

Rome Sno-Bandits Club Newsletter



March 2020

Volume 24 Issue 3

PO Box 43, Nekoosa, WI 54457



Message from the Trail Boss Larry Halverson

As I sit here and write this article, Adams County trails are all closed, forecast for temperatures to rise into the mid 40's and no snow predicted in the foreseeable future. This is not the weather reports that we snowmobilers enjoy seeing.

Mother Nature has not been very kind to us so far this year. We get some snow, we just get the trails up to riding condition and the weather warms up. Not much we can do about the weather I guess, except complain which does not seem to help.

Hopefully you had an opportunity to use the trails when they were open. Let's not give up yet as they trails don't officially close until April 1st.

Larry

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 5th, 2020

Adams County Snowmobile Association Meeting - 7:00 pm
Connell's Cedar Shack Adams

March 14th, 2020

Club Meeting & Nominations
9:00 am – Rome Town Hall

March 20th - 22nd, 2020

AWSC Spring Convention
Middleton, WI

April 2nd, 2020

Adams County Snowmobile Association Meeting - 7:00 pm
Connell's Cedar Shack Adams

April 11th, 2020

Club Meeting & Elections
9:00 am – Rome Town Hall

May 7th, 2020

Adams County Snowmobile Association Meeting - 7:00 pm
Connell's Cedar Shack Adams

May 9th, 2020

Club Meeting & Road Pickup
9:00 am – Rome Town Hall
Adopt-A-Highway Road Pickup
Following Meeting

June 13th, 2020

Club Meeting - 9:00 am
Location To Be Announced
Rome Town Hall Not Available

June 20th, 2020

Rome Classic Car, Bike &
Snowmobile Show
9:00 am–3:00 pm
Alpine Village Town Center



Message from the Vice President Tom Warner

We did it!!! We have won the AWSC Snowmobile Friendly Community Award!! Thanks so much to everyone that helped and contributed on this! It was a huge undertaking and you all worked so hard!!

I hope everyone was able to get out and enjoy our beautiful trails!! A huge thank you to all our groomer operators and our Trail Boss for volunteering all those long hours in the tractor so we can all have a smooth ride!

The club trip was a huge success and it looked as though all had a very fun time riding the trails and enjoying everyone's company after a day of riding! I am sorry I was not able to make it this year!!

Don't forget that at the next meeting we will be taking nominations for President, Treasurer, and one Director position. I hope many will be able to make to the meeting.

As always think Snow!!!

Tom Warner
Vice-President



Official Trail Information

Adams County Parks

(608) 339-4230

<https://www.co.adams.wi.us/parks/snowmobiletrails-recreation>

Always check to make sure trails
are open before riding!



Message from the President Jim Fisher

Hope everyone who was anxious to ride was able to get out over the last three weeks. The grooming crew did a fantastic job getting the trails ready between lulls of warm weather. Thanks for a job well done.

From all reports from the St. Germain area, those club members who went on the trip had a great time, so much so that they have already booked the lodging for next year. Of the 40 rooms or so at the Rustic Manor, over 20 were booked by the Rome Sno-Bandits. Knowing most of you who went on the trip personally, I am sure that you left a good impression on everyone in the area. Thank you for being a good ambassador.

Good news for all members of the Sno-Bandits. The club was chosen to be one of several recipients of the Snowmobile Friendly Community Award that will awarded at the State Convention in Madison the weekend of March 20th – 22nd. This award speaks to the efforts made by many, who have over the years, tried to make our club one of the best in the state. Thanks to all, for all you do/have done, for the betterment of the Rome Sno-Bandits!

Nominations will be made at the March meeting for the following positions:

President, Treasurer, and Director. If you know of someone who you think would do a good job for any of the above, please feel free to nominate them. If you yourself would like to serve in one of the positions, contact someone who would nominate you. Change of officers is good, they many times bring out new ideas and ways of improving our club. We don't want to live on past efforts, but rather up-the bar for the future. See you on the 14th.

President
Jim Fisher

**Thank you to our Trail Boss, Larry Halverson,
and our grooming crew: Gary Gevers, Jim Fisher,
Jerry Wiessinger, Tom Gabriel, Scott Murphy,
Mark Kalata and John Steinke.**

**You do an awesome job keeping our
trails in great shape.**

Your hard work is appreciated!!!!



**Thank you to Tom Gabriel for
plowing snow at the groomer
shed. Tom is a club member
and owner of Papa Bear's
Mini Golf located in The
Rome Alpine Village Town
Center.**

thank
you!



CLUB TRIP

Our club trip was February 20th through February 23rd in St. Germain. We stayed at the Rustic Manor Motor Lodge and had over 20 rooms reserved by club members. We accessed trails from the lodge parking lot and could head in any direction and ride amazing trails.

Each morning we split up into groups according to riding style and desired destination and at the end of the day we would meet and swap stories.

Saturday night we shared food and drinks, handed out awards, and played games. \$130 was raised in a card game and our club will donate it to the Adams County Human Society in memory of Greg Enzenroth and Suzanne Kostreva's dog, Ozzie.

We handed out a spirit award to Jerry Wiessinger for all he does for our club and our community. He was an amazing leader on the trails.

There are bars, restaurants, and gas stations within walking distance from the lodge and a Dollar General directly across the street. A few club members found the heated garage useful when they needed to work on their sleds. We heard nothing but great things from club members about the lodge and the area so we reserved the lodge for our 2021 club trip. We have 25 rooms blocked for January 28th – January 31st. You can start making your reservations at any time.

Rome Sno-Bandits Club Trip

January 28th – January 31st, 2021

**Rustic Manor Motor Lodge
6343 State Highway 70 East
St. Germain, WI 54558**

<https://www.rusticmanor.com>

RESERVATIONS:

Toll Free: 1-800-272-9776

Room Rates

\$ 93.00 All Rooms In Outside Traditional Building

\$ 99.00 Two Queen Room In Main lodge

\$ 115.00 King Poolside Room In Main lodge

\$ 135.00 King Whirlpool Room In Main Lodge

\$289.00 Three Bedroom/Two Bath House

We have 25 rooms blocked. Rooms will be released eight weeks prior to our trip. There is a 72 hour cancellation policy.

Check in is 3:00 pm. The lodge is very busy this time of year. Early check in is unlikely. You will need to reserve your room for the night prior to your arrival if you want an early check in.

***Main Lodge Swimming Pool and Hot Tub
Complimentary Continental Breakfast
Large Heated Garage for Snowmobile Repairs
Snowmobile Trail Access***



AWSC Vice President, Lori Heideman, (Pictured to Left) joined us on our club trip. Lori shared her knowledge with club members while having fun on the trails. She has been very helpful to our club over the years and recently helped us with the Snowmobile Friendly Application Process. Thank you Lori!



Jerry Wiessinger (pictured above) received the club spirit award.



*St. Germain
Club Trip
February 2020*

Rome Sno-Bandits Awarded Snowmobile Friendly Community

Our club and the Town of Rome received exciting news! The AWSC announced that we will be recognized as a Snowmobile Friendly Community at the AWSC Spring Convention on March 21st.

This award celebrates and recognizes the partnership between our club and our community and how we work together to promote safe snowmobiling, community involvement, and enhance tourism, while showcasing snowmobiling as a positive activity in our community.

We will have this recognition for a four year period. Snowmobile Friendly Community signs will be placed at key locations in our town. After four years, we can reapply with the hopes that we continue to grow and improve upon our current partnerships.

We submitted a 21 page application that asked questions about our community structure & involvement, safety & education, and interaction with law enforcements. Kathy Halverson met with town officials and gathered information about town ordinances along with safety recommendations from our Chief of Police, Jason Lauby. We provided 13 attachments with our application that included photos and highlights of our annual events, a listing of our charitable contributions, town ordinances, and newspaper and magazine articles featuring our club.

The Snowmobile Friendly Community application process helped us highlight our strengths but will also guide us as to where we can make improvements.

AWSC Vice President, Lori Heideman, was very helpful throughout the application process. She met with us several times and answered our questions and gave us ideas. She continues to educate our club. Thank you Lori for all you do for our club!

Thank you to everyone that worked so hard on this process. We as a club and community have a lot to be proud of!!

Melissa Rhodes
Secretary

Being a Snowmobile Friendly Community

Snowmobilers provide a great economic benefit to communities in the snow belt. While traveling during the winter months snowmobilers generally look for areas providing amenities that are snowmobile friendly. These may include a trail-side hotel, restaurant and gas. Last year the AWSC rolled out a new program called Snowmobile Friendly Communities. This program was created to enhance snowmobile tourism, snowmobile opportunities, improve safety and generate partnerships between community members and snowmobile volunteers essential for snowmobile trails.

This program was first initiated by the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) and several of our surrounding states participate in the program. This program sets guidelines for a community to be considered for this award. In order to be recognized a community must create a working relationship between many partners. These partners include the snowmobile clubs, businesses, communities, as well as local law enforcement. An application is then submitted by a sponsoring snowmobile club. This application provides information on this partnership. The applications are then scored and recognition is determined by a nine-member committee. This committee is made up of AWSC executive board members, a Wisconsin Department of tourism member, a central, northern, and southern representative and two AWSC club members.

The snowmobile friendly community committee is in charge of this program. It is an annual process and provides reports to the AWSC executive board. The application is online. Once completed it can be submitted. The committee then evaluates, scores and recommends which communities should be awarded this title. The AWSC then holds a formal awards ceremony during the spring convention to announce the winners. This award is for four years, after which the community can reapply. Each community also signs a memorandum of understanding.

The Snowmobile Friendly Community program has several goals. These goals first and foremost complement the AWSC mission statement and were created as an advocacy tool for clubs and counties. It was created to recognize the club volunteers and add visibility to what snowmobile clubs do for their communities. It is to improve community relationships by engaging all of the key stakeholders. The program is geared toward bringing these partnerships together through community activities and events. It is meant as a checklist for success for all partners involved. This checklist includes encouragement, engineering, education and enforcement; all in an effort to make snowmobiling a more recognized and positive activity for all.

After the awards are presented at the convention, the committee provides feedback by completing a SWOT analysis. This is a strategic planning technique used to help identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. The intent of this feedback is to help the applicants identify the internal and external factors that are both favorable and unfavorable to achieving or maintaining their snowmobile friendly status.

If you are interested in applying to be a Snowmobile Friendly Community, go to the AWSC website and download the application. If you have questions please feel free to contact either Don Hamilton or myself via email. Email addresses are in this magazine or on the AWSC website. (awsc.org) We will be more than happy to answer any of your questions.

See you on the trails!! **W&N**

Lori Heideman
Vice President



Mark & Dawn Kalata
Heres We Sign
 Graphic Design
 Promotional Items & Apparel
 920-740-6753
 Email: husdesigns@gmail.com

Read all about our club at
www.romesnobandits.com
 If you would like to see anything else on the site,
 email Chris or Gary at RomeSnoBandits@gmail.com

 Like us on
Facebook

Country Sports INC.
 10520 Highway 13 South
 Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
 www.countrysportsinc.com
 info@countrysportsinc.com
 Mon-Fri 9am-6pm
 Saturday 9am-3pm
 715-325-5381 888-355-1063

- HONDA: Motorcycles, A.T.V.'s, Side by Sides, Generators, Lawn Mowers, Power Equipment
- POLARIS: A.T.V.'s, Side by Sides, Snowmobiles, Generators
- SUZUKI: Motorcycles, A.T.V.'s
- CF-MOTO: A.T.V.'s, Side by Sides
- ARIENS: Snow-Lawn
- ALUMA: Trailers

Lure Bar & Grill
 BARNUM BAY MARINA
 1735 ARCHER LANE
 NEKOOSA, WI 54457
 TOM & JONI KOREN 715-325-6555
 TKOREN@WCTC.NET www.barnumbaymarina.com


Evenson's Marine
 CURT EVENSON CHERYL EVENSON
 590 COUNTY ROAD Z NEKOOSA WI 54457
 evensonsmarine@gmail.com www.evensonsmarine.com
 715-325-6100

NIGHTLY SPECIALS

Mondays
 Broasted Wings 50¢ each

Tuesdays
 Three-Piece Broasted Chicken

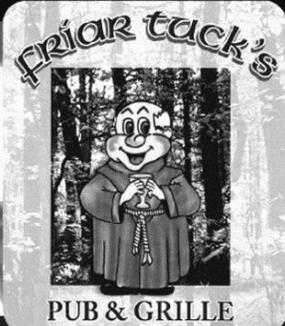
Wednesday Night
 BBQ Rib Night

Thursdays Steak Night
 16oz Ribeye On The Grill
 8oz Tenderloin On The Grill

Friday Night Fish Fry

Saturdays Prime Rib

Sundays Steak and Shrimp


PUB & GRILLE

NOW OFFERED EVERY NIGHT OF THE WEEK
 Friar's Famous BBQ Ribs
 Hand Dipped Beer Battered Shrimp

Friar Tuck's Pub & Grille
 382 State Hwy 13
 Nekoosa, WI 54457
715-325-3338



NEW OWNERS, NEW HOURS, GREAT FOOD & DRINK


LAKE SHERWOOD LODGE
 1146 WEST QUEENS WAY
 NEKOOSA, WI
GREAT FOOD AND DRINKS

Open: Daily at 9 AM
 Summer Kitchen Hours:
 Starting Memorial Day Weekend
 Fri-Sat until 10 PM
 Sun-Thurs until 10 PM
 Winter Kitchen Hours:
 After Labor Day Weekend
 Fri-Sat until 10 PM
 Sun-Thurs until 10 PM

LODGE: 715-325-2636
 OFFICE: 715-325-4066
 EMAIL: LSPORA@WCTC.NET OR
 LSPORATREASURE@SOLARUS.NET
 WEBSITE: WWW.LAKESHERWOODLODGE.COM



GROOMER ETIQUETTE



TIPS FOR ENCOUNTERING GROOMING EQUIPMENT ON THE TRAIL

- First, recognize that trail groomers may be working on the trail at any time. They are there in an effort to provide you with smooth, safe trails. Always keep your snowmobile under control and anticipate that a groomer might be around the next corner or over the hill.
- Snowmobiles are much smaller and much more maneuverable than groomers, so always yield to a groomer. Always slow down when approaching or overtaking grooming equipment. Groomers move very slowly, typically only 5 to 8 miles per hour, so they are almost stationary when compared to a snowmobile traveling 30 to 60 miles per hour.
- When approaching an oncoming groomer on the trail, slow down and move your snowmobile to the far right side of the trail. Realize that the grooming drag or tiller behind the grooming tractor may be very wide, may extend wider than the tracks of the tractor, and may essentially take up most or all of the trail's width. If the trail is narrow or winding, you may need to stop at the far outside edge of the trail to let the groomer pass.
- When overtaking a groomer from the rear, slow down and assess the situation ahead. If there is good sight distance and the trail ahead is clear of oncoming traffic, pass the groomer while operating with caution. Beware that the groomer may create snow dust and make visibility poor. If the trail is narrow or winding, you may need to stay behind the groomer until the operator pulls over and signals for you to pass. Be patient because it may take time before there is a safe location and safe conditions for passing.
- If you need to stop a groomer to ask for information or assistance, understand this should be done only in an area where there is good sight distance and it is safe to stop. The groomer operator may request that you follow the groomer to a safer location where he can stop and provide the assistance you need.

TRAIL QUALITY AND TRAIL SET UP TIME

- Trail grooming requires that "set up" time be allowed for the freshly groomed trail to re-freeze. Set up time will vary depending upon temperature and moisture content of the snow. Generally two to six or even more than ten hours may be needed for the freshly groomed trail to set up to where it is durable and will hold up to heavy snowmobile traffic.
- Try to avoid riding a snowmobile on freshly groomed trails for at least two hours after the groomer passes by choosing an alternate route to help improve the quality and durability of snowmobile trails. And never follow directly behind a groomer because it immediately destroys the trail.
- If you come upon a groomer and you must use that route, try to minimize impacts to the trail: slow down; try to stay off the fresh grooming if the trail is wide enough to safely do so; operate only at the outside edge of the fresh grooming; ride in single file versus having everyone in the group take a different path on the fresh grooming; and don't purposely fishtail or power through the soft snow.
- Understand that aggressive riding styles can impact the quality and smoothness of the trails you ride on. Fast starts and stops, powering through curves, paddle tracks, carbide runners, traction devices, and powerful engines can all combine to destroy the smoothness of a trail. So the next time you hit the brake or throttle, think about how you may have innocently contributed to destroying the trails you would really prefer to be smooth.

Rome Sno-Bandits Club Contacts

President	Jim Fisher	(715) 459-3023
Trail Boss	Larry Halverson	(715) 325-6833
Vice-President	Tom Warner	(224) 715-2350
Treasurer	Cathy Steinke	(715) 213-1582
Secretary	Melissa Rhodes RomeSnoBanditsSecretary@gmail.com	(715) 459-8001
Membership	Chris Gevers RomeSnoBandits@gmail.com	(715) 325-6711
Director	Jeff Hoffman	(608) 516-9062
Director	Jerry Wiessinger	(920) 360-6704
Director	John Steinke	(715) 459-1361
Sunshine Club	Bev Sweet	(715) 325-6549
Apparel	Dawn Kalata of Here's Ur Sign husdesigns@gmail.com	(920) 740-6753

*If you are sick or have lost
a loved one, please let us know.
We are all family and we
care about you!*

**Happy Birthday or
Happy Anniversary**
to all our
March Celebrators!




**Do you know anyone who loves
to snowmobile? Maybe they do
not belong to a club. Ask them if
they would like to join our club.**

**Applications & brochures are
available at club meetings,
on our website and at:**

**[Camelot on the Lake](#)
[Country Sports](#)
[Evensons Marine](#)
[Friar Tucks](#)
[Sherwood Lodge](#)
[Lure Bar & Grill](#)
[Donahue Super Sports](#)**

**BEING PART OF A
CLUB IS THE RIGHT
THING TO DO!**

**CLOTHING AVAILABLE!**

Check out our

[“Sno-Bandits Apparel Link”](#)

on our website:

www.romesnobandits.com

*Sno-Bandits apparel is also
available at most meetings
or can be ordered anytime from
Dawn Kalata of*

Here's Ur Sign

(920) 740-6753

husdesigns@gmail.com

Please stop and visit our
AWSC Commercial Sponsors
as you are out riding (or driving)
around. Take the time to thank them
for being a snowmobile club sponsor.

These businesses are:

[CAMELOT ON THE LAKE](#)

[COUNTRY SPORTS](#)

[EVENSON'S MARINE](#)

[FRIAR TUCKS](#)

[LAKE ARROWHEAD ASSOCIATION](#)

[LAKE SHERWOOD LODGE](#)

[LURE BAR AND GRILL](#)

[PONDEROSA PINES](#)

[PRITZL'S TRADING POST](#)

Minutes from the Rome Sno-Bandits Meeting February 8th, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 am with President, Jim Fisher, as the chair and seven officers present. There were 45 members in attendance.

President, Jim Fisher, thanked Gary Gevers for stepping in for him at the January meeting while he was on vacation. The meeting was very informative with guest speakers Shaun Long and Wayne Romberg.

Secretary's Report

There were no changes to the Secretary's report. A motion was made by Jerry Wiessinger to accept the report as it was presented in the newsletter. Suzanne Kostreva seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Cathy Steinke reported on the checking & savings account balances. Bob Sweet made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Willy Sandfox seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Trail Boss Report

Trail Boss, Larry Halverson, wrote an article in the February Newsletter about opening and closing of trails. If you have any questions on it, please talk to him.

We rolled and groomed the trails before they opened for the first time. We have a pretty good base out there. If we get the snow that is forecasted, we should be in good shape.

We had minor electrical problems with the tractor. They have now been repaired.

The club has reflective vests. Members are welcome to use them at any time. Contact Larry and he will get them to you. We usually use them on group rides with one on the lead sled and one on the tail sled. They are nice and bright.

Thank you to Tom Garbriel for keeping the groomer shed plowed. There is ice at the groomer shed so be very careful if you need to go over there.

Social Committee Report

Sympathy cards were sent to Maria Klasinski for the loss of her mother, Jeff Hoffman for the loss of his mother, and the Howard Wienfuter family. Howard was a member of the Saratoga Chug a Bugs club. After donuts were purchased, there is a balance of \$ 83.60 in the kitty. Kathy Halverson made a motion to add \$200 to the kitty. Willy Sandfox seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Activities Report

Melissa reported that the club trip will be February 20th through February 23rd. We have started a group email for all that are going. Our club has 21 rooms booked. We have beer and soda left over from trail brushing that will be brought with. Gary talked about how we will meet Friday and Saturday night in a common area of the hotel to share riding stories. Saturday night there will be fun awards handed out.

Adams County Report

Adams County Recreation Officer, Shaun Long, has put over 100 miles on patrolling the trails. He reported that signage is good. Four minor citations have been written and twelve warnings issued. There was one crash in the Dellwood area that resulted in a leg injury.

Shaun spoke about talking at our club meeting in January and is willing to do this again. Larry asked if club members would be interested in this and most if not all club members expressed an interest. We will work on setting something up for early fall and most likely on a meeting day. We would have our meeting first followed by the safety presentation so if anyone does not want to attend that portion, they can leave after the meeting. Gary has the DNR safety handbooks available.

AWSC REPORT

As of February 1st, 51,914 \$10 trail passes and 26,259 \$30.00 trail passes have been sold. This does not include out of state trail passes.

40' rule verses the 10' rule is still in the works.

Gary Gevers and Kathy Halverson have raffle ticket to sell for the Adams County Snowmobile Association gun raffle. They are \$10.00 each or three for \$20.00.

The Rome Classic Car Show raffle tickets are now available. Please take them with you after the meeting or after the next meeting. We will mail tickets out if they have not been picked up.

John Stohr, AWSC director for Walworth County, is a secondary member of our club. He can always answer any AWSC questions.

Old Business

We should know the status of our Snowmobile Friendly Community application in the next few weeks. Thank you to everyone that worked hard on this.

Grand Marsh Pathfinders had their antique snowmobile show last week. It was well attended. The Adams County Association had raffles at this event. Our club donated a basket and Larry Halverson won it. He donated it back to our club to be raffled off at the end of the meeting.

The Rome Snobandits made a \$100 donation to Nancy Carlson for the MS Ride. 188 people participated in the ride. To date they raised \$292,000. More money is coming in yet due to some funds being matched. They hope to bring in \$350,000. Since the start of this event, they have brought in over 9 million dollars.

New Business

Today and tomorrow is Lake Arrowhead Snoblast. Larry will be operating the hay rides again this year. Last year Lake Arrowhead donated \$300 to our club.

At our March meeting there will be nomination for President, Treasurer, and one Director. Elections will be held at the April meeting. New officers will take office in May.

We received a request for a donation from Adams County for their kid's day. Scott Fitzgerald made a motion to donate \$100.00 to this event. Gary Gevers seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Rome Snobandits were featured in the Adams County Times Reporter. We have a copy of the article if you would like to see it.

The annual AWSC convention is March 20th through 22nd in Middleton Wisconsin. Our club is allowed two voting delegates. Our board members took care of this after the meeting. Snowmobile Friendly will be awarded at the convention. If anyone is interested in going, contact Cathy Steinke. Early bird registration deadline is before March 5th.

Click the following link to see the convention agenda:

<https://www.awsc.org/AWSC/media/Images/Conference%20Info/2020-Conv-3-Day-Agenda.pdf>

It was requested by a couple club members to have Melissa send out an email when the trails are opened and closed. She will try to do this when she is available but it is always your responsibility to check to make sure trails are open before you ride. Adams County is the official site for trail openings and closings. We also try to keep this information updated on our Facebook page and website. It is a \$230.50 fine if you are caught on the trails when they are not open.

Trail Information - Adams County Parks - 608-339-4230

<https://www.co.adams.wi.us/parks/snowmobiletrails-recreation>

A motion to adjourn at 9:54 am was made by Willy Sandfox and seconded by Scott Fitzgerald. All were in favor. Motion carried. Meeting Adjourned.

50/50 winner was Cathy Steinke. \$93.00 for the club and \$92.00 for the winner.

Respectfully Submitted
Melissa Rhodes
Rome Sno-Bandits Secretary

Rome Classic Car, Bike & Snowmobile Show

Saturday, June 20th, 2020
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Alpine Village Town Center

