a member of NYSSA (through another club) deduct \$5 from the amount below and write the club name and voucher ID# here _____

- NEW MEMBER**
- RENEWAL** (Please check all that apply)
- LANDOWNER (ON TRAIL)**

- SINGLE \$ 25.00**
- FAMILY \$ 30.00** (Incl. spouse & all children 17 & under)

- GROOMER HOUSE FUND \$ _____**
- OTHER DONATION \$ _____**

Membership in this club 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. You may register on-line at www.nyssnowassoc.org (be sure to choose **NESS** as the club) or bring this application to the monthly meeting or mail it to the above address.

If you are interested in promoting your business we offer many forms of advertising. You may choose from spots in our newsletter, along the trail and on our website. Please call us or visit our website for more information.

REMEMBER THAT WE ARE A 501(C)3 ORGANIZATION AND ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

Please remember, 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 *something* they can contribute and *any* 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!"**

How do you want to join in on the fun? Would you like to join a committee?

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Officer/Board member | <input type="checkbox"/> Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt - A - Hwy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing/Advertising | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail/Landowner | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Guides | <input type="checkbox"/> Apparel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Groomer/UTV/Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Response |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety/Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Public Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising |

ASSUMPTION OF RISKS, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, AND WAIVER OF CLAIM: I am aware that snowmobiling involves many risks, dangers and hazards including, but not limited to: other snowmobiles, changing weather conditions; natural or un-natural objects: trees, stumps, the condition of snow or ice; changes in the terrain; blind spots or areas of reduced visibility, snow grooming equipment, or other vehicles, or negligence of other drivers or on the part of NESS or its members to safeguard or protect me from these hazards. I am aware of, freely accept, and fully assume such risks and the potential loss resulting there from and release NESS and its officers, members, or sponsors from all liability and waive any and all claims for such loss.

Signature _____

Date _____



[Northern Erie Sno-Seekers, Inc. ®](#) (NESS) was established in 1973 and has been promoting the safe and responsible use of snowmobiles ever since. We are a 100% volunteer, 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization serving 3 counties and the communities of: **Clarence, Newstead, Amherst, Akron, Alden, Lancaster, Pembroke, Lockport, Gasport, Royalton and Hartland.**

- Our general **meetings** are held at 7:30 PM on the last Thursday of each month. Please check our website for location but during the season, they're **at American Legion Tillman Post 9 Eckerson Road Akron, New York**. It's located right on **C4C trail** (the bike path at Cedar Street in Akron) so you can come join us by sled! All ages are welcome! Bring a friend, too!
- We spend over 4000 hours/year conducting the activities needed for **"The Best Trails in WNY®"**
- We have over **750 members** of all ages who share the same passion and enjoy making snowmobiling such a wonderful sport!
- We have two groomers; one we purchased in 2005 costing over \$130,000 and another in 2009 costing over \$170,000. These help us maintain over **125 miles of trail** right in your neighborhood!
- Our trail system is possible only through the generous support of over 200 **private landowners**. We respect them by staying on the marked trails! Follow the signs - not always the tracks!
- We provide NYS approved Safety Courses for both kids and adults.
- Come join us and visit our website at: www.snoseekers.com