

Northern Erie Sno-Seekers  
P.O. Box 167  
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**N.E.S.S.**

...Chasing down the snow...wherever we need to GO!!!

**BRAAAP!**



## Free Counseling Available

Are you feeling "SNO-PRESSED" ?? That's an official WNY term...Snow-Depressed...

We officers here at NESS are here for our club members. We're working hard with our local sled dealers to install big comfortable couches in the showroom area, so you can stop by, sit down, relax, look at all the pretty new sleds sitting on the showroom floor, and counsel with a manufacturer sales professional.

He (or she) is a trained professional, and can help you deal with thoughts such as...

OMG... It will never, ever snow again...

...O- My Gosh..., it's so warm out there, I'm ride'n the Harley to work tomorrow!!!

...With Lake Erie water temp at 45 degrees, I wonder if they are putting the boats in the water for this winters boat show!!

We've all been there as die-hard riders... That place in your mind where you start to think, maybe I should take my sisters husband's

advice, and sell the sled. Usually, you come to your senses and remember, he's a dweeb, and has a mullet for a hair cut, and rode a Snow-Hawk for goodness sake. But, this year things seem particularly bad, and maybe the mullet is coming back into style. !! WHOA !!

snap out of it man... Come to your senses... Wake up and smell the 2-stroke... All hope is not lost... YET...



# The NESS Express

## Snowmobile Club Newsletter

Created & Edited By:  
Ron Dawydko

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](http://snoseekers.com), or (716)741-NESS or [snoseekers@yahoo.com](mailto:snoseekers@yahoo.com)

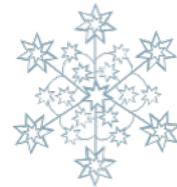


President: Andy Braunscheidel  
Vice President: Bill Peronne  
Secretary: Ron Dawydko  
Treasurer: Rich McNamara  
Sergeant of Arms: Jeff Glassman  
Trail Coordinator: Bill Peronne  
Board Member: Jake Anderson  
Board Member: Kyle Anderson  
Board Member: Dave Allan  
Board Member: Nate Kreher  
Board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

### Committees

Legal Committee: (open)  
Emergency Response: Andy B.  
Marketing & AD: Ryan Preston  
Fundraising: (open)  
Social & Public Relations: Rich  
Membership: Ron  
Groomer & Equipment: Ron  
Trails & Landowners: Ron & Rich  
Newsletter: Ron  
Social Media: Matt Duva  
Apparel: Matt Duva  
Safety & Education: Jeff  
Vintage Chapter: Jake Kelkenburg

See this area? ...Notice how it's WHITE... We left this area intentionally WHITE so you remember what WINTER IS SUPPOSED TO LOOK LIKE !!!



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# Northern Erie Sno-Seekers

## Membership Application or Renewal

### 2023-2024 Season

Memberships run from April 1 to March 31, this coincides with NYSSA memberships & vouchers

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #:(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Club Text Messages: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

\* All memberships include \$5 NYSSA membership. If you're already a NYSSA member from another club, deduct \$5 from membership, please list club name here: \_\_\_\_\_

- New Member
- Renewal
- Landowner (on trail, single only)

**SINGLE MEMBERSHIP \$30.00**  
 **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\*

### Mail To:

**Northern Erie Sno-Seekers**  
**PO Box 167**  
**Akron, NY 14001-0167**

\*Monthly meetings are held the last Thursday of every month, locations vary, please contact us for details.

\*Membership includes a monthly copy of the "NESS Express" our club newsletter.

\*Membership acknowledges assumption of all risks associated with snowmobiling, it is also a release of liability, and waiver of claim.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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)**



# The Welcome Inn



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Niagara County's sledgers lounge

Friday's Fish Fry's till 9pm \* Full dinners till 10pm \* Fryer food till close

Dine in & Take Out



Direct Trail Access

"Where great food & cold drinks meet up with long time friends"

on NESS trail # 868

**\*\* NEW \*\*** trail installed last year gives you quick & easy access from the North (C4H) along with continued access to the South on (C4D)

# Fish Fry Friday's

\*NESS award winning #1 sea food sled destination\*

Find us on Facebook ..or.. better yet..get off your phone and come visit us... We're damn sure your gonna bump into someone you know !!!

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

# NESS Apparel



Show your club colors, and make a fashion statement ((positive one)) We have a whole new line up of NESS merchandise. Members have been showing up at recent meetings in the super cool hoodies, and they do look SHARP !!! Quick & Easy way to order, is focus your phone camera at the QR code, and BOOM your there. The Vintage show is just around the corner, what a great place to show your club support by wearing a NESS hoodie.

NESS apparel QR code



Nominations for all open officer and BOD (board of director) positions will happen at this months meeting. We have had a great group of folks as elected club

officials for this past year. Many of them have served for years and years. Speaking on their behalf, they would love to see some new faces, and new ideas so they can focus on some new areas in the club, and expand into areas that we have talked about for years, but never have the manpower to make it happen. Help ensure a great 2024-2025 riding experience, and keep your hometown club going strong !!!

Help shape the future of our club, throw your "hat" in the ring and hop on board !!!

## Election Time



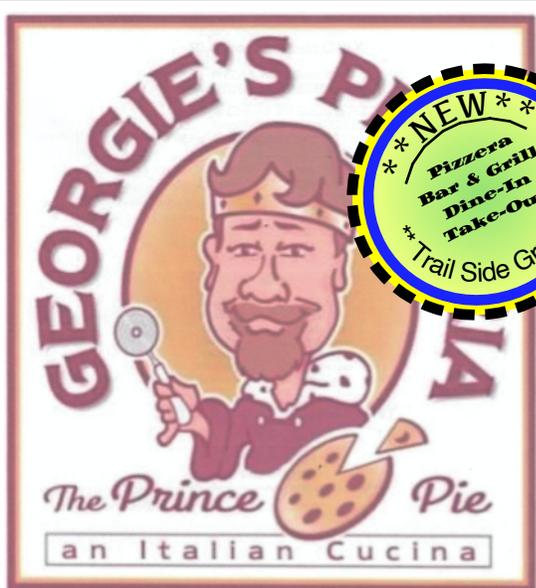
\*\*\* Reminder \*\*\*

The sponsors you see in the NESS Express have made a commitment to support our club, our trails & our members.

Be sure to think of them first when you're in need of services they provide.

General & BOD Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location	Jan. 25, 2024 @ Akron American Legion (7:00pm)
Welcome	<p>* Andy</p> <p>~ meeting started at 7:10pm</p> <p>* special welcome to any brand new members this evening !!!</p> <p>* Anyone who is not yet a club member, and wants to join, applications up here, and see Rich with your \$\$\$</p>
Last Meeting Minutes	<p>* Last months minutes were printed in the newsletter for public review, motion to except minutes as printed:</p> <p>~ Andy called for a motion to except minutes as printed, Ron 1st., Aaron 2nd., all in favor, motion carried</p>
<b>Committees</b>	
Emergency Response	<p>* Andy update</p> <p>~ meeting scheduled for last week was canceled, will be rescheduled.</p> <p>~ Rich &amp; Ron were in a zoom meeting with NYSSA insurance representative and lawyer, one topic covered was contracted services, they have new insight in that area now</p>
UTV's & Equipment	<p>* UTV #1 club member Mike washed, cleaned and repaired the 4WD on the UTV, many thanks !!! Now we need to get it over to Dale's for wiring harness repair work.</p> <p>* Jake A. currently has UTV #2 he is servicing it, and changing oil, thanks for taking care of that.</p> <p>* UTV #2 Eric is going to install new front tires on it, when he gets a chance, they leak bad and we need new tires</p>
Groomers & Drags	<p>* All 3 were out all last week, had couple minor breakdowns, hyd fittings leaks, nothing that kept any of them out of service for more than a few hours. biggest issue we had was the water and mud freezing up on groomers and drags, and then we had to chip it all off. those conditions are hard on equipment, and tend to break things if your not very careful. Had situations where we groomed to a point on a trail, and then drove out to the road and drove road home because it was so bad on trail. Down trees everywhere made it a very slow go to start out. We did not come close to making it down every trail, we did what we could, and went where we could. Won't be much different when we get snow again, water hasn't gone anywhere, can't drain off because of remaining snow. Very frustrating for EVERYONE !!!!</p> <p>~ Lot of discussion from the floor on last weeks grooming, some different perspectives offered by various club members.</p> <p>~ discussion all around on decision to go out with groomers with or without drags</p> <p>~ discussion from the floor on last weeks trail clean up before we could open up trails and the amount of down trees blocking trails</p> <p>~ Ideas presented from the floor to do a better job contacting, and involving club members for help clearing trails in the future.</p> <p>~ More HEATED discussion on when and where the groomers should be used to get trails opened up</p>



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# Winter...Lost & Found?

It may be a long shot, but it first appeared in my google news feed a couple days ago, and again today. Two different lengthy articles, with impressive looking maps and even 3D imagining and video. Multiple sources are predicting a collapse and even possible reversal of the polar vortex that has held in place since our only significant snowfall this season. I'm no weather dude, so... Take it for what it's worth, or look into it yourself. Here's the crib notes from everything I've read so far. Strong polar vortex's are bad for NESS, it keeps polar cold air tightly packed at the North Pole, with high wind speeds at 18.5+ miles up, this allows the jet stream to flow unobstructed (straight line) from West to East across the country. No dip in the jet stream from the North means warm air from down near the equator is allowed to push up into our back yard, and any precipitation to fall as rain. Ok, now the (potential) good news... The data seems to show a strong likely hood of a weakening of the polar vortex, and then potentially a split into, two separate very weak polar vortex's, one over North America and one over Europe. With this winds at that 18.5+ mile range will drop significantly and may even reverse. So, that will release that polar cold air, and allow it to push down from the great white North, giving the jet stream that notable dip in the center of the country and out towards the East coast... HELLO polar cold air, lake effect snow, and just general snowfall !!! Seems legit right? ...Did to me... On the timing end of things, they (dudes that DO know weather) are saying last 1/3 of February, and into early March. With all the open water on all the great lakes, all we need is a cold breeze and we all (WNY, Cherry Creek, Tug Hill, Old Forge, Muskoka, The U.P.) could all be back in business for some late season throttle thumb therapy !!! We will just have to wait and see...

	~ Bill presented a large map put up on the wall outlining the NESS trail system, total mileage that's covered, and difficulty getting through all the trails in relatively short amount of time
	~ Discussion from the floor about social media, fb posts, comments, etc.
	~ Social media chairperson Matt advised that he will keep "comments" turned off on sensitive posts from the club.
	~ Rich reminded everyone that we are all volunteers, and we are all working toward the same goal
	* We need warm shop space to thaw out groomers and drags when they get frozen up, if anyone has space available when the time comes, please let us know.
	* Still looking for new groomer trainees. Contact Ron to get on board
Vintage Show	* Jake K. update ?
	~ Jake reported everything is in good shape, he passed around a signup sheet for volunteers. He listed off areas where he will need help.
	~ Discussion on how it will go if there is no snow, where sleds will be staged for display
	~ Set up day we decided on Thursday evening before the Sunday show
	~ Jake advised it would be a good idea to set up a Venmo account for the show, it would boost ticket sales. Rich will set an account up
	~ Basket raffle items have all been purchased
	* Jake set the sled out trail side at Akron Acres last weekend, and sold raffle tickets, killer idea !!! thanks Jake
<b>Trails</b>	
Trail Coordinator Report	* Bill update
	~ Bill decided we pretty much covered everything already when we talked groomers, he didn't have anything else to add
	* Still looking for a new trail captain for section of trail in Alden, Peter's Corners area South on the Dibble RR.
	~ Aaron D. said he would take over that section of trail *** many thanks Aaron ***
	* Questions from the floor ? Comments from the floor
Water & Mud Hole's	* Nathan Kreher would like to form a committee to look into what we can do to dry up some of the water holes we have on our trail system. He's looking for members to join the committee to work on solutions to the problem
	~ Nathan addressed the meeting, discussed some different options, he is going to work to identify the waterholes that we can possibly fix
NYSSA / SLEDNY	* Rich
	~ Rich gave us the dates for this years NYSSA spring forum, in Lake Placid NY, he reminded everyone that the club will pay travel expenses for anyone who would like to attend on behalf of the club
Erie County Federation	* Rich update
	* Current president of the ECFOSC is retiring, need to find a new Erie county NYSSA rep, and president of the ECFOSC
Niagara County Federation	* Rich update
	* Still looking for a Niagara county NYSSA rep.

# Trail Work Logs



Super important to get all info regarding trail work logs into Rich ASAP. We need to pool all information and work logs, and get this filed into the trail grant before the end of the year. Please txt, email or call Rich with the following info:

- ~ date & hours worked
- ~ Area (cross roads or trail # ID)
- ~ Names of workers
- ~ tools used, (ie: screw gun, truck, trailer, UTY, ATY, chain saw)
- ~ Trail work performed (ie: brushing, trail marking, bridge install)

**Rich TxT: (716)553-4819**



2

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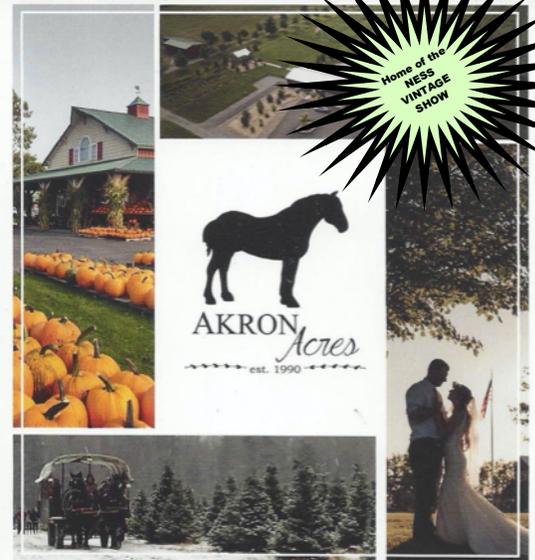
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Membership	* Rich update ~ currently 326 members, last year at this date it was 259, amazing what a week of cold and snow will do for membership !!!
Apparel	* Matt update ? vintage show special design ? ~ Matt gave us a rundown on how sales have been going. He asked for a motion to spend \$90 to have a custom limited edition vintage show shirt design made up only to be offered at the show. Aaron 1st., Nate K. 2nd., all in favor, motion carried.
Town of Clarence Award Dinner	* Rich, explain, update, date ? ~ NESS has been awarded "organization of the year" by town of Clarence, official award dinner will be March 21 at Samuel's Grand Manor 5:30pm, all club members are encouraged to attend, Matt is required to wear socks !!! Contact Rich to reserve a seat
<b>Treasurer Report</b>	
Treasurer Report	* Rich's printed report, questions ? Motion to except report ~ Rich went over his report, he made a motion to except the report, (unknown club member) 1st., Matt 2nd., all in favor, motion carried
New Bills	* Rich, motion to pay new bills ~ Rich listed out the new bills to be paid, made a motion to pay new bills, Jake A 1st., Doug 2nd., all in favor, motion carried. ~ Aaron forgot to submit his bill / reimbursement for Christmas party, he submitted his bill, Rich approved it, asked for a motion to pay the bill, Matt 1st., Nathan 2nd., all in favor, motion carried.
<b>New Business</b>	
Open Floor / "for the good of the club"	~ Rich reminded everyone that Feb. is NOMINATION month, and March is ELECTION month.
** Next Meeting Info **	Feb. 29 ~ Kyle informed us that the Wolcottville Inn had asked if we could hold a meeting there in the future. ~ Andy took a vote on where to hold the Feb. meeting, Akron Legion won, we will hold a future meeting at Wolcottville Inn. ~ Next meeting will be Feb 29 at Akron Legion
Close Meeting / Meeting Adjured	* Andy ~ Andy made a motion to close meeting, Jeff 1st., Doug 2nd., all in favor, motion carried

### Officer / Director Meeting Attendance

President	Andy Braunscheidel	X
Vice President	Bill Deronne	X
Treasurer	Rich McNamara	X
Secretary	Ron Dawydko	X
Sergeant at Arms	Jeff Classman	X
Trail Coordinator	Bill Deronne	X
Board Member	Jake Jurek	
Board Member	Jake Anderson	X
Board Member	Kyle Anderson	
Board Member	Nathan Keher	X
Board Member	Luke Anderson	X
Board Member	Paul Winkowski	
Board Member	Dave Allan	



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Official minutes of the meeting recorded and transcribed by NESS secretary:

Ronald T. Dawydko

# NEWSTEAD FIRE COMPANY Pancake Breakfast

Sunday March 3d. 7:00am - 1:00pm

All you can eat; pancakes, eggs, home fries, sausage & bacon

Adults \$10.00 Children \$6.00

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Welcome to

Sunday worship 8:30 & 10:00am



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Akron Legion

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Feeding Snowmobilers is Priority #1

7:00PM CLUB MEMBERS CHOW-DOWN FOR FREE

February 29th.

NYSSA Spring Forum

April 19-21

Olympic Conference Center Lake Placid

This years educational sessions include:

- Groomer Operator Class
First Aid
Chainsaw Safety
All About Insurance
Non-for Profit Best Practices

NESS will cover your travel expenses and your ticket to get in to all events !!! There is a big awards presentation at the tasty lunch banquet, it's all included in your trip. Many of us have attended over the years, some of us more than once. It's a great opportunity to hang out with a bunch of people who are as enthused about snowmobiling as YOU... And no one is wearing a helmet !!! If your interested, or would like more info, contact Rich (716)553-4819

Bunny's BREAKFAST



MARCH 16th 10am - 2pm

Buck's Motorsports 13090 Main Street Akron NY 14001



Basket Raffle!



Pancake Breakfast!



Crafts for kids!

Photos with your kid(s) and/or your dog(s) and the Easter Bunny!

Photography by Donny Green



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# Vintage Show



? Got Snow ? Heck NO, we don't need SNOW...  
 Once again (unfortunately) we prove you don't need snow for a vintage snowmobile show !!!

## Trail Pic's



When your out on the trails, get that phone out, grab some trail pic's, or parking lot pic's, or where you and your bud's are having lunch pic's, ...ANY... kind of pic's, share them with us, post 'em up on our fb page. Good or bad, water holes or smooth trails, busy restaurants or quiet woods trails, take the time to share them, both with us, and our social media. It gets others involved in the club, and it also helps inform everyone else of potential hazards, and gives us an idea where we have problems we need to address. And remember... our trails and club are only as good as the volunteers who contribute their time to work on them !!! ? How have you contributed ?

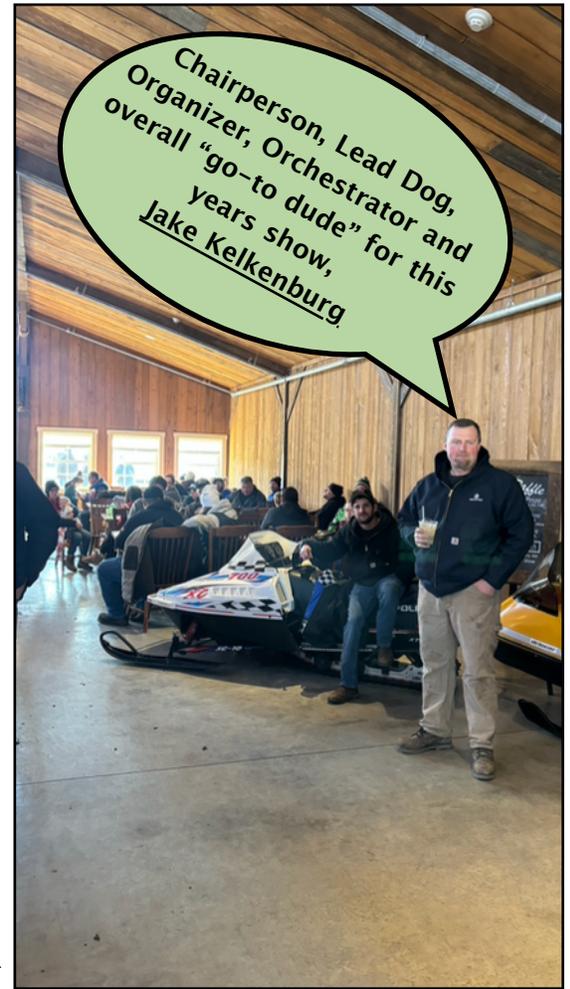
**snoseekers@yahoo.com or TxT: (716)622-8121**

This years show only disappointed those who came in search of snow. Once again, it delivered in all categories !!! There has been a high bar set in previous years, as to what folks expect when they come out for this event. From the food and refreshments to the awards and “ski-boozer” sled raffle no one was disappointed. Of course the main stay of the whole deal is the old sleds, and what a line up we had this year ! With a cross section that spanned decades and decades, we had one of the largest variations in years we have ever seen. The terms “ that was my first sled” and “ I remember riding one of those” were things we heard all day long.



... There were lots of club members who answered the call to help out at this years show, many “green grass” thanks to all of them! Jake and the Kelkenburg family not only hosted the event at their farm Akron Acres, they were involved and responsible for all aspects of the show. The Akron Acres farm & event center lends itself perfectly for the show, and we can’t thank the Kelkenburg’s enough for hosting it. Akron Acres was the home for the show, but keep in mind it’s also your “go-to” destination for weddings, corporate gatherings and meetings all summer long. In the fall, it’s the destination of choice for pumpkins to cornstalks. The country store is always well stocked with “on farm” raised beef too. When you’re ready for your Christmas tree, do yourself and your family a favor and visit the farm for a one of a kind experience. You will gain extra points in the bonus round with the wife and kids on the horse drawn sleigh ride to pick out your Christmas tree. There are always smiles all around, for whatever reason or season you visit the farm !!! Keep them in mind for your future activities.

***Thanks to all our contributors, vendors, participants & guests !!!***



## *Clarence Chamber of Commerce Organization of The Year 2024*

months meeting. This is a HUGE deal, and amazing honor. We will be presented with our award at the Clarence Chamber of Commerce’s 51st. annual awards gala, taking place March 21, at Samuel’s Grand Manor. The gala runs from 5:30 - 10:00pm with full dinner. Let’s get dressed up and take pride in our accomplishment! Please contact Rich if you’d like to attend. Rich Cell / Txt: (716)553-4819

NESS has been granted the Organization of The Year award for 2024 by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce. Rich gave us the details when he read the official letter at last

# The NESS

Urban Snowmobile Dictionary



Editorial by: *Ron Dawydko*

**Primary Clutch:** Out of all the purses your wife owns, this is the one she uses most.

**Bump Steer:** When your pregnant wife, re-defines your priorities, and snowmobiling ain't one of them.

**Skid:** When divorce or engagement doesn't allow you to trade-up to the current model year.

**Carberator:** Nickname from your wife for all the food found on snowmobile trail restaurants & bars, all carbs, and nothing healthy.

**Bogie Wheels:** Your buddies trailer that is...in less than perfect condition...

**Jetting:** When the winter is SO bad in the North East, you have to board a jet plane to find decent snow to ride.

**Ski-Stance:** When your Polish riding buddy won't listen to you when you come up with a short cut.

**Bar-Riser:** When you fall asleep (wink-wink) at the last stop of the night, and wake up the next morning, on top of the pool table, in full riding gear, ready to roll.

**2-Stroke:** A less than well known rapper from Tupper Lake, NY.

**Balaclava:** A Russian mix drink, stored in a snowmobile trunk, an emergency device that can be used for engine fuel, fire starter, smelling salts, de-icer or re-hydration.

**Helix:** Specific DNA sequence found in all die hard snowmobilers.

**Groomer Drag:** Your hair dresser or barber when he or she decides to start cross dressing.

**Pipes:** The nick name for your riding buddy that always tells the story when you got loose in the corner, and wound up in the ding-weeds, 20 years ago.

**Trail Can:** Trail side porta-potty's, or in Canada also know as Treasure Boxes.

**Larry Enticer:** (stage name) A very famous North Bay, Ontario male stripper.

**Send It:** ANYTIME...peer pressure overcomes clear thinking, usually associated with the term "Hold my beer".

**Grass Drag:** Anytime you run to the window to look out, hoping to see snow, and all you see is green grass.

**Trail Pass:** When you blow off work on Friday to head North with your riding buds for the weekend.