

# FRONTIER SNO RIDERS

# FRONTIER TIMES



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November 2015

## Upgrades

The need to refresh or renew a slightly used ride may not be great, but sometimes a small tweak or modification can do wonders for you and your machine.

With the price of new snowmobiles going up each season, it can make a lot sense to upgrade your current snowmobile. Not only can you freshen up the look, but you can improve the performance of your older ride.

Keeping the cost of the upgrade under control can be easy if you are careful. Before making any purchase you should plan how much to spend overall. A lot depends on how long you plan to keep your current ride. Other factors to consider are performance and comfort of your snowmobile. Are you looking to increase cornering ability? How about super cold weather riding? Planning on doing any overnight trips? Do you ride primarily on lakes or off trail back country?

I have used Dennis Kirk for the parts supplier in this article. They have been around for a long time and have been reliable in my dealings with them. There are likely cheaper parts outlets to be found, but remember you get what you pay for.



*Suspension shocks*  
(photo by Dennis Kirk)

We will start with some performance areas. Replacing your skis can greatly change how your sled moves over the snow. Some skis bite better in the corners, others float over the deep snow, and some can help reduce 'darting'. You will have to choose based the style on what you want to improve. (\$105-\$400)

Feel like every bump is out to get you? Perhaps you need new suspension shocks to smooth the ride. Low end shocks are hydraulic, then gas shocks and high pressure gas shocks, with air shocks taking top spot for comfort and control. (\$70-\$550)

A wear item you may have neglected is your track. If the traction edge is worn down and there are tears or rips it is time to replace the track. There is a large range to choose from, deep lugs for off trail or mountain riding, to ice tracks pre-studded and ready for speed. Be careful to choose wisely, too deep a lug and low snow can lead to heating issues for your engine. (\$460-\$950)



*Tracks*

(photo by Dennis Kirk)

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# November 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day Club Meeting	12	13	14 Snow Show Swap meet, East Durham
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Deer season opens
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					

# December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Snowmobile Safety Class Knox Fire House
6	7	8	9 Club Meeting	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Winter Begins	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		

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## Club News

Sent the Bombi back to East Berne. Has all the grousers rebuilt. Replaced the cracked exhaust manifold. Has a new paint job and reflective tape. Has a new windshield on the right side. I reversed the drive sprockets, hope we get another year out of them. Checked out steering brake band - system in the rear and readjusted them, they looked in good condition. Steering of the Bombi is a 1/3 ratio reduction-so it will never turn real tight corners. Bombi now has a flashing yellow light. Report by Laudy Hoyenga.

Trail Log Continued...

**Duanesburg/Delanson** - Rich Valletta - The trail up from Delanson near Alexander Road has been widened and straightened to help groomers from getting stuck. Karl dozed, Brian Excavated, and Casey helped build 2 bridges and the trail is in great shape for the new groomer to be used from Esperance to Duanesburg. Some work is required at Jack Dowling's. A new 40 foot steel frame bridge was built over the Normanskill on Scott's Printings land. Scott was so please he cooked lunch, and supplied beverages for the entire crew.



## Trail Log

**East Berne** - Brian Buchardt - New proposed trail ( S-72) behind Mobil mart/ East Berne fire house is on hold for this season. 40' bridge being rebuilt near Joslyn school road.

**Sloansville** - Laudy Hoyenga - Have widened the three main bridges of C7F to 10 ft, and have added two more poles to each bridge for added strength. I straightened the trail in several places. Also have widen two smaller bridges on trail to Charleston 4 Corners. With, the ok of the state I will be adding fill on approach ramps to route 30A above Sloansville so sight distance will be better. Have bushhogged all trails.

**Mariaville** - Jerry Schoening - Stop and stop ahead signs are being installed, The trail has been bushhogged from North Road to Mariaville Peat. Some trees were taken down for trail widening. The Stanley Turnpike has been mowed and widened and some large rocks removed thanks to landowner Scott King. More work to be done this upcoming weekend.

**Burtonsville** - John Scrima - There will need to be a new bridge behind the house next to Hannaford. C7E trail will now cross Route 30 due to the new Dollar General Store closing the trail to Stewarts and the Hillview. The Gage road bridge needs new deck boards.

**Knox/Wright** - Ron Shultes - Trees were cut, ran dozers and straightened out trails. New wear bars to be placed on bridges.

**Esperance** - Tom Rulison - We should have a trail in place to keep C7E away from the homes on the west side of the Schoharie Creek near Route 20. Laudy will help out on the trails in the area.

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(continued from page 1 - Upgrades)

Studs make a nice traction control device by adding safety for cornering and stopping. They also help you hook up during quick starts. Draw backs are more rotating mass requiring more power. Throwing off a stud may also put a hole in your heat exchanger. There are many different types, so you will have to determine number and size of studs to work with your sled and track. The basic rule is more horse power equals more studs. (\$48-\$280)



Carbide runners

(photo by Dennis Kirk)

Out front you can improve cornering with a change or replacement of worn carbide ski runners. You will want to match the carbide length to the amount of studding your track has. If you do not have studs, you will likely want to run the minimum amount of carbide. Without studs you should stay with the length that came stock on your snowmobile. However with studs you can increase carbide length to gain a nice traction balance. (\$55-\$95)

To freshen up the look of your snowmobile consider replacing your idler wheels on your skid frame with colors matching



Idler wheels

(photo by Dennis Kirk)

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Find you are not staying as warm on your snowmobile as you would like? Perhaps a larger windshield is what you need. Sometimes just moving up one size is all it takes to block the wind. Look at what you have to start with and go from there. (\$32-\$110)

Some other upgrades to consider, adding a clutch kit (\$120-\$400), mirrors (\$13-\$72), or saddlebags (\$66-\$110) may be worth a look.

Now is the time to prepare your snowmobile for the upcoming season. Many of the upgrades mentioned here can be done at home. If they are beyond your abilities your local snowmobile shop will certainly be able to help complete the job. See you on the trail on that newly upgraded snowmobile!

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## Frontier Members Attend Pisten Bully Seminar



Laudy Hoyenga inspects a Trail Bully.

Laudy Hoyenga and Gerry Lenseth attended a two day Pisten Bully Technical Training seminar on September 16 and 17 at the Mohawk Industrial Werks in Chadwicks, NY.

A ton of information was covered and over 60 maintenance and machine operators attended from Nordic, snowmobile and alpine facilities from the Northeast to the Mid-Atlantic states.

The seminar was conducted by Rod Elwel, Pisten Bully National Technical Service Manager from Reno, NV which covered hydraulic and electrical systems, engine, hydrostatic pumps and final drives, plows and tillers, general maintenance, troubleshooting, online technical schematics, parts diagrams and ordering for all models.

Laudy is checking out the largest Pisten Bully designed specifically for snowmobile trail grooming – the Trail Bully (same power plant and propulsion as a PB100 but on a larger frame and cab).

Report by Gerry Lenseth.

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## Trail Boss Pics



A new route to the new bridge on C7E in Delanson stays to the right. The old trail is still marked with Bridge Ahead.



Skip Murrell, local trail boss of the Township trail S70, and his Model A truck offload equipment.



Brian Buchardt and John Eppelmann cutup a tree on S70.

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# Trail Boss Pics—Township Trail S70 Widened



The landfill looking down at the hedge row at Robert's Jr property, before the trail was opened



After Mike opened the trail



On Mike Sr property he broke through the stone wall just above the stream



The opening is 15' or so, but is still somewhat a tight turn.

## Trail Boss Contacts

Brian Buchardt	East Berne	872-1878
Ron Shultes	Knox	872-2526
Laudy Hoyenga	Sloansville	868-2092
Rich Valletta	Duanesburg	895-2425
Jerry Schoening	Mariaville	864-5576
John Scrima	Burtonsville	875-6078

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*New cattle fencing and gates will require slow speeds to pass through the area on C7B near Westfall Road.*



*Newly decked bridge at Scott's Printing on C7B in Duanesburg.*

## Snowmobile Safety Course

Frontier Sno Riders will be holding a Snowmobile Safety Class on December 5th, 2015 at the Knox Firehouse (2198 Berne-Altamont Rd, Altamont, NY 12009)

The class will begin at 8 am and lunch is provided.

Attendees must be at least 10 years old to take the class. Adults are encouraged to attend as well. This course is for all skill levels, from novice to expert. You are never too old to learn something new. Classes fill up fast, please call now to reserve your spot. Another class may be scheduled, if demand warrants. To sign up, Please contact Mike Riek 518-861-5115.



*Left- Karl Pritchard moves a tree back in Knox.*



*Right- New bridge beams are set in place on C7E in Delanson.*

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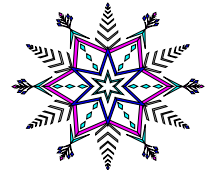
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**Club Meeting**  
**Jonathan's, Wed Nov 11**  
**7pm Duaneburg**



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