

IOWA SNOWMOBILER

February 2017 • Volume 38 • Issue 6

**Staying
Close to
Home to
Ride**



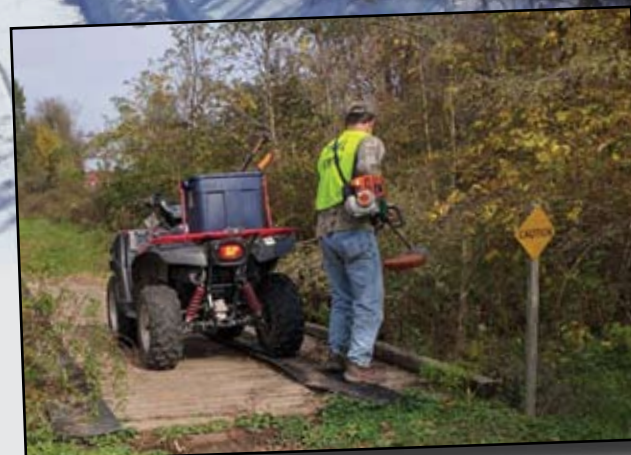
**Scholarship Winners Profiled
Legislative Package on Tour
Spending Time with Spina Bifida Kids**



Before You Can Ride on This...



...You Need to Do This



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.

If you love this sport like we do, please do your part. Join a club today and lend a hand. As our friends to the north with the Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association say, **'Snow Happens; Trails Don't.'**

All of the trails in Iowa are the result of the hard work of ISSA members. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources only administers the snowmobile registration and trail grant portion of the state snowmobile program. **Unpaid volunteers** do the rest.



Fill out the membership form online at www.iowasnowmobiler.com or join through your local club. The future of our sport **depends on you.**

Photos courtesy Iowa Snowdrifters, Region 9.



ABOUT US

"The Cure for the Common
Cold since 1973"

IOWA SNOWMOBILER

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February 2017 • Volume 38 • Issue 6

Drumming Up Support for Legislative Package

Committee members crisscross Iowa to
explain proposals to interested parties



8

Winter Kids Day for Special Needs

ISSA members spend time with spina
bifida families at annual event in Huxley



9

Staying Close to Home to Ride

ISSA rolls out 'Snowmobile Iowa'
program at SnowFest in late January



11

Foundation Awards Three Scholarships

Applications for 2017 due April
15; last year's winners profiled



13

2016-17 Magazine Deadlines

March..... Feb. 17



More Inside...

- News Briefs
- Calendar of Events
- Club News
- Associate Members
- Platinum Sponsors

COVER: Bob Martinek, treasurer of the Driftrunners snowmobile club in Region 5, cruises along the bluff-lined meadows of his club's trail system during SnowFest weekend in Cresco late last month. The scene further illustrates how snowmobilers in Iowa can find interesting places to ride closer to home, as touted by the ISSA's new 'Snowmobile Iowa' program. Turn to page 11 for more on this promotional effort.

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February 2017 **3**

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Goal Setting

Willey vows to streamline processes, improve communication, grow the sport in Iowa

When I started in the ISSA, I had a goal, a reason to get involved: I wanted to know more about the process that got money and equipment to the clubs. Man, have I learned about that process and all the challenges that go with it.

When I became vice president, I became more involved in the process, and knowing I would ascend to president of the ISSA, I set some new goals. Those goals are simple: Make the processes needed to facilitate the

From the President's Desk

program as streamlined and easy as possible, improve communication and grow the sport.

We are all volunteers and have countless other responsibilities in life. Now there are some things we have to do—like grants, training, permits and meetings. But that doesn't mean it has to be a long drawn-out process that is difficult to figure out and do. We are working on changes to make things more streamlined and easier to understand.

I want any snowmobiler to be able to easily find out where funds come from and where they go, no matter who is using them. If a club has an idea on making their trails better and needs some support, I want them to be able to get it. I have found that we have a breakdown in the information chain.

Staying in Touch

I believe in good communication. The last two years, there hasn't been the level of communication that there needs to be. It seems every week, I get an email or phone call from a club officer that they didn't get told about a change in a process, or I find

To assume that a snow bike rider will do a preconceived act is no different than the people who say snowmobiles can't be allowed on a bike trail because they will tear it up.

out a meeting or event, the date changed and the contact people didn't bother to let others involved know what was going on.

This is going to change. Even trying to find out where the DNR has used snowmobile funds on their side of the program has been a challenge. If you feel you aren't get-

ting the info you need—whether it's from the DNR, an ISSA director, your club or myself—let me know. I will work with you to find the information you need and get to a resolution.

Growing the sport. Well, I think we have several things going on to grow our sport.

Getting the youth more involved is a great start. We have clubs at the forefront of this. The Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club took the initiative to find a way to have younger snowmobilers be able to race at their grass drags. This brought in a lot of interest and has helped their event grow.



Chris Willey
ISSA
President

Advent of Snow Bikes

The possible addition of snowbikes could bring in a lot of new members to clubs. Just this past week, I taught a groomer class and we had a couple of guys there that have snow bikes. They said that they felt that they needed to join their local club, get involved and help out if they were going to have a possibility of riding the trails.

I know that there are some people and even whole clubs that are against the idea of adding snow bikes. When I ask, 'Why are you against them?', the answer I have gotten is, 'They won't stay on the trail,' or 'They are going to tear up the trail.' Don't we have that problem already?

I don't think it's a problem with the machine. A snow bike works on the same concepts as a snowmobile. Without snow, the machine will be damaged. To assume that a snow bike rider will do a preconceived act is no different than the people who say snowmobiles can't be allowed on a bike trail because they will tear it up.

The machine are not the problem. We have 200-plus horsepower sleds from the factory that can do way more damage to the trail than a snow bike with 60 horsepower.

I agree we need to find better ways to keep people on the trails. I think education and a little peer pressure would go a long way. If you see someone cutting corners or riding off trail in an area that it's not allowed, say something. Explain the problems it causes for your club. Set some goals and see what you can do to make snowmobiling better.

Take a Friend Snowmobiling Week Feb. 11-20

by **Ed Klim**

President, International
Snowmobile
Manufacturers
Association



The Go Snow-
mobiling
campaign has

been a great success. Clubs, groups, and associations across North America have held military rides, political rides and often just have fun holding snowmobile rides with friends and family alike. Winter is starting strong, and there is still a good bit of winter to come this year. Be sure to Take a Friend Snowmobiling during our dedicated week of Feb. 11-20.

During this time of year, we are seeing a little bit more daylight and the temperatures are a little warmer, so the improved temperatures and additional daylight improves our opportunity and riding comfort.

The Go Snowmobiling campaign that I have personally participated in highlighted for me the “wow-factor” and the pure enjoyment that people have when they first ride a snowmobile. I have ridden a number of times with first-time snowmobilers, and they couldn’t quit talking about how much fun it was and how they couldn’t wait to do it again. Thankfully, I was well prepared for the ride and made sure that my guests were well dressed and comfortable as well.

I have been fortunate enough to also snowmobile with many individuals who have much more experience than myself. I have learned that with a little prior planning and thought, we can shape our friends’ experience in snowmobiling with us which helps determine if snowmobiling wins over another convert.

When you take a friend snowmobiling, remember that your friend may not be experienced. Keep the ride slow, short and simple. Chances are that your normal ride would seem like a marathon to an uninitiated friend. Don’t show off or push the envelope or challenge your friends to ride beyond their capabilities or their comfort zone. Remember, you are the one that snowmobiles a lot and understands your machine. Let your friends enjoy that first day of snowmobiling. Again, go slow,

make it short, make it simple and remember that it is always a good idea to feed them well.

The Go Snowmobiling campaign is also joined with the Safe Riders! Campaign. Remember that we have a 22-minute safety video that can be found on our websites at www.snowmobile.org or www.gosnowmobiling.org. The video is a great tool when introducing a friend to snowmobiling and will help make the ride more enjoyable for everyone.

You should also visit and “Like” our Facebook page before participating in a Go Snowmobiling campaign. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling. When looking at the page, you will notice that many snowmobilers are posting pictures and their experiences on the page. We now have close to 10,000 friends who visit regularly, and it is common for snowmobilers to send out informative posts that are forwarded to hundreds and thousands of snowmobile enthusiasts worldwide. There is also a short, general survey on our Facebook page, so when you visit the page, consider answering a few simple survey questions. We are constantly surveying snowmobile customers to see how we can better serve you and how we can help you enjoy your snowmobiling activity.

When you consider putting together a Go Snowmobiling ride, just remember that individuals who don’t own a snowmobile—based on recent research—shows that on a scale of 1 to 10, they rate their level of interest as a 9. People who you know, who don’t snowmobile, want to snowmobile. Remember, they also want to enjoy snowmobiling for the same reasons you do: To enjoy the scenery. To get outdoors to have fun with family and friends. To go to unique places they can’t reach any other way to see amazing sights. To have fun in the winter outdoors and be able to go home tired and be ready for a good night’s sleep.

So please, go out and have fun, take a friend snowmobiling and enjoy this wonderful winter.

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2017 Award Nominations due June 1; Forms Available Online

by Mindy Scott

Chair, ISSA Awards Committee

It's that time of year again to start thinking about who you want to nominate for the 2017 ISSA awards program. The awards committee challenges each of you to look around the room at your next club meeting or at your next event and pick one or two individuals who you want to be recognized for the work they have done, project they have led or for their unwavering commitment to the sport of snowmobiling.

The 2017 nomination forms are available 24/7 on the ISSA website at www.iowasnowmobiler.com. Nominations are due by midnight on June 1 each year and may be submitted via email (preferred method) any time after you receive this notice or via U.S. Mail as long as they are postmarked as of June 1. Any nominations received at 12:01 a.m. or postmarked after June 1 will not be judged.

We do ask that you email nominations to both scott4@iowatelecom.net and suepaulus81@gmail.com. Hard copy nominations may be mailed to ISSA Awards, c/o Mindy Scott, P.O. Box 435, Lone Tree, IA 52755.

Your nominations should include:

- Two photos of your nominee(s), (digital preferred)
- Supporting documentation associated with questions asked (no older than 3 yrs).
- News articles, videos or other information pertinent to the nomination (no older than 3 yrs).

Letters of support from your club, community, etc. are welcome, but they are not required. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Mindy or Sue at the email addresses listed above.

In 2016, the following snowmobilers were honored by the ISSA:

- Youth Snowmobiler of the Year:
- Kyle Deutmeyer, Snow Pioneers
- Young Adult Snowmobiler of the Year: Tucker Brinkman, Floyd County Groomers
- Snowmobiler of the Year: Greg Place, Dickinson County SnowHawks
- Lady Snowmobiler of the Year: Mary Brinkman, Floyd County Groomers
- Snowmobile Family of the Year: Joe and Sue Paulus, Floyd County Groomers
- Groomer Operator of the Year: Kevin Winters, Dickinson County SnowHawks
- Dealer of the Year: J&K Snowmobiles, Estherville
- ISSA Club of the Year: None submitted

Each year's award winners for Snowmobiler, Snowmobile Family, Youth Snowmobiler and Dealer of the Year are submitted to the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) for consideration in its annual award program, which is held in conjunction with the International Snowmobile Congress each June.

The Groomer of the Year Recipient is submitted to Arctic Cat for consideration in their International Groomer Operator of the Year Award, which is presented during the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame ceremonies held in Eagle River, Wis., each September.

To assist in preparing your 2017 nomination, the judging criteria used for scoring awards is also available on the ISSA website at www.iowasnowmobiler.com.

Volunteers Sought for Snocross Race in Dubuque March 3-4

The Amsoil Championship Snocross series is coming to Dubuque in early March for the Theisen's Snocross National at Sundown Mountain Resort.

The March 3-4 race opens on Friday at 11 a.m. and ends Saturday evening with the Pro Open final on the eastern Iowa ski run.

The ISSA is seizing this opportunity to promote its organization and is partnering with Sundown Mountain to provide volunteers to assist where needed.

If you are available that weekend and would like to help out, please contact ISSA President Chris Willey at (563) 920-9010 or Past ISSA President Jim Willey at (563) 920-0911.





ISSA members Jim and Becky Willey met with U.S. Charles Grassley recently to discuss snowmobile issues in Iowa and snowmobile access nationwide. They will meet up again in April when the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) hosts its annual D.C. Fly-In. Jim Willey, a past ISSA president, serves as vice chair of ACSA's Midwest Chapter.

February Issue of Iowa Snowmobiler Released Digitally; March to be Printed

Due to declining advertising revenue and rising production costs, the ISSA Communications Committee has announced the February issue of the *Iowa Snowmobiler* magazine will be released in digital form only.

As reported in September, the magazine lost significant ad support from the snowmobile manufacturers this year; and as a result, the committee began identifying other means to keep the magazine viable and increase the number of printed issues.

Current publisher Cameron Hanson fulfilled his contract of producing five printed issues and two digital issues this season. The ISSA worked to keep the remaining two editions in print as well but came up with just enough funding for one additional printed issue.

"All of our magazines are released digitally on the ISSA's website (www.

iowasnowmobiler.com) but only February will not be printed and distributed to our membership this year," committee chair Jim Willey explained.

To help offset costs, the communications committee partnered with Minneapolis-based publishing firm Midwest Sports Publishing Network to increase ad revenue, and Willey initiated the Magazine Maker fundraising mechanism to solicit donations from Iowa snowmobile clubs.

"We would like to thank all of our clubs which contributed to that program," Willey said. "Because of that effort, we will be able to print a sixth issue this season in March for the first time in at least the last seven years."

The committee continues to look at options for the next season and beyond for the magazine. Please contact Willey at (563) 920-0911 to share any suggestions.

Paulus Appointed ISSA Treasurer

ISSA Membership Committee Chair Brittany Paulus agreed to serve as the ISSA's next treasurer during the ISSA Board of Directors Meeting Jan. 15 in Huxley.

ISSA President Chris Willey appointed Paulus to the position following the announced resignation of Kim Herman last fall from that post.

Paulus has been in charge of memberships for a year now and feels the addition of the financial responsibilities will be fairly seamless for the organization.



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Legislative Package

EFC members crisscross Iowa, soliciting support for proposals, changes to state snowmobile program

by **Cameron Hanson**

Equipped with a PowerPoint presentation and informative brochures, the ISSA's Emergency Funding and Legislation Committee (EFC) spent the month of January crisscrossing the state of Iowa, stumping for support of its 2017 legislative package.

In addition to the merger of the trail user permit into the annual snowmobile registration fee and the inclusion of snow bikes on public trails previously profiled last month in this publication, the committee's proposal is also looking to improve transparency in the state snowmobile program and even assume administration of several of its key components.

At a meeting in Cedar Falls the first week of January, the committee informed officials with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) of the ISSA's desire to control the groomer program and the allocation of trail funding to Iowa snowmobile clubs. The ISSA already manages the groomer operator training portion. Controlling the purchase and placement of the equipment is the next logical step.

"The ISSA is willing to take those programs over," ISSA President Chris

Wiley said. "We have looked at a lot of different scenarios on that and we need to run some numbers to see how it could work, but it does present some opportunities for us. The DNR has seemed favorable to that in the past."

According to the committee's brochure, "the DNR has indicated that they would like to transfer administration of the groomer inventory to the ISSA to ensure as much of the registration dollars as possible is used at the local level."

To that end, the ISSA is proposing that 80 percent of the registration and trail pass receipts are earmarked for the local trail side. Current language allows the IDNR to spend up to 50 percent of the total revenue for the state side for program administration, salaries, law enforcement, etc. This proposal corrects the intent of the user permit when it was passed four years ago.

"Funding generated by the trail pass was supposed to go 100 percent to the clubs and supporting the program," explained Past ISSA President and EFC member Jim Willey. "As you know, when it got passed into law, the money was thrown into the general fund and the DNR can spend up to 50 percent of that money. That's not

**Iowa State
Snowmobile
Association**



**2017 ISSA
Legislative Priorities**

The ISSA will introduce legislation in 2017 to improve the Iowa Snowmobile program, enhance the ISSA partnership with the Iowa DNR, and ensure the best use of snowmobile registration dollars at the local level.



www.iowasnowmobiler.com



EFC Member and Past ISSA President Jim Willey visits with Iowa Representative Walt Rogers, R-Cedar Falls, at the Travel Federation of Iowa's Legislative Showcase Jan. 31 at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines.

what we intended, and that's not what the lawmakers believed we were going to do with that increased revenue."

Even though the proposal reduces the percentage to the IDNR, the impact should be minimal and should result in a net-zero loss in total dollars for the IDNR—as long as the proposal to merge the \$15 user permit with the \$15 registration fee is approved by the Iowa Legislature. Currently, approximately 6,000 registered snowmobilers in Iowa do not purchase the optional trail pass. Not giving them an option next year would increase revenue by at least \$90,000.

"The receipts are going to be larger if the trail pass merger goes through, so even at 20 percent, the DNR will still have the same amount of dollars available to them," Jim Willey said as he outlined the legislative package to the ISSA Board of Directors at its Jan. 15 meeting in Huxley.

Members of the EFC are also looking to improve transparency in the state snowmobile program. Each June, the ISSA and the IDNR meet as a Review and Selection Committee to determine how the trail grant money will **turn to page 19**

ISSA Sponsors Winter Kids Day for Spina Bifida

by Cameron Hanson

The threat of an icestorm migrating from the south and the absence of snow may have hurt attendance, but Iowa snowmobilers and the families they support from the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa (SBAI) were still able to gather socially Jan. 15 for the ISSA's 11th Annual Winter Kids Day for charity.

An estimated 60 people attended the event in the central Iowa community of Huxley. In lieu of a snowmobile ride on the nearby Heart of Iowa Trail, the youngsters were treated to a police-escorted utility vehicle parade through the streets of downtown. Meanwhile, inside the city's Safe Room, games, crafts and a meal were served.

The Winter Kids Day program began in 2007. By design, the event is intended to give kids rides on snowmobiles so they can experience what ISSA members love about the winter, but when Mother Nature doesn't cooperate, organizers can easily adapt with either UTV rides more recently or even a few hay rides over the years.

"This is a fun opportunity to get together and meet with everyone," explained ISSA President Chris Willey. "One of these years, we will actually be able to do it on a snowmobile. But regardless of that, it's important for snowmobilers to see what spina bifida is like for these families and see what our donations do for them. It puts a face to the donation."

As its official charity, the ISSA has been supporting the SBAI since 1982. Money raised by Iowa snowmobile clubs over the past three decades has exceeded \$250,000, and the Spina Bifida association earmarks those funds for travel expenses, equipment purchases and educational programs aimed at assisting families living with the condition.

Making Connections

Past ISSA President Bruno Andreini serves as the ISSA's liaison on the SBAI board of directors and, with help from his home club, the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club of Region 7, has organized the event since its inception. He said it is important for snowmobilers to get to know the people they help out. Carlyn Crowe, SBAI director, agrees.

"It's great for us to be able to connect with the members of the ISSA because you have been such great supporters for us," she said. "What we hope you see by interacting with us today is how the funds are being put to use. Kids and adults both benefit from your donations."

In 2015, ISSA-member clubs donated \$10,000 to the SBAI, and last year, close to \$8,000 was raised. So far for this winter, \$6,876 was turned in at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo, with \$4,600 donated by two clubs alone. The SBAI was not able to be at the convention last fall but sent the following thank you to the ISSA.

"On behalf of the (SBAI), please know that we are continually blessed for our partnership with all of you," reads the letter penned by Crowe and Dan Biller, SBAI board chair. "Because of your help, fundraising and continued support, we have been able to support our families with more opportunities for networking, education and financial support."

While continuing to provide services for families with young



Wayne Spaulding of Webster City helps his 10-year-old sister Alaina put on her helmet before the UTV ride during the ISSA's Winter Kids Day Jan. 15 in Huxley.



Past ISSA President Merv Hoermann, a noted Green Bay Packers fan, embraces Zippy the Clown, a Dallas Cowboys fan, at the Jan. 15 Winter Kids Day in Huxley. The two NFL teams met later in the day with the Packers turning Zippy's smile upside down.



James Shoemaker of Dexter buckles in his daughter Suzanne in Steve Klinkefus' UTV. Klinkefus is a member of the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club, which helped host the ride.



Past ISSA President Dennis Nauman and his son Brent grill up hot dogs and burgers for the noon meal at Winter Kids Day.



Ten-year-old Mackenzie Krapfl entertains herself at the crafts table.

children, Crowe said her organization has shifted some of its focus to adults living with the disease. She said they are looking to connect with others who can relate to their situation and need support for things like companionship, hand controls for automobiles, educational scholarships and physical therapy not covered by insurance.

"We have been concentrating for the last few years to connect with more adults who have spina bifida," Crowe said. "We need them to know that we are ready, willing and able to help them as well. We have been working on programs to connect, support and educate the adult population. Their needs are much different from those to which we have been accustomed with younger families."

While most of the families attending the Winter Kids Day were from the SBAI, the event is also open to other special needs children. James Shoemaker of Dexter brought his 14-year-old daughter Suzanne, who suffers from cerebral palsy, to Huxley, and she was treated to a UTV ride early Sunday afternoon. Her dad said he wants to expose his daughter to as many activities as possible.

"We just crash all of their events, and they say it's no problem," Shoemaker said of hanging out with the SBAI crowd. "As a parent, I want my daughter to find what she likes and be able to do it any time she can. With cerebral palsy, her trunk control isn't great, and she doesn't have hardly any coordination, but she still gets to do anything she wants."

Social Interaction

Similarly, children with spina bifida have limited sensation in their lower body, and as a result, mobility and incontinence are major obstacles for the families to overcome. But the condition is not a death sentence. Like Shoemaker, youths with spina bifida have shown they can participate in sports, go out hunting, and yes, ride snowmobiles and UTVs.

Although snow would have been a nice way to cap off the afternoon, it wasn't the end of the world for the two organizations last month. Willey said it's more important for the families and members to interact socially.

"We need to have our presence here and show our support for these families," he said. "Snowmobilers as a whole give back to the community on many levels and in many ways. It's part of our make-up. It's important to give back."

Crowe said she appreciates that reputation and called ISSA members "rock stars in our eyes" in their letter to the convention. She said the SBAI used to be known nationally as "the little chapter that could." Now, that no longer applies, thanks to the generosity of Iowa snowmobilers.

"We have been working to create awareness of spina bifida in the state of Iowa and grow our membership to help more families supporting a member with this disability," the SBAI letter reads. "Due in large part to your support, we have grown from a small organization to one of the most successful and sustainable chapters of the Spina Bifida Association in the country."

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-ers, Inc.	\$200
Snow Pioneers.....	\$100
Iowa River Riders.....	\$100



Cresco's SnowFest Provides Winter's First Chance to Roll Out ISSA's 'Snowmobile Iowa' Promotion

Participants in the Sunday Family Ride during Cresco's SnowFest weekend head toward Chester after fueling at Lime Springs Jan. 29.

Staying Close to Home to Ride

by Cameron Hanson

Area hotels were booked solid, sleds stacked up at the gas pumps and snowmobile trailers lined the Howard County Fairgrounds as snowmobilers converged on Cresco the last weekend in January for the Driftrunners' 46th Annual SnowFest.

Riders from as far north as Minneapolis and as far south as Mount Pleasant participated in the four-day weekend, and a timely snowstorm during the week leading up to the event provided excellent riding conditions on the club's 220-mile trail system.

"We've been doing SnowFest for nearly 50 years now, and events like this bring a lot of business to the area," reported Driftrunners President Jeff Zak. "It always nice to get snowmobilers together in Iowa for organized rides. You can bring a lot of attention and recognition to what your club is doing."

The weekend also launched the ISSA's 'Snowmobile Iowa' promotion, a spin-off of the Snowmobile Iowa club displays at convention. Spearheaded by Past ISSA President Bruno Andreini, the program is designed to provide an opportunity for Iowans to explore different areas of the state by sled.

"The idea here is to educate Iowa riders about existing trails in Iowa for those who are not acquainted with what we have to offer here in our state," Andreini said. "By doing this, we have an opportunity to keep more of our tourism dollars in Iowa, thus benefiting many of our smaller communities."

Seven ISSA-member clubs signed up to host a ride on each Saturday of January and February at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo. Poor snow conditions cancelled the first two events near Ankeny and Solon, but conditions were ideal for the third attempt at Cresco.

Won't Get Bored in Iowa

On Saturday afternoon of SnowFest, a handful of riders were led by club member Cody Bergen through the rolling hills, open fields and wooded bluff country of northeast Iowa. ISSA Region 10 Director Aaron Dorothy caught up with the group near the Minnesota border at Florenceville.

Dorothy maintains the Snowmobile Iowa Facebook page and was among 18 riders from the Southeast Iowa Ridge-Blasters in

Region 10 who traveled just three short hours from home to take advantage of the Driftrunners ample trails and snowcover.

"I think this is a great program," Dorothy said. "I wish more people could partake in it, and I wish there was more snow elsewhere in the state to do this. The idea is to get around and see other clubs. I enjoy riding other club trails, meeting new people and getting to know the different clubs. It's a neat experience."

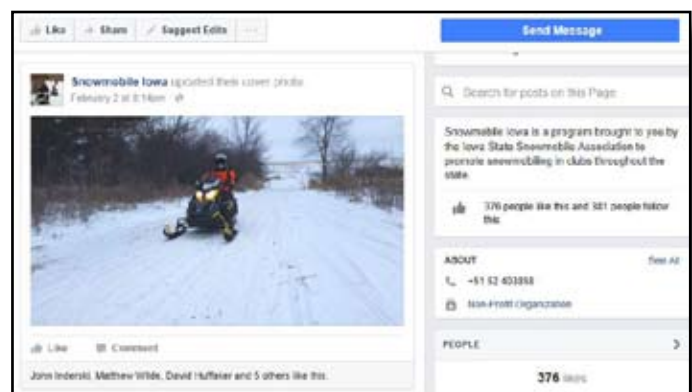
Dorothy is also president of the Ridge-Blasters, and their club was scheduled to host a Snowmobile Iowa event Feb. 4, but the absence of snow thwarted those efforts. Instead, club members were going to use the time set aside for that weekend to make trail improvements.

"Is there snow anywhere south of I-80? It cannot NOT snow down here two years in a row? It's just been a terrible year for us," he lamented.

Why Travel Far?

The lack of snow in his home area highlights the need to find opportunities to ride as close to home as possible. Normally, his group would travel seven to 10 hours north to find snow and areas to ride. Now, their sights are set on areas within their home state.

"Why drive seven hours and pay for an out-of-state trail pass



Stay up-to-date with the Snowmobile Iowa Facebook page.



Riders perform a map check at a trail intersection north and east of Cresco Jan. 29.

when you can ride a different trail system in Iowa every weekend and not get bored,” Dorothy said.

“With this promotion, we should be traveling shorter distances to our rider destinations, which should translate into more miles of riding snowmobiles each season because of the time element gained by not traveling to other states,” Andreini noted.

The next opportunity to participate in a Snowmobile Iowa event is Feb. 11 at Clarksville. The ride begins at 10 a.m. and will follow the Shell Rock River bottom from Clarksville to Rockford in Region 4. The event is co-hosted by the Butler County Snow Snoops and the Floyd County Groomers.

Andreini said he was thrilled when different clubs around the state volunteered to host an event. Although three of the first four rides had to be cancelled due to poor snowcover, he hopes to finish the second month strong.

“We keep thinking that we have to go to Minnesota, Wisconsin or wherever to ride,” he said. “We need to change that. We want to keep this event going on the weekends within a reasonable travel distance of home and being able to go back to work Monday

morning.”

Event details are posted on the Snowmobile Iowa Facebook page, and after Clarksville, the rides move to Tama Feb. 18 and Maynard Feb. 25. The last two events are hosted by the Central Iowa Snowmobilers and the Trail Blaz-zers Inc., respectively.

Getting the Word Out

Social media has been a great tool to promote the rides and “to help get the word out,” Dorothy said. Matt Miner, a Driftrunners club member and Region 5 director for the ISSA, said the positive feedback on Facebook following SnowFest weekend was simply overwhelming.

“This new program has some merit,” he said. “We like showing what our trails are like. We had Facebook comments with people saying they love our trails, and that’s what the program is intended to promote. Why drive 10 hours to ride when you can drive two hours and get the same conditions as Wisconsin.”

“If you can get more people out riding and seeing what it takes to keep the trails in the shape they are, you get more people to spend their money locally and help support organized snowmobiling here,” Zak added.

Snowmobile Iowa Schedule

Date	Host	Location
Jan. 14	Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club	Ankeny
Jan. 21	Iowa Snowdrifters	Solon
Jan. 28	Cresco Driftrunners	Cresco
Feb. 4	Southeast Iowa Ridge-Blasters	Mount Pleasant
Feb. 11	Floyd County Groomers	Clarksville
	Butler County Snow Snoops	
Feb. 18	Central Iowa Snowmobilers	Tama
Feb. 25	Trail Blaz-zers, Inc.	Maynard



Driftrunners members Wayne and Darla Vokaty negotiate a creek crossing near the Kendallville/Florenceville intersection northeast of Cresco Jan. 29.

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Educating the Future of Snowmobiling in Iowa

by Cameron Hanson

The ISSA Education and Scholarship Foundation (ISSAESF) awarded three \$1,000 scholarships to qualifying students of ISSA families in 2016, bringing the total number of students aided to 43 over the past 18 years.

The ISSA's scholarship program was created with the seed money left over from the ISSA's hosting of the International Snowmobile Congress in Cedar Rapids in 1995. The amount awarded each year is determined by the proceeds of its investments as well as the success of its fundraising efforts.

The first scholarship was awarded in 1998. Recipients have been as few as one and awards as little as \$200. Since 2007, the foundation has attempted to maintain scholarship levels at \$1,000 per student.

Recipients for 2016 included Kelsey Delperdang of the Dickinson County SnowHawks of Region 1, Tori Henninges of the Trail Blaz-ers, Inc., of Region 5, and River Kelly of Lake Park in Region 1.

The deadline for applying each year is April 15, and application materials can be found on the ISSA's website at www.iowasnowmobiler.com/issa/scholarship. The top applicant is then forwarded on to the international C.J. Ramstad Memorial Scholarship competition.

To qualify, the student or his/her family must be in good standing with the ISSA. The scholarship is based in part on need, and since 2012, each applicant is expected to acquire an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) rating number from the Iowa College Access Network at www.icansucceed.org.

To get this number, the student will be required to fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. After filling out the FAFSA, the applicant will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) and be issued the required EFC number.

"This number is now required to be attached to the scholarship foundation application, replacing the requirement to furnish their parents' 1040 tax form with their application in the past," Andreini explained.

According to Andreini, many of the foundation's guidelines also follow those established by the International Snowmobile Media Council (ISMC) for its Ramstad scholarship, including judging applications for neatness, completeness, accurate spelling, correct grammar and school and community involvement.

"Keep all of this in mind when filling out your application;



Gayla Place, right, of the Dickinson County SnowHawks won the Sally Carmichael quilt raffle at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo last November. The annual fundraiser brought in more than \$400 for the ISSA's scholarship program.

every required detail is important," Andreini said. "Take your time and follow the instructions as closely as possible; it will pay good dividends if you do. Carefully read the instructions listed on the application information. They are very important items of instruction to follow for the Iowa program as well as for the international snowmobile scholarship."

The number of applications the ISMC receives in a yearly cycle is quite similar to what is received by ISSAESF, making the odds of our qualifying students receiving another \$1,000 scholarship "very good," Andreini said.

Student applicants are also asked to write an essay on 'What Snowmobiling Means to Me.' Last year's submissions appear on pages 14 and 15 of this month's issue.

Entries are judged anonymously, and all decisions of the scholarship committee are final.

turn to page 15

Past ISSAESF Scholarship Recipients

1998
Denise Blocker
1999
Jeremy Miller
2000
Jill Kutzbach
2001
Shellie Hudecek
2002
Ben Diekhuis
Lacey Felkey

2003
Adam Belitz
Randy Swetka
2004
Carrie Gunderson
2005
Amy Strothman
Lance Speed
Jessica Jungers
2006
Brooke Jensen

2007
Alexandrea Ackerman
Kaitlyn Vorwald
Kayla Miller
2008
Tricia Gunderson
Michael Scott
Brittany Weaver
2009
Ashley Wiuff
Russell Benson

Jordan Kintzle
2010
Nicole Schotanus
Nathan Nall
Kara Marie Netsch
2011
Kelli Ann Gerdes
Joran Durby
Holly Jo Heims
2012
Austin Bonnstetter

Brianne Sharff
Jordan Nall
2013
Makaya Henniges
Lori Roseland
Travor Rohach
Hunter Carmichael
Taryn Kline
2014
Hunter Thome
Kara Denner

Ty Lauritsen
2015
Samuel Nissly
Emily Bonnstetter
Ashley Heims
Allison Heims
2016
River Kelly
Kelsey Delperdang
Tori Henninges

What Snowmobiling Means to Me



Scholarship Foundation Board member Dennis Nauman presents River Kelly with his scholarship at the 2016 ISSA Campout near Fredericksburg.

Please note these essays were submitted while the recipients were seniors in high school last year.

by River Kelly

Lake Park

Snowmobiling means many different things to me. It means a day full of adventures. Whether they be good or bad, there are many things that happen in one afternoon of snowmobiling. It means that you have the freedom of going where some men haven't been yet. Feeling your body become one with the machine and know how it functions and responds when you turn or lean a certain way. Knowing the ins and outs of your sled is of utmost importance. You can save yourself a lot of time and money if you catch a problem early by just hearing it, instead of waiting for a clutch to go out.

It also means that there will be complications. One day we had a sled blow a belt and another one leak antifreeze and overheat. You've got to be patient with the machine. Riding sleds also means that you have to take almost as long tinkering and fixing things as you do riding. General maintenance can sometimes be as fun as riding the sled. Especially in the summer when you're building anticipation to ride the next winter.

Another complication is getting stuck. Someone who says that they haven't been stuck either is lying or doesn't ride hard enough. Over half my snowmobiling stories are about getting stuck. It's way better when you get stuck when in a group. Then you get to make fun of yourself and others, but also have someone to help pull yourself out.

Exploring is another thing about snowmobiling that is amazing. Seeing new places is breath-taking. I hope to take another trip to the Big Horns or maybe the Black Hills next winter. I went when I was younger but wasn't old enough to have my own sled. I can't wait to get into deep powder and learn how to do some of the things that pros do in videos. Boondocking, sidehilling, carving, etc., are just a few things that I want to learn.

Without snowmobiling, my winter would be very dull, and I wouldn't have as many stories to tell. I've learned so many things

about taking care of my machine and have seen so many different places that I normally would not have seen. Places that you just drive by normally, you get to see up close and see it from a different perspective. Snowmobiling means many different things to me, but I know that I have only discovered a fraction of the things that I will do. And I cannot wait to discover them.

by Kelsey Delperdang

Dickinson County SnowHawks, Region 1

Snowmobiling is a hobby that is very popular in the Lakes area. I have been snowmobiling ever since I was little. I use to have a Kitty Kat for a snowmobile. The past years we haven't had a lot of snow to snowmobile a ton. When I was younger and wasn't as busy, I would always volunteer my time on Winter Games weekend to help concession stands for the snowmobiling races.

I have been on one snowmobile trip in my life. I went to the Black Hills my sophomore year of high school. We went with a big group of about six families. We would snowmobile all day and night. We would go on trails and ride up and down the hills. It was so nice out there because there was no Wi-Fi and a lot of cell service so it was nice just getting away in nature. I love snowmobiling because it is a great chance to get out in nature and not have to worry about anything. When riding, you are alone and you can just think and ride. We always ride with groups and normally go and ride somewhere to eat. We normally don't ride that far as a family just because we never have time to take a full day to ride a long ways.

Our county has a very strong snowmobile club. The trails are always groomed. My dad goes to the Iowa State Snowmobile Convention every year. Last year, it was held in Storm Lake, and my family received the Snowmobile Family of the Year Award. That award was important to my father because he volunteers so much of his time to make sure we have a very good snowmobile program.

I try to help my dad out as much as I can because I know it will make him happy. I work two jobs and play sports, but any time I can on the weekends, I help him. I have also helped him with the



Scholarship Foundation Board members Dennis Nauman and Bruno Andreini present Kelsey Delperdang with her scholarship at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo.

youth snowmobile safety class.

I am going off to college next year, and it's going to be sad that I can't snowmobile whenever I want. When I come home for Christmas break, hopefully there is snow so I am able to do so. Snowmobiling is a great hobby, and I feel bad for those that aren't able to enjoy such beautiful activity. It is so neat to be riding on the trails or lake just looking at the scenery and all the pretty white snow. It's always sad when the snow melts, but it also makes me happy for summer. Snowmobiling is one of my favorite hobbies, and I get to enjoy doing it with my family.

by **Tori Henniges**

Trail Blaz-zers, Inc., Region 5

Snowmobiling means many things to me. To me, snowmobiling means being able to spend time with my family and my snowmobiling friends. When I was younger, my family and I went snowmobiling many winter days. Sometimes we would just ride around the house and other times we would go on the trails around Sumner. I was very fortunate to start snowmobiling at a very young age. My parents gave me rides around the house, and I rode a mini snowmobile when I was old enough. Even after my mom was in her car accident we still tried to go. That was very special to me that she continued to try to do something my family loved doing.

Being in high school and being involved in many activities it is hard to find time to ride snowmobile. Every winter, my family still tries to go together. We like to ride around town on snow days. We also try to make a trip to Wisconsin to go snowmobiling over Christmas break. Our family friends go with us to Wisconsin sometimes which I enjoy. I love spending time with family and friends.

To me, snowmobiling also means being safe while still having fun. I believe everyone needs proper equipment before riding. Without this equipment, someone can be seriously injured. I also believe the trails need to be safe for the riders. Before I became extremely busy, I helped my father and his snowmobile group clean the trails. We also marked the trails on where to go and where not to go. I think this provides a lot of safety for the riders. Making sure everyone is being safe is part of snowmobiling to me.

Also to me snowmobiling is about having fun. I enjoy riding a



Scholarship Foundation Board member Bruno Andreini presents Tori Henniges with her scholarship at a Trail Blaz-zers, Inc., club meeting.

lot, and I think it is fun. Just riding around in the field behind my house with my friends is a blast. Having a birthday in December always meant having a birthday party and playing in the snow. My birthday parties usually consisted of riding snowmobile around my house. Also, when I was younger, my dad would take me and my siblings to the fun day. Many other families came to this as well. We all rode snowmobile together, went sledding, and also ate some food together.

Snowmobiling is a great privilege to have, and I believe it is a great way to have fun. Overall, to me snowmobiling means many different things. I think it means spending time with family and friends. It also means being safe which is good. I believe the best meaning of snowmobiling is having fun. These things are just a few meanings of what snowmobiling is to me.

from page 13 Scholarship funds will be awarded when the school of choice confirms enrollment.

Andreini thanked everyone for their support of the program over the past 18 years. Since the scholarship program's inception, Iowa snowmobilers have contributed generously to the foundation. Through various fundraisers, including Sally Carmichael's quilt raffles and the foundation's Camso track raffle at convention, individuals have donated more than \$35,000 to the program.

"That is what it takes to make this program go," Andreini said. "We need to have that cooperation so please continue to support us, and we will continue to hand out scholarships. This is so important to support our kids with the cost of tuition going so high. Winning a scholarship makes a big difference to a lot of people."

If a student, club or parent has any questions on the Iowa scholarship program, they can contact Andreini by email at awbrunoa3@gmail.com or by phone at (515) 240-3858.



The Camso snowmobile track raffle brought in \$790 for the ISSA's scholarship program at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo last November. Pictured above with track winner Gary McVicker, center, are, from left, the following members of the ISSA Education and Scholarship Foundation Board: Steve Vorwald, Dennis Nauman and Bruno Andreini. Past ISSA President Jim Willey, second from right, is representing Camso, formerly known as Camoplast.



ISSA CLUBS

Clubs in red reported
100% ISSA Membership

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@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@goldfielddaccess.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

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

Region 2

Emmet County Driftbusters

By Nick Hanson

Have trailer, willing to travel! The snow has been sparse in Emmet County thus far; there have been a couple of opportunities to ride in marginal conditions. We are certainly hoping that February and March brings the chance to create some memories in the ditches this year. While this winter has been a test to the patience, if we allow it to, there can be opportunities. There is usually snow somewhere, and we can and should take family and friends to see new areas of the country.

Over the holiday break, the club hosted our Annual Membership Drive at J&K Snowmobile in Estherville. There were many new faces this year that came to enjoy fellowship, swap stories and kick the tracks on the new sleds. We had a great meal that was provided by Top Hat Catering again this year. Desserts were provided by several club members, and I have to admit they were excellent. A short meeting followed and topics of discussion were the groomer and the youth safety course. Much work has been done on the groomer to prepare it for this year. An engine swap was necessary as well as new exhaust and track repair. A big thanks goes out to Mike Blomstrum, Roger Lowe, Boyd Quastad, Greg Quastad, Kenny Hanson, Cory Hanson and many others for donating a tremendous amount of time and energy to get the old girl ready for the snow that we hope falls soon!!!

We held a Youth Safety Course early in January. Several youth joined us to earn their snowmobile safety certificate. It is great to see the passion that the youth of the area hold for the sport. The future is bright for snowmobiling!

Stay safe and bring on the snow!!!

Club News

Region 3

Worth County Fence Stretchers

by Nicole Knudson, Secretary

We have been fortunate to see some snow up here in northern Iowa and are excited to say that grooming is taking place. We are hoping that Mother Nature cooperates and doesn't dump more rain and ice on us and continues with more snow. Fingers crossed. Our club is looking forward to our annual club trip to Pat's Landing in Hayward, Wis. We also have a local club ride planned and look to reschedule our family sledding day.

We are excited about our club's new groomer drag that arrived yesterday! We thank the WCDA here in Worth County for making this possible from a grant we received earlier this year. We are eager to put this to use and, of course, pray that more snow is in the forecast.

Until next time, stay warm and enjoy this Iowa winter!

2017 ISSA Club Challenge

Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....	\$500
North Iowa Sno-Jammers.....	\$500
Snowdrifters.....	\$500
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club.....	\$250
Tri-County Snowmobile Association.....	\$376
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$350
Snow Pioneers.....	\$350
Floyd County Groomers.....	\$300
Sac County Sno-Lovers.....	\$300
Bremer County Sno-Knights.....	\$250
Humboldt Sno-Skimmers.....	\$250
Howard County Stumpjumpers.....	\$250
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks.....	\$250
Chickasaw Sno-Riders.....	\$250
Lyon County Sno-Lyons.....	\$200
Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders.....	\$200
Iowa River Riders.....	\$100
Trails Unlimited.....	\$100

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.

Region 5

Cresco Driftrunners

by Bob Martinek, Treasurer

Hello from Cresco. I am sure most people have heard the phrase "Rain on my Parade". Little did we know Mother Nature was going to apply it to us in January! Anyhow, plans are set for our Charlie's Chili Feed on Feb. 11 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (or when food is gone). Snow conditions permitting it will be held on the trail to Cresco just south of Granger. If Mother Nature does not cooperate, then we will move everything to Jo's Longbranch in Granger. Check our Facebook page for updates a day or two beforehand. Either way, we have pots of chili, brats, hot dogs and beverages available for a freewill donation. Of course, there is always plenty of "snowmobile wisdom" available free of charge if you are interested.

Other than Charlie's, we have our annual Landowners Appreciation dinner coming up in late March or early April. No details have been finalized yet. If you see one of our landowners, take the time to say "Thank You"; maybe even buy them a drink because without them we would not have our trail system. Trails on private land are a privilege not to be taken lightly! Until next month, thanks and see you on the trails.

Allamakee Sno-Blazers

by Amy Howard

Hello everyone. Here it is almost February, and we have had more rain than snow in the past month or so, which in turn we have had our trails closed from around Christmas to the middle of January. The groomer went out and groomed some trails around Jan. 13, and we decided to open the trails up for that weekend. Then the nasty freezing rain came back, which is no fun at all and not good for our trails. Hopefully we get some good snowfall in February and March so we can get on the trails a few times yet before the season is over.

As Brandon mentioned in last month's issue, we have our annual fundraiser coming up on Feb. 11. Everyone has been busy taking care of business, getting donations from the local communities for our silent auction, raffle and door prizes lined up. Making sure all the last details for the Radar Run are done. Don't forget there is a dance afterwards for all to enjoy at Green Valley Getaway in Waukon.

At our last meeting, Region Five Director Matt Miner came and shared some news with us that the Allamakee Sno-blazers had the highest paid club memberships in the state. That was good to hear.

Hope to see a lot of people at our fundraiser. Till then, remember if out riding, stay on the marked trails and be courteous of the landowners. Without them, we wouldn't have any trails to ride on.

Trails Unlimited

by Bud Winter

At the time of this writing, I'm listening to it rain. Oh what a year it could have been. Another one of those frustrating years where we have had a lot of moisture, but it just hasn't been cold enough to be as we'd like it to be.

Our trails were in good shape for about a week, and many sleds were able to take advantage of riding that week. We almost made one complete round with the groomer and then the timing was right that we were at a good parking spot, warm weather was in the forecast and many broken cleats needed repair. The repairs are done, and we're ready to go for whenever we get a blast of snow again.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

- Snowmobile Iowa ride Feb. 11 co-hosted by the Floyd County Groomers and Butler County Snow Snoops.
- Allamakee Sno-Blazers annual fundraiser Saturday, Feb. 11, at Green Valley Getaway, Waukon.
- Driftrunners Charlie's Chili Feed Feb. 11 on the trail near Florenceville.
- Snowmobile Iowa ride Feb. 18 hosted by Central Iowa Snowmobilers. Trailhead at Meskwaki

March

- Theisen's Snocross National, Sundown Resort, Dubuque, March 3-4.
- ISSA Board of Directors meeting TBD.

ISSA CLUBS

Clubs in red reported
100% ISSA Membership

Lakota Sno-Eagles

President: Jordan Valvick
4410 Highway 169, Lakota, IA 50451
(515) 538-0290, jordanvalvick@gmail.com

North Iowa Sno-Jammers

P.O. Box 103, Lake Mills, IA 50450
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
(319) 352-5576, (319) 240-5756
koehler805@gmail.com

Butler County Snow Snoops

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

Cedar Falls Sno Hawks

President: Scott Nauman
402 Fifth St., Rudd, IA 50471
(641) 425-9898
sdnauman04@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: 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
booksrusbookkeeping@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, tnspsalla@hotmail.com

Clayton County Snowbirds

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





ISSA CLUBS

Clubs in red reported
100% ISSA Membership

Driftrunners, Inc.

Join Us on Facebook under 'Groups'
President: Jeff Zak
607 2nd Ave W, Cresco, IA 52136
563-271-2154,
driftrunnerssnowmobileclub@gmail.com

Dyersville Driftskippers

www.dyersvilledriftskippers.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-ers 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.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: 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, mjpatt76@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

2017 ACSA Legal Defense Challenge

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

*Proceeds benefit snowmobile access nationwide.
Contact your Region Director to make a donation.*

About 20 different members of our club that I know of have either gone on a trip north or west or have one coming up. Hopefully, it doesn't get too warm up north and wreck what they've got for snow.

Once again, a lot of money is being spent out of state which stinks. Money—the root of all evils, right? As many articles have been written, as everyone witnessed at the state convention and as we will all monitor closely, the money our program gets is very important to our continued success. Duh, right? We all know a bad year via Mother Nature makes it tough to keep everyone working towards a great snowmobile program in Iowa, but the positive side is that a year with little snow will put our bankroll in the black just like Randy and the DNR have said it needs to be.

The old saying “put your money where your mouth is” may not be hard to follow next year as the program should have adequate funds to satisfy the DNR. I believe the current ISSA board will hold them accountable for showing all of us where every penny has gone and where it will be going moving forward. So, although it is sad to not have any snow, I have faith in the positives it will help bring our program.

Region 9

Snowdrifters, Inc.

by Ron Roe

Hello everyone, here it is the second half of January and it doesn't look very good for a lot of snowmobiling. I did get to the U.P. and rode some before it started to warm up. At that time they had plenty of nice snow and the trails were very good.

We talked with a local man from Houghton, and he said they have had 38 days straight with measurable snow. He said they have between four and five foot of snow on the ground. He was telling us that he owns an old barn on 20 acres of land. He converted it into a place for groups to stay in. In the center, he built a kitchen and a fireplace and has rooms along the outer walls. Sounded like a great place, but he didn't offer much about where it is other than eight miles from Houghton. I thought he might have offered me a business card or try to get me to stay there, but I think he was after larger groups.

We had a nice meeting a week ago, but not a lot of new business to discuss. Most people were talking about heading north to ride.

Other than this, the most to do is be depressed with 30-40 degrees in January. What do you do with that weather? The bright side is it helps on the utility bills and saves on cleaning snow. Positive thought is we could still get blasted with a blizzard or two and see heavy snow for two months. Don't get your hopes up, but nice thought. Oh well.

Will have more next month. Enjoy the snow where ever you can find it.

2017 ISSA Magazine Makers

Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders.....	\$300
Iowa River Riders.....	\$152
Tri-County Snowmobile Association.....	\$151
Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....	\$100
Floyd County Groomers.....	\$100
Sac County Sno-Lovers.....	\$100

Help 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.



ISSA officials visited a Team Iowa Snowmobilers club meeting Jan. 11 in Region 7.

from page 8

be dispersed to local snowmobile clubs for the upcoming season. Usually within a month, a spreadsheet is sent out to clubs, itemizing what each one was awarded for the winter.

The ISSA would now like to see a similar breakdown on how the state side of the registration dollars are being spent. This ongoing request is now in its fourth year, and by including it in its legislative package, EFC members hope to gain some traction with it. Jim Willey has been championing this effort and met with IDNR officials in Des Moines Jan. 24 to hopefully get some more answers.

"As you know, we have been trying to get accurate numbers on the state side of the program, and we're getting close, but we still don't know how all of the funds have been spent over the past several years," he said. "We want the DNR to give us full disclosure. We know where the club dollars go, but we don't know how they spend the state-side dollars.

"I am not an accountant, and this is not an audit," Willey continued. "We want to know what they are spending on law enforcement, equipment, etc. and then have some say on how they spend it. We're not trying to do anything that they don't know about. We are proposing what we feel is the right thing to do for the program."

"We have in our legislative package that they have to provide documentation on where the money is going," Past ISSA President and EFC member Terry Durby said.

A week after Willey's visit with the IDNR, members of the EFC were back in Des Moines for the Travel Federation of Iowa's Legislative Showcase at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. In addition to Durby and

both Willeys, Past ISSA Presidents Gary McVicker and Merv Hoermann were also on hand to drum up support for the ISSA's plans.

"We had a very productive evening I felt with our legislators," McVicker reported.

So far, committee members said feedback has been fairly supportive toward the proposed changes. Chris Willey said ISSA Lobbyists Mike Heller and Paula Feltner have been pitching it around the Capitol and "are really positive about all of this."

On Jan. 11, Durby and ISSA Region 7 Director John Kahler attended a Team Iowa Snowmobilers club meeting to discuss the ISSA's legislative priorities. According to Durby, "there was a large turnout of enthusiastic snowmobilers, and our legislative package was met with great support."

The only pushback so far has been coming from southern and western Iowa regarding the merger of the trail pass and user permit. Snowmobilers located in those areas typically own mountain sleds and said they do not ride their machines in Iowa. They therefore feel they should not have to pay for the extra \$15 if the registration and trail pass fees are rolled into one \$30 decal.

Chris Willey has been fielding those concerns directly and is open to discuss the ISSA's proposals with any concerned stakeholder in the state. He can be reached by cell phone at (563) 020-9010 or by email at kioti79@gmail.com.

"If clubs have questions or concerns, they can reach out to us," he said.

"If you snowmobile and if you live in Iowa, then you need to support snowmobiling in Iowa, regardless of where you ride," Kahler said.

ISSA CLUBS

Clubs in red reported
100% ISSA Membership



(641) 750-1281, mattsmckibben@gmail.com

Jasper County Ditch Bangers

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, jhard88@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.

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(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





ISSA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

REGION 1

Glen's Sport Center, Inc.

Yamaha/Ski-doo snowmobiles
Polaris ORVs
208 16th St., Sheldon, IA 51201
glens1@qwestoffice.net

North Lake Truck Repair

Aluma trailer dealer
1420 North Lake Ave.
Storm Lake, IA 50588
(712) 732-1500
nltruckrepair.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

Advanced Crop Management

P.O. Box 533, Algona, IA 50511
(515) 341-9315
brycem@netamumail.com

Algona Machine & Supply

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

Becker Bros. Trucking

1403 280th St, Burt, IA 50522
(515) 341-0485

Brian's Construction

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

Champion Chrysler Center

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

Cruise Farms

2007 240th Ave., Wesley, IA 50483
(515) 200-9155, bcruise@excite.com

The Flipside Pizza & Pub

11 Dewitt St., LuVerne, IA 50560

J & K Snowmobile

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

JDR Seed LLC

2109 190th St., Wesley, IA 50483
(515) 341-3452, jdrseed@ncn.net

Jeremy Walker Snow Removal

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

Jud's Bar & Grill

208 Centre St., Knierim, IA 50552
(515) 463-2345

Klocko Construction

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

Lynch's Mainstreet Bar & Grill

336 Main St., Rockwell City, IA 50579

Motor Inn of Algona

1107 N Main St., Algona, IA 50511
(515) 295-2497
motorinnautogroup.com

Nalltronics

2204 150th St., Corwith IA 50430
(515) 368-0715

Ramthun Trucking, Inc

2257 Traer Ave., Manson, IA 50563
(515) 480-3970
ramthun96@gmail.com

Rasmuson Electric

2781 Valley Ave.
Rockwell City, IA 50579
(515) 467-5748

Rock-N-J Café & Catering

2602 240th Ave, Wesley, IA 50483
(515) 320-4096; gjranch@hotmail.com
Sedlacek Snowmobile Salvage
135 Lake St., Rockwell City, IA 50579
(712) 210-0718
Find us on Facebook!

Sentral Insurance Service

P.O. Box 9, Fenton, IA 50539
(515) 889-2292

Shore Side Pub&Grub

1029 Main St., Manson, IA 50563
(712) 469-0017
shoresidemason@gmail.com
Open 7 days a week

REGION 3

Amsoil Regency Direct

Heath Palmer
220 Jamestown Rd.
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 420-6677
www.thesuperiorsynthetic.com
thesuperiorsynthetic@hotmail.com

Auto Parts Wholesale

621 4th St SE, Hampton, IA 50441
(641) 456-2594
apwhampton@yahoo.com

Boone's Removal

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(641) 430-9705

Brakke Implement

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Buffalo Lanes, LLC

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223 N Main St., Clarion, IA 50525
(515) 293-1569
nelsoncurt@yahoo.com

Chappy's on Main

122 S Main St, Clarion, IA 50525
(515) 532-2727
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The Corner Restaurant & Lounge

207 East Main, Belmond, IA 50421
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ericlambzz@gmail.com

County Line Seeds, LLC

129 Industrial Dr., Forest City, IA 50436

Dave's Auto Service

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

Deb's Wild Horse Saloon

1932 Nettle Ave., Hampton, IA 50441
(641) 892-4922
DebLaRue@rocketmail.com

DK Arndt, PC

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dkafc@dkarndtcpa.net
www.dkarndtcpa.net

Donna's Lounge

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

Don's Motor Mart

401 W Main St., Lake Mills, IA 50450
(641) 592-9966
www.facebook.com/donsmotormart

Dudley's Corner

648 Highway 3, Latimer, IA 50452
(641) 866-6999

E & E Repair

1410 Olive Ave., Hampton IA 50441
(641) 425-4553

Fleener Auto Parts & Service

11475 Hwy 9, Thompson, IA 50478
(641) 584-2100

Forest City Ford, Inc.

P.O. Box 448, Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 585-5555

Friesenborg & Larson Custom Spraying

45884 70th Ave.
Buffalo Center, IA 50425
(641) 584-2258, joe@fandlirc.com

The Garage Tavern

103 Main St, Coulter, IA 50431
(641) 430-6855
step@mulfordconcrete.com

Goody's Welding & Metal Art

304 S. 4th Ave E., Lake Mills, IA 50450
(641) 909-4660
agundmonson@hotmail.com

Gorder's Service

201 Main St S, PO Box 95
Bradford, IA 50041
(641) 648-6071; 641-425-0935
brucegorder@gmail.com

Gun Bank

155 Jackson St., Thompson, IA 50478
(641) 584-2907
gm Larson@wctatel.net

H & S Auto Parts, Inc.

301 1st Ave., Buffalo Center, IA 50424
(641) 562-2515

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(641) 585-2405, sbenson@wctatel.net

Hansell Ag Repair Inc.

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820 4th St NE, Hampton, IA 50441
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Holland Contracting

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(641) 585-2231
www.hollandcontracting.com

Hometown Market

11717 Hwy 9, Thompson, IA 50478
(641) 584-2300

House of Sports

3431 4th St SW, Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 424-2861, (641) 430-2315
JAHHelgren@gmail.com

Howie Equipment and Tire

Trailer & Tire Sales
1273 Mallard Ave, Hampton, IA 50441
(641) 456-5651
howieequipment@yahoo.com

Iowa Central Electric

1221 Water St., Alden, IA 50126
(515) 859-7072, (641) 373-1186
jerry@icecontracting.com

J-T Machine & Tool Co.

602 S Federal St/PO Box 304
Hampton, IA 50441, (641) 456-4513
jeff@jtmachineandtool.com

Keel Farms

1515 335th St., Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 430-3823

Kirschbaum Heating & Cooling

609 S. Winnebago
Lake Mills, IA 50450, (641) 592-8831

Lake Mills Motor Sports

Polaris
45563 C Hwy 69, Lake Mills, IA 50450
(641) 592-2145
www.lakemillsmotorsports.com

Latimer Community Grocery

510 N Akir St, Latimer, IA 50452
(641) 580-0454
london111@hotmail.com

Main, Inc.

6401 Hwy 9, Buffalo Center, IA 50424
(515) 538-0337

Manufacturer's Bank & Trust

245 E J St., Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 585-2825, mbtbank.com

Mason City Powersports

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

Maxyield Cooperative

Britt, IA 50423
(641) 843-3878

Muhlenbruch Insurance

PO Box 426, Dows, IA 50071
(515) 852-4156
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Mulford Concrete Inc.

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Murra Hardware

204 N Main St.
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No Where Bar & Grill LLC

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North Central Building Supply

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Northside One Stop

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(641) 456-4157

jizzyrpms@yahoo.com

Pakoda's Steakhouse

719 Central Ave W, Hampton, IA 50441
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Pralle's Wash City

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dyanne@iowaconnect.com



Priebe Seed Sales

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Ida Grove, IA 51445, (712) 364-3500

Hemers Plumbing

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SCHEDULE

FRIDAY NIGHT

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

Cruise Around the Lake

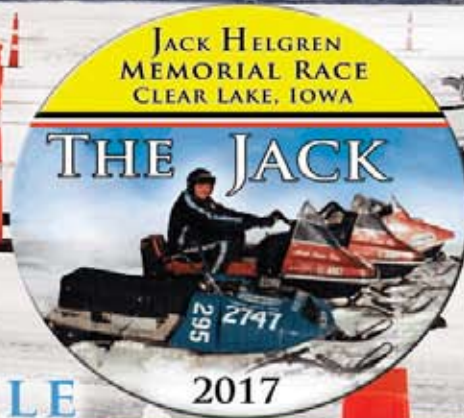
SATURDAY

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

Clear Lake State Park,
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SATURDAY NIGHT

7 p.m. Awards
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