

IOWA SNOWMOBILER

December 2016 • Volume 38 • Issue 4

Waterloo Hosts 43rd Annual ISSA Convention



Inside...

- Election results
- IDNR Update
- Lobbyist Report
- Family Tradition



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The Iowa State Snowmobile Association is proud to bring you some of the best snowmobile trails around. More than 50 of our member clubs work diligently to develop, mark and maintain close to **8,800 miles** of trail in our state. We are all volunteers, and we can't do it alone.

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Fill out the membership form on page 19 today or join through your local club. The future of our sport **depends on you.**



ABOUT US

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The Official Magazine of the Iowa
State Snowmobile Association
www.iowasnowmobiler.com
1924 270th Street
Marble Rock, IA 50653
issa1257@yahoo.com

ISSA OFFICERS

President

Chris Willey (Andrea)
1220 E Main Street
Manchester IA, 52057
(563) 920-9010
kioti79@gmail.com



Vice President

Brian Carmichael
14784 290th St.
Aplington, IA 50604-9368
(319) 215-5006
snohawk68@gmail.com



Secretary

Sue Paulus (Joe)
1631 227th St.
Rockford, IA 50468
spaulus81@gmail.com



Treasurer

Open

ISSA COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Jim Willey, Chair
20838 247th St.
Delhi, IA 52223
(563) 927-4670, (563) 920-0911
Jim.Willey@camso.co

Brittany Paulus, Membership Chair
1924 270th Street
Marble Rock, IA 50653
(641) 228-0977
bepaulus@outlook.com

Gary and Karen McVicker
1120 110th Street, Hampton, IA
50441(641) 425-1375
gmcvic@yahoo.com

John Kahler
635 Greene Street, Slater, IA 50244
(515) 202-4061
jfkahler@hotmail.com

Managing Editor/Publisher

Cameron Hanson
2552 Woodland Place
Charles City, IA 50616
(641) 330-5565 Fax: (270) 747-9321
editor@iowasnowmobiler.com



www.iowasnowmobiler.com



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COVER: Getting the green light, Stan Wolf of the Cedar Falls Sno Hawks of Region 4 sneaks the Five Star Trails Association groomer through the streets of downtown Waterloo Sunday morning, Nov. 20, en route to its storage shed on the northeast side of town. The Tucker was on display that weekend at the Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center for the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention.

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December 2016 **3**

**REGION ONE**

Dan Delperdang (Kolette), Director
2668 Hwy 9 / 71
Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360
(712) 330-2609



Randy Magg, Assistant
1278 280th Ave.
Spirit Lake, IA 51360
rdmagg@hotmail.com



Kevin Nibelink, Assistant
1266 Fourth Street NW
Sioux Center, IA 51250
(712) 722-2101

REGION TWO

Jeremy Walker (Kayla), Director
1402 170th St.
LuVerne, IA 50560-8552
(515) 341-1626
jlkwalk@gmail.com



Jeff Felkey (Lori), Assistant
5391 190th Street
Armstrong, IA 50514
(712) 864-3741, jfelkey@ringtelco.com

Terril Johnson, Assistant
203 S. Finn Dr.
Algona, IA 50511, terril@motorinnalgona.com

REGION THREE

Matt Trunkhill (Monica), Director
135 310th St.
Woden, IA 50484-8520
(515) 320-0737, mtrunk@wctatel.net



Ben Diekhuis (Mindi), Assistant
2115 Nash Ave.
Britt, IA 50423
(515) 291-2329, diekhuis@gmail.com

**REGION FOUR**

Scott Nauman, Director
402 Fifth St.
Rudd, IA 50471
(641) 425-9898
sdnauman04@gmail.com



Brent Nauman, Assistant
23667 210th St., Rockford, IA 50468
(641) 425-8964
bmnauman@gmail.com



Cameron Hanson (Steph), Assistant
2552 Woodland Place
Charles City, IA 50616
(641) 330-5565, editor@iowasnowmobiler.com

**REGION FIVE**

Matt Miner, Director
17879 State Hwy 9
Lime Springs, IA 52155
(563) 380-7142
mmmfarms@hotmail.com



43rd Annual ISSA Convention

Hoermann hands reins over to Willey; region incumbents remain in director spots

by Cameron Hanson

Past ISSA President Merv Hoermann hopped on a plane bound for Denver the third Monday in November, having just completed his second two-year term as association leader and craving a much-needed break over the Thanksgiving Day holiday.

Hoermann departed knowing the organization he was leaving behind was in the capable hands of his successor, former vice-president Chris Willey. The pair had passed the gavel during

2016 ISSA Convention Review

ceremonies two nights earlier at the 43rd Annual ISSA Convention.

"I just want to say that our organization is strong and growing," Hoermann said at the Saturday evening banquet. "I wish Chris and the board success here in the next two years, and I feel confident they will get the job done. I'll still be around and will hopefully get to ride more now and get to some new areas around the state."

Hoermann leaves office as the first ISSA president to hold that title twice in two separate terms. He last led the association from 2007-08. He received a clock and a plaque recognizing his years of service and shared the honor with those snowmobilers in attendance.

"It takes more than one individual to do what we do. It takes everyone in this room," he acknowledged. "I want to thank the board for supporting me over the past two years. We had a lot of challenges and were able to work through them to keep our organization strong."

"We may not always agree at meetings, but when we leave, we remain friends. There are no strangers here; just friends we have not yet met," Hoermann continued.

"Be sure to invite new people to get out and ride. Take them out; show them what we got. Be proud of what we have."

Held at the Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center in Waterloo, the 2016 affair, held Nov. 18-20, drew approximately 140 members to Region 4. A snow show featuring late model sleds, grooming equipment, apparel and snowmobile club displays shared the floor with the general assembly.

"I thought the convention went over well, and we have received a lot of positive feedback on the weekend overall," reported Region 4 Director Scott Nauman, chair of the 2016 ISSA Convention Planning Committee.

As an even-numbered year, elections



Incoming ISSA President Chris Willey, left, presents outgoing President Merv Hoermann with a clock and plaque recognizing his years of service to the organization.



Steve Vorwald (Sherri), Assistant
1582 210th St.
Manchester, IA 52057
(563) 927-5362

Randy Kaune, Sr., Assistant
11419 90th St., Fayette, IA 52142
(563) 920-8491
randysr05@hotmail.com

REGION SIX

Gene Gerdes (Anne), Director
P.O. Box 826, Lake View, IA 51450
(712) 665-8541, gaskg@netins.net

REGION SEVEN

John Kahler, Director
635 Greene St. Slater, IA 50244
(515) 202-4061
jfkahler@hotmail.com

Mike Patten, Assistant
5204 Neva Pt., Panora, IA 50216
(641)-755-3863
mijpat76@aol.com

Jim Suchan, Assistant
3374 Garfield Ave., Gowrie, IA 50543
(515)-352-3039
jsmgr@lvcta.com

REGION EIGHT

Craig Smith, Director
27472 J Ave, Grundy Center, IA 50638
(641) 366-2233
casfarmboy@gmail.com

Ron Sienknecht, Assistant
1307 Lilac Lane
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 404-0054, ron.
sienknecht@gmail.com

Brian Sienknecht, Assistant
2805 130th St.
Buckingham, IA 50612
(319) 478-8099,
samm0000@traer.net

Geo Prescott, Assistant
302 Main St., St. Anthony, IA 50239

REGION NINE

Tim McPherson, Director
P.O. Box 225, Olin, IA 52320
(563) 593-0305
timnjean@netins.net

Jamie Prull, Assistant
1101 First Street, Palo, IA 52324
(319) 981-0397
jprull@aol.com

REGION TEN

Aaron Dorothy, Director
502 E. Cedar Ln., Mt.
Pleasant Ia 52641
(319) 986-5188(h), (319) 217-6361 (c)
aarond65@hotmail.com



were held in the even-numbered regions with all incumbents remaining in office. Region 4 Assistant Director Brian Carmichael was elected vice-president, and Sue Paulus agreed to stay on as secretary. The association is currently looking for a new treasurer as Kim Herman announced in August she would be stepping down after convention.

Through various speakers and seminars, members in attendance heard updates from the ISSA's lobbyist, the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA), the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and on new programs being rolled out by the ISSA. Annual award winners were recognized Saturday evening as well.

Iowa snowmobile clubs also broke out their wallets that weekend, donating \$6,876 to the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa, \$4,076 to the Club Challenge, \$600 to the ISSA's Communications Committee and \$400 to the ISSA's Education and Scholarship Foundation.

Another \$1,500 was raised for the scholarship program through a Camso track raffle and Sally Carmichael quilt raffle. The ISSA's Promotional Committee also sold \$405 in ISSA apparel at the event.

The ISSA's new youth program received a financial kickstart with close to \$300 raised at convention, half of which came from Hoermann having to buy back his

trademark yet "misplaced" cowboy hat from program coordinator Isabelle Willey.

Coverage on all of these convention activities will be profiled in this and later issues of the *Iowa Snowmobiler* magazine. As the convention shifts to the eastern third of the state, the 2017 convention moves to Cedar Rapids next November and will be hosted by clubs in Region 9.



Chris Willey helps his daughter, Isabelle, auction off Merv Hoermann's trademark cowboy hat as a fundraiser for the ISSA's new youth program.



Cody Krueger, Assistant
19272 Danville Rd.
New London, IA 52645
(414) 313-5973
cjkkr@uwmnialumni.com

Mike Rauenbuehler, Assistant
2509 Hwy 78, Winfield, IA 52659

**PAST
PRESIDENTS**

Merv Hoermann (2007-08, 2015-16)
P.O. Box 22, Sutherland, IA 51058
(712) 260-4810
mebeefeater2@yahoo.com

Jim Willey (2013-14)
20838 247th St. Delhi, IA 52223
(563) 927-4670, (563) 920-0911
jim.willey@camso.com

Gary Burger (2011-12)
7255 NW 54th Court
Johnston, IA, 50131
(515) 334-0360,
gary@burgersofiowa.com

Gary McVicker (2009-10)
1120 110th Street
Hampton, IA 50441
(641) 425-1375
gmcvic@yahoo.com

Terry Durby (2005-06)
42792 160th Ave.
Leland, IA 50453
(641) 590-7007
tdurb@yahoo.com

Jerry Kramer (2003-04)
1930 Lincoln Ave.
Humboldt, IA 50548
(515) 890-1099

Dennis Nauman (2001-02)
402 Fifth St. Rudd, IA 50471
(641) 395-2933
cdnauman@myomnitel.com

Jeff Jans (1999-2000)
308 2nd St. NW, P.O. Box 153
Fostoria, IA 51340-0153
(712) 262-3309

Bruno Andreini (1997-98)
2306 230th St.
Dallas Center, IA 50063
(515) 240-3858
awbrunoa3@gmail.com

Dave Carmichael (1995-96)
Deceased

Scott Kooiker (1993-94)
R.R. 1, Box 114
Ellsworth, MN 56129
(507) 283-2533



Joining Prestigious Company as Your President

Well, this is my first column as president of this great organization. As I drove home Sunday after the convention, I thought about how far the ISSA and I have come.

When I first joined the ISSA it was with my family. I was 14 years old riding a Yamaha GP433. It would be 14 more years before I became an assistant director. I never thought it would lead to me being Region 5 Director, Groomer Operator Coordinator, honored as an International Groomer Operator, ISSA Vice President and now ISSA President with seven sleds in the shed from a vintage El Tigre Cross Country to a M8000.

From the President's Desk

I love all types of snowmobiling. Trails, mountains, ditch banging, vintage rides, and of course, grooming. If it's got a motor and goes in the snow, I want to get out and have fun.

Having other like-minded people around makes it even better. I hope to see lots of ISSA members at the events across the state this season. My vice president, Brian Carmichael, a few region directors and I are hoping to put together some special rides in conjunction with upcoming events and board meetings.

My time on the ISSA board started because I wanted to have a better understanding of how and why groomers were placed throughout the state. Now, I'm one of the guys making those decisions along with all

the other aspects of our sport. I know I am prepared to take on those challenges. Not because I necessarily have more experience now but I have a great vice president, region directors and past presidents backing me up. With that much collective experience, we can overcome any challenge.

We do have some challenges ahead. Clubs are down on membership, and registrations are not where they used to be. One of the things I think can help with this is getting the younger generation involved. I'm proud to have my daughter, Isabelle, wanting to get a young adult program started. Those who attended her break-out session at convention saw her enthusiasm firsthand. She's 14 now and has a lot of ideas. I'm not sure what these kids will bring to the sport, but I bet it will be fun.

I will always remember the year I became ISSA president: The Cubs won the World Series, Jimmie Johnson won a seventh NASCAR Championship and Donald Trump won the presidential election. Hopefully, we will top it all off with a winter with record snowfall and mileage on our sleds and groomers. We even have a major snocross event in Iowa this year, and it's happening on a

to page 7



Chris Willey
ISSA
President

Honoring Dad's Legacy on the Board, Getting the Job Done

First off, I would like to thank the members of the ISSA for electing me to be vice president. I will work hard for all snowmobilers and the program we have established.

My father, David Carmichael, got me into organized snowmobiling many years ago. I have been a part of the ISSA most of my life. My dad has held many office positions in the ISSA, including president.

He was inducted into the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame and was named the International Groomer Operator of the Year. He has also been recognized for his many years of service in the snowmobile community.

Vice President's Message



Brian Carmichael
ISSA Vice
President

Chris and I have some great past presidents to help guide us through if needed. There is a ton of experience to lean on. There is a lot to do before the snow flies. Hope we have a good season. See you all on the trails soon.

from page 6

ski slope! Who would have thought?

So, in closing, I want to thank you for choosing me as your president and want to leave you with a thought on how I feel. I think it sums up my thoughts on serving as president.

The ISSA needs snowmobilers; snowmobilers don't necessarily need the ISSA.

We need your support and feedback. The ISSA is here to represent you, the snowmobiler. If I don't feel you—the guys and gals paying for a registration and a trail pass—are getting what you deserve, I'm going to voice my or your concern. I will find out who we need to work with and make sure all parties are involved to solve the problem.



Mike Eddy of the Iowa River Riders of Region 3 won the ISSA's Grand Raffle drawing at the 43rd Annual ISSA Convention in Waterloo Nov. 19. The 50-50 cash drawing netted \$3,080, which was split evenly between Eddy and the ISSA. Presenting the check is ISSA Grand Raffle Chair Gary McVicker, left.

The ISSA abandoned its popular 'Win the Sled of Your Dreams' raffle after posting a \$3,000 loss last year. The ISSA is tossing around ideas for the 2017 raffle but has not made a decision to continue the program at this time.

Eastern Iowa Sledheads Move up to Region 9

Just a month after being assigned to the newly-created Region 10, the Eastern Iowa Sledheads petitioned the ISSA Board of Directors in November to move up to Region 9.

Club President Mindy Scott made the request at the Sunday morning board meeting, Nov. 20, and cited her members' proximity to the desired region and to neighboring clubs which are already in that area.

"The region split between Regions 9 and 10 is Highway 22," Scott explained. "More than half of our trail system is above Highway 22. Also, our club, the Cedar County Winter Warriors and the Snowdrifters all have members in either two of the three clubs or all three clubs, like ourselves. To us, it made more sense

to continue to be in the same region as the other two clubs."

The decision to place the Sledheads in Region 10 initially was to leverage the club's experience for new director Aaron Dorothy. The club's departure now leaves just three clubs in Region 10 and increases the count in Region 9 to nine. Both region directors agreed to the change, and the board approved the request.

Earlier that weekend, the ISSA General Membership ratified the board's creation of an enlarged Region 10 and the elimination of Regions 11 and 12 during the Saturday morning assembly at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention. Members overwhelmingly approved the change in the relevant sections of the by-laws, which referenced the reduction of 12 regions down to 10.

ISSA DIRECTORY



Dale Vagts (1991-92)
24573 Kings Rd.
Cresco, IA 52136
(563) 547-2161

Dick Melick (1989-90)
1314 Washington St.
Cedar Falls, IA 50613-4153
(319) 266-0445

Roger Muth (1987-88)
365 West 5th St.,
Garner, IA 50438
(641) 923-3560

Larry Childs (1986)
311 E. Prospect St.
Manchester, IA 52057-1456
(563) 927-5934

Dan Martin (1984-85)
4712 Candlelight Dr.
Davenport, IA 52806
(563) 386-3769

Marv Heikens (1982-83)
Deceased

Chuck Colegrove (1981)
5606 6th Ave.
Armstrong, IA 50514
(712) 864-3170

Rich Moench (1980)
2155 Iowa Ave.,
Humboldt, IA 50548
(515) 332-3587

Gary Fairchild (1979)
933 170th St.
Ogden, IA 50212
(515) 275-4133

Bill Nordstrom (1978)
Deceased

Gary Bruns (1977)
102 Honeysuckle,
Baytown, TX 77520

Richard Grosse
7543 Ford Rd. (Mar 1975-Dec 1976)
Janesville, IA 50647
(319) 987-2155

Larry Huntley (Nov 1973-Mar 1975)
401 East 1st St.
Alta, IA 51002

Kids Ride for Spina Bifida Set for Jan. 15

The ISSA is returning to the central Iowa community of Huxley next month for its 11th annual Kids Ride for children and families from the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa (SBAI).

Weather and trail conditions permitting, the snowmobile trail ride will depart from the Huxley Community Safe Room around noon on Jan. 15. Festivities begin at 11 a.m. with presentations, kids' entertainment and a free meal.

ISSA members are encouraged to attend and support this event. Volunteers are asked to bring cutters and snowmobiles to pull the children on the trail ride. If there's not enough snow, the ride will take place on UTVs down a predetermined, police-escorted route in town.

"As always, the city of Huxley has been great to work with and really supports this effort," said Past ISSA President Bruno Andreini, event organizer and ISSA liaison on the SBAI board.

At the 43rd ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo Nov. 19, the Hancock County Snowmobile Association of Region 3 was named the top fundraiser for the SBAI for 2016. To kick off the 2017 campaign, ISSA members contributed \$6,876 to the SBAI convention weekend.

The SBAI has been the official charity of the ISSA for more than 30 years. Although its board members could not attend the convention, they showed their appreciation for the ISSA's support in a letter to Andreini.

For more information on next month's ride or to volunteer with a cutter or UTV, please contact Andreini at awbruno3@gmail.com or (515) 240-3858. Any and all volunteer work will be appreciated.



The Hancock County Snowmobile Association of Region 3 was named the Top Fundraiser for the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention. Accepting the award from outgoing ISSA President Merv Hoermann, left, is club member and Region 3 Assistant Director Ben Diekhuis.

2017 Charitable Contributions*

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Association.....	\$2,350
Hancock Snowmobile Association.....	\$2,250
Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....	\$500
Tri-County Snowmobile Association.....	\$376
Floyd County Groomers.....	\$300
Bremer County Sno-Knights.....	\$250
Snowdrifters.....	\$250
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$200
Trail Blaz-zers, Inc.	\$200
Snow Pioneers.....	\$100
Iowa River Riders.....	\$100

*Donations collected at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention. Proceeds benefit the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa. To donate, please contact your ISSA Region Director.



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IDNR Report

Schnoebelen explains changes to state snowmobile program at convention

by **Cameron Hanson**

ISSA officials are uncomfortable with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) plan to carry over approximately 10 percent of the annual revenue from snowmobile registrations and trail pass sales to the following season.

2016 ISSA Convention Review

Based on a budget of \$750,000, the IDNR wants to reserve a little more than \$80,000 each year to either serve as a "cushion" for the current season or act as seed money for the next season. The ISSA, on the other hand, wants all available money allocated to clubs for snowmobile

trail maintenance and improvements.

For more than a decade, the ISSA, in step with previous management, has worked with the state snowmobile program to obligate as much of the funds as possible to avoid a repeat of May of 2002, when the Iowa Legislature swept nearly \$1 million from the program's coffers.

Now, as reported by new program head Randy Schnoebelen at the 2016 ISSA Convention in Waterloo last month, the budget handed down from the IDNR director's staff mandates the buffer, which means those funds will now sit unprotected during the off-season.

"That makes me more than a little nervous," said newly-elected ISSA President Chris Willey. "Who knows how much will actually be in there when the snow melts based on the revenue coming in this fall with registrations and with trail passes this winter."

Willey said the ISSA is committed to keeping a close eye on the till and promises to remain in communication with Schnoebelen as the season progresses. He has assembled a team of ISSA board members to assist him in the cause, many of whom already serve on the ISSA's Emergency Funding Committee (EFC) created in the wake of the money grab 14 years ago.

"We are all running scared if we are going to carry money over to next year," said Past ISSA President Dennis Nauman, who served from 2001-02 and is a charter member of the EFC.

"We want to make sure we are prudent with snowmobile registration dollars and trail pass money," added Past ISSA President Jim Willey, another member of the team. "We all want it to go back to the program and nobody is saying that it doesn't. We know we have to reset here, but carrying over \$80,000 that could have helped the clubs with their expenses this year should not be a goal."

Afternoon Seminar Cites Overspending

Many of the concerns and comments were voiced during the



Assigned in July, Conservation Officer Supervisor Randy Schnoebelen from Clear Lake now oversees the state snowmobile program for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in addition to his law enforcement duties.

IDNR's Saturday afternoon seminar at convention. At times contested, the session was slated to last an hour and a half but ran nearly 45 minutes long due to the concerns with the IDNR's new administration of the state snowmobile program.

Gone now is David Downing, who led the program since 2004 and worked hand-in-hand with the ISSA to update the state's aging groomer fleet over the past decade. Previously, Downing managed the department's finances based on revenue projections, which led to overspending, according to the IDNR.

In 2014 and 2015, program expenditures exceeded revenue by an average of \$450,000, and for three months last season, "there was absolutely no money in the program," according to Rhonda Fowler, snowmobile education coordinator for the IDNR who is helping to bridge the transition from Downing to Schnoebelen.

Now, the department is managing the program's funds with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), and money can no longer be obligated until it is on deposit. Schnoebelen, a 30-year IDNR veteran and current conservation officer supervisor in Clear Lake, has been charged with policing the program. He assumed control in July.

"What I saw right away was an opportunity to make this program more fiscally sound," Schnoebelen said. "We need to try to get a better understanding of the budget so both sides know how much is there and so we don't overspend. In the past, they were spending revenue that was perceived to be coming in. All of sudden when that doesn't pan out, we overspend."

For 2016-17, groomer purchases are currently on hold as the program works to buy out four existing groomer leases in the state. Trail grant awards to snowmobile clubs were reduced by

By the Numbers...

	Registered Snowmobiles	Trail Passes	Revenue	Expenses
2014	26,562	29,516	\$885,521	\$1,180,229
2015	23,959	16,344	\$788,780	\$1,296,597
2016	23,308	16,812	\$777,946	\$417,737

Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources

\$80,000, and the IDNR grant to the ISSA to cover expenses related to groomer training, education and in-state travel was capped at \$19,580.

"When they told me to take over this program, upper management said to make it fiscally responsible," Schnoebelen said. "By June 30 next year, we want to make sure it shows in the black because the state does not like to run in the red. We are trying to get through these issues so we can build the fund back up again. It's going to take a couple of lean years."

"That is how this budget is being created and that's how it's going to be managed going forward," added Fowler. "There is a lot more involvement in this program from the director's office on down. We did not follow GAAP procedures before. We don't have a choice any more. We don't get to choose the carry-over amount. The director's office and his budget staff does that. They are creating a system that's going to create sustainability. I know it's going to hurt right now."

Fool Me Once...

The pain will increase if history repeats itself and the fund is swept again. While the depleted snowmobile dollars were eventually returned in 2008, ISSA officials are still spooked by the possibility of the move happening again. Schnoebelen feels legislators have learned their lesson. ISSA Lobbyist Mike Heller said it's a valid concern from snowmobilers.

"Everything we are hearing for this upcoming session is money is tighter," Heller told ISSA members during the Saturday morning brunch at convention. "The mood is to not increase government spending in any way, so if there is money left over in your fund, that would be a legitimate concern, and we should be worried about it. That's why we need to make a case to legislators that the money is there for a purpose. It's there for trails, maintenance and education."



Despite airing their differences at the IDNR seminar Nov. 19, Randy Schnoebelen and Past ISSA President Jim Willey were able to talk through most of their issues after the meeting.

"It would be naïve to say they are not looking at every source of funding. There's going to be a lot of pressure to cut back on government," Heller continued.

"I understand that fear," Schnoebelen admitted. "I was there when it happened in 2002, and I did not approve of it. You have to have the confidence in your association and your lobbyist. There were other agencies that had their money swept too, but you guys were the only ones who were able to lobby the legislators and get those funds back into your program."

"Legislators learn from their mistakes," he continued. "If they try to do that again, I trust your association and your lobbyist will remind them of what happened in the past and they will learn from their mistakes."

Schnoebelen said continuing to make decisions based on the past is what led to the program's ultimate downfall earlier this year. He is looking to wipe the slate clean, improve communication with the snowmobilers in the state and move forward.

"We are going to start from here and have better communication on what goes on," Schnoebelen said. "The mentality of 'We work for you or you work for us' is not going to get us anywhere. We need to come up with a better way of communicating so we can work together. We need to bring it together and improve on the program so we can all achieve the same goal, which is to have a good, renewable activity that we can be proud of and enjoy doing and bring new people into the sport."

"We all want this program to survive and thrive," Jim Willey responded. "We have a long history of cooperation with the IDNR. We want to continue that, but jamming a new way of doing things down our throat is not the way to do it. We need to work together and provide more input into both sides of the budget. We can get by for a couple of years without buying groomers, but not long term."

"We need to have a plan that makes sense because we have clubs which still need groomers," Willey continued. "Our fleet is much better off now than 10 years ago, and we need to continue that progress."

"Within the constraints of administrative rules, we want to work with you as much as possible," Fowler said. "We can't go outside those rules, but if there's anything we can do and that is eligible and can work with you on, we have an obligation to do so."

An advertisement for a free corridor map of Northwest Wisconsin. The top half features the text "FREE CORRIDOR MAP" in large, bold, blue letters, followed by "NORTHWESTWISCONSIN.COM" and the phone number "715-416-3256". Below this is a photograph of a person riding a green snowmobile through a snowy, wooded area. In the bottom right corner, there is a small image of the map itself, which shows various trails and points of interest. The bottom left corner contains the text "Discover our extensive network of more than 4,000 miles of snowmobile trails through scenic Northwest Wisconsin. Links to trail conditions, maps, and more at northwestwisconsin.com".

Club Challenge Renewed

Heller talks election impact, importance of relationships during convention update

by Cameron Hanson

For the 12th year in a row, Iowa snowmobile clubs reaffirmed their belief in the ISSA's lobbying efforts by donating generously to the ISSA's Legislative Action Fund—otherwise known as the Club Challenge—at the 43rd Annual ISSA Convention in Waterloo last month.

Already exceeding half of the \$7,827 total collected in 2016, the 2017 fundraising campaign kicked off with \$4,076 in donations from 13 clubs. Their checks were accepted during the Saturday morning, Nov. 19, General Membership Assembly at the Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center.

"The Club Challenge is the most important thing we do to support our lobbying efforts," Past ISSA President Jim Willey said. "Just to put everything in perspective: If you are sick, you need a doctor; if you get in trouble with the law, you need a lawyer; if you need help with a legislative issue in Des Moines, you need a lobbyist. And we have one of the best teams."

Des Moines area lawyers Mike Heller and Paula Feltner were retained by the association in November of 2002 following the Iowa Legislature's de-appropriation of nearly \$1 million in snowmobile program coffers in May of that year. Their dedicated efforts and tireless work has not stopped since, and Heller said he is proud of their accomplishments over the years.

"You guys are an interesting group," Heller said during his annual convention address at the late Saturday morning brunch. "We found that out several years ago when you retained us. We learned very early on how much passion snowmobilers have for their sport, how much you care about it, how much it means to you and how much it should mean to legislators in Des Moines."

Not Letting Off the Gas

Starting out at \$17,500, the lobbyists' annual fee now stands at \$23,500, and the ISSA treasury depends greatly on the Club Challenge to meet that financial obligation. The balance of the contract must be covered by the general fund as any grant money received from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) cannot be spent on legislative issues.

Willey said the ISSA's lobbying effort ranks high on the organization's list of priorities. When Heller and Feltner were first hired, their only task was to recover the funds from the legislative sweep. Along with the grassroots efforts of snowmobilers across Iowa and the dedication of the ISSA's Emergency Funding Committee, they were able to convince state legislators to restore the money in 2008.

But the work didn't stop there. Up next was the ISSA's push to move from a biennial registration system to an annual renewal period and to implement a snowmobile trail pass to increase available funding to update the state's aging groomer fleet. Beginning in earnest at the 2010 ISSA convention, that effort came to fruition during the 2013-14 snowmobile season.

Along the way, Heller and Feltner have kept a close eye on the snowmobile program in Des Moines and have helped to

further other ISSA initiatives at the Statehouse. Not all have been successful—such as recovering a portion of the state fuel taxes paid by off-road snowmobilers or getting a kickback on the state sales tax paid on snowmobiles—but several minor issues have paid off.

For example, last year, the Iowa Legislature quietly approved a specialty snowmobile license plate where a portion of the sales will benefit a charity of the ISSA's choosing. Officials are still working on this new offering, and more details will be released as they become available.

"It seems like some groups go a year or two without having an issue," Heller noted. "I looked back 10 years, and you guys have had an issue just about every year."

One Sticker, Please

Looking ahead to the upcoming legislative session, the ISSA's lobbyists will be asked to keep tabs on the snowmobile fund as the IDNR transitions to a new program head and new accounting procedures. Other potential pursuits include incoming ISSA President Chis Willey's desire to move to a single registration decal.

"One of the biggest challenges we are facing now is to get back to one sticker," Chris Willey said. "Leave the trail pass system in place for out-of-state riders, but Iowa residents should only need one decal."

As most organized snowmobilers will recall, the trail pass became a consolation prize to the ISSA's push to double the snowmobile registration fee to \$30. Most legislators were not in favor of a fee

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ISSA Lobbyist Mike Heller, left, visits with Past ISSA Presidents Dennis Nauman, center, and Terry Durby at the 43rd Annual ISSA Convention in Waterloo last month. Both serve on the ISSA's Emergency Funding Committee which oversees the lobbying efforts and legislative agenda for the association.

increase, so the trail permit system was proposed and approved to generate the much-needed revenue for trail maintenance and improvements.

What resulted from that action was the need for two stickers on a snowmobile windshield: one for the registration and the other for a trail permit. The pass is not required for private land

use but is needed on public snowmobile trails, frozen bodies of water and Iowa right-of-ways. Since it is perceived by some as voluntary, permit purchases lag behind registration numbers by approximately 6,000 stickers annually.

"Just think if we could just capture those riders who choose not to buy a trail pass," Chris Willey said.

Building Relationships

The Iowa Legislature convenes in January with Republicans controlling both the House (59-41) and Senate (29-20-1). Heller urged snowmobilers to get acquainted with their new or re-elected legislators as he said the snowmobile community lost key supporters due to incumbents choosing not to run last month.

"We are going to have to start over building relationships," Heller noted. "Make sure you invite your local legislators to your club meetings and get them to understand you care about responsible snowmobiling, and you want to do it in a way that is beneficial to tourism. It's a message that we are going to have work on."

Linda Upmeyer, R-Clear Lake, remains Speaker of the House and, according to Heller, "has a very good relationship with snowmobilers." On the other hand, Dick Dearden, D-Des Moines, has retired, and Josh Byrnes, R-Osage, decided to not seek re-election. Heller considered both of those state legislators friends of snowmobiling.

"It's going to be important to participate in any opportunity you have to meet with your elected officials and discuss the issues you have," Heller said.

"There's been a changing of the guard, and people are looking at this election as being about less government, less spending, less fees," he continued. "I think both parties are going to understand that message. I think we are fortunate to have had the legislation passed in the past."

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ISSA Club Challenge

	2016	2017*
Webster County Ice Breakers.....	\$1,100	
Wapsipicon Snowmobile Association.....	\$1,000	
Snowmobilers of Jackson County	\$750	
Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....	\$500	\$500
Mitchell County E-Z Riders.....	\$500	
North Iowa Sno-Jammers.....		\$500
Snowdrifters.....	\$100	\$500
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club.....	\$500	\$250
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$376	\$376
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$350	\$350
Snow Pioneers	\$350	\$350
Clay County Sno Broncs	\$301	
Floyd County Groomers	\$300	\$300
Sac County Sno-Lovers.....		\$300
Bremer County Sno-Knights.....	\$250	\$250
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks.....	\$250	
Chickasaw Sno-Riders	\$250	
Dickinson County Snowhawks	\$250	
Humboldt Sno-Skimmers.....	\$250	\$250
Driftrunners.....	\$200	
Lyon County Sno-Lyons		\$200
Palo Alto Rough Riders	\$150	
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Iowa River Riders		\$100
Trails Unlimited.....		\$100

*Contributions for 2017 accepted at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo Nov. 18-20.

To donate, contact your ISSA Region Director or mail to ISSA Membership, 1924 270th Street, Marble Rock, IA 50653
Proceeds benefit the ISSA's lobbying effort.

Family Tradition

Three sons of past ISSA presidents poised for future of organized snowmobiling in Iowa

by Cameron Hanson

Proving the apple does not fall far from the tree, three sons of past ISSA presidents assumed leadership roles within the organization following elections last month at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo.

Chris Willey, son of Jim Willey (2013-14), continued his ascension up the ladder and began his two-year term as president during the Sunday morning ISSA Board of Directors meeting. He and his father hold the distinction of being the first father-son tandem to hold that title within the ISSA.

2016 ISSA Convention Review

Moving up from his role as an assistant director, Brian Carmichael, son of the late David Carmichael (1995-96), agreed to serve as vice president under Willey; and Scott Nauman, son of Dennis Nauman (2001-02) was re-elected to a second term as Region 4 director.

Joined by a few select past ISSA presidents, all three will volunteer on a special hand-picked team formed by the junior Willey to keep an eye on the state snowmobile program as the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) transitions to a new manager and new accounting practices.

"We need to maintain a working relationship with the IDNR, but we need to make sure it is in the snowmobiler's favor," Willey explained following Saturday morning's election. "We want to make sure they are getting the funding back to the clubs and not getting lost in the red tape. We want to make it as easy as possible for members to apply for the funding, maintain their groomers and buy fuel.

"It all takes paperwork and we need to track it, but it shouldn't be the long, drawn-out process that it has evolved into," he continued. "It needs to be simpler. You should not need a degree to apply for trail grant funding."

Not Pressured to Serve

As legacies within the ISSA, Willey, Carmichael and Nauman take their new responsibilities seriously; and while they all credit their fathers for their involvement in organized snowmobiling in Iowa, they feel a greater dedication to the snowmobile community to ensure the program and sport can flourish in the future. Resoundingly, they said they did not feel pressured to serve on the board.

"Snowmobiling is a family sport, and the ISSA is a family tradition," Willey said. "I don't think any of our dads said we had to do this. They have left that up to us to decide on our own. We are doing this because we feel obligated to look out for snowmobilers as there are some things which have fallen by the wayside that need to be brought back in."

"This wasn't part of the plan originally when I first joined the board," Carmichael added. "I know these are big shoes to fill, and I want to do the best I can with the people around me. I plan to listen to people and help out where I can. I feel we can bring a younger perspective to the board as we are always talking about getting younger people involved."

"You get to a point in snowmobiling when there's a time to step up as new blood coming in. We want to continue on with what needs to be taken care of," Nauman said. "The ISSA has been part of my life since I was baby. This is just the next step. Organized snowmobiling without the ISSA does not just happen. It takes work."

Each sharing stories of their early introduction to the sport and the ISSA—either attending conventions or meetings as a kid or riding on snowmobiles with their parents around the backyard—the trio said they are proud to further the work started by their fathers, but they also have plans of their own.

"They are our dads, and of course, they have been influential. We are going to honor some of their traditions, but we are going to make some adjustments to keep the ISSA popular with the next generation," Willey said. "The thought-process with snowmobilers has completely changed because of today's environment."

In their new roles, they said they want to make the ISSA relevant to a younger generation of riders as the demographic continues to evolve through social media and new snowmobile technology. The impact of both the weather and the economy will also play a role in this effort, and they don't want to discriminate

David Carmichael and Jim Willey at the 2013 Kids Ride for Spina Bifida.



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against any rider out there.

They acknowledged that snowmobilers in Iowa are willing to travel out of state to either find snow or because their taste in riding has changed. Whether it's high-markers or flat-landers, the threesome said they need to "capture those riders" because they still call Iowa home. As an organization, the ISSA should consider all aspects of the sport within the state.

"There are still plenty of people who want to ride in Iowa, and that's not lost on any of us," Willey said. "But I'm not going to pigeon-hole us to one set group or generation. We are all snowmobilers, and we all need to work together. Younger riders need to look at the sport from the older perspective and the older generation needs to look at it from the younger generation.

"This dialogue is important," he continued. "If we don't get the younger ones involved, we're not going to have an organization in the future. And if the younger ones don't know how to do it, we're not gaining anything either."

To that end, the ISSA revived its youth program at convention, and continuing the family tradition, Willey's 14-year-old daughter, Isabelle, has been tasked with coming up with new ideas to attract her generation to the sport. Following the recommendation of Region 7 Director John Kahler, they are calling the program KISS, Kids Intentionally Supporting Snowmobiling.

"We're looking for more ideas to expand the youth program," Chris Willey explained. "Weather permitting, we are looking to have a youth ride somewhere in the state this winter. Izzy is still learning the ropes, and she wants to promote the youth initiative around the state and fashion it after a similar program in Wisconsin."

Diekhuis Follows Parents' Footsteps

As the family patriarch, Jim Willey said he is proud of the roles the members of his family have assumed within the ISSA. He

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hopes he has been able to inspire them in one way or another.

"We've all enjoyed being in the sport, and as a family, we support organized snowmobiling," he said. "I have worked very hard for the ISSA, and I know Chris will too. I'm excited to see some of the younger leadership we have available. We have a lot of second-generation members on the board, and I think that's great."

In addition to his son, Carmichael and Nauman, Willey was also referring to current Region 3 Assistant Director Ben Diekhuis, whose mother Jeanine served as ISSA Secretary from 1991-96 and whose father Jim was the director for Region 3 during the late 1980s.

Like the other board members his age, Diekhuis easily recalls his early invitation to the sport of snowmobiling and his attendance at conventions and other club functions as a kid. Watching his mother type up the board minutes on a typewriter in their kitchen, he said he is uniquely aware of the commitment it takes to run this organization.

"Growing up in that environment, I learned it takes a lot of work to make this all happen," Diekhuis said. "You just can't go out and ride. There are people working in the background to make it all possible."

With the infusion of younger board members, the elder Willey said the ISSA is well positioned for the future. As vice chair of the Midwest Chapter of the American Council of Snowmobile Associations, he said the ISSA is well respected in the national snowmobile community, and he



Scott Nauman received the David Carmichael Memorial Director of the Year Award at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo. Sponsored by A-Maize-Ing Kustoms of Cedar Rapids, the award recognizes a director's hard work and dedication in the spirit of its namesake. Nauman said he was honored to receive this prestigious award. Pictured with Nauman is outgoing President Merv Hoermann.

considers the organization second to none in his home state as well.

"Being involved on the national scene and seeing how other associations are run, we have a lot to be proud of in Iowa," he said. "I also don't think there is another organization in Iowa—that I know of—that has as dedicated and passionate of a group leading them as the ISSA does."



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President: Jeffrey Sassman
709 Hudson St., Storm Lake, IA 50588
(712) 299-1001

Clay County Sno Broncs

President: Doug Alger
912 E 14th St., Spencer, IA 51301
(712) 260-6855, eliteautodoug@hotmail.com

Dickinson County SnowHawks

www.dickinsoncountysnowhawks.com
P.O. Box 504, Spirit Lake, IA 51360
President: Kevin Winters
P.O. Box 305, Lake Park, IA 51347
(712) 320-9530, kwinters93@gmail.com

Lyon County Sno-Lyons

P.O. Box 576, Rock Rapids, IA 51246
President: Walt Dibbern
902 1st Ave, Rock Rapids, IA 51246
(712) 472-3804, waltidibbern@yahoo.com

O'Brien County Snowtrackers

President: Kelly Jongerius
Visit club's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/O'Brien-County-Snowtrackers/149959738392476.

Osceola County High Point Riders

www.highpointriders.com
President: Jeremy Wollmuth
5992 200th Street, Melvin, IA 51350
(712) 461-1510, wollmuth@mtcnet.net

Powder Players Inc.

P.O. Box 154, Remsen, IA 51050
www.powder-players.com
President: Jim Skinner
4871 Pierce Ave., Paullina, IA 51046
(712) 448-2567

Sioux County Snowmobile Club

www.siouxcountysnowmobileclub.com
Search Sioux County Snowmobile Club on Facebook under club info in Iowa Snowmobiler
President: Dave Taylor
313 Hunter Ridge, Rock Valley, IA 51247
(712) 449-5556, Dave.Taylor@interstates.com

REGION TWO

Emmet County Driftbusters

President: Tyson Enerson
4591 195th St., Estherville, IA 51334
Enerson747@gmail.com, (712) 209-3330

Humboldt Sno-Skimmers

President: Brian Ricklefs
P.O. Box 72, Dakota City, IA 50529-0072
(515) 368-0384, bricklef@goldfieldaccess.net

Kossuth County Drift Skippers

President: Jeremy Walker
1402 170th St., LuVerne, IA 50560-8552
(515) 341-1626, jlkwalk@gmail.com

Palo Alto Rough Riders

President: Kurt Bonnstetter
111 Iowa St., P.O. Box 62, Cylinder, IA 50528
(712) 424-3011, kbonsnte@windstream.net

Sno-Pak

P.O. Box 122, Rockwell City, IA 50579
www.snopak.com
President: Kolby Wagner
749 South Street, Rockwell City, IA 50579
(712) 297-7383, kjwagner@windstream.net

REGION THREE

Hancock County Snowmobile Assn.

President: Dan Stromer
1840 Hwy 69, Klemme, IA 50449
(641) 587-9903, stromerd@yahoo.com

Iowa River Riders

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North Iowa Sno-Jammers

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www.northiowasnojammers.com
President: Valere Holtan
38320 210th Ave., Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 567-3674, vholtan@wctatel.net

North Iowa Snow Seekers

President: Angie Lien
northiowasnowseekers@yahoo.com
(641) 494-6133

Worth County Fence Stretchers

P.O. Box 27, Northwood, IA 50459
President: Steve Arnold
1906 Hwy 105, Northwood, IA 50459
(641) 324-1125, (641) 390-0567
k44arnold@gmail.com

REGION FOUR

Bremer County Sno-Knights

President: Dennis Koehler
805 9th St NW, Waverly, IA 50677
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koehler805@gmail.com

Butler County Snow Snoops

President: Seth Bram
17313 Packard Ave., Clarksville, IA 50619
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Cedar Falls Sno Hawks

President: Brian Carmichael
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319-215-5006
snohawk68@gmail.com

Chickasaw Sno-Riders

President: Dan Feenstra
1310 Jasper Ave., New Hampton, IA 50659
(319) 404-5482, 148danfeen@gmail.com

Dewar Snow Chasers

President: Jim Paul
11217 East Dunkerton Rd., Dunkerton, IA 50626
(319) 232-7295

Floyd County Groomers Association

President: Philip Schrage
P.O. Box 7, Marble Rock, IA 50653
(641) 397-2775, schrage@windstream.net
www.floydcountygroomers.webs.com

Howard County Stump Jumpers

President: Nathan Hale
4145 Hillcrest Dr., Riceville, IA 50466
(641) 985-2699.

Mitchell County E-Z Riders, Inc.,

President: Karl Hermann
128 State St., Osage, IA 50461
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REGION FIVE

Allamakee Sno-Blazers

Allamakee Sno-Blazers
PO Box 94 Waukon, IA 52172
President: Brandon Fahey
snoblazers@yahoo.com

Asbury Snowhawks

President: Tom Spalla
3309 Brook Hollow Dr., Asbury, IA 52002
(563) 582-8893, tnspsalla@hotmail.com

Clayton County Snowbirds

12469 Hwy. 18, Postville, IA 52162
President: Dan Torkelson
302 E Church St, Farmersburg, IA 52047
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Region 1

O'Brien County Snowtrackers

by Zelda Buse Christensen, Reporter

Much of the past couple weeks or so has been unusually mild and pleasant and dry, but today (Nov. 18) has been the opposite! Although areas not real far north and west of here were under a storm advisory with snow and wind, O'Brien County has had just a little rain, not-really-measurable snow, but a lot of wind. Instead of the 60 degrees we were getting used to, we have switched to freezing.



Snowtrackers met at Langers in Sheldon for supper last Saturday night. Fourteen members and one new member paid their dues; 19 people ordered off the menu. Losing three directors who no longer have snowmobiles, we still have a nucleus of members desiring to keep the club healthy. Kelly Jongerius will continue as president, Bruce Tull as vice-president, Zelda Buse Christensen as secretary/treasurer, and LeRoy Peters and Gary Lansink will keep the groomer operational. They have already put in a new battery and are working on the lighting system.

Most of the signing has been completed with volunteers planning to finish the remaining. Gary Lansink, probably with an assistant, is planning to teach a youth safety class at NCC Dec. 10.

We have now gotten a taste of snow—hopefully a taste of bountiful snow (without blizzard conditions) to come this winter.

Region 3

Worth County Fence Stretchers

by Nicole Knudson, Secretary

Greetings from Northern Iowa! The Worth County Fence Stretchers had a successful membership drive. Great to see everyone but also fun to welcome some new families! A delicious meal was served, social and a raffle, kicking off a great start to winter. We also welcomed a couple of new board members. Always exciting to see new people step up and volunteer. We thank you!

Several youngsters are signed up for our upcoming snowmobile education class. Anytime we can stir up interest amongst our young riders, we will take the opportunity. This is the future of snowmobiling. We need to get our young riders involved and keep the excitement!

Our club has recently done several things to include our young ones such as encourage family involvement and promoting young riders. A scholarship from our club is given to a high school senior yearly, a family sledding/soup day in January and a bowling end-of-year party. Our education class that has been put on for several years is also something our club is proud of. We have a dedicated couple, Joe & Ann Determan, who so graciously

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

- O'Brien County Snowtrackers Youth Snowmobile Education Class Saturday, Dec. 10, Northwest Iowa Community College (NCC), Sheldon. Call (800) 352-4907 and talk to Evan Bensley in Continuing Education to pre-register. \$10 fee for your permit. Bring a sack lunch.
- Early Membership Renewal drawing Dec. 18.
- ISSA Board of Directors meeting Dec. 18 at Hampton.

January

- ISSA Kids Ride for the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa Sunday, Jan. 15, at Huxley.
- ISSA Board of Directors meeting Jan. 15 at 9 a.m. at Huxley.
- Jack Race Jan. 20-21 Clear Lake. Visit www.thejackrace.com for more information.
- Trails Unlimited Family Ride Jan. 21.
- Driftrunners Snowfest Jan. 26-29 Cresco.
- University of Okoboji Winter Games Jan. 26-29 Spirit Lake.

February

- "Ride Iowa Trails" event Feb. 11 hosted by the Floyd County Groomers.
- Driftrunners Charlie's Chili Feed Feb. 11 on the trail near Florenceville.
- Winneshiek Trail Twisters Chilly Weenie Roast Feb. 4.

March

- Theisen's Snocross National, Sundown Resort, Dubuque, March 3-4.

take the lead on this, and we appreciate their efforts.

The holidays are fast approaching which means the snow season is nearly here! We look forward to riding the trails of Iowa in the upcoming season!

Region 4

Floyd County Groomers

by Joe Obermeier, Reporter

We held our November meeting at Steve King's shop in Marble Rock. Prior to our meeting, we started marking trails at 9 a.m. We had a good turnout for trail marking but could always use more help.

Due to heavy rains this year, we found a lot of washouts, so please pay special attention on trails for caution ahead signs. Please spread the word to fellow snowmobilers. All trails should be marked by Dec. 1. Enjoy riding our trails and be safe.

After trail marking, we had a soup and dessert supper at 5 p.m. Yum! Yum! We set our groomer pre-maintenance work day for Sunday, Dec. 4, at 1 p.m. at King's shop in Marble Rock. We would like all groomer operators there for a discussion on changes that will be made this year. Thanks in advance.

We discussed landowners appreciation meal with more discussion planned at our next meeting.

Our club will be hosting a "Ride Iowa Trails" event on Feb. 11. One final reminder, Floyd County trails will be closed for shotgun deer season Dec. 3-18. Let's respect the hunters and landowners. Until next month.

Region 5

Cresco Driftrunners

by Bob Martinek, Treasurer

We here in Cresco are ready. Trails are marked, bridges found, bridges put back and trees/brush trimmed. I would like to give a big "Thank You" to all involved to get things done. It was an extra big task this year with all the flooding this past summer. All that said, please remember our trails DO NOT open until Dec. 19 after second season deer hunting has ended. Please respect and honor the landowners wishes. The trails on their land are a privilege and not a right. Of course, Mother Nature has the ultimate say on trails!

Otherwise, we just held our annual Toys for Tots drive in Protivin on Nov. 26. Again thanks to all who attended or donated. I don't remember how many years in a row now for it, but it always makes you feel proud to be involved. Finally, just to say again, our 46th annual Snowfest is set for Jan. 26-29 and Charlie's Chili Feed is Feb. 11. I will have all the details on both of these next month, so Mother Nature permitting, see you on the trails soon.

Trails Unlimited

by Bud Winter, President

Greetings, everyone! Like most clubs, trail work and signing is underway. Obviously, we want it to get cold and snow soon, but it sure is nice to not fight frozen ground. Our

ISSA Magazine Makers

	2016	2017
Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders.....		\$300
Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....		\$100
Floyd County Groomers		\$100
Sac County Sno-Lovers.....		\$100
Driftrunners, Inc.	\$100	
Allamakee Sno-Blazers	\$100	
Wapsipinicon Snowmobile Association	\$100	
Snow Pioneers	\$100	

This relatively new fundraising mechanism is designed to offset the costs of keeping the Iowa Snowmobiler magazine in print. Send your contribution to your Region Director or mail to ISSA Membership, 1924 270th Street, Marble Rock, IA 50653.

For more information on this program, contact ISSA Communications Chair Jim Willey at (563) 920-0911. The goal is to finish the 2016-17 season with seven printed issues. For the last four years, two of the seven issues have been published digitally only.

ISSA CLUBS

Clubs in red reported
100% ISSA Membership



Driftrunners, Inc.

Join Us on Facebook under 'Groups'
President: Dean Zakostelecky
124 Fourth Ave. SW, Cresco, IA 52136
(563) 380-8385, dkzakostelecky@mchsi.com

Dyersville Driftskippers

www.dyersvilldriftdippers.net
President: Josh Ruley
(563) 663 4024, fourtrakcity@aol.com

Snow Pioneers

President: Steve Vorwald
1582 210th St., Manchester, IA 52057
(563) 927-5362, ssvorwald@windstream.net

Trail Blaz-zers Inc.

President: Randy Kaune, Sr.
11419 90th St, Fayette, IA 52142
(563) 920-8491, randysr05@hotmail.com

Trails Unlimited

Trails Unlimited
15778 282nd St., West Union, IA 52175
President: Bud Winter
(319) 231-3337, bwinter@acegroup.cc

Wapsipinicon Snowmobile Association

P.O. Box 802, Independence, IA 50644
www.wsaiaowa.com
President: Morgan J. Kuper
1916 Central Ave., Jesup, IA 50648.
(319) 239-0590, mkuper3@jtt.net

Winneshiek Trail Twisters Inc.

P.O. Box 154, Decorah, IA 52101
President: Jake Ludeking
2005 Centennial Rd, Decorah, IA 52101
(563) 380-6747, jakeludeking@gmail.com

REGION SIX

Sac County Snow Lovers

P.O. Box 464, Lakeview, IA 51450
President: Jamie Rohlf
408 Center St., Wall Lake, IA 51466
(712) 830-2196

REGION SEVEN

High Bridge Trailblazers

President: Ryan Lowman
603 Allison St, Boone, IA 50036
(515) 230-1181, lowman700@gmail.com

Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers

President: Mike Patten
5204 Neva Pt., Panora, IA 50216
(641) 755-3863, mipat76@aol.com

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club
P.O. Box 3133, Des Moines, IA 50316
www.saylorvilledamsnowmobileclub.org
President: Craig Krapfl
3614 SW 29th, Ankeny, IA. 50023
(515) 707-7237, ckrapfl@gmail.com

Team Iowa Snowmobilers

www.teamiowasnowmobilers.com
President: David Eide
3339 Stagecoach Rd., Stratford, Iowa 50249
teamiowasnowmobilers@hotmail.com
(515) 835-8000

Webster County Ice Breakers

President: Jim Suchan
3374 Garfield Ave., Gowrie, IA 50543
(515) 352-3039, (515) 351-0072
jsmgr@lvcta.com

REGION EIGHT

Central Iowa Snowmobilers

P.O. Box 1751, Marshalltown, IA 50158
President: Matt McKibben
1013 Broadmore Dr., Marshalltown, IA 50158
(641) 750-1281, mattsmckibben@gmail.com





ISSA CLUBS

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President: David Huffaker
P.O. Box 391, Baxter, IA 50028
(641) 751-0622, huffaker-dave@hotmail.com

Tri-County Snowmobile Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 231, Traer, IA 50675
President: Jamie Erhardt
312 Mill St., Traer, IA 50675
(319) 415-8189, jhardt88@yahoo.com

REGION NINE

Cedar County Winter Warriors

ccwwarriors@yahoo.com
President: Jerry Meier
1241 Jackson Ave., Tipton, IA 52772
(319) 325-6021, jerrymeier2040@gmail.com

Cascade Snowmobile Club

President: Steve Peiffer
916 6th Ave. SE, Cascade, IA 52033
(563) 599-1875

Eastern Iowa Sledheads

P.O. Box 519, Lone Tree, IA 52755
easterniowasledheads@aol.com
President: Mindy Scott
P.O. Box 435, 204 W. Dougherty Dr.
Lone Tree, IA 52755, scott4@iowatelecom.net
(319) 629-4630(h), (319) 325-8917(c)

Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders

President: Dylan Bousset
P.O. Box 13, Grand Mound, IA 52751
polarisdude900@gmail.com

Frozen Few

P.O. Box 184, Coggon, IA 52218
President: Jamie Prull
1101 First St., Palo, IA 52324
(319) 981-0397, jprull@aol.com

Jones County Snow Chasers

P.O. Box 225, Olin, IA 52320
President: Chris Nelson
41 Anderson Rd., Anamosa, IA 52205
cnelson85@hotmail.com

Scott County Sno-Seekers

www.snoseekers.org
P.O. Box 2332, Davenport, IA 52809-2332
President: Conor Flaherty
(563) 505-4806, eagle3382@aol.com

Snowdrifters, Inc.

P.O. Box 5135, Coralville, IA, 52241
www.iowa-snowdrifters.org
President: Jeff Wardenburg
1745 Radio Rd, Marion, IA 52302
(319) 331-1651
Jeff.Wardenburg@Titanmachinery.com

Snowmobilers of Jackson County

President: Aaron Michels
39014 308th St., Bellevue, IA 52031
(563) 599-4935, jcsnowmobile@gmail.com

REGION TEN

Southwest Iowa Snow Scooters

President: Trent Larson
25817 208th St., Crescent, IA 51526
(712) 309-1516, trentlarson@gmail.com

Stag Island Skol Patrol

President: Brad Landhuis
3046 210th St., Clarinda IA 51632
Appanoose County Trails, Inc.
P.O. Box 825, Centerville, IA 52544

Southeast Iowa Ridge Blasters

President: Aaron Dorothy
502 E. Cedar Ln., Mt. Pleasant Ia 52641
(319) 986-5188(h), (319) 217-6361 (c)
aarond65@hotmail.com

club is thankful to Matt Miner and the ISSA for getting the signs out much earlier than normal. It was nice to get a bunch of signs built well in advance this year.

Nov. 4, we held our annual chicken dinner and membership drive. This year may have been the best year we've had yet. Our landowners really support us on this event. With many of them still being in the field with harvest, we sent a lot of carry-outs down the road. We got a good jump start on our club raffle this year which features a custom dipped .223 rifle, Henry Golden Boy .17 and \$250 in cash. Many members showed up and paid their dues as well.

Jan. 21 is our next scheduled event with our club family ride and pizza party. Last year, we had a lot of fun with this and obviously decided to do it again. We've had great success the past two years with waiting for snow to schedule a poker run so that is our plan again this year.

That's all for now. Think snow and see you on the trail!

Winneshiek Trail Twisters

by Jessica Speicher

What beautiful weather we are having! Not typical for November, but pretty nice. Not so nice for the snowmobilers though. It is supposed to turn quickly. Let's hope for some snow!

Speaking of snow, our snow show on Nov. 12 went well! Thank you to all who came to support the Trail Twisters. There were many great vendors who came, and hopefully they were able to get some more business for themselves and help people out with their questions. We also had the guns for our annual gun raffle, and there was also a dollar raffle with many great donations from local businesses. Let's not forget the awesome food and homemade desserts! We would like to welcome all new members to the club and a welcome back to the returning members.

Our club has started the repair process to our trails. Many bridges were built and we had many volunteers helping out so thank you to them as well. Since harvest is winding down, we will be able to start marking our trails soon.

We have changed the day of our monthly meetings to Sundays at 6 p.m. Just a reminder, on Feb. 4, we will be having our weenie roast at the clubhouse. March 10 will be our landowners' appreciation fish fry at the Dannon Lansing Building at the fairgrounds in Decorah, and Sept. 9 will be the campout in Bluffton.

Until next month, hopefully with snow! Happy Holidays!

Region 9

Snowdrifters, Inc.

by Ron Roe

Every day is one day closer to what we are waiting for...SNOW.

We had a very good meeting in November. There were about 45 members at it. We signed up a lot of new members, and they seem eager to help out with the trails. I just want to welcome all our new members to the club.

The weather has been good for trail work, so most of it has taken place with the mowing and marking. The club had two different trail work days. There were good turnouts, which made the work a little easier. What little work is left won't be hard to finish. Lately, the weather has given us a touch of what we are waiting for.

We recently met Tim McPherson, our Region 9 ISSA director. We look forward to working with him and invite him to come to any of our meetings. Our meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m.. The location can be found on our website at www.iowasnowdrifters.com.

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving. Happy Holidays for December.

See you next year. THINK SNOW!!!!

ACSA Legal Defense Challenge

	2016	2017
Snowdrifters.....		\$250
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club.....		\$250
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....		\$200
Floyd County Groomers.....	\$200	\$100
Iowa River Riders.....	\$100	\$100
Allamakee Sno-Blazers.....	\$100	
Sac County Sno Lovers.....		\$100
Trails Unlimited.....		\$100

Join the ISSA Today!

If you enjoy the sport of snowmobiling in Iowa, you are not alone. In 2016, more than 23,000 sleds registered with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and more than 50 clubs around the state maintained an 8,000-mile trail system.

The glue that bonds us together is the Iowa State Snowmobile Association and its network of 2,347 dedicated family members and associates. Since 1973, our organization has helped to maintain an expansive fleet of groomers and lobbied on behalf of snowmobile-friendly legislation.

Without the ISSA over the past 30 years, snowmobiles—for example—would have been held to a 15 mph speed limit, and

there would not have been any night riding, ditch riding nor access to state parks. Our efforts continue, and your support would be greatly appreciated.

Fill out the form below and join the ISSA today.

With your paid annual membership, you will receive a free subscription to the *Iowa Snowmobiler* magazine (our official publication) as well as a complimentary accidental death and dismemberment insurance policy. In order to receive the full \$3,500 benefit, though, please list each family member in the space provided.

Thank You!

Iowa State Snowmobile Association 2017 Family/Single Membership Application

Please remit with payment.

I hereby apply for membership in the Iowa State Snowmobile Association. Check all that apply:

Single/Family (\$15) _____ Scholarship Donation \$ _____ Spina Bifida Association of Iowa Donation \$ _____ Legislative Action Fund Donation \$ _____

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Children: _____ Snowmobile Club: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ County of Residence _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ # registered snowmobiles _____

Your email address is very important as this will be how we can get information to you in a timely manner.

All family member names are needed as each member is entitled to a complimentary \$3,500 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance Policy from American Income Life.

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Membership year runs from Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31.

Payment info

Amount Enclosed

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Send your membership form and dues today to Brittany Paulus at:

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1924 270th Street

Marble Rock, IA 50653

bepaulus@outlook.com

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I hereby apply for membership in the Iowa State Snowmobile Association. Check all that apply:

Associate Membership (\$25)

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Name of Business or Dealership: _____ Contact Person: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Website: _____

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Anything you'd like to add to your listing in the magazine? _____

Included with your membership is a \$5 subscription to this magazine.

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Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31.

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Amount Enclosed

Credit Card # _____

Name on card _____

Expiration date _____

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bepaulus@outlook.com



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glens1@westoffice.net

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Storm Lake, IA 50588
(712) 732-1500
nltruckrepair.com

Project Mayhem Power Sports

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133 W 1st St, Sioux Center, IA 51250
(712) 441-0934
jesse_wynia@hotmail.com

Storm Lake Honda

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Storm Lake, IA 50588
(712) 732-2460
www.stormlakehonda.com

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(515) 295-9521

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(712) 335-3229
brianslama@hotmail.com

Champion Chrysler Center

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Rockwell City, IA 50579
(712) 297-7537
joe@champchrysler.com
www.championchryslercenter.net

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(515) 200-9155, bcruise@excite.com

The Flipside Pizza & Pub

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(712) 362-3031, zr599@hotmail.com
www.jandksnowmobile.com

JDR Seed LLC

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(515) 341-3452, jdrseed@ncn.net

Jeremy Walker

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(515) 341-1626, jlkwalk@gmail.com

Jud's Bar & Grill

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(515) 463-2345

Klocko Construction

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(515) 571-5724

Lynch's Mainstreet

Bar & Grill

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Motor Inn of Algona

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(515) 295-2497
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Ramthun Trucking, Inc

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(515) 480-3970
ramthun96@gmail.com

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(641) 456-2594
apwhampton@yahoo.com

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Chappy's on Main

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ragingcy@yahoo.com

Crystal Lake Bar & Grill

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dkafc@dkarndtcpa.net
www.dkarndtcpa.net

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(641) 358-6419

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(641) 584-2100

Forest City Ford, Inc.

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step@mulfordconcrete.com

Goody's Welding & Metal Art

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(641) 909-4660
agundmonson@hotmail.com

Gorder's Service

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dannek2034@gmail.com

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www.happytimeresort.com

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(641) 456-2280
hickmanjr@hotmail.com

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howieequipment@yahoo.com

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(641) 430-3823

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www.lakemillsmotorsports.com

Latimer Community Grocery

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(641) 580-0454
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(515) 538-0337

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12499 265th St., Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-3181, mcps@netconx.net

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(641) 843-3878

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(515) 852-4156
buck@trvnet.net

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chad@mulfordconcrete.com

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(641) 648-0067
kristigorder@gmail.com

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(641) 456-4711

northcentralbs@gmail.com

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(641) 456-4157

jizzyrpms@yahoo.com

Pakoda's Steakhouse

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(641) 456-2462
lrsliter@gmail.com

Pralle's Wash City

PO Box 126, Coulter, IA 50431
(641) 866-6889

dyanne@iowaconnect.com

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priebemi@gmail.com

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2285 Taylor Ave, Rowan, IA 50470
(515) 689-3986
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(641) 584-2820
squidwilly@wctatel.net

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www.drpowersports.com

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Hemers Plumbing

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(712) 473-4661

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Quality Sign

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(712) 668-2878

Quirk Seed Center Inc.

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Questions?

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SCHEDULE

FRIDAY NIGHT

Pre-registration
6-9 p.m. at the VFW
Downtown Clear Lake
Cruise Around the Lake

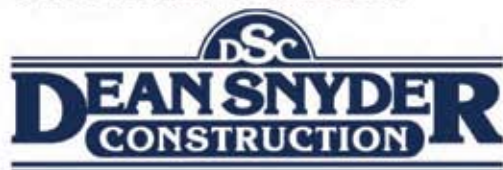
SATURDAY

9 a.m. Radar Runs
10 a.m. Lemans Racing
Vintage Show
Kitty Kat Racing
120 Racing

Clear Lake State Park,
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SATURDAY NIGHT

7 p.m. Awards
Ceremony
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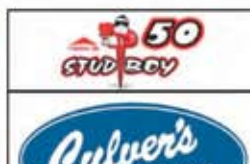
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