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

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Snowmobile Club Newsletter



President: Andy Braunscheidel Vice President: Bill Peronne Secretary: Ron Dawydko Treasurer: Rich McNamara Sergeant of Arms: Jeff Glassman Trail Coordinator: Jake Kelkenburg Board Member: Jake Anderson Board Member: Kyle Anderson Board Member: Dave Allan Board Member: Nate Kreher Board Member: Jake Jurek Board Member: Paul Winkowski Board Member: Luke Anderson

<u>Committees</u>

Legal Committee: Al Emergency Response: Al Marketing & AD: Ron Fundraising: *OPEN* Social & Public Relations: Rich Membership: Ron & Andrea Groomer & Equipment: Ron Trails & Landowners: Ron & Rich Trail Guides: ~ NA~ Newsletter: Ron Social Media: Rich Apparel: Marcy Safety & Education: Jeff Vintage Chapter: Kevin & Marcie The NESS Express is a monthly newsletter for the members and landowners of the Northern Erie sno-seekers snowmobile club We are a 300+ member, non- profit club responsible for 120+ miles of state funded snowmobile trails located in the Erie, Niagara, and Genesee counties. We meet monthly at a pre disclosed location. All members and interested parties are welcome to attend. For more information, or if you wish to contact us, snoseekers.com, or (716)741-NESS or snoseekers@yahoo.com

Where'd winter go ?? Late December dropped, or should I saw blew us darn near a whole years

Winter Warnings

Created & Edited By:

Ron Dawydko

worth of snow in 48 hours. Then, before you know it, all that snow and January were gone !!! Now it's February, and as I type this, that rodent (ground hog) predicted more winter, and a polar vortex is bearing down on us. The lake is still open and ready to impose its "lake effect" wrath on WNY if we can just get a favorable jet stream. As I finish up this newsletter on my laptop, I'm only a few hours from home, but enjoying world class trails, and so much snow you don't dare get off the trail with anything less than 144" track. It hasn't stopped snowing since we rolled into town yesterday. ... My point ?? Well, three things come to mind. #1 We may have missed out on riding in January, but February can still be a game changer, experience from a 54 year old guy talking there. #2 We all live just a few hours drive from multiple snowmobile destination regions, in different directions with phenomenal riding conditions. #3 If you buy a snowmobile in WNY, and love to ride, you're going to be disappointed sooner or

> It's NOT over Till it's OVER

later (advise from a 54 year old). Don't just buy a sled and hope for snow... Buy a sled and a trailer, and if the snow doesn't come, go find it, it's never far

away !! Tug hill, Old forge, Quebec or Ontario, pick a destination and hook up the trailer. ~Ron~



PLEASE... Respect our neighbors in town, stay off driveways and lawns, and keep noise to a minimum, do <u>YOUR</u> part to keep this trail open !!!



Our very own Rich McNamara was presented with a very special award, along with recognization by governor Kathy Hochul for his service during the Christmas storm. Rich spent countless hours in NESS groomer #2 rescuing stranded motorists. transporting them to emergency shelters in Newstead & Clarence. He also provided emergency services in downtown Buffalo, transporting nurses to hospitals among other things. Rich logged 100+ miles & 48+ hours in the groomer. Rich shared the stage with other outstanding individuals who answered the call for help, including other WNY snowmobile club members & groomer operators. This is not Rich's "first snow rodeo", Rich and V.P. Bill provided emergency services in years past and in previous storms. With our club's history providing emergency response in snow events, Newstead Disaster Coordinator Dan Kowalik contacted President Andy to set up the first of many meetings with the disaster coordinators, supervisors and other town officials from Newstead, Clarence and the village of Akron. Club officers and BOD members have attended 2 meetings so far, with another scheduled for the end of February. Our goal is to have an official signed document in place with our towns, that will give us a clear chain of command and official communications, along with answering our insurance

coverage concerns, among many other things. We have a great deal of work to do before we are where we need to be before the next weather event, the town officials are providing the resources we need to get us there. Andy is chairperson on this issue, if you'd like to be a part of it please contact him. One of our major goals in all this is to purchase personal carrier boxes that factory fit on the back of the Pisten Bully groomers. They would enable us to carry 8+ people, with provisions for a gurney for medical emergencies. These boxes are built by Pisten Bully with heat and lighting inside. They are designed to be put on when needed, and taken off for trail grooming. At \$82,000 each, they are a major investment, that requires outside financial help. Rich is leading the push for funding on these boxes, for our club as well as the other WNY clubs with Pisten Bully's. With the storm still fresh in everyone's mind, we will continue to remind local, county & state politicians the service snowmobilers and clubs provided in this last storm, and how much more we could provide and accomplish if we had more resources available to us. We welcome your input & ideas as well. Speaking of resources, as treasurer, groomer operator, trail grant secretary (and the list goes on and on..) Rich dedicates so much of his time and efforts in so many places, it's great to see him recognized for his efforts. Speaking on behalf of NESS, Rich we are so proud !!!





Our February meeting starts the election of officers process. At our February meeting we will be entertaining nominations for all officer positions and the the 3 open Board Of Directors positions. If you think you might be interested, but you have questions, such as what your responsibilitys would be, or anything about the position your interested in, we will discuss everything at this months meeting. If you can't make the meeting, reach out to us, email, txt, or give any of us a call, we would be glad to answer your questions. We look forward to seeing some new faces come forward, to become part of the officers & BOD. The most common excuse we hear is "I don't have the time to make the commitment". We all have families & work. We know your thoughts and fears. We do a great deal of our club business via txt message, email & calls. We do our best to keep in person meetings to a minimum, and we take the late spring and summer months off completely. We've noticed some retired folks showing up in recent meetings, it would be great have some of them become officers & bring thier wisdom and experience with them. Becoming an officer is a great opportunity to work to shape the future of the club.







NYSSA Trail Map APF

available in the Apple APP store & Google Play Store

- *The ONLY APP maintained by NYS snowmobile clubs
- *Reliable navigation & map data
- *Offline maps for usage without cell service
- *Track your location and travel as you go
- *Business points of interest
- *Includes all state and local club trails
- *The ONLY APP to include real time data on open / closed trails
- *The most up to date information on trail re-routes, alerts & closures

YOUR REGISTRATION \$\$\$ GOING TO YOUR CLUB & YOUR TRAILS !!!







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NYSSA Annual Forum April 21-23 in Lake Placid Includes educational sessions, vintage sled show, "of" the year awards, Friday night social banquet. As always, NESS will buy your entry ticket to the weekend events. A great event and a great opportunity to mingle with snowmobilers from across the North East. Contact Ron for more details (716)622-8121

Northern Erie Sno-Seekers

January 2023 General Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location	Jan. 26, 2023@ Marvin's (7:30pm)	
Welcome	* Andy	
	~Sergeant at arms brought the meeting to order at 7:08pm	
Last Meeting Minutes	* Motion to except	
	~Andy made a motion to except the December minutes as printed, Dave 1st., Jake K.2nd., all in favor, motion carried.	
NYSSA / SLEDNY	* Doug update ?	
	~ Doug gave us a report from his monthly NYSSA meeting, the governor has vetoe the possibility for individual counties to opt out of the holiday hunt, the sled registration increase has picked up momentum and is on course to go through and be applied to next years sled registrations, this years spring NYSSA forum is going to be held in Lake Placid (more info in this newsletter), NYSSA reminded all clubs to update their trail GPS data to continue getting funding.	
	* NYSSA super raffle tickets to sell ?	
	~super raffle tickets were mail out to the club, should be here soon	
Erie County Federation	* Rich or Ron update ?	
	* Still lot of talk in regards to Storm response, Erie County Emergency Response meeting Erie Co. Fed. president Dave, along with Andy, Rich, Jeff, Bill attended, Rich received an award for service in storm.	
	~Ron reported that most of the meeting centered on the Christmas storm, 70% trail funding checks for 2023 had been sent out by parks, and clubs should receive them very soon	
	* Next meeting Tuesday Feb. 7 @ 7:30pm all are welcome to attend, contact Rich or Ron for a ride down	
Niagara County Federation	* Doug update ?	
	~Dough reported no Niagara Co. fed meeting has been scheduled at this time	
Genesee County Federation	* Rich update ?	
	* Check came for 70% funding of this year	
	* Genesee Co. Fed. meeting Wed. Feb 8 @7pm @ Genesee groomer barn in Oakfield, contact Ron or Rich if you'd like to attend	
	~Rich confirmed the meeting, and he will be attending	
	~Rich confirmed the 70% funding check from Genesee Co. has come, nothing else to report	
Storm Emergency Response Meetings	Andy update ?	
	* (2) meetings so far with Newstead / Akron / Clarence Disaster Coordinator Dan Kowalik, supervisor Pat Casillio & other officials at Newstead Emergency Response Building	

	* working on M.O.U. official document with Newstead, Akron, Clarence		
	* More meetings scheduled, next in March, contact Andy if you'd like to be involved or attend the next meeting		
	~Andy reported the next meeting is Feb 27th. @ 7pm in Newstead, Rich is working on the MOU document, Ron is working on an officers list with contact info, there is much work to do, it's going to take some time to get everything in order		
Committees			
UTV's & Equipment	* UTV #2 is available if needed its at Ron's		
	* UTV #1 is a hurting unit, needs serious repair, Dave Wetzler is fixing it up for us, many thanks Dave !!!		
	~Dave contacted Ron, he's almost done, and going to do a oil change while he's got it up on the lift		
	 * UTV #1 trailer ??? any progress ?? ~Rich reported he's continuing work on this 		
	* Jeff update on Chainsaws purchase for groomers		
	~Jeff reported that the saws were ordered, and will be ready for pick up shortly		
Groomers & Drags	* Ron, Grooming equipment is all ready to go, just need some snow !!!		
	~Jake K. Reported that Groomer #2 & Drag were ready to roll		
Vintage Show	Kevin / Marcie update ?		
	~Kevin passed around a sign up sheet for help at the event,		
	~Marcie went over the list of events scheduled, how the beer sales would be conducted, discussed the venders & food, parking was discussed as well ~Kevin discussed the track / parade root with Jake K., and discussed a new event for this year		
	~Kevin requested a email reminder be sent out to members and landowners, and anyone on our newsletter list, Ron will send one out the week of the event		
	* Sno-booze-boose raffle tickets		
	~6:30pm Wednesday prior to the show for set up		
	* Need volunteers to sign up for help !!!!		
	~See Kevin after the meeting to sign up to help out		
Trails			
Trail Coordinator Report	* Jake K. update		
	~Jake reported as far as he has seen, trail is all up and ready for the snow		
	* Bill has checked multiple areas of trail, many many trees down from storm, going to be a shit show when trails open up with more trees down in wooded sections		
	~Bill informed that he saw a section of trail North of Meahl Rd., South of Rapids Rd., that was not marked, Ron will check into it, Craig is closest trail captain to that area, he offered to take a look over the weekend, and report back on his findings		
	* Ron update, construction zone trail re-route around gas line dig up just West of Salt Rd., on Pizza Inn trail S41E, orange tape up, and signs, and markers		

	~Discussion from the floor in regards to the section of trail near Knapp Rd., some construction has caused some minor changes to the trail there, no serious issues	
	${\sim}AL$ & Ron discussed and explained this detour around the excavation site in the field	
	~AL reported that last week someone pulled out the trail markers on the section of the paved bike path our trail runs on and threw them into the ditch, he was able to fish them out and re-install them	
	* new gate installed on Dibble RR many thanks to Jake K. & Kyle for the install !!!	
	~Jake K. Said that the install went good, and Lenny Jr. was happy with the gate, it's closed and locked the gate, and he will open it up for us on our request when trails open	
	* Tom or Ron update on Norfolk / Southern RR crossing	
	~Ron informed us of the efforts to get the RR crossing reinstalled and that it wouldn't be available for this riding season	
	* Need a new trail captain for Dibble RR section	
	~Matt offered to take this section of trail as it connects to his current section he is trail captain for. ~Thanks Matt~	
	* Questions from the floor regarding trails ?	
	~The president and V.P. of the Marilla Sno-Mob were at our meeting, they discussed the Norfolk Southern RR crossing, and the section of trail from North of Broadway to the Dibble RR. This was a lengthy discussion in regards to among other things, the acquisition of this trail by NESS, Marilla informed that they are in the process of getting that RR crossing installed, and creating a reroute to get that trail opened up again, they also informed that they would be interested in setting up a arrangement where NESS would groom this section of trail, but Marilla would continue to keep it as their trail., and they would pay NESS to groom it. They informed that it was still their trail, and NESS had no right to mark it. There was a good deal of discussion between various club members, and the officers from Marilla, it began to get somewhat "heated" so the discussion was "tabled" for a later time and date in a more neutral environment.	
Membership	* Rich update	
	~We have exceeded total membership from last year,	
Treasurer Report	* Rich's printed report	
	~Rich distributed the printed treasurers report, after going through the report, and then asked for any questions from the floor	
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New Bills	then asked for any questions from the floor * Motion to except treasurer report Rich made a motion to except the report as printed, Trenton 1st., Nathan 2nd., all in favor motion carried	
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Open Floor / "for the good of the club"	$\sim\!\!$ Andy reminded everyone of club elections in March, nominations open at the Feb. meeting.	
	~ Bill brought it to the attendees that Rich was presented an award from the governor at a special award luncheon. Rich filled us in on the award, and the luncheon.	
** Next Meeting Info **	* General Meeting Feb 23th. @ ????????	
	~Nathan made a motion to move the Feb. meeting to Wolcottsville Inn, the floor was opened for discussion on this, and it was agreed to meet in Wolcottsville for the Feb. meeting 7pm start time	
Close Meeting / Meeting Adjured	Andy	
	~Andy made a motion to end the meeting, Trenton 1st., Nathan 2nd., all in favor, motion carried	

0 2022-2	rship Application r Renewal 2023 Season n April 1 to March 31, this coincides with	Voucher # Date: Check # Cash: Total Amount \$ Club Admin Initials:			
SNOWMOBILE CLUB Name(s): Address: City / Town: Phone #:()	State:Zip:				
email:					
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$35.00 (INCLUDES SPOUSE & CHILDREN UNDER 17) Groomer House Donation \$ Groomer Fuel Donation \$ Other Club Donation \$ NYSSA "Trail Defender" \$20 *Trail defender is a NYS dedicated fund to protect and acquire trails through legal and political actions*	Akron, NY 14001-0167 *Monthly meetings are held the last Thursda locations vary, please contact us for details. *Membership includes a monthly copy of the newsletter. *Membership acknowledges assumption of snowmobiling, it is also a release of liability, Signature:	ay of every month, e "NESS Express" our club all risks associated with			
NESS is 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 is greatly appreciated. Please don't just JOIN instead CONTRIBUTE, to keep our club awesome! snoseekers.com email: snoseekers@yahoo.com Phone: (716) 741-NESS (6377) NORTHERN ERIE					

