



Tioga Ridge Runners

February News Letter

February 19, 2006

Urgent Business: The Governor's budget has been released. In his proposed budget, there is a proposal to take 2.5 million dollars from the dedicated snowmobile trail fund next year and move that money into the general fund. We are going to need everyone's help in trying to get this removed from the proposed budget. NYSSA's lobbyists have been working on this issue and they have already contacted the upstate legislators to voice our disapproval. They have provided clubs with form letters with the correct wording and are asking all clubs and their members to start contacting their legislators. The following is copied from a message sent by NYSSA to all of the district directors:

URGENT LEGISLATIVE ALERT: NYSSA TO TAKE ACTION OPPOSING GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED SWEEP OF TRAIL FUND

We are recommending that NYSSA undertake a grassroots letter writing campaign directed to specific Assemblyman and Senators urging them to strongly oppose this proposed sweep of monies from the trail fund. Attached are the following documents for use in this effort:

- **Snowmobile Club Member Letter opposing the sweep (members should send a copy of this letter and remove "snowmobile club member" from the top of their letter)**
- **Club President/Officer letter opposing the sweep (use club letterhead if possible)**
- **List of targeted Senators and Assemblyman with addresses and District Office Fax Numbers.**

We recommend that NYSSA Officers, Directors, the clubs and club members fax the letters if possible to the appropriate Assemblyman and Senator who represents them in the Legislature. The Legislature is on a break until Monday, February 27th, and, therefore, all letters should be sent as soon as possible to their district offices, preferably via the fax. This requires a grassroots effort similar to the one that was used to convince the Governor to sign SRRA. All the clubs and their members need to send these letters.

We will be asking every club member to sign the enclosed letters and fax them to the appropriate representatives as soon as possible. If you are unable to fax the letters please contact one of the officers or board members to allow us to assist you in completing this task. The Fax #'s are as follows:

Assembly Members	DISTRICT	FAX #
Gary Finch	Tioga	315-255-3048
Donna Lupardo	Broome	607-723-9313
Thomas O'Mara	Tioga	607-732-4800

Senate Member	DISTRICT	FAX #
Thomas Libous	Broome, Chenango, Tioga	607-773-3688

General: The Tioga Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club would like to inform current and past members that the next club meeting will be held **7:30 pm on Thursday, March 2, 2006** at the Tioga Sportsman Inn (TSI), RT. 38, Owego, NY.

Trail Funding Documentation: We need to make sure that every hour that was spent doing trail maintenance or groomer maintenance is documented. It is looking like we will have very little chargeable grooming time this year, so we need to make sure that every chargeable maintenance hour is accounted for. It is looking like since registrations are down again this year that next years funding will be reduced again, so accounting for all of the hours we can will enable us to get the maximum amount of funding this year.

Treasurer: The Treasurer's Position is still open. The current treasurer has held the position for 6 years and would like someone else to take over this responsibility. The Club needs someone to step up and fill this position. Please come to a meeting or contact a club officer for more information. A description of the treasurer's position can be found on the website at: <http://www.tiogaridgerunners.com/By%20Laws.pdf>

If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact:

Jim Irvine, President (607) 642-8803 Email: tpsmap5v@aol.com

Eric Vergason, Vice President: (607) 642-8085

Mike Worzel, Secretary (607) 687-8998 Email: mworzel@stny.rr.com

Glenn Diego, Treasurer (607) 642-3386 Email: gdiego@usadatanet.net

Best Regards, Mike Worzel, Secretary, Tioga Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club
Odane Huttel, Membership Coordinator, Tioga Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club