



March 2013 Newsletter

www.snoseekers.com
SNO-PHONE: 741-NESS (6377)

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

NEXT GENERAL MEETING:
Annual Meeting and Election Night
March 28 at 7:30 PM at Tillman Post Akron, NY

Member of the New York State Snowmobile Association and Erie County Federation of



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Club Headlines

Club Officers

- President:** Dan Dressel
- Vice President:** Randy Wdowka
- Secretary:** Mary Beth Kiesel
- Treasurer:** Rick Johnson
- Sergeant of Arms:** Jeff Wilson
- Trail Coordinator:** Curt Watts
- Board Member:** Jeff Beers
- Board Member:** David Faron
- Board Member:** Bill Peronne
- Board Member:** Frank Schroeder
- Board Member:** Ray Somers
- Board Member:** Randy Wdowka
- Board Member:** Al Wolbert

Committees

- Legal Committee**
Chairperson: Al W.
- Emergency Response Committee**
Chairperson: Dan D.
- Marketing & Adv Committee**
Chairperson: Rick J.
- Fundraising Committee**
Chairperson: OPEN
- Social/PR Committee**
Chairperson: Scott T.
- Membership Committee**
Chairperson: Rick J.
- Groomer/Equipment Comm.**
Chairperson: Bill P.
- Trails/Landowners Comm.**
Chairperson: Curt W.
- Trail Guides Committee**
Chairperson: Curt W.
- Newsletter Committee**
Chairperson: Mary Beth
- Website Committee**
Chairperson: Mary Beth
- Apparel Committee**
Chairperson: Mary Beth
- Safety/Education Committee**
Chairperson: Al O.
- Adopt-A-Hwy Committee**
Chairperson: Rick W.

Sno-Phone: 741-NESS

What's Going On With Our Club...

Next General Meeting: March 28 at 7:30 PM at Tillman Post, Akron, NY Annual Meeting and Election Night

Next Board Meeting: Mar 14 at 7:30 PM at Main St Pub

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

Bon Fire: Date... TBA...Just waiting for snow... we will post on our website and Face book page.....

Dice Run: Date... TBA...Just waiting for snow... we will post on our website and Face book page.....

Come on out and have some fun!

"Thank You" landowners!

Our Landowner raffle is here....



We draw a name each month from our landowner list.

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

March: Harold Trapper Jr.

Congratulations!!

We will have a give-a-way each month!

So please check this out to see if you are a winner!

Newsletter: We are e-mailing our newsletters each month. We are trying to manage our funds more efficiently due to cuts in State funding. Each member will receive all 12 months right at your computer!! If you do not have a computer... call 741-NESS to let us know that you would still like your 6 months mailed. We continue to put a lot of time and effort into our newsletters to keep you, as a member, informed and involved in what is going on with our club!!



Website: We have a message board! So, please take a moment and register. Please email us on the "contact us" page if you have any questions. The photo gallery has some great pictures too!



President's Page

Hello Everyone,

Wow, I cannot believe it's March already and we had another dismal year for riding. Well at least it was better than last year. We had the trails open for about 18 days this year and even with that, the conditions were not the best. So I will say it again hopefully next year is much better than this.

Again I would like to thank everyone who has helped out the club this year; from putting in trails to the business side of the club, right down to all of the social activities of club.

Well it's that time of year again, elections are here and it's time to vote for the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, trail coordinator, and three board members. So come cast your vote on March 28. This is also the beginning of the new season. March is the last newsletter we will be mailing until August, but we still have each month on our website and emailing to our members. Just as a reminder, we do this to cut costs in our mailing and be a little greener.

Well hope to see you all in March! Thanks again for your support and think snow for next year.

Dan

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Facebook page: [Northern Erie Sno-Seekers Snowmobile Club](#)



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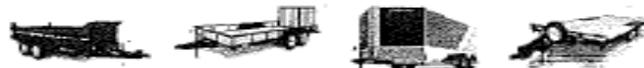
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FROM THE TRAIL COORDINATOR SIDE

Looks like the end of another riding season, but all the work is not done. I will invite all members to please help in trail teardown and put signs and stakes in storage for the summer. Remember the club needs the number of hours and equipment, used on trail, for year end. We will be placing a sign order in April so if anyone needs replacements, this is your last chance this year. The stake order will be here in April also, so if anyone has time during the warm months, they will need to be painted. To all the LANDOWNERS: THANK YOU for support for our CLUB and allowing our trail system to work. The last item on my list is: it is time to get out and VOTE. Thank you!

CURT WATTS 435-7068
Trail Coordinator



We have been busy this year....

- 1) We had a safety course in the fall.
- 2) We purchased a groomer and drag with a grant from Parks & Rec.
- 3) We cleaned up the roads with Adopt-A-Highway—we participate twice a year.
- 4) We updated our “Trail Report” page—it is simple to keep updated now.
- 5) We went green and now we email our newsletters 12 months a year.
- 6) We updated our landowner list
- 7) We had many successful events including:
 - A. Clarence Center Labor Day weekend. We had our groomer in the parade and had a booth for the weekend.
 - B. We had our Annual Landowner Christmas party.
 - C. We participated in Buck’s Swap meet.
 - D. We participated in Shawnee’s Grass Drag event.
 - E. We participated in Don George’s Open House.
- 8) We mailed out applications for membership with the member's information already filled in!
- 9) We gps’d our whole trail system and updated all of our data with Parks & Recreation.
- 10) We created our own GPS map and made all new trail heads.
- 11) We now have a facebook page.
- 12) Our Sno-Phone is now a cell phone for convenience.
- 13) We had a trail work appreciation party for the over 70 people who helped work on our trails.
- 14) We have a board/officer attend the Erie, Niagara & Genesee Federation meetings each month.
- 15) We sent 4 officer/board members to the Annual NYSSA Forum in April 2012.
- 16) We have a monthly Landowner drawing.
- 17) We sold more “Enjoy the City” books than last year, thanks to all who bought them.
- 18) We sold NYSSA Super Raffle tickets as well as made a donation for the prize.
- 19) We participated in the Erie Federations’ Annual Summer picnic.
- 20) We sent out a member satisfaction survey.
- 21) We made a donation with Mercy Flight in memory of Rich Woods.
- 22) We joined the Farm Bureau.
- 23) Thanks to everyone that had inserts in our monthly newsletters, Sled of the Month, President’s Page, Trail Coordinator and The Phantom Snowmobiler.
- 24) We have the option for the Trail Defender membership upgrade. Details on are the back of the application.
- 25) We ordered a few new signs and stakes for next year.
- 26) We activated the new version of our forum on our website.
- 27) We advertised in the Erie Federations’ trail guide again this year.
- 28) NYSSA now has an on-line Safety course review site that you can access through our “Links Page”.
- 29) We had our groomer operators attend an educational groomer course.
- 30) We added chain saws, safety vests, safety procedures and accident reports to each of our groomers.
- 31) We had a trail captains meeting to go over proper trail markings.
- 32) NYSSA discontinued their membership cards. Your voucher is proof of membership.
- 33) We were able to open our trails this year, but not for as long as we would have liked!



Our officers and board members are continuing to work hard to make our club the best it can be! With all of our members and landowners who continue to volunteer their time, we just want to say thanks!

As we look forward to next season, we would like to continue to help our community, members, landowners and still have our trails be “The Best in WNY”!



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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.



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

Board Meeting Summary Minutes

Date: 2/14/13



- A) Welcome: Officers present: Vice President: Randy
Meeting was from 7:30 -8:15 pm
11 members present
- B) Committee:
1. Legal No update
 2. Emergency Response Jeff B. said there is a search and rescue drill on March 2nd in Alden should we attend? Also thinks the local fire companies should have maps of our trails. Maps were taken for Clarence Center, Crittinden, Newstead, Akron, Pembroke, Indian Falls and Curt will take care of Nia Co.
 3. Marketing and Advertising
 - 1) Feb winner: Steven Kraatz
 - 2) Any new ads? NO
 - 3) Groomer boxes - N/A
 - 4) Farm Bureau - do we want to join again? Farm Bureau group in att thinks yes
 4. Fundraising
 - 1) Super raffle tickets -lets sell them we get \$2.50 per ticket so let's sell them! Jeff B. took 10 tickets
 5. Social/Pubic Relations
 - 1) Fed picnic date for next yr is July 14, 2013
 - 2) Sled NY is new name for NYSSA not for profit company. we will be seeing more stuff from Sled NY - has anyone seen anything yet? Not yet
 6. Membership
 - 1) How many members? Rick was not there to report.
 7. Groomer/UTV Equipment
 - 1) Did certificates come for groomer class? Not yet.
 - 2) Grooming - got anything? No
 8. Trail/Landowner
 - 1) Curt - got anything? Curt had a few calls about people not staying on trail, Bridge was repaired on C4K east of Utley Rd and it should be on the list for a re-deck for next season, got a call on a large tree down on C4K north of Rapids Rd trail captain notified and since taken care of, new stakes are coming in some time in march Trail guides are out Al W has more if anyone needs them
 9. Trail Guides Are in..
 10. Newsletter
 - 1) Mar inserts are due by Mar 2 by noon due to annual meeting notification and voting
 - 2) We will mail out Aug - Oct - Dec - Jan - Feb - Mar.
 11. Website Facebook Jeff B has been on it thinks it's a good way to get info out there.
 12. Apparel Stock is ok.
 13. Safety & Ed
 14. Adopt-A-Hwy Date for Spring: April 28
- C) President: Dan
 - 1) 1 meeting a month. Amjjaso 1 meeting. Ndjfm 2 meetings.
 - 2) Which positions will be open for elections? See bottom of sheet.
- D) Vice Pres: Randy
RPT grant status - Press release and pictures need to be done. RTP as of 2/14/13 still waiting for final payment, with snow only lasting a few days hard to schedule public announcement and give any type of notice for those to attend, we can do this next season also. (con't on page 8)



(con't from page 7)

E) Treasurer: Treasury Report - N/A
Rick

F) Secretary: 1) Next Board meeting - Mar 14 at Main St. Pub
Mary Beth 2) Next General meeting - Feb 28 at Tillman

G) Other: 1) Fed meetings:
Genesee: no meetings yet.
Niagara: cancelled
Erie: N/A

H) For the 1) Sno-Cross - Feb 22-24 - In Salamanca, NY at the Allegany Casino.
Good of the 2) When we get the next snow, a member is going to finish up the Allstate gps signs.
Club: 3) Forum is April 19-21 at Lake Placid, NY. See NYSSA site for details.

Positions to fill: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Trail Coordinator, St. of Arms, Board: David F., Frank S. and Randy W.



Submitted by Randy



Thank you landowners!



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Greetings from The Phantom Snowmobiler

The season appears to be winding down on our beloved sport. The Phantom hopes you were able to take advantage of the snow while it was here. He hopes that at least some of his readers took his advice from his earlier columns and went on a first time snowmobile trip this season. The Phantom may be lurking about in Canada as you read this - it is his understanding that our good neighbors to the north have been enjoying a better Winter than we have. Something The Phantom has always wondered, why does his 6000 lb tow vehicle, pulling a trailer and 2 sleds, get 13 mpg's, while his 500 lb snowmobile and 250lb rider gets 10 miles to the gallon of gas? Nobody ever said our sport was cheap. The Phantom sits down at the end of each season and totals his sledding bills and divides this figure by the number of miles traveled on his sled. It is very eye opening. He rationalizes that everybody has their vices - drinking, smoking, hunting, bowling, season tickets etc., he just picked a slightly more expensive vice, at least his wife knows where he is. Still time to take a trip!

until then... The Phantom Snowmobiler-he see's ALL

Enjoy our snowmobiling season!



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Sled of the month

Good day fellow Sno-seekers,

I grew up part of a snowmobiling (Ski-Doo) family in the Clarence/Williamsville area. Years before I was born, my dad owned a 1967 Ski-Doo Olympic 250 single cylinder, then a '68 opposed twin 370, followed by a '70 Nordic and so on straight through the 1970's eventually becoming one of the original members of what would become our club. I have many fond memories of riding around with my dad and older brother in the early 80's on their Ski-Doos in the fields and trails behind our house, specifically my brother's 1982 Blizzard 5500. I will never forget my first few solo rides as a youngster down the trail after a snowstorm and squeezing the throttle in an open field...the adrenaline rushes were amazing and I was sold on snowmobiling!



We moved down south and I finished my childhood in sunny Florida so there was no snowmobiling for me for 10 years. I moved back to the WNY area and after college my wife and I bought a house in Clarence a mile or so from our local trail system. Around 2007-2008, I got re-interested in snowmobiling, adopted my brother's 2001 MXZ 800 and joined the NESS club. I re-learned the winter fun of sledding and the beauty of the NESS trail system with that crazy powerful machine! It is awesome living so close to the trail system. I now own a 2004 ski-doo MXZ REV 600 and have enjoyed exploring the many trails in our area and surrounding counties, including riding to and around Darien Lake State Park and also taking day trips trailering to the Cherry Creek/Cassadaga trail system.



Last winter I had a memorable snowmobiling adventure when a friend and I took a long weekend and rode around the Northern Ontario trails in the Muskoka region for 4 days in late February. They had 2-3 feet of snow (when we had none) with trails as smooth as silk and it was awesome! Amazingly, we briefly rode behind a Moose trotting along the trail on our last night of riding! My wife Kelly is now getting into the sport and we enjoy going out 2-up for lunch or dinner to the Log Cabin as well as to the Clarence Pizza Company not far from our house. We look forward to getting our 2 young boys involved in the sport and many fun winters of snowmobiling

with our family and all the new sled-heads we meet along the way.

Tim Naab & Family

Do you want to write next month's "Sled of the Month" page?

It's easy... Tell us about your favorite ride,

history of your experience riding or what sled you ride now and why.

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General Meeting Minutes Summary Date: 2/28/13

- 1) Welcome: Officers present: Pres: Dan VP: Randy Treas: Rick Sec: Mary Beth
7:30 - 9:00 pm
18 members present
- 2) Committee: Topics:
 - A. Legal We will need to install a gate/fence by May 2013 in Akron Park. Next year we may have our groomers with gps units that NYSSA will provide the units and our club will pay the monthly fees.
 - B. Emergency Response No update.
 - C. Marketing and Advertising 1) March Landowner winner: ? # 72 was chosen. We will look it up for our board meeting.
2) Any new ads? No, it's near the end of the season.
3) We did join Farm Bureau again this year.
 - D. Fundraising 1) Super raffle tickets - the sale will be going on for another month.
 - E. Social & Public Relations 1) Fed picnic date for next yr is July 14, 2013
2) Dice Run - we tried to schedule one but it didn't work out
 - F. Membership 1) How many members? 621
 - G. Groomer & UTV Equipment 1) grooming- Curt hung a few "winter wheat" signs. The club responded on the forum regarding the "not grooming" comment.
2) Curt - Groomer and drag storage. Ranger/Buggie and trailer storage. We will be storing the equipment like we did last year. Randy can check out pricing at the Rapids Road storage.
 - H. Trail & Landowner 1) Curt - got anything? Had a few trees come down on the north and south areas. Both trees were cleaned up quite quickly.
 - I. Trail Guides No update
 - J. Newsletter 1) Mar inserts are due by Mar 2 by noon due to annual meeting notification and voting. We will have more information at the next meeting.
2) We will mail out Aug - Oct - Dec - Jan - Feb - Mar.
 - K. Website & Face book No update.
 - L. Apparel Stock is ok.
 - M. Safety & Education No update
 - N. Adopt-A-Hwy Date for Spring: April 28

(con't on page 14)



(con't from page 13)



- 3) **President:**
Dan
- 1) 1 meeting a month. Amjjaso 1 meeting. Ndjfm 2 meetings.
 - 2) Nominations will be at the end of the meeting.
 - 3) 50/50 Congrats to Kevin K. \$45
- 4) **Vice Pres:**
Randy
- RPT grant status - Press release and pictures need to be done. We will probably wait until next year. We did receive our lat 10%.
- 5) **Treasurer:**
Rick
- Treasury Report - Rick reviewed report and bills to pay.
- 6) **Secretary:**
Mary Beth
- 1) Next Board meeting - Mar 14 at Main St. Pub
 - 2) Next General meeting - March 28 at Tillman Election Night
 - 3) Thank you notes -Mike Basil and 2 brothers. King Oil. Tillman Post. Mazia's. Marvin's. Main St Pub. George & Sherri Lacey. Swormville Fire Hall.
- 7) **Other:**
- 1) Fed meetings:
Genesee: no meetings yet.
Niagara: cancelled
Erie: Al went. Pete discussed his compensation for work he does for the state.
- 8) **For the Good of the Club:**
- 1) Forum is April 19-21 at Lake Placid, NY. See NYSSA site for details. Rick said we are good to send 2 people...there was a discussion about budget and costs. Bill would like to discuss at the next board meeting.
 - 2) Plague for Woody is in and will be installed next Fall.
 - 4) If you need signs for your trail section, please let Curt know so he can place the order.
 - 5) Sandy mentions that the Swormville Fire Hall is having a chicken BBQ on Palm Sunday.
 - 6) Newstead Fire Hall is having a search & rescue this Saturday.
 - 7) Randy B. motions to purchase a laptop for the treasurer and secretary. Jeff W. 2nds. 18 in favor - 0 opposed.
- 9) **Nomination Results:**
- Positions to fill: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Trail Coordinator, St. of Arms, Board: David F., Frank S. and Randy W.
- Nominations. Dan read the by-law descriptions for each of the officer positions.
- 1) Pres: Dan Dressel
Vp: Randy Wdowka
Sec: Robyn Ciernik & Mary Beth Kiesel
Treas: Al Wolbert
 - 2) Board: David Faron, Shannon Landow, Mary Beth Kiesel, Rich McNamara and Frank Schroeder.
 - 3) St. of Arms: Jeff Wilson
 - 4) Trail Coor: Curt Watts - if he can get reimbursed for gas for federation meetings and more help with paper work.
 - 5) Jeff B. motions to close nominations. Jeff W. 2nds. 18 in favor - 0 opposed.

Nominations are closed.



From the NYSSA magazine:
**You can buy these raffle tickets at our
 general meetings or call our Sno-Phone!
 Tickets are \$ 5.00 each - Mar 28th meeting
 last chance...**

NYSSA Online Magazine

2013 SUPER RAFFLE

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 2nd will choose next, 3rd will choose next and
 the 4th prize winner gets the remaining prize.

5th Prize: \$1,315 Triton Trailer XT-10-101 - Fisk Distributing, Lyndonville, NY
 6th Prize: 2-day sled rental (Village Rentals) for 2 with 2 nights lodging at Village Motel, Speculator, NY
 7th Prize: Woody's Complete Traction Package, Gear Bag & Golf Balls - Woody'sTraction.com

Drawing: April 20, 2013 Winners announced @ NYSSA Educational Forum, Lake Placid Convention Center, Lake Placid NY
 Donation: \$5.00 per ticket - Ticket holders do not need to be present to win

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--	--

Contact NYSSA: PO Box 1040, Pine Bush, NY 12566-1040 * EMAIL - nysnapol@nysnowmobiler.com
 TOLL FREE: (888) 824-3849 * FAX: (888) 317-2441 * www.nysnowmobiler.com

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Here are our committees!

Objective of committee formation: Our club has the following 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.

1. **Legal Committee:** Responsibilities include handling our by-laws, insurance, legal actions and correspondence.
2. **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.
3. **PR/Marketing & Advertising Committee:** Responsibilities include signs, selling ads for newsletters and trail head advertising.
4. **Fundraising Committee:** Fundraising items including coupon books, raffles, 50/50 and groomer boxes.
5. **Apparel Committee:** Responsibilities include ordering and distributing our NESS apparel.
6. **Social Committee:** Responsibilities include organization of all activities including Buck's open house, Don George's open house, Labor Day Fair booth, Labor Day Fair Pizza, Bon Fire, Christmas Party, Club rides, and Summer Events
7. **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.
8. **Groomer/UTV Equipment Committee:** Responsibilities 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.
9. **Trail/Landowner Committee:** Responsibilities 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
10. **Trail Guides Committee:** Responsibilities include distribute maps to establishments and collecting \$.
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.
12. **Website Committee:** Responsibilities would include moderating and update with activities and club news. Keeping the website functional and register users for site.
13. **Safety/Education Committee:** Responsibilities would include Setting up, organizing and running our courses and discussions at meetings.
14. **Adopt-A-Highway Committee:** Coordinate Fall & Spring clean-ups on Rt. 93 in Akron.

How do you want to join in on the fun?



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Adopt-A-Highway Program

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 Fall clean up on Sunday, October 7 at 9:00am. It took 1.50 hours to get the job done.

Thanks to everyone who helped. We couldn't have been successful without the support from our members. Our Spring date will be April 28th.

Come on out and join in on the fun!



Thank You!!!!
Main St. Pub in Clarence
For accommodating
us for our Board Meeting in March

Attention Landowners Let Us Know!!!

Please contact the trail coordinator, any officer, or leave a message on our website if any area of your 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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Adult: Guys



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S-M-L-XL XXL-XXXL

\$ 12 / \$ 13
\$ 14 / \$ 15
\$ 32 / \$ 34

Blue baseball cap
Blue knit cap
Blue skull cap

one size fits most
one size fits most
one size fits most

\$ 12
\$ 12
\$ 12

Adult: Ladies



\$ 12

Pink baseball cap
Pink fleece hat

one size fits most
one size fits most

\$ 12
\$ 12

Pink short sleeve t-shirt

S-M-L-XL

Kids:

Blue short sleeve t-shirt S-M-L
Blue long sleeve sweatshirt S-M-L

\$ 10
\$ 12



Other items:

Drawstring bag 15"X18" navy blue
Long sleeve nylon wind breaker navy blue

\$ 8
\$ 25

Printed: t-shirt, bag
Embroidered: sweatshirt, bb cap knit caps, skull cap, wind breaker

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Results from our Nomination Night

Come and make your vote count!!

Nominations for Officer positions:

President: Dan Dressel

Vice President: Randy Wdowka

Treasurer: Al Wolbert

Secretary: Robyn Ciernik and Mary Beth Kiesel

St. of Arms: Jeff Wilson

Trail Coordinator: Curt Watts

Nominations for Board members: 3 positions to fill.

Dave Faron

Kevin Kruschke

Shannon Landow

Richard McNamara

Frank Schroeder

*Mary Beth Kiesel—withdrew board nomination on 3/2/13



Please come out and show your support.

All voters must be a member in good standing as of our February 28th meeting in order to be able to cast a vote at our Annual Election Night on March 28th.



#1

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