



Northwoods Riders SC –  
Supporting the best snowmobile trails in and around Tomahawk, WI!

# Northwoods Riders Snowmobile Club

## February 2025 Newsletter

### Next Meeting:

February 24, 2025  
Twin Bay  
Meal Served at 6:00  
General Meeting at 7:00

### Officers

President: Greg Johnson  
Vice President: Dale Elliott  
Treasurer: Kay Collom  
Secretary: Lisa Elliott

### Board Members

John Collom  
Cody Egan  
Mark McDonald  
Matt McDonald  
Gary Waters

**Memberships:** Chetek Wenker

**Newsletter:** Bette Theobald

### Trail Update:

All trails in Oneida County opened at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> with Lincoln County trails opening on February 12<sup>th</sup>. The trails are mostly still in early season condition. High traffic areas are already worn pretty thin, but some of the rural wooded areas have some pretty good riding available. More snow would go a long way towards getting the trails into better shape. The groomers have been out panning and grooming the trails doing their best with the snow we have. As always, stay on the marked trails on land, and stay near the barrels when trails cross waterways.

### Half Moon Lake Trail Update:

Mike Sonn, from the Half Moon Lake Association attended the January meeting to inform us of a newly installed aerator on their lake. Due to fish kill in recent years, an aerator was installed on the southwest side of the lake. The aerator is not located near the trail, but riders will see signage at the trail entrances to remind them it is running. As always, please stay on marked trails, especially on lakes, at all times. Thank you Mike for this important information!

## **Membership Totals:**

We currently have 450 club memberships, including 29 new memberships. There were 58 members in attendance at the January meeting including land owners Nancy Swan and Dale and Lisa Elliott.

## **Fun Club Weekend:**

On Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, the Northwoods Riders Snowmobile Club hosted its annual Trailside Cookout in our beautifully new, updated club garage! Despite the trails being closed, a great crowd came by car, truck and UTV/ATV to enjoy hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, homemade chili, beverages and desserts served and prepared by club volunteers. Thanks to all who worked the event.

Once again we extended invitations to our area landowners and we were happy to see those that attended! It's great to personally thank them for allowing us the opportunity to enjoy their land.



The following day we hosted our annual Club Member Breakfast at Billy Bob's Sports Bar and Grill. Billy and his staff did a super job – the food was fantastic! Thank you to Lisa Elliott for organizing the breakfast and to the many volunteers who helped make this event possible.

We held the drawing for the Red, White and Blue Ruger 9mm pistol during the breakfast, and the lucky winner was James D Rynne who bought his ticket at B's Landing! A huge shout-out to Keith and Troy for their hard work selling tickets – not just for this event, but so many others. We truly appreciate all they do for our club! Also, thank you to Jerry Otterholt for spearheading this fundraiser for our club!

## **Donation Appreciations:**

We received thank you letters from Our Sisters House and Tomahawk Food Pantry for the recent club donations. The letters were read by Club President, Greg Johnson at our January meeting.

## **Northern Trails Unlimited Donation:**

Northern Trails Unlimited received donations from our club for their equipment fundraiser held on February 16<sup>th</sup>. We donated a Ruger EC9s, dark earth color, a Taurus G2C Stainless 9mm, a Savage Arms Axis XP 270 Winchester with Weaver Scope, and \$500 for their meat raffle. We hope these prizes made a big impact in reaching their fundraising goals!

Our club has also purchased a \$100 raffle ticket. Lowell and Rita Meidam were the lucky recipients of this ticket and attended the event on behalf of the club. Any winnings from the ticket will go to the club.

## **Destination Ride:**

The original plan for the destination ride to Manitowish Waters was changed due to trail conditions in the area. Instead, the group trailered to Hurley, WI and started their journey there. A total of 10 members enjoyed some beautiful trails! Thank you to Dale Elliott and John Marcks for being our planners and leaders. Looking forward to another destination ride next year!



## **Other Club Updates At Our January Meeting:**

***Knight Owls*** – Nancy Swan – The Spring Hoot planning is in progress and beer raffle tickets are now available.

***Northern Trails Unlimited*** – Darren Merkel – Willow Flowage has been marked.

***Northwoods Passage*** – Dan Hoover – Trail maintenance update, there are 77 action items of which 65 are completed. Dan continues to work on the youth groomer program. He met with 7-8 interested youth and will be encouraging these youth to join snowmobile clubs when they get their groomer mentoring program going. Nokomis, Half Moon, Clear, Oneida, Hancock and Somo lakes were all marked in recent weeks. Thanks much to the crew that did the lake marking.

## **Social Media Volunteers:**

Our snowmobile club thrives thanks to our incredible volunteers. Mark McDonald, Cheryl Brickner and Lisa Elliott are responsible for our Northwoods Riders website and Face Book page, making sure everyone stays up-to-date on events and news. Thank you for keeping our snowmobiling community connected and informed!

## **January Door Prizes:**

Boomba Bar donated a \$25 gift certificate which was won by Kris Dowse!  
Thank you to Darren and Amiee Merkel from Boomba for a delicious dinner and hosting the January meeting.

## **Events 2024-2025**

February 22 – Northwoods Passage Sled Raffle at Somo Lake Resort

February 24 - Northwoods Riders General Meeting at Twin Bay – eat at 6:00/meet at 7:00

March 1 – Harshaw Wanderers Meat Raffle at LaCanne's

March 8 – Northwoods Passage Winter Celebration at Inshalla

March 24 - Northwoods Riders General Meeting at Holly's - eat at 6:00/meet at 7:00

April 5 – Harshaw Wanderers Fun Run and Meat Raffle at Woodpecker

April 26 – Knight Owls Spring Hoot at Inshalla

May 10- Knight Owls Meat Raffle at Derek's Town and Country

July 19 – NWR Pontoon Palooza at The Landing

***All events are listed on our website, [www.northwoodsriders.org](http://www.northwoodsriders.org) and on our Facebook page as they come in***