

OCTOBER/ NOVEMBER 2007

THE KNOX KNEWS

The OFFICIAL news letter of
The Knox Trail Sno-Riders
Snowmobile Club
Box 363
East Otis, MA
01029
www.knoxtrail.com



THE S.A.M. SNOW
SHOW IS OCTOBER 13 &
14 AT THE BIG E BETTER
LIVING CENTER!

THE 2007-2008 SEASON IS APPROACHING FAST!

IN THIS ISSUE...

- The upcoming S.A.M. SNOW SHOW
- The upcoming SWAP MEET
- The President's Column
- The Treasurer's Rant
- Weather Predictions
- Advertising Info
- Club Dates and Events

THE NEWS LETTER IS

BACK... but for how long is anybody's guess. We all want the newsletter! I keeps us informed about the club and snowmobiling. It gives the club a professional look, and it keeps us entertained!

As with any good thing, there is a sacrifice. The few temporary vols doing the work now really need a dedicated vol to really put out a great newsletter. It really isn't hard. This one was done on a MAC using iwork. Once we settle on design and format (may be like this one) all that has to be done is fill in the blanks with your text or text from other sources and some pictures. Put in the correct dates, proof read it and

BAM, we got us a newsletter! After composition, the club has a full color laser available for printing. The same or another vol then folds, applies address and stamps, and puts em' in the mail.

If you can do this for the club, sweet! Call Bill Taylor at 413-269-4292 Email wm.a.taylor@hs.utc.com or check off the box on your trail pass application.

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Hey fellow sno-riders,

Hope your summer was hot enough for you. The snowmobile season for the club is starting to ramp up. A little cooler air and shorter nites are upon us. Its time to get things ready, make sure your sled is finely tuned, have the necessary paperwork completed, and have your clothes, helmets, etc waiting to be worn.

Part of preparing for riding season should include proper education for the young ones, or the old ones who think young. Contact Gary Bushy at 413-499-2111 to sign up for the safety course to be held November 24 at our clubhouse on Tannery

Rd. in Otis.

One of our main concerns is the trails. As most of you know J&D marina has closed. At this time we don't know if we can use that property to get around town. As you negotiate the trails, remember it may take a different route to get to services in East Otis village. We are trying to secure land to run a new trail through town. Anyone looking for something inexpensive to do on a Sunday this fall, consider helping the club clear some trails.

We start our meetings on 10/28 with breakfast at 8am and the meeting at 9am. Every 2nd and 4th Sunday through the fall and winter till April. We do trailwork after the meetings and also on opposite weekends we do trailwork from the groomer garage starting at 9am. Call ahead first to insure some trailwork is scheduled. 413-269-4792

As of yet we haven't set our social calendar, check our website for upcoming events at Knoxtrail.com

Thank you, Mr. Bill

GREAT SHOTS OF KTSR!

SHOW US YOURS AND WE'LL PUT EM' HERE!
THIS COLUMN IS DEDICATED TO PHOTOS SENT IN
BY CLUB MEMBERS TO SHOW WHAT THE CLUB IS
ALL ABOUT



Not enough snow? Make some!



Jammin' over the Pike.



Powder! Yum!



Sunsets- Another benefit of Club membership!

SEND PIX TO TANXRUS@AOL.COM

THE TREASURER'S RANT



There are big boy toys for every season. Snowmobiles are the best and here's why!

Here are the groups I'm talking about:

- *Snowmobiles
- *ATVs including quads and dirt bikes
- *Watercraft including powered boats and personal watercraft (PWCs).

I will now present my case as to why snowmobiles are the best toy of all of the groups. I will compare things like range of use, environmental impact, characteristics of the season, riding surface, etc. I do ride all of these things and hold no disdain for any as a whole but I do have some concerns.

Some things are to be assumed to assure fairness. Boating is done on Otis Reservoir. ATV riding is done on the trails legally available in the Otis-Blandford-Tolland area. And snowmobiling will be done on the KTSR/SAM trail network. Weather will be warm enough for fair weather boating. Winter will be cold enough for good safe lake ice with enough snow for reasonable trail conditions. ATV riding will be done during

the riding season period enforced by the DCR.

I will start with boats. Boats and PWCs are limited to the body of water upon which they float. On Otis Reservoir this limits you to about 1000 acres. The season for fair weather boating runs about five months from early May to the end of September. Environmentally, boats have fairly benign exhaust emissions but high-speed watercraft suck lots of gas. Four stroke engines are helping to reduce emissions. The possibility of fugitive weed transmission exists. Bugs are a usual annoyance when activity involves stopping. The riding surface is water, which generally is forgiving when you fall off your PWC. The risk of drowning is the constant companion. PWCs can't run at night. And watercraft cannot reach L&M Gulf, Knox Trail Inn, Katie's, Hall's, Hillbillie's, Maple Corner, Shaw Pond, Tucker's, or Tolland Store (if it reopens).

ATVs cannot traverse lakes unless they are frozen but since that would be outside of the riding date window we will not count that. I estimate the range of legal use in the O-B-T area to be no more than 20 to 30 miles. The season is the longest running from April until November. ATVs can be environmentally disastrous. Unless there is active trail maintenance, run-off and wash-outs are common. Marshy areas and water crossings get whipped into a mud bath unless bypasses or bridges are provided. There are many two-stroke engines in the field but

THIS COULD BE YOUR AD!

KTSR IS SOLICITING LOCAL AND NOT SO LOCAL ADVERTISERS TO GRACE OUR PAGES AND SUPPORT OUR CLUB!



RATES ARE CHEAP AND LAST THE WHOLE SEASON OF NEWSLETTERS (WE TRY FOR AT LEAST FOUR). YOUR AD WILL ALSO APPEAR ON OUR WEBSITE FOR A WHOLE YEAR!

CALL
413 269-4792

fortunately the four strokes are taking over, especially in the bikes. ATVs are pretty good on gas. On the trail you got bugs, dust, mud, and some nasty critters. Prepare to get real dirty. The riding surface is hard and rocky. When you take a flop, you're gunna hurt or worse! An ATV cannot LEGALLY reach L&M Gulf, Knox Trail Inn, Katie's, Hall's, Hillbillie's, Maple Corner, Shaw Pond, Tucker's, or Tolland Store (if it reopens).

The snowmobile, when the ice is safe, the puddles and brooks frozen, and with a decent snow cover, can go just about anywhere. The groomed and maintained KTSR trail system has dozens of miles and the interconnections with other SAM clubs makes for almost endless riding. The sledding season does not officially open until December 15th. How long it lasts, or even really starts is Nature's call. Snowmobiles are environmental dream-boats. A frozen environment and a blanket of snow protect the trails from wear and tear. The new four stroke sleds sip gas and run real quiet with lower emissions. There is no dust, no mud (usually), and no bugs. Even the nastiest critters, i.e. snakes and bears, ain't around. If you hit the pavement, it is usually soft and forgiving snow! You won't get dirty and if you drive a four stroke, won't stink two stroke exhaust. But, unless you dress properly, forget about having fun. And for destinations, which every trip needs besides a start, you got L&M Gulf, Knox Trail Inn, Katie's, Hall's, Hillbillie's, Maple Corner, Shaw Pond, Tucker's, or Tolland Store (if it reopens), etc. etc. So here is the scorecard: I left out the seasonal characteristics. Ratings are from 1 (eh), 2, (ok), and 3, (awesome). As you can see, snowmobiles win hands down!

	SLED	ATV	BOAT
RANGE	3	2	1
ENVIRONMENT	2	1	3
RIDING SURFACE	2	1	3
DESTINATIONS	3	2	1
TOTAL	10	6	8

Your Treasurer,

Jim Richard tanxrus@aol.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS and CLUB MEETINGS

SNOW SHOW

The SAM Snow Show will take place at the BIG E Better Living Center on Saturday October 13 from 10 to 8 and Sunday October 14 from 10 to 4. KTSR will have a booth. If you can help man it for a few hours, call Bill Taylor. S.A.M. will be hosting the 2nd annual VSCA National Vintage Snowmobile Show! See the sledmass.com website for more!

SNOWMOBILE SAFETY COURSE

The Snowmobile Training Course will take place at the Tannery Road clubhouse on Saturday morning, November 24. The cost is \$10 per person. Food will be provided. Passing participants of this 6 hour course will receive an official VAST card, required to ride in Vermont, and recognized everywhere as evidence of training in snowmobile operation! Call Gary Bushy at 413-499-2111.

SWAP MEET HAS A NEW DATE!

So you thought you missed the Swap Meet at New Boston Crane in September didn't you? Well, you did not because the date has been changed! The new date is Sunday, November 4th. The meet opens at 9 am and runs to 3 pm. Look for your Club in the official SAM trailer. Get your trail passes or some 10/10 tickets. KTSR will be serving up burgers and dogs. Bring your old iron and sell it here or get a bargain on something you need! Admission is three bucks and \$10 if you are a seller. New Boston Crane is located just south of the Route 8/57 intersection in Sandisfield, MA. The meet starts early each day and runs all day. For more info and specific times, call NBC at 413-258-4653. Their website is www.newbostoncrane.com.

CLUB MEETING DATES

The Club meets on the 2nd. and 4th. Sunday of each month starting in October BUT the Snow Show date will put our first meet on 10/28. Then the meetings will be on 11/11, 11/25, 12/9, 12/23, 1/13, 1/27, 2/10, 2/24, 3/9, (no 3/23-Easter), and 4/13. Meetings are at the Tannery Road Clubhouse in Otis. Be there at 8 for breakfast* and the meeting starts at 9AM. *A donation for breakfast keeps Chef Joyce in business!

FUTURE EVENTS

Watch this spot for upcoming stuff!

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WEATHER REPORT

The chatter on the long term weather reports hints the we are in for a Winter of 3 degrees BELOW NORMAL with above normal precip. That means a great riding season may just be around the corner!

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like this?

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keep em' open



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WORK PARTY!

Meet at the GROOMER
GARAGE every Sunday
starting at 9 am or after
the meeting

Here is your first KNOX KNEWS of the season. Now that the die is
cast, with a little luck we might be able to keep it going!

Your TRAILPASS application is inside.

Fill it IN and send it OUT..... NOW!

Remember to SLED RESPONSIBLY!

Knox Trail Sno-Riders

PO Box 363

East Otis, MA 01029-0363

