

# FRONTIER SNO RIDERS

# FRONTIER TIMES



Volume 8, Issue 8

April 2012

## Trail Grant Season Gets Underway

Just what are these things called grants that we hear about at club meetings and in the newsletter all the time? Why are they getting a lot of attention now?

Grants are money given to Trail Maintenance Entities (clubs) to maintain the trails within each club's area of responsibility.

The grants are disbursed from local sponsors who oversee the different clubs within their boundaries. Sponsors can be municipalities such as a county, town, or an association made up from a number of clubs within a county.



The grants are funded by money taken from the snowmobile registration fees. When you register your snowmobile, you are putting money into maintaining the trails. The more people who register, the more money that goes into the trail funding grants. This means you get better trails to ride on.



New York State Department of Motor Vehicles collects the registration fees and turns most of it over to New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historical Preservation. OPRHP is more commonly known as Parks and Rec.

Parks and Rec sets up and administers the trail grant program. They determine how much money goes to each club based on trail mileage and classification of the trails. Some clubs receive more money due to their location in high snowfall areas. The grants are then given to each sponsor, who in turn awards the grants to the clubs. Some sponsors will have

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### *Connections*

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# April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 E. Berne Adopt-A-Hwy
8 Easter	9	10	11 Club meeting at the Elk's Lodge, 7pm Esperance	12	13	14 Duanesburg Adopt-A-Hwy
15	16	17	18	19	20 NYSSA Forum Lake Placid	21 NYSSA Forum Lake Placid
22 NYSSA Forum Lake Placid	23	24	25	26	27	28 End of Season Dinner
29	30 Trail Reroute change deadline					

# May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Mother's Day	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day	29	30	31 Phase I Grant deadline		

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## Club News

**Adopt a Highway** roadside cleanups are scheduled for April 7th East Berne Mobilmart and April 14th Duanesburg Mobilmart. Both set to start 9-10am. Come and join us for coffee and doughnuts at the start.

All Skandic groomers have been readied for storage, with fuel drained and stored inside.

The New Holland groomer has been moved to storage inside as well.

70% grant funding has been received from Schenectady, Schoharie counties and Town of Knox. Still awaiting payment from Montgomery County and Town of Berne.

The Club is looking at the possibility of helping the Town of Florida club by taking over trail responsibility of C7B from Merry Rd down to Lower Shellstone Rd. This is a very hilly section and is easier to groom with a Skandic than a class A groomer.

Frontier hopes to award a number of scholarships to Berne-Knox-Westerlo and Duanesburg this year.

Chad Saddlemire reports that the Super Raffle ticket sales have gone very well this season. Well ahead of last year.

The Club is looking into being part of the upcoming Memorial Day parades around the area. If you are interested in participating, please contact the Club.

**Club Elections** this coming club meeting at Esperance Elk's Lodge, April 11, 7pm. Come early, seating is limited. Only members can vote.

## Trail Log

East Berne - Brian Buchardt reports all signs have been taken down, orange fences are up and repaired two gates from angry hunters last fall that couldn't get to their big buck between Cole Hill Rd and Saddlebrook Lane.

Knox - Ron Shultes says all signs have been removed along with rope fence at the airport. Gates have been closed near pipeline and town parks.

Esperance - Tom Rulison checks in with all signs are down and Laudy has taken down signs in Sloansville.

Duanesburg/Delanson - Rich Valletta has all signs down and gates closed on Mott Rd. Kiosk removed before frost went out of ground.

Burtonsville - John Scrima is in process of sign removal and should be finished soon.

Mariaville - Jerry Schoening advises he and Matt have taken down all signs. Gates near Mariaville should be closed.



*Snowmobiles launch from the starting line during the hill climb drags on March 11.*

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(continued from page 1 - Trail Grants )

many clubs and others only one.

Why all the attention on grants at this time? For the clubs, this is a very busy time; the end of the yearly grant cycle is here. March 31 marks the end of the snowmobile grant year. This is when all work logs are closed out, meaning any work done on the trails over the past 12 months, must have been logged to be counted for the grants. Any work done after March 31 counts toward the next year.



OPRHP oversees grant program.

Phase III of the grant application, Post Project submissions are due at the local sponsor by May 15. The local sponsor will review the submission made by the clubs and forward them on to Parks and Rec if there are no issues before June 1.

Next up is Phase I of the grant application, Prior Approval. Any new trails, trail reroutes or changes to a trail's classification are submitted now and due by June 15. Again the local sponsor reviews the submission and forwards it on to Parks and Rec before July 1.

Phase II is the actual Trail Funding application submitted by the local sponsor to Parks and Rec. There will be supporting documentation from the clubs to justify the grants. The application is due by September 1.

The disbursement of the grant funding is done in two phases, the first being 70% of the grant award usually made at the beginning of the snow season. The second is 30% and will generally come in

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## Support Your Club — Merchandise Available

The Club is now selling baseball caps with the Club's logo on it. Come in 5 colors; Black, Navy, Royal, Red & Camo. Each sells for \$13. Sweatshirts sell for \$20, knit caps (navy or black) sell for \$12. All available at Club meetings. Get'em quick! (new shirts are now available with new logo!)



## Maple Ski Ridge Hill climb + Snocross Photo Review

Plenty of help arrived on Sunday, Ron, Matt, Chris, Gabrielle, and Brian check out the Frontier booth.



Frontier had a number of members entered in the hill climb drags and snocross over the March 10-11 week-end.



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Chad reported a large number of shirts and raffle tickets were sold over the weekend.



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(continued from page 4 - Trail Grants )

the late summer or early fall after the season has ended.

This is done to allow for seasonal weather changes that affect grooming. For example, a club received the 70% award in January and then all the snow melted and no more grooming occurred that season. After all the work logs were turned in, it was found that the club had spent 15% more than the 70% award covered, for a total of 85% of the total award. The club would receive 15% of the remaining 30% award.

In another example, a club had a very active winter, with a lot of grooming. The club spent the entire 70% award and had to use reserve funds to keep up with the grooming. Now at the end of the season the club finds it had spent enough to receive the entire 30% award in the fall. They will likely have spent more but will not receive more than the award.



GPS records the trails



Funds for grooming

Now imagine this whole process duplicated 5 times, that is what the Frontier Sno Riders deal with each season. There are 5 local sponsors, including the counties of Montgomery,

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Schenectady, Schoharie, and the towns of Berne and Knox.

Each local sponsor files an application for Frontier because our trails pass through each municipality. Not only that, Montgomery County has an association act as the local sponsor, the Mohawk Valley Snowmobile Club Inc.

Parks and Rec is looking to streamline the grant process by making most of it computer based, all trails recorded by GPS, automated online work logs, and tracking of groomers. Every bit helps, but change takes time.

NYSSA is looking to take charge of the grant process which could change how the whole process is handled.

One thing is for sure, it will change and we need to be ready for whatever happens.



Frontier grant funding sponsor areas.

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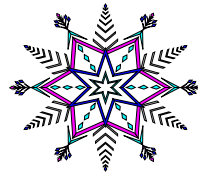
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**NYSSA NEWS** Hi all, GREAT NEWS! We received checks from the BRP Million \$ Club Support Program at the NYSSA Office! Below is a list of clubs and the amounts of the checks we received. Frontier Sno Riders, Inc. \$40. Thanks goes out to the 4 members who made the effort for the club! We must work on the other 328...

**Notice:** Adopt A Highway, 9am on April 7 East Berne Mobilmart and on April 14 Duanesburg Mobilmart, doughnuts and coffee. Please come out and help, we need **you**.

## Trail Boss Contacts

Brian Buchardt	Berne	872-1878
Ron Shultes	Knox	872-2526
Tom Rulison	Esperance	875-9229
Rich Valletta	Duanesburg	895-2425
Jerry Schoening	Mariaville	864-5576
John Scrima	Burtonsville	875-6078



## Think Snow!

Well keep it in mind for  
next season...



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### From the President's desk:

I have declined the nomination for president for a 4<sup>th</sup> term mainly to step back from the responsibilities and let another take the helm.

Being president requires a big time commitment and I believe I am due a break.

I feel now is the time for me to take a more secondary role and lend a hand rather than lead. I do plan to remain active with the club, you can expect the newsletter to continue as well as my work on the club mapping. I will also continue to work on the trail grant phase I portion, GPS.

I am happy to see a number of new members stepping up to help guide the Club. This rotation of members is very much needed and welcomed. It is my hope that those currently involved with the Club, remain so, regardless the outcome of the elections. Their wisdom and knowledge are the key to the club's success.

The Club has done well and is situated to continue into the future, mostly due to the hard work of past executive boards and dedicated members.

Both candidates for president have many years of experience leading the club, either as president or vice president. Please come to the Club meeting and help choose the next executive board.

Joel Church  
President, Frontier Sno Riders, Inc.