Northwoods Riders Snowmobile Club

Supporting the best snowmobile trails in and around Tomahawk, WI!

OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Date: Monday, October 26 **Location:** Tilted Loon

Food Served: 6:15 PM | **General Meeting:** 7:00 PM

MEMBERSHIP & SEASON PREP

Meeting Recap: We kicked off our season meetings at Billy Bob's on Sept 28th with **39 members** attending! A big thank you to landowners Dan Johnson, Nancy Swan, Lori Rogney, and Dale & Lisa Elliott for attending—we are always grateful for your generosity. Members enjoyed great pizza and we thank Ashley and Kirby Timm from Billy Bob's for hosting our meeting. Congratulations to **Gary Hilgendorf** for winning the $25 Billy Bob's gift certificate, and to **Nancy Swan**, who won the $175 50/50 drawing and generously donated her winnings to the Polar Plunge!

- **Current Membership Count:** We are at **232 members**, with 6 new members joining us already this season! Welcome aboard! The following 10 members were randomly picked and refunded their club dues for renewing before our first meeting of the season! Dan Hoover, Bruce Hackel, Brad Schewe, Jason Meridith, Kevin Huber, Donald Worchester, Gene Hodge, Tami Tiegs, Ed Scheller, and Jean Otto.
- **Renew Early & Save:** Don't wait for the snow to fly! Memberships are processed by the club on the 1st and 15th of each month. After that, the AWSC processes your membership so you can order your discounted trail passes. Renewal takes a little time, so do it now so you're ready to hit the trails the moment the snow hits!

🏆 CLUB NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

Pontoon Palooza Was a Huge Success!

Thanks to our incredible volunteers and supporters, Pontoon Palooza brought in a **net profit of $17,449.12**! We sold 332 stamp sheets and capped out all 225 of our $100 cash raffle tickets. The gift certificate raffle, booze wagon raffle, new dice game, food and refreshments were also very successful and profitable.

This success wouldn't be possible without our amazing business partners and stamp sheet locations: *B's Landing, Boomba Bar, The Loop Hole Bar, Billy Bob's, Bootleggers, Cockatiels, Fish Trap, Holly's, Swamp Lake Saloon, Stars and Stripes, Tilted Loon, Twin Bay, and Hob's Service.* Extra shoutouts go to **WJJQ** for radio advertising, and **Tomahawk Sports Center** along with **Erv's Sales and Service** for donating prizes for Best Boat and Costumes!

Annual Destination Ride: Manitowish Waters

Get ready for our annual getaway! We're riding out from Tomahawk on the morning of **January 29th** and returning **January 31st**. We'll be staying at *The Lodge at Manitowish Waters*, where 10 rooms are currently reserved. Rooms fill up quickly, so give them a call at **715-533-2024** to lock in your spot soon. Huge thanks to the Elliotts for getting this organized for us!

Update on the Hooligans Club & Tomahawk Radar Runs

Dave Halfmann shared that the Hooligans Club is unfortunately dissolving. They have 48 members and are encouraging everyone to join one of our local clubs, so let's give any incoming riders a warm welcome! They are hoping to keep the **Tomahawk Radar Run** tradition alive and have asked for our club's help with the event. Lori Rogney is currently sending out support requests to local area businesses.

Hometown Christmas Parade Float

It would be great to have a float **combined** with all of the local clubs that represents snowmobiling in Tomahawk. Are you interested in helping or spearheading this? Email the club at **info@northwoodsriders.org**.

🎨 WE NEED A NEW LOGO!

We are looking to update and modernize the Northwoods Riders logo, and we want your input! Got a design idea or concept? Email your submission to **info@northwoodsriders.org**.

🗳️CLUB BOARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations for next season's board are officially open! So far, nominations have been accepted by **Dale Elliott** (Vice President), **Kay Collom** (Treasurer), **Andy Schaper, Alan VanStrydonk**, **Chris Schultz, Dave Halfmann, and Kurt Otteson** (Directors).

Nominations for two-year terms will open again and voting will take place at the October meeting. Any additional nominees must be present to accept their nomination in person prior to voting. Please consider nominating yourself or accepting a nomination to help lead the club into the next season!

"New blood and new ideas are needed to continue to make the Northwoods Riders Snowmobile Club prosper." — **Greg Johnson, President**

🌲 TRAIL MAINTENANCE & BRUSHING DATES

Remember: You with no tools is WAY better than no you!

Here is what's happening with our local grooming clubs:

- **Northwoods Passage Update:** Dan Hoover reminded us that they maintain 280 miles of trail with 4 groomers and 16 drivers. If you're a night owl and interested in grooming, reach out to Dan—they always need extra hands! New trail maps should arrive in December. Mark your calendar for our first brushing day on **October 17th at 9:00 AM** (meet at the club shed, 2640 County L). Food and drinks will be served at the club shed afterward!
- **Northern Trails Unlimited Update:** Darren Merkel shared that the new mower (purchased in part with our club donation) is out working hard. NTU's first brushing is scheduled for **October 24th at 9:00 AM** at their groomer shed, 10723 Swamp Lake Rd, with food and drinks hosted at Boomba Bar afterward.

- **Knight Owls Update:** Nancy Swan reported that Gary and Tim have been busy mowing in anticipation of a big winter. Their Calendar Raffle kicks off October 2nd, and their first brushing day is **October 31st at 8:30 AM** at their groomer shed, W5041 Hoovie Rd, (food and drinks at Pine Point after).

📅 UPCOMING EVENTS

Northwoods Riders Events:

- **October 25:** Trunk or Treat at The Loop Hole (Stop by and help pass out candy!)
- **October 26:** General Membership Meeting @ The Tilted Loon
- **November 23:** General Membership Meeting @ The Loop Hole
- **December 5:** Snowmobile Safety Education @ Erv's Sales and Service
- **December 28:** General Membership Meeting @ Swamp Lake Saloon
- **January 25:** General Membership Meeting @ Boomba Bar
- **January 29 – 31:** Destination Ride to Manitowish Waters
- **February 6:** Trailside Cookout *(More details coming soon)*
- **February 7:** Member Appreciation Breakfast
- **February 22:** General Membership Meeting @ Twin Bay
- **March 22:** General Membership Meeting @ Holly's Bar
- **April 25:** Knight Owls Spring Hoot at Inshalla
- **July 17:** Pontoon Palooza

*Tip: You can sync our full schedule directly to your phone/computer calendar! Visit **northwoodsriders.org**, head to **Events & News > Northwoods Riders Calendar**, scroll to the bottom, and click "Subscribe".*

💛 COMMUNITY GIVING

Amiee and Darren Merkel from **Boomba Bar** donated **$2,089.57** from their pontoon palooza t-shirt sales. They sold 250 shirts this year. Amazing support for our club and event. Thank you!



Thanks to everyone who fills up at **Kracker Barrel Pump 4**—your fill-ups generated **$1,447.00** in donations between August and February! Additionally, round-up donations at **Tilted Loon** brought in **$104.29**.

See you at the October meeting!

MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

Officers:

- **President:** Greg Johnson
- **Vice President:** Dale Elliott
- **Treasurer:** Kay Collom
- **Secretary:** Lisa Elliott
- **Membership Coordinator:** Chetek Wenker

Directors:

- John Collom
- Thor Gilbertson
- Mark McDonald
- Aimee Merkel
- Gary Waters

Newsletter: Mallory Gilbertson

Club Email: info@northwoodsriders.org

Club Website: https://northwoodsriders.org/