

## October 2011 Newsletter

WWW.SNOSEEKERS.COM

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

October 27th 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



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## **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: Open

## PR/Marketing & Advertising Committee

**Committees** 

Chairperson: Steve Wdowka

## **Social Committee:**

Chairperson: Scott Trapp

#### **Membership Committee:**

Chairperson: Rick Johnson

## Groomer/Equipment Committee:

Chairperson: Bill Perrone

#### Trails/Landowners

**Committee:** Curt Watts

### **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:** October 27th at 7:30 PM at American Legion Tillman Post, 9 Eckerson Ave in the Village of Akron.

**By-Laws Vote:** We will be voting on our amended By-Laws at the Oct 27th meeting. We need every member to attend!!!! We will have pizza and wings for all! There is a Proxy Ballot to fill out and mail to us if you are unable to attend the General Meeting. For more information and form, see page 11.

 Next Board Meeting: October 13th at 7:030 PM at Marvin's Restaurant on Goodrich Rd in Clarence Center.

Safety Courses: We will have 2 classes this fall. See page 3.

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).

Buck's Motorsports Open House & Swap meet: See page 3.

Don George's Open House: Fri, Oct 28 & Sat, Oct 29. Come
 check out their sale items and visit our tent! We will have vouchers.

Ski-Doo's Million Dollar Club Support Program: Ski-Doo is giving money away this year to our clubs. For every certificate they receive from a current member they will donate \$10 to our club. All you to have to do is fill out the form on their website and drop it off at a local Ski-Doo dealership. Go www.ski-doo.com to get the form. Please support the club and fill one out today!

Apparel: We sell t-shirts, sweatshirts and caps!! We now have pink t-shirts too!! Call 741-NESS to buy yours today!!

Come on out and have some fun!
Check us out on-line at www.snoseekers.com

#### "Thank You" landowners for a great season!

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



The following landowner has won a \$ 50 gift card:

October: Jerome Kostaniak

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

Pq. 3





Thought we would mix it up and see what our VP has to say....

Now it is getting to be that time of year,,, if you can give a hand to help us get ready for the season - please call the sno-phone. We could always use your help even if it's just an hour. We have stakes to paint and reflectors to attach. We are also getting everything ready for our annual Christmas party! If you can help with picking up donations for us from area businesses, donating a gift to our club for the Chinese auction or helping set up event with decorations, that would be great! The Christmas party is coming up quick, so please come and enjoy it. I would like to thank the landowners!!! Without them, we would not have our trail system.

We keep busy all year with our club. We are repairing bridges, teaching safety classes, running events for fundraising and preparing our groomers for the upcoming season!! So join the club, tune up your sleds and get ready to ride the day after deer season ends!

<u>Helpful Hint of The Day</u>: Now is the time to buy if you are looking to buy a new or pre-owned sled. Fall is when people are deciding whether they want a newer sled than the one they have or that they won't be riding this year and want the money instead. There are many pre-owned sleds that go up for sale everyday. If you check out the local dealers, craigslist and the papers... you will see what I'm talking about. Don't hesitate! Sleds for sale don't last long on the market. If you wait - even a day - it could be too late and the one you wanted is no longer for sale - it's sold!

Dan

Buck's open house & swap meet: We had a great day! Sleds were bought and sold, vintage sleds were there for viewing and Buck's had great sales!! NESS provided hot dogs, hamburgers and more! We had apparel to sell, coupon books to sell and memberships for vouchers. Thanks to all who stopped by and supported Buck's and our club. Thanks to Buck's for allowing us to help their event. Thanks to Jack Dewitt for donating the hot dogs and Kaboodles for great chili! The decorations were compliments of Creekside Sales & Service. The Schroeder family contributed also with tables, chairs, tents, propane, coffee pots, coolers and heaters. Special thanks go to the crew who worked the tent all day: Bev, Josh, Matt, Kevin, Randy, Ray, Dan, Richie and Molly for help with set up. With all these people volunteering, the day was a great success!!

## We will have 2 safety classes this year:

1) Tue, Nov 15: 6pm-10pm & Thu, Nov 17: 6pm-10pm. You must attend both nights to complete course.

2) Sat, Dec 17: 9am-5pm.

Both courses will be at: Swormville Fire Hall 6971 Transit Rd. East Amherst, NY

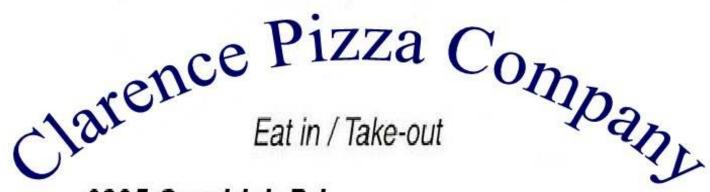
Please contact: Al or Camille at 439-1240 for more information & registration!!!





October 2011

Pg. 4



6235 Goodrich Rd Clarence Center, NY 14032 741-2888



Now on the Trail!!!



Pg. 5





## From the NYSSA website:

## **DMV Mails Snowmobile Renewals in July!**

The NYS Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has informed us that Snowmobile Registration Renewals began mailing on July 22 this year!

Remember, if you are a NYSSA snowmobile club member, you pay just \$45 to register your sled, versus per sled if you are not a member.

> How to Renew Your Snowmobile Club Membership Online!

We've made it easy to get your Club Membership voucher online (however you'll still have to mail your registration renewal, along with the voucher and your check, to DMV).

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## FROM THE TRAIL COORDINATOR SIDE

Our season is off to a good start! The Transit Road bridge is all done, we replaced the wood planks. Campbell's Spur has been redirected and cleared. The majority of trail captains have already taken their signs so they can mark their trail. Anyone who is still in need of signs, call me. We are still looking for someone to help with the emergency locator signs. Allstate donated these signs for all the clubs. We would need someone to help write the latitude/longitude on each sign for some of our intersections on our trail system and help installing them on our road crossings.

We still have a few new stakes that need to be painted and reflectors put on. I will need advance notice to schedule the use of "The Buggie", chain saw and/or pole saw for trail work. This means not a phone call the night before.

NEW THIS YEAR: ALL WORK LOGS NEEDS TO BE TURNED IN WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER COMPLETED WORK. OUR CLUB NEEDS TO HAVE INFO TO PARKS IN ORDER FOR OUR CLUB TO GE REINBURSED AT YEAR END.

ALSO, THE INCENTIVE PLAN WILL BE THE SAME AS LAST YEAR....

Thanks for all your help in making our system work!

CURT 772-7186 435-7068



## RESPECT THE LANDOWNERS STAY ON THE TRAILS

## Adopt-A-Highway Program

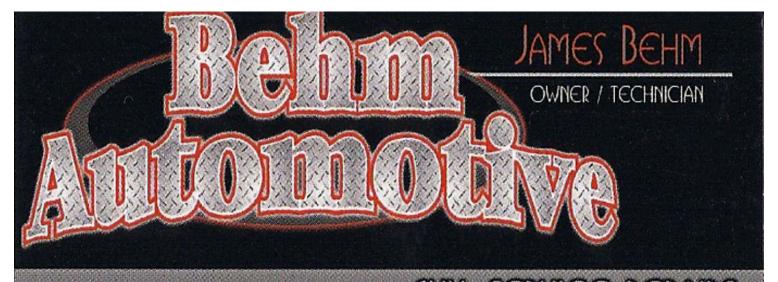
Did you know...

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 Spring clean up on Sunday, May 1st at 9:00am.
It took 2 1/2 hours to get the job done. We also did our Fall clean-up
on Sunday, October 2nd at 9:00am. We will have another one this
Spring! We meet at Maple Rd and Rte 93 at 9:00 am.



Thanks to Ron Rosenburg, Mike Schifferle, Rick Weitz, Rich Pfentner, Dan Dressel, Curt Watts, Frank
 & Bev Schroeder for working this fall clean up. We had a great crew! They had breakfast first at the
 Newstead Fire Hall. Does it get better than that? We couldn't have been successful without the support
 from our members. Do you want your name added to our list?

Come on out this spring and join in on the fun!



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#### **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.

## BEMUS POINT GOLF CLUB.

Bemus Point, NY (716)386-2893

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



## Northern Erie Sno-Seekers, Inc. General Meeting September 29, 2011 Tillman Post Akron, NY 7:30 PM

Officers present: President – Eric Glassman Vice President – Dan Dressel Treasurer – Rick Johnson Secretary – Mary Beth Kiesel

Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM – 24 people present Meeting ended at 9:35 PM

**Welcome:** Welcome to all. Thanks for coming!

**<u>Business Items:</u>** Minutes from last meeting. Dave motions, Curt 2nds, 12 in favor – 0 opposed. It's carried. **Committees:** 

- 1) <u>Legal</u>. a. By-Laws. Eric sent board the amended version. We need to post the By-Laws for at least 2 weeks. We will need 67% of our current members to vote on accepting them. Mary Beth will post By-Laws and proxy ballot on website and include proxy ballot in newsletter. All current members as of Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> will be eligible to vote on the amended by-laws. We will vote at our next general meeting on Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. We need all members to attend or mail in proxy ballot by this upcoming general meeting. We will have pizza and wings at this meeting for all attendees. So come on out and support the club! Rich P. suggests we bring the updated membership list and divide up names and call members so they are aware of this process. We will also need an audit of the process to make sure it is done properly.
  - b. Insurance. Rick sent revised application to Ins. Co. We will be covered 10/1-12/31/11 for D&O.
- 2) Emergency Response. No update.
- 3) <u>PR/Marketing</u>. We picked a winner for our October Landowner drawing. Congrats to: Jerome Kostanciak! You will be receiving a gift card in the mail soon.
- 4) Fundraising. Dan ran the 50/50 tonight. Congratulations to Kevin K. He won \$42.50!!
  - a. Buck's open house. We had the swap meet on Saturday, Sept 24<sup>th</sup>. We had a great day! We made \$609.00 minus a few more receipts that need to be turned in. Thanks to Jan & Gloria for letting us help with their event. Thanks also to Jack Dewitt for his donation of hot dogs. Kaboodles Kafe donated a pot of chili it was delicious. The fall decorations were donated by Creekside Sales & Service. The Schroeder family provided the tables, chairs, tents, propane, coffee pots, coolers, heaters and much more! Thanks to the following volunteers that participated on the day of this event: Bev, Josh, Matt, Kevin, Randy, Ray, Dan, Richie and Molly. We sold 8 memberships, 6 swap spots and lots of hot dogs and hamburgers! We look forward to next year.
  - b. Labor Day fair. Dan reviewed the details from this event.
  - c. Don Georges. The dates have been set... Friday, Oct 28 & Sat, Oct 29. More details to come.
  - d. BRP coupons Ski-doo. Members will have to go online and fill out the form then drop off at our local Ski-doo dealership. Our club receives money for each coupon turned in. Please tell other members let's turn in more forms than last year!!
  - e. Coupon books are in. Sandy has them. We sold some at our events this fall. Who would like to sell some more?
  - f. NYSSA super raffle. NESS donated \$250 as a prize. We will be selling tickets for this raffle at our meetings. If you would like to sell some, call our sno-phone for details. 741-NESS.

(con't on page 13)





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October 2011 Pg. 11

## By-Laws Vote: We need all members to attend our Oct 27th meeting or fill out and mail the PROXY Ballot back to us, thanks.

WE ARE A 501(C)3 NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION. WE HAVE NEEDED TO UPDATE OUR BY-LAWS FOR MANY YEARS. WE HAVE MADE A FEW CHANGES TO THEM WITH THE HELP OF OUR ATTORNEY. I HAVE POSTED OUR UPDATED BY-LAWS ON OUR WEBSITE. DISCRIPTION OF PROCESS IN LOCATED ON THE FORUM UNDER GENERAL DISCUSSION. PLEASE TAKE SOME TIME TO READ THEM OVER. OUR CLUB WILL BE VOTING AT OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27TH AT 7:30 PM AT THE TILLMAN POST IN AKRON, NY. WE NEED ALL CURRENT MEMBERS TO ATTEND THIS MEETING. WE NEED ALL OF YOU TO VOTE ON THIS. THERE IS A PROXY BALLOT ON THIS PAGE IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND MEETING. PLEASE FILL OUT AND MAIL TO: NORTHERN ERIE SNO-SEEKERS PO BOX 167 AKRON, NY 14001. PLEASE HELP OUR CLUB IN THIS PROCESS AND TELL YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS THAT THEY ARE NEEDED!! WE NEED 67% PARTICIPATION FOR THE VOTE PROCESS TO WORK. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR CLUB!! WE LOOK FORWARD TO A GREAT WINTERY SEASON!!! ANY QUESTIONS? CALL US AT 741-NESS.

Please fill out proxy and mail to: Nothern Erie Sno-Seekers

PO Box 167 Akron, NY 14001

## **PROXY**

I represent that I am a member in good standing of NORTHERN ERIE SNO-SEEKERS, INC., a New York not-for-profit corporation. The Corporation seeks to amend and restate the Constitution and By-laws of the Corporation as set forth in the proposed Bylaws included within the notice of meeting of members.

I authorize the Secretary, or other officer or director fulfilling the duties of the corporate secretary, of the Corporation to act for me at the next meeting of the members of the Corporation at which the amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation of the corporation shall be considered, or at any adjournment of such a meeting, by casting all the votes I could cast if I were present in accordance with ONE of the following directions

## [CHECK ONE ONLY]:

FOR all of the amendmen	nts to the Constitution and Bylaws described above, or
AGAINST all of the amer	ndments to the Constitution and Bylaws described above.
I revoke all proxies previously	given by me with respect to the above subject matter.
Dated:, 2	011
Signature	Print name





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- 5) <u>Social</u>. Our Christmas party is scheduled for Dec 10<sup>th</sup>. Eric & Sue will be heading up the party again this year. They do a great job! Eric has a sign-up sheet for volunteers. We need to coordinate gifts, DJ, food, decoration, etc. We need to get the liquor license also. We need people to pick up gifts and label them. We need to get receipt for gifts and/or donations for party. Rich P. has buckets for the tickets. We need to set a budget for the amount of gifts to buy. Do we want the sound system? We will discuss at board meeting. We look forward to another great year!!
- 6) Membership. Currently we have 181 members.
- 7) Trail/Landowner.
  - a. Trail Grant course. There will be a mandatory meeting on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> in Warsaw. The course will instruct us on how they would like our Phase III paperwork submitted. Parks is trying to uniform the process for everyone.
  - b. There will be a STEP training course at the Genesee Sno-Packers on October 12<sup>th</sup>. They will discuss trail signage.
  - c. Curt picked up the stakes. He will buy paint. We are looking for people to help paint and reflect the stakes. Bill makes a motion to spend up to \$300 to buy paint. John G. seconds. 0 opposed. It's carried.
  - d. We need to think about a repair & maintenance budget. We will discuss at board meeting.
  - e. We have the Allstate signs. We need to get these marked with GPS coordinates and put up on our intersections. Curt also has trail signs. Captains should take what they need.
  - f. Curt and Mary Beth attended a meeting last week at the Sno-packers. Some of the topics included the proper way of double and triple staking trails, GPS units on groomers, GPS file issues, automation for the Phase III paperwork and consistency of staking all trails for your club's trails. Steve Lewis from Parks was the guest speaker. He also discussed the need for a maintenance plan for missing signs. Who checks for missing signs? When are the signs replaced? Maybe the groomers can handle and document this process.
- 8) Safety/Education.
  - a. We will have 2 safety classes this year. The first class will be over two nights. Tue, Nov 15: 6pm-10pm and Thu, Nov 17: 6pm-10pm. You must attend both nights to complete course. The second course will be on Sat, Dec 17:9am-5pm. Both courses will be at: Swormville Fire Hall 6971 Transit Rd. East Amherst, NY. Please contact: Al or Camille at 439-1240 for more information & registration. Al will order supplies. We are looking for some teaching help. Let's check with the CSX/Conrail guys, Park Rangers, State Parks and the police. They always do a great job of teaching our students. Mary Beth will post on our NESS website and also on the NYSSA website.
  - b. Randy mentioned that some students from our last course has not received certificates yet. We will look into this and discuss at next meeting.
- 9) <u>Adopt-A-Hwy</u>. Our next work day will be this Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Newstead Fire Hall is having a pancake breakfast at 8am. Then the guys go to pick up along the street. Hope they have nice weather.

<u>Treasury Report</u>: Rick read aloud the details on this month's treasury report. Mary Beth motions to accept. Ray seconds. Any questions? 0 opposed. It's carried. We should think about making a principal payment on the groomer loan. Let's discuss at next board meeting.

Our next Board meeting will be October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Marvin's Restaurant in Clarence Center. Our next General meeting will be October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at the Tillman Post in Akron.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Beth (Secretary)



## 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!!



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## Thank You!!!!

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Pg. 15







## **Greetings from The Phantom Snowmobiler**

It is October. Let the Phantom be your snowmobiling alarm clock. Now is the time to get your sled out and start preparing it for the upcoming season. Hopefully you followed the Phantom's suggestions for summer storage and your fall preparation will be that much easier. Grease, fluid changes, carbides, spark plugs and track tensioning. Top the list for fall. Some over looked items:

- 1) What's been rotting in your storage compartment all summer long? Time to clean it out and inventory what's in there. Are there tools? Do they work or are they just one big rusted together clump? Flash light? Time to change the batteries even if it works. It won't work for long on a zero degree night on old batteries. Spend some time in there with an eye toward what you would need in an emergency. then make sure what you have works and will survive a rough trail.
- 2) The spare belt. Any belt is better than no belt, BUT if you go on trips up to the Adirondacks or Canada, a decent spare is a must. You may have to travel a hundred miles or more until you can buy a new one.
- 3) Loose or bent studs. The Phantom has been bitten by this one. If you have a bent stud, chances are the backer is bent also allowing it to rock back and forth. It will cut thru the track at some point. Best case it will fall out harmlessly on the trail. Worst case it will start to slowly tear out allowing the stud to chew thru the heat exchanger. You will lose all of your coolant and the engine will overheat. Needless to say- day over. Sometimes the engine will overheat without and warning lights coming on or the temp gage will actually drop to cold. The temperature sensors must be submerged in coolant to work. Many engines have been ruined in this manner. The moral of the story is simple... a few hours spent now will help ensure a full season out on our wonderful trails when the snow flies. As always, now is the time to get your sled into your dealer it you choose to have the work done for you. Not when the first snow hits. The phantom has always marveled at how impatient people can be when their snowmobile is in the shop and its snowing. Don't be a last minute Louie. You have 2 months to have your sled looked at before the season opens. Get started today. The phantom will take a look at what's in his storage compartment in an upcoming column. until then...

The Phantom Snowmobiler-he see's ALL



## Thank You!!!!

American Legion L.L. Tillman Post No. 900 For accommodating us for our 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.



October 2011 Pg. 16



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## **ADVERTISE WITH US!!**

Become a NESS sponsor— it's easy and very affordable. You can advertise in our newsletter (1/8 page, 1/4 page, 1/2 page or full page) or on our trail billboards (located at high traffic areas), trail directional signs, have a banner ad on our sponsor page linked to your website, or your own individual vinyl graphic signage on the trail.

Please contact 741-NESS for more info.



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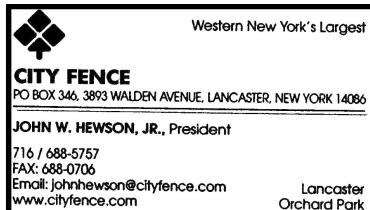
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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APRIL 2011 - MARCH 2012



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All memberships are from Apr 1 to N will donate .25¢ to the NYS Snowmobile PAC If you are already a member of NYSSA (thro here	. Note: If you do not want to	donate this .25¢, check h	ere
□ NEW MEMBER □ RENEWAL (Please check all that apply) □ LANDOWNER (ON TRAIL)		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 <a href="https://www.nyssnowassoc.org">www.nyssnowassoc.org</a> (be sure to choose NESS as the club) or bring this application to the monthly meeting or	
SINGLE \$ 25.00	- 0 - II - L-14 17 0	mail it to the above a	
GROOMER HOUSE FUND \$  OTHER DONATION \$		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.	
Please remember, we are a 100% volumb a success. Everyone has somethin	unteer, 501(c)3, not-for-pro	ofit organization that re any assistance (no mat	lies on member support to make our tter how big or small) is greatly
appreciated. Please check any area(s) w  How do you want to			
Officer/Board member	□ Website □ Membership		Adopt - A - Hwy Newsletter
■ Marketing/Advertising ■ Trail/Landowner	□ Trail Guides		Apparel
□ Groomer/UTV/Equipment	□ Legal	COLUMN TO A SECOND	Emergency Response
□ Safety/Education	□ Social/Public Re		Fundraising
ASSUMPTION OF RISKS, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, AN but not limited to: other snowmobiles, changing w terrain; blind spots or areas of reduced visibility, members to safeguard or protect me from these h and release NESS and its officers, members, or sp	veather conditions; natural or un-n snow grooming equipment, or othe nazards. I am aware of, freely acce	atural objects: trees, stump: r vehicles, or negligence of o pt, and fully assume such ris	s, the condition of snow or ice; changes in the other drivers or on the part of NESS or its iks and the potential loss resulting there from
Signature		Da	ate





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 possibly 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: <a href="https://www.snoseekers.com"><u>WWW.snoseekers.com</u></a>