

Your latest edition of the Knox Knews has arrived!

Knox Trail Sno-Riders  
Snowmobile Club, Inc.  
PO Box 363  
East Otis, MA 01029



Don't sit inside this winter.  
Get out and join the fun!



Knox Trail Sno-Riders, Inc. is a snowmobile club located in Otis, MA. Its purpose is to promote the sport of snowmobiling and maintain a network of groomed snowmobile trails. Formed in 1971, the club celebrates its 40th year of providing a great riding experience in the Southern Berkshires. The club is an affiliate member of The Snowmobile Association of Massachusetts, an association of 33 clubs, helping to make Massachusetts a destination of choice for snowmobiling individuals and families. PRESIDENT: Jeff Gamelli VICE PRESIDENT: Greg Stevens TREASURER: James Richard 413-269-7318 SECRETARY: Diane Therrien BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Bill Roberts, Greg Stevens, Jack Shinkwin, Paul Gage, Jeff Gamelli, Joyce Taylor, Mike Bannish, Paul Mastraini, Peter Chait, Steve DeLand, James Richard, Bill Taylor, and Andy Kutz. The KNOX KNEWS is published 4 times during the Snowmobiling season. Send photos, articles, and comments to [knoxtrail@gmail.com](mailto:knoxtrail@gmail.com) or Box 363, East Otis, 01029. Copyright 2010, Knox Trail Sno-Riders, Inc. James Richard, editor. A Poorsoft Presentation

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# THE KNOX KNEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWS LETTER OF  
THE KNOX TRAIL SNO-RIDERS  
SNOWMOBILE CLUB  
PO BOX 363  
EAST OTIS, MA 01029  
[WWW.KNOXTRAIL.COM](http://WWW.KNOXTRAIL.COM)  
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## The Vintage Ride is coming!

Twice a season, the Snowmobile Association of Massachusetts chooses two member clubs to host a "Vintage Ride". This year, the Knox Trail Sno-Riders is one of those clubs. Chosen last year, dismal snow conditions cancelled the event. This year promises to be different.

In co-operation with the Mass Vintage Snowmobile Club, the event is scheduled for Feb. 19th. Any rider with a sled made in 1991 or earlier and a valid trail pass for their newer sled can ride a prescribed course without the need of any additional registration.

Participants will be treated to lunch at the Tannery Road Clubhouse. See the back of this newsletter for more details

tail pass vendors for helping our club achieve outstanding trail pass sales. And thank you to all the landowners that give us permission for our trails to pass through their property to keep our highly valued trail system going.

I know we all have our differences of opinion and individual personalities that sometimes make things a little challenging and stressful, but with that said I know we really do work well together to strive to keep snowmobiling here in this state.

With our membership close to doubling over last year, which can contribute to a rough trail at the end of the day, the trail system is the best I have ever seen in many years and I hear the feedback from many riders this season echoing the same.

We've had a couple set backs with groomer equipment failures, but our volunteer groomer group has stepped up their efforts, and groomer parts are on their way with repairs currently in the making. I know the groomer operators will be right back at it again making the trails as smooth as they can be for your enjoyment. Two out of our three brand new groomers, the Polaris IQ Widetrack and Ski-Doo Skandic Tundra Widetrack have been taming the rough trails for the last few weeks thanks to Keith Mackie's custom fabricate drags. Our third new groomer, the Polaris Saratoga Ranger, should be joining our groomer fleet soon to help compliment and improve trail conditions.

Thanks to over 100 riders attending our Picnic and Poker Run in bitter cold temperatures and I hope you come out to our next scheduled event on Saturday February 19th for the Vintage Ride. For more info go to [www.knoxtrail.com](http://www.knoxtrail.com)  
Till next time, Happy Trails!

Jeff Gamelli, president

### EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

**Meetings** second and fourth Sunday of the month from late September thru April. Meet at the Tannery Road Clubhouse at 9am. Breakfast is usually served starting at 8am. All Trail Pass holders are members and are encouraged to attend!

## 2011 Poker Run and Picnic!

Over 100 sledders flouted single digit temps to join in on this annual event. Relocation at the last minute because of the wind chill on the shore moved the event to Greg and Monica Alexander's yard. Thank you!

Tom Garbati ran the grill all day while sledders rode a 20 mile Trail 7/10



Donna Kasa grabs tokens at Checkpoint 1 as hubby Joe waits. "C'mon Donna, it's cold. Get my token!"

loop, picking up tokens along the way. The entry booth was staffed by Club Secretary Dianne Therrien, Board of Directors member member Joyce Taylor, and Christina Helberg. Paul Richard groomed the loop twice the night before and Jim Richard posted the loop and made the event maps.

The winner was Benton Egge. He had 4 Kings. The prize was \$510. Not bad for a sled ride!



Over 100 sledders entered the 2011 Poker Run. Tight quarters at the Alexander residence forced sleds to park at the W26 location on the reservoir.

1971 Happy 40th Anniversary Knox Trail Sno-Riders! 2011

The Knox Trail Sno-Riders  
along with the  
Mass Vintage Snowmobile Club  
are sponsoring a vintage snowmobile ride

**February 19, 2011**

**Meeting Place:**

**L & M GULF STATION  
2000 EAST OTIS RD.  
EAST OTIS, MA 01029**

(Gas Station opens 6:00 am. Coffee, food, and restrooms available)

MVSC members will be arriving at L & M Garage to register for the ride at 9:00 am. The ride begins at 10:00 am...

If you have a 1991 sled or older, come join the ride and the fun... even if you have a newer sled!

Your valid pink SAM trailpass receipt is all you need to ride your vintage sled!

Route map will be available at L & M and a hot lunch will be served to all participating in the ride at the Knox Trail Sno-Riders clubhouse!



Members check out under the hood of the new SkiDoo Scandic groomer sled

### THE PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello fellow snowmobile enthusiasts!

Our wishes came true for Christmas Day; it snowed, snowed, snowed, and has continued to snow all winter season. So get ready for more winter action and fun.

Our hard working, small, close knit, core of volunteers has been very busy at all aspects of this season's club duties and functions. At this time, I would like to personally say "THANK YOU" to the dedicated volunteers that take time out of their busy

schedules, time and time again, for all the tasks, skills, and contributions to make this club the BEST EVER! Thank you to all our



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When the Yamaha VK tore up it's track, the Polaris FSWT came to the rescue. The VK will be back on the trails first week of Feb.

**Vintage Ride** See the back cover for details on this February 19th. event. Meet at L&M Gulf, 2000 East Otis Road, East Otis, P3 on the map. SAM trail passes, food, fuel, and restrooms are available at this location. Trail Maps will be handed out at registration. Look for the SAM trailer. Lunch will be served from 11am-1pm at the KTSR Clubhouse, P-7 on trail map. Prizes will be awarded (TBA) at end of event.



Honey, where are the sleds?

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Club equipment will be on-call for assistance.

Contact Jeff Gamelli at 413-427-8609 or e-mail [Trailsign@aol.com](mailto:Trailsign@aol.com)

**YOUR TREASURER'S RANT**

Some riders still don't get it. DO NOT go north from Intersection 12 or south from Tolland Road on Trail 20. The road is closed to sleds because of the dam project. Follow the signs at Int. 12 and you will be led out to W21 on the reservoir.



So you didn't know? If you bought a trail pass you would get this newsletter. The Tolland police are serious. Riding the road WILL net you a \$250 fine. Cool, ha?

And if \$250 fines turn you on, just ride without a trailpass. If an officer catches you on private property, which many trails cross, you'll get a \$250 fine (up from \$75) for that too! And your sled may get towed! Now will you by a pass?

About those big numbers? They are now required, but the rule looks like it will be changed. Stay tuned.

See you on the trails!  
 Jim Richard, treasurer

**WHAT RIDERS ARE SAYING**

Rode Otis pretty heavy this weekend. Overall it's been great. Coverage is being called "best in years!" I have to agree.

Today was KTSR's annual poker run. The trails were groomed out very nicely. The run was a longer loop than the typical used. My group of 10 really enjoyed the ride. The grooming efforts this week really showed. There were also many improvements to he trails from last weekend, from tree trimmings to pallets at water crossings. Many thanks to those who made this weekend so great!

Ross

**FROM THE VEEP**

Hello Sno- Riders!  
 Mother Nature has been good to us this winter. Tons of snow and cold temps!! I'd like to thank everyone for attending our annual Poker run / Cookout, on the coldest day of the season -14F plus high winds. Our set up crew made the right decision to set up just off the reservoir at Greg and Monica Alexander's home. Thank you for

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VP Greg takes out some time from wrenching and grooming to shred powder on Upper Spectacle Lake

hosting our event. I'd also like to thank Chef Tom Garbatti who once again stood in the cold all day and fed us. Our grooming fleet has taken some punches trying to keep up with all the snow, We are working around the clock to get the 2 enclosed groomers repaired and back on the trails while the sled based groomers pick up the slack as much as possible.

In case you are unaware, your purchase of a SAM trail pass funds our club so that we are able to upgrade our fleet, fuel our groomers, and repair them when they are out of service. If you ride unregistered and no trail pass you are riding illegally and the EPO's are out in full force enforcing new recreational vehicle laws. Fines are a minimum of \$250.00. So for under \$100 you can ride anywhere in Mass legally and help support us, your local club Ride safe!

Greg Stevens  
 VP KTSR



Jim Richard and son Paul do an "on the fly" bridge repair

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Knox Kneus will present a snapshot of a local establishment of importance to local sledders. So we present the first edition of...

**OUT AND ABOUT**

At the Grouse House **YES...** The Grouse House has re-opened under new management and they welcome snowmobilers. They offer a great selection of pub food and a very nice dinner menu with several entrees to choose from. You can get to the Grouse by sled if you are on trail 7 at intersection 26.1, to Otis Ridge Ski Area. It is located just next door. There's plenty of sled parking as well as trailer parking if you want to offload your sleds for a day of riding. Just park on the Grouse House side of the Ski Ridge parking lot. It's just a quick walk across the street to satisfy your hunger. So next time you hit the trails, plan your route to include the Grouse House, you won't be disappointed!

And **YES** they also rent rooms... so you can off load those sleds, hit the trails, and upon your return have a place to have a hot meal, your favorite libation and a place to lay your head after riding all day... and wake up the next morning and do it all over again! Just call Mary Kay at (413) 441-8054 or at the Grouse House (413) 269-0115 for availability. Meals are served Mon, Wed & Thursday 5 - 9 pm, Friday and Saturday 12 - 10 pm Sunday 12 - 9 pm.

Hopefully **OUT AND ABOUT** will become a regular part of this newsletter highlighting a different local each issue, in turn it will help Sno-Riders new to our trail system know a little about what the Otis area has to offer.

See you at the Grouse...  
 Doo-Ski-Doo reporting

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Welcome to Katie's Country Store  
 Katie's Country Store, your source for one stop shopping, is located in the town of East Otis in the beautiful Berkshires of Massachusetts. The store is owned and operated by Ron and Sue Racine. We have a spectacular deli full of choice meats, live lobsters, fresh seafood, luncheon meats, cheeses, and salads. You will be surprised that such a small store can carry a full line of groceries, beer, wine, liquor, select camping supplies, movie rentals, gasoline, and diesel fuel. Don't forget to stop by the Take Out Restaurant during the summer for our freshly prepared rotisserie chicken and Berkshire County's award winning fried chicken.  
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