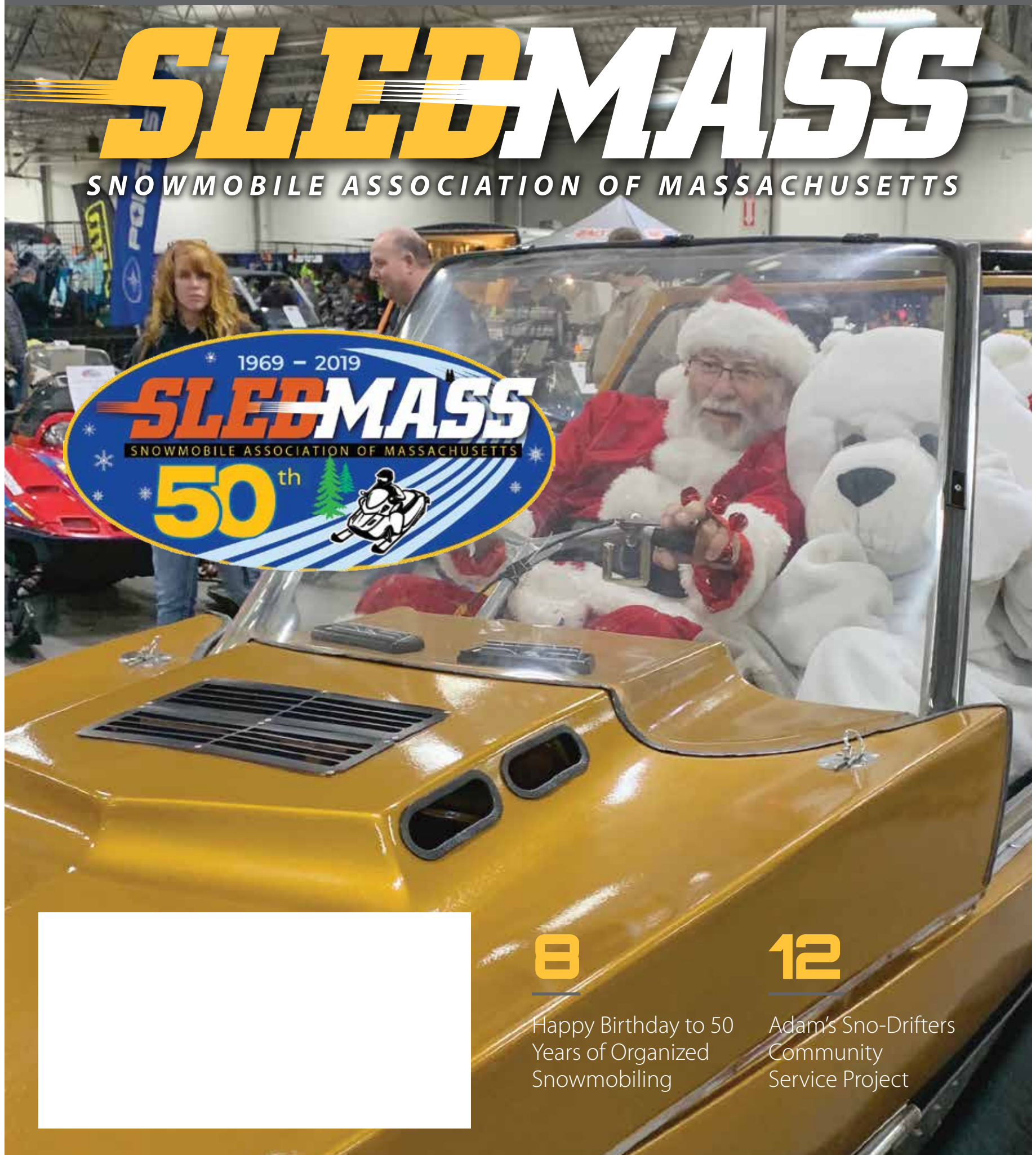


SLEDMASS

SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION OF MASSACHUSETTS



8

Happy Birthday to 50
Years of Organized
Snowmobiling

12

Adam's Sno-Drifters
Community
Service Project



SLEDMASS

The Official Publication of the
Snowmobile Association of Massachusetts

MANAGING EDITOR

Keri Wanner, 701-220-5829
keri@driven2pushboundaries.com

COPY EDITORS

Rena Sumner
Jeff Miller

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Stewart Moon

ADVERTISING SALES

Steve Howland, 413-522-3320
sales@sledmass.com

Printing services provided by Daily Hampshire Gazette

SAM OFFICERS

Jeff Miller, President
Mike Sarafin, Vice President
Tina Lacroix, Treasurer
Jon Tobin, Secretary

CONTRIBUTORS: We welcome unsolicited materials and letters for possible publication. Stories, manuscripts, photos, artwork and other contributions must be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish it returned. SledMass accepts no responsibility for returns, losses or damage of unsolicited materials. Letters to the Editor must be signed with address and telephone number of the sender. We reserve the right to edit the material to suit the presentation and available space.

SUBMISSIONS: P.O. Box 386, Conway, MA 01341.
info@sledmass.com.

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ON THE COVER

Santa and Sammi checking out a new ride! PHOTO BY JEFF DAY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Future

I love history. History is an important part of our society, and if we don't keep it alive, it will be lost forever. Snowmobiling is no different. Come to my garage and see all the historical treasures (my wife says junk) that are jam packed in there. 50 years of memories that I can sit and relive every day. History is valuable and it must never be lost. But history is just that, history. It is a time gone by that will never return. We all say "I wish it was the way it used to be. It was a simpler time". While we all say we wish the old times were back, we really need to look at where we were, are now, and where we are going in the future.

As a kid, I remember riding my trusty old Elan all day long, I never wanted to stop. Well as all of us old timers will remember, bogie wheel suspension was not ideal for keeping trails smooth. After a few days those trails no longer looked like snowmobile trails, but more like craters on the moon. Before long, my trusty steed would dive into hole in the trail that never seemed to end. Coming out the other side of the cavern my Elan leapt out the other side, skis pointing skyward never touching the top of the mogul. Five feet later I would repeat the process. So out comes the state-of-the-art wooden pallet to smooth the trails out. As you all can imagine, it didn't work that well. As years went by clubs evolved and began to sprout up. Now club were using snowmobiles with "Frenchie" drags. Wow, the trails were like superhighways! As snowmobiles became bigger new grooming equipment was needed. Now purpose-built sleds with heavy drags are built to not only smooth trails, but also "cut" the trails so they are baby smooth. Today, we have many more UTV's and large groomers with enclosed cabs such as Tuckers and Pisten Bullies. Gone are the days of freezing while grooming trails.

The future in grooming now is GPS tracking. Today's riders now have all the info they need to ride the best trails at a touch of a button on their phone. They will be able to know what has been groomed, trails will be clearly marked and all services at their disposal. In my wildest dreams as a kid pulling a pallet, did I ever think it would be like this. With a touch of a button on my phone, I can see where I

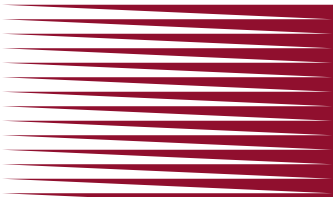
Today's riders now have all the info they need to ride the best trails at a touch of a button on their phone.

am on the trails and I can see what trails have been groomed. I like the future!

Snowmobiles are no different. Getting ready for the riding season is awesome. This time of year, I head down into the garage for some "motor therapy." After a few hours of tinkering on some old sleds (or junk to someone in the house!), I stroll up reeking of fuel, gear oil and 2 stroke smoke. Back in the day these were state of the art machines. How could they ever improve on these 2 stroke beasts? As time went on, they did get better. Suspension became so good to suck up any bump a trail could conjure up. Handlebars and helmet shields became heated. No more frost-bitten fingers or scrapping your shield so you can see. Carburetors were soon replaced with fuel injection. Fuel injection on a snowmobile? What am I going to do with my drawer full of jets? 4 stroke engines are now commonplace in our snowmobiling world. Years ago, it was unheard of a 4-stroke having power to keep up with the mighty 2 stroke. It is not uncommon to ride 200 plus miles a day with today's modern sleds. If I put 10 miles on my Elan a day, I was probably lucky. Next big thing on the Horizon, electric snowmobiles. We can all chuckle about that thought, but remember we thought 4 strokes would not survive in the industry. I hope this winter to give one a rip and see how they perform.

We all love the past but look what the future has brought to our sport. The changes we have all seen is truly amazing and it is all for the better. So, don't just sit in the past, but embrace the future and welcome what comes over the horizon. Something that we think will never work, before you know it, it will be mainstream. So, give the future a try, you just may like it! 🐾

Jeff Miller, SAM President



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Snowmobilers – Call to Action



LEGISLATIVE BILL S2281

NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

By Susan Smiley

As the 2019-2020 Season kicks off, with the excitement of celebrating Fifty (50) years of organized Snowmobiling in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, there has never been a more critical time for Snowmobilers to raise their hands, raise their voices and raise their pens/emails/twitter and telephone CALL OUTS!!

With SAM proudly encompassing thirty-one (31) clubs and their respective Board of Director Members, our Commonwealth recreation organization needs each and every snowmobiler out there from Cape Cod to Cape Ann to Worcester and out to North Adams to reach out to their elected officials and let them know who we are and what kind of Legislative support we thirst for.

Reading through the first edition (October 2019) of SLEDMASS, absorbing, respecting and appreciating the hard work each and every one of our Clubs are doing, the undying base of **volunteers** that make up this **sport of snowmobiling** and the generosity of **ALL** those that contribute to the various charities within their communities and specifically to Camp SnoMo, I humbly reflect what an incredible value and benefit **snowmobilers** promote, share and give back to our communities and the Commonwealth.

Many winter and summer outdoor recreationalists and environmentalists (arguably one in the same) are not informed and/or ill-informed about the work and dedication our base of **snowmobile volunteers** does to create and maintain the multiple trails throughout Massachusetts. Whether it be out in the Worcester, Hampden, Franklin, Hampshire and/or Berkshire Counties, there are a wide variety of people from all

over Massachusetts, New England, the Atlantic States and across the US that visit us and have the good fortune to enjoy, on their weekends and vacations, all seasons of the year our beautiful outdoor spaces. Be it known, it is our 31 Clubs and SAM that are working collaboratively with our valued Commonwealth agencies, local Land Trusts, Municipal partners and *Private Land-owners* to clean and care for the multiple trails and trail networks, state and town forests and land trust acreage.

To that point, SAM and Snowmobilers should acknowledge and be extremely grateful for the understanding and investment that our Governor, Charlie Baker and Lieutenant Governor, Karyn Polito are doing with regards to Trail Connectivity. **THEY GET IT!!** However, despite the many Representatives, in both the House and Senate that support us, there remains the need to continue outreach and provide that knowledge of our sport and the examples of value, we truly provide.

However, SAM and ALL Snowmobilers need to make a deeper and wider infiltration of knowledge-sharing to our Legislative body. **This IS our CALL TO ACTION!!** It is incumbent upon each of us snowmobilers and our partners, whether you be a business owner, landowner, dog-sledder, horseback rider, snow shoe tracker,

XC Skier, dog walker, or simply someone that enjoys the great outdoors on a crisp Autumn day or immediately after the first packable snowfall, the pristine experience of easily accessing and enjoying a trek on a Commonwealth trail, we need your voice! We also welcome your pen to paper, your time to utilize that cell phone, your strokes on the keyboard to send an email and/or simply taking the time to visit your local legislative office location and have a conversation.

Legislative Bill S2281 represents "AN ACT PROMOTING SNOWMOBILING SUSTAINABILITY." The attributes of S2281 contain what I refer to as "no brainer", common-sense, safety and sport-investing components that will further our fifty years of hard work and dedication in providing trail systems for a multitude of diverse users.

So, when you do your CALL TO ACTION let your Legislators know you support one or all of the following attributes of S2281:

The attributes of S2281 contain "no brainers,"
common-sense, safety and sport-investing
components that will further our fifty years
of hard work and dedication

- Increase the membership on the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Stewardship Council and more importantly include a member of SAM (SAM is the *largest paying* user group of DCR property)
- Allow Landowners to access the recreational land tax rate (Chapter 61B) if they open their land to public recreational snowmobiling. (Incentive for our landowners allowing snowmobile use)
- Establish/Create a 3-day "free snowmobile weekend" allowing out-of-state and/or Canadian snowmobilers the opportunity to ride in Massachusetts free. (currently other states offer this and it benefits our business partners and will promote out-of-state riders more to experience the Mass trail system)
- Establish fines for anyone who operates a wheeled motor vehicle over a public trail designed for snow vehicles. (this is primarily to preserve our trail system and ensure safety on groomed trails)
- During periods of sufficient snow cover and upon agreement between SAM/Mass Environmental Police and Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs allow for the use on new and existing recreational trails, also known as rail trails (too many available rail trails that provide critical connectivity to services are going unused and/or un-groomed for multiple recreational use – SAM would be happy to

have access and provide maintenance for those rail trails)
Understand the point of "no brainer"??

OK – this is YOUR Call to Action!!

If your specialty is email or phone dialing or even good old-fashioned letter writing, please make the effort to reach out to your local Representative, both House and/or Senate and make that communication. NOW is the Time!!

Be sure to identify, in your communication, your name, your town, your club, how long you have been a member of SAM and/or what snowmobiling means to you. Make it personal, make it compelling and simply make the ASK. Your local Club or your SAM Board of Directors can help you construct the communication if you are unclear on how, or the structure necessary.

More than ever, let's get this S2281 Snowmobile Sustainability Legislation over the goal line and bring on another 50 years, and future generations worth of Snowmobiling happiness! 🐾

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BERNARDSTON GILL LEYDEN SNOWMOBILE CLUB

MEETING TIME

Bernardston Veterans Club
16 Hartwell Street
Bernardston, MA 01337
Last Monday of the month at 7 p.m.
August through March

CLUB OFFICERS

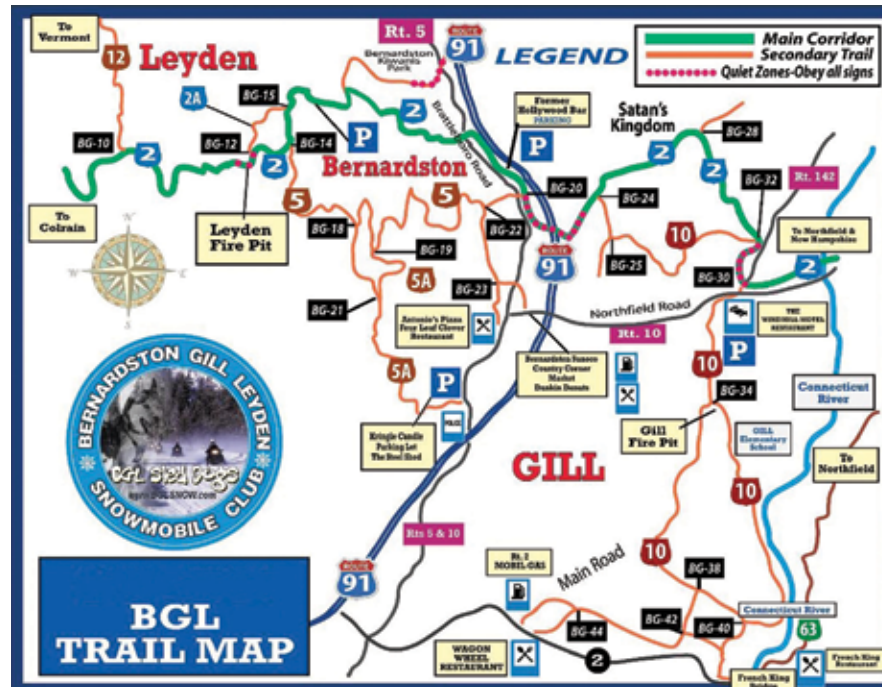
Jared Smith – President
1-413-834-1665
Dan Hale – Vice President
1-413-522-4823

ABOUT OUR CLUB

A couple of years ago when snow goer magazine called the Bernardston Gill Leyden snowmobile club the “Gateway to the Berkshires” as a club we had a good laugh. But if you look at all that our club has to offer we are actually a whole lot more.

Located on the I-91 corridor on the Vermont border we have parking literally minutes from Exit 28. Our main one is the overflow lot of Kringle Candle on route 5&10 and is within walking distance to their store and Farm table Restaurant. Also there is the Windmill motel located on Route 10 where if you chose to make a weekend out of it you can stay trailside.

Once out on the club trails that cover the 3 towns and 70 plus groomed miles, in Bernardston there are a few food options which include the Four Leaf Clover, The Country Corner Store and with a short walk you can get to Hillside



The BGL club trail map



BGL Tracked groomers



TRAIL PASS LOCATIONS

Rays Cycle Center
322 Wells Street
Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone: 413-773-8718
Hours: Mon thru Thur 9-530,
Fri 9-8, Sat 9-4

Steel Shed Inc
39 Bernardston Road
Bernardston, MA 01337
Phone: 413-773-9601
Hours: Mon thru Fri 8-4

Pizza or Antonio's 2 pizza. If your sled needs fuel you can access the Sunoco gas station which also has a Dunkin Donuts. Then from Gill you can enjoy the Scenic French King Bridge on your way to the French King Restaurant and connects to the town of Northfield's trails.

If you chose to bring your own meals, we have 2 locations where our club gathers to warm both our hands and “buns”. These are located in Leyden and the other in Gill. Usually on Sunday afternoons there is an open invitation to all to get together in at the Leyden fire pit where it is encouraged to show off your outdoor cooking skills.

Our a groomer fleet includes Skandic snowmobiles, 2 tracked mini trucks, a tracked side by side UTV and a pair of tracked Geo trackers. These machines and our club operate smoothly because of volunteers and local businesses that include... The Steel Shed Inc, Beckwiths Auto, Ray's Cycle Center and Green River Powersports. Also to help us find our way on the trail with signs and our machines looking sharp Hale Custom Signs has us covered. I encourage all of you to show your appreciation by supporting them with your business.

For all club info on trail reports and activities we do our best to keep our webpage www.BGLSNOW.com, our Facebook page “Bernardston Gill Leyden Snowmobile Club” and our club page on www.sledmass.com.

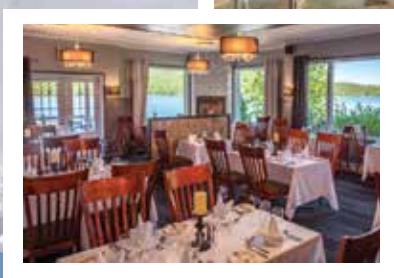
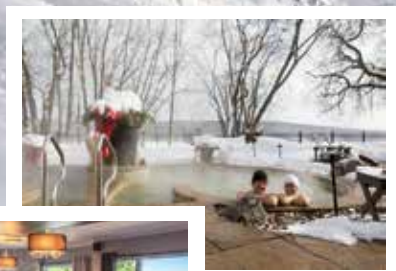
PLEASE remember as you enjoy our club trails or any other clubs' trails Show respect to our land owners and obey all trail sign requests, especially for curfews and quiet zones. Our trails like most in Massachusetts are made possible by generous private land owners who most of them don't even own sleds.

Hope to see you out there... “Ride Safe and Keep the Rubber Side Down!”

FOR MORE INFO

Website: www.BGLSNOW.com
Facebook page: [bernardston-gill-leyden snowmobile club](https://www.facebook.com/bernardston-gill-leyden-snowmobile-club)
Contact:
Jeff Miller 413-522-0796
Jared Smith 413-834-1665
Brad Stafford 413-374-4201

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The Hadley Snowmobile Club displays some snowmobiling memorabilia at the Sled Expo

Happy Birthday to of Organized Snowmobiling

By Tom Lively
 Past SAM President

The Snowmobile Association of Mass is 50 years old this year. WOW, how did that happen? Time goes by so fast, or so it seems when looking back.

When I look back, I see not only the Association but also the clubs that are the heart of snowmobiling. They are the Association and over the years have grown their clubs as well as the Association to mature and meaningful organizations. They have seen what can happen, what needs to happen and taken action to make things happen, all by coming together for common interests.

We might look at the Association as young men and women growing up.

From infancy, the teen years, the middle years and now at the 50-year mark we see a mature and respected organization. Working together the Association and the clubs have made valuable connections to State Agencies and Governmental delegates, we have become respected by our neighboring organizations, and we have improved our trail systems and grooming capabilities.

Throughout our growing years there were often key decisions made that

have helped bring us to where we are today. While it can certainly be debated, one of the very key moments for me is when we decided to hire an Executive Director. Prior to having an executive director, it was the President of the Association that handled the day to day issues that arose. As the Association grew so did the demands and time required to keep it up. It wasn't just hiring an individual but creating a whole new position to carry us into the future. It



Sleds from the 50th Anniversary display at the Sled Expo

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They found a way
to come together to
support a fledgling sport
that has become a
significant part
of all our lives.

was not an easy task and opinions were varied, but by working together we got it right.

What would I consider to be the most important decision we ever made? It was the action of a handful of dedicated snowmobilers 50 years ago. They found a way to come together to support a fledgling sport that has become a significant part of all our lives. We owe them a huge THANK YOU for their foresight, energy and dedication to snowmobiling. And who are “they”?

- President: Philip L. Sharp - Plainville Mass
- Treasurer: Elizabeth DI Stasio - Randolph Mass
- Secretary: Jeanne M. Fleming - Stoughton Mass
- Directors: John E. Merry, Richard DI Stasio, Henry P. Randlov, Peter D. Fraser

These are the responsible officers of the “Snowmobile Association of Massachusetts Inc” who on November 19, 1969 filed “Articles of Organization” with the Secretary of the Commonwealth, to formally create the “Snowmobile Association of Massachusetts Inc”

What are some of the changes we’ve been able to accomplish due to our Association S.A.M.?

- The new sled registration decals – remember the large numbers that were required
- A statewide trail pass system approved by the legislators.
- Grooming support for our clubs – including brown grooming
- A Vintage snowmobile registration that allows use of these sleds at a reduced fee.
- Association & Club liability insurance - working to protect the generosity of our landowners
- NEW mapping systems – Map App
- A connection for local businesses to reach snowmobilers across the Commonwealth
- State of the art Website and Communications



Sleds from the 50th Anniversary display at the Sled Expo

- A legislative director position that has not only helped us with critical legislation but has been our representative in the State house maintaining our interests on a day to day basis.

Can you imagine where we would be without SAM? We have a lot to be proud of and thankful for.

As this year winds down, take a few moments to think back to our friends and mentors that have made this all possible. Remember their good work and dedication that helped us get where we are today and will continue to help us through the coming years. Happy Birthday S.A.M. 🐾





BUCKLAND RIDERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB



That gully won't bother us this year!

CLUB NEWS

Go Outside! That's what my mother said on a pretty regular basis to me, and my brother and sister and always with the exclamation point. Turns out it was a win-win request. My mother got some much-needed peace and quiet and I learned to love the outdoors.

In preteen years that meant hours of hide and seek or tag football in the back yard. We had plenty of good trees for climbing, a big driveway area for tricycles, then bicycles and skateboards. And when my mother had time she'd join us at a local swimming hole. We even kept a row boat there that we could fish from.

From being a teenager through today though, being outside has mostly meant summer sports like hiking and motorcycling, and winter sports like skiing and snowmobiling. If I had to choose a season to be outdoors more than indoors it would be winter and I'd be on my sled. Who needs hot steamy days with too many bugs. Give me a cold clear winter day anytime.

I know I'm preaching to the choir, but keep sharing this idea with your winter house bound friends and take them for a ride when you get a chance. Even better take them out grooming in a heated groomer late at night with a gentle snow falling. If that doesn't convince someone of the magic of winter outdoors, then I don't know what will.

As a club, the Buckland Riders members and friends were outdoors a lot this fall cutting a new trail around a new house going up (we seem to be doing this every year) and clearing existing trails. We keep going wider, too as we



Night time on the trails

working gradually to turn the old goat paths into better trails.

The trail from the Hawley Bog to Middle Rd in the Dubuque State Forest is open again for the first time since Hurricane Irene. We are still using the old bridges as the grant project for replacing them is slow going with the environmental part and all the sign offs needed from the powers that be. Patience is not one of my strong points, but patience is what it takes when the state is involved.

Of course, the work never ends, so please join us for meetings at the Buck-

land Fire House on Second Mondays at Seven or on the trails most weekends. Find out more at www.BucklandRiders.com or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Buckland-Riders-Snowmobile-Club>—Steven Howland

MEETING DATES

Second Monday of the month, October through April at the Buckland Fire Station, 7 p.m.

CLUB CONTACT

Steve Howland, 413-522-3320 or club@bucklandriders.com

TRAIL PASS LOCATIONS

Happy Trails package store, Rte. 2 in Shelburne

Frank Labelle's Outdoor Equipment Shop, Rte 112 in Buckland

Casey Griswold Repair next to Neighbor's Store, State Street, Shelburne Falls

Shelburne Farm and Garden, Rte 2 Shelburne or online anytime at www.BucklandRiders.com





Dangerous materials removed from swing area



More Dangerous materials removed from swing area



Getting started with help from a grade 5 student

Adams Sno-Drifters Community Service Project

SUMMER 2019 PROJECT AT

ST. STAN'S MOST DEMANDING YET

By Joe Rogge

School Principal

Adams Sno-Drifters Board of Directors

All SAM clubs and members interact with their communities in a number of ways. Yes, we all do trail trims. Yes, we interact with landowners. Yes, we communicate with city/town government. Yes, we partner with DCR. Yes, we support local and state law enforcement. Yes, we support safe snowmobiling. Yes, we do special charity projects. All of the above are required of a responsible organization. Every year our club, the Adams Sno-Drifters, is involved in a variety of charity projects which help those in need. Every year our first two or three meetings are devoted to discussing our designated charity for the upcoming season. Each year we have a worthwhile project. Usually the project involves some type of monetary contribution.

This year the project was quite different. More than money, it required “blood and sweat.” It turned out to be one of our most extensive non-trail projects in our history. The project was done at the Saint Stanislaus Kostka School located on Summer Street in Adams. For several years the school sought to install a double gate at its southwest exit. This was necessary to insure proper safety protocols as recommended by local and state police. Originally the gate was blocked by jersey barriers. These barriers were ordered removed for safety and fire apparatus access. A donated double section of steel gate

sat unused for an extended time. Also, the edging of the school’s playground needed removal for safety reasons. In the winter of 2019 the principal of the school brought this problem to the club. The club immediately accepted this project for completion “in the summer.” Club leadership took on the challenge and coordinated the process with several members (including the Trail Trim Gang).

Equipment was lined up, parts were fabricated and painted. Installation occurred during the summer. Also, the playground edging was removed and the base re-graded. It should be



Leveling main gate posts



Prepping main gate post



Janik's Garage as fabrication shop



Club member's donated equipment in use

noted that our president and his family provided many materials, equipment, expertise, and their own property to insure the project was done correctly. The project was well documented with dozens and dozens of photos. Although it may not be evident in the few pictures included here, please note the wide variety of ages of helpers. Of particular significance is a grade five student of the school who helped. During the first week of this school

year the principal was able to proudly show off the new gate to Adams Police Chief Tarsa, some members of the Alerts volunteer fire department, and State Trooper Andy Canata (Troop B Community Action Team). Saint Stan's School prides itself on community service and helping others. The Drifters have provided the school with a model of successful community involvement. Saint Stan's School thanks the Adams Sno-Drifters! 🐾



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CLUB CONTACTS

President Austin Snape
413.522.6846
Vice President Mike Barlow
413.369.9918
Treasurer Craig Warner
413.369.4703
Secretary Amy Faut
413.320.3416
SAM Delegate Adam Sokoloski
413.250.8376

www.sledconway.com
www.facebook.com/
ConwaySnowmobileClub

MEETING TIME

First Monday of the month, September through April, 6:30 p.m. at Conway Inn, 43 Main Street, Conway, MA 01341

CLUB NEWS

A big thank you to everyone that visited us at the Sled Expo. We enjoyed the opportunity to visit with snowmobilers and spread the word about Conway's Trail System. We sold some trail passes, some trailer raffle tickets, met some future snowmobilers on their scavenger hunt for stickers, and got to answer questions. There seemed to be a good mix of people at the Expo this year: we saw many experienced riders, as well as a few people that had just purchased their first sled, so we were kept on our toes.

Some of the questions were pretty straight forward (after we explained that

we were from Conway Massachusetts), but some questions and comments caught us off guard.

Where can you go from Conway? Several people were not aware that you can ride from Conway to Mount Greylock, or if you are really adventurous, you can make it to Canada. While the over 120 miles of trail in the Conway system keep us quite busy, we wanted people to know that our system connects to other club's systems. While some are happy to stay on our trail system, our neighbors in Ashfield (Hilltown), Whately (Greater Whately), Buckland (Buckland Riders) and Williamsburg (Burdy Bullets), have great trails too. And that's just the beginning. So, while we hope to see you enjoying the local trails, remember, your trail pass gives you access to over 2000 miles of trails in the state.

After showing people the map on display while answering the previous question, the next one we usually got was usually related to lack of snow. How can we get to the hills in the west (Savoy, Florida etc.) if there is no snow in the valley? I guess that's poor marketing on our part. A couple of miles west of Interstate 91, the terrain has already gained 1000 feet of elevation (on average). In a marginal snow winter, this makes a big difference. Admittedly, the last couple of years have been way too short, once you gain some elevation and get into the woods, there was rideable snow. And with seven groomers in our



Crossing suspension bridge on Route 93. PHOTO SUBMITTED BY DAVID REJNIAK.

fleet, if there is snow, there is a good chance, someone is out grooming a trail on our system. As I frequently remind people, a bare backyard in the valley, does not mean you can't ride in the hills.

We fielded questions about how much our groomers cost (a lot) and how much we paid our operators (nothing). This prompted the discussion about volunteers. While we have dedicated volunteers, most of them have been doing this for a while, and would like to slow down a little and hand off the torch to the next generation of volunteers. This is slowly happening in our club with more people coming forward to help out. I tried to impress upon our visitors that

it doesn't require them to promise all of their free time, that most of the work is very flexibly scheduled. I got some nods, and some promises of involvement. I firmly believe that every club member has some skill or bit of knowledge that could help the club. I tried to end the conversation with an invitation to a meeting. Come on out, help us guide the club down the trail.— *Ed Skorupski*

CLUB EVENT SCHEDULE

FEB. 2, 2020

Annual Pancake Breakfast
Ride into the Conway Firehouse
7:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.


<http://www.sledmasstrailpass.com>

Buy Your Trail Pass ONLINE!!

sledmasstrailpass.com

TRAIL PASS LOCATIONS

Online!
www.sledmasstrailpass.com

**Neighbor's
Convenience Store**
242 Conway Road
South Deerfield, MA
413-665-2830

Ray's Cycle Center
332 Wells Street
Greenfield, MA
413-773-8718

Baker's Country Store
Route 116
Conway, MA
413-369-4936

Sunderland Corner Store
101 North Main Street
Sunderland, MA
413-397-2002

The Spirit Shoppe
53C South Main Street
South Deerfield, MA
413-665-2456

Delta Sand and Gravel
562 Amherst Road
Sunderland, MA
413-665-4051

Ciesluk's Market
55C North Main Street
South Deerfield, MA
413-397-3574



GOSHEN HIGHLANDERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB

MEETING TIME

First and third Monday of each month
at 7 p.m. at Spruce Corner Restaurant,
190 Berkshire Trail West, Goshen, MA

CLUB CONTACTS

Bryan Osetek, President/SAM Delegate
bosetek217@yahoo.com

CLUB NEWS

Goshen Highlanders Snowmobile Club (GHSC) was established in 2003 with just 38 members that year. We are located in the scenic mountains of Goshen, MA. We offer 42 miles of trails, 16 of which run through the DAR State Forest. Our trail system will bring you around town or lead you to Chesterfield, Williamsburg or Ashfield; connecting you to many points beyond.

Throughout the DAR State Forest you can visit the fire tower, Camp Howe, and if safe, both Upper and Lower Highland Lakes. In town, you can reach Spruce Corner Restaurant along Corridor 9 where you will find good eats, homemade desserts, beverages and friendly and trail knowledgeable staff. The Goshen General Store is accessible off secondary 112. Along with club memberships, trail maps and trail passes they carry a variety of snowmobile parts and accessories both in stock and available to order, deli style and convenience store snacks and local goodies.

The trails are maintained solely by volunteers and new faces are always welcome! During the fall, most weekends, you can find a group of enthusiastic members' brush hogging, trimming, rebuilding bridges, removing obstacles and performing general trail upkeep. We advertise these work bees through a text system and on our Facebook page which we update regularly. Our club provides lunch to its members at Spruce Corner Restaurant following a morning of productive group trail work. During the winter we have a dedicated grooming crew who operate a variety of equipment including a tracked John Deere tractor, Skandic, RTV and a Bombi. These are all volunteers and work very hard to provide the best experience possible on our trails.



Grooming the DAR last season!

When you see them out there, stop and say hi, and thank them for the great job they do and their dedication to the sport!

Please join us at our bimonthly meetings at the Spruce Corner Restaurant, 188 Berkshire Trail West (RT 9) on the 1st and 3rd Monday evenings at 7pm. Always remember to respect land owners, our trails depend on them and ride safely! See you out there in just a few weeks. #thinksnow— *Bryan Osetek*

TRAIL PASS LOCATIONS

Goshen General Store
31 Main Street
Goshen, MA 01032
Phone: 413-268-7268

Spruce Corner Restaurant
190 Berkshire Trail West
Goshen, MA 01032
Phone: 413-268-3188



Clearing some downed trees from corridor 9 last year.



A colorful look from the fire tower. Soon will turn to white.

Family Sled Trip: Mom, Dad,
little brother, sister, and me

My Life in Snowmobiling



A day of racing: Mom, Dad, and me

CHANCE
RIDE UP
SKI SLOPE
FUELS
OBSESSION
FOR THE
SIMULAS

By Rick Simula

The Simula family for the most part were skiers in the 60s. We skied Mt. Wachusett and Fitzwilliams ski tows, most winters weekends. This is where my story changed from skiing to snowmobiles. At the Mt. Wachusett rope tow, a maintenance worker was zooming up a steep slope next to us. I was a pretty bold teenager in those days and asked him for a ride to the top—he agreed! I was so impressed with this thing called a snowmobile, I had my dad come with us the next day to hopefully catch a ride on this cool machine. I introduced my dad to this fellow and he told my dad to take it for a spin. That afternoon my father went looking for a snowmobile franchise. In 1968, we established our first Artic Cat dealership called Holmes Motor Sales in Gardner, Mass. We had five or six new 1969 Panthers to sell. It was breathtaking for a kid of 14 years old to see these black sleds with their yellow leopard seats for the first time. We uncrated them, put skis on, shined them up, and Dad said, “Do you want to try one?” This decision was totally against his business partner, Bob Holmes. It was October!

He fueled up a 246 Hirth Panther and drove it out to a plot of grass next to the dealership, by three that afternoon I had an oval in the grass worn down to dirt, and was out of fuel! Dad said, “That’s enough for today.” Much to his dismay, I had worn the hyfax down a lot. Who knew!

Bob Holmes was furious with me and wanted to know how could I do this to a brand-new machine?

Dad moved his dealership out of there the following month to its new home at our house in South Royalston, Mass. Simula Snowmobile had arrived and he had total control. Dad

was clever, he offered free rides at the Royalston Fish & Games Club with his now broke-in 246 Panther. On Royalston’s King Street, we sold 10 or so units in the first year. Everybody bought one in 1970—friends, relatives—in two years, 1969-70, dad sold 60 sleds.



Racing with Dad in Gardner, Mass.

Coming into 1972 we bought out another Cat dealer in Winchendon, Mass., hence, Toy Town Recreation was born. This business was located at the junction of Rt. 12 and 140 in Winchendon, Mass., 1972-73 were booming years in the sled business, we also sold Hodaka bikes, Amphi-Cats and Max 8 wheeled machines.

Gloom and doom came with the 1974 fuel crisis and also the crippling snow-less winters. We sold our building in 1974 and took the franchise back to good old South Royalston. Dad purchased a gas station in town and Simula Snowmobile was back. In 1974-75, the nation was in the middle of a fuel crisis, Cat was pushing dealers to take 100 units. Dad said the bottom floor for the sleds would have been \$150,000. He dropped the franchise. If your refused the sleds you were done. As 1977 rolled around winters were getting better, but his health was not. My world came crashing down on September 11, 1977,



My mom, Nancy Simula, in her 1972 Cat Showroom in Winchendon, MA



Royalston Fish & Game Club 1970: I'm second from left in front row. George Simula and Roy Smith top row. Gary Simula, Betty Simula, David Pru middle center



Trophy race 1969. Myself far left, George and Nancy Simula far right



1969 Arctic Cat School in Randolph, Vt.

when my father suffered a fatal heart attack at the age of 46. We had spent 8 years riding and racing—Eagle River Wisconsin World Series, he drove 32 straight hours to get us there; Weed-sport World Series, Malone, N.Y.; Bangor, Me., we raced everything Cat had to offer. With his passing, I guess

you could say the thrill was gone. I still raced various brands into my retirement in 1990. I crashed drag racing in front of my family doing close to 100 mph in Northwood, N.H., on Northwood Lake. I hope you enjoy this story about growing up in a snowmobile family in the early days of the sport. 🐾



Jumping at the Gardner Winter Carnival, South Royalston. David Proulx sets the jump record at 57 feet.



Headed for a race in Lancaster, N.H. My sister Ruth and Dad pulled this with a '61 Lincoln Continental



More racing news. Gene Livingston on left, George Simula on right



Son, Rick Jr., holding down the Wildcat Express

FUN FACTS

My mother and father revolutionized South Royalston, Mass., among area towns. On any given snowy night, it would be common to see 8 to 10 sleds in single file powering down Main Street. Most were members of the Birch Hill Rangers Snowmobile Club. My cousin Gary Simula and I lived about two or three miles apart. The Simulas cut a trail from my uncle's house to Gary's grandmother's house. We had a 292 Puma Mod and a 340 Hirth Mod Panther we used to take turns riding. From day to day you could hear that 292 Puma Mod leave Phillipston, Mass., and head for the trail two miles away. The 292 had a straight megaphone exhaust. Man was that thing loud—what a hot rod.



Business Supporters of SledMass

A-1 Parts, Inc.

26 West Main Street
Brookfield, MA, 01506
508-867-4120
www.a1parts.biz

Al Joy Tire Arctic Cat

466 Main Street
Southington, CT, 06489
860-628-2728
www.aljoytire.com

Billerica Motorsports

6 Riveredge Road
Billerica, MA, 01862
978-667-1518
billericamotorsports@comcast.net

BiteHarder

516 Province Rd
Laconia NH 03246
855-294-2483
www.biteharder.com
support@biteharder.com

Central Mass Power Sports

19 Massachusetts Ave
Lunenburg, MA 01462
978-429-3000
www.centralmasspowersports.com

EP Communications

437 Whittenton St
Taunton, MA, 02780
877-933-7266
www.epcommunications.net

Flamingo Motorsports

2 Wilbraham St.
Palmer, MA, 01069
413-284-1673
www.flamingomotorsports.com

Higgins Powersports

7 Worcester Road
Barre, MA, 01005
www.higginspowersports.com

Lee's Power Sports

171 West Rd
Ellington, CT 06029
860-875-1444
www.leespowersports.com

Mack Studs, Inc.

78 Long Island Rd
Moutonborough, NH 03254
603-279-3330
www.mackstud.com
jim@mackstud.com

Northern Outdoors

1771 US Route 201
The Forks, Maine, 04985
888-770-SLED
www.NorthernOutdoors.com

ProLine Products, LLC

34 Industrial Way
Milton, NH, 03851
603-852-7337
www.nhtrailers.com

Quebec Maritime

Bas-Saint-Laurent, Gaspesie,
Cote-Nord, Iles de la Madeleine
<http://goo.gl/MLQ7o>

The Retreat at Norwich Lake

128 Norwich Lake
Huntington, MA 01050
413-207-3142
www.retreatatnorwichlake.org
infonl@timothyhill.org

Ronnie's Mail Order

43 Ingram Road
New Ashford, MA, 01237
413-458-0373
www.ronniesmailorder.com

Sledtrack

115 Allen Road
Port Crane, NY, 13833
607-693-1031
www.sledtrack.com

Snogear

115 Allen Road, Suite 2
Port Crane, NY, 13833
800-394-8232
www.snogear.com

Voss Signs LLC

PO Box 553
Manlius, NY, 13104
800-473-0698
www.vosssigns.com

Inn on Golden Pond

1080 U.S. Route 3
Holderness, NH 03245
(603) 968-7269
www.innongoldenpond.com

MIB Construction and Hilltown Custom Cabinetry

149 Charlemont Rd
Charlemont, MA 01339
413-834-7303
www.hilltowncc.com

Village Carpentry LLC

45 Pleasant Street
Southampton, MA 01073
413-824-0204
www.villagecarpentryma.com

Wanda Mooney, Realtor

Wanda Mooney | Coldwell Banker
Upton Massamont REALTORS
7 Bridge Street
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
413-768-9848
www.wandamooney.com

Philbrick Motorsports

497 Groton Road
Westford, MA 01886
978-799-8001
www.philbrickmotorsports.com

Soundscape Merchandise

40 Front Street
Belchertown, MA 01007
(413) 213-1171
www.soundscapemerchandise.com

Troy Powersports

136 North Main Street
Troy, NH 03465
(603) 242-3397
www.troypowersportsnh.com

Poor Contrast

USE GOOD JUDGMENT

WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES ARE NOT IDEAL

By Jim Richard
Media Director
Knox Trail Sno-Riders

The dictionary defines contrast in the visual sense as the difference in visual properties that make an object distinguishable from other objects and the background. In my 40 years of enjoying snowmobiling, I have witnessed two accidents. Both were related in their cause to one thing: Poor contrast.

When an object in your path is indistinguishable from its surroundings, it becomes invisible. In the snowmobiler's "world of white", contrast is essential for safe travel. So what happens? What are the causes of poor contrast? When a white object, mound, or gully sits in a field of white, light from the sun or your headlight will illuminate the object and produce reflections and shadows which make the object distinguishable from its surroundings. When the sun is setting (or just rising), or the sky is heavily overcast, the illumination and shadows are not as prevalent. At that time,

your headlight is not bright enough to overcome the remaining daylight. Objects in your path disappear! In the two accidents, one was caused by hitting a snow covered rock at sunset, ejecting the rider and bending the suspension. The other was caused by the sled going airborne after running up a shoal in a drained lake bed at sunset. Loss of control caused the sled to slam into a stationary sled on the other side sending two riders to the ER and totaling two sleds. In both cases the objects would have been clearly visible had it not been for poor contrast. A sledder could pos-

sibly slam into a white vertical wall, not even seeing it until it was too late.

So what can be done to avoid this? The best prevention is to recognize the conditions that cause poor contrast and adjust your speed accordingly. Keep a mental inventory of as many terrain features and other sleds in your area as possible. If a sled suddenly disappears, there is something between you and the other sled hidden by poor contrast. That sled may reappear just as quickly, and it may be right in your path. Do not wear sunglasses or tinted face shields in poor contrast conditions. Keep your face shield clean and replace if scratched. Avoid overly tinted or opaque windshields. Do whatever is necessary to avoid fogged face shields or glasses.

Recognizing poor contrast and using good judgment in dealing with it will help to make your ride safe and accident free. 🛷



GREATER WHATELY SNOWMOBILE CLUB

MEETING TIMES

Meetings are held from September to April on the second Monday of the month. Meetings start at 7 p.m. This season we have moved our meeting location to the Hatfield Pub, 312 West St., (Route 5 & 10) N. Hatfield, MA, 01066

CLUB CONTACTS

Bob Sabola-President, 413-478-0733
Curt Hale-Vice President, 413-687-3523
Paul Bordura-Treasure, 978-380-0022
Matt Sabola-Secretary, 413-313-1402.

Website: www.sledmass.com/clubs/greater-whately-snowmobile-club/
Email: greaterwhatelysnowmobileclub@gmail.com

CLUB NEWS

This is the time of year when we're all rushing around trying to get our last-minute holiday shopping done. We have a great gift-giving idea that will put you at the top of your favorite snowmobiler's list! Why not buy them a 2019/2020 SAM Trail Permit! Stop by one of our retail locations and pick up a SAM Trail Permit for the snowmobiler in your life or even yourself. To purchase a SAM Trail Permit you will need to bring along a valid Massachusetts Snowmobile Registration for the sled that is in need of a trail permit. This information is required on the trail permit.

We offer 60 miles of groomed and interconnected trails along the Connecticut River and to the foothills of the Berkshires. We also have easy access to parking along State Rd. (Route 5 & 10) in Whately. Food, Lodging, and fuel are within minutes of our well-marked trail system.

On October 19, we hosted a Chicken BBQ at the Polish American Club in South Deerfield. What a blast! Over 140 club members and friends enjoyed a great meal, great entertainment, and a huge raffle! If you attended, thanks for your support! We hope to see you again next year.

The next big event will be our annual Club Ride! This year's ride will be held



First annual GWSC Barbecue

on February 22 and start from The Scott Horse Farm on North Street in Whately. Last winter's ride was a great success! This year we're planning for more surprises and fun. We hope to see you there.

As always, we appreciate the support that we receive from our friends and neighbors in Whately and the surrounding community. Without landowner permission our access to this trail system would not exist. Please respect our landowners and stay on marked trails! We thank you for your support in the past and hope that you'll join the Greater Whately Snowmobile Club again this coming season. We're looking forward to the 2019/2020 riding season. Ride smart and ride safe!

TRAIL PASS LOCATIONS

Muffin's General Store
28 State Rd, Whately, MA
413-397-3372

Valley Motor Sports
216 N. King St, Northampton, MA
413-584-7303

Ciesluk's Market
55C N. Main St, S. Deerfield, MA
413-397-3574

Fishtales Bar and Grill
5 School St, Hatfield, MA
413-349-9804

Josh's Detailing
16 North Main St, S. Deerfield, MA
413-397-9911

Curt Hale
126 Christian Lane, Whately, MA
413-687-3523

Hatfield Center Store
60 Main St, Hatfield, MA
413-247-6344

Bob Sabola
31 Hepburn Drive, Sunderland, MA
413-478-0733

Sled Expo 2019





CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
2019 SUPER RAFFLE WINNERS!

Thank you once again to Blizzard Manufacturing for their donation of the Super Raffle grand prize.

Donation by	Prize	Winner
Blizzard Manufacturing	Trailer or \$5,000	Rick Mandeville
Bernardston-Gill-Leyden Snowmobile Club	\$100	John Morich
Birch Hill Rangers Snowmobile Club	\$100	Jeff Kocut
Buckland Riders Snowmobile Club	\$100	Leicester Snowmobile Club
Burgy Bullets Snowmobile Club	\$100	Tucker Malinowski
Chesterfield Four Seasons Snowmobile Club	\$100	Rich Massey
Coldbrook Snowmobile Club	\$100	Bryan Majewski
Conway Snowmobile Club	\$100	Stephen McGovern
Easy Riders Snowmobile Club	\$100	Brian Sullivan
Florida Mountaineers Snowmobile Club	\$100	Kirk Stanawac
Goshen Highlanders Snowmobile Club	\$100	Michael Nielsen
Greater Whately Snowmobile Club	\$100	Kurt Straube
Hadley Snowmobile Club	\$100	Lorie Pollock
Harvard Snowmobile Club	\$100	Craig Dibble
Indianhead Snowmobile Club	\$100	Scott Wallace
Leicester Snowmobile Club	\$100	Ron Breen
Lunenburg Snow Riders Snowmobile Club	\$100	Diane Raczkowski
Porcupine Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club	\$100	Joe Skorski
Sandisfield Snowmobile Club	\$100	Bob Dirs
Savoy Canary Kats Snowmobile Club	\$100	Paul Theroux
Snow Riders of Nashaway	\$100	Peter Sielis
Snowmobilers United Snowmobile Club	\$100	Edward Libera III
Knox Trail Sno Riders Snowmobile Club	\$100 Amazon Gift Card	Sandra LaFrance
Worthington Snowmobile Club	\$100 GC Southside	Mill Valley S.C.
Berkshire Snow Seekers Snowmobile Club	Pontoon Boat Rental \$120v @ Pontoon U-drive	Stephen Szymkowicz
Snowbirds Snowmobile Club	\$50	Mike Richards
Adams Sno Drifters Snowmobile Club	\$50 GC Ronnies	Mike Lawson
Adams Sno Drifters Snowmobile Club	\$50 GC Southside Sales	Kris Auger
Snowbirds Snowmobile Club	\$25 GC Powersports Insurance	Lee Churchey
Snowbirds Snowmobile Club	\$25 GC Wicked Powersports	James Tenerwicz





HILLTOWN SNOWMOBILE CLUB

MEETING TIME

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Ashfield Fire station

CLUB CONTACTS

Mike Dufresne, SAM delegate
HilltownSnowmobileClub@yahoo.com

TRAIL REPORT

Trails are Closed until the club officially opens them. Trail trims have started, please come give us a hand. We meet at Ashfield Neighbors every Sunday at 9:00 am. Please bring a saw or other tools you have. Call Eli at (413) 530-9469 with any questions.

Visit our Facebook page for up to date information and trail reports
<https://www.facebook.com/hilltown-snowmobileclub/>

CLUB EVENT SCHEDULE:

DEC. 15, 2019

Community Christmas Party
Sanderson Academy
4-6 p.m.

TOD

Pancake Breakfast
Ashfield Lake House

TRAIL PASS LOCATIONS

Neighbors Convenience Store

244 Maine Street
Ashfield, MA
(413) 628-4467

Michael Dufresne

(413) 658-7584



Bridge repairs on corridor 90.



Clark family at our community Christmas party.



Club members grooming corridor 93.

United Snowmobile Alliance

By Marcia Miller

What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas. Isn't that the saying people repeat when they visit the Sin City? Well not in our case. Jeff and I visited Vegas a few weeks ago, arriving on a Wednesday and staying a few days to attend the United Snowmobile Alliance November meeting.

This is a group of very dedicated snowmobilers that come together once a month either via teleconference or face to face meetings. The purpose of the United Snowmobile Alliance (USA) is to bring forward issues that snowmobilers are struggling with so solutions can be found. At this time there are 13 states involved from the west coast to the east coast. Each state that has joined sends a delegate to attend these meetings so they can bring back ideas that maybe

they hadn't thought of before. I am the secretary for the USA and Jeff is the delegate from Massachusetts.

The meeting was held at the SEMA show at the Las Vegas convention center. If you ever needed or wanted motorized overload you need to visit this show. There were three huge buildings and the need for a fourth temporary building to hold all the new and exciting products for all things motorized. USA met in one of their conference rooms Friday

morning for a lively discussion of topics we have been talking about and researching. Some of the issues we are discussing are; how states fund their associations, loss of trails either state owned or private, how to work with those riders who want to want to do "off trail riding" and those who feel it is ok to "ride off trail", how do we work with the E bikes who are interested in using our trails, and many more. It is amazing to hear that some of these issues are common to each state and equally amazing to hear the different kinds of problems facing West coast riding vs East coast riding. One would think "riding is riding" but it isn't. Tread Lightly came to inform us of how their company can help with communication between Associations and members or helping to reach out to those new snowmobilers that need some direction before heading out into a world they might not be ready for. So many ideas, so little time. The dedication of this group working towards sustaining snowmobiling nation wide is impressive. If you would like to

see more of what USA is doing check out the website.

Jeff and I had a little time to do the "touristy" stuff by walking through some of the casinos and hitting a few of the restaurants. To say we had sore feet after a few days is an understatement. As we boarded our flight home the pilot was in the doorway greeting the passengers. He stopped me to ask what the USA meant on my jacket because he had attended the United Space Alliance and he wondered if I had. I briefly told him what our USA group was about and that we stayed on the ground vs his USA which was airborne. He said "I've seen some snowmobilers get some air at times with the jumps they do. He said he could do some of those crazy moves with a plane but it might be better not to on this flight". I told him I appreciated that!

If you ever have any questions or concerns, we meet the second Wednesday of each month. Let your delegate know and they will be glad to get an answer for you. 🐾



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ski-doo



KNOX TRAIL SNO-RIDERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB

MEETING TIMES

Sunday morning: December 8, 2019 at 9 a.m.

Tuesday evenings: January 14 February 11 and March 10, 2020 at 6 p.m.

then Sunday, April 13, 2020 at 9 a.m. (final)

All meetings at the Knox Trail Inn, Rt. 23 in East Otis, MA.

CLUB CONTACT

James Richard, media director

860-459-9995

Sno-Phone 413-931-3000

CLUB NEWS

Since 1971, the Knox Trail Sno-Riders (KTSR) has been making the Otis area a destination of choice for snowmobilers in southeastern Massachusetts. When the snow falls, nearly 100 miles of groomed trails connect riders to the Otis Reservoir

REVERSING TRACKS

By Jeff Gamelli, Sr.

Let's go backwards on our imaginary snowmobile time machine to about 48 years ago on the trails in Otis. We arrive in the early 70's when this new, explosive winter recreation called SNOWMOBILING is in full swing. Over 100 brands of snowmobiles are on the market and 4 or 5 dealers opened shop in the Otis area. With plenty of riding areas around, several clubs start to show up town by town in Berkshire county. They usually began as small groups of riders gathering around kitchen tables and talking about maintaining trails, having group rides, grooming trails, having social events, connecting trails to other clubs, and, oh yes, having fun!

When we arrive in 1971 on our snow machine, as they were called back then, a group of residents with a great interest in this new winter sport have just formed the Otis Snowmobile Club. They elected officers, adopted by-laws, collected \$2 membership dues, and promoted the sport. They met at the Knox Trail Inn, with the late Bruce Hawley as the first president. The club then moved



Don Chaffee Bridge, circa 1995

to the old Otis Town Hall for monthly meetings until the early 80's. With little money in the treasury the club bought its first enclosed groomer, a Bombi, through fundraising. Otis was a perfect location with its elevation, state forests, old unplowed farm roads, logging roads, and plenty of lakes and ponds to ride on. These dedicated and hard-working people laid a strong foundation for the snowmobiling community for years to come.

We now move ahead on our sled time machine to 1981. The neighboring Blandford Snowmobile Club decided to disband and merge with the Otis club. According to honorary founding member, the late Al Hurley, the new club would be called the Knox Trail Sno-Riders, in honor of the historic Knox Trail, which passes through the town.

Down at the old Tannery Road clubhouse, many wood and brass plaques graced the walls for many



Bridge work at Tolland State Forest, circa 1996

years, inscribed with the names of the dozens club officers that had come and gone. The club has recently come full circle, calling the new Knox Trail Inn its home. As we all know, things are changing fast in the snowmobiling arena, and I can only hope the club can still be active in another 48 years!



Late Phil Hiser's 1963 Ski-Doo RD8

EVENTS

JAN. 19, 2020

Tenth Annual Snowmobile Raffle and Dinner

5:30 p.m. at the Knox Trail Inn
1898 East Otis Rd, (Rt.23),
East Otis, MA 01029

Inclement weather date: Jan.26

TRAIL PASS LOCATIONS:

The Knox Trail Inn, East Otis, MA

Al Joy Tire Services, Southington, CT

Katie's Country Store, East Otis, MA

Jim Morweic Snowmobile Parts, Lee, MA

Papa's Healthy Food & Fuel, East Otis, MA

Farmington River Diner, Otis, MA

Online at
www.knoxtrail.com

By mail at: KTSR, PO Box 363, East Otis, MA 01029



Safe Riders

By Ed Klim

International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association (ISMA)

The Safe Riders! You Make Snowmobiling Safe campaign, initiated in 1995 by the Snowmobile Manufacturers in conjunction with state and provincial snowmobile associations and snowmobile government administrators, continues to serve as a foundation of snowmobile safety training related activities in North America. This year the collateral safety materials continue to be available, free of charge. Those materials include: A Safety Brochure, the Snowmobiling Fact Book, decals, posters, and the safety video segment series – available online. The Snowmobile Safety Week Campaign Action Manual can be found at <http://www.snowmobile.org/docs/snowmobile-safety-week-manual-2020.pdf> is available to assist in organizing Snowmobile Safety Week activities. The International Snowmobile Safety Week will be held January 18-26, 2020. If you have conflicting plans during those dates but still plan on holding a Safety Week during a different time, you are always welcome, and the Campaign Action Manual will help guide you and we can make available the information that you need.

The Safe Riders! program continues to highlight the main safety issues that riders need to follow while snowmobiling. The key points are all highlighted in our poster series. Hundreds of thousands of Safe Rider! Posters have been distributed through the years to the snowmobile community. The posters are used by Snowmobile Safety instructors who display them in the classroom and are also placed in schools throughout the Snowbelt. Many are on display in warming huts and snowmobile clubhouses across North America. The key positions presented on the posters include:

1. Alcohol and Snowmobiling don't mix - Don't Drink and Ride
2. Know Before you go – Always check local ice conditions
3. When Night Riding, Slow Down - Expect the unexpected
4. Respect Private Property – stay on the trail
5. Avalanche Awareness
6. Cross Roads with Care
7. Never Ride Alone – always ride with a friend
8. Stay in Control – always ride within your limits
9. Take a Safety Course



All of these key points are contained in the information supported by the Safe Riders! campaign and are used by many safety experts to ensure that snowmobilers are aware of the key issues.

The campaign continues to offer the Safe Riders! You make snowmobiling safe reflective decals and the Take a Friend Snowmobiling reflective decals. These are available for placement on helmets or snowmobiles.

We have a Safety Brochure that contains the key messages and safety guidelines that should be followed.

Last year we announced the Safety Campaign had 13 new separate video chapters that had been created and placed on the website for free downloading at: <http://www.snowmobile.org/safe-riders-videos.html>. They can be viewed at YouTube or downloaded so they can be played on your computer or television. We invite everyone to watch and download the video chapters.

They are very effective tools for use in your clubhouse and warming hut and many organizations are now showing them prior to association meetings and functions across North America. They provide great background information and are short in duration.

If you would like to order any of the Safe Riders! collateral materials you can contact us at ISMASue@aol.com and we can send you a copy of the order form. Just fill it out and email it back and we will try to send you what you need for a safety class, or to be made available for your clubhouse or warming hut. They can be displayed at local dealerships, schools, Convention and Visitor Bureaus, etc.

Here's to a great snowmobiling season and stay safe by keeping safety issues at the top of your mind.

If you haven't done so, like us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling. 🐾

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FOR THE GRIP THAT WON'T SLIP!
www.mackstud.com
78 Long Island Rd, Moultonborough, NH
603-279-3330

You're Invited!
ATTEND, VOTE &
PARTICIPATE...It's your
Association!

SAM Annual Meeting & Dinner

Relax and enjoy dinner with your friends, while you participate in the business meeting and the honoring of award recipients.

Thursday, April 2, 2020 • 5:00 PM—9:00 PM

\$25.00 per person (includes members and guests of members) Pre-Registration REQUIRED! Deadline is March 28. Register online at www.sledmass.com or call 413-369-8092



LEICESTER SNOWMOBILE CLUB

MEETING TIME

Second Wednesday of the month,
October through March at Rod &
Gun Club, 1015 Whittemore St.,
Leicester, MA

CLUB CONTACTS

President- Mike Comeau
Vice President- Frank Bond
Treasurer- Dennis McGrail
Secretary- Mark Rowden
Board of Directors: Kenneth Tencati,
Jim Padini, Mike Scotia
Groomer Chief: Frank Bond/
Jim Padini
Trail Boss: John True
IT Professional: Bob Dirs
Sam Delegates: Eric Comeau,
Greg Conlan
Membership: Ken Walls

Facebook: Leicester Snowmobile Club
[Http://leicestersnowmobileclub.org](http://leicestersnowmobileclub.org)
LSCBoardDirectors@gmail.com

CLUB NEWS

Another season is upon us and we are still going strong after all these years. This really is a group effort to keep your Leicester snowmobile club going. We have our Trail boss and trail workers on the front lines making it so people can enjoy the sport we love. But a lot goes on behind the scenes as far as politics to keeping our trail system open year after year. Right when we think everything is ok, then a new house pops up or a new problem arises and trails need to be rerouted. I personally can't thank our trail boss John True enough for all the hard work he does on our behalf.

Of course, we have lots of other things going on behind the scenes without all the trail headaches. The website is getting updated and hopefully it is a go by the time you read this. Also, the time we spend on Facebook, getting events together (Be sure to keep a lookout for our annual spaghetti supper and roast beef dinner dates, Also the Jeff Hardy ride which is scheduled when we know we have snow). A lot goes into making sure the Skandics are running 100% so we can groom when the white stuff finally flies. We are also looking

forward to a new way to buy Leicester Snowmobile swag so stay tuned. All these things and more are going on behind the scenes to keep our club going. But the main thing that keeps us going is the friendship that our small club has. It makes me proud to be the Vice President in this club and know all these people would help me out in a jam if need be. This is what life is about the friendships made and the people you can count on in this world. So come to our meetings it is a great time to learn more about the behind the scenes stuff and tell stories with other people that share your passion while waiting for the snow to fly.—*Frank Bond, Vice President*

CLUB EVENT SCHEDULE

JAN. 18, 2020

Spaghetti Dinner at Leicester Rod and Gun Club 6 p.m.

MARCH 28, 2020

Annual Roast Beef Dinner and Raffle at Leicester Rod and Gun Club 6 p.m.

TRAIL PASS LOCATIONS

Hanks Marine
111 Main Street
Cherry Valley, MA 01611
508-892-4788

Davis Auto
1655 Main Street
Leicester, MA 01524
508-892-4263



Canadian border with the Leicester Snowmobile Club. From left to right: Frank, Mark, John, Andy, Bob, Eric, Ken, Ken, Mike



Completed project thanks to the volunteers for all the hard work.





SAVOY KANARY KATS SNOWMOBILE CLUB

CLUB CONTACT

<https://www.savoykanarykats.org/>
Sno-Phone 413-448-8866

CLUB MEETINGS

Second Friday of the month, 7:00 pm
Groomer Garage, 90 Tilton Road, Savoy

TRAIL TRIMS

Every Sunday from October 15th until there is enough snow to ride. Meet at the Groomer Garage at 90 Tilton Road. Equipment Maintenance: Most Wednesday or Thursdays at 6:00 pm (call or text 413-519-3829 to confirm schedule) at the Groomer Garage located at 90 Tilton Road, Savoy.

AN OLD FRIEND RETURNS

The joy of snowmobiling is as much about riding a perfectly groomed trail system as it is about spending time with old friends and making new ones. The Savoy Kanary Kats are blessed to have both! We have some of the best riding in the state with over 75 miles of trails and two great local businesses who support our way of life.

We welcome Pub 116, the former Hilltop has been recently renovated and is better than ever. The bright, friendly pub is considered "Snowmobile Central" for the area. Owners Kristen and Thomas cater to snowmobilers and are excited for the season. They have renovated the historic watering hole and offer a wide variety craft, bottled and draft beers as well as a full bar. You can enjoy pub fare including wings, fries, salads and their phenomenal pizza. They are open 6 days a week; Monday and Wednesday 3:00 to close, Thursday to Sunday noon to close (closed on Tuesday). Keep an eye out for the giant American Flag, you can't miss it!

Our other old friend is the Savoy Hollow General Store who is a long-standing supporter of our club and always welcomes snowmobilers. They offer a variety of items including sandwiches, drinks, soups and their famous pizza... made hot and fresh every day. The owners Keith and Michelle Kupiec



The Anderson family enjoying the 2019 SAM SledExpo at the Big E Grounds.

have run the store for four years and provide a welcoming spot to warm up, relax and catch up with old friends. Swing by and grab a bite to eat or pick up a trail pass too.

As always, please consider joining our club. If you are riding near Savoy, Florida, Hawley, Windsor and Plainfield or beyond, you are only a few miles from a hot meal or a cold drink. Please stop by the Savoy Hollow General Store on Route 116 in Savoy at the map location SV26 or the Pub 116 at 788 West Main Street, Plainfield at the map intersection SV06. You will probably see some old friends and make some new ones!

This year we are raffling a 2020 Ski Doo MXZ 600 with electric start and reverse—only 750 tickets will be sold. Get your tickets for \$20 each at LP Adams, Ronnie's Adams, PLT, Savoy General Store and at our monthly SKK meetings. The winning ticket will be drawn on Saturday, January 25, 2020. We participated in a number of local events including the North Adams "MOTORAMA" car show, Ronnie's Bennington Open House, the Sled Expo and our annual Kanary Kat Christmas party. Join us for the sled raffle on 1/25, the Winter Carnival on 2/15 and the Silver Fox Ride (honoring Stan Kapola) on March 1.



The newly renovated Pub 116 is open for business, welcoming old friends and making new ones!

TRAIL PASS LOCATIONS

Savoy Hollow General Store
413-743-5406

Ronnie's Cycle Sales & Services Inc.
Adams 413-743-0715

PLT
Pittsfield 413-443-2623

Dalton General Store
413-684-0170

South Side Sales & Service
North Adams 413-664-7111

Ronnie's Harley Davidson
Pittsfield 413-443-0638



Newly Renovated

788 West
Main Street,
Plainfield, MA

The Savoy Hollow General Store

PROUD PARTNERS OF THE SAVOY KANARY KATS SNOWMOBILE CLUB

The Savoy Hollow General Store is right on Trail SV-26, Corridor 8
Stop in for your trail passes and raffle tickets

Open for Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Pizza, Hot and Cold Grinders, Hot and Cold Beverages

Operating Hours:

Friday & Saturday : 7 am-8 pm Sunday : 7 am-3 pm

Monday - Thur : 7 am-5 pm

Call: 413-743-5406



**Adams Sno-Drifters
Snowmobile Club**

PO Box 25 Adams 01220
Brian Janik, 413-743-1012

**Berkshire Snow Seekers
Snowmobile Club**

PO Box 1102 Pittsfield 01202
Don Allard, 413-684-3773

**Bernardston Gill Leyden
Snowmobile Club**

241 West Leyden Rd Leyden 01337
Jared Smith, 413-834-1665

**Birch Hill Rangers
Snowmobile Club**

55 Baldwinville Rd Royalston 01331
Chris Haynes, 978-249-3402

**Buckland Riders
Snowmobile Club**

295 Ashfield Rd., Buckland 01370
Steve Howland, 413-522-3320

Burgy Bullets Snowmobile Club

12 Laurel Rd., Haydenville 01032
Jon Tobin, 413-727-2297

Chesterfield Four Seasons Club

River Road, Chesterfield 01084
Todd Frost, 413-296-4048

Coldbrook Snowmobile Club

Phillipston 01331
Chris Ferragamo,
coldbrooksnowmobileclub@mail.com

Colrain Sno-Drifters

Shelburne 01370
Rusty Coombs, 413-624-8850

Conway Snowmobile Club

PO Box 112, Conway 01341
Austin Snape, snow@sledconway.com



CLUB LISTING

Easy Riders Snowmobile Club

(Marlboro Moose Lodge)
67 Fitchburg St., Marlborough 01752
Mike Nicoli, 978-479-2847

**Florida Mountaineers
Snowmobile Club**

Florida 01247
Tim Keating, 413-662-2705

**Goshen Highlanders
Snowmobile Club**

Goshen 01032
Bryan Osetek, 413-297-6504

**Greater Whately
Snowmobile Club**

Whately 01093
Bob Sabola, 413-478-0733

Hadley Snowmobile Club

138 East St (Club Meeting Place)
Hadley 01035
Steve "Sinky" Szymkowicz,
413-586-9864

Harvard Snowmobile Club

Harvard 01451
Tony Shaw, 978-772-6619

Hilltown Snowmobile Club

Ashfield 01330
Mike Dufresne, 413-628-9964

Indianhead Snowmobile Club

Charlemont 01339
Matt Crowninshield, 413-337-5566

**Knox Trail Sno-Riders
Snowmobile Club**

Tannery Rd Otis 01255
Jeff Gamelli, 413-931-3000

Leicester Snowmobile Club

Leicester 01524
lscboarddirectors@gmail.com

**Lunenburg Snow Riders
Snowmobile Club**

Lunenburg 01462
978-582-0242

Mill Valley Snowmobile Club

Belchertown 01007
John Sansoucy, 413-283-9340

Northfield Snowmobile Club

Northfield 01360
Michael Quinn, 413-498-0259

**Porcupine Ridge Runners
Snowmobile Club**

Shutesbury 01072

Sandisfield Snowmobile Club

Sandisfield 01255
George Munson, 413-258-4887

Savoy Canary Kats

Savoy 01256
Sno-Phone, 413-448-8866

Snow Riders of the Nashaway

Barbers Crossing, Sterling, MA
Susan Smiley

Snowbirds Snowmobile Club

92 McCormick Rd., Spencer 01562
Tom Cosgrove,
tom@spencersnowbirds.com

Snowmobilers United

West Boylston 01583
Ralph Corcoran, 508-845-6821

Ware River Snowmobile club

American Legion Hall,
246 Prospect St., Gilbertville
Jay Pease, 413-519-0090

Worthington Snowmobile Club

Worthington 01098
Tina LaCroix
413-579-2297

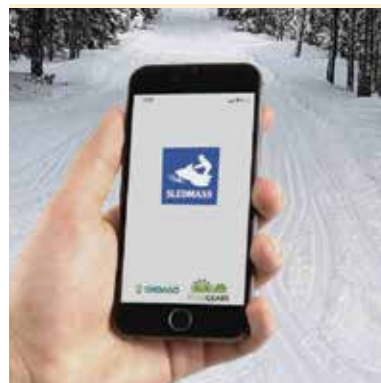
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OUT EXPLORING ON YOUR SNOWMOBILE? TAKE YOUR OWN MOBILE TRAIL ASSISTANT FOR THE RIDE!

SAM brings an enhanced version of its web application to your pockets, making for a better riding experience than ever. Works both with and without mobile data coverage.



SAM ANNUAL AWARDS

**REMINDER: NOMINATIONS FOR THE SAM
ANNUAL AWARDS ARE DUE MARCH 1**

SAM volunteers are the heart and soul of snowmobiling. Without them there wouldn't be anywhere to ride. No trails, no clubs, no events, no leadership, no future. Snowmobiling would simply cease to exist.

Take a minute and nominate a volunteer right now at sledmass.com/awardsscholarships/. Nominate as many people as you want. You can even nominate a person in multiple categories.

