



### **Memories...**

For most of us, this is not our first year of riding. Yes, we are getting older and there are fewer young people getting involved. I guess it is hard to watch TikTok's and Instafacegrams while riding a sled, never mind the cost of gear, sleds, registration, passes, fuel, etc. It's tough for young people to get involved. Can I ask a favor... please ask a niece, nephew, neighbor's kid to go riding this season. Teach them the ropes, just like your dad or uncle likely did 20+ years ago.

We can all agree that technologies have improved, rides are better, sleds are a bit safer and more reliable which is great, but we cannot forget the past... vintage sleds. Now, when I was a kid, my sled was an old Polaris, missing the cowl and had such great compression that I could not start it by myself (probably due to my scrawny arms more than great compression). My mom got sick of pulling the starter rope, so it mysteriously vanished one day – I miss that old beater of a sled.



Nowadays, a vintage sled is anything older than 20 years. For those keeping track, that is sled from 2005 which includes the revolutionary "REV platform" first introduced in 2003 where the rider was higher and had a forward stance that all manufacturers have adopted and is now the standard. I think I have plenty of tee shirts that are considered "vintage" ... it might be time for a new wardrobe, I guess.

The Savoy Kanary Kats are proud of our own vintage history. In fact, our first logo is below from 1972 when our club first formed.



This year marks the almost 13th anniversary of our last vintage ride held on February 11, 2013. It was 24 degrees, and we had plenty of snow following a recent blizzard. Around 15 vintage riders drove about 75 miles through Hawley, Windsor, Worthington, and Ashfield. The event was dubbed "Vintage on the Hill". Back in 2013, snowmobiling was estimated to make a \$55 million impact to the State and now in 2025, that estimate has grown to \$65 million.

Savoy's history with snowmobile goes back even further to the 1970s and 80s when we actually had a snowmobile shop on Loop Road. It was called Savoy Mountain Snowmobile Area and included a cocktail lounge and "steak specialty" dining room.



It was operated by John and Joan Woodruff, Mrs. Walter (Terry) Parry and John Parry (her son) on land owned by Mrs. Parry. It was located on a former potato farm and boosted nearly 80 miles of snowmobile trails, which is consistent with what the Savoy Kanary Kats maintains today. The barn is still there but Savoy Mountain Lounge is long gone.



They sold and maintained Ski Doo sleds and included clothing, supplies, and storage in the former potato barn. They even rented snowmobiles to get people interested in the sport.



We hope to do another vintage ride this season. Check out our web site and Facebook page for more information on dates, times, and routes.

Besides the vintage ride we hope to do, we have plenty of other activities to get you involved. Take a look below to see if you are interested in participating. We would love to have you, and we could always use some help.

#### **Events:**

We do a bunch of events, and most are listed on the website, or you can contact a club member. Here is a quick list:

- Equipment Maintenance: Wednesday's all year long 6 PM (except if we are riding or grooming)
- Trail Trims: Sundays September through December 9 AM to ~2 PM
- Club Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month (September through April) 7 PM (Groomer Garage located at 90 Tilton Rd, Savoy, MA)
- SAM Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month (September through April) 7 PM via Zoom
- October: Membership Letter Mailing
- November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>: SAM Sled Expo (Big E, Young Building West Springfield, MA)
- December TBD: SKK Annual Christmas Party (TBD - check our website)
- January 31<sup>st</sup>: Snowmobile Raffle (Pub 116 located at 788 W Main St, Plainfield, MA)
- February 3<sup>rd</sup>: RTP Grant Application Deadline
- February 14<sup>th</sup>: Annual Winter Carnival (Groomer Garage located at 90 Tilton Rd, Savoy)
- April TBD: SAM Annual Meeting, Dinner, and Awards Ceremony
- June TBD: SAM Golf Tournament
- July TBD: Board of Directors Meeting (Groomer Garage located at 90 Tilton Rd, Savoy)

As you can see, there are a ton of ways you can get more involved. We would love to see you at a club meeting or trail trim. It is an excellent group of people who love the sport and we could always use your help – come be part of the community!

See you on the trails and remember...

- Join where you ride,

- Support our local businesses, and
- Volunteer!



**Club trail pass locations and supporters of our club:**

- South Side Sales and Service: [www.southsidesales.com](http://www.southsidesales.com)
- Ronnie's Adams: <https://ronniesadams.com/>
- Ronnie's Pittsfield: <https://ronniesharleydavidson.com/>
- Pub 116: [www.pub116.com](http://www.pub116.com)
- LP Adams (raffle tickets only): <https://lpadams.com/>
- Friendly Fred's (raffle tickets only): 1173 MA-9, Windsor, MA 01270
- Savoy Kanary Kats Meeting or website: <https://www.savoykanarykats.org/>
- Snowmobile Association of Massachusetts: <https://www.sledmass.com/>

**Club News:**

**Club Contact:** <https://www.savoykanarykats.org/>

**Club Meetings:**

Our club meetings start at 7 PM at Groomer Garage (90 Tilton Road) on the second Friday of the month, beginning in September through April. Check our website for dates and details.

**Trail Trims:**

Our trail trims start in September and run until we have rideable snow. Please join us on Sundays at 9 AM at 90 Tilton Road, Savoy, MA, and we usually wrap up shortly after noon for some burgers and dogs.

**Sled Raffle:**

This year we are raffling off a 2026 Ski Doo MXZ-X 600R E-Tec 129. It retails for \$14,749 and tickets are \$20 each. See a club member, our webpage or supporting locations listed above for tickets.



***As always... stay safe, join a club, and get out and ride!***