

Pennsylvania Snowseekers Snowmobile Club, Inc.

13026 Rt. 948 Highland Corners, PA 16735

Allegheny National Forest

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 542 Zelienople, PA 16063-0542

www.pasnowseekers.org



October 2026 Newsletter

October 12, 2026

Fall Work Weekend

The Fall Work Weekend and Thanksgiving Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, November 7, 2026. We have various projects on the list to be completed and it would be great to have a strong turnout to get some of these knocked out. Some of the projects include:

- Exterior painting, weather permitting
- Re-lamp the second-floor hallway
- Cut firewood and rotate
- Inside cleaning
- Etc.

We will need a count on how many members will be attending to prepare for our meals. Please drop me a note or give me a call if you will be joining us.



Opening

It is hard to believe that Summer is in our rearview mirrors and we are well into Fall. What that means is we are starting to wash the dirt and dust off our sleds and firing them up for the first time in several months. Don't delay, the snow will be here before you know it!

We are going to have some trail work coming up. Rich does a lot of work throughout the year on our trails. Let's do our best to come up and give him a hand when he schedules the work. To ensure decent trails, there is a lot of work that has to get done before the snow flies!

Annual Dues

Annual dues were due by August 15th for 2026/2027, and are now past due. Point Dues are finalized, reach out to me (Larry) and I will provide you with what you owe. Garage Space Dues are \$50 per year and are now due. Please reach out to Lorena Talik or Loretta Hayes to get your dues paid. If you haven't paid your dues, please take action to get these taken care of.

2026/2027 Farmer's Almanac Winter Forecast

Winter 2026–2027 is shaping up to be a season of sharp contrasts, with an active southern storm track, quick bursts of snow and bitter cold across the North, and a tricky mix of rain, sleet, ice, and heavy wet snow in the Northeast. Keep the shovel, rain boots, and ice scraper close—this winter may bring plenty of surprises.

Quick Cold Snaps Across the North

Across much of the West, northern Plains, Upper Midwest, and Great Lakes, temperatures should average near normal overall. However, that does not mean winter will be mild. Fast-moving clippers, sudden cold snaps, and brief snowy periods are likely, although milder breaks may frequently interrupt the wintry weather. Farther north, the Plains, Midwest, and Great Lakes could experience sudden snow squalls, blustery winds, and bursts of bitter cold.

The middle of the country may also see frequent swings between thawing and freezing, creating rapidly changing road and field conditions.

A Tricky Winter for the Northeast

The Northeast may face one of the season's most complicated winter patterns. Coastal communities could receive more rain or mixed precipitation, while inland areas may be hit by several rounds of heavy, wet snow—particularly during January and February. Small shifts in storm tracks and temperatures could make the difference between rain, sleet, freezing rain, and accumulating snow. Residents should be prepared for forecasts to change quickly as storms approach.



2026 Members of the Year

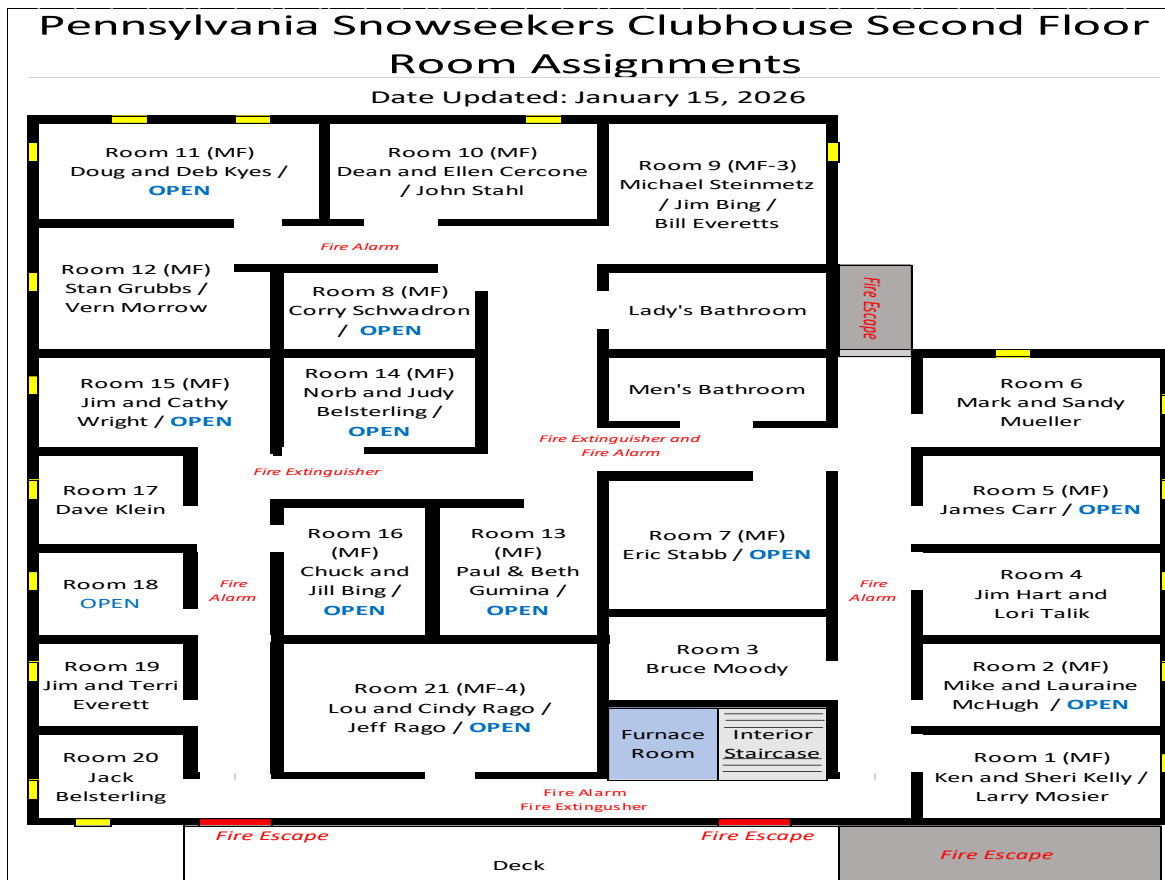
We would like to recognize the **PA Snowseekers 2026 Members of the Year; Beth Kissling Cole and Larry Mosier:**

- **Beth** is always willing to step up and contribute her time. Beth is currently our Grant Committee Chairperson and she works diligently on the various Grants we are applying for. Recently, we were successful in procuring a Grant for a new tractor that was delivered thanks to Beth's extra effort! In addition, she co-chairs the Bash Committee and takes a leadership position in ensuring that our Spring Bash is successful. Beth is a strong personality and will engage and voice her opinion when needed. Beth is truly pivotal to the success of our Club. Thank you, Beth!
- **Larry** just does what Larry does!

Open Rooms at the Clubhouse

As part of our House Committee Rules, we are required to post rooms that become available at the clubhouse in the newsletter. If you are interested in applying, please submit a written request to Norb Belsterling and/or Lori Talik ASAP. The following is a summary of the open rooms:

- Single Family Room: 18
- Multi Family Rooms: 2, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16 & 21



General Membership Meeting Notes

The following are the key notes from the October Meeting:

- The club website is operational. Members reported that it is running smoothly and is easy to navigate.
- Annual Dues:
 - Beth proposed that late-paying members forfeit seniority and restart their seniority date.
 - The club has a Venmo account, but transactions incur a fee. Members may also send payments to Lori.
 - Lori noted that the bylaws provide for a late fee, although it has not been consistently paid or enforced.
 - Beth noted that changes affecting 501(c)(3) organizations may alter how electronic payments are collected to avoid fees.
- Paul gave an update on the new well; water pressure increased from approximately 30 psi to 60 psi. The water was reported to be clean; orange coloration was attributed to oxygen. A commercial filtration system is in place. Water testing is planned after deer camp, once the system has been used sufficiently. The old well/regeneration-pipe area was filled with gravel but requires additional material. Approximately 180 feet of trench will need time to settle, and members should not drive over the area.
- Obtain wood and kindling; members may check with home builders or Kane Lumber while traveling to the property.

- Larry reported that the survey indicates the club owns more property than previously understood, including more than 12 feet beyond the garage in an area claimed by a neighbor. The survey information will also be considered for future building needs.
- Tractor and DCNR Grant Requirements
 - The club discussed storage, operation, insurance, and maintenance requirements for the grant-funded tractor.
 - Tractor Committee: Rich, Beth, Mark, and Paul, with Stan and James identified as drivers.
 - Required training includes invasive species, oil, mechanical, cleaning, and equipment-care topics. Operation on forest property requires an in-person class at the ranger station lasting approximately six to eight hours.
 - Five members are currently qualified to operate the tractor on state game lands.
 - Use on Snowseekers property does not require the same certification, but the club would be responsible for any damage. Certification is required when the tractor leaves club property.
 - The tractor must be properly maintained, repaired, secured, covered, and stored near the trailheads. Maintenance logs and proof of insurance must be maintained.
 - The tractor does not fit in the current garage and is currently being stored at Roy's garage. The committee will develop long-term storage options.
 - Mark reported that tractor insurance is attached to the groomer policy; coverage while stored on Roy's property requires confirmation. Adding Roy for additional insurance was discussed.
 - The club will inspect possible building locations and pins during the work weekend.
 - The next grant period opens in February and closes at the end of March.
 - Actions: The Tractor Committee will propose a compliant storage plan, confirm insurance coverage at Roy's property, maintain required logs, and verify training and certification requirements.
- House Committee:
 - House Committee: Norb Belsterling (Chairperson), Rich Hayes, Lori Talik, Larry Mosier (added) and Dave Klein (added).
 - Norb reported that approximately eight rooms are available, including several multi-occupancy rooms. A list will be published in the next newsletter. Craig's former room will be listed in two newsletters before it is reassigned.
 - Updated room assignments and availability will be presented to the Board.
 - The committee wants to enforce the expectation that room holders stay at least two nights, excluding work weekends.
 - The committee will address unusable rooms and remind members that they are responsible for maintaining assigned rooms.
 - New House Committee rules and room assignments are expected to be announced in December.
- Larry reported that the current Wi-Fi capacity is insufficient for large weekends. The club will explore expanded Wi-Fi service
- Security Cameras:
 - Ed Fleeson provided information on robust solar-powered security cameras estimated at \$250 per camera, further discussion is required.
 - Open questions include whether a camera directed at the groomer may be paid from the groomer account, how many user logins are supported, and whether administrator access is required.

- Club Merchandise:
 - Larry reported that a friend can donate hats to the club. The club is considering adding its emblem and selling the hats as a fundraiser.
 - Norb has club license plates.
 - Jack has stickers.
- Automated External Defibrillator (AED) - A new unit was estimated at \$2,000–\$3,000. The existing unit will be tested during the work weekend before a decision is made.
- Sick and Hospitalized:
 - Members were informed that Bill Easley is fighting a serious illness. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Dates to Remember

- November 5, 2026 - November General Membership Meeting
- November 7, 2026 - Thanksgiving Dinner / Work Weekend
- November 21, 2026 - Bear Camp
- November 28, 2026 - Deer Camp
- December 3, 2026 - December General Membership Meeting
- December 12, 2026 - Breakfast with Santa

Closing

I hope to see you at some of our upcoming events, especially the Work Weekend!

Sincerely,

Larry H Mosier