



Hill & Valley Riders Inc., P.O. Box 61, Honeoye, NY 14471

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www.HillandValleyRiders.com

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009 NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETINGS

2/19/09, 3/19/09, 4/16/09

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Honeoye Fish & Game Club @ 7:00 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

I received a note from a snowmobiler in the Springwater area who was riding our trails, C4 in particular, and he made a statement that the trails between Townline Rd., Dutch Hollow Rd. and Liddiard Rd. were not marked sufficiently (or at all), trees down, not groomed, etc. The word deplorable was used. The note said for such a big club what are the members doing? Why isn't this area at least signed better? Initially, I was ticked off. This trail is marked to some degree but I would agree it does need some additional signage. I rode through a few weeks back and there were some trees down from the windstorm and I noticed a pretty good wash out in the trail as well. Snowmobilers were able to get through and I didn't get too concerned about it. The root of this story is we really don't have enough people to keep all the trails in tip top shape at all times. This situation will be corrected but it will be when we have people and time to do it.

Some deficiencies we have, as a club, is lack of people stepping up to the plate to do some much-needed work. We have trail districts with trail coordinators that do a lot of signing and posting trails (see attached organizational chart). You can see that many of the same people that are officers are also involved or coordinate trail marking and trail maintenance. There are approximately 300 family members in our club and approximately 30 members doing all the work. Something is wrong with the picture here. I for one do a lot of work for the club as do many other officers and individuals as contributing members in the club. I post a ton of trails yearly and personally I am starting to get a little burned out by it all. It is time for all members to act like members and show up for scheduled meetings, and start volunteering to help clear, post/mark trails, help with grooming and help take the signs down in the spring. Is this too much to ask for having the greatest privilege allowed in our area? I don't think so!

The person that sent me the note complaining of the trails is partially right. We have an area that has been neglected and it needs some work. The question is who will do it, do it on a timely basis and keep up with it year in and year out? It's time more people stepped up and volunteered to take on an area and be responsible for the trails and make sure they are ready for winter.

So, here is the plea: If you are a member, start coming to meetings/events, volunteer to work in the club and participate in the election process to help assist in managing this great snowmobile club. Take a section of trail and be responsible for it and become the trail coordinator for your area of responsibility. It's easy to do, it doesn't require a lot of time and your efforts would be greatly appreciated. It all needs to start with you, HVR members. Only you can help make our trail system better not just the governing body of our club. The trail system you have to ride on out your back door did not come easy. It took a lot of hard work and communications with approximately 170 landowners. The same people can't keep doing all the work forever. Times are changing and others (new blood) will have to step up to the plate and help out. I for one

am not getting younger; I've put in a lot of years of club service and I have other future plans that don't necessarily include the snowmobile club. If you like what you have for trails and the local riding community you have available out your back door, more of you need to get involved and help out. If more pitch in the work will be easier and the outcome will be an even better trail system we can all be proud of.

WEBSITE:

The best way for members to stay informed of the latest news, trail updates and events is to visit our website. We update the website frequently, so please check it out.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

The annual steak roast is on Saturday, February 7, 2009 at the American Legion in Honeoye. Please find the enclosed form that must be filled out and mailed with payment to Dave McMillan by 1/31/09. This event is geared more for adults and is a nice way for the grown-ups to get out for an evening of fun. We have great door prizes, 50/50 raffles and a lot of laughs. Pray for snow so we can ride to this event.

Sno Cross Eastern Nationals at Finger Lakes Gaming and Race Track on 2/13/09, 2/14/09 & 2/15/09. Please visit www.FingerLakesSnocross.com for more information on this event. The coordinators for this event may be looking for help. If you're interested in helping out please contact Matt Schaertl at MSchaertl@stanleyworks.com.

Saturday, January 31, 2009 - 1:00 p.m. - "ON THE TRAIL" Winter Party. This party is a "NO SNOW - NO GO PARTY" and will be held on the trail BEHIND Roy & Jean White's home at 5862 Middle Rd., Hemlock. Please follow the signs and ride your sled to the trail behind their home. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chili & bon fire provided. B.Y.O.B. and a snack to share.

Office Elections will be held at the March meeting.

MEMBERSHIP:

We currently have 350 memberships! That's approximately 500 - 600 members. Thank you for being a member of the Hill & Valley Riders, Inc. snowmobile club. But we need more from you than just your membership dues. With all these members one would think we have more than enough bodies volunteering to help out with trails and grooming, but we don't! Won't you please find the time to pitch in or attend a meeting or event and find out what really happens behind the scenes? Get involved - you'll be glad you did!

GROOMING:

Grooming has gotten off to a great start this year. Thank you to everyone who attended the Groomer Training Day in December. We'd like to thank Don Cartwright, Ed Holmes, Clint VanDewark, Jim Fyfe, Scott Wohlschlegel & Denis Bruce for all of their hard work on the repairs and for the grooming that they've done for the club. If you're interested in grooming, please contact Denis Bruce.

CLOTHING:

We have hoodies (\$26), sweatshirts (\$20) and long sleeve mock T-necks (\$20) for sale this year. Colors and sizes vary. If you'd like to purchase an item, please attend a meeting. They're high quality and priced right!!

STORAGE: Snowmobile and/or snowmobile trailer storage. Large vehicle storage building that is clean, safe and secure. Reasonable summer rates. Brian Rayburn 585-229-5563 or 585-314-1213.

**PLEASE RESPECT LANDOWNERS
HOW WE ARE PERCEIVED AS A GROUP IS REFLECTED BY OUR ACTIONS
KNOW YOUR LIMIT AND RIDE WITHIN IT!**