



Ridge Riders Snowmobile Club, Inc.
PO Box 1004
Whitney Point, NY 13862
Web: WWW.RidgeRidersWP.org



February 2010 Newsletter

2009-2010 Officers and Board of Directors

Judi Whittaker, President
Jim Petrie, 1st Vice-President
Andy Moyer, 2nd Vice-President
Mike Blance, Treasurer
Kim Chidester, Secretary
Joel Munson, Groomer Manager
Sue Marsh, Membership Manager
Yvonne David, 210 Plus Ticket Coordinator
Terry Kellogg, Webmaster

Board of Directors

David Dishaw
Matt Lane
Perry Marsh
Dick Knapp
Chad Parks

Trail Captains

Northwest - Perry Marsh
Northeast - Ned Sturdevant
Southeast – Dick Knapp/Eric Johnson
Southwest - Matt Lane / Chad Parks

Our club meeting was held on Wednesday, February 03, 2010 at the Whitney Point Middle School cafeteria (Tioughnioga Riverside Academy) at 7:30PM. There were 26 members in attendance. President, Judi Whittaker introduced our Board of Directors and Officers.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were both read and motions were made to accept them as read. A motion was made by Dave Dishaw and second by Andy Moyer for the Secretary's report. A motion was made by Joel Munson and second by Perry Marsh for the Treasurer's report. All members accepted unanimously.

Old Business:

Judi Whittaker reported to the club members that the Skidoo promotion brought \$230 back to the Ridge Riders. Thank you to the 23 people that participated and made this a success.

Dave Dishaw reported that the some of our funding sources are now stipulating that the fuel used for chain saws, ATV's and Trucks will no longer be accepted for reimbursement only fuel for the groomers will be allowed.

Judi Whittaker presented a potential fund raiser for our club to participate in requiring members to bring to us their fuel receipts used to purchase fuel for their snowmobiles. The excise tax charged at the pump can be refunded back to the club as off road vehicles are exempt from this taxation. Secondly, because the Ridge Riders Snowmobile Club is a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization, your donation to the club is tax deductible. We will provide a statement to your as a receipt for income tax purposes. Sam's Club is presently offering a promotion to give you \$10.00 cash back to the club for renewing your membership. Please see Judi Whittaker for more details.

The trailer we purchased for transporting our 6 wheeler is here. We are looking to get it insured so that we can get it registered. Joel Munson mentioned some preliminary quotes that he received in regards to temporary building purchases for the storage of our groomer. More details will be discussed at an up coming Board of Directors meeting.

Trail Reports:

At present, all trails ready for riding all we need is snow.

Please be aware the trail that runs behind the Sled Shop to Chenango Forks is closed.

Ned Sturdevant reported at that time that the Dorchester Park trail was closed because of ice and wash outs especially near Dick Bailey's property on Route 26 towards Glen Aubrey.

Jim Reppard reported that he had repaired the bridge by the Elliot property (Whitney Point).

Note: 3" of snow is the legal base required before the trails can be opened for riders.

New Business:

Sue Marsh provided a membership report. There are 711 paid members to date of which 136 of them are new members.

2010/2011 nominations for our Officers and Board of Directors are as follows:

President - Judi Whittaker, 1st Vice-President - Jim Petrie, Secretary – Al & Dori Ragazinsky, Treasurer – Mike Blance, Grooming Manager – Joel Munson, and Membership Manager – Sue Marsh. Board of Directors nominations: Mike Harrington, Perry Marsh, Chad Parks, Dave Dishaw and Matt Lane. Thank you for your service and dedication to our club. A vote will be taken at our March 2010 meeting by the members to establish these positions for the next year. We encourage your presence to both vote and support your fellow club members.

Mike Blance and Joel Munson again reminded our club members of the importance in attending our annual Forum that this year will be held in Syracuse at the Holiday Inn in Liverpool. Your attendance on Sunday is especially important as this when decisions are discussed, voted on and implemented. We can send up to 20 people to vote on behalf of our club. Keep the dates of April 16- 18 2010 open for this event. We also have 4 rooms reserved for any of those who like to stay for the weekend. Please see Mike Blance for more details.

It was brought to the clubs attention that NYS is again anticipating "borrowing" from the trail fund this year. They can take up to 1 million dollars. Please contact your local representatives and express your questions or concerns in regards to this issue. Mike Blance is the District Director of Broome County and Joel Munson is his alternate. Please seek them out for assistance and information. Although there is little we are able to do to stop them, we can express our concerns about protecting the interests of all of our riders.

DEC Park police officer Jack Adams was quoted as expressing some law enforcement policy at the latest Chenango County federation meeting. He reports that all registration numbers need to be put on the cowell of the sled. Tickets can be written for sled owner who have non-stock cans or exhaust. Tickets will also be issued for uninsured and unregistered riders, no helmets and reckless driving. Registration stickers need to be on the flat side of your trailers as well or you can be potentially ticketed. At present, the law only states that sleds need to be registered. However, there is strong support to also mandate that be insured as well in the future.

Judi Whittaker has received some information recently of applying for a \$500.00 grant as

proposed by the Snow Rats in the Poughkeepsie – Three Bear area where they are looking for assistance in preserving a covered bridge on their trail system. Judi will keep us posted on her progress. Our local Whitney Point Sportsman's Club is tentatively planning a special outdoor event for the this May 2010 to be held at the Broome County Fairgrounds.

A motion was made by Andy Moyer and was second by Joel Munson to donate \$200.00 to the Castle Creek Fire Company for their assistance to us for the usage of their facility for our recent safety course. All members voted and accepted unanimously. Terry Kellogg, our webmaster, is requesting any action photos that anyone may have to be sent to him. He will put them on our website for display. Please contact Terry at TKellogg@stny.rr.com with any information or questions regarding our website.

Judi Whittaker also has \$2.00 bills available for purchase beginning with our December 2009 meeting and will continue to distribute them at our January and February 2010 meetings as well. This campaign is organized by NYSSA to demonstrate to our communities the dollars of support generated from snowmobiling across the State. The campaign is held during the President's weekend in February 2010. Please produce these \$2.00 dollar bills for the purchase of gas, food, lodging etc while you are out snowmobiling.

NYSSA Super Raffle tickets at \$5.00/ea. Please Mike Blance for more information. The drawing will be held in April 2010.

Reminders:

Please practice trail safety and stay to the right as you ride.

Our club snow phone: (607)774-4933 for trail and riding conditions updated regularly throughout the riding season. Our club website: www.ridgeriderswp.org.

Due to the poor riding conditions, all our tentative dates for our club poker run and federation ride have been postponed. Please check the website and snow phone for the latest updates.

Cortese gift certificate winners: Pendell's Yamaha, Tom Armstrong, Jonathon Silvanic, Leon Kiczwarek, and Kim Henningsen. Congratulations to all of our winners!

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at the Tioughnioga Riverside Academy (WP Middle School) cafeteria at 7:30PM. Pizza and soda will be provided.

John Watson has some new fleece wear and other outdoor clothing and hats and scarves for purchase. Please contact him at (607)221-3145 or see our website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Chidester, Secretary