

IOWA SNOWMOBILER

January 2015 • Volume 36 • Issue 5

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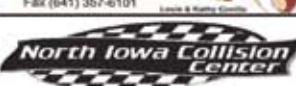
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IOWA SNOWMOBILER

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Everything You Need to Know

Fowler details snowmobile trail grant
application and review process



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Carmichael Memorial Ride Planned

Club members looking to raise money
for ALS during Feb. 26-28 event



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Late Rinehart Honored at State Convention

Former Region 12 Director receives Lifetime
Achievement, Snowmobile of the Year awards



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ISSA Hands Out the Hardware

Association recognizes member efforts
through end-of-year awards program



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March..... Feb. 13

COVER: Racers compete in the 2014 Jack Helgren Memorial Iowa LeMans Chamption-
ship Race in Clear Lake. See page 11 for more on this event. Photo courtesy Astoria
Photography.

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Vice President's Message

Let Me Know What's On Your Mind

I'm still getting into the swing of this new position as vice president. I will be honest: The hardest part is this column and trying to figure out what to talk about. I know some of you will find it hard to believe that I would have a hard time finding something to talk about when it comes to snowmobiling.

I have lots of things that I could talk about, but I want to know what YOU, the Iowa Snowmobiler, wants to know. I want to make sure the ISSA Board is aware of exactly who "Joe Snowmobiler" is and what they interested in when it comes to snowmobiling.

This may be trails, legislation, grooming, club activities, racing, vintage sleds, or whatever else may be of interest or concern to you. So I am asking you the Snowmobilers of Iowa to send me some ideas on what you would like to know about, and I will share information about your thoughts, ideas and concerns in the coming issues of Iowa Snowmobiler in this column or as a feature article.

It's a week until Christmas, and I'm still waiting for snow here in Manchester. Someone please wake up Old Man Winter! As I wait for snow, I am taking a look back at the past year. A lot has happened for me and my involvement in snowmobiling:

I was honored to be inducted into the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame as Groomer Operator of the Year. As a result of that honor and thanks to Arctic Cat, I have a 2015 M8000 sitting in the garage just waiting for snow.

I got to work with the awesome clubs of ISSA Region 5 to plan an outstanding Convention that was the best attended by members and guests. That same group brought back the Snow Show, and I am glad to report it is going to be established as an annual event with Andrea Willey as the committee chair.



Chris Willey

ISSA Vice President

I was asked by my peers to be the vice president of the ISSA. I will be honest I never planned to be VP. But I feel if the members of the ISSA feel I am the right guy for the job, then I am going to accept that role and do my very best to keep the association growing and helping

snowmobilers.

This past year, we had the highest number of clubs applying for grants to operate groomers and build trails that we have ever seen. With approximately 8,000 miles of trail in the state and 50+ plus groomers grooming those trails, we are on the right track to keep snowmobiling growing in the state, get new people involved in the sport and draw people to our state to ride.

Well, I guess I did find enough to talk about this month. I look forward to hearing your ideas and/or concerns. As far as the snow, everyone keep doing the Snow Dance, and I hope to see you on the trails or at a snowmobile event this winter

2015 ISSA Club Challenge

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club.....	\$500
Frozen Few.....	\$500
Floyd County Groomers	\$300
Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....	\$500
Iowa River Riders	\$400
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$351
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$350
Sac County Snow Lovers	\$301
Snow Pioneers	\$350
Bremer County Sno-Knights.....	\$250
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks	\$200
Howard County Stump Jumpers.....	\$150
Driftrunners.....	\$100
Trails Unlimited.....	\$100

Fundraising campaign renews at the annual ISSA convention.

All donations benefit the ISSA's lobbying efforts at the State Capitol in Des Moines. Send your contribution to your Region Director or ISSA Treasurer Kim Herman.

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Professional rider on a closed course. Polaris recommends that all snowmobile riders take a training course. Do not attempt maneuvers beyond your capability. Always wear a helmet and other safety apparel. Never drink and ride. ©2015 Polaris Industries Inc.



2014 ISSA Club of the Year

44th ANNUAL SNOWFEST

JAN 22-25th 2015

THURSDAY

- POKER RUN FOR SPINA BIFIDA BEGINS
- VOKATY EARLY BIRD RIDE
- EVENING TRAIL RIDE

FRIDAY

- EVENING TRAIL RIDE

FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT
"DRIFTRUNNERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB"
FOR EVENT LOCATIONS, TIMES, &
UPDATES

For more information contact Jeff Zak at
(563) 271-2154

SATURDAY

- BOY SCOUT BREAKFAST
- BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT
- LADIES TRAIL RIDE
- HOCA CANCER AWARENESS FAMILY RIDE
- TORCHLIGHT PARADE @ 6PM WITH BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS
- SNOWBALL DANCE @ 8PM WITH THE BLUE RINGERS



Sunday

- POKER RUN DRAWING & BRUNCH

Mark down February 14th for Charlie's Chili Feed starting at 11AM followed with Madd Hoss Jackson playing at 8PM at the Expo Center

**madd
hoss
jackson**

Guest Column

Everything You Need to Know About the Trail Grant Process

For the current snow season, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) partnered with 52 snowmobile clubs and the ISSA to provide for groomed and signed trails and to strengthen snowmobiling in the state. This was accomplished through grants awarded as provided by the Code of Iowa and the Iowa Administrative Code. Revenue generated for grant awards mostly comes from machine registrations and resident and nonresident user permits.

Each year, the Snowmobile Program Manager determines the amount of money available for grants, taking into consideration the other fixed costs of the program. The largest of these fixed costs are trail insurance, signs, repair, replacement and additions of grooming equipment and enforcement, which includes machines and gear. During the 2014-2015 grant period, \$263,635.00 was awarded to the clubs and ISSA. During the 2013-2014 grant period, \$217,846.00 was awarded to the clubs and ISSA.

As the grant portion of the snowmobile program continues to improve upon processes, several changes have been made. What follows here is a breakdown of the parts of the grant cycle and the most important things you need to know:

Who is Eligible?

What is Covered?

Incorporated private organizations, cities and counties are eligible to apply for snowmobile grants. Each club is responsible for maintaining an active status with the Iowa Secretary of State's Office. To verify your information, go to <http://sos.iowa.gov/search/business/search.aspx>. Enter your club's name into the search box to get cur-

rent results.

Grant applications from clubs can be used for the cost of grooming equipment, which includes maintenance, repair, operation and trail development. Those expenses can include gates, fence openings, culverts and permanent bridges.



Rhonda Fowler

IDNR
Snowmobile
Program

Eligible items for ISSA officers can include in-state travel expenses, mileage for meetings and hauling grooming equipment or the education simulator, teaching groomer education courses and promotion and education expenses related to snowmobiling in the state.

Expenses for trail signs, trail insurance and major repairs or purchases of grooming equipment are directly paid by the IDNR to the vendor.

There have been program decisions made which affect items commonly asked for by clubs. Fees for storage of grooming equipment are not currently being covered. If a club receives fuel for grooming, it is not eligible to receive fuel for mowing.

Sign posts and hardware are not being covered. Trailheads and trailhead signage are not covered at this time but a comprehensive approach to addressing this issue is being developed.

Things Which Can Negatively Impact Your Club's Award Amount

If you are asking for money for trail de-

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Director position is open. If you are interested in serving, please contact ISSA President Merv Hoermann or Region 7 Director John Kahler.

REGION ELEVEN

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REGION TWELVE

Director position is open. If you are interested in serving, please contact ISSA President Merv Hoermann.

Building a Trail Bridge?

Bridge-building projects may require permits from the IDNR (Flood Plains and Sovereign Lands) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. If the project involves construction, excavation or filling in streams, lakes, wetlands on the flood plains or on public lands/waters under the jurisdiction of the IDNR, a joint application form from Protecting Iowa Waters should be submitted to both agencies to begin the permit process. The Joint Application Form is available here: <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Portals/idnr/uploads/forms/form36.pdf>.

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velopment, in particular if you are adding miles to your trail system, you will need to provide the following: bridge permits, proof of easement agreements and the work needs to be shown on your trail map submitted with your grant application. It is preferred that this information includes GPS points, but at a minimum, it needs to be drawn on your trail map. Failure to provide this information will affect the funding decision for this item.

In general the program awards \$500 for maintenance on equipment without further documentation of need. If your club has expenses in excess of \$500, you will need to note that on your application. This can be achieved by detailing what expenses over \$500 you anticipate, be it for filters, oil, etc. The reviewers only have the information you provide to make their decisions. Make sure they understand your need.

If you want to make a purchase that is over \$500, you only need to provide one bid or quote. If you need an item purchased and it is possibly available through an already established state contract, please contact me for assistance with your documentation.

As noted earlier, many program-related items are directly paid by the IDNR to the vendor. The grant review committee still needs documentation of need and cost in order to make a determination. If a direct-pay item is awarded to your club, that amount will not be included in your cooperative agreement. It does need to be included in the total amount which is being funded as part of the review and selection process, so it needs to be included with your application.

Grant Application Deadline is May 1

The updated grant application is posted on the IDNR website at www.iowadnr.gov along with other useful information. The IDNR must be in receipt of your completed grant application by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 1. Grants received after this date will not be eligible for consideration.

The grant application has seven major parts. Your club application must include the following: club information, groomer information (if applicable), operational expenses and the minority impact statement. If your club is not applying for funds for existing trail needs and development, new trail development or a groomer request, then you do not need to include those sections.

Other items which need to be sent in with your application are copies of existing leases or easements on permanent bridges, if applicable, and a copy of your club's trail maps.

Per the equipment agreement which

each club has with the IDNR for the use of state-owned grooming equipment, the club is required to provide pictures of this equipment annually. These are collected at the same time that your club's grant application is due. The snowmobile program prefers a digital copy of those pictures so if you want to take pictures while you have the groomer out on the trails this season, please email them to me at Rhonda.Fowler@dnr.iowa.gov.

Scoring Criteria Includes Three Tiers

The IDNR Snowmobile Program will be scoring grants using a three-tier system.

Tier 1: Operations Expenses. These are amounts which are needed for repair and upkeep of the grooming equipment, fuel, maintenance, leases, etc. These items are not competitive. The goal of the program is to first allocate operations expenses before approving money for trail development.

Tier 2: Existing Trail Development Expenses. These are amounts which are needed to maintain or repair existing trail features. The goal of the program is to address existing trail needs prior to approving funds for new trail development. These items are somewhat competitive in that the more they meet the scoring criteria, the higher their priority becomes for funding.

Tier 3: New Trail Development Expenses. These are amounts which are needed to develop new trail systems or connector trails. Items in this section will be evaluated for funding after Tier 1 and Tier 2 amounts have been awarded.

Scoring criteria can be found at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/Snowmobiles/SnowmobileGrants.aspx>.

Review and Selection Meeting May 29

While grant applications are due May 1, the meeting for the ISSA/IDNR Joint Review and Selection Committee to make recommendations for funding to the IDNR Director's Office will be held on Friday, May 29, at 10 a.m. It will be held in Meeting Room A of the Urbandale Public Library. This is an open meeting and everyone is invited to attend. It is a good opportunity for clubs to see the process used to determine award amounts and to answer any questions which the committee may have.

The committee is comprised of three IDNR representatives and two ISSA representatives. For the FY 16 grant award period, committee members are David Downing, Snowmobile Program Manager; Sherry Arntzen, Executive Officer with the Parks Bureau; Tom Basten, District Supervisor with the DNR Parks Bureau; Merv Hoerrman, ISSA; and Terry Durby, ISSA.

Following this meeting, the committee

recommendation will be forwarded to the IDNR Director's Office for approval, denial or modification. Upon signature, these are the amounts which will be awarded and included in the cooperative agreement which Kathleen Moench will send to the clubs in an e-mail approximately July 1.

The primary e-mail contact provided on the application will be the one used for this correspondence. It is very important that the club let the DNR know if that person has changed between the time the application was submitted and when the cooperative agreement is sent out. Kathleen's e-mail will contain information on what the club is required to do with the cooperative agreement.

Amendments and Prepayments

If an amendment or prepayment is needed, there are processes already in place to address these needs. A prepayment should only occur if the club is asking for a substantial amount of money for a project that they cannot financially maintain with their own resources. The club should contact me

to discuss what steps need to be put into place for a prepayment to be granted.

During the course of a snow season, items may be needed by the club that they did not anticipate at the time they applied for their grant. There are two ways to address these situations. If the awarded amount is sufficient to cover the extra expense but the club needs to move some money from one category to another one, the club should contact Kathleen for authorization to do this. If the expense requires additional money to be awarded to the club, an amendment will need to be submitted to me.

This request will then be forwarded to the members of the review and selection committee for a vote and approval as is done with the original grant applications. A sample amendment request can be found at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/Snowmobiles/SnowmobileGrants.aspx>.

I hope this helps answer questions you may have had on how our program works. You can always reach me by email at Rhonda.Fowler@dnr.iowa.gov or by phone at (515) 725-8490.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

- ISSA/IDNR Groomer Operator Recertification Course Tuesday, Jan. 6, at Cresco at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Matt Miner at (563) 380-7142.
- Trails Unlimited 30th Anniversary celebration Saturday, Jan. 10, at the Waucoma Events Center.
- ISSA Board of Directors Meeting Sunday, Jan. 11, at 9 a.m. at the Citizens Community Center, Huxley.
- ISSA Charity Ride with the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa Sunday, Jan. 11, at 11 a.m. at the Citizens Community Center, Huxley.
- Sixth Annual Jack Helgren Memorial Lemans Race Jan. 16-17 Clear Lake. Back-up dates are Jan. 18 and Feb. 6-7.
- O'Brien County Snowtrackers Youth Snowmobile Safety Course Jan. 17 at Northwest Iowa Community College, Sheldon.
- Winneshiek Trail Twisters Chili Feed Jan. 17 starting at noon at Mark and Barb Arneson's, Highway 52 north of Decorah.
- Driftrunners 44th Annual Snow Fest Jan. 22-25 Cresco.
- University of Okoboji Winter Games Jan. 23-25. For more information, visit www.uofowintergames.com.
- Travel Federation of Iowa Legislative Showcase Jan. 27 Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines.

February

- Emmet County Driftbusters Cross Country Race Feb. 7 West Swan Lake.
- Jake's Weenie Roast Feb. 7 Winneshiek Trail Twister clubhouse, 2005 Centennial Road, Decorah.
- Driftrunners Charlie's Chili Feed Saturday, Feb. 14.
- David Carmichael Memorial Ride Feb. 26-28. For more information, contact Brian Carmichael at (319) 215-5006 or Dennis Nauman at (641) 425-4141. Ride will begin in Spencer and end in Cresco. Proceeds benefit the Iowa chapter of ALS.

March

- ISSA Board of Directors meeting Sunday, March 15, at 9 a.m. at Farm Bureau office, Hampton.
- ISSA snowmobile club retreat to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Tentative dates are March 2-6.

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David Carmichael Memorial Ride Planned for Feb. 26-28

ISSA officers, directors and members are planning a memorial snowmobile ride across the northern tier of Iowa in February to pay tribute to one of the organization's most influential leaders.

The David Carmichael Memorial Snowmobile Ride will begin in Spencer around 9 a.m. on Feb. 26 and end in Cresco, Saturday night, Feb. 28. Overnight stops will be in Algona at the Brookstone Lodge and Suites on Feb. 26 and the AmericInn in Osage on Feb. 27. Participants are asked to meet at the Days Inn in Spencer the night of Feb. 25.

The three-day event is intended to commemorate the contributions of Carmichael and honor his legacy to organized snowmobiling in Iowa. He served as ISSA President from 1994 to 1995 and remained active in the association for 40 years.

Carmichael, a charter member of the Cedar Falls Sno Hawks snowmobile club of Region 4, passed away Dec. 23, 2013, at his rural Tripoli home following a short battle with ALS. He was 70 years old.

Carmichael's son and current Sno Hawks President Brian Carmichael is spearheading the ride along with other Sno Hawks members and close family friends and ISSA officers Scott and Dennis Nauman.

The ride will also benefit the Iowa ALS

Chapter. Participants are asked to raise donations or pledge so much per completed mile. However, contributions are not mandatory to participate.

"We are going to leave that up to the riders, whether they want to have pledges per mile or straight donations or if they just want to ride along,"

Scott Nauman explained. "Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated."

Rooms are blocked at each hotel under the ALS Memorial Ride. For reservations, dial (712) 262-2979 for Days Inn; (515) 200-0030 for Brookstone Lodge; and (641) 832-2200 for the AmericInn.

Pre-registration is encouraged. Please fill out the form below. Commemorative shirts are also available to purchase. For more information on the ride, contact Carmichael at (319) 215-5006, Dennis Nauman at (641) 425-4141 or Scott Nauman at (641) 425-9898. For more information on the shirts, contact Missy Buseman at (319) 239-3562.



*David Carmichael
1943-2013*

David Carmichael Memorial Snowmobile Ride Feb. 26-28, 2015 • Spencer to Cresco

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Make checks payable to: Cedar Falls Sno Hawks

Mail completed form to: David Carmichael Memorial Ride
c/o Brian Carmichael
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Aplington, IA 50604-9368

Vintage Ice Racing on Clear Lake

by Cameron Hanson

Vintage ice racing returns to Clear Lake this month for the sixth installment of the Jack Helgren Memorial Iowa LeMans Championship Race. The two-day event begins Friday night, Jan. 16, with pre-registration and a cruise around the lake.

Racing starts promptly at 10 a.m. the following morning with registration opening at 7:30 a.m. and practice laps at 9:15 a.m. A mandatory driver's meeting at 9:45 a.m. and the Clear Lake V.F.W. Honor Guard complete the pre-race ceremonies.

Featuring a \$4,000 purse this year, the competition includes 20 classes of vintage snowmobile racing. Depending on the year, each race will have a minimum of five laps. "The newer the sled, the longer the race," explained race promoter Gary McVicker.

In true LeMans style, each race will begin with the operator separated from his or her sled and then running to start the engine after race officials drop their arms. Racers then snake their way around an unmanicured, staked course with electronic lap-counters keeping track of their progress.

The course is generally a mile long, but the length can vary based on ice depth and surface conditions. The often rough terrain tests both rider and machine, as race categories are usually defined by the size of the motor and the type of suspension.

To broaden interest, a number of special races are thrown in as well, including a Powder Puff class for women and the 80-plus

category, where the age of the machine and the age of the rider must exceed 80 years. Event organizers are also hoping to set up a "mini LeMans" course for youth 120 racing this year.

Capping off race day will be the Stud Boy 50 Open Mod Championship Race with \$400 going to the race winner. Simultaneous to the racing activity Saturday afternoon will be radar runs with \$500 and a trophy going to the fastest run of the day. Vintage sleds will also be on display.

All events for the Jack weekend will be based on the south end of Clear Lake near Clear Lake State Park, the same venue for the past three years. So far, lake conditions are favorable to holding the event as scheduled. Back-up dates are Feb. 6-7.

"I was little concerned about the weather at first but I'm getting pretty comfortable with the way things look now," said McVicker, who conceived the idea for the event after the 2009 passing of long-time snowmobile dealer Jack Helgren of Mason City.

McVicker said the event has since grown beyond the local tribute and has become a destination for snowmobilers from around the upper Midwest each winter. Last year's draw was 160 race entries with competitors from Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

"The Jack continues to exceed my expectations," McVicker said. "We are getting more people around the state to participate in the event. Word is a big group from Fairbanks and another



one from Cedar Rapids are planned to come up this year. Not too bad considering I came up with this idea one day while driving truck."

Officially, the event is sponsored by the North Iowa Snow Seekers snowmobile club of Region 3, and they receive help from neighboring clubs Iowa River Riders and Hancock County Snowmobile Association.

A race committee of 24 meets regularly to plan the event, and sponsorships continue to grow. As an indication of their future



commitment to the Jack Race, organizers have purchased electronic lap-counting equipment and radar run lights.

"This is a good event," McVicker said. "It's grown to the point now we have to keep it going. People are looking forward to coming here. You go to Hay Days to promote the race, and

they now have heard of it. It's simply amazing how well it's gone. It's been a lot of fun."

Although pleased with the current draw, McVicker said attendance would even be greater if Mother Nature would cooperate and bring snow to the area. That way, local spectators could ride the trails to the event and out-of-state visitors could stay longer to enjoy what the area has to offer.

"We can always hope for more snow," McVicker said. "If we

Statewide Events this Month

January 11

ISSA Spina Bifida Charity Ride at 11 a.m.

Citizens Community Center, Huxley

For more information or help out, contact Bruno Andreini at (515) 240-3858 or email him at awbrunoa3@gmail.com

January 16-17

Jack Helgren Memorial Iowa LeMans Championship Race
Clear Lake

Visit www.thejackrace.com for complete details

January 22-25

Driftrunners 44th Annual Snow Fest
Cresco

Follow the Driftrunners on Facebook or see the flyer on page 6 for more details.

January 23-25

35th Annual University of Okoboji Winter Games

Visit www.uofowintergames.com or

www.dickinsoncountysnowhawks.com for more information.

could get some good snow, this could be huge. The last three years we haven't had the snowcover for people to ride on, and the trail system hasn't been decent enough to keep people here longer. But all things considered, we've done very well and keep our fingers crossed for the future."

For complete event information, including the Saturday night banquet at the legendary Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake, please visit www.thejackrace.com. McVicker can be reached at (641) 425-3175.

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Lifetime Achievement and Snowmobiler of the Year

Rinehart Remembered at Annual Convention

by Cameron Hanson

Nearly a year after his untimely death, former Region 12 Director Mel Rinehart is being remembered as a tireless club volunteer who never met a piece of iron he didn't like. Rinehart died unexpectedly Jan. 15, 2014, while on a business trip to North Dakota. He was 60 years old.

Posthumously, Rinehart was named the 2014 ISSA Snowmobiler of the Year and also received the ISSA's Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2014 ISSA Annual Convention in Dubuque Nov. 22. Close friend and ISSA Awards Committee Chair Mindy Scott presented the awards to Rinehart's widow, Diane, at the Saturday evening banquet.

"Mel was a talented engineer who loved to design and build new equipment his clubs could use to improve their grooming experience and to improve area trail conditions," Scott said, struggling to hold back her emotion during the presentation. "He loved challenges, especially those associated with improving the shortfalls of existing equipment."

In addition to his service to the ISSA, Rinehart of North Liberty, a career engineer, was a member of three neighboring clubs in Region 12: the Snowdrifters of Johnson County, the Eastern Iowa Sledheads and the Cedar County Winter Warriors.

Among his credited projects were redesigning the snowblade used on the Snowdrifters groomer, rebuilding the Winter Warriors groomer and redesigning and updating the flail mower currently operated by the Sledheads.

"How many of you have a guy in your club who gets things



Mel Rinehart
Former Region
12 Director

done?" asked Snowdrifters Secretary Derrick Parker during the awards banquet. "For us, it was Mel Rinehart. He never met a piece of equipment he couldn't improve. I want to thank Mel for what he did for our club, and I also want to thank Diane for everything she let him do for our club."

Last February, the Snowdrifters held a memorial fun run in Rinehart's honor. Making an appearance at the event was "Dewey," the club-owned 1969 Bombardier groomer Rinehart spent a lot of time wrenching on, including rebuilding the engine.

"That thing runs perfect. I would take it out any day," Parker said of the vintage machine. "Mel always had a huge passion for equipment and wanted to make sure our club had the right machine in the right place. He had a vision."

In addition to his mechanical aptitude, Rinehart was also acknowledged for his stewardship for the land. He worked closely with local authorities on creating and establishing snowmobile trails and was a stickler for proper trail preparation and signage.

"He taught me about the conservation of the land," Parker added. "He also made sure the trails were marked properly for the guy who wasn't familiar with our area."

According to his nomination form, Rinehart would spend several weekends working to improve the trails in his area.

He personally maintained 50 miles of trail, and several pictures showed him with a chainsaw in hand, clearing brush and widening paths.

"His biggest passion was for the trails," Scott said.



Derrick Parker

Reminiscing about Rinehart
at the 2014 ISSA Convention



On her late husband's behalf, Mel Rinehart's widow, Diane, accepts the ISSA's Lifetime Achievement Award and Snowmobiler of the Year Award from then-ISSA President Jim Willey at the 2014 ISSA Convention in Dubuque.



Dewey on the 2014 Mel Rinehart Memorial Fun Run

ISSA Brags on its Members at November Banquet...

by Cameron Hanson

Second of two stories

Each fall, the ISSA recognizes the contributions of its members through its annual awards program. For 2014, winners were honored during the awards banquet at the 2014 ISSA Convention in Dubuque Nov. 22.

What follows here are snapshots of each award winner as compiled by the ISSA Awards Committee. This recap, along with the winner profiles on pages 13 and 16, also continues convention coverage that was started in the December issue of the *Iowa Snowmobiler*. Pictured with each award winner is then-ISSA President Jim Willey.

Youth Snowmobiler of the Year

The 2014 ISSA Youth Snowmobiler of the Year Award went to Isabelle Willey of Manchester, daughter of Chris and Andrea Willey and a member of the Snow Pioneers of Region 5.

She was nominated for the award by her home club and was recognized for her participation in local and statewide snowmobiling events, including helping to sell raffle tickets at past conventions and campouts.

Snowmobiling's influence on her also carries through to the classroom. According to her nomination papers, Willey "shares with classmates the benefits of belonging to a local club and uses the theme of winter for many of her school projects."

She also organized the grooming of her school's cross-country trails for cross-country skiers and is also inviting friends to go riding with her on weekends or after school. She also participated in the ISSA's youth snowmobile program.

On the club level, Willey actively participates in club events and helped to sell sponsorships on the club's trail maps. She is also not afraid to jump in the groomer with her father "to help gain an understanding on how, why and when the club grooms its trails," her nomination continues.

Recently upgrading to 550 Arctic Cat Cougar, Willey attended the 2013 proclamation signing of Snowmobile Safety Week along with her grandfather, then-ISSA president Jim Willey.

"She used the opportunity to speak to the governor about passing the bill that allowed younger riders to operate their own sled on state-funded trails with their families," her nomination explained.

Lady Snowmobiler of the Year

Eastern Iowa Sledheads President Mindy Scott of Lone Tree has been named the 2014 ISSA Lady Snowmobiler of the Year.

Scott has been involved with the sport for 39 years and is a strong proponent of organized snowmobiling. In addition to her home club, she is a member of four other Iowa clubs.

At the state level, she is an active member of the ISSA and currently chairs its Awards Committee. She also belongs to the

Michigan and Minnesota state snowmobile associations and is known in national snowmobile circles for her key role in the ISSA's hosting of the International Snowmobile Congress in Coralville in 2010.

On the local level, Scott has held the office of club president, and vice president and takes care of filling out the trail grant applications. She also submits season-end grant reports and maintains the club's landowner list for insurance.

"Mindy has been a resource to neighboring clubs on the annual grant paperwork as well," her nomination form reads. "She coaches, reviews and suggests modifications wherever needed."

"Her involvement and knowledge of the clubs around the state allow her to provide contact names and numbers for those wanting to become involved in the sport or needing to find a resource on a certain issue."

Scott has worked with homeowners, landowners and city councils to address issues and share laws and regulations associated with snowmobiling. She also coordinated a critical meeting between key legislators from her area to help move the registration increase and trail permit out of committee.

Scott is a regular at the annual ISSA conventions and is not afraid to assist with trail work, including bridge building, community projects and providing meals to work crews.

Young Adult Snowmobiler of the Year

The 2014 ISSA Young Adult Snowmobiler of the Year award belongs to Vincent Boock of the Snow Pioneers. He was nominated for the award by his home club.

Boock was recognized for his work on recruiting younger members to his club. He acts as a liaison between the high school and the club and regularly organizes rides to school and plans weekend outings so others can learn the trail system.

According to his nomination form, he helps with trail development and preparation, including securing landowner leases and marking

and maintaining about 13 miles of trail in Delaware County,

When he turned 18, he became certified to operate his club's groomer and attended city council meetings to seek a partnership between the city and the snowmobile club so his hometown could become a Snowmobile Friendly Community.





Snowmobile Families of the Year

Nominated by the Eastern Iowa Sledheads of Region 12, the Ron and Theresa Sexton and the Randy and Laurie Sexton families of Riverside have been named the 2014 ISSA Families of the Year.

Now spanning multiple generations, the Sextons have been involved in the sport of snowmobiling since the mid-1970s. They are very active in their local club, holding officer positions and serving on several committees.

In their community, family members served on the Riverside Trails Committee to ensure the club would not lose access to the trail system. According to their nomination form, "they encouraged a partnership between the community and the club that resulted in a multi-purpose trail through town."

Donating their time and equipment, the family then stepped up and helped build a bridge on the multi-use trail. In fact, any time there is trailwork to be done, chances are more than one Sexton family member will be on hand to lend their skills to the project.

"They have provided and operate the equipment required to set most of the bridges on our trail system, with the largest being over 65 feet in length," their write-up continues.

This family was an active voice in stumping for the snowmobile registration fee increase and the creation of the trail permit. According to club members, "the family—from the youngest to the oldest—attended a critical meeting held with local legislators, showing snowmobiling was truly a *family* sport."

Sexton family members also initiated a fundraiser for Spina Bifida and engaged club members to help with a toy drive for children hospitalized at Christmas. Their charitable work also included pouring a new sidewalk for a family in need.

Groomer Operator of the Year

Floyd County Groomers Association Trail Coordinator Steve King of Marble Rock has been named the 2014 ISSA Groomer Operator of the Year.



Nominated by his home club, King is a member of six snowmobile clubs and strongly believes in trail connectivity. Toward that goal, he has worked with other snowmobilers in his area, and presently, his club's trail system connects with five other clubs in nine locations.

As trail coordinator, he coordinates trail marking days each



fall and sign removal deadlines each spring. He is responsible for submitting the trail grant application and sign orders to the state and also maintains a current landowner list.

Riding sleds since 1969, he also serves as the club's Trail Manager for the Polaris Trail Map App and has GPS'd all of the trails in his county. He also supported the use of GPS unit in the groomer to ensure all groomer operators knew the correct location of each trail.

King takes his responsibilities as trails coordinator very seriously. He helped lobby for the club's new groomer three years ago and regularly maintains the unit while it is stored at his shop.

Having suffered through an older groomer with countless breakdowns, his goal for the club's new groomer is to have all of the club's trails groomed within a 24-hour period after a snowfall.

"During the season, he keeps operators informed of the status of the groomer and spends countless hours operating the groomer to achieve that end," his nomination reads.



Snowmobile Dealer of the Year

Redline Powersports of Manchester has been named the 2014 ISSA Snowmobile Dealer of the Year. Owners Ryan Bunting and Mitchell Helle were recognized for their support of the ISSA and local clubs.

According to its nomination form, the dealership has been an active member of the Snow Pioneers since opening in May of 2012. They support area grass drags and provide discounts on labor to current club members.

"This dealership also keeps ISSA material on hand to distribute to customers and also promotes membership in both the local club and the ISSA by having membership forms available in-house for customers to sign up with," the write-up continues.

Area trails maps are also available at the counter, and tickets for the ISSA's Grand Raffle are readily available for sale. The dealership also volunteers with the local landowner appreciation dinner and helps organize vintage rides.

They also hold a photo contest with giveaways to the public and initiated a fundraiser for the local D.A.R.E. program.

... And With Good Reason

DRIFTRUNNERS Named CLUB OF the Year

Region 5 Club Recognized for ISSA, Community Support

by Cameron Hanson

Long recognized as one of the oldest and most active snowmobile clubs in the state, the Driftrunners, Inc., of Cresco were named the 2014 ISSA Snowmobile Club of the Year at the 2014 ISSA Convention in Dubuque Nov. 22.

At 125 members strong, the Region 5 club is also one of the largest clubs in the state and boasts 100 percent membership in the ISSA. Members regularly support ISSA initiatives and answer the call to action when needed.

"We always been there for charity, but since I have become more involved at the state level, it seems our club has taken on a little more with the ISSA," said Region 5 Director and Driftrunners officer Matt Miner. "I guess with me being on the state board, it has given us more insight into how things get done and what is needed to do that."

The Driftrunners regularly contribute to the ISSA's Club Challenge fund to help finance a state lobbyist and also raise money for the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa (SBAI), the ISSA's official designated charity. In 2014, the Driftrunners were named the top SBAI club fundraiser as well.

Club members are also active in their communities, recently participating in Santa's Holiday Parade in downtown Cresco and collecting new toys during their Toys for Tots drive as part of their annual Winter Kickoff Dance Nov. 29.

The club annually hosts a Youth Snowmobile Safety Course and invites landowners and tenants to an appreciation luncheon each spring. Club members also volunteer to help local law enforcement during snow emergencies.

Founded in 1968, the Driftrunners are perhaps best known for



Driftrunners members with their charity fundraising and club of the year hardware at the 2014 ISSA Convention in Dubuque.

their annual snowmobile festival held toward the end of January each winter. Now celebrating its 44th year, Snow Fest draws snowmobilers to the area for four days of sled-related events.

As promoted on the flyer on page 6, the 2015 version of Snow Fest begins Thursday, Jan. 22, with Early Bird trail rides. Snowmobile trips continue on Friday with most of the major attractions planned throughout the day on Saturday.

Starting with a Boy Scout breakfast at the Expo Center on the Howard County Fairgrounds in Cresco, other events on Saturday include a bean bag tournament and a trail ride at noon to benefit Breast Cancer Awareness.

Saturday evening events return to the fairground for the annual torchlight parade to the Vernon Springs millpond south of town. Participants then loop back to the Expo Center for a concert Saturday evening. Fun runs wrap up the weekend on Sunday.

Complete details on Snow Fest can also be found in this month's Club News from the Driftrunners. Member Bob Martinek is a regular contributor to the magazine, which helps satisfy one of the many criteria to qualify for the Club of the Year Award.

With more than 60 categories, the complete scoring system can be found online at www.iowasnowmobiler.com/issa/awards. Besides Club News submissions, clubs are rated on their support of the ISSA and on projects completed in the community.

"We are very appreciative of winning this award," said Miner, who recently completed two years of service as Driftrunners president. "But it takes more than just a few people to get this all done. It takes dedicated members who put the trail signs in, who fill out the trail grant application and who run the groomers. It was a whole club effort to earn the Club of the Year Award."



Each November, members of the Driftrunners of Region 5 collect toys for Toys for Tots during the club's Winter Kickoff Dance. Pictured above is the haul from this year's drive.

Club News

Region 2

Emmet County Driftbusters

by Nick Hanson

November snows and cold temps allowed many Emmet County "sled heads" to scratch that itch that has been around since last winter. Warmer temps and rain in December have turned the landscape brown again, but we are hopeful that Mother Nature will cooperate this year.

We are proud to report that after a little sabbatical without, Emmet County has received a groomer and we are very thankful for that! In an effort to make a great riding experience better, we are exploring options to expand our current trail system as well as upgrading our trail maps.

We held our annual membership drive in December at J & K Snowmobile in Estherville. It was great to see that even during the busyness of the holiday season, attendance was up substantially from previous years. Everyone was able to "kick the tires" on the new Arctic Cat sleds, swap stories from last year's sledding adventures and trips and enjoy a soup supper.

Our monthly meeting followed and reports were given on upcoming events, including fun runs and our Cross Country Race, planned to be held on West Swan Lake on Feb. 7. Be sure check out our Facebook page for more details. We also discussed how our club can be of service during winter emergency situations and potential fundraiser ideas to help purchase the equipment needed when trouble arises.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 12 at Dale's Recreation in Armstrong. If you're free, we would be glad to have you join us.

Region 4

Cedar Falls Sno Hawks

by Dick Melick, Retiring Secretary

Greetings from Cedar Falls. Here it is Dec. 19 and Black Hawk County is finally having "seasonal" average weather for a change. We did have a little snow a short time ago, but with temps reaching 50 degrees, it has all disappeared. The trails are signed and the groomer is ready to go, so all we need is a good snowfall.

We would like to thank Andrea Willey and the clubs of Region Five for hosting a great convention and snow show in Dubuque the weekend before Thanksgiving. The Sno Hawks had a good representation of members attending the convention. It was great to visit with old friends and make some new friends. Missy Buseman and Richard Benson completed the training to become snowmobile safety instructors, and Justin Buseman completed the training for groomer operators. A lot of people stopped by our Snowmobile Iowa club showcase table in the snow show Area.

Dec. 2 was our annual Christmas Party that was held at the Cedar Falls Pizza Ranch. We had an excellent turnout and a lot of tall "stories" were floating around the room. There was a very short business meeting to handle a few items that needed attention.

There will be an ALS Memorial Ride honoring Sno Hawks club founder Dave Carmichael Feb. 26-28. Contact Region 4 Director Scott Nauman or Sno Hawks President Brian Carmichael for details. The Sno Hawks have shirts commemorating the ride for sale. Contact club treasurer Missy Buseman for ordering information at busemanfamily@cfu.net. Check out our Facebook page to see samples of the shirts. Just log onto Facebook and go to Cedar Falls Sno Hawks

Anyone who may plan to ride the Five Star Snow Trails Association trail north of Cedar Falls and Waterloo should take note of a major change that has occurred. For many years, the Sno Hawks have maintained a trail staging area located at the intersection of the relocated US Highway 218 and County Road C57 between Cedar Falls and Janesville. In preparation for complete re-construction of that intersection by the Iowa DOT, the former parking area has been purchased by the DOT and access to the property has been transferred to the contracting firm and can no longer be used by snowmobilers. Entry to that property will be considered TRESPASSING. Other options for a staging area have been explored, but as yet we have found no good alternative. We apologize for the inconvenience.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 6, at our regular meeting place, the Comfort Suites, 7402 Nordic Drive in Cedar Falls. Club meetings are normally held the first Tuesday of the month, September through April, starting at 7 p.m., except for special meetings that may start at another time and/or date. As usual, all interested snowmobilers and ISSA officers and directors are invited to attend any of our meetings. For more info about our

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REGION ONE

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709 Hudson St., Storm Lake, IA 50588
(712) 732-6500

Clay County Sno Broncs

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

Dickinson County SnowHawks

www.dickinsoncountysnowhawks.com
P.O. Box 504, Spirit Lake, IA 51360
President: Kathy Fahy
411 Hill Avenue, Spirit Lake, IA 51360
(605) 359-7177, kfahy@mchsi.com

Lyon County Sno-Lyons

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President: Eric Borman
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(712) 470-0190, ebconst@yahoo.com

O'Brien County Snowtrackers

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(712) 260-4810, mebeefeater@hotmail.com

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: Steven Wiersma
708 Petrich Ave., Sanborn, IA 51248
(712) 461-2774

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

Humboldt Sno-Skimmers

President: Brian Ricklef
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) 295-8721, jlkwalk@gmail.com

Palo Alto Rough Riders

President: Kurt Bonnstetter
111 Iowa St., P.O. Box 62, Cylinder, IA 50528
(712) 424-3011, kbonnste@iowatelecom.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) 830-3821, kolbywagner@yahoo.com

REGION THREE

Hancock County Snowmobile Assn.

President: Dan Stromer
1840 Hwy 69, Klemme, IA 50449
Stromerd@yahoo.com

Iowa River Riders

President: Al Muhlenbruch
206 Highway 3, Alexander, IA 50420
(641) 425-2790, iowariverriders@yahoo.com





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

North Iowa Snow Seekers

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

Team Iowa Snowmobilers

www.teamiowasnowmobilers.com
teamiowasnowmobilers@hotmail.com
3468 Olsen Ave., Jewell, Iowa 50130
President: Nicki Kempe
teamiowasnowmobilers@hotmail.com
(515) 230-0389

Worth County Fencestretchers

P.O. Box 27, Northwood, IA 50459
President: Steve Arnold
(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

Cedar Falls Sno Hawks

President: Brian Carmichael
14784 290th St., Aplington, IA 50604-9368
319-215-5006
bcarmichael@industrialfab.net

Chickasaw Sno-Riders

President: Steve Schulz
2584 220th St., New Hampton IA. 50659
(641) 330-0677(c), (641) 394-5186(h)
steve_leeann@hotmail.com

Dewar Snow Chasers

President: Cory Allspach
4016 Round St., Cedar Falls, IA, 50613
(319) 404-2878

Floyd County Groomers Association

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

Howard County Stump Jumpers

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

Mitchell County E-Z Riders, Inc.,

President: Keith Popp
1408 Pleasant St., Osage, IA 50461
(641) 732-3625, keith@poppexc.com

Snow Snoops Snowmobile Club

President: Derek Buss
(641) 228-0954
drb@butlerrec.coop

REGION FIVE

Allamakee Sno-Blazers

Allamakee Sno-Blazers
PO Box 94 Waukon, IA 52172
President: Mary Dehli
1830 Hwy 76 N, Waukon, IA 52172
(563) 568-6111, rmdehli@live.com

Asbury Snowhawks

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

Club News

trails, the club and/or meetings, contact club president Brian Carmichael at (319) 215-5006 or activities director Stanley Wolf at (319) 240-2188.

Region 5

Cresco Driftrunners

by Bob Martinek, Treasurer

Hello from Cresco. I must confess I'm a little confused: white Thanksgiving and a brown Christmas?? I am also sure Mother Nature will be "fixing" things with plenty of white stuff very soon. With that in mind, I am going to tell about the plans the club has put together for our 44th Annual Snow Fest on Jan. 22-25. Everything starts on Thursday with trail rides and our fun run poker cards. The cards and actually the whole "Snow Fest" weekend are how we raise money for our Spina Bifda donation each year. Everyone is welcome to ride with us or ride with your own group. Remember to grab one of our new trail maps we had printed this year. Great job, Brandon!

Thursday morning at 10 a.m. is the early bird ride with everyone meeting at the Hide-away Bar in Cresco. Then just in case the morning ride wasn't enough (or you had to work), we also have a Thursday evening ride meeting at 7 p.m. in Cresco. On Friday, Kelly has planned a Ladies' trail ride open to all the ladies. Friday evening at 7 p.m. in Cresco, we have another club ride planned. Please check on Facebook for more details on the club rides, including routes planned and meeting locations. Saturday morning starts with the Boy Scout Breakfast from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Expo building in Cresco. Always good to start the day with a good breakfast! At noon leaving from the Expo building is the Driftrunner Breast Cancer Awareness trail ride. This will be our second "official" year of this ride so all support is appreciated.

At 6 p.m. Saturday evening, we are inviting all sleds to line up outside the Expo building for our "Torchlight Parade" on the Vernon Springs millpond. After the parade, back by popular demand we have fireworks planned and of course a bonfire right on the pond. Very neat to watch or participate in or both! At 8 p.m. back to the Expo for the Snow Fest dance featuring the "Blue Ringers" band from Austin/Albert Lea, Minn. They come highly recommended with an impressive play list of songs. You will love them!

Now to back up a little, I should mention that all weekend long we are selling raffle tickets. Many, many big prizes and tons of smaller ones thanks to area businesses. Please remember that the monies we raise from our raffle, fun run and the Saturday night dance are used for our annual Spina Bifda donation, Howard County Cancer Association donation, Dollars for Scholars and club operating expenses.

Snow Fest wraps up on Sunday with a brunch at Bubba's in Schley from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fun run cards turned in and hands dealt also from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. To cap off the weekend, we have a nice leisurely family trail ride leaving Bubba's at 1 p.m. Again all are welcome.



ACSA Legal Defense Challenge

Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....	\$1000
North Iowa Sno-Jammers.....	\$700
Snowdrifters.....	\$500
Iowa River Riders.....	\$200
Floyd County Groomers.....	\$200
V&V Insurance.....	\$200
Chickasaw Sno-Riders.....	\$100
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks.....	\$100
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$100
Bremer County Sno-Knights.....	\$100
Humboldt Sno-Skimmers.....	\$100
Sac County Snow Lovers.....	\$100
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club.....	\$100
Snow Pioneers.....	\$100
Trails Unlimited.....	\$100
Tri-County Snowmobile Association.....	\$100

Club News

Wow! As you can see plenty to do and lots of fun to be had. And yes I have been long-winded enough so I will tell about Charlie's Chili Feed set for Feb. 14 next month. Think SNOW, ride safe and Thank you.

Trails Unlimited

by Bud Winter, President

At the time of this writing (Dec. 15), I'm sitting in my office listening to it rain—not cool. If only the cold weather in November could have waited until now. We all know too well that our Iowa winters are anything but predictable.

Our trails are all marked and ready to go whenever the snow comes. This year, we are excited to have moved a few trails around and added a couple sections as well. Around Jackson Junction, the trail(s) will no longer go through "town." Going north out of Auburn, we were able to get back into the woods rather than ride the road ditch as it has been the past few years. Between Auburn and St. Lucas, we made a cut over to Gouldsburg which will essentially create a much better loop to get to Hawkeye. A big thanks to some new landowners on helping us with these changes.

Snow or no snow the next big event for our club is Jan. 10. We are celebrating our club's 30th Anniversary at the Waucoma Events Center. Snowflake Shenanigans & Community BBQ is our theme as we truly intend for this to be a community event as much as we can push it to be. Our menu includes BBQ Chicken, BBQ Pork Chops, loaded mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, assorted salads, roll and desert. DJ entertainment by Thoroughbred. Attractions also include a vintage photo booth, kids' games, a 50/50 drawing and a silent auction. We're keeping the silent auction small, but they are all pretty desirable items. Some snow wouldn't hurt as the Waucoma Events Center is located right across the road from the snowmobile trail. Either way, we are confident it is going to be a great evening.

Lastly, our club would like to remember two club members who passed away this fall: Kyle Quass in October and Daryl Drilling in November. Both were long-time club members. Bearing good snow conditions later this year, our club intends to hold a memorial ride in memory of both Kyle and Daryl. We will do our best to announce the date when the time comes.

Daryl was the founder of our club and probably did more for the sport locally than anyone else around. My oldest snowmobile-related memory is watching Daryl and my parents cut wooden stakes for signs. Then the next weekend riding on the 4-wheeler freezing my tail off watching them pound and pound to get them in the near frozen ground. That's a 20-year old memory already, but I remember it just like yesterday.

About three years ago at our Christmas party, Daryl and his wife Audrey told me how nice it was to see an active and excited club again. I told them we were just continuing on the path that they worked so hard to start. They encouraged me to keep up the good work and to remember that there are no-snow years to come but that doesn't mean you just lay down and quit! It's always worthwhile work that has to be done—that's why we Iowa Snowmobilers are who we are.

Winneshiek Trail Twisters

by Janet Borseth

Happy New Year from the Winneshiek Trail Twisters! We hope everyone has a fun and safe snowmobile season. Every weekend, there are events held among the area clubs. Please plan to attend and support these events.

We participated in the annual Holiday Parade in Decorah on Dec. 5, with a trailer full of sleds and featured our new snow princess, Courtney Nordheim, and the junior snow princess, Bella Stika.

Our next event is the chili feed, to be held on Saturday, Jan. 17, at Mark and Barb Arneson's, north of Decorah on Highway 52, serving from noon until gone. Plan for a day of riding and socializing.

February events include Jake's Weenie Roast on Feb. 7 at the WTT's clubhouse, 2005 Centennial Road, Decorah. The day will be filled with games, rides, food and end with a bonfire. The landowner's appreciation supper will be held on Feb. 27 with a fish fry at the Danan Lansing building in Decorah. This is open to the public. We are currently selling raffle tickets for a drawing to be held following the fish fry. Items include a Henry Golden Boy .22 rifle, a Matthews bow, a Remington Youth 20 gauge shotgun, a 40 quart Grizzly cooler and (3) \$100 gift certificates to Waukon Power Sports, Drillings All Season Sports, and Decorah Kawasaki. Cost of tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Contact a club member

ISSA CLUBS

Clubs in red reported
100% ISSA Membership



Clayton County Snowbirds

12469 Hwy. 18, Postville, IA 52162
President: Mark Bries
21352 Highway 18, Monona, IA 52159
(563) 539-4555, mbconstruction@netel.net

Driftrunners, Inc.

Join Us on Facebook under 'Groups'
President: Dean Zakostelecky
124 Fourth Ave. SW, Cresco, IA 52136
dean@decorahautocenter.com

Dyersville Driftskippers

www.dyersvilledriftskippers.net
President: Phil Helle
610 6th Ave NE, Dyersville, IA 52040
(563) 590-0549, philhelle@yahoo.com

Snow Pioneers

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

Trail Blaz-zers Inc.

President: Tim Arthur
20197 130th St., Sumner, IA 50674
(563) 578-5417, trail.blazzers.inc@gmail.com

Trails Unlimited

Trails Unlimited
15778 282nd St., West Union, IA 52175
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: Bradley Garrels
307 Adams St., Lake View, IA 51450
(712) 210-4262, garrelsbrad@hotmail.com

REGION SEVEN

High Bridge Trailblazers

President: Jason Moorman
614 West Oak, Ogden, IA 50212
(515) 230-4171, jmmoorman@netins.net

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

Webster County Ice Breakers

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

REGION EIGHT

Central Iowa Snowmobilers

P.O. Box 1751, Marshalltown, IA
50158, President: Kevin Weese
(641) 485-0123, yamaha.family@yahoo.com

Jasper County Ditch Bangers

President: David Huffaker
P/O/ Box 311, Baxter, IA 50028
(641) 751-0622, huffaker-dave@hotmail.com





ISSA CLUBS

Clubs in red reported
100% ISSA Membership

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

Cascade Snow Punchers

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

Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders

President: Dylon Bousset
2687 178th Ave., Calamus, IA 52729
(563) 210-4002, Polarisdude90@gmail.com

Frozen Few

P.O. Box 184, Coggon, IA 52218
President: Jamie Prull
1101 First St., Palo, IA 52324
(319) 851-2522, jprull@aol.com

Jones County Snow Chasers

P.O. Box 492, Anamosa, IA 52205
President: Brett Benter
607 N. Birch, Monticello, IA 52310
brettbenter@hotmail.com
(319) 480-0586

Snowmobilers of Jackson County

President: Aaron Michels
39014 308th St., Bellevue, IA 52031
brittany-farrell@hotmail.com

REGION TEN

Southwest Iowa Snow Scooters

President: Trent Larson
25817 208th St., Crescent, IA 51256
trentlarsn@gmail.com

REGION ELEVEN

Appanoose County Trails, Inc.

P.O. Box 825, Centerville, IA 52544
Snowmobile Trail Coordinator: Gene Paris
21845 458th St., Centerville, IA 52544
(641) 895-0259, gbpar@sirisonline.com

REGION TWELVE

Cedar County Winter Warriors

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

Eastern Iowa Sledheads

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

Snowdrifters, Inc.

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

Scott County Sno-Seekers

www.snoseekers.org
P.O. Box 2332, Davenport, IA 52809-2332
President: Kevin House
(563) 505-3385, khouse805@yahoo.com

Southeast Iowa Ridge Blasters

President: Aaron Dorothy
502 E. Cedar Ln., Mt. Pleasant la 52641
(319) 986-5188(h), 319-671-0329 (c)
aarond65@hotmail.com

or Jake at jakeludeking@gmail.com. Tickets will be available for purchase at the chili feed and weenie roast.

Reminder to check our Facebook page for updates and trail conditions.

See you on the trails!

Allamakee Sno-Blazers

by Brandon Fahey

Well, it's the middle of December and Allamakee County has no snow on the ground. By looking at the forecast, it's looking like we can rule out riding in December. One thing is for sure: When we do have snow, this part of the state is an awesome destination so come check it out! The Sno-Blazers have been busy with trail prep and also planning the details of our Jan. 17 fundraising event. We are planning to have a club ride that will start at noon at Green Valley Getaway just north of Waukon. The ride will begin and end at GVG followed by a raffle and dance that evening starting at 7 p.m. Please come spend the day in Allamakee County and ride the beautiful trail system that we have.

If we don't have enough snow to ride, please come enjoy live music and dancing that evening and help support the Sno-Blazers! You can visit our website for continuing details at snoblazers.lrtwebsevice.com or like us on facebook at Allamakee Sno-Blazers. We also have a new Instagram account at AllamakeeSnoBlazers.

Region 7

Highbridge Trailblazers

by Bob Reutter, Trail Boss

What snow we had has all melted. We will have to wait for some more. As I write this letter, we are a week away from Christmas. I am flying two of my grand kids in from Costa Rica to spend a week over Christmas with us. I have not seen them for five years. They were hoping for some snow so we could do some snowmobiling.

All of my sleds have been gone through and are ready to go. I am leaving here Dec. 30 going to my girlfriend's place to celebrate New Year's with her. We are going up to Grand Lake, Colo., to ride sleds for a few days.

The ISSA convention was a good one. I hope to see the next ones to be as good or better. My girlfriend and I are going to join 24 people from the Sayorville Dam Snowmobile Club out in the Snowy Range of Wyoming for five days of riding, Jan. 30 to Feb 5.

Don't know what the rest of the winter will bring. We will probably go to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan a couple of times, and I want to get to Quebec or Ontario as I have those two trail permits on my sled.

Region 12

Snowdrifters, Inc.

by Ron Roe

Hello, everyone. Well, our good weather went south in a handbasket. With the forecast, it might make a little comeback for us.

At our club meeting on trail reports, the crews reported most all the signs were up and trails were all marked. The bridges were all in place. We were lucky that most of the bridges stayed put from last summer.

We must thank the ISSA for seeing we were in need of a new groomer and drag. It sure looks good and I feel it is as good as it looks. Thanks to the ones responsible for this. It will surely be appreciated. It will be well taken care of and treated well. We may talk the Millers into heating a machine shed for this groomer, or try anyway. We as the club are thankful we have a parking spot inside for it. Thanks, Millers.

I have friends trying to talk me into going to Daytona in February, but it is hard to not go sledding when the snow is good up north or here when we have good snow. I do have some trips planned for January and February.

At our last club meeting, different ones were talking about when they were heading up north to ride. Last year on a trip up north, we ran into members from our club every day in different areas. Almost made one feel at home, other than the volume of snow.

Our club is working on some fun runs in January. I think the first one is planned for Jan. 24 with back-up dates if the snow and weather is not in our favor. Check our website for more details at www.iowa-snowdrifters.org.

Our membership is doing good so far. We usually have a few that wait till January to get dues paid. All are welcome to help get our membership up. Early or late, they all count.

Not a lot more news here. I hope everyone had very good holidays and are ready for plenty of sledding. Think Snow!!


REGION 1

Glen's Sport Center, Inc.
208 16th St., Sheldon, IA 51201
glens1@qwestoffice.net

**Project Mayhem
Power Sports**

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

REGION 2

Byron's

112 S Main St., Pomeroy, IA 50575
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(712) 288-6419, www.fondagolf.com
Family rec center.

J & K Snowmobile

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(712) 362-3031

KDM Trucking

Ken Miller
2726 220th St., Manson, IA 50563
(515) 408-8001
kdmtrucking@hotmail.com

Rasmuson Electric

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

Ramthun Trucking, Inc

2271 Upland Ave., Manson, IA 50563
(515) 480-3970

Sedlacek

Snowmobile Salvage

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

Shore Side Pub&Grub

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

**Southern Calhoun
Ag Services, Inc.**

3598 Ogden Ave., Lohrville, IA 51453
tom.mcclue@plantpioneer.com

Vinny's BBQ

P.O. Box 118, Dakota City, IA 50529
(515) 332-2046

REGION 3

Advance Concrete

420 Helgren St., Thompson, IA 50478
(641) 584-2080

Agvantage FS

206 Ash St., Thornton, IA 50479
(641) 998-2112
rhalsne@agvantagefs.com

Allen Seed and Grain

2059 Olive Ave, Sheffield, IA 50475
(641) 892-4058

**Antique Pontiac
Parts & Accessories**

14083 P Ave.
Iowa Falls, IA 50126-8686
641-648-9086

Auto Parts Wholesale

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

Buffalo Lanes, LLC

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

Chappy's on Main

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

Crystal Lake Bar

130 State Ave, Crystal Lake, IA 50432
(641) 565-3030

Countryside Turf & Timber

11328 Hwy 65, Iowa Falls, IA 50126
(641) 648-2382
countrysidettp@prairieinet.net

Dave's Auto Service

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

DK Arndt, PC

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

Don's Motor Mart

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

Donna's Lounge

427 1st St, Meservey, IA 50457-1004

Dows Farmers Coop

304 Ellsworth, PO Box 410
Dows, IA 50071
(515) 852-4136

Duck's Bar & Grill

112 E Main/PO Box 4
Aredale, IA 50605
(641) 894-3312, ducksbar@live.com

Dudley's Corner

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

Dura Clean by Doug

1003 S. Washington
Lake Mills, IA 50450
(641) 592-5772

E & E Repair

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

**Fahrman
Plumbing & Heating**

1678 Grouse Ave, Latimer, IA 50452
(515) 290-9605

Farm & City Insurance

PO Box 248, Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 585-2925
www.rvadantage.com

**Forest City Ford
Mercury, Inc.**

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

**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 PO Box 95
Bradford, IA 50041
(641) 425-0975

Hair Designs

236 E J St., Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 585-2405
sbenson@wctatel.net

Hansell Ag Repair Inc.

1612 Vine Ave., Hampton, IA 50441
(641) 456-2034
dannek2034@gmail.com

Happy Time Resort

526 470th St., Lake Mills, IA 50450
(641) 592-2267, smantha@wctatel.net
www.happytimeresort.com

Hickman Chiropractic

820 4th St NE, Hampton, IA 50441
(641) 456-2280
hickmanjr@hotmail.com

Holland Contracting

1400 S. 4th St., Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 585-2231
www.hollandcontracting.com

Hometown Market

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

Hometown Pizza & Pub

103 Main St, Coulter, IA 50431
(641) 866-6771

House of Sports

Hwy 122 W., Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 424-2861
houseofsportsmc@gmail.com

Howie Equipment

Trailer & Tire Sales
1273 Mallard Ave, Hampton, IA
50441 (641) 456-5651

Jed's Jalopy Joint

2059 Olive Ave, Sheffield, IA 50475
(641) 892-4058

J-T Machine & Tool Co.

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

Kirschbaum

Heating & Cooling

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

Lake Mills Motel

402 N Lake St, Lake Mills, IA 50450
(641) 592-3711

barb_james69@yahoo.com

Lake Mills Motor Sports

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

Little Willie's Bar & DJ

114 S Main St, Clarion, IA 50525
(515) 532-9781

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Pakoda's Steakhouse

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Pralle's Wash City

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