

# Hodag Sno-News

January 2009

“Sno News is Good News”

[www.hodagsnotrails.com](http://www.hodagsnotrails.com)

The monthly Newsletter of Hodag Sno-Trails Snowmobile Club; P.O. Box 621; Rhinelander, WI 54501

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**Trail News:** **We're riding!!** All HST trails are open and the lakes have been marked with orange barrels. Although there have been no significant snows recently, we have been getting frequent dustings and it has accumulated enough that there is 8 – 12 inches in our area. Our trails are fairly smooth and hard, but the corners are starting to show icy spots. The continued cold weather and lack of heavy traffic has enabled the trails to stay flat and hard. Your editor rates them as good to very good.

Thanks to the volunteers who worked to get the groomers and drags back into shape to get them back on the trails. There have been no significant groomer issues so far even though we're grooming with three machines instead of four as in the past. Musson's had to be called to pull the tractor out of the swamp on the Enterprise trail. This is the same spot where the tractor got stuck three years ago. The landowner has been contacted regarding a possible reroute for next year. Thanks also to the Northwoods Passage mechanic who gave us a quick overview of preventative maintenance tips for our Bombardier. We will look into getting some service performed and buying picks for the track. Thanks also to Vance Baker who gave us two full days of clearing and grubbing with his skidsteer without any bill.

A last minute agreement was reached in December with Forest Land Group, L.L.C., giving us permission to ride on their properties for one more year. They stipulated, however, that there is to be no brushing or cutting. As discussed in last month's Hodag Sno-News, most of our trail system depends on use of their land. This will be an issue next year.

**Message from the President:** Club Members and Groomer Operators: Please pick up and / or replace any bent or knocked down signs that you see on the trails. Knocked down signs were the most common issue identified during our trail inspection. If you notice a sign missing (stop, stop ahead, & directional arrow) please contact the trail boss for that area. Contact me if unsure who to call.

**Club Business:** Our membership now stands at 104. Many visitors ride our trails, and we are particularly appreciative of those members who come from afar and support our club; we have members from: Maple Grove, MN; Aurora, IL; Marion, OH; St. Louis, MO; as well as 19 from communities in southern Wisconsin. This accounts for nearly a quarter of our membership! We hope you folks can schedule a trip to the North Country when we're having a meeting or a social function; you would be most welcome. We expect to gain a few more members as the season continues and wish to remind everyone to include the name of the member who referred you on your application form. Both names will be submitted to AWSC for their \$50.00 membership drawing.

The December 8<sup>th</sup> session of the DNR Snowmobile Safety Course had 31 participants, including 4 adults. Check the DNR website for the next presentation or contact Steve Winchell [pswinch@charter.net](mailto:pswinch@charter.net) (715) 369-9528.

WRJO's Take Pride & Ride raffle for a 2009 Ski-Doo MXZ Trail 500 SS *will be our only fundraiser* this season. Tickets are \$2.00 apiece and can be purchased at the following businesses:

Beachcomber	Klingen's Idlewilde	Cross Country Bar
Frenz Bar	Pine Harbor	Judy's Twin Pines
Birchwood Lodge	Fishers Resort	Forsyth's Resort
Wayne's Place	Hodag BP (by Wal-Mart)	Bailey's Town 'N' Country
Ohman Welding	Tracy's Barber Shop	Lakeview Inn on Pelican Lake
Christian's Pit Stop	Boiling Springs Tavern	

Recall that the entire ticket price goes to the Club. Therefore a single ticket will buy  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a gallon of diesel fuel which runs a groomer for about twenty minutes on average and you get a chance to win a new sled! Although the drawing will take place on February 21<sup>st</sup>, we have to have our tickets turned in by the 17<sup>th</sup>.

(over, please)

**Christmas Party:** Fifty-four people attended your Club's Christmas Party and stayed for the December meeting. This event keeps getting better as evidenced by the increasing attendance. Don't miss it next year! Good food, drink, and camaraderie were in abundance, and the Club made money on the sale of 244 raffle tickets at a dollar each for 30 donated wrapped 'Presents.' The *Sno-News* editor even won one! In addition, we had our customary 50/50 raffle which was won by Sue Ohman enriching her and the Club by \$82.00 each.



The pictures above show the 'presents' for the drawings (left) and (right) V.P. Lenny Gescheidle, Judy Koczka, and Laura Hetland. We also managed to get the Club's officers together for a photo and they are pictured below, from left to right: Pat Wahouske, Treasurer; Kim Goodin, Secretary; Scott Hetland, President; Lenny Gescheidle, Vice President; and Frank Bennett, *Hodag Sno-News* Editor.



### **Coming Events:**

**Saturday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>** - Northern Vintage Snowmobile Race at Boom Lake sponsored by Rhinelander Fire Department. Registration 7:00 – 9:00 AM; racing starts at 10:00 AM. *Take Pride & Ride raffle tickets will be on sale in the concession tent (See Bob Goodin).*

**Sunday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>** - WKSRA (WI Kids Snowmobile Races) on Lake George. Location on the ice just north of the boat landing. The race is being sponsored by The Town of Pelican Promotion Committee aka Room Tax committee.

**Monday, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>** – **Overnight Club ride to Mole Lake Casino** per Scott's e-mail of January 8<sup>th</sup>. **Contact Billi Fisher (362-3691) [bfisher@newnorth.net](mailto:bfisher@newnorth.net)** for additional details. Call the casino at 877-478-5772 to reserve a room for this event using group code 'Hodag.' We are locked in at \$54.95 including tax for a standard king room or a standard queen room that has 2 beds. Rooms must be booked by January 29<sup>th</sup> to get this special rate. If you need a smoking room please reserve right away. Please e-mail Billi after booking to let her know where we stand. The group will leave Fishers around 11:00 AM. Two ride leaders are needed; one for the faster group and one for the slower group. Let Billi know where you would like to have lunch and she will make the arrangements.

**Tuesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>** - **HST Monthly Meeting at the Boondocks in Monico at 7:00 PM.** \$10.95 dinner special available for members includes 5 oz. Sirloin Steak and 3 Jumbo shrimp, baked potato, roll w / butter, soup, and coleslaw.

**Saturday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>** - Northern Vintage Snowmobile Race at St. Germain Community Park sponsored by Bo Boen Snowmobile Club. Registration 7:00 – 9:00 AM; racing starts at 10:00 AM.