**SNOWMOBILE CLUB, Inc.**

**- Your club officers, directors and committee chairs are:**

**President: Brent Walck, 523-2320**

**Vice-President: Gary Broderick, 731-1719**

**Secretary: Dave Ackerman, 694-2071**

**Treasurer: Stacey Menard, 731-4246**

**Trail Treasurer: Lonnie Daigler**

**Directors: Jim Biehls, 512-5752**

**Doug Caldwell, 523-6653**

**Pete Fleckenstein, 791-8609**

**Dave Fricano, 417-6330**

**Trail Coordinator: Pete Fleckenstein, 791-8609**

**Groomer Coordinator: Herb Stephenson, 523-1242**

**Groomer Barn Manager: Herb Stephenson, 523-1242**

**Yeah, it’s that time of year again! Time to start up operations and get ready for trail building and such. We hope you had a fun and safe summer-in this heat, winter will be a welcome relief.**

**We will be gearing up for the Grass Drags/ATV Races/Vintage Sled Show starting August 1st with a Grass Drag Committee Meeting after the regular club meeting. Please reserve the race date, September 24th, on your calendar. As always, we need help from our members as we are branching out and running all the races this year. This is our number one fundraiser-besides being fun for the entire family!**

**Assemblyman John Ceretto has consented to be our 2011 Honorary Grass Drags Race Starter-John has supported us at the Town Level, County Level and is now keeping an eye on our interests at the state level. See you in September, John!**

**Thanks to Stacey Menard for organizing the Easter Egg Hunt again this year (working w/the Fire Co.) making this another success!**

**The Groomer Committee has located a groomer and made a down payment on it. It is a 2002 Bombardier BR-180 Diesel in excellent condition sold by Mountain Grooming in Vermont (previously owned by a club in Utah). We are looking for a used drag to match up to it or possibly manufacturing one ourselves. If you have ideas or would like to help, please call Herb at 523-1242.**

**Maintenance on the BR-160 is an on-going operation. As part of the qualifications to groom, individuals need to learn how to work on/repair the groomer. If you are interested in groomer operations, please contact Herb at 523-1242.**

**Trail Update: We still have some sections of trail that need to be managed by a Trail Captain. Duties include securing landowner permissions and organizing trail builds/maintenance/trail teardowns. To ensure our trail system continues to improve, please consider helping out. If you would be willing to learn more about trail captain responsibilities, please call Pete at 791-8609**

**Over the summer, the club was able to purchase a farm ‘disk’ that can be used to smooth out rough sections of trail-if you recall, last season we had some rough sections as the farmers had ‘turned’ for corn leaving huge ridges and valleys on some trails. If you know of one or have a tractor that will pull it and you are willing to help doing this, please call Pete at 791-8609.**

**As a reminder: Stay on the trail at all times-we identify and mark hazards on the trail system, off trail, hazards are not marked. Our landowners allow us to use specific potions of their land. Some of our trails are on Winter Wheat-riding off trail, especially in marginal condition does damage to this cash crop (and may end up closing land off to us). As our signs say: Stay on the Trail or Stay Home. There may be better conditions off the trail, but there is a reason the trail is where it is-mostly because our landowners want the trail there. If you see a sign knocked down, please stop and put it back up, if possible-if not, please let a Groomer Operator or the club know.**

**If you plan to trailer/drop at the Shawnee Fire Hall, make sure to use the ‘Drop Zone’ designated by signs (by the baseball backstop). Don’t ride in the parking lot-carbides cut through the blacktop. On Wednesday Nights (Bingo Nights), please do not block up several parking spaces-long rigs can be parked on the sides of the access road on the east side of the hall (please don’t block traffic though).**

**The club would like to thank Herb Stephenson for organizing and running the club’s Spring/Summer Fundraiser (this year was a ‘meat raffle’). Herb secured sponsorship from KiPo Motors covering the printing cost of tickets and arranged the prizes from D.H. Cloy and Son Freezer Meats and Tops Friendly Markets. The club realized approx. an $800 profit from this raffle.**

**Our Annual Landowner Appreciation Dinner was held on April 29th. This dinner is held each year to thank the landowners that make our trail system possible. We had almost 80 people join us for dinner and discussion-Assemblyman John Ceretto and Chairman of the Niagara County Legislature, Bill Ross joined us and spoke briefly. The club owes a huge debt of gratitude, once again, to our president, Brent Walck, for procuring a huge assembly of door prizes-every landowner went home with at least one gift! The Shawnee Vol. Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary, once again, cooked a dinner to remember and a good time was had by all.**

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**We are in need of nighttime and daytime groomer operators-if you are willing and able to learn to drive and maintain our groomer, please call Herb at 523-1242 to get on the schedule.**

**Did you know that the Groomer(s) have the right of way at all times on the trail system? This is the law in New York State. If you approach a groomer from behind, do not pass until the Operator has stopped or pulled off and has signaled you to pass. We groom at all times of the day and night-please be aware that you may come around a corner face-to-face with a groomer. Please make sure to say thanks to the groomer operators-they make the trails safe and flat-and to do that, they are giving up time with their families and time away from sledding.**

**Shawnee Sno-Chiefs logo clothing is available to order at each meeting. These are high quality items with the club name and logo stitched in-Sweatshirts, Long Sleeve T-shirts, Short Sleeve T-shirts, and Polo shirts. The come in a choice of colors and sizes. Please see Michelle Walck to order. Items are pre-ordered and pre-paid.**

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