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IOWA SNOWMOBILER

December 2020 • Volume 42 • Issue 4

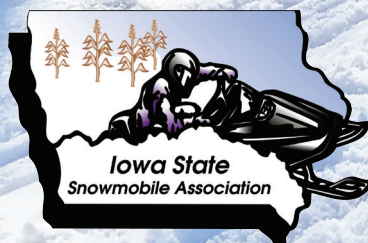
SNOWMOBILE IOWA

Wooded Prairie

Touring Big Creek State
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last February

Pandemic surge
cancels state
convention

Special election
this month to fill
board seats



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The Official Magazine of the Iowa State Snowmobile Association

www.iowasnowmobiler.com

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MAGAZINE DEADLINES

January..... Dec. 11

February..... Jan. 15

March..... Feb. 12

CHANGE NOTIFICATION

If your club has elected new officers or if you have an address change, please notify the ISSA office at issa1257@yahoo.com. Thank you.



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IOWA SNOWMOBILER

December 2020 • Volume 42 • Issue 4

Unconventional Decision

ISSA board ties up loose ends from last month's cancelled event



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COVER: Chris Whitney of Rippey emerges from the woods at Big Creek State Park in Region 7 on his 2018 Yamaha Sidewinder during the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club's Snowmobile Iowa ride Feb. 1. See page 14 for more on this popular event.

CONTRIBUTORS: We welcome unsolicited materials for possible publication. Iowa Snowmobiler accepts no responsibility for returns, losses or damage of unsolicited materials. Iowa Snowmobiler is the official publication of the Iowa State Snowmobile Association under the direction of the ISSA Communications Committee. The magazine is published seasonally seven times a year in September, October, November, December, January, February and March. Each issue is also available for download at www.iowasnowmobiler.com.

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Unusual Year Leads to Unusual Circumstances

Hello, fellow snowmobilers! Hopefully by the time this article reaches you, the snow has started falling and the trails are marked and ready to be opened for another season of the sport we all enjoy.

I would like to thank Region 7 Director John Kahler and all of the clubs and people involved in planning the 2020 ISSA Convention that was to be held last month in Ames. But add that to the ever-growing list of things that COVID-19 has taken away from us. I know all of the work that has to be done ahead of time and really appreciate the time all of you spent planning the event, which brings me to my next point.

With cancelling the convention last month, there are still some things that need to be taken care of regardless: the election of officers and region directors. At the ISSA Board of Directors online meeting Sunday, Nov. 15, via Zoom, we had discussion on how the board was going to move forward with these items. It was decided that we would hold nominations for the required positions to be filled: Vice President, Secretary and the even-numbered regions. Ballots for you to vote as well as instructions for returning these ballots can be found in this issue of the magazine. Please take the time to email your vote because these are the people that represent your issues on the ISSA Board. The position of President is automatically filled by the sitting Vice President after the completion of the annual meeting of the President's second year in office. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Brian Carmichael for his guidance and leadership during the past two years. I hope to build on many of the things that he has set in place and lead the board to the best of my ability. Thank you again, Brian.

With the end of another calendar year ap-



SCOTT NAUMAN
ISSA PRESIDENT

proaching, let me take this time to remind everyone that registrations need to be renewed and that the resident trail pass is still required. During the November meeting, it was brought to the board's attention that a few of the legislators have been asking about the bill that did not make it through last spring that would combine the registration and trail pass into one sticker for residents and leave the existing trail pass in place for non-residents. It was decided as a board to give this legislation one last push this year as we feel that the only thing that stood in our way last spring was the COVID pandemic. Any legislation that was non-essential to the operation of the State was not voted on. So, please keep a close eye on all of ISSA's upcoming communications for further information on how we will proceed. We need to have every legislator contacted to show our continued support for this very important issue. As stated previously, once this is passed, it would provide a more predictable income to the Review and Selection Committee so they can provide the clubs with the funds they need. This includes trail signs, trail insurance and grooming equipment. It is going to take an effort from all of us snowmobilers when it's time to make calls and send emails to our state legislators. So, please do your part to help ensure sustainability of the sport we all love.

Ride safe and think snow.



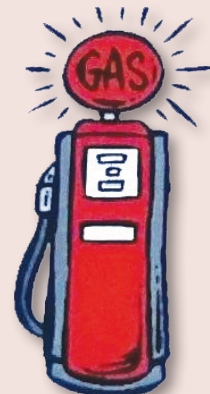
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Unconventional Decision Pandemic Shuts Down Ames Event Just Days Before Start

by Cameron Hanson

Three weeks after the ISSA Board of Directors decided to officially move forward with the annual state snowmobile convention, Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds imposed new public health measures intended to reduce the growing spread of the coronavirus in Iowa. The pandemic's untimely surge ultimately forced the ISSA to change its course.

The governor's Nov. 10 proclamation came just three days before the convention was scheduled to begin in Ames; and while groups larger than 25 people could still meet indoors under social-distancing and face-covering mandates, the ISSA Convention Planning Committee erred on the side of caution and decided to cancel the upcoming three-day weekend.

"This decision has not been an easy one to make, but due to the demographic of our membership and the rising number of COVID cases in Iowa, I feel this is the prudent choice to make at this time," committee chair and Region 7 Director John Kahler announced by email shortly after the governor's press conference.

The timing of the previous week's chain of events was still stinging Sunday morning, Nov. 15, when the ISSA board met virtually for its regularly scheduled monthly meeting. "I would much rather be sitting

in a hotel in Ames right now for this meeting, but the way this COVID thing is going, cancelling our convention was the proper thing to do," Kahler acknowledged.

Kahler and his committee of snowmobile club members from Region 7 spent several months working with the host hotel and lining up vendors, caterers, speakers and entertainment. In less than a day, those involved were notified the event was called off indefinitely. "Everyone was totally understanding, and most were not surprised by the decision," Kahler said.

Expenses incurred

According to Kahler, 66 ISSA members had pre-registered and pre-paid their convention fees. Those registrants have since been asked to email him at jfkahler@hotmail.com to request their money back or to destroy their checks if their money had not already been previously deposited.

"Only those who request refunds will get their money back," Kahler said. "Otherwise, those funds should stay in the convention account because that's what it was meant for."

To this point, the ISSA is on the hook for half of its \$500 deposit with the Quality Inn and Suites Conference Center and another \$250 for liability insurance. By the afternoon of Nov. 11, the host hotel had released all reservations for convention attendees. "Most everything else, we were able to cancel without penalty as well," Kahler said.

2020: The Convention That Never Was



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Dickinson County SnowHawks.....	\$100

ISSA Lobbyist Club Challenge

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Floyd County Groomers Association	\$300

Spina Bifida Association of Iowa

Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$407
Floyd County Groomers Association	\$300

ACSA Legal Defense Fund

Floyd County Groomers Association	\$200
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ISSA Scholarship Foundation

Floyd County Groomers Association	\$200
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No donations to report at this time for ALS of Iowa nor ISU Clean Snowmobile Challenge. Please mail donation checks to the ISSA office at 1924 270th Street Marble Rock, IA 50653.

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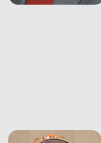
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In addition to non-refunded registration fees, any donations and sponsorship money will also be retained in the ISSA convention account for the next attempt at a convention—presumably in the fall of 2021—although there was some discussion at the board meeting of having a spring event at the same hotel.

“Everyone we talked to said they would be willing to come back at a later date if a vaccine is found or restrictions were lifted,” Kahler noted.

To date, a bid to host the 2021 convention has not been submitted to the board. Following a three-year rotation, clubs in western Iowa are responsible for hosting next year’s event, but none had stepped forward by the October deadline. Recognizing the effort put in for this year’s cancelled convention, the board invited Kahler and his team to host again in 2021. He said he will reach out to his group and return an answer to the board at a later date.

Raffle extended

Based on their experience organizing this year’s event, Kahler said the chances of stepping forward to host again were above average. “We had a lot of good donations from equipment manufacturers and others alike, and I have a lot of swag in my living room right now that I’ll need to get rid of eventually,” he said.

The funds generated by donations for the award winners will be applied to the costs of the plaques and the expenses related to delivering awards to their recipients. In lieu of the cancelled Awards Banquet at convention, ISSA officials are expected to make local presentations to the award winners on behalf of the ISSA Awards Committee.

The ISSA board also extended the drawing date for the ISSA Grand Raffle, previously planned for convention weekend.

That drawing will now be held Jan. 30, allowing Region Directors more time to sell additional tickets for the \$500 cash prize. According to Raffle Committee Chair Seth Bram, most raffle tickets are historically sold in person at convention, so this extension will make up for that missed opportunity.

Another casualty from the voided convention was club donations to the various charities and causes recognized by the ISSA, as listed on page 5 of this month’s issue. Clubs are now being asked to send their checks to the ISSA office at 1924 270th Street, Marble Rock, IA 50653. The fundraising year renews annually at state convention.

Board elections

The final order of business for the ISSA to tie up was board elections for 2020. Each year, the ISSA General Assembly meets at convention to determine leadership for the following year, including the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and, in this year’s case, Directors in even-numbered regions.

Following the Nov. 15 board meeting, ISSA President Brian Carmichael fulfilled his two-year term on the board. Per ISSA By-Laws, Vice President Scott Nauman automatically moves up one position, and he accepted his new role, becoming third straight second-generation president of the ISSA. Nauman’s father, Dennis, served as president from 2001-02.

“Thank you for putting your trust in me to lead your organization,” Carmichael said as board members thanked him for his time and service. “We had some difficult times, and we had some fun times as well. Last year was pretty rough with the pandemic. I hope you have a better time than I did, Scott.”

“Don’t worry. You’re not going any-

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where. I won't allow it," Nauman replied.

A new Vice President is now needed, and Kahler agreed to his nomination for that leadership position. Secretary Sue Paulus, who had previously intended to resign from her position after six years of service, decided to run for one more year. Kelsey Bram from the Butler County Snow Snoops of Region 4 was also nominated for the position of Secretary.

Incumbent Directors from Regions 2, 4, 8 and 10 also agreed to run again. In Region 6, Assistant Director Jamie Rohlf was nominated to serve. The entire ballot appears below and online at www.iowasnowmobiler.com, the ISSA's official website. Write-ins are allowed, provided the candidate meets eligibility requirements.

Only current board members can be elected Vice President, while the Secretary and Director positions can be filled by the general membership. The Treasurer is appointed, and Brittany Paulus has agreed to remain in that role. Trying to navigate uncharted territory, the board then had to determine at its Nov. 15 meeting on how to proceed with voting.

Electronic voting

The ISSA's Standard Operating Procedures allow the business of the organization to be conducted electronically as needed, so collecting votes via email was adopted. Initially, the board voted to send ballots to only those members who had pre-registered for the convention as they would presumably be the ones voting at the Saturday morning assembly.

The board later rescinded that motion following feedback from ISSA member Judy King of Council Bluffs. Without citing voter suppression by name, she urged the board to avoid "taking the easy way out" and to open the voting up to all current ISSA members.

"Is it fair that just because some members chose not to attend convention this year because of COVID that they can't vote and can't have a say on the leadership of their organization?" she questioned.

Her input swayed board members, who then voted to hold a special election Dec. 15. As required by ISSA By-Laws, a 30-day notice—along with voting instructions and the ballot—was posted on the ISSA's website on Nov. 15. Voting began immediately, and ballots can still be cast by emailing the ISSA's office at issa1257@yahoo.com. Voting ends at 11:59 p.m. CST on Dec. 15.

Only members in good standing with the ISSA are eligible to vote. Only one ballot per member, and the email signature must include the member's name, region and club (if applicable). The ISSA office will verify the member's eligibility. Any disqualified member vote will not be counted. If you have not already voted, please put '2020 ISSA Special Election' in the subject line and the candidate(s) of choice in the body of the email.

Members cannot vote for directors outside of their regions. The ISSA recognizes some members belong to multiple clubs, and those clubs may be in other regions. They should be voting for the region in which their home club is assigned and through which they pay their ISSA dues.

When made available, election results will be posted online and in the January issue of this publication.

In other election news, Todd Sieverding of Bellevue was re-elected to the ISSA's Review and Selection Committee (RSC) to serve another three-year term as the Eastern Iowa representative. Meeting the mid-October nomination deadline, he ran unopposed and was voted in by committee members. The RSC oversees the Iowa State Snowmobile Trail Grant Program.

2020 ISSA Special Election Ballot

Vice President

- Region 7 Director John Kahler
- Write-in _____

Secretary

- Incumbent Sue Paulus
- Kelsey Bram
- Write-in _____

Region 2 Director

- Incumbent Jeremy Walker
- Write-in _____

Region 4 Director

- Incumbent Seth Bram
- Write-in _____

Region 6 Director

- Assistant Jamie Rohlf
- Write-in _____

Region 8 Director

- Incumbent Geo Prescott
- Write-in _____

Region 10 Director

- Incumbent Aaron Dorothy
- Write-in _____

Email vote(s) to issa1257@yahoo.com. Do not mail in ballot. Only one ballot per member. Members cannot vote outside of their region. Member eligibility will be verified by the ISSA.

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Bill Nordstrom (1978)
Deceased

Gary Bruns (1977)
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House File 749 needs your help

'Grass-Roots' Effort Planned for Single-Sticker Legislation

by Cameron Hanson

Buoyed by a handful of legislative inquiries this fall, ISSA officials are mounting one last campaign to push the single-sticker bill across the finish line. If passed, the pro-snowmobiling legislation will permanently combine the registration and trail permit fees into one decal in Iowa.

The ISSA and its lobbyists, Mike Heller and Paula Feltner, have worked on this bill for four straight years. Formally known as House File 749, the legislation has twice passed the Iowa House unanimously and finally emerged from the Senate Ways and Means Committee this past March—only to be pushed aside after the coronavirus pandemic shut down the Statehouse in Des Moines for nearly three months.

When the Iowa Legislature reconvened in June, the bill was considered “non-essential” and perished. According to Past ISSA President Jim Willey, chair of the ISSA’s Legislative Committee, legislators now consider the proposal “unfinished business” and are looking to revive the effort on behalf of snowmobilers in Iowa.

“We have been contacted by legislators willing to help us,” Willey said. “It is important to note this bill would have passed last year had it not been for COVID-19.”

Merging the \$15 trail pass and the \$15 registration fee is expected to generate \$75,000 in additional revenue annually for the Iowa State Snowmobile Trail Grant Program. Since 2017, this program has been controlled by the ISSA’s Review and Selection Committee. This volunteer group earmarks 70 percent of the revenue from snowmobile registration fees and trail passes each year for trail maintenance and development.

Partial compliance

Since 2013, the trail permit has been required to ride on public trails, rights-of-way and frozen bodies of water in Iowa. Compliance has hovered around 60 percent among registered snowmobilers, so by combining the two stickers into one \$30 registration fee (plus writing costs), the trail pass would no longer be optional for the remaining third or so owners. If the proposed legislation passes, a non-resident trail pass would still remain in effect for

out-of-state riders.

Opposition to the bill normally arises from registered snowmobilers who claim they do not ride in Iowa and who therefore feel they should not have to pay for the additional \$15 trail pass. In the past, ISSA members have overwhelmingly endorsed the legislation, and they will once again be tasked with educating local riders and courting local politicians to support the measure.

“After four years of working on this bill, I will not be reaching out to legislators outside of my own home area,” Willey said at the Nov. 15 ISSA Board of Directors meeting. “If you want this to happen, you will need to contact your clubs and reach out to your legislators yourselves. It’s going to take effort from everyone on this board. We haven’t provided enough pressure and haven’t successfully sent a collective snowmobiling voice to Des Moines to make this work in the past.”

“One negative call to a legislator resonates 10 times greater than one positive call,” acknowledged Region 1 Assistant Director Randy Magg.

Limited lobbying resources

Complicating matters for the upcoming session is the ISSA’s current budget situation. As of this writing, the ISSA has not renewed its contract with its lobbyists and will likely not commit any funds to their work outside of donations to the Club Challenge. Last year, this fundraising arm of the ISSA generated \$4,504 to cover lobbying expenses.

“We are going to have to coordinate this on our own,” Willey said. “Our lobbyists have agreed to monitor activity for us in Des Moines and let us know when and where to act. Not being able to pay them in full at this point is obviously a blow to them. Without our lobbyists, I find this grass-roots effort very challenging. We will need to appeal to our clubs to get them to make calls and to send in donations.”

“We are grateful that Mike and Paula will continue to work with us with the funds we have available through our Club Challenge,” Willey continued. “They are committed to helping us get through this rough spot.”



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Training Cancelled for Youth, Groomer Operators

Rising coronavirus cases statewide in Iowa has led to the cancellation of all in-person, instructor-led training for youth safety and groomer operators this season.

Rhonda Fowler, youth snowmobile safety coordinator for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, is encouraging youths between the ages of 12 and 17 to complete their training online at www.SnowmobileCourse.com/USA/Iowa.

“This is being done to reduce the exposure risk to students, volunteer instructors and their families due to COVID-19,” Fowler explained.

Similarly, the Iowa State Snowmobile Trail Grant Program has cancelled all groomer training classes this winter and will be granting a one-year extension to those operators whose current training will expire at the end of December.

“If you have new operators needing to get certified, we will be looking at doing some smaller classes on an as-needed basis,” explained Past ISSA President Chris Willey, program co-administrator and groomer training coordinator. “This option will be left up to the grooming instructors if they feel comfortable holding a class.”

Clubs requesting extensions for their current operators need to email Willey at issa.rsc@gmail.com and include the following information: name, club, certificate expiration date and updated contact information.

“The instructor for your club’s area will then review the list of requested extensions and sign off on them,” Willey said. “Once completed, an updated list will be sent to your respective club email contact.”

SNOWMOBILE IOWA

Four Openings Remain on ISSA Ride Schedule

The ISSA Board of Directors set time aside during its Nov. 15 regular monthly meeting to determine the dates for the Snowmobile Iowa rides this coming winter. Clubs had been scheduled to meet during that weekend's convention seminars, but as we all know, that event was cancelled due to a surge in coronavirus cases statewide.

A spin-off of club displays at convention by the same name, Snowmobile Iowa is an ISSA program where clubs are invited to host rides and showcase their communities and trail systems to fellow riders who may not be from that area. Past ISSA President Bruno Andreini has coordinated the effort since its inception five years ago and invites clubs to step forward to host a ride this winter.

"The purpose of this program is to keep tourism dollars here in Iowa and to help others discover some of the fun places to ride that many of us may not be aware of," Andreini said. "I know some clubs seem to worry about not having enough snow to host an event, but that's really not a problem. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we just move on to the next week."

Andreini has set aside seven Saturdays this winter for clubs to host rides, beginning Jan. 10 and ending Feb. 21. Scheduled events begin at 10 a.m., and planned stops should include gas stations, restaurants and points of interest. Each club should have a designated leader and a designated meeting place. Information on overnight lodging should also be made available for guests travelling long distances.

Resulting from the board's discussion, three clubs have already stepped forward to host Snowmobile Iowa rides this winter:

- Cresco Driftrunners Jan. 23 during SnowFest. Meet at the clubhouse at the Howard County Fairgrounds at 10 a.m. For latest trail conditions, follow the club on Facebook.
- Butler County Snow Snoops/Floyd County Groomers/North Iowa Snow Seekers Shell Rock River ride from Clarksville to Rock Falls Jan. 30. Meet at the high school in Clarksville at 10 a.m. For more information, call or text (641) 512-1932.
- Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club Feb. 13. Meet at the school in Slater at 10 a.m. For more information, call or text (515) 240-5444 or follow the club on Facebook.

If your club is interested in hosting a ride on one of the four remaining weekends, contact Andreini at (515) 240-3858 or awbrunoa3@gmail.com.



Out packing trails with club-built roller last winter.

Snow Snoops to Team up with Nearby Clubs for State Ride

One club already committing to a Snowmobile Iowa date this winter is also this month's trail map sponsor and region profile: the Butler County Snow Snoops of Region 4. As they have for the past four years, they will help coordinate a 60-mile tour along the Shell Rock River from Clarksville to Rock Falls on Jan. 30.



Club members will once again partner with the Floyd County Groomers and the North Iowa Snow Seekers to bring riders to the scenic woods and river bottom areas of north central Iowa. Participants should meet in the high school parking lot in Clarksville at 10 a.m. and then head north from there. For more information, contact Snow Snoops president Seth Bram at (641) 512-1932.

Illustrated by the club's commitment to the Snowmobile Iowa program, the Snow Snoops remain strong supporters of the ISSA. Bram currently serves as the Region 4 Director, and the Snow Snoops are Platinum Sponsors of the state organization. The club is 100 percent ISSA, and membership currently stands at 68 snowmobilers. Dues for a single membership cost \$25 and \$30 for a family membership.

Most of the Snow Snoops' 190-mile trail system is cross-country and features both sides of the Shell Rock River between Greene and Clarksville. As detailed on the trail map on the next page, the club also serves the towns of Allison, Aplington, Aredale, Dumont, New Hartford, Parkersburg and Shell Rock.

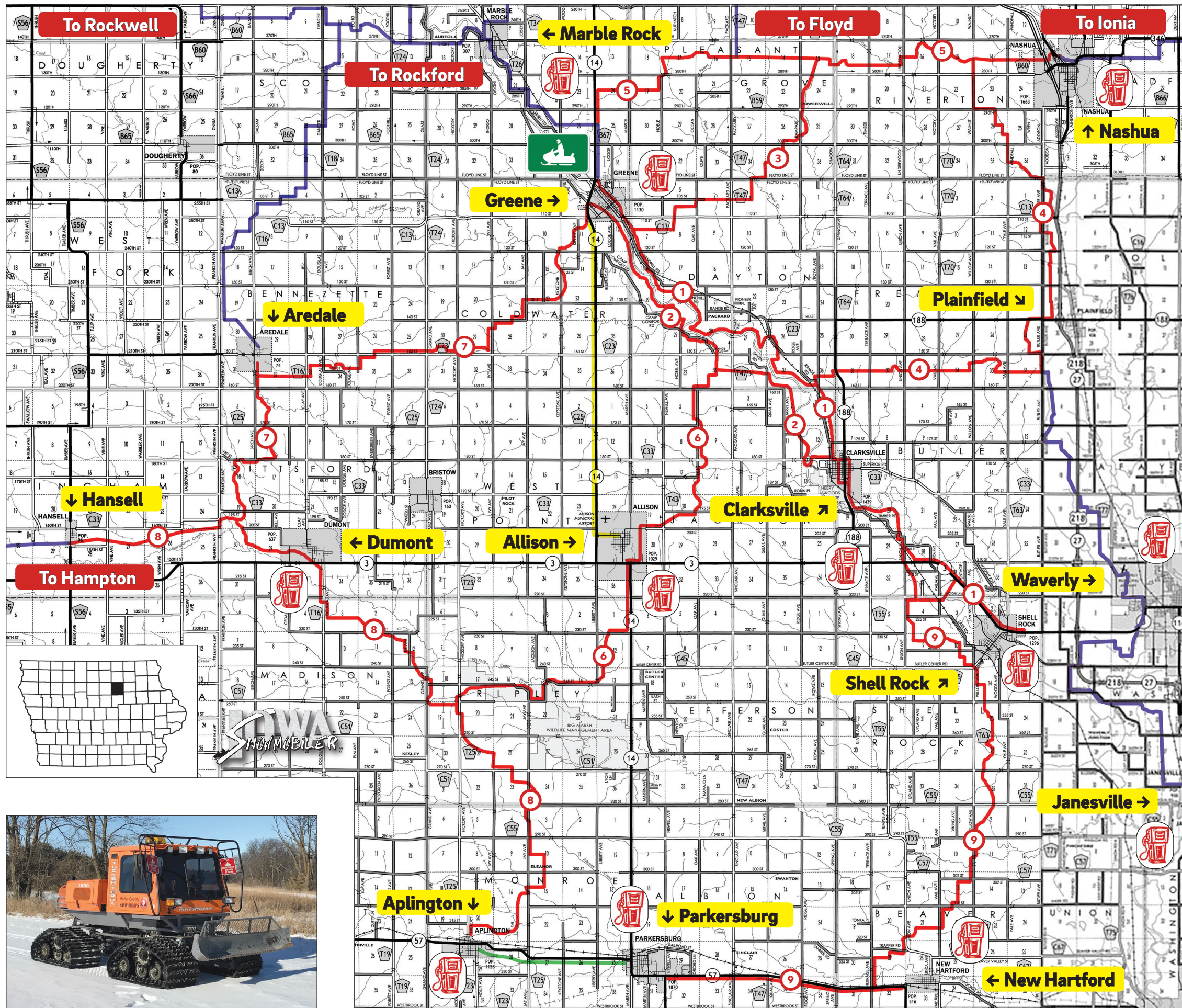
The club recently expanded their trail system over to Hansell to the west and south from Nashua to Plainfield on the east. Last season, the club groomed 700 miles with their 2002 Tucker 1000, compared to 1,400 miles the previous year.

Grooming duties are shared among 15 certified operators. Two winters ago, volunteers built a wheeled packer to knock down weeds and build a base after early-season snowfalls. On Feb. 20, the club will host its third annual vintage ride beginning in Dumont at 11 a.m. Follow the club on Facebook for more details. When it's not snowing, members stay engaged with off-season activities, including a golf tournament, holiday parties and a car cruise.

"We invite you to come visit our trails any time, but especially on Jan. 30 and Feb. 20. You'll be glad you did," Bram said.



Snow Snoops member Jeremy Wolf marks the new Nashua-Plainfield trail connector.



FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

LEGEND

Use map for reference only. Follow all signs and respect private property.

- Primary Trail
- Secondary Trail
- Neighboring Club Trail
- Proposed Trail

Trailhead Parking:
• Freeze Frame, Greene

Fuel Available
(91 Octane in Greene)

Trail Number

POLARIS
RIDECOMMAND

Our trails are available
by GPS. Download the
Polaris RideCommand
App today.



SNOWMOBILE TRAIL MAP Butler County, IA



Shell Rock River bottom between
Greene and Clarksville





REGION ONE

Buena Vista Blizzard Busters

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

Clay County Sno Broncos

President: Doug Alger
912 E 14th St., Spencer, IA 51301
(712) 260-6855
eliteautodoug@gmail.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
kwinters9530@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
walt.dibbern@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
jeremywoll10@gmail.com

Powder Players Inc.

P.O. Box 154, Remsen, IA 51050
www.powder-players.com
President: Dee Jay Kellen
dkellen91@yahoo.com
(712) 540-5723

Sioux County Snowmobile Club

President: Ben Van Den Brink
3471 Eagle Ave
Rock Valley, IA 51247
(712) 470-1176
bkland@mtcnet.net

REGION TWO

Emmet County Driftbusters

President: Mike Blomstrom
526 W 9th St., Estherville, IA 51334
(515) 408-8053
mblomstrom@forceamerica.com

Humboldt Sno-Skimmers

President: Shane Braby
1005 5th Ave. N, Humboldt, IA 50548
(515) 890-1945
snoskimmers@gmail.com

Kossuth County Drift Skippers

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

Palo Alto Rough Riders

President: Adam Kerr
P.O. Box 118, Cylinder, IA 50528
adamkerr1@outlook.com
(712) 298-0338

Sno-Pak

P.O. Box 122, Rockwell City, IA 50579
Find us on Facebook
President: Kolby Wagner
749 South St., Rockwell City, IA 50579
(712) 830-3821
kolbywagner@yahoo.com

REGION THREE

Hancock County Snowmobile Assn.

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

Iowa River Riders

President: Lenny Watts
2835 Sycamore Ave., Dows, IA 50071
(515) 571-6034
lenny@usa-chemical.com

Lakota Sno-Eagles

President: Michael Smidt
3509 185th Ave., Titonka, IA 50480
(515) 320-4052, myiq599@gmail.com

North Iowa Sno-Jammers

P.O. Box 103, Lake Mills, IA 50450
www.northiowasnojammers.com
President: Matt Trunkhill
135 310th St., Woden, IA 50484
(515) 320-0737, mtrunkhill@wgo.net

North Iowa Snow Seekers

President: Chad Brouwer
15 Williamsburg Cir
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 425-4872
northiowasnowseekers@yahoo.com

Worth County Fence Stretchers

P.O. Box 27, Northwood, IA 50459
President: Mike Peterson
P.O. Box 97, Kensett, IA 50448
(641) 390-1499
petersonex@wctatel.net

REGION FOUR

Bremer County Sno-Knights

President: Jeremy Happel
141 N. Powell St., Denver, IA 50622

Butler County Snow Snoops

President: Seth Bram
17313 Packard Ave
Clarksville, IA 50619
(641) 512-1932, sethbram@gmail.com

Cedar Falls Sno Hawks

President: Gary Matthias
3205 McClain Dr., Cedar Falls IA 50613
(319) 235-7667
gmkm2161@gmail.com

Chickasaw Sno-Riders

President: Nick Winter
2997 Vanderbilt Ave.
Waucoma, IA 52171
(641) 330-1134
nwinter@statebankia.com

Dewar Snow Chasers

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

Floyd County Groomers Association

President: Joe Obermeier
1301 Missouri Ave
Charles City, IA 50616
(641) 330-6225
www.floydcountygroomerswebs.com

Howard County Stump Jumpers

President: Jim Owen
602 Cherry St., Riceville, IA 50466
(641) 220-0149
buckarro0149@hotmail.com

Mitchell County E-Z Riders, Inc.,

President: Karl Hermann
128 State St., Osage, IA 50461
(641) 732-5778
jkconstruction92@yahoo.com

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, tnsppalla@hotmail.com

Clayton County Snowbirds

12469 Hwy. 18,
Postville, IA 52162
President: Dan Torkelson
302 E Church St.
Farmersburg, IA 52047
(563) 880-2422

Driftrunners, Inc.

Join Us on Facebook under 'Groups'
President: Lee Pecinovsky
17324 175th St., Elma, IA 50628
(641) 229-1588
leepecinovsky74@gmail.com

Dyersville Driftskippers

www.dyersvilledriftskippers.net
President: Ryan Ameskamp
29465 Dyersville E Rd.
Dyersville, IA 52040, (563) 599-6312

Snow Pioneers

President: Mitchell Heims
233 Bailey Dr., Manchester, IA 52057
(563) 920-2141, heimsm@live.com

Trail Blaz-zers Inc.

President: Randy Henniges
1980 Y Ave., Sumner, IA 50674
(319) 269-8239
randyhenniges@gmail.com

Trails Unlimited

1222 Hwy. 150, Festina, IA 52144
President: Bud Winter
(319) 231-3337, bwinter@acegroup.cc
Wapsipicon Snowmobile Association
P.O. Box 802, Independence, IA 50644
www.wsaiowa.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: Robyn Heffler
1122 W. Mamie Eisenhower
Ave. Boone, IA 50036
(515) 236-0500
robyn.heffler@gmail.com

Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers

President: Mike Patten
5204 Neva Pt., Panora, IA 50216
(641) 755-3863, mjpatt76@aol.com

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club
P.O. Box 3133, Des Moines, IA 50316
www.saylorvilledamsnowmobileclub.org
President: Barry Starmer
602 NE Trilein, Ankeny, IA 50021
(515) 240-5444
sastarmer@q.com

Team Iowa Snowmobilers

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

Webster County Ice Breakers

President: John Gallentine
P.O. Box 193 Dayton, IA 50530
(515) 351-7859
jgallentine86@gmail.com

REGION EIGHT

Central Iowa Snowmobilers

P.O. Box 1751
Marshalltown, IA 50158
President: Blake Matney
PO Box 171, Liscomb, IA 50148
(641) 485-3161
bmatney05@gmail.com

Tri-County Snowmobile Association

P.O. Box 231, Traer, IA 50675
President: John McKenna
5164 23rd Ave., Mt. Auburn, IA 52313
319-721-5895, jnmckenna1@gmail.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) 325-1903(c)

Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders

President: Logan Goettsch
1945 278th St, Calamus, IA 52729
logan.goettsch@channelseedsman.com

Frozen Few

P.O. Box 612
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0612
President: Rodney Rocarek
1718 O'Connor Rd
Mt. Vernon, IA 52314
(319) 533-1115, rocarek.inc@gmail.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: Bill Hogan
3959 MacBride Pl NE, Solon, IA 52333
(319) 325-5588, bshogan@msn.com

Snowmobiles 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, trentlarsn@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

se.iowa.ridge.blasters@gmail.com
President: Aaron Dorothy
502 E. Cedar Ln.,
Mt. Pleasant IA 52641
(319) 986-5188(h), (319) 217-6361 (c)
aarond65@hotmail.com

Wooded Prairie

Saylorville Dam club members guide visitors around Big Creek State Park last February

Saylorville club member Craig Krapfl leads a group of riders around Big Creek State Park Feb. 1.

by Cameron Hanson

As they have the previous four seasons, members of the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club of Region 7 are once again committing to host a Snowmobile Iowa ride this winter. After all, club member and Past ISSA President Bruno Andreini coordinates the statewide effort, so they may not have a choice.

This year, like previous pursuits, the club will invite riders from across Iowa to tour trails along the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail between Slater and Maxwell and also drop down to Big Creek State Park near Polk City. Both of these areas showcase multi-purpose trail systems and demonstrate the club's enduring relationships with other trail users and managers.

Each year, club volunteers clear brush on the Heart of Iowa trail and reclaim a path through the woods at Big Creek. That sweeping effort was especially critical earlier this fall following the Aug. 10 derecho, which brought intense straightline winds to central Iowa. Fallen debris littered the trails everywhere.

Club president Barry Starmer said more than 30 volunteers, including members from the Clean Snowmobile Challenge team at Iowa State University, showed up over several weekends to clean up the mess and open the trails back up for this winter. Chainsaws, skidloaders and physical labor combined to recondition the trails for snowmobile use.

At Big Creek, the club partnered with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to clean up the wooded trails with heavy equipment brought in to remove downed trees. This coordinated effort was the result of several years of working with IDNR officials to maintain snowmobile access through the state park.

"You can't believe how much weeds and other overgrowth take over the trails down there in the off-season," Starmer said while on a break during last year's Snowmobile Iowa ride Feb. 1. "The



Saylorville club member Steve Klinkefus at the park entrance.

IDNR lets us use their equipment to take care of the clearing, and park crews help with the mowing and tree trimming. When we're all done, we have a very nice trail there."

"We have a very good working relationship with the IDNR at Big Creek," club member Steve Klinkefus added.

Staying close to home to ride

The intent of the ISSA's Snowmobile Iowa program is to help Iowans discover some of the hidden trail gems in the state. With the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, riders may be looking to stay home even more this winter; and by the time the snow flies, neighboring states may be urging the same to control the spread, according to some reports.

"With the impact of COVID-19 this year, this may be a good opportunity to keep everyone close to home to ride," Past ISSA President Chris Willey said at the Nov. 15 ISSA Board of Directors meeting.

Seen here taking a break on top of the dam which creates Big Creek Lake, more than 30 riders participated in last year's ride.





This year's Snowmobile Iowa ride with the Saylorville Dam club is scheduled for Feb. 13, and the route will likely be the same as last year, touring Big Creek first before turning north and east on the Heart of Iowa trail. The club maintains 120 miles of trail in Region 7, and the Heart of Iowa accounts for 32 miles and Big Creek adds another 14-mile stretch of scenic touring.

Both sections are open to other trail users, and during last year's Snowmobile Iowa ride, participants had to yield to fat tire bicycle enthusiasts on the Saturday morning portion through Big Creek. Located in and around the Des Moines metro area, Saylorville club members said they are used to sharing trails.



Situated in and around the Des Moines metro area, Saylorville Dam club members have learned to share the trails.



Saylorville club member John Dakovich waits patiently for the Feb. 1 ride start at the Heart of Iowa trailhead in Slater.

"We have to get along with other trail users," Starmer said. "We can't kick them off, so we have to work together."

Besides the wooded area, Big Creek also offers trails through prairie land and wetlands where narrow passes and pallet bridges help keep riders from straying off course. In fact, some areas through the park are so intimate that the groomer can't fit through, providing quite a contrast to the wide-open Heart of Iowa trail.

Last year's ride drew more than 30 participants, making it one of the largest turnouts in the five-year history of the Snowmobile Iowa program. "We appreciate that," Andreini said during a trail break last year. "We want people to learn where the best trails are in Iowa so we can do more riding in our own state. We are just thrilled to have this many people here today."

Among those joining the ride last February was Chris Whitney

from Rippey, a member of the Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers club, also in Region 7. He had participated in the 2018 ride and said a repeat trip over to the Saylorville trails was never a doubt last season.

"The Big Creek trail is really nice to go through, and the park is a nice area to ride when there's snow," said Whitney, piloting a 2018 Yamaha Sidewinder.

"Big Creek definitely gives you that northwoods feel," Saylorville club member John Kahler pointed out.

For more information on this winter's Snowmobile Iowa ride with the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club, contact Starmer at (515) 240-5444 or follow the club on Facebook.



Lunch time back in Slater.

Region 4

CLUB NEWS

Butler County Snow Snoops



The Butler County Snow Snoops hosted their third annual golf tournament at the golf course in Greene in July. The event is a major fundraiser for the club as members try to build up matching funds for an updated groomer.

Region 5

Driftrunners, Inc.

by Bob Martinek, Member

Our fast-approaching 50th Annual SnowFest will be held Jan. 21-24. Please check our advertisement on the back cover of this issue for a brief outline of the events we have planned. I will say with all the COVID-19 stuff going on, everything is subject to change. Please check our Facebook page for updates as SnowFest gets closer.

CALENDAR

December

- ISSA Special Election Dec. 15. See page 7 for details.

January

- 2022 ISC Escape Realty raffle drawing Jan. 1. See ad on p. 5.
- Theisen's Snocross National Jan. 15-16 at Dubuque. For race details, visit snocross.com.
- International Snowmobile Safety Week Jan. 16-24.
- Driftrunners 50th Annual SnowFest Jan. 21-24 at Cresco. Follow the club on Facebook for up-to-date information.
- University of Okoboji Winter Games Jan. 28-31. For more information, visit www.uofowintergames.com.
- ISSA Grand Raffle drawing Jan. 30. See ad on p. 6.

February

- Trail Blaz-zers' Jed's Ride Feb. 6. Club meeting to follow at Oran Fire Department.
- Team Iowa Snowmobilers Ice Drags Feb. 6 at Little Wall Lake in Jewell. Follow the club on Facebook for up-to-date information.
- Trail Blaz-zers' Vintage Ride Feb. 7. More details to follow.
- Midwest Sledfest Feb. 13 at Clear Lake featuring vintage LeMans racing. For the latest information, visit midwestsledfest.com or follow on Facebook.
- Butler County Snow Snoops Third Annual Vintage Ride Feb. 20 at 11 a.m. at Dumont. Unload at Outlaw's and ride to Outpost in Aredale and back. \$15 registration fee includes meal. For more information, call (319) 239-5408.

See p. 9 for Snowmobile Iowa dates and information.

Now one thing that is certain (if Mother Nature cooperates) is our trails and the trail riding. Our trails open up after the second season deer hunting is over on Dec. 21. There's plenty of room on our trails to "social distance" so please get out and enjoy!

Thanks for now and I hope to see you on the trails very soon.

Region 7

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club

by Barry Starmer, President

Another month closer to snowmobile season!

The past two weekends have been used on trail work for our club. One weekend was removing trees on trail caused by the Derracho. We had at least 15 volunteers show up with chainsaws. One member brought his skid loader to haul out trees so the city of Maxwell could haul away.

The following weekend, 15 to 20 members showed up to mark trails. With that many volunteers, we completed marking 120 miles of our trails. I want to thank everyone that helped, especially the ISU Clean Snowmobile Challenge team and the dads who brought their teenage sons and daughters to help. This is a great way to get the younger generation involved and showing what it takes to make a great club.

Until next time, get involved!

Region 8

Central Iowa Snowmobilers



The Central Iowa Snowmobilers hosted their annual fall grass drags Oct. 24 at the Central Iowa Snowmobilers Speedway in Grundy Center. In addition to head-to-head action, the event included youth racing, ATV competition and a swap meet. With their grass drags cancelled due to urban sprawl, members of the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club helped out with the youth races.





ISSA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

REGION 1

Glen's Sport Center, Inc.

Ski-doo snowmobiles
208 16th St., Sheldon, IA 51201
www.glenssportcenter.com
glens1@qwestoffice.net
Text message to (712) 324-4387
Okoboji Motor Company
2720 17th St.
Spirit Lake, IA 51360
(712) 336-1500
(877) 607-2868
www.okobojigmtoyota.com

Project Mayhem Power Sports

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

Storm Lake Honda

Arctic Cat
207 E. Milwaukee Ave.
Storm Lake, IA 50588
(712) 732-2460
www.stormlakehonda.com

REGION 2

Algona Machine & Supply

2204 Plum Creek Rd.
Algona, IA 50511
(515) 295-9521

Brian's Construction

206 4th Ave NE
Pocahontas, IA 50574
(712) 335-3229
brianslama@hotmail.com

Byron's

112 S. Main St.
Pomeroy, IA 50575
(712) 468-2372
byrons@ncn.net
www.byrons-bar.com
LIVE music every Sunday @ 5
Carlson Auto Body Repair
540 High St
Rockwell City, IA 50579
712-297-5517

Champion Chrysler Center

Ski-Doo
527 Court St. P.O. Box 153
Rockwell City, IA 50579
(712) 297-7537
joe@champchrysler.com
www.championchryslercenter.net

Collision Center

704 NW 7th St.
Pocahontas, IA 50574
(712) 358-0350
pokycollision1@yahoo.com

Co-Op Bar and Grill

714 S East St. Pomeroy, IA 50575
(712) 297-4600
www.thecoopbarandgrill.com

Flipside Pizza & Pub

11 Dewitt St.
LuVerne, IA 50560
515-882-9303

J & K Snowmobile

2703 7th Ave. S.,
Estherville, IA 51334
(712) 362-3031
zr599@hotmail.com
www.jandsnowmobile.com

Joe's Tire & Auto

749 High St
Rockwell City, IA 50579
712-297-8818

KC's Halftime Lounge

928 Main St.
Manson, IA 50563
(712) 469-2613

Klocko Construction

114 1st Ave E, Knierim, IA 50552
(515) 571-5724

Mindy Erpelding

203 Hillside Dr.
Algona IA, 50511

Sedlacek

SnowmobileSalvage

412 Fifth St.,
Rockwell City, IA 50579
(712) 210-0718
Find us on Facebook!

Wagner Custom Rolling

749 South St.
Rockwell City, IA 50579
(712) 830-3821

Zinnel Bean Rolling

716 S Main St.
Pomeroy, IA 50575
(515) 419-5527

REGION 3

Boone's Removal

3133 200th St.
Rowan, IA 50470
(641) 430-9705
boone9705@gmail.com

Brakke Implement

17551 Killdeer Ave.
Mason City, IA 50401
(800) 325-5308

The Branding Iron

Fine dining
135 Jackson St.
Thompson, IA 50478
(641) 584-2912

Buffalo Lanes, LLC

Bowling alley
120 1st St. NW
Buffalo Center, IA 50424
(641) 562-2611

Burdette Ostrich Farm

170 Heather Ave
Alden, IA 50006
(515) 681-4529
iowaostrich@gmail.com

Chappy's on Main

122 S Main St, Clarion, IA 50525
(515) 532-2727
ragingcy@yahoo.com

County Line Seeds

129 Industrial Dr., Forest
City, IA 50436

CR Fuel LLC

223 N Main St.
Clarion, IA 50525
(515) 293-1704
nelsoncurt2@yahoo.com

Dave's Auto Service

101 W Main St.
Lake Mills, IA 50450
(641) 592-9951
daves66@wctatel.net
Non Ethanol Premium Fuel

DK Arndt, PC

116 East I St.
Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 585-4631
dkafo@dkarndtcpa.net
www.dkarndtcpa.net

Donna's Lounge

427 1st St., P.O. Box 194
Meservey, IA 50457
(641) 358-6419

E & E Repair

1410 Olive Ave
Hampton, IA 50441
641-456-4264

Fleener Auto Parts & Service

11475 Hwy 9, Thompson,
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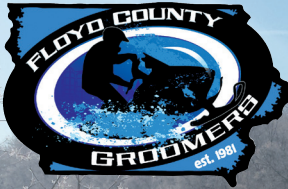
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