

Hilton Sno-Flyers News

December 2010

Seasons Greetings

December Club Meeting / Christmas Party... **Please RSVP to Rich Manley at president@hiltonsnoflyers.com with Christmas RSVP as a subject line and how many will be attending in the body of the email so we can let the Legion know how many will be in attendance. The Legion has a max occupancy of 150 by fire code, if we exceed this number we will have to turn people away. Bring \$3.00 to the head table to get a dinner voucher; we'll be there by 7:00. Bring some non-perishable food items, and maybe even something for a door prize.**

When my girls heard that snow was in the forecast they asked if they could ride the sleds. I told them that the ground is still pretty wet and an inch or two of snow isn't enough to keep from tearing up the yard. They're still pretty excited that the season is almost here, and I hope they can wait until December 22 to ride the trails this year. By then hunting season will be over and with enough help from the membership, the trails will all be cleared, marked and ready to ride... snow permitting. There have been several changes made to the trail recently as a result of properties changing hands or requests by the landowners. Mike Waeghe's effort with a bulldozer and several truckloads of fill should result in a smoother ride. Fred Bradshaw and a landowner with some heavy equipment have relocated a bridge and plan to move another to aid in grooming. "Dan D" has been busy marking and is looking for help in doing some more trail clearing. Jim Vink is also rerouting some trail and will have an excavator on site soon. I've mentioned four Club members, but I know that there's been plenty more involved! There's still plenty to do and another reroute is in the works for the Whittier Road area.

Most of the trail work is coordinated by the Trail Bosses who are responsible for maintaining the trail and landowner communications. The Club is looking for trail bosses in three areas; 1) North Trail, Hilton area, formerly maintained by Jeff Forberg. 2) South Trail, the Scottsville area previously maintained by Dan Gurbacki (Dan has enough to do with Groomer Operations). 3) South Trail, the Mumford area, previously maintained by Rich Manley. All three sections of the trail are established and ready for an easy hand off. While I'm on the subject of trails, another very important component - Trail Funding! Tom Francis has been doing this for a while and would like to retire after this season. If you are available to help with any of these positions within the Club, please contact any Board Member.

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Upcoming Events

- *Work detail 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month at the south groomer Barn 6pm-9pm Dan Gurbacki 469-6789*
- *34th Annual SnowDeo Dec 10-12 Old Forge NY*
- *Club Christmas Party December 15th*
- *Trail Signing Detail December 19th*
- *Club Trails Open with Snow December 22nd*

**Warning
The Trails do not
open until De-
cember 22nd.
Riding the trails
early risks clo-
sure by our land-
owners, don't be
that guy.**

The Snow Show was held on November 14th at the Doan Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep Superstore on West Ridge Road in Greece. I would like to say a big Thank You to Doan, all Club Members, Vendors and Sponsors for participating and making this a success. The DMV had a high number of registrations and promised to be back next year. Thanks to the efforts of Jim Howard, the presence of Vintage Sleds has been growing. Mark Kesselring, Chris Zigrossi and Jim Walker taught the Snowmobile Safety Course to a large class and everyone passed the exam. Jim Scheibel brought tables and chairs from the Walker Fire Department for our neighboring clubs to use. Janet Howard was busy all day at the membership table. Dan D'Urbano and Don Belluscio kept the traffic under control, with a little help from the Greece Auxiliary Police. About midway through the show, Julie Wrench took over the raffle from John Miller, and she will be bringing all unclaimed raffle prizes to the December meeting. If you have any of the Snow Show lawn signs, please bring them to the December Club meeting so we can use them for next year's show.

The December Club Meeting will be held on December 15th at the American Legion, Ferris-Goodridge Post #330, 691 Trimmer Road, Spencerport at 7:30 pm. We'd like to continue a tradition that we started a few years back and show our generosity by bringing in some non-perishable foods for the Hilton Food Pantry. There are many less fortunate than us, and we'd like to show that the snowmobile community cares. Let's make this a memorable year for the Food Drive. After a short meeting we will be recognizing all of the hard work that goes in to making a great Club by celebrating Christmas with a Steak Dinner. Sean and his crew at the Legion have put together a Steak Dinner with Salad, Potato and a roll at a cost to the members of just \$3.00 per plate (the Club is picking up the rest of the tab – where else can you get a steak dinner for \$3.00?). Please RSVP to: president@hiltonsnoflyers.net, or through the clubs web site/contact list to Rich Manley/Club President with the subject: "Christmas RSVP" and add how many will be attending. During dinner the Club will be raffling off any unclaimed door prizes from the Snow Show, any new door prizes that the membership or our sponsors bring in, and the 50/50 cash prize that's always big at the December meeting.

Mary Beth and Nick will have our complete inventory of Club clothing and merchandise available at the meeting for anyone looking for Christmas gifts for friends, family or themselves! Pete D'Orazio will have NYSSA Super Raffle tickets available to purchase/sell, and this would also be a great time to turn in the ticket stubs and money for those that you've already sold.

I haven't mentioned the Groomers and Groomer Barn because I know that Dan has a separate write up of what's going on there. I would like to say thank you to him and the others that have been at the barn on a regular basis... Dan Gurbacki, Marty and Nick Sauer, Pete D'Orazio, Tom Francis, Dan D'Urbano, and anyone else that has been there to help out!

I hope to see many of you at the December Club Meeting / Christmas Party... Please RSVP so we can let the Legion know how many will be in attendance. Bring \$3.00 to the head table to get a dinner voucher; we'll be there by 7:00. Bring some non-perishable food items, and maybe even something for a door prize.

Rich Manley – President, Hilton Sno-Flyers.

HSF 14th Annual Snowshow and Vintage Sleds

This was our second year of hosting a vintage sled show along with our Annual Snowshow. Attendance was up this year with 30 sleds but still not as many sleds as I expected or could fit inside. This is still a learning experience for me and I had no idea of the level of enthusiasm these sled owners have for (their) hobby.

Items of note for next year:

Make all participants register so I have everyone's name and address for next year.

Give out collectible participation souvenirs' to all entries.

Judging these sleds is not an easy task, it is sometimes a personal opinion that makes the difference

I hope all entrants enjoyed themselves, everyone seemed to have a good time and I know the crowd enjoyed the Vintage Sleds

Jim Howard-Membership Secretary, Hilton Sno-Flyers

The Tip of the Iceberg

As you know, most of an iceberg is below the surface. In fact, only about 11% of a floating iceberg is visible above the surface.

So why is this information in a Snowmobile club newsletter?

It is because a Snowmobile club that has in excess of 100 miles of trails is very similar to an iceberg in that what is visible is only a (small) part of the overall substance. Our trails are the visible aspect of what the club does. Behind the scenes (or below the surface) there is a tremendous amount of work being done.

Here are some examples of what I'm talking about.

You are probably aware that our Vice President, Tom Francis, takes care of the massive amount of paperwork and recordkeeping involved with the NYSSA funding of our trails. This takes a huge effort from Tom to gather work and groomer logs and compile it for submission. If there are any questions or if clarification is needed, Tom needs to contact those involved and get the facts straight. The State (NYSOPHP) requires that information regarding trail work, grooming and other trail related efforts, be reported in a specific way. If anything is not to the correct format, it's bounced back. All of this work is critical since it involves the major portion of the club income, to pay for maintaining trails and for grooming. This reporting work is not all that is involved. A plan needs to be submitted prior to the start of the season, outlining any changes to be made and improvements that are to take place to the trail itself. All Trail Bosses submit a 3 page report to Tom so that he can compile an overall plan. If the plan is not approved, changes need to be made and then it's re-submitted.

Next we have the trail itself. Mike Waeghe, the Trails Coordinator and Jim Meyer as South Trail Boss, are in charge of our trails. This involves securing permissions from as many as one hundred Landowners and staying in touch with them. Also involved is organizing work parties to handle preparation and improvements. These work parties frequently involve machinery and materials. These also need to be coordinated. Some landowners want as few changes made to their land as possible. Others allow bridges to be constructed and culverts to be installed. The club needs to abide the wishes of the Landowners.

There are approximately 20 trail bosses who Sign their section of the trail and do prep and maintenance, including pre season brush clearing.

Marking of the trail is a crucial aspect of any snowmobile trail system. The "State" has specific guidelines to follow for uniformity and overall safety. Trail signing workshops are required for all trail bosses. These workshops are presented by volunteer instructors from NYSOPHP or by Mike and Jim. A big effort is made to have our whole trail marked correctly and uniformly. During the season, any signs that are knocked down or blown over need to be re-installed. Slight changes or resigning sometimes becomes necessary. All trail bosses regularly check their trail sections to be sure that all is ok.

Now to the groomers.

You know that we have 3 class A groomers. These are full sized diesel powered machines that will pull a full sized, 8'wide x 16' long "drag". There are 2 German built Pisten Bully's and one American built Tucker. The drags are all American made. Keeping these groomers in top shape and ready to work in the harshest conditions is a big job. Our Groomer coordinator, Dan Gurbacki believes in preventative maintenance. Any breakdown that happens out on the trail involves very cold and hard work as well as interrupting the grooming work that was being done. We do not want a groomer to be down during the season. Dan follows the manufacturer's checklists along with the common sense that he has practiced for years. Getting these machines ready to do their job is a lot of work. The groomer barn, new to us this season, is coming along very nicely. It provides a secure, dry, well lit environment to work on and store our equipment. We also store most of our other club equipment there. The club also owns 2 trail maintenance vehicles, 3 trailers and quite an assortment of tools. All of this requires maintenance and repairs. There have been bi-weekly Wednesday night work details for the past year. A small group of dedicated members have helped Dan to be sure that when the snow flies, we're ready.

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Last but not least, we have members and officers doing important work in various ways. John Miller the Treasurer handles all the financial dealings and bill paying of the club. Jim and Janet Howard are the Membership coordinators. They process most of the 1100+ memberships. Jim and Janet represent the club at area snowmobile events to try to increase the membership and promote the club. Jim is now the editor of the newsletter. Rich Manley, our President, spends hours of his time dealing with important club and landowner/trail issues. Mark Kesselring is the club Safety Coordinator. Mark runs safety courses that help us live up to our club mission statement, "to promote safe and legal snowmobile use". Eric Seith maintains the club attendance records. Sean Mullen and Steve Forsini run the website. Steve updates the calendar and posts news and information. Peter D'Orazio has been the NYSSA Super raffle ticket coordinator for our club. Pete has also taken on the job of spearheading our French fry booth at the Hilton Applefest. This is the club's biggest fundraiser. Bob Allen works with Mike Waeghe on the North trails and equipment and almost single-handedly grooms the north trails. Robert Colby is a behind the scenes kind of guy. He gets involved with landowner issues and is also one of our valued landowners. Robert has been generous to the club with equipment and facilities use.

As I go on with this article, it is getting more difficult to bring it to a conclusion. I did not set out to write a summary of who does what in the Hilton SnoFlyers. There are many people not mentioned here. I feel that I've only revealed the Tip of the Iceberg. I was trying to illustrate just some of the tremendous time and effort that is put into the club, so that its members can ride the trails. I am constantly amazed at the past efforts that have brought us this far and the current efforts that it takes to maintain it.

By Marty Sauer-Director, Hilton Sno-Flyers

Attention all members:

Sunday 12/19/10, 9AM, the club will be installing trail and doing trail maintenance. We will be meeting at the south groomer barn, 100 Johnson Road, Churchville, NY. To volunteer please send an e-mail to jim-meyer@frontiernet.net. If you have a four wheeler, chain saw and tree pruning scissors, please bring them along. For your comfort please see what the weather is that day and dress accordingly. It is always helpful to wear some type of waterproof boot or shoes. It's also advisable to bring water along and trail mix. We will be sending out for pizza after the work detail. This is a rain or shine work detail. Looking forward to seeing you on the 19th.

Jim Meyer-Past President, Hilton Sno-Flyers

Well it is now December and we need to get ready for the season. As well as getting the sleds ready, much trail work is needed. Mike McBride has agreed to take on the North Trail Boss position between Collamer Road to The Bay Restaurant. Fred Bradshaw has been moving and modifying bridges. Dan D. Has performed bridge repairs and is getting work details together to trim out overgrowth. This is just a small representation of current activities. Jim Vink is rerouting south trail and Mike Weaghe has been rerouting the north. Please watch for posts on the website and join in helping with trail work and installs. Thanks to all who are helping out.

John Miller-Treasurer, Hilton Sno-Flyers

How to Renew Your Club Membership Online

If you've received your snowmobile registration renewal from DMV and want to get your sled registered before Holiday expenses crop up, here is a reminder about how to obtain your 2010-11 NYSSA Membership Voucher.

1) Go to www.nysnowmobiler.com and click on the big green button. ---> This will take you to our secure Online Membership System.

2) Login with your six-digit NYSSA Member ID# and password. Your Member ID# is on your membership card, and also on your previous season's voucher. Hint: your password is made up of letters, and must contain at least one number. If you don't remember your NYSSA ID number, contact your Club's Membership Administrator at snoflyers@gmail.com. You may also email membership@nysnowmobiler.com or call the NYSSA Office, 888-624-3849 x103. **Reset password** can be used to obtain a new password, however users on AOL or Netscape may never receive the message, as these systems seem to think these messages are spam. If your email address recently changed, you may also never receive the message. Please call or email us for assistance.

3) Simply click on renew to renew your membership for the 2010-11 season. Follow the prompts on each screen, and when you are done you will see "Return Home to View Memberships and Print a Voucher" -- click on that, and that's right, you can print your voucher right on your own computer printer - no waiting! Print an extra copy for your records.

Member Login



My 6 Digit NYSSA ID is:

My Password is:

Need a password? for NYSSA ID above

4) Sign your voucher before you mail it in with your DMV Registration Renewal or they will send it back unprocessed!

General Meeting of the Hilton Sno-Flyers

November 17, 2010

Meeting begins at 7:45 pm

Board Members Present: Rich, Pete, Janet, Jim H., Tom, Jim M., John, Teresa, Mike, Marty

50/50: Suggested giving it to Mercy Flight. It was agreed by the membership. Total amount: 161.00 80.00 to Phil Leone, and 81.00 to Mercy Flight

Attendance: 51

Treasurer Report: Budget was read by John and report is available from the treasurer. 68,906.00. Report was accepted by the membership.

Membership: 100 Memberships at the snowshow. Janet and George worked it. 455 people in our membership right now. Things are really starting to pick up. We had 30 vintage sleds but we were in competition with a show in NJ. The Vintage people are very impressed with our club and it will continue to grow every year.

Introduction: Tom chairs the meeting because Rich will be late. Thanks everyone who helped out at the snow show. Most comments from our vendors were all happy positive except for the slide guy.

Safety: Mark wasn't here tonight so Rich reported in. 42 students have passed the test and are now going to be on the trails. No complaints this year on the class.

Groomers/Barns: Dan out of town, but will be at the groomer barn Saturday morning to work on the doors, the big blue trailer with the decking, the compressor is wired and thank you for the wiring that was donated. There are possibly some doors available by donation from.

Trails: Mike: On the **North Trail** we have been quite busy. Dave Leverenz has lent us his bulldozer so we were able to widen the trail and fill two big water holes. The trail now goes farther to the west and the trail on the north end has had some extensive repairs. If you want to start early on your trails, check with your local land owner. Any signs that need to be ordered should be ordered through Mike at 202-6202. This will be posted on the website also.
South Trail: we have some problems. Whittier Rd. land has been purchased by a landowner who does not want us to use his land. We do not have permission so far. The Salmon Creek Club has a friend who hunts with this landowner and may be able to set up a meeting with this individual. West of Widger Road there is an access that Robert Colby owns that we may have to look into at a further date. Dec. 19th is a set date for a big detail to put in that trail. Bob Allen put up a demonstration at East Ave and Ridge Road so that you can see what a properly marked trail looks like. Railroad tracks on Gallop need to be cleared. 8:00 on the morning at the railroad bed on Gallop Road you can meet them there. Dan is heading this up

Clothing: Nick has clothing if anyone wants it.

Christmas Party: Details to be worked out tonight. Please bring non-perishable food to the next meeting.

Adopt-a-highway: We need someone to head this. It will be posted on the website.

NYSSA Tickets: 289 tickets have been turned in and are available if anyone wants to sell them.

Collamer to Braddock Bay needs a new trail boss, it will be posted on the web site if anyone is available.

Cory said we should be checking with vendors to see if they have run out of maps and then distribute maps to the vendors that have run out.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Teresa Madau-Correspondence Secretary, Hilton Sno-Flyers

HILTON SNO-FLYERS INC.

2010-2011 Membership Application

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell (Optional): _____

Family Membership Info: Spouse _____

Children under 18 that will register a sled: _____

Do you have access to the web for club correspondence? yes no

Would you like to receive club updates via e-mail yes no

Are you a member of another club? yes no

Name of the other club: _____

How many sleds do you plan to register? _____

E-Mail Address: _____

HSF/NYSSA membership with registration voucher: **Single \$25** **Family \$30**

() NYSSA Trail Defender membership upgrade additional \$20.00

\$.25 of your \$5 NYSSA dues may be used for the NYS Snowmobile Political Action Committee who is our voice in Albany. If you do not want to contribute to PAC please check the appropriate box. NYSSA dues will still be \$5.00 **yes** **no**

Check ALL activities you would volunteer to help out with:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apple Fest | <input type="checkbox"/> Hilton Parade | <input type="checkbox"/> Trails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislature Ride | <input type="checkbox"/> Parma/Riga Winterfest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Show | <input type="checkbox"/> Grooming | <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt-A-Highway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax deductible donation to Groomer Fund \$ _____ | | |

What events or activities would you like to see your Club have?

As a Member of the Hilton Sno-Flyers, I will abide by the obligations of the Club Constitution

Signed: X _____

** Mail to: Hilton Sno-Flyers Club, c/o Jim and Janet Howard, 2657 Smith Road, Canandaigua, NY 14424

** Info: Club Sno-Phone 234-0629 or Hilton Snoflyers.net

2010/11 Meeting Schedule and Location**7:30 PM**

FERRIS GOODRIDGE AMERICAN LEGION POST 330
691 TRIMMER ROAD
SPENCERPORT NEW YORK 14559

September 1st & 15th	October 6th & 20th
November 17th	December 15th
January 19th	February 16th
March 16th	April 6th

Needed: Your club is looking for transportation of a donated refrigerator for the south groomer barn.

Wanted: Newsletter Editor-contact Jim Howard for details



We're on the Web!
www.hiltonsnoflyers.com

Notes from the Editor: Looking for material for the newsletter, pictures, for sale items, stories or events. Send to snoflyers@gmail.com

Hilton Sno-Flyers Mission Statement

The Hilton Sno-Flyers are a 501c3 not for profit organization who's goal is to promote safe and legal snowmobiling in the western New York region through communication and education with its membership.

Club Contact Info

Hilton SnoFlyers
PO Box 48
Hilton, NY 14468
585-234-0629

President: Rich Manley
585-494-2389

Vice President: Tom Francis
585-352-4758

Treasurer: John Miller
585-317-6289

Membership Secretary: Jim Howard
585-394-0875

Recording Secretary: Teresa Madau

Trail Coordinator: Mike Waeghe

Director: Dan Gurbacki

Director: Marty Sauer

Director: Robert Allen

Director: Robert Colby

Special Appointee: Peter D'Orazio

Past President: Jim Meyer

New Clothing Coordinator Appointed

At the last Board Meeting, a new clothing coordinator was selected from a very short list of volunteers. The new coordinator is Mary Beth Mannix, Marty Sauer's better half. Sam Pizzo had been the clothing czar for the past year or more. Family and physical factors led Sam to turn it over to someone else.

Mary Beth is committed to having material available and on hand at all club meetings and functions. The Board has recognized the popularity of club clothing and has stepped up the inventory budget accordingly. The standard list of offerings will be maintained as well as some possible new items. She also hopes to offer personalization of clothing articles through embroidery.

The club is interested in making clothing readily available to all who are interested. "It's good PR and makes us more of a club". As to prices, the intention is to cover the cost of the clothing and imprinting only. We're not looking for a profit, but not a loss either.

To ask questions or to check availability, you can contact Mary Beth at:
HSFGEAR@gmail.com.