

# **Charleston Bridge Being Built**

**Bridge replacement project is now underway** by President Gerry Lenseth Ever wonder when you are riding through NYS's park forests how a sturdy bridge structure comes to exist in such remote areas? Well here is a look at a current DEC project underway right in our own back woods (or technically the Charleston State Forest) along the C7F Frontier Sno-Riders trail in Montgomery County.

A mid-winter bridge replacement project is now underway courtesy of the NYS DEC, our local Charleston Forester and a DEC construction crew based in Stamford, NY. The original request from our club came back in 2018 from the volunteers that cleared and widened the pre-existing "goat path" (actually a combination of hiking, skiing and horse paths) through miles and miles of lightly used dense forest. The clubs request was originally for the existing "foot bridge" to be replaced with a suitable 10' wide bridge to allow for Class A grooming equipment to cross the



The old foot bridge pictured before it was removed.

creek. The FSR trail crew redirected the trail nearby the foot bridge to allow for better approach on either bank for sled and groomer traffic.



An articulated ATV rock truck brings in a load of shale. Photos by Gerry Lenseth

Following the close of the 2019 hunting season, clearing of the old bridge commenced and construction began with a tentative completion date this March. The current structure being installed at the foot bridge crossing will be just 6' in width which will limit grooming to either Skandic or UTV equipment at

best for the future over the bridge.

Cold winter temperatures and frozen ground typically allow for projects like this to be completed if the snow level is not deep, such as is the case this winter to date. This project involves the use of a

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If there is riding snow, club volunteers will be needed for the Lawson Lake Winter Festival snowmobile ride on Feb 22. If you would like to help please contact Pres. Gerry Lenseth, 872-9374 or Michael Riek, 861-5155.

Dave Toborg has indicated that Middleburgh Ridge Runners are offering 47' flat bed semitrailer frame stripped of decking with running gear attached for the taking, it was donated to their club for a bridge that won't be built. 2x6 and 2x8 lumber decking and hardware is available for a fee. Tom Rulison will let him know the club is interested.

Gerry Lenseth is updating the landowner list.

31 people came to the safety course on Dec 21st. Lots of positive feedback was given.

Many Super Raffle tickets are being sold by club members, be sure to pickup some at the club meeting, to help sell more.

Randy Stein has been updating the club website, be sure to check it out for the latest on trail status. He is working on a couple of pages that had outdated trail conditions.

Club By-Law changes are still in the formulating stages, including the personal property policy. The executive board will review the draft prior to submitting it to the board for review and discussion. Voting will follow after the final draft is approved for a motion.

NYSSA Forum April 24th and 25th, with the annual meeting on the 26th. Club members wishing to attend should advise Gerry ASAP.







# **Northern Area**

**Burtonsville/Charleston C7E** - Scott Claus/Yancey Zimmer - Trails are cleared with help from Scott and Zack. It's well signed with a few odds and ends that need to be finished at the top of the hill.

Mariaville C7B - Mark VanWoeart - All done and ready.

**Sloansville C7F** - Laudy Hoyenga - Everything is signed and re-routed, good to go.

# **Central Area**

**Esperance/Delanson C7E** - Tom Rulison - Supports were put in for the bridge in Delanson.

**Duanesburg C7B/S70** - Dominick Friello - Good to go.

Wright C7B - Joel Church - Signed and ready.

# Southern Area

Township S70 - Skip Murrell - All set.

**Knox C7B** - Orvil Bates - A few signs needed to be fixed from the strong winds.

Maple Inn S73 - Donnie Bauer - All set.

**East Berne C7B/S72** - Brian Buchardt - Turner Rd bridge slated to be replaced on C7B and some mud holes to be fixed near Elm Drive on S-72...when the weather permits.

**Frontier Sno Riders** 





# Trail Boss Pics



Culvert repairs in East Berne. Donnie Bauer, Corbin Repscher and Brian Buchardt got the job done. Photos by Brian Buchardt.





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#### (conituned from page 1 - Bridge)

track hoe, articulated ATV rock truck, skidsteer (at nearby shale pit) and a UTV. Lumber, steel, gravel and shale are being toted in along the narrow trail to the work site. When the bridge is complete, the crew will dress the trail in reverse on the way out smoothing the terrain and removing stumps as needed.

Be cautious as you traverse the C7F trail north of Sara Libb Rd if the trails become open for the riding season and be on the lookout for the new bridge. In the meantime, our temporary club built water crossing structure is holding up well nearby for the season.

Although state projects tend to take time to complete, the club benefits from the improvement to the trail at little effort and cost from the club. We appreciate the opportunity to maintain our trail system through state land and look forward to utilizing the new bridge when complete.





**Frontier Sno Riders** 

Above a mini-excavator works a top the stream bank.

Left, lumber lies piled.

Right, bridge replacement underway, do not cross here. Photos by Gerry Lenseth



The current path across the creek.





# Club Meeting ! Feb 12 7pm Jonathans Duanesburg

# Trail Marshal says...

Check the website before you ride, conditions change and the trail may not have enough snow to open. The club has returned to using the color yellow in the trail status area of the website. This means the trail is open, but no grooming, use caution.



**Trail Map** Laudy Hoyenga would like to see a local club update the trail map. It is very handy for snowmobilers when out on the trail. Laudy says we are almost sold out of the 2015 map. People would buy them. Also the clubs

should be able to make some money from the advertising. If you are interested, please call Laudy at 518-868-2092 or come to a club meeting.

NYSSA APP



The NYSSA app is now available online. Check the play store. The club is looking for a volunteer to be the club admin for the app. Joel Church has the instructions on how to report trail conditions. Is there is someone who is willing to do the reporting? Points of interest (local restaurants, fuel stations, etc) can even be added to the trail network. The Club would like to solicit businesses to pay a small fee to include them on the app.

Frontier Sno Riders

# Club Folks

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872-9374 895-2595 872-2125 414-4125

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# Board of Directors

Casey LeClair Chad Saddlemire Laudy Hoyenga Donnie Bauer Chris Bukowski Karl Pritchard

# **Trail Boss Contacts**

Brian Buchardt	East Berne	872-1878
Donnie Bauer	Warner Lake	337-1985
Orvil Bates	Knox	872-1171
Skip Murrell	Township	867-1235
Joel Church	Wright	895-5451
Dominick Friello	Duanesburg	860-0736
Tom Rulison	Esperance	728-9551
Laudy Hoyenga	Sloansville	868-2092
Mark VanWoeart	Mariaville	376-0063
Scott Claus	Burtonsville	848-0524
Yancey Zimmer	Charleston	657-9588

# Support Staff

Equipment Boss Membership Administrator Grants Officer Trail GPS/GIS Safety & Education Website FaceBook Newsletter Editor Tom Rulison Gerry Lenseth Christine Rulison Michael Riek MaryAnn Nickloy Randy Stein Chris Bukowski Joel Church













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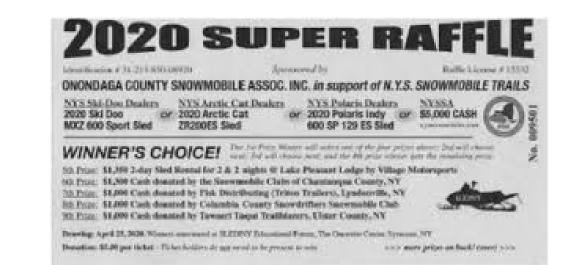


All activities are subject to change. For more information call (518) 768-2560





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