

Hilton Sno-Flyers News • December 1, 2009

Club President - Rich Manley

The 2009-2010 riding season is less than a month away. Trails in Western New York could be open on December 23rd if mother nature supplies us with enough snow. You may be wondering why December 23rd? Much of the land that is opened up through the generosity of landowners is also hunted, and December 22 marks the end of hunting season. When the trails are open, *Please* respect the landowners and stay on the trail. Follow the marked trail as there have been changes throughout our trail system. At this time there is still a section of trail that may have to be rerouted, or even closed. Our trail system is fragile.

The next Club meeting will be on December 16 and will be our annual Christmas celebration. Martino's has stepped up again this year to supply food for the event. Any door prizes that have not been claimed from the Snow Show will be given away during our 50/50 raffle, and anyone is welcome to bring in additional door prizes. The Club made a generous donation to the Hilton Food Pantry before Thanksgiving, and we'd like to have an even larger donation before Christmas. Please bring a couple of non-perishable food items to the meeting.

An important order of business will be brought up for a vote at the December meeting. The Board of Directors has found a suitable location to store all three groomers, supplies and equipment in the off season, as well as serve as a groomer barn in the Southern section of our trails. The cost to the Club would be approximately \$3000.00 annually for renting the space. I look forward to seeing many of you at the December meeting, or out on the trails this season.

Club Vice President - Tom Francis

With the start of a new season, many club events are planned. Check the club web site for more details. With this newsletter, you will find 2 NYSSA Super Raffle Tickets. The top prizes on the front of the tickets makes this very easy to sell for \$5.00. We hope you would consider buying the tickets or sell them to a friend. The club receives \$2.50 of the \$5.00. This makes for a great fund raiser. We have set a goal to sell a thousand tickets. The sold tickets and money need to be returned by March 17th, 2010 at a club meeting or by mail to: Peter D'orazio, 39 Chimney Sweep Lane, Rochester NY 14612
THINK SNOW AND LOTS OF IT !!!! - Tom

A message from your Treasurer - John Miller

Winter is coming and we have had quite a flurry of activity so far this year. Just a brief summary of some items of interest when it comes to this clubs finances:

We had a successful Applefest with the help of many, and our club brought in an income of approximately \$5,400. Have you seen the new maps? They look great and were printed at Diamond Packaging and Finished at Mercury Print. Income from map advertising came in at about \$6,650. Our Snow Show was a great success, the dealers that I talked to thought we had a great turnout and made out well. This activity really promotes the sport, I loved the Vintage Sled competition. The Snow show brought in \$455. At the show the 50/50 raffle generated a check for \$229 that was sent Mercy Flight, the other half went to the lucky winner from Avon - Dave Gunther who collected \$228. Memberships from the Snow Show brought in a \$3,600 deposit. Generous donations from members to the Groomer Fund have been \$904 this year including the meeting raffles. This income is needed as the cost to run this club is also significant. Included in this mailing are raffle tickets that we would ask you to sell for the club or purchase yourselves.

Now we are getting ready for another season full of white fun! So far this year, in preparation for this winter we have spent \$5,300 on Groomer Maintenance and repairs. Countless hours of work in the summer were spent getting our 3 groomers ready for the winter, Dan Gurbacki and many other members are to thank for that. We have our third groomer now, the Piston Bully 100 with a new mountain master drag which will be seen on the north trails this winter. Purchasing this groomer brought us in comfortably under budget by close to \$16,000. With some of that savings the board of directors are now looking at renting space for our groomers and equipment. Improvements on the trails have been made already in the north and new supplies of signs and stakes are ready for installation. These improvements and supplies have cost \$3100 to date. I have only touched on the financial aspects of this club, we are healthy and at the same time carefully manage the clubs needs.

The Hilton Sno-Flyers club has grown significantly in membership and volunteerism. We are preparing to do the best we can this winter to have a great trail system for everyone's use. We have many committed members who continually step up to the plate. There were also other activities that members supported such as parades, Adopt a Highway work details, Safety courses at the show, the list goes on. I would like to thank all the volunteers that help keep this club moving forward and invite others to join us if you have the desire. - John

Board Member - Dan Gurbacki - Groomer update

For those of you that have attended the first couple of HSF club meetings, you've heard about all the work that was completed on our PB-240 as well as our new PB -100 grooming machine. I want to personally thank all the HSF members that helped out throughout the summer. We never could have accomplished as much as we did without your help. The season is fast approaching us and we still have some loose ends to tie up with respect to groomer PM'S. There will be 1 or 2 work details to finish them up. Please keep an eye on the website for scheduled work details.
Dan Gurbacki - 469-6789 cell

Honorary Board Member and Past President - Jim Meyer

November 8th, 2009 the Hilton Sno-Flyers held their 13th Annual Snowmobile Show at Doan Dodge Superstore. We started with 6 less vendors than previous years. This year we added a Vintage Snowmobile Show with trophies. It was a great success that we plan to have this in future years. The comments received from the vendors and spectators were all positive. Most vendors remarked that sales were up over previous years for them. It also appeared to me that there were more spectators than normal. The Snowmobile Youth Safety Course had 45+ students for the one day, 8 hour course. All the students passed. I'd like to thank the officers and directors of the club for allowing us to continue this show. It isn't necessarily a profit maker for the club, but it does spread the goodwill of snowmobiling and the Hilton Sno-Flyers. Thanks also to the many volunteers from setup to takedown. Special thanks to Doan Dodge Superstore for allowing us to hold our show there again.

Board Member - Marty Sauer - Tucker Trail Groomer Ready for the Season

On Sunday, the 16th of November, the Tucker Groomer and Mogul Master drag got their pre-season maintenance. The crew of at least 10 members, including Prez. Rich M and VP Tom F, along with Dan G, the north trail guys Mike W. and Bob (Shredder) and several others of us started at 8am with coffee and some delicious breakfast pizza. When that was taken care of, we got down to business with engine and hydraulic oil changes, about a half dozen different filter changes and lots of grease. The Track tensions were set as well. The drag alone has at least 35 grease fittings. This machine is now ready to start what we hope is a great season of trail grooming.

As you may have heard already, the plan is to move this groomer from its North Groomer Barn base (near 104) to the southern trail section. The recently acquired Pisten Bully 100 and new MTN drag will be based at the north barn. The Tucker, with its rubber tracks, is road worthy and can travel to wherever it is needed. In addition, the rubber tracks are better at road crossings in the often thin snow cover of the south trail.

Thanks to all that helped to perform the grueling task of dividing an 8 piece breakfast pizza 10 ways and also doing a proper job to maintain an important piece of club equipment. Dan, thanks for bringing the rags.

Board Member - Peter D'Orazio

2010 super raffle tickets have been mailed out with this newsletter. Top prizes are 3 snowmobiles with 50 prizes total. More tickets are available at our club meeting. Only \$5.00 a chance. The drawing will be held April 17, 2010 and ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

Membership Update - Jim and Janet Howard

By the time you read this the club membership should be around 600 memberships. Thanks to the many supporters of local snowmobiling that have already renewed and I hope to see all of our past members renew again this year. Joining your local club keeps your membership dollars in our area to help improve your trails.

Renewing is easy; you can fill out the application included in this newsletter and mail it in or go to the Hilton Sno-Flyers website and follow the link to join on-line. If you join on-line and know your member number from previous years, most of your info will be pre-populated on the form. Please check it over for correctness and follow the directions to pay online electronically. Any membership or registrations questions can be directed to me by email at membership@hiltonsnoflyers.com or by phone at 585-394-0875 before 9pm 7 days a week.

As you update your info please include your email address as this is the most cost effective way to get info out to the membership. If you have not been receiving email updates from the club please contact me to get you included. I will try to keep the Hilton Sno-Flyers News email database current but we are over 1400 and I do miss some from time to time. Please feel reassured that we do not let our email database out and it is a hidden locked group. No one can email our membership without direct action from a select few of the Board of Directors.

Lots of exciting things are happening this year. Get involved with your club, attend a meeting and come out and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow snowmobile enthusiasts.