



November  
2009

Volume 6, Issue 11

# Lake Effect Trailbreaker's SNOWMOBILE CLUB NEWSLETTER

Our First Annual Groomer Support Golf Tournament may have set fate in motion, as the club has recently purchased a 1995 Tucker Sno-Cat 2000 from a snowmobile club in Wisconsin. Our groomer committee had been looking at purchasing another groomer for quite some time and then this Tucker came up for sale in Kiel, Wisconsin. After much correspondence with the groomer crew of the Kiel Snowmobile club (a club with 30 members and 30 miles of funded corridor trail in northeast Wisconsin, near Green Bay), our club decided to send club member, Gary Risley, out to Wisconsin to look the groomer over and also authorized him to bring it back to NY, if it lived up to its billing. Once Gary looked at the machine and talked to the club members that maintained the groomer, he had every confidence that it was very well taken care of and in even better condition than anticipated. So, he brought it home to our trails and the groomer guys can't wait to start using it on our trails.

Currently, the club has our 1993 Sno-Plane groomer up for sale and we have listed the groomer, and the drag that goes with it, for \$20,000. We've had some inquiries on it from other clubs from as far away as Minnesota and as close as Utica, NY but, no firm offers on it, as yet.

## Federation News:

Thanks to a small grant that was awarded, the Chautauqua County Federation of Snowmobile Clubs now has a website, all its own: [www.sledchautauqua.com](http://www.sledchautauqua.com) Many thanks to Paul Weatherlow and his son for all their hard work creating the great site and content. The highlight of this site (besides information and links to all the county clubs and more) is that it will have an interactive snowmobile trail map on it. For example, if you go to the interactive map page of the site and hover your cursor over the town of Cassadaga, it will highlight all the local businesses that advertise on our county trail map. Check it out...there's a small demo of this on the site right now. The whole county map will be on there, as soon as it is published and back from the printer's. The Federation wants to make sure that the most up-to-date trail and advertising information is shown on the interactive map. The 2009-2010 season county snowmobile trail map should be back from the printer's at the end of November and in club member's hands by mid-December, before the trails open.

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## **Federation News (continued from page 1):**

Thank you to Fred Crocut, snowmobiler and member of the Chautauqua County Legislature, for coordinating the Annual Legislator's Breakfast at Webb's in Mayville. Cathy Young and representatives from the DMV, NY State Park Police, Chautauqua County Sherriff's office and representatives from all the snowmobile clubs in our county met to discuss snowmobile issues. This annual breakfast meeting allows snowmobilers to talk to representatives from the different groups, so that we can work to all be on the same page. Items, such as; multiple stops on the same trail for checking of registrations, etc. were discussed with law enforcement. The different law enforcement agency's said that were trying to improve communications among themselves, so that there wouldn't be so much overlap of patrols and checkpoints, etc.

## **NYSSA News:**

Nearly 80% of all snowmobile trails in New York State are located on private lands. Without the generous support of thousands of private landowners across the state and hundreds across the county, there would be no snowmobile trail system for wintertime enjoyment.

Snowmobiling is a family activity which provides a measurable boost to the local economy during the winter months.

The landowner, when giving permission to a snowmobile club, continues all rights of ownership of the land the trail is on. The landowner is simply allowing the local club seasonal use of a specific portion of the landowner's property for a snowmobile trail.

Clubs seeking landowner permission for a trail are requesting permission for seasonal snowmobile use, not for other trail uses.

By giving permission for seasonal access to the club, the landowner is protected by the provisions of the General Obligations law. The incorporated snowmobile club assumes the responsibility for the condition of the snowmobile trail. Its liability insurance policy as part of the New York State Snowmobile Association (NYSSA) protects the club for its trail maintenance actions and protects the landowner that gives permission for the trail.

After consulting the landowner, the club may install bridges and culverts, open and close gates, remove brush, install signs, and groom the trail according to his or her wishes. The club will work with the landowner to provide the safest trail possible for use on the landowner's property.

Landowner generosity is the foundation of the statewide system that provides over \$850 million annually to the state and local economy

## **Trail News:**

Bow season is already in full swing and shotgun season opens on November 21st, but trail work has been proceeding, especially on bridges. Bridge re-decking took place on the bridge at the bottom of the steep hill on the Witch Kitch Trail recently and just this past weekend, the bridge at the Christmas Tree Farm, on trail #1 in Kennedy, which was completely re-built and also a bridge on the railbed in Gerry. Many thanks to the club members who helped with these projects.



**Bridge completely re-built on trail #1,  
at the Christmas Tree Farm, in  
Kennedy, corner of Rte 62 and 394**

On Saturday morning after the legislator's meeting in Mayville, Doug Mann, Bob Volpe and Dave Robbins stopped over to inspect the Mill Creek bridge on Maloy's property. *The good news:* Doug Odie, from Odie's Excavating, has been there and added a significant amount of fill to both sides of the bridge, the approaches are now much wider and safer. Many thanks to Doug for his time and efforts, it made a great improvement to this popular bridge. The Ellery Sno-Cruiser's have also purchased two gates, with locks, to be installed on the bridge at the Maloy's request, due to four wheeler traffic. *The bad news:* found that about 80% of the carriage bolts have become loose and several have lost the washer and nut into the creek. We need to go down there some time while the water is low and replace the washers with lock washers and tighten the nuts up. An extension ladder will come in handy. The bridge has a very significant sway as you walk across it, hopefully tightening the nuts will take care of it.

Roger tenPas and Pat Moss got the portable bridge across the creek below the Ellington Rod & Gun Club set back in for the season. The bridge is now set in a new location and needs both approach ramps built new. Both approaches need to be 8' x 8' in size. If this doesn't get done this week before opening day of shotgun season, it will have to be done the week the trails open in December, after hunting season.

Dave Robbins reports that he will be working this week on putting up the snow fence and signs along the pond at Tri-James near the Mill Creek bridge, to keep sleds away from the pond.

Club trail coordinator, Don Cornell worked with Warren Kinney, Joe Finch, and Tim Shields this past Saturday on the Goodwin's Landing bridge on Trail #1 between Kennedy and Randolph. On Sunday Don built a new bridge on the Witch Kitch trail. Don also reported that he spoke to Chris Risley on Saturday night and Chris said that if he could not obtain access to a donated excavator, as previously thought, he was going to go ahead and rent one to get going on the new Sinclairville village trail, plus the culvert pipe repairs needed on the rail bed in Gerry.

**Trail News continued from page 3**

**Good News !!!!** Another bridge project has been completed...one of the rail bed bridges was widened thanks to club members John Simons, Lance Hedlund, Bob Volpe, Pat Barker, Jim Eberly, Doug Mann and project coordinator, Dave Robbins, for helping to complete the rail bed bridge project near Gerry this past Sunday morning. Herb Best is going to excavate around the new bridge along the rail bed today and create an approach to the bridge.



At left, bridge that was re-decked and widened on the rail bed in Gerry, adjacent to Rte 60 (trail C1D), the bridge is now over 12 feet wide

Signs from the NYSSA bulk sign order have been received by the club and are located at the groomer barn on Waterman Road. Voss Signs has completely re-vamped their signs and they are awesome this year. The signs are still black on a yellow background and still on vinyl, but the background now appears to be fully 3M reflective, which is super reflective in daylight and shines like a beacon at night under headlights.

The club has purchased 500 trail sign posts which will be delivered to the groomer barn on Waterman Road on November 18th. These posts are from a company in Olean and will be bundled in groups of 25 posts, they are 1 3/8" square, treated hard wood. already pointed on one end and 6 feet in length. Many thanks to Ray Head for letting us know about this super deal on these great stakes..!

If you would like to help work on the trails or are aware of any trail issues, please come to a club meeting or contact club Trail Coordinator, Don Cornell at (716) 962-8330 or via email at: [dcornell@blwholesale.com](mailto:dcornell@blwholesale.com)



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## MORE NYSSA NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Snowmobilers Praise APA for Trails Guidelines Approval

November 13, 2009, Long Lake, NY - The New York State Snowmobile Association (NYSSA) applauded the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) for approving the APA/DEC Interagency snowmobile trail guidelines during yesterday's APA meeting. Following Thursday's presentation to the State Lands Committee, the committee approved a motion recommending approval by the APA Board. The APA resolution finds the guidelines consistent with the State Land Master Plan (ASLMP) for the Adirondack Park.

"The APA action has finally allowed the UMP process to resume," said Dave Perkins, NYSSA Trails Coordinator. Perkins said that the guidelines include prescriptions for trail class designations, trail widths, and maintenance activities. The guidelines represent years of work that brought stakeholders together to seek solutions to issues and concerns about snowmobile trails. Perkins praised the efforts of APA project associate Walt Linck, and Karyn Richards of the DEC, for hammering out the details in the guidelines.

"Along with APA and DEC staff, representatives from the snowmobile community and environmental groups spent time walking trails during 'field trips'," Perkins said. It was during these trips that solutions to issues were identified, according to Perkins. The guidelines also address the use of tracked groomers, and off-season maintenance.

Speaking during the public comment portion of Friday's meeting, NYSSA president Mike Fischer commended the APA commissioners for striking a balance between the stakeholders. Fischer said that while logistical and safety concerns remain from NYSSA's perspective, the APA action gives snowmobile clubs a way to move forward. "We can start to move the UMPs forward," Fischer said, adding "that process will be where the rubber meets the road."

Dan Plumley, Director of Conservation Programs for PROTECT the Adirondacks, and Neil Woodworth, Executive Director of the Adirondack Mountain Club, joined Fischer in praising the progress made on the snowmobile guidelines. "We commend all the hard work that the agency and DEC staff did on the guidance," Woodworth said, adding "we support the realignment of snowmobile trails to achieve both safe riding conditions, a safe and enjoyable riding experience for snowmobilers, but also maintaining the wild forest character."

Plumley said "We share the chairman's interest to see issues moved off the table, and we all want to see progress on critical policy issues that have been hanging fire for some time before this agency."

Woodworth also indicated the Adirondack Mountain Club would support revisions to the SLMP, "to redefine trail maintenance" based on the provisions approved Friday. He added that "overall, it's a very good policy." APA commissioner Bill Booth voiced his concern about whether the guidelines comply with the SLMP, but did say that he was in favor of the guidelines, stating "I think this document is a positive step." APA chair Curt Stiles, responding to the SLMP issue, said he thought "the interpretation is sufficient to find it compliant."

Founded in 1975, NYSSA is the voice of more than 100,000 snowmobilers in New York State, and provides support for the 230 local clubs maintaining over 10,000 miles of local snowmobile and multiuse trails. Visit NYSSA online at [www.nysnowmobiler.com](http://www.nysnowmobiler.com).

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# Events Calendar 2009

**Club and Federation meetings are open to all who are interested in attending.**

Friday, November 27, 2009: *Youth & Adult Snowmobile Safety Course* at the Cassadaga Legion, 228 Maple Ave., Cassadaga, NY. Any child that is 10 years old (as of the date of the class) may attend. This is an official, approved New York State Safety Course and those students who pass the written test will receive their Snowmobile Safety Card from New York State. Please contact course instructor, Marvin Cummings, by phone at (716) 753-4929 or by email at: Cummings@sheriff.us to register and for more details. Lunch will be available for a fee.

**Wednesday, December 2nd - Club Meeting - Backyard Bar & Grill at 7:30PM**

Saturday, December 5, 2009: *Youth & Adult Snowmobile Safety Course* - from 8:30AM to 4:30PM at the Fire Hall in Gerry, NY. Any child that is 10 years old (as of the date of the class) may attend. This is an official, approved New York State Safety Course and those students who pass the written test will receive their Snowmobile Safety Card from New York State. Pre-registration is required, as each parent or guardian must provide signed permission. Please call course instructor, Jim France, at 386-3635 or contact him via email at: francefamily4@gmail.com to register and for more details. This course is completely FREE and a pizza lunch will be served courtesy of our club, Lake Effect Trailbreakers.

Tuesday, December 8th - *County Federation Meeting* - Stockton Fire Hall - 7:30 PM

Saturday, December 12, 2008 - ADIRONDACK SNOWMOBILE SHOOT-OUT - Manufacturer's Challenge at the White Otter Fish & Game Club Property. Turn at the blinking light on Route 28, parking .2 miles on the left. Gates open 8am, first heat at 10am. Admission charged. Sponsored by SnowWeek publications.

December 12-13, 2008 - 33rd ANNUAL SNODEO - On Friday morning, watch the exciting Snowmobile Manufacturer's Challenge in Woodgate, NY, and then Snodeo will be open 3pm-7pm. On Saturday, Snodeo will be open from 10am until 5pm. There will be seminars scheduled, and the 120cc races for our next generation of snowmobilers. Top off the evening with our spectacular fireworks display. On Saturday, enjoy the 7th Annual Central Adirondack Vintage Snowmobile Show from 10am to 4pm at the George T. Hildebrant Recreation Center, then on Sunday, Snodeo will be opened from 10am until 2pm, with the snowmobile raffle drawing at 1pm. Call the Town of Webb Visitor Center at (315) 369-6983.

**Wednesday, December 16th - Club Meeting - Backyard Bar & Grill at 7:30PM**

December 23, 2009 - Trails open at dusk in Chautauqua County

Tuesday & Wednesday - December 29 and 30, 2009 - *Youth Snowmobile Safety Course* - Where: Mayville Community Building (upstairs from Fire Hall) Time: 9am - Noon (both days) - No Pre-Registration necessary, must attend both days. Youth must be 10 yrs old as of December 30, 2009. Instructor: Martin (Marty) Bova - (716) 269-4229.

**Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 - Club Meeting - Backyard Bar & Grill at 7:30PM**

Tuesday, January 12th - *County Federation Meeting* - Stockton Fire Hall - 7:30 PM

**Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010 - Club Meeting - Backyard Bar & Grill at 7:30PM**

Sunday, February 7, 2010 - *Annual All County Ride-In* at the Stockton Firemen's Grounds - Starts at 11:00AM - Free Food and Groomer Rides courtesy of the Snowmobiles Clubs of Chautauqua County

February 13-15, 2010 - *Ice Castle Extravaganza* - Mayville, NY

March 27-28, 2010 - *Rock Maple Racing Sno-X* at Peek n Peak



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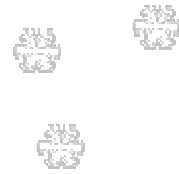
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**If you know of any more, please email the club at: [info@trailbreakers.com](mailto:info@trailbreakers.com)**

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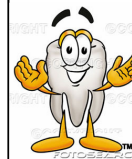
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### Lake Effect Trailbreakers Snowmobile Club Officers 2009-2010

President – Doug Mann – 499-6031  
Vice-President – Bob Volpe – 287-2075  
Secretary – Dave Robbins – 962-8380  
Treasurer – Dianne Cornell – 962-8330

Visit our website: [www.trailbreakers.com](http://www.trailbreakers.com)