

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 or Box 363, East Otis, 01029. Copyright 2010, Knox Trail Sno-Riders, Inc. James Richard, editor. A Poorsoft Presentation

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

A KNOX TRAIL SNO-RIDERS 40th Anniversary message...

We would like to take this time to say "THANKS SO MUCH" to all of the folks that have made 40 years of snowmobiling in this area possible and to highlight some of the more recent accomplishments made as a club... remembering that these wouldn't have been possible if it weren't for you.

To the founding members of the Knox Trail Sno-Riders... For having the vision and the perseverance to establish such a wonderful club... It was you that blazed the snowmobile trail to being the successful club that we are today!

To all the members 40 years strong, land owners and businesses... If it weren't for your efforts and cooperation we wouldn't be able to spend the time out on the trails enjoying the sport that we all love so much.

To all the present officers, members, and many Committees... For endless hours of volunteerism to make this club the success that it is! For having the confidence in one another... The Anniversary Raffle to help fund new grooming equipment was a big commitment and knowing that the club members could rally together to have a successful raffle was a great accomplishment! For pulling together to offer up fun events during our season and making these events such a success!

To New Boston Crane Service and Sled... for helping us obtain the two machines that were offered as winner's choice for raffle prizes... And the countless hours of service and repairs that you provide on the groomers for the club so that we can keep those trails groomed... Assisting the club with the purchase of a new grooming sled and the Polaris Saratoga Ranger (trail maintenance vehicle) ... And lastly offering a demo sled for us to include as part of our events held on the Reservoir, that alone makes the events just a bit more exciting!

Sincerely written by Donna M. Horrigan

Volume 40 Issue 2.0 December 2010 - January 2011

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
KNOXTRAIL@GMAIL.COM
SNO-PHONE 413-269-0243

And the WINNER IS...



Scott Orsini (left) is the winner of the Knox Trail Sno-Riders 40th Anniversary Raffle. Scott is shown receiving his prize, a 2011 Polaris 550EPS ATV with electric power steering and plow, from Ron Roux, general manager at New Boston Crane Service and Sleds, Sandisfield, MA. Congratulations Scott!

40TH ANNIVERSARY RAFFLE

Planning began last March. The two old Bearcat groomer sleds were worn out. They spent too much time in the shop instead of out grooming. The decision was made to stop spending money and time fixing the Old Bears, trade 'em in, and invest in new sleds with the latest 4 stroke technology, cooling, and gearing.

Buying just one new sled with available funds would tie up all of the money needed to stock up on new trail passes, repairs, and whatever else it takes to start the new season. On top of that, two sleds were needed! How on earth could this be

accomplished? The idea of a raffle was put on the table. After all, it was the club's 40th Anniversary and the Otis Bicentennial year! So it began. With laws studied, permit pulled, and tickets printed, the club embarked on raising enough money to buy a new sled! The second sled would be purchased with free financing for one year from the manufacturer. With hard work and a little luck, the raffle would deliver the money needed to buy one sled and free up funds needed for operations.

Boy, was it a success! Two thousand tickets were to be sold by the Nov. 7th deadline. It seemed like an insurmountable task. Throughout the summer club members and friends worked hard selling tickets. As fall approached it seemed the goal

would be missed. But ticket sales increased as the deadline approached and to the amazement of many, 1995 tickets were sold! The raffle is over, the prize delivered, and taxes paid. Very soon a new Ski-Doo Skandic and Polaris FSWT will be out plying the trails to bring you the best riding nature can offer. To all of those who played but did not win, thank you! Don't consider your losing bet a loss. Consider it an investment in the club; a club that delivers a valuable service for the enjoyment of hundreds of wintertime enthusiasts, and benefits to many local merchants.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to all!

SNOW! SNOW! SNOW!

That's first on my Christmas list! After months of meetings, e-mails, phone calls, and fund raisers, with a pure "lets get out there and DO IT" attitude by our members, the club is ready to GROOM and RIDE the trails! Of course we will still have many on-going projects and events, such as the Picnic/Poker Ride in January and the Vintage Ride in February.

On another note, we are constantly addressing snowmobile trail availability and improvement. The trail system is our life line and without it our club would be a traveling club. We have met with Mass Fish and Wildlife and Dept of Conservation and Recreation officials, and land owners this year to keep them informed of our trail access needs. They have been very helpful and understanding. What a great partnership for our sport!

We were able to acquire three new grooming machines along with three new drags; the steel contraptions that keeps the bumps, ruts, and holes from appearing in front of you.

I want to thank those members who have already joined by buying their trail passes early and made



NEW BOSTON CRANE SERVICE & SLEDS
 85 SOUTH MAIN ST. SANDSFIELD, MA 01255 413.258.4653
 Parts, accessories, & service for snowmobiles, ATVs, generators, trailers, PWCs, and more!
 Winter Hours: Tue, Wed, Fri 9am-6pm Thu 9am-8pm
 Sat 9am-3pm Sun 9am-1pm Closed Mon
 www.newbostoncrane.com nbcass@verizon.net

1-413-269-7145 1-860-679-9353
 236 Kibbe Rd. 38 Fairlawn St.
 E. Otis, MA 01029 Farmington, CT 06032

NEW ENGLAND Lifts & Roll-A-Dock™
 1-860-558-7951
 by **NEWITT** Wayne J. Wosczyzna

Lakeside Estates Bed & Breakfast
 99 Kibbe Road, East Otis, MA 01029
 413-269-9900 www.lakesideestatesb&b.com
 trailside, plenty of parking, trail passes available

Otis Gazette COMPLIMENTARY
 Ohhh, Tis is Nice! 'The Berkshires to the Foothills'
 PO Box 800, Otis, MA 01253 413) 269-9909
 editor@otisgazette www.otisgazette.com

The Knox Trail Inn
 Restaurant & Bar
 Open under new ownership!
 Open 7 days
 Snowmobilers welcome- parking available
 Route 23 East Otis, MA
 413-269-4400

WALLY CROUSE SALES 413-443-2623 FAX 413-499-0023
PLT LEASING & TRUCKING
 1548 WEST HOUSATONIC ST. PITTSFIELD, MA 01201
 Husqvarna STIHL Kawasaki
 "EXPERIENCE THE PLT DIFFERENCE"

Papa's Healthy Food & Fuel
 ORGANIC AND TRADITIONAL GROCERIES
 Specializing in:
 Berkshire Bagels, Equal Exchange Organic Coffee
 Berkshire Mountain Bakery Breads
 Variety of Beer & Wines
 Homemade Soups, Sandwiches
 Cookies, Pies & Cakes
 Open 7 Days Sun 6-9pm
 Mon-Thurs 5-9pm Fri 5-10pm Sat 6-10pm
 413-269-7779 413-269-7782
 www.PapasHealthyFoodandFuel.com
 2000 East Otis Road East Otis, MA 01029

groomer donations. This gives the club the financial boost for our future projects to be completed. Of course we do a have a few new members so far who have also offered their time volunteering. Already this season, our small group of "old timers" have racked up many hours of trail work and in-house club work. What a dedicated group of volunteers! Thank you again for your support!

Well I wish you a very Safe and Happy Holiday! See you all out there soon and don't forget to visit our web site for the latest updates at www.knoxtrail.com

Jeff Gamelli Sr.
 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!

Annual Poker Run and Picnic January 23, 2011 at the W26 trail head on Otis Reservoir (End of Drive D "D Street"). Registration is a \$10 donation per sled, starts at 11am, and closes at 1pm. Riders follow a map and pick up tokens. Tokens are redeemed for playing cards at 3pm. First prize is 1/2 of the cash take. Food will be served and donations are welcome. SAM trail passes will be available.

Vintage Ride Saturday, February 19, 2011. Registration starts at 9 am. Riding starts at 10am and ends at 3pm. Duration of ride is approximately 3 hours over a 12 mile route. 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

1873 East Otis Rd. **MLS**
 Now located in East Otis
POND PASTURE REAL ESTATE
 Ginger Conner
 Realtor®
 across from the Knox Trail Inn
 www.pondpasturerealestate.com East Otis, MA 413.269.6393
 ginger@pondpasturerealestate.com fax 413.269.7732

Meyer Well Drilling Corp.
 PO Box 315
 Otis, MA 01253
 T. Kennedy water pump service is now a part of the Meyer Well Drilling Company!
 Charles E. Crandall
 413-269-4578

trail map. Prizes will be awarded (TBA) at end of event. Club equipment will be on-call for assistance.
 Contact Jeff Gamelli at 413-427-8609 or e-mail Trailsign@aol.com

TRAIL DETOUR UPDATE

The Tolland State Forest will have some detours because of the dam project. West Otis Road (Trail 20) is closed to riding from Belden Road north to Tolland Road. Traffic from parking (P1) over Alan Road (30) will be redirected at Intersection 12. W20 will be relocated. Trail 29 is closed. Trails 25 and 28 are open. Please obey all signs!



YOUR TREASURER'S RANT

All I wanted were some little numbers and all I got were these stupid giants! So goes this version of the old stupid tee shirt line.

A Massachusetts sled registration sticker does not have a serial number. This little number would be indespicable in identifying trail pass cheats. The only ID on the sled as far as Mass was concerned is the manufacturer's serial number. So when this issue came before the legislature a law was passed mandating 3 inch tall registration numbers on both sides of the sled! This practice has been proven to be a failure in the past. A sled is not a boat! Boats need big numbers because the are always

Al Joy Tire Service
 Arctic Cat
 Snowmobiles
 ♦ Sales
 ♦ Service
 ♦ Parts
 ♦ Accessories
 466 Main Street, Southington, CT • (860) 628-2728

observed from a distance. You can't just walk up to a boat! Sleds don't have room for this, and if other states require this too, you will have to tow a billboard!

A sensible law would have done it one of four ways. First, a SAM style state registration sticker would suffice. Second, a reasonable sized, owner provided number, say 1 1/2 inch, would suffice. Third would be a larger state sticker with a bigger number ala NH. Fourth and most sensible would be making the SAM sticker the only one needed! The current SAM style sticker is great. Color coded by year, these stickers have reasonably sized numbers. Selling passes through the clubs and private merchants would free up state manpower and increase rider-ship immensely. Putting stickers on both sides would be about the only improvement over the current left side only.

I would gladly put reasonably sized numbers on my sleds. I'm told the disagreement is universal and a better sticker is in the works.

See you on the trails!

SNO-PHONE 413-269-0243

Jim Richard, Treasurer

FROM THE VEEP

Hello Sno-Riders!

Winter is approaching fast! I'd like to thank our members who have worked hard all summer. We began a few years back improving our groomer fleet by purchasing the NY Bombi, restoring the Clubs work horse Thiokol, and for this season, we were able to Purchase a 2011 Ski-doo Scandic grooming sled. Thanks to your raffle ticket purchases the club has also purchased a Polaris Wide track grooming sled. We were fortunate enough to be awarded a National Recreational Trails grant which allowed us to purchase a Polaris Saratoga Ranger all-season trail maintenance vehicle and groomer.

Members are still hard at work as always, building drags for our new fleet and working on trails.

We are looking for members who can volunteer a few hours doing trail work.

STARTING JANUARY FIRST SNOW!
 Friday, Saturday, Sunday: 11-7
 Hot Pub Food Full Bar
 Weekend Rooms
Bucksteep MANOR
 885 Washington Mtn Rd. Washington MA
 (413) 623-5535 • innkeeper@bucksteepmanor.com

Please contact us if you are able.

Also If you are a FaceBook member please search for the Knox Trail Sno-riders Inc. page. I will do my best to update it with your club's latest news, conditions, and groomer reports.

See you soon out on the trails!
 Greg Stevens, V.P.



Keith Mackie presents the beautiful new drag he built for the Skandic. Son Collin assists. Thanks Keith!

WINTER WONDERLAND

Snowmobiles vroom, are you listening, on the trails, snow is glistening
 A beautiful sight,
 We're happy tonight,
 Riding in a winter wonderland.
 Gone away is the green grass,
 make sure you have your S.A.M. pass,
 We'll sing a... "let it snow" song,
 As we go along, Riding in a winter wonderland.

Wishing all of our Knox Trail Sno-Rider Members Happy Holidays, A Happy New Year, and very white winter season!!!

FARMINGTON RIVER DINER
 119 SOUTH MAIN ROAD OTIS, MA
 SHOW YOUR CURRENT KNOX TRAIL TRAILPASS RECEIPT AND RECEIVE A 10% DISCOUNT ON ONE BREAKFAST!
413-269-6874
 YOUR HOST: LYNN PYENSON

LAND N' SEA Marine
 Bob Tiso
 2974 East Main St. Waterbury, CT 06705
 (203)755-2682
 www.landseamarine.com

Eric Neitzel, G.R.I.
 Licensed Real Estate Broker / Owner
Our Town Realty LLC
 Proudly Serving the Berkshires from Our Town to Yours
 P.O. Box 609
 Otis, MA 01253
 (413) 269-0200 Phone
 (631) 862-7106 NY Phone
 (631) 862-7107 Fax
 ourtownrealtya@optonline.net
 www.berkshirepropertiesma.com

Crandall's Self Storage
 www.Crandallsstorage.com
 Self Storage Units sized from 5X5 to 12 X 30
 Major Credit Cards Accepted
 Call Jim for an appointment
 Phone: 413.269.7200
 1735 East Otis Rd. PO Box 1355
 East Otis, MA 01029
 Across from the East Otis Post Office

Berkshire Lakeside Lodge
 3949 Jacob's Ladder Rd (Rt 20)
 Becket, MA 01223
 www.berkshirerelakesidelodge.com
 (413) 243-9907

Grouse House
 A Country Inn
 Food Drink Lodging
 At Otis Ridge Ski Area
 Route 23, Otis, MA 01253
 Present this ad and receive 1/2 off 2nd entree of same or lesser value

TONLINO TRUCKING & EXCAVATING
 CRUSHED STONE
 QUARRY HOURS
 7am-4pm Mon-Fri
 April-November
 Sat. and Extended Hours by Appointment
 Delivery Available @ Hourly Rate
 Call for Product & Price List
 LEE-WESTFIELD ROAD IN EAST OTIS
 PO BOX 190 OTIS, MA 01253
 QUARRY 413-329-8083
 OFFICE 413-269-4313
 FAX 413-269-6312
 JBT3TRUCKING@AOL.COM

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.
 ATM / Credit Cards Accepted
 1922 East Otis Road, P.O. Box 295
 East Otis, MA 01029 413-269-4211
 Store Hours Monday-Sunday 7:00am-9:00pm