



May 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:
Combo Board/General Meeting
May 30 at 7:30 PM at Tillman Post Akron, NY



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:** Dan Dressel
- Vice President:** Randy Wdowka
- Secretary:** Robyn Cierniak
- Treasurer:** Al Wolbert
- Sergeant of Arms:** Jeff Wilson
- Trail Coordinator:** Curt Watts
- Board Member:** Jeff Beers
- Board Member:** David Faron
- Board Member:** Shannon Landow
- Board Member:** Bill Peronne
- Board Member:** Frank Schroeder
- Board Member:** Ray Somers
- Board Member:** Al Wolbert

Committees

- Legal Committee**
Chairperson: Al W.
- Emergency Response Committee**
Chairperson: Dan D.
- Marketing & Adv Committee**
Chairperson: OPEN
- 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: Shannon
- Website Committee**
Chairperson: Robyn C.
- Apparel Committee**
Chairperson: OPEN
- Safety/Education Committee**
Chairperson: Al O.
- Adopt-A-Hwy Committee**
Chairperson: Rick W.

Sno-Phone: 741-NESS

Club Headlines

What's Going On With Our Club...

Next Combo Board/General Meeting: May 30 at 7:30 PM at Tillman Post, Akron, NY All are welcome!

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

Newsletters: May, June & July will be emailed and on our website. August will be mailed.

Come on out and have some fun!

Find us on the web at:

www.snoseekers.com

Find us on our Facebook page:

Northern Erie Sno-Seekers Snowmobile Club

"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:

May: Donald Leising

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,

The NYSSA forum has come and gone. We sent 2 board members this year to learn more stuff, and they did. It is set to be in Rochester next year.

Summer is on it's way and so far it's looking good, so get out and enjoy it! We are planning on doing some fundraising for the club. We hopefully will be planning some motorcycle rides, ATV rides and so on. Keep an eye on the website for details... these events will come up fast!

On a positive note, we had approx. 78 volunteers help to make the NESS trails the "Best in WNY!" A big thank you goes out to all of you for your dedication in helping us make great, safe, smooth and enjoyable trails! We are so fortunate to have all of these great members who care about our club and have fun pitching in!! Thanks, that what it's all about!

I would also like to thank all the landowners for the use of their land, thank you once again!

If anyone has any great ideas or wants to help, call the sno-phone or email us through our website.

Thanks,
Dan

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FROM THE TRAIL COORDINATOR SIDE

The following is an overview of the NYSSA forum that we attended last month. On Saturday morning we sat in on the first seminar which covered the budget for NYSSA. Roger explained to us that they are trying to limit the expenses due to there is a limit on money coming in due to the number of sleds registered. He said the forum next year will be in ROCHESTER, which will be a good location due to everything is in walking distance from the hotel which will eliminate a parking problem. The next seminar was PR101 which was put on by Gramercy Communications. They discussed ways or how to conduct an interview with a reporter when the club may have either an accident or want to promote something positive that the club does or did for the community. That you should always get all your facts together before you say or comment on anything because everyone always assumes that when there is an accident it always involves alcohol and speed. They recommend that the club should have a spokes person that would handle these situations.

Then I sat in on ENCOURAGING YOUTH AND VOLUNTEERS. This was put on with the help of KAOS Kids and ADULTS ON SNOWMOBILES. They gave us ideas on how to keep the younger generation involved with you and the club. One idea that they had was to tape record one of your meetings and then listen to yourself. Then the question was would you sit thru that. They recommended that you have shorter meetings and then have activities afterwards which involve the kids then the parents could socialize. The kids said that they are trying to replace the graying work force that is out there. And if you don't believe just look at the ones sitting in this meeting room..... They also Recommended that the club invest time in to facebook or other communications to keep up with the times and not what you used to do years ago. T

Then we attended the Annual meeting on Sunday morning. The first item was an increase on memberships fee which was quickly voted down after many tries. They also covered how the clubs are entitled to file for any fuel tax that they are paying for. The state recommends that the clubs list landowners as members that way they get all the newsletters and magazines that show what is good in snowmobiling. They also discussed the insurance coverage has been raised to help in protecting the landowners. We then voted on the new officers and closed the meeting.

In short, we got some good info from this meeting and had a chance to visit with some friends that have been made along the way. Thank you to all who have helped in the past year to close another season.

CURT WATTS 435-7068
Trail Coordinator



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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 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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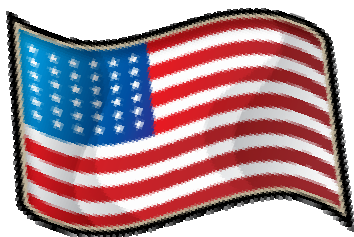


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General Manager
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Thank You!!!!
American Legion L.L. Tillman Post No. 900
For accommodating us for our General Meetings

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.



Combination Board/General Meeting Minutes

Date: April 25, 2013 - 7:30 pm



WELCOME:	Officers present: Pres, VP, Sec, Treas. 20 members attended
COMMITTEE:	Meeting times: 7:30 pm - 9:31 pm
LEGAL	Snow fence has been installed at Akron Park by David F., per Dan D. The snow fence has already been torn down by the public, per David F.
EMERGENCY	The emergency contact list needs to be updated. No additions or changes have been proposed to the list.
MARKETING/ADV	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. April landowner winner is Jen Pirrk. 2. Randy W. wants to update the advertising form.
FUNDRAISING	More Super Raffle tickets were sold this year than any other. No NESS club winners. NESS sold 174 this year, over the 114 sold last year.
SOCIAL/PR	The FED picnic date this year is July 14, 2013.
MEMBERSHIP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New membership applications need to be updated on our website. 2. Membership numbers increased from 591 last year to 629 this year. 3. The prefilled applications were sent to members and only a small amount were returned. Motion made by Bill P. to not send prefilled applications out this year. Seconded by John G. Voted unanimous – aye. Carried.
GROOMER/UTV EQUIPMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No new groomer reports. 2. All trail miles logged. 3. Groomer mileage loops with maps on reverse side need to be completed.
TRAIL/LANDOWNER	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dan D. asked if there are any school age children requiring community service. Our trailers are in need of painting and any work will be able to qualify for community service credits. Club to buy necessary paint. Ray S. volunteered to paint the trailers. We just need to drop them off at his house.
TRAIL GUIDES	
NEWSLETTER	May newsletter contributions are due May 18 th at noon. May newsletter only be emailed. Newsletters are mailed for Aug, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb and March.
WEBSITE/FACEBOOK	No new updates.
APPAREL	Apparel committee needs new chairperson.
SAFETY/EDUCATION	Sandy G. believes Al & Camille O. will run safety classes again this year.
ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY	Clean up date is April 28 th . Meet at Niagara Label at 9am.
50/50	Winner Ray S. Congratulations! \$42
PRESIDENT (Dan)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Summer schedule of 1 meeting per month (Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sept, Oct). Two meetings per month held Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb and Mar. 2. Taxes have been finished. 3. Erie County contracts have been signed.
VICE PRESIDENT (Randy)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NYSSSA emailed Randy W. regarding applying for outstanding RTP work for the club trail system award. Randy's sister assembled the application package and submitted it. If NESS wins award, it will generate significant PR/advertising. 2. Several committees have open chairperson positions. Fundraising, apparel and trail guides are open. Newsletter committee to be updated to list Chairperson as Shannon L. and Co-Chairperson Robyn C.
TREASURER (Al)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Treasury report: Bill P. made a motion to accept report. Motion was seconded by Ray S. Voted unanimous – aye. Carried 2. Bills to be paid: Shannon L. made a motion to pay bills. Motion was seconded by Ray S. Voted unanimous – aye. Carried

(con't on page 14)



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 was on April 28th at 9:00 am at Niagara Label.

Come on out and join in on the fun!

Enjoy our snowmobiling season!

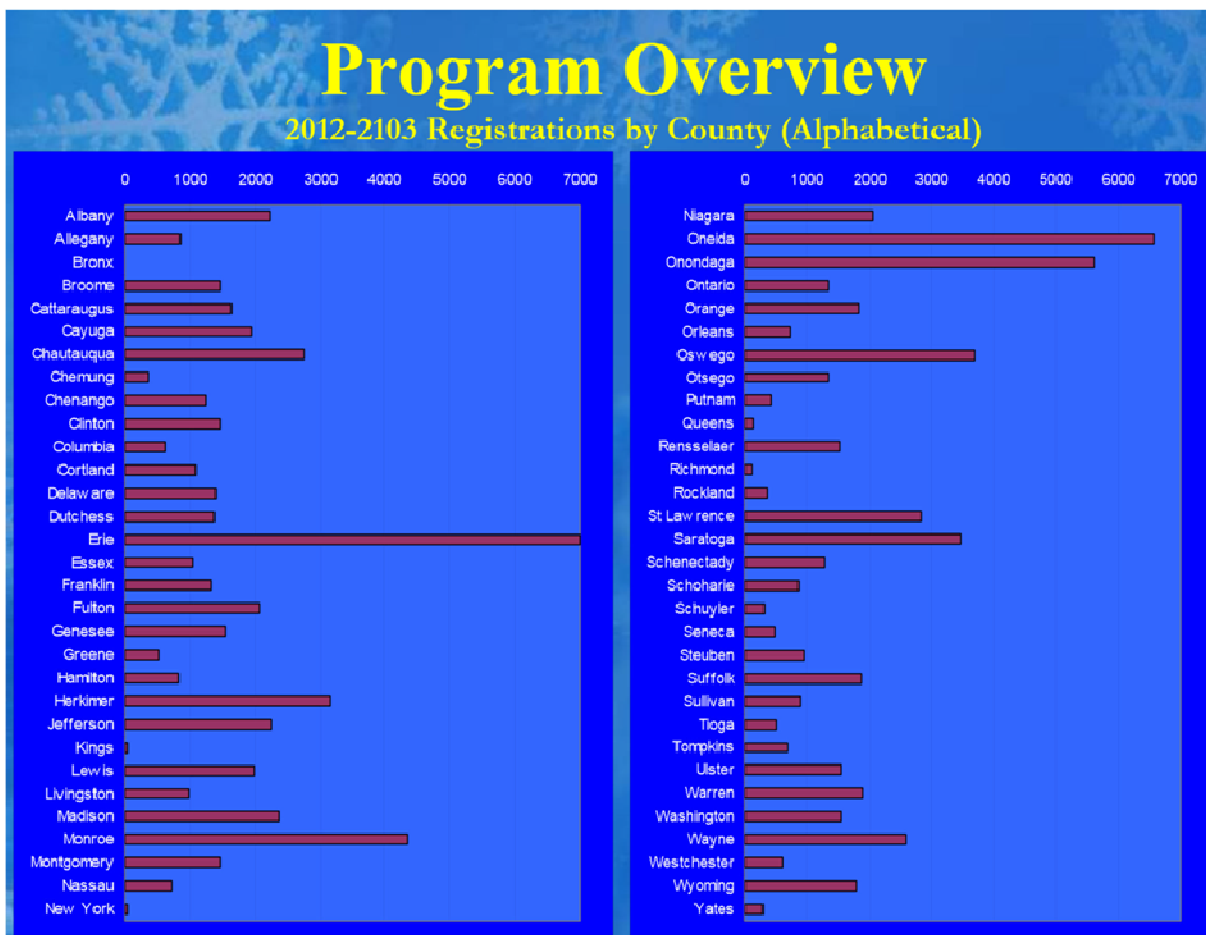
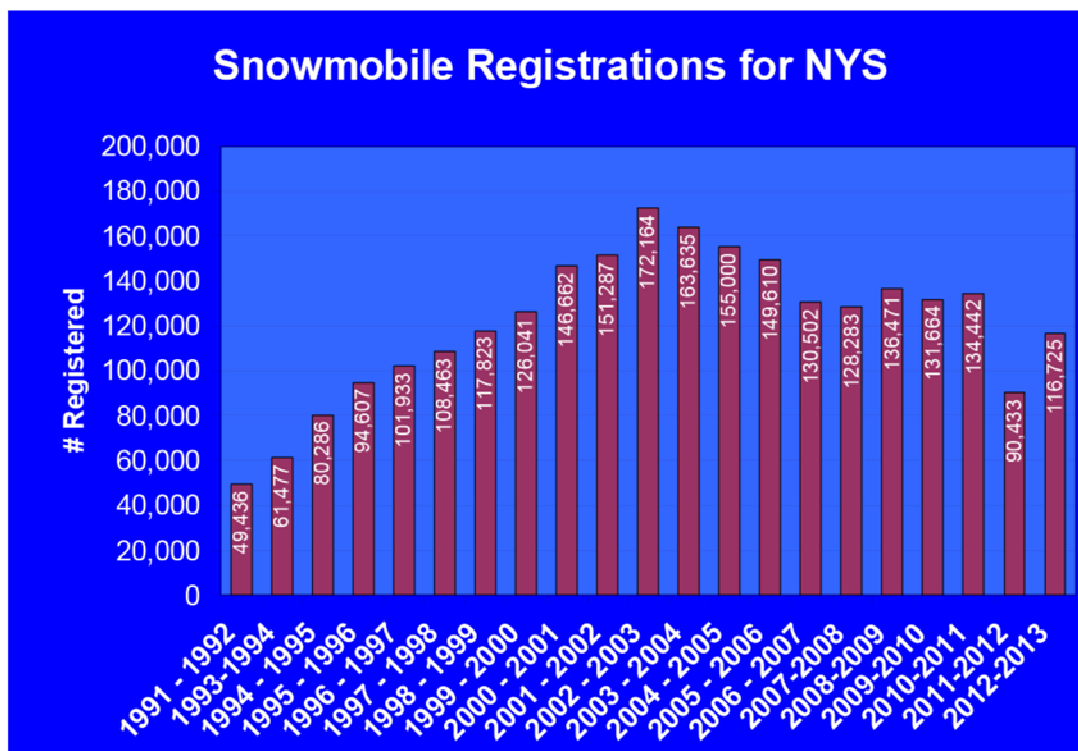


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From OPRHP presentation at the 2013 NYSSA Forum:





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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Sled of the Month Page

We are looking for your story...

Do you have a story about snowmobiling?

How many sleds have you had?

What's your favorite brand?

Do you like your track picked or not?

When did you started riding? Age?

Where was your favorite place you rode?

Do you have a funny story?

Any lessons learned?

(You can use your username or be anonymous)

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

Email your story to snoseekers@yahoo.com

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HOURS:

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11 AM–11 PM

SUNDAY:
11 AM–10 PM


January–March

SUNDAY–THURSDAY:
11 AM–10 PM

FRIDAY & SATURDAY:
11 AM–11 PM

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ASK FOR TIM OR CALL FOR OUR FULL CATERING MENU



(con't from page 7)

TREASURER (AI)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Treasury report: Bill P. made a motion to accept report. Motion was seconded by Ray S. Voted unanimous – aye. Carried 2. Bills to be paid: Shannon L. made a motion to pay bills. Motion was seconded by Ray S. Voted unanimous – aye. Carried
SECRETARY (ROBYN)	Next scheduled Combo meeting is May 30, 2013, 7:30 pm at Tillman Post
OTHER	<p>FED meetings –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Genesee County did not have a meeting, just via emails. 2. Niagara County – getting together at forum. 3. Erie County - needs Phase 3 files for May 7th meeting. Robyn C. to burn disks.
FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lake Placid Forum attended by Jeff B. and Curt W. Curt discussed items from forum: NYSSSA budget meeting was attended and per meeting fees will stay the same price as last year. (What does this mean?) Next year's forum to be in Rochester. Attended a class on encouraging youth and more volunteers – recommendations to adapt/adopt new social media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter. Attended a class on how to handle interviews after an accident on trails. Recommended that club should have a spokesperson to handle media. Sunday meeting – increased registration rates proposal has been “shot down”. Fuel tax credits are vital and need to be recorded properly to obtain credit for the gas receipts programs. GPS class was booked full prior to arrival. Necessary to book in advance. Bylaws state that landowners are members and should be listed as such on insurance. 2. Trail workers party will be June 15th. Robyn C. to finalize invites and get to Curt W. for distribution. 3. Phase 1 due at the June 4th meeting. No new re-routes planned. Curt W. hopes that Mary Beth K. will be able to resend last year's trail information directly to state since nothing changed. 4. Goals/Priorities for 2013-2014 were discussed. Handouts were distributed for ideas. Summary of ideas to be discussed at next meeting. 5. Thank you cards to be mailed out to Rick J. and Mary Beth K. 6. Forum fun facts – 62,000 club members. 115,000 registered snowmobiles. 7. Bill P. wants to order additional trail signs by June 30th to lock in lower price. 8. Floor discussion to tape record general and board meetings. John G. made a motion to have Robyn C. research prices for tape recorders. Motion was seconded by Jeff W. Voted 19 – aye. 1- Nay. Carried.

William Peronne



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Adult: Guys



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Blue long sleeve t-shirt	S-M-L-XL	XXL-XXXL	\$ 14 / \$ 15
Blue hooded sweatshirt	S-M-L-XL	XXL-XXXL	\$ 32 / \$ 34
Blue baseball cap	one size fits most		\$ 12
Blue knit cap	one size fits most		\$ 12
Blue skull cap	one size fits most		\$ 12

Adult: Ladies



Pink short sleeve t-shirt	S-M-L-XL	\$ 12
Pink baseball cap	one size fits most	\$ 12
Pink fleece hat	one size fits most	\$ 12

Kids:

Blue short sleeve t-shirt	S-M-L	\$ 10
Blue long sleeve sweatshirt	S-M-L	\$ 12



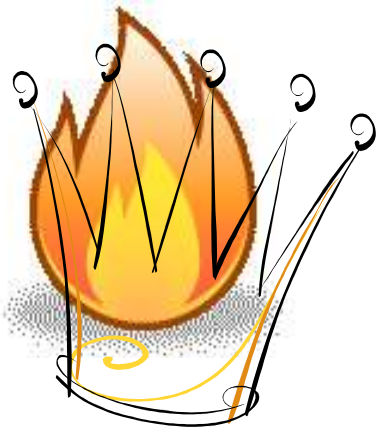
Other items:

Drawstring bag 15"X18"	navy blue	\$ 8
Long sleeve nylon wind breaker	navy blue	\$ 25

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

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Please include: name, address, phone number and items wanted.



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APRIL 2013 - MARCH 2014

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ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE (____) _____ CELL PHONE (____) _____

____ YES ____ NO Email Monthly Newsletter: EMAIL _____

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
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- FAMILY \$ 30.00 (incl. spouse & all children 17 & under) _____
- GROOMER HOUSE FUND \$ _____
- OTHER DONATION \$ _____
- UPGRADE YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO BE A PART OF THE NYSSA TRAIL DEFENDER FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$ 20.00 - SEE BACK FOR MORE DETAILS

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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 RISK, 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 700 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 and another in 2009. These help us maintain over 100 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.
- The Trail Defender upgrade membership helps NYSSA fund grant programs and legal services for member clubs.
- Come join us and visit our website at: www.snoseekers.com

Membership in this club entitles you to NYS Snowmobile Registration fee of \$45 on each snowmobile registered to the name and address. 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), bring this application to the monthly meeting or mail it to the above address.

**NORTHERN ERIE SNO-SEEKERS INC. P.O. BOX 167 AKRON, NEW YORK 14001-0167
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