

# TOPSHAM TRAILRIDERS NEWSLETTER



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## Notes from our President - Jenny Little

Hello Trailriders,

Winter keeps teasing us here in Topsham, but it hasn't quite settled in yet. Still, I'm holding out hope that February will be the month that finally turns things around. I know many outdoor enthusiasts are just as eager as we are to see solid ice and real snowpack. When the snow *does* arrive—and it will—rest assured that TTR is ready to go. Please continue to keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for the latest trail updates.



## MONTHLY TTR SOCIAL NIGHT INFORMATION



Join us for a meal at Brickyard Hollow Brewing in the Tontine Mall in Brunswick at 6pm on February 15th! Please mark if you are coming so we can give the restaurant an accurate count.

We do our socials on the second Wednesday of the month. All are welcome to come and enjoy a good meal and good conversation.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Even with the limited snowfall so far, we're making the most of the season. We're especially looking forward to the upcoming SkiJoring event at the Topsham Fairgrounds on Saturday, February 7th. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, you can grab them at [www.topshamfair.net](http://www.topshamfair.net). We'll be there helping out during the event—and most importantly, cheering on the participants!

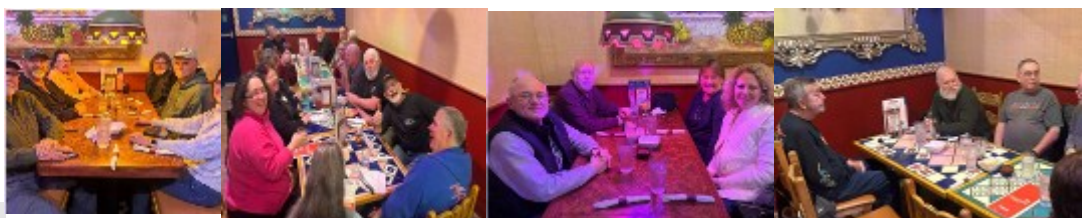
As we move through this unpredictable winter, I also want to take a moment to reinforce the importance of club unity. Whether the trails are open or not, the strength of TTR comes from our members—your involvement, your teamwork, and your willingness to support one another and our mission year-round. These quieter months remind us that the club is more than riding: it's community, commitment, and shared passion. Thank you for staying engaged and supporting each other as we gear up for the season ahead.

Let's keep hoping for that much-needed snow, and as always, stay safe.

See you on the trails!



## JANUARY SOCIAL NIGHT AT MARGARITAS



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845 Main Street  
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## Notes from our Ride Coordinator

As I write this, I still can't say with certainty whether our Bonfire Ride will take place. It remains tentatively scheduled for Sunday, February 1st, but conditions are changing quickly. I strongly encourage everyone to check our Facebook page—especially the event listing—as well as the TTR website for updates. If we continue to receive snow, we want to be mindful not to interfere with snowmobile trail conditions, so final decisions will depend on what the weather gives us.

In the meantime, there's still plenty to look forward to this month. Topsham Trailriders will be heading to China on Saturday, February 14th to help China Four Seasons with their snowmobile drags, just as we did last year. We had a great time assisting with registration, and once again we expect some wicked-fast sleds to show up and put on a show.

We'll also be helping out during their Fishing Derby on Sunday, February 15th. If you're looking for something to do that weekend—or want to donate a few hours of your time—we would love to have more helping hands. China Four Seasons was one of several clubs that helped support Ride for a Cure this past October, and this is a great opportunity for us to return that support. Clubs helping clubs is what keeps the ATV and snowmobile community strong.

And finally, I'm pleased to share that during our January meeting I will have printouts available of our 2026 ride schedule, which will include the We ATV 207 rides. Stay tuned—there's a lot to look forward to as we gear up for the 2026 riding season!



Mike Little

## Upcoming Events

- January 31<sup>st</sup> – **SkiJoring Prep Track** – 9 am – Topsham Fairgrounds
- February 1<sup>st</sup> – **Possible Bon Fire Ride** – West Side – This will not be confirmed until the last week of January!
- February 4<sup>th</sup> – **SkiJoring Prep Track (?)** – 5 pm – Topsham Fairgrounds
- February 5<sup>th</sup> – **SkiJoring Prep Track (?)** – 5 pm – Topsham Fairgrounds
- February 6<sup>th</sup> – **SkiJoring Prep Track (?)** – 5 pm – Topsham Fairgrounds
- February 7<sup>th</sup> – **SkiJoring Event** – 7:30 am – Topsham Fairgrounds
- February 11<sup>th</sup> – **TTR Social Night** – 6 pm Brickyard Hollow – 149 Maine St Brunswick ME
- February 14<sup>th</sup> – **Assisting China Four Seasons (Snowmobile Drags)** – TIME TBD – China's Clubhouse
- February 15<sup>th</sup> – **Assisting China Four Seasons (Ice Fishing Derby)** – TIME TBD – China's Clubhouse
- February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm— **Monthly Club Meeting** – Don Russell Board Room in the Municipal Building— 100 Main St. — Topsham

Please read the Ride Coordinator article for more details!



TTR Winter Trail Maintenance



Jim Belanger doing his thing!



## SkiJoring Volunteers Needed - Multiple different Dates

Another area where we're seeking volunteers is for the upcoming Ski-Joring program. For the past few years, TTR has helped create and prepare the track for the Topsham Fair's SkiJoring event, and we're happy to be doing so once again. This year, however, we have an outside group that will be assisting us—which is exciting news. I know several of you have expressed interest in helping, so please don't miss your chance. Reach out to me directly or let me know at the upcoming meeting (1/26) if you're able to participate, and when. We won't add anyone's name to the roster unless we know for sure, and as you can imagine, the Topsham Fair has been incredibly generous to TTR. We want to make sure their event goes off without a hitch.



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Tim Williams—Trailmaster

Despite a nice early start to the season with snow, the warmer temperatures that followed created some challenges. Even so, our trail crew has stayed busy doing everything they can when conditions allow. Jim Belanger has been out a couple of times grooming and completing regular trail maintenance, and the crew was also able to assist him with bridge work on that side of town. Over on the east side, DJ Merrill has been active with maintenance as well, and has been helping Brad Hoskins with grooming efforts on the East side of our trail system.

With the smaller storms we've been getting and the colder temperatures settling in, we're starting to see a decent base begin to form. However, to truly firm things up and make conditions more consistent throughout the system, we'll still need one good, solid storm. Please continue to report any hazards you come across so they can be addressed quickly. Conditions vary from section to section, but the crew is making steady progress and doing the best they can with what the weather gives us.

Below are some general pointers for snowmobile season. Please take a moment to review them in their entirety. As always, if you have any questions or encounter any issues, do not hesitate to contact me directly or send a message through our Facebook

page—we'll address it promptly.

We have officially arrived into of our snowmobile season. Take the extra time now to look over your sleds and make sure they are ready for some fun in the snow without the headache of being stuck out in the winter wonderland walking when you should be riding.

Please note that our trails will ONLY open to snowmobiles once we have fulfilled the following criteria:

- Received sufficient snow coverage
- Placed all appropriate cattle fences
- Opened the gates
- Cleared all of the trail obstructions
- Ensure that trails are properly signed

A reminder that there were some changes last season on trail #1A on the west side of town. That trail has been relocated to the trail that connects trail #1C in the powerline to trail #2A before Bradley Pond. Please pay attention to signs for the changes.

A reminder that snowmobiles are not allowed on Trail #1B this is an ATV only trail.

Please note that at this time ALL trails are closed to ATV's and UTV's. The only exception is ATV's/UTV's outfitted with snow tracks and registered as a snowmobile.

### Miscellaneous Snowmobile Trail Information

Before heading out I would recommend that you review our trail map to ensure you are riding on the correct trails. It is worth mentioning that we do have many water crossings and we try to keep an eye on them for your safety. All ice and water crossings are ride at your own risk. If you do notice any thin ice, or come across signs indicating trail closed, please stay off. If you notice something that you think is not safe, please let myself or any of our assistant trailmasters know.

A reminder that the athletic fields, parking lots, and school grounds of Mt. Ararat High School are off limits to snowmobiles. Also, please take note that the tower area and the tower road are also off limits to snowmobiles.

We ask that you respect our landowners by staying on marked trails and obeying all posted signs. These folks are kind enough to allow us the use of their land. They are not required to and we can't thank them enough.

All snowmobile trails are operated on privately owned land. Landowners have the right to stipulate what can and cannot be operated on the trails that use their property. If these stipulations are not followed the snowmobile club will lose the use of that land owners property. Individuals damaging or abusing their property will result in the loss of all snowmobile trails for everyone.

Please stay on our established trails if not we could lose the use of the trails all together. A reminder to use the marked bridges to cross wet stream and/or marshy areas on the trails. Failure to do so will result in sections of the trail being CLOSED permanently by landowners.

And finally, It goes without saying but trucks and cars are not allowed on ATV/Snowmobile trails anywhere in the State of Maine without landowner permission.

### Park and Ride Locations:

#### East Side

Our park and ride on the east side of our trail system is located at the entrance of Mt. Ararat High School across from the bus garage. Please only use the small located there for loading and unloading.

#### West Side

We still do not have a parking option available on our West side. We are working on trying to locate one.

And remember folks when you do head out riding whether here in Topsham or around the state ride right and ride safe! If you have any questions at any time, please do not hesitate in contacting me on my cell phone which is 207-890-8479.



Prepping the track for the SkiJoring event from previous years!



**ASHLEIGH ROLFSON**  
ASSOCIATE BROKER

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## ATV/SNOWMOBILE CLUB

E-mail: [info@topshamtrailriders.com](mailto:info@topshamtrailriders.com)

**The Board of Directors  
meet on the Last Monday  
of each month at 6:00 PM  
See our Facebook Page for  
Location!**



**ASST. EDITOR - Jenny Little**

**ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW SPONSORS!**

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, January 26th!** **\*\*Note the location change\*\***  
*We will be meeting in the Don Russell Conference located in the Town of Topsham Town Hall located at 100 Main St. Topsham beginning at 6:30pm!!*