

FRONTIER SNO RIDERS

FRONTIER TIMES



Volume 12, Issue 6

February 2016

No Snow!

What a pickle for winter sports this season, without the benefit of snowfall, the snowmobile trails cannot open.

The adage "If you build it, they will come." is not working out this year. The trail system is ready to go, signs are up, new bridges built, steep hills graded, and trails widened. Only one ingredient is

missing, snow.

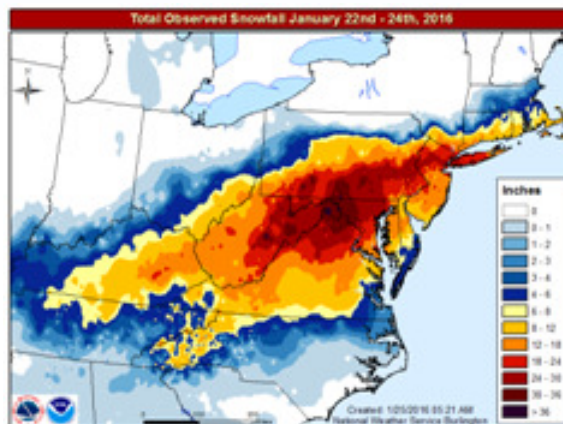
Unfortunately the Club cannot provide snow, this is beyond our control. If only we could order up a big snow storm, perhaps the riding would be great. Many a snowmobiler has found themselves doing the snow dance in hopes of invoking some power to bring on the fluffy white



Screen shot courtesy Intellicast Weather of the February 2nd-3rd snowstorm.

stuff snowmobiler dreams are made of.

This season nothing has helped the cause. Every storm has completely missed the Frontier Sno Riders. Both pics tell the same sad story. Let us hope the bad luck ends soon before the season.



Screen shot of snowfall amounts from January 22nd-23rd snowstorm. Courtesy NOAA.

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Connections

Frontier Sno Riders
PO Box 133
Duanesburg, NY 12056

Pres Chad Saddle mire
V.P. Tom Rulison
Tres. Tammy Saddle mire
Sec. Bob Meyer

Newsletter Editor
Joel Church
E-mail:
cato79@peoplepc.com

On the web at:
www.frontiersno.com



Frontier Sno Riders



February 2016

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|-----|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Club Meeting | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 Valentine's Day | 15 Presidents'Day | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Schoharie County Mtg 4pm Sharon Springs |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | | | | | |

March 2016

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------|-----|-----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 Daylight Saving Time Begins | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 St Patrick's Day | 18 | 19 |
| 20 First day of spring | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 Easter | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

Club News

2016 NYSSA forum is in Lake Placid April 29th to May 1st. Early registration open until March 1st.

Randall Implements is offering the Club assistance with moving our heavy equipment around, purchasing, or renting machinery and buying parts at cost. They are impressed with the way the trails have improved over the last couple of years.

Tammy and Chad thank the Club for the support during the loss of Tammy's mother.

Feb 10th is next club meeting at the Maple on the Lake, East Berne, 7pm. Hope snowfall does not prevent you from attending!

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Trail Log

East Berne - Brian Buchardt - Gerry and I worked on Bombi 8 more hrs today getting tracks and the other sprocket installed, and put on new hydraulic couplings on for drag. Just have to tighten one track a little bit more. Melissa stopped by with cookies and helped out for a little while. She lightened the mood for sure. There was negative words last week for sure working on these tracks. PB has more work to be done.

Sloansville - Laudy Hoyenga - Nothing much happening on the trails. A few signs could use some straightening. Schoharie County annual club meeting will be held Feb. 20th at 4 pm at Stone House Restaurant Sharon Springs. Hopefully some NYSSA rep will be there. Have not spent much on grooming fuel. Would like to see PB 70 in action.

Mariaville - Jerry Schoening - Trails are closed and waiting for snow. Sorry.

Burtonsville - John Scrima - The State land needs some big trees and then stumps removed. The logging area is tore up, use caution because of the ruts.

Knox/Wright - Ron Shultes - Turn on C7B near Dr Road widened. Town of Knox dumped a load of dirt at the ditch where C7B crosses Street Road to help smooth the transition.

Township - Skip Murrell - Trail S70 in good shape, just waiting for snow.

Esperance - Tom Rulison - C7E east to Cooley Heights has been widened and cleared.

Duanesburg/Delanson - Aaron Nickloy - New reroute at Ash Lane, please stay on marked trail. Use caution at the Weaver Rd intersection with Rt 7, lots of auto traffic here.

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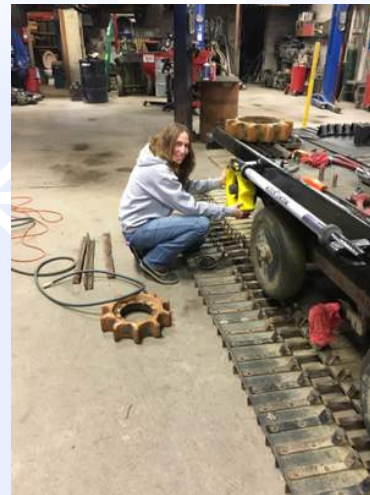
Trail Boss Pics



Veronica and Pat Stempel doing trail work after high winds on trail S-72 in East Berne.



New bridge frame going in on new C7E reroute behind Hannaford in Esperance. Photo by Casey.



Melissa Rafferty helping put new sprocket on the Bombi at Karl Pritchard's shop. Photo by Brian.

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Snowmobile Group Thanks Farmers

The New York State Snowmobile Association extends a very heartfelt thank you to the thousands of farmers who each year open their land up to allow snowmobile trails to traverse their property. Without your participation New York would not have a statewide system of snowmobile trails that spans 10,500 miles to all parts of Upstate New York. Eighty percent of our trail network crosses private land and most of which are clearly agricultural lands.

There are three components that make this partnership work better in New York than anywhere else in the country.

The first is that New York is one of several states, that provides a land owner protection for opening up their property to certain recreational activities. Informally known as the "Recreational Use Statute" the New York General Obligations Law (GOL) Section 9-103 provides in part: "an owner, lessee or occupant of premises, whether or not posted as provided in section 11-2111 of the environmental conservation law, owes no duty to keep the premises safe for entry or use by others for....snowmobile operation, or to give warning of any hazardous condition or use of or structure or activity on such premises to persons entering for such purposes;"

There are exceptions to this shield but basically it



makes it very difficult to successfully bring suit against a property owner when the person has been involved in a snowmobile accident.

Next, a statewide liability insurance policy covers the landowners of all maintained trails in the state. The New York State Snowmobile Association in partnership with the State Office of Parks which has stewardship responsibility for the snowmobile program annually acquires a general liability insurance policy with limits of \$2 million per incident and \$3 million in aggregate to apply to all trails. This policy protects all the snowmobile clubs that perform trail maintenance activities and most importantly covers every landowner where a trail may cross their property. Frequently, the clubs provide a landowner with a certificate of "additionally insured." These certificates are not required for the landowner to be covered. The simple fact that the trail is there, covers the landowner. While the GOL can make it hard to prevail in a case, it can't stop someone from suing. That is why our insurance steps in to be the first line of defense in these cases. Our insurance company uses specialized counsel familiar with snowmobile suits and with the provisions and application of the GOL.

Finally, local snowmobile clubs are well organized, well trained and sensitive to the wishes of landowners. Every club within New York that maintains trails has by-laws, is most likely incorporated as a not for profit, and meets regularly. Each fall they pursue land owner permission to establish trails, sign those trails prior to the season and once the winter comes maintain those trails. *(Continued on page 6)*



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Trail Boss Contacts

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|----------|
| Brian Buchardt | East Berne | 872-1878 |
| Ron Shultes | Knox | 872-2526 |
| Laudy Hoyenga | Sloansville | 868-2092 |
| Aaron Nickloy | Duanesburg | 844-6820 |
| Jerry Schoening | Mariaville | 864-5576 |
| John Scrima | Burtonsville | 875-6078 |
| Tom Rulison | Esperance | 728-9551 |
| Skip Murrell | Township | |

Come to the club meeting and check out the selection of club shirts and hats that are for sale.

Join Where You Ride

Another way you can help improve the trails you like to ride is to join the club in that area.

You often see donation boxes at local businesses for grooming. Joining the club is just like putting money in the donation box. That money you spend on club membership goes toward the grooming of trails just like the money in the donation box! Besides you also get to say you are a member of that club.

Additionally, they strive to make the trails “disappear” at the end of each snowmobiling season by removing signs and any debris they find left behind by others.

We have had an ongoing commitment to supporting our landowners. This year we hope to approach the Legislature to support an act that will provide those who open their land to a snowmobile trail some relief from NY state taxes in the form of an income tax credit. Not an easy lift, but a worthwhile effort on behalf of those who so generously open their land. Our goal is to ensure that snowmobiling is not only fun for the snowmobile rider but is not a burden to those who willingly open their property to this sport that brings \$868 million dollars to the Upstate New York economy.

Have a question or an issue that your local snowmobile club can't answer or resolve? Feel free to give me a call at 888-624-3849, ext. 104. On behalf of the 60,000 members of NYSSA, thank you once again for your generosity in opening your land for a snowmobile trail.

(reprinted from New York Farm Bureau Grassroots, January 2016 issue)

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Trail Boss Pics-Delanson



This new bridge spans the ditch off Cole Rd in Delanson.

This new bridge crosses the Normanskill above the old bridge. Be sure to follow the signs to avoid using the old bridge.



From the bottom of the hill, near Cole Rd, all the way up to Acorn Drive, trail C7E has been widened to Class A width. Many tight turns were removed as well.

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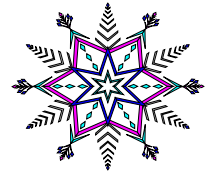
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Club Meeting
February 10, 7pm
Maple Inn, East Berne

Snowmobilers Care About Our Environment



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