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OFFICAL PUBLICATION OF THE

EASY RIDERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB

Marlborough, Massachusetts

Volume XLIX Mar/Apr 2023 Number 5

Member: S.A.M. "Snowmobile Association of Massachusetts"



Established January 1971		Incorporated — October 1992	
President Mike Nicoli		Directors:	
Vice President	Greg Conlan	John Shea	Gary LaPlerre
Secretary	Tom Rosato	John Bryant III	Paul Theroux
Treasurer	Larry McCullough	Chris Arena	Bob Baker

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The Easy Riders newsletter is published bimonthly, Sept to March, by the Easy Riders Snowmobile Club Inc., Marlborough, Massachusetts. It is published in the interest of all its members and the promotion and safety of the sport of snowmobiling. We are a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and awareness of snowmobiling.

Editor: Lawrence C McCullough E-mail: easyriderssc@charter.net



The end of the season Banquet will be held on Saturday April 29th, 2023 at the Bolton Street Tavern, 587 Bolton St., Marlborough, MA 01752.

Cost per club member (plus guest) will be \$20.00 per person.

The Meal will be buffet style and will include Bread, Butter, Coffee/Tea, Tavern House Salad, Chicken Parmesan, Roasted Potatoes, Meat Lasagna, and a Dessert Tray.

Cocktails will be at 6:00 with dinner being served at 7:00

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A Letter from the President

Greetings Easy Riders

As the season winds down, hopefully March will give us some quality riding conditions. I've been observing this season from the sidelines due to my health issues but I'm on the mend and expect to be back for next season. What I have observed is a season that started very slowly and has been a rollercoaster of trail conditions in NH and most of Maine, other than the northern Aroostook County where they seem to be having a good season with plenty of snow. Another of my observations this season is the amount of snowmobilers involved in accidents at road crossings due to speed of just ignoring the stop signs, this is a very dangerous gamble that has cost some their lives. Please slow down and obey the road crossing signs.

As far as club news goes, the date and location for the end of the season banquet has been selected. The date is Saturday April 29th at the Bolton Street Tavern in Marlborough. More details will be announced soon.

I would also like to thank Greg Conlan for filling in for me this season. He's doing a great job running the meetings and keeping everything moving in the right direction. Thanks Greg!

On a side note, I was talking to my dad the other day and he mentioned to me that this is the first year in 52 years that we didn't go snowmobiling together. I had to think about that for a few and I must say I really miss riding this season but being a member of the Easy Riders, with all the communication and Facebook posts of peoples rides. This has pacified my desire to get out and ride. I can't wait for next season!

Well, there is plenty of riding left this season so get out there and enjoy!

Ride Right, Ride Safe

Mike Nicoli

Officers and director nominations for 2023/2024 season. Elections will be held at the March Meeting.

President	Mike Nicoli
Vice President	Greg Conlan
Secretary	<u>OPEN</u>
Treasurer	Larry McCullough

Directors -- (7 positions available) Gary LaPierre Bob Baker John Bryant III Paul Theroux Chris Arena Keith Gattozzi John Shea





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The Easy Riders Snowmobile Club is selling tickets for the Snowmobile Association of Mass's trailer raffle.



Raffle tickets to win this trailer are still available directly from the club. In addition many of our club members may still have some left. You can contact us through our email account, EASYRIDERSSC @CHARTER.NET to purchase. We accept the CASHAPP for payment or checks via mail. We will scan your tickets and email plus mail you your stubs. Just \$10.00 per ticket.





IT'S ALL ABOUT DE GAZ, DE GAZ, DE GAZ

Easy Riders Snowmobile Club

Western Quebec Tour

February 12 - 18, 2023

The title of this article says it all. A tour of western Quebec is really all about the gas. Four of us - Ron L, Steve V, Paul T and myself, Tom R from the Easy Riders Snowmobile Club from Massachusetts - began our 5 day riding tour from Shawinigan, Quebec and traveled north to Roberval on Day 1, then northwest to Chibougamau on Day 2, then southwest to Senneterre on Day 3, then southeast to Fer a Cheval in Mont Laurier on Day 4, then southeast back to Shawinigan on Day 5. We all carried an extra fuel caddy on our sleds except for Steve who actually carried two caddies stacked on his sled, our sleds were: Ron, 2023 Skidoo Renegade Enduro 600R ETEC; Steve, 2023 Yamaha Sidewinder turbo; Paul, 2020 Skidoo Renegade Enduro 900 ACE; and me with a 2021 Skidoo Renegade XRS 900 ACE turbo. The fuel caddies were definitely required on this trip on Day 2 (154 miles between gas stops) and Day 5 (162 miles between gas stops). Otherwise, fuel wasn't a problem. All of us used the fuel caddies on both days except for Paul who chose not to use it on Day 2 but was virtually on fumes when we finally pulled in to the gas station. Thankfully, all sleds ran flawlessly.

Our trip was planned ahead of time with the focus being the hotel destinations and most importantly the location of gas stations along the way. We were traveling in some very remote areas. We had three GPS units. Ron had the BRP GoApp in his dash which was pretty much useless. Unfortunately, it's still a work in progress. Paul and I had the GPS Trailmaster mapping on our Garmin GPS units mounted to our sleds which was outstanding except for Day 5. Our planning was spot on except for Day 5 when the two operational GPS units were in disagreement and we veered off our original agreed upon course. We were so glad we had the extra gas on our sleds that day though as we all needed it.

Daily details of our trip are listed below. Basically, this was a grueling trip designed for young folks, not us old farts who range in age from 60-69. But we loved it. I don't think any of us would ever do it again, but at least we can cross it off our bucket list. We would get up and leave every morning between 6am and 8am and ride anywhere from 201 to 278 miles each day and arrive anywhere from 2:15pm – 9:15pm. Our average distance traveled was 240 miles per day for a total of 1200 miles for the trip, The highlight of our trip was Fer a Cheval in Mont Laurier where we were treated to gourmet dinner and breakfast and a first for us - valet parking of our sleds to a heated storage garage complete with delivery back to our rooms the following morning. So nice! Here's some details of our adventure:

Day 1, February 13, 2023 – Shawinigan to Roberval

Hotel Energie to gas in Shawinigan at 13 miles to gas and lunch at Lac Edouard at 126 miles to gas and the Hotel Manoir in Roberval at 220 miles. Temps 25-36 degrees F, sunny to overcast. Issues – Ron delayed our start by 20 minutes because he thought he left his car keys at the hotel. Oops, they were in his sled all along. Steve blew a corner but recovered. Trails were bumpy a good part of the day, especially trail 355, a trail that was also bumpy our last time on it years ago. Lesson learned, avoid trail 355 at all costs. We left at 8:05am and arrived at 5:35pm. Average miles traveled per hour from start to finish was 220 miles / 9 hrs 30 minutes = 23 mph

Day 2, February 14, 2023 - Roberval to Chibouamau

Happy Valentines Day. Hotel Manoir to last gas at LaDore at 39 miles, then 154 miles through an Indian reservation and logging camp to the next gas stop in Chibougamau at 193 miles and then to Hotel Nordic in Chibougamau at 201 miles. Ate snacks on the trail. All required extra gas from fuel caddies except Paul who just made it. Trails were outstanding allowing serious cruising speeds of 60-70. Overcast all day long. Temps in the mid 20's. Steve missed another corner but recovered. We forgot to stop when we crossed the 49th parallel. Damn. We left at 7:45am with snow covered sleds and arrived at 3:30pm. Average miles traveled per hour from start to finish was 201 miles / 7 hrs and 45 minutes = 31.5 mph

Day 3, February 15, 2023 – Chibougamau to Senneterre

Hotel Nordic to gas at 27 miles in Chapais to gas at 102 miles in Desmaraisville to gas and lunch at 164 miles in Lebel su Quevillon to gas and Hotel Bell Villa in Senneterre at 230 miles. Temps in 30s and overcast all day long with some light rain in the morning. I missed a corner but recovered. Incredible trails again today. We left at 6:45am and arrived at 2:15pm. Average miles traveled per hour from start to finish was 230 / 7 hrs 30 minutes = 30. 7 mph

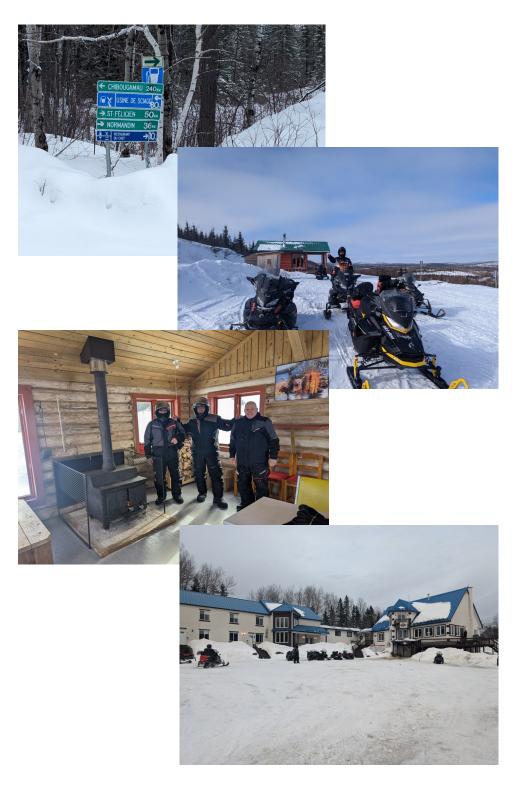
Day 4, February 16, 2023 – Senneterre to Fer a Cheval

Hotel Bell Villa to gas and breakfast at 71 miles at Lac Faillon to gas and lunch at 174 miles at Clova to Fer a Cheval in Mont Laurier at 270 miles. Flash freeze warning last night resulted in very icy trails that caused excessive darting of all sleds for a few hours in the morning. Very difficult to control sleds. Temperature dropped from 40 degrees to -10 degrees overnight. Sunny day warmed up to low 20s. Used ice scratchers all day long today to lubricate slides. Trails great up until a little past Clova, then bumpy for 60 miles to Fer a Cheval. We determined the groomer broke down because we saw the groomer skid abandoned on the trail. Damn. Steve went off trail one more time but had to be pulled out with rope. I went off trail one time on a straightaway while riding last and was pulled out by passerby sledders as my group kind of forgot about me. No one in my group actually witnessed my mishap so it doesn't count, haha. Fer a Cheval was first class all the way. Our sleds were valet parked to a heated garage upon our arrival and brought back out the next morning. So nice. We were kind of disappointed that they didn't fill up our sleds with gas for us. That would have been really sweet. Treated to a gourmet dinner with choice of filet mignon or Salmon complete with dessert. Gourmet breakfast also included. We left at 5:50am and arrived at 4:50pm. Average miles traveled per hour from start to finish was 270 / 11 hours = 24.5 mph

Day 5, February 17, 2023 – Fer a Cheval to Shawinigan

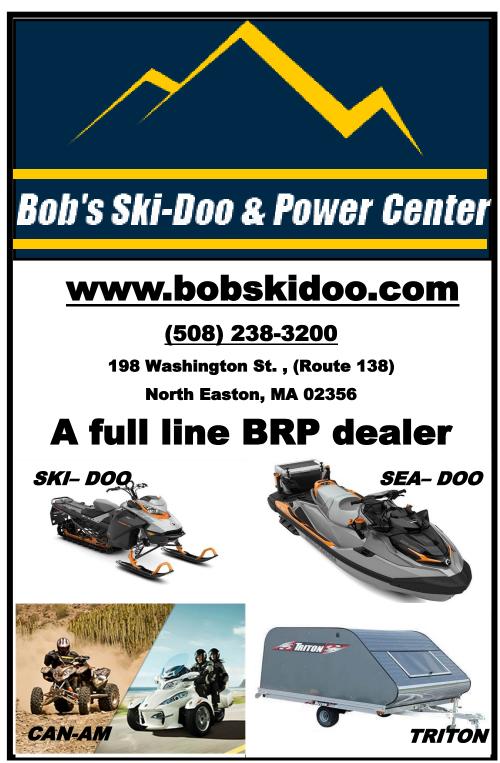
We left Fer a Cheval after a full breakfast and fill up with gas. Woke to 12-15" of new snow. First stop was gas at 37 miles at 100 Lacs to gas at Manawan at 116 miles then an adventure of some sort that led us over the Taureau Lake Dam and then ending up at a clubhouse in or near Shawinigan for a well deserved break to include dinner at 226 miles to the Hotel Energie in Shawinigan at 278 miles. We all emptied our fuel caddies on this last stretch except for Paul who had to borrow gas from Steve. I'll let him explain why, something about a missing key for his gas caddy LinQ lock. Our revised route took us to areas where there were no gas stations available. Steve went off trail once again and had to be pulled out with a rope. Was someone getting tired or was it all that tequila? What a long day. GPS units were not in agreement all day long. Perhaps we should have listened to Ron and extended the trip one more day. Temps never got above 5 degrees all day. We left at 8:15am and arrived at 9:15pm. Average miles traveled per hour from start to finish was 278 / 13 hours = 21.5 mph, our worst day of the trip. What a way to end our trip but no matter, it was certainly a memorable trip we all are grateful to have accomplished. Can you say that?





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67 Fitchburg Street. Marlborough

If you think you might like to join, or if you are curious, you are welcome to attend any of our monthly meetings as our guest. We hold our meetings on the second Tuesday of every month October through March, at 7:00 PM. at the Marlborough Moose Family Center - Post 1129.



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UPCOMING MEETINGS, TRIPS & EVENTS

Mar 3—5, 2023	Maine Free Weekend	
Mar 3-5, 2023	NH Free Weekend	
Mar. 4-12, 2023	Chicoutimi Quebec trip	
Mar. 14, 2023	Club Meeting	
Mar. 28, 2023	Board Meeting	
Apr. 25, 2023	Board Meeting	
Apr. 29, 2023	End of the Season Banquet	
May 24, 2023	Board Meeting	
All dates subject to change		

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EASY RIDERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB Club General Meeting January 10, 2023 7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: 7:10pm

3 of 4 Officers present – Missing Mike N; 5 of 6 BOD Members present. Missing John B

MEETING ATTENDANCE:

21 total including the 3 Officers and 5 BOD members.

SECRETARY's REPORT:

Accepted as read.

Last Club General Meeting was November 8, 2022.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Accepted as read.

Current balance - \$7,4547.784

NEW BUSINESS:

ERSC/SAM Raffle – This is the clubs main fundraiser. All members were previously provided 10 tickets and reminded to sell as many as possible. 1st prize is the 4 place snowmobile trailer or \$5,000. 2nd place is \$2,000 and 3rd place is #1,000. Sell, sell, sell! The drawing is scheduled for April 13, 2023 at the SAM Annual meeting. 225 tickets sold so far.

SAM Meeting – Profit from SAM Powersports show was 50,000. \$27,000 grant received to buid new trails and room, so net profit was \$23,000. Charitable Committee being formed. CampSnowMo to be primary beneficiary most likely. John F mentioned he knows an Easter Seals guy who works with Camp SnoMo and would e willing to make a presetatin to us. Report accepted as read.

New Members – 2 new members recognized at the meeting. Welcome. Membershp at 56 people to date.

ERSC XMAS Party – Was held at Gary LaPierre's house on Saturday, December 10. Gary was thanked at the meeting

ERSC Clothing – New clothing was brought to te meeting by Larry for pickup and payment.

Final Banquet – Still looking for recommendations as to where to hold it. Tentative date is April 29, 2023.

Sad news – Dick Wolfe, one of the founders of the ERSC passed away. His son, Dan Wolfe has contacted the ERSC and indicated his auto club wants to donate to us as our club was his fathers passion. We should consider diverting all funds received to charities. A few donatins have been received already I the amount of \$100, etc

Trips – Trip coordinators listed below all gave updates on their trips. Details can be found on our website. More are being planned so stay tuned.

Jan 12-16 Ft Kent, ME Bob C officially cancelled this trip due to conditions

Feb 12 -18Western Quebec TourRon L and Tom R coordinating

Mar ? Monts Valins, Quebec Mark C is coordinating

Next Club Meeting – February 9. 2023

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:10 pm

EASY RIDERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB **Club General Meeting** February 9, 2023 7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: 7:13pm

2 of 4 Officers present – Missing Mike, Larry M; 5 of 6 BOD Members present. Missing John B

MEETING ATTENDANCE:

16 total including the 2 Officers and 5 BOD members.

SECRETARY's REPORT:

Accepted as read.

Last Club General Meeting was January 10, 2023

TREASURERS REPORT:

Accepted as read.

Current balance - \$8,466.92 NEW BUSINESS:

Nominations - Nominations were opened tonight for next seasons officers and BOD members. BOD increased by one to 7 members due to increased membership. Nominations were as follows:

Officers: President -- Incumbents: Mike N / Vice President -- Greg C / Treasurer -- Larry M / Secretary – Tom R

BOD Members: Incumbents: John B, John S. Gary L, John S, Paul T, Chris A, Bob B; New Nomination - Keith G

ERSC XMAS Party - Gary LaPierre presented with a gift card for \$100 for expenses of hosting the ERSC XMAS party at his house on Dec 10, 2022

ERSC/SAM Raffle - This is the clubs main fundraiser. All members were previously provided 10 tickets and reminded to sell as many as possible. 1st prize is the 4-place snowmobile trailer or \$5,000. 2nd place is \$2,000 and 3rd place is #1,000. Sell, sell, sell! The drawing is scheduled for April 13, 2023 at the SAM Annual meeting. 243 tickets sold so far.

SAM Meeting – \$426,000 in bank. Next SAM Expo to be held at the Big E in November 2023. SAM Annual Meeting to be held at B Bullets on April 13 at 7pm. Prime Rib meal. Report accepted as read

New Members - Ray and his daughter, Sophia in attendance. Welcome. Sounds like the are both planning on riding with us next year.

Final Banquet - Will be held at the Bolton tavern in Marlboro MA on April 29, 2023. Costs being determined, probably \$20 per person ???

Miscellaneous News – Dan Wolfe in attendance tonight. Wanted to reiterate his fathers passion for our club. Greg C read the letter Dan sent in to the club requesting that the donation he made in the amount of \$500 be used to continue to promote the sport of snowmobiling in memory of his father. John S immediately recommended that funds received in Dick Wolfes memory be used to fund charities, especially Camp SnoMo. Camp SnoMo is SAMs primary charitable beneficiary. ERSC has donated every year either through SAM or directly to Camp SnoMo. Camp Sno Mo was a passion for 2 of our founding members, Dick Wofe and Herb Hilton who faithfully attended Easter Seals Charity galas in New Hampshre every year to donate funds to Camp SnoMo on behalf of SAM or ERSC. Many in the audience expresed support of this option.

Mike N – Mike is out of the hospital and doing much better. He is in isolation for a while but hopes to make it to our final banquet. Looking forward to seeing him then if not earlier.

Photo Contest - Take photos and post on the clubs Facebook page.

Trips - Trip coordinators listed below all gave updates on their trips. Details can be found on our website. More are being planned so stay tuned.

Feb 12-18 Western Quebec Tour Ron L and Tom R coordinating. Still on – 4 members Mar 4-12 Monts Valins, Quebec Mark C coordinating - 10 members

Next Club Meeting - March 14, 2023

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:42 pm

EASY RIDERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION NEW or RENEWAL (circle one)

The Easy Riders Snowmobile Club of Mariborough, Inc. Is an Informal organization of persons interested in the sport of snowmobiling. Our purpose is to promote the sport of family snowmobiling by offering the opportunity for like minded individuals to share information and experiences. Through bi-monthly newsietters and meetings during the season, members can share information about equipment, trail access, snow conditions, safely techniques and group riding opportunities. The Club encourages participation in non-competitive group snowmobiling activities but the Club does not sponsor formal organized trips.

The initiators of Club activities act as focal points to bring together the ideas, energies and resources of the group, but are not formal leaders. They are not paid, do not represent the Club, and can take no responsibility for the safety or weil-being of participants. A membership roster is available to members on request, listing names, addresses, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers for the purpose of member-to-member direct communication, but for no other distribution or commercial purposes.

TO JOIN (or renew your membership): Please read and sign the "Assumption of Responsibility and Release of Liability" waiver, fill in the information requested, and mail a check for \$40.00 payable to the Easy Riders Snowmobile Club to: Easy Riders Snowmobile Club, P.O. Box 271, Mariboro, MA 01752. A discounted fee of \$30.00 is available if received by the Treasurer on or before December 15th. An alternate discounted fee of \$25.00 is available when purchasing club and SAM memberships in a single transaction on or before. December 15th. Membership applies to an individual, his or her spouse or significant other, and all dependent children under the age of 18 years. SAM. Trail permit fees, \$50.00 per sied (plus service fee if applicable), are in addition to the membership fee and are not a condition for membership in the Easy Riders Snowmobile Club.

ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY & RELEASE OF LIABILITY WAIVER:

I knowingly, voluntarily and willingly, on behalf of myself, my heirs and executors, take full responsibility for my personal safety and well being while participating in any snowmobiling activities with the Easy Riders Snowmobile Club of Mariborough, inc. and any of its members or officers, and waive any claims against the Easy Riders Snowmobile Club of Mariborough, inc. and any of its members or officers for any injury; including death, or damage to my equipment, resulting from such participation.

I understand that snownobiling is a potentially dangerous activity and assume sole responsibility for deciding if my experience, skills, condition and equipment ar sufficient for my safe participation. I am aiso aware that weather, trail and road conditions are unpredictable and may pose hazards to me while snowmobiling as well as when traveling to or from a snowmobiling activity by car, truck, or any other form of transportation.

As a member of a club that promotes family participation, I take full responsibility for the safety of any minor family members of mine who participate in Club activities. Adult family members of mine (18 years or older) who wish to participate in Club activities as members of the Easy Riders Snowmobile Club of Mariborough, Inc. have agreed to sign this form as well. Note: there is no additional fee for the participation of additional family members, but only one newsletter will be distributed to each family membership.

I have thoroughly read the above three paragraphs, and I fully understand their content.

	MEMBER
--	--------

Signature	Date	
Printed Name	Age (if under 18)	
Address	e-mail:	
City, State & Zip	Telephone()	home
	Telephone()	cell

NOTE: If you wish to purchase a SAM Trail Permit for one or more snowmobiles, the cost is \$50.00 per sied. Please have your sied make, model, and serial number and MA registration number for inclusion on the SAM application for membership/trail pass.

ADDITIONAL ADULT FAMILY MEMBER. OR THE RESPONSIBLE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF THE ABOVE APPLICANT IF UNDER 18 YEARS OLD (Additional forms may be used for additional family members who snowmobile.)

Signature	Date	
D.1.1.1.1.		
Address	e-mail:	
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	Telephone()	cell
	EMERGENCY CONTACT	
Name	Telephone ()	e-mail

ERSC newsletters are electronic unless a paper copy is requested.

[] Check here if you wish to continue to receive the newsletter on paper. Signature of member applicant is required. Revised 03/19