

Northern Erie Sno-Seekers
P.O. Box 167
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Club Elections

March meeting we will hold our elections. Last month nominations were opened up, and we saw a flurry (no pun intended) of activity for all officers positions and board of directors positions. We have enjoyed some well attended meetings the last 4 months, and speaking on behalf of all the officers, it's great to see new faces, and some old faces we haven't seen in years! It's truly great to see large attendance at monthly meetings, and have more than a dozen nominations for the open board of directors positions. If you were unable to make the meeting, and you'd like to be nominated for any of the officers positions, or the board of directors positions, please contact Ron (716)622-8121. There is still plenty of time to get nominated and get on the ticket. For reference, we don't hold

any meetings over the summer, and start back up with officers meetings in September. From September - March we ask that you do your best to make the 2 meetings each month, an officers meeting and the general meeting. If you don't think an officers position is right for you, but you'd like to help out somehow, consider joining a committee. We have a long list including; Newsletter, Memberships, Emergency Response, Advertising & Sponsorship, Fundraising, Vintage Chapter, Christmas Party & Events and a few more!!! Committees are a great way to support, improve and grow NESS in other ways than just building and maintaining trails. We appreciate you being a member, but if you find a way to contribute, you will find new enjoyment being part of one of the premier clubs in WNY. We look forward to your contributions and new ideas!!!

...Our club is only as strong as it's volunteering members...

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, or (716)741-NESS or 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



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General Meeting Agenda

Date / Time / Location	Feb. 29, 2024 @ Akron American Legion (7:00pm)
Welcome	* Andy ~ meeting was called to order at 7:10pm @ the Akron legion
Last Meeting Minutes	* Last months minutes were printed in the newsletter for public review, motion to except minutes as printed: ~ Andy made a motion to except the minutes as printed, Nate 1st., Jeff 2nd., all in favor motion carried
Nominations for Elections	* Andy Open nominations for all officers positions & (5) board positions total. (4) 2-year terms & (1) 1-year term (special election for retiring board member) ~ explanation by Andy and other officers as to which board members terms are up. ~ explanation of the "special" election for the board member who has retired early, and still has 1 year on their term ~ question from the floor as to weather or not it is required to be a club member to be an officer or board member, as per the by-laws of the club, membership in good standing is required to nominate or become an officer or board member * Except nominations & record them ~ Andy opened up nominations ~ nominations were taken, and a few were rejected by the nominee. ~ multiple nominations were excepted for the following: trail coordinator, 8+ nominations for the (5) open BOD positions * Motion to keep nominations open until next months meeting ~ Andy made a motion to keep nominations open until next months meeting, Ron 1st., Dave 2nd., all in favor
Committees	
Emergency Response	* Andy update ~ Andy & Rich reported that there was a new contract put forth by Erie County to allow clubs who volunteer to help out when needed could be compensated for their efforts, this is very complicated, and needs to be checked over throughly by many different parties involved, such as our insurance company, there will be a great deal of discussion on this contract on many different levels, more information will be forthcoming
UTV's & Equipment	* Ron. UTV #1 at Dale's getting a new wiring harness installed UTV #2 at Jake A's ~ Ron reported both UTV's will be ready for trail takedown
Groomers & Drags	Ron ready to go if it ever snows again ~ nothing further to report..... sad....
Trails	
Trail Coordinator Report	* Bill update ~ Bill's reported that he will evaluate the long term forecast on our about March 15 and decide if we can take trails down, or not.

Trail Captain

Needed

Attention Niagara County members....

We are in search of a new Trail Captain for a section of C4D from South Transit Rd. - Riddle Rd. That section runs almost 100% on the power lines, so not a hard section to mark by any means. We supply you with whatever you need to mark and maintain the section of trail, you supply some time and effort to install and uninstall the trail. If you would like more details, or have questions, give Trail Coordinator Bill a call (716)863-6471

Akron American Legion

Tillman Post #900

Full Menu*Friday Fish Fry



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 Friday & Saturday Dinner 4pm - 8pm
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	~ conversations about status of bridges on trails due to high water levels and down trees in wind storms, bridge on C4B alt. (pizza in bypass trail) just South of Keller rd. was discussed, it was washed out, landowner contacted Ron.
	~ Jake K. reported there are "I" beams at his place if we need them for bridge replacement
	~ discussion on some of the deep water holes and what we can about them
	~ discussion on the "McDonalds" trail, what can we do to dry it out or move it
	~ discussion on the trail closure from "McDonalds" & speedy mart & Timmy Ho's to Buck's discussion on what we can do to re-open it, or move it further development on the corner of Rte #5 & Rte #93 discussed
	~ Bill reported that Randy W. has poles if the club could use them for bridges
	~ Bill reported that horse farm on Rapids Rd is up for sale, and expects to be sold soon, club member is selling it. Options were discussed, re-routes were talked about if we can't get permission.
	~ question from the floor on when the solar project on Rte #93 across from soccer fields will start, and how it will effect trail, it was reported that that project was not moving forward at this time, and there was nothing in the works.
NYSSA / SLEDNY	* Rich update. Spring forum in Lake Placid NY, April 19-21, anyone like to attend, club will pay expenses to get out there and back.
	~ Rich & Ron reported Phase 1 due soon on any trail changes, trail modifications, or applications for new trail for next year. Ron explained the (3) trails that we need to file phase 1's for 2 in Niagara county, 1 in Erie county. GPS data is needed, hopefully we can get that when trails are taken down
	~ Rich spoke about the upcoming NYSSA spring forum, and what it's all about.
Erie County Federation	* Rich update. Erie county has presented the federation with a MOU (contract) to enable clubs who wish to participate in any snow emergencies the ability to be covered under their insurance, and be compensated for their services if they should be called into service. This would be a voluntary service by each club. The federation is reviewing the contract currently More information will be forthcoming
	~ Rich reported there is a lot of discussion on the MOU contract that Erie county presented to the federation. he also reported that funding for the personal carriers for the back(s) of the Pisten bully groomers is back in the 2024 state budget.
Niagara County Federation	*Rich. Erie County director Dave W. Attempted to make an amendment to the NYSSA bylaws to allow an outside resident of NYS to become the Niagara county director, this amendment was voted down at last months NYSSA meeting. We are still in search of a Niagara county director
	~ Rich & Ron further explained the topic
Membership	* Rich update
	~ Rich reported as of the moment we stand at 332way down from last year, way way down from 2 years ago.... discussion on peak memberships in past years totaling 600+
	~ raising of dues was discussed, Rich to get more info from other clubs at this months ECFOSC meeting
Apparel	* Matt any updates ?



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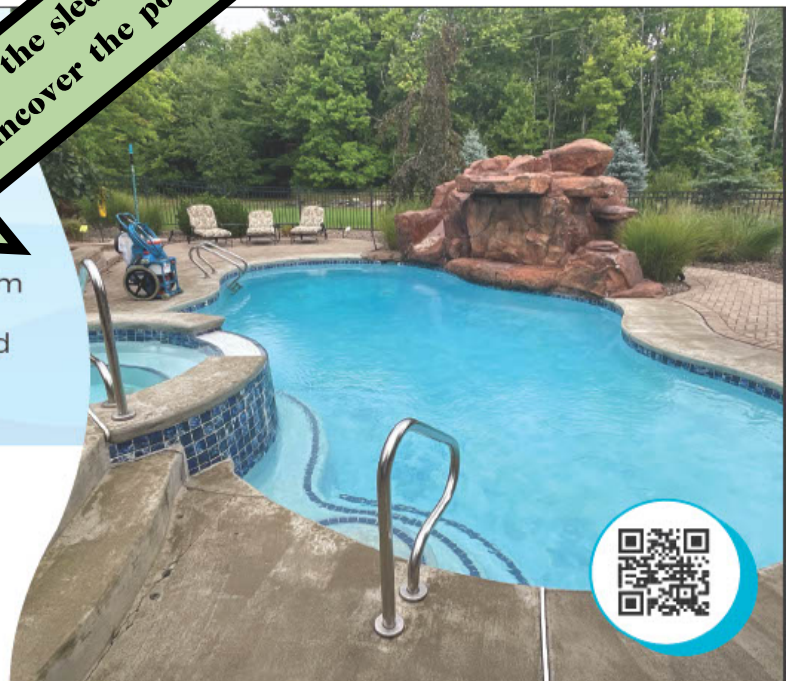
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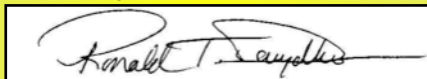
Put the sled away & uncover the pool !!!



Vintage Show	~ Matt reported that special edition t-shirt design at the vintage show kinda flopped, not the seller we expected, had (80) transfers made up to make at the show, only used (40) so we had to eat some cost there. he reported we broke even on that deal, but made no money. he gave some new ideas for that concept, and other options, also spoke about revising the number of transfers we would take to the show in the future.
	~ Jake reported further on the vintage show
	~ sponsor ship ideas were talked about, to differ the cost
	~ 68 sleds were entered, aprox. 25-30 attendees entered those sleds, so many multiple entries
	~ general discussion on getting sponsors on board next year, putting them on the limited edition t-shirt design, doing better job advertising and starting earlier, different advertising ideas talked about.
	~ date was set for next years show, Feb. 2nd
	~ motion was made to make donation to Akron Acres for hosting the show by Rich, all in favor. motion carried
	~ Rich gave a report on what we made on this years show, what costs were, and how that compared to years previous
	~ General discussion on food & drinks available at the show, what worked, what needs to be changed, new ideas were talked about
Town of Clarence Award Dinner	* Rich, awards dinner March 21 5:30 - 10pm at Samuel's. Still looking for club members to represent the club at the awards dinner. Contact Rich to sign up.
	~ Rich explained the dinner and award presented to the club, club has a table reserved, still room if anyone would like to attend.
Treasurer Report	
Treasurer Report	~ Rich presented us with his printed report
	~ Aaron questioned the check to the Wolcottville Inn, Rich explained the check was for the Feb officers meeting held there
	~ Rich asked for a motion to except report, Jeff 1st., Aaron 2nd, all in favor motion carried
	* Rich. Motion to pay new bills
New Bills	~ Rich presented and listed the new bills and asked for a motion to pay new bills, Matt 1st., Nate 2nd., all in favor motion carried
New Business	
Open Floor / "for the good of the club"	~ Aaron addressed the club, presented signs he had made up for the Akron legion, to put out on the trail in front of the Legion, and also smaller trail signs to be put out at a couple different spots, they look very nice !!!
	~ Bill inquired as to the long term status of the Legion, and how they were doing in general, Aaron reported things were going very well, and business was good and strong
	~ General discussion on trail sponsorship, advertising in and on various locations, Ryan offered to work on coming up with sponsorship ideas and rates, as he did all the work to get sponsorship for the newsletter this year.
	~ Trenton addressed the club, talked about a friend, and local guy who is going through some tough times, and medical issues, Trenton explained he was a good friend, and asked that the club members keep Lukis in their thoughts and prayers as he is going through some very difficult times and treatments.

** Next Meeting Info **	~ March 28, 7pm @ The Akron Legion
	~ discussion holding meeting at a different location, a vote of hands was conducted, Legion won.
	~ discussion on meetings held at different locations, and pros and cons, it was decided that we will try and move officers meetings around to various locations, and continue to hold votes to pick future general meeting locations
Close Meeting / Meeting Adjured	* Andy
	~ Andy made a motion to close meeting at 9:04pm, Matt 1st., Nate 2nd., all in favor motion carried

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



Ronald T. Dawydko

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

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 Glassman	X
Trail Coordinator	Bill Deronne	X
Board Member	Jake Jurek	X
Board Member	Jake Anderson	
Board Member	Kyle Anderson	X
Board Member	Nathan Kreher	X
Board Member	Luke Anderson	X
Board Member	Paul Ujinkowski	
Board Member	Dave Allan	X

With all that \$\$\$ you saved NOT riding, you can "pimp" the yard with our early spring !!!



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No-Show/Snow

...NOT what any of us were looking forward to, but, in this sport you got to take what you get... I've always said, "if you're serious about snowmobiling, you don't just buy a sled, you buy a sled AND a trailer. ...Humm... I'm gonna have to eat those words this year! Even the 12-14+ hour drives to Quebec, Timmins & Maine were highly "hit and miss" trail conditions. It's a downer for sure, no argument there. Winter was a "no-show" for sure, not just for NESS, but pretty much the northern hemisphere! As bad as it was, our trails were open 5 days, and that's 4 days more than we were open last year. ... That's no silver lining by any means, it still stinks big time... Two things in regards to this BS snowmobiling season, thing #1 there have been ongoing conversations in the ranks of the officers about how we can create / expand social activities that the club could become involved in, someway to stay active and involved even when we have "low or NO snow" years. Share your ideas with us, we'd love to hear them. Thing #2, putting in 100's of hours through the fall months to get trails installed and not getting to ride on them sucks. But, there is a lot to be said for enjoyment that comes from working together as a team, clearing, re-routing and improving trails, spending time outdoors staking and marking trail and repairing bridges! We've added some new Trail Captains to our ranks, some of them are new club members. ...My point... As bad as the season was, we've enjoyed some of the consistently large general meetings we've seen in years, we've seen some new folks join that have become highly involved and not only have we seen a younger generation show up and become involved, we've seen some retired guys return to meetings as well. Ya, it sure would have been better if we had snow to go with all that, but there's a lot of enjoyment that can be found in all the activities that surround our core purpose, building and maintaining trails. That's just my two cents... ~Ron~

Editorial by: Ron Dawydko

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Next Awesome Meeting

Akron Legion

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Feeding Snowmobilers is Priority #1

7:00PM CLUB MEMBERS CHOW-DOWN FOR FREE

March 28th.

NYSSA Spring Forum

April 19-21
Olympic Conference Center
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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



Presidential & State of The Club Address

Fellow Snowmobilers,
I wanted to thank everyone for all the work that was put into

this crazy season. As short and crazy as the season was everyone did a great job making the best with what we had. Now its time to start cleaning everything up and like always there is lots of work to still be done. If anyone is interested in jumping in to help please contact us or come to a meeting so we can help set it up. Lets hope next season brings us a better winter, but until then looking forward to seeing everyone at the monthly meetings! ~Andy B.~



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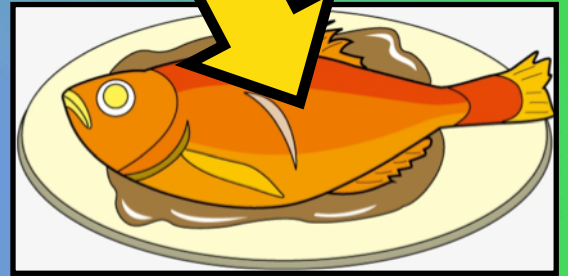
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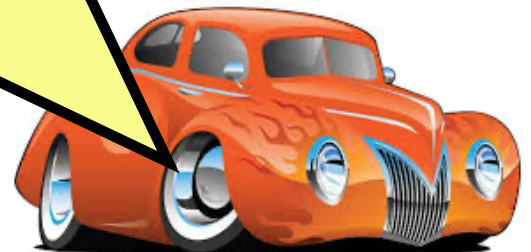
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