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IOWA SNOWMOBILER

January 2021 • Volume 42 • Issue 5

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IOWA SNOWMOBILER

The Official Magazine of the Iowa State Snowmobile Association

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MAGAZINE DEADLINES

February..... Jan. 15

March..... Feb. 12

CHANGE NOTIFICATION

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



IOWA SNOWMOBILER

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Groomer Delivery

Iowa River Riders receive updated equipment through RTP funding



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Lifetime Achievement

Andreini becomes 12th member to earn ISSA's highest honor



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Year-End Awards

Recipient plaques hand-delivered following cancelled banquet



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COVER: Darla Vokaty of Cresco turns the corner after a creek crossing near Kendallville/Granger intersection on the Cresco Driftrunners trail system during the 2017 Snowfest. This month, the Region 5 club celebrates the 50th Annual Snowfest. See page 9-12 for more details.

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CALENDAR

January

- Theisen's Snocross National Jan. 15-16 at Dubuque.
- International Snowmobile Safety Week Jan. 16-24.
- Driftrunners 50th Annual Snowfest Jan. 21-24 at Cresco. Follow the club on Facebook for up-to-date information.
- University of Okoboji Winter Games Jan. 28-31.
- ISSA Grand Raffle drawing Jan. 30. See ad on p. 5.

February

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

See p. 7 for Snowmobile Iowa dates and information.



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Thanks for Trail Work this Season

Greetings again, fellow snowmobilers. With the start of a new year, let us hope that this year is much better than the past year. Here is hoping that as you are reading this article, the snow is getting deeper and the past holiday season treated you all well.

As this snow season progresses, we are again this year planning to organize the Snowmobile Iowa rides across the state. I know in the past, many of them have had to be canceled due to lack of snow, so with any luck, this will be the year that they become successful. Please keep an eye on the Iowa Snowmobiler website as well as the site of the local clubs hosting these rides for the most up-to-date information on trailhead meeting places, dates and times of these rides.

I would like to take this opportunity to

SCOTT NAUMAN

ISSA
PRESIDENT



thank the many clubs of the state and their volunteers for laying out an exceptional trail system again this year. The signing and maintaining of these trails can seem like a very daunting task, but the end result is so worth the work put in.

Until next month, ride safe and think snow.

A Little About Myself

Happy New Year to all. Well, it's official. Following our special election Dec. 15, I am your new Vice President. I hope you voted for me or at least submitted a write-in for this position.

A little about me, I have been a member of the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club since 2004, and I have served in a number of positions for my host club. I most recently served as the Region 7 Director, and I represent the central region on the Review and Selection Committee. I am also the representative for the ISSA for our Federal Recreational Trail advisory board.

I look forward to working with Scott Nauman, our new President of the ISSA, to keep our association moving forward with an emphasis on growing membership. I will be listening to new ideas on how to do that and actively make this association work for every snowmobiler in Iowa. Let's face it: Snowmobiling in Iowa can be frustrating as we start each season with hopes of record snowfall and we prepare our trail systems every year with

JOHN KAHLER

ISSA VICE
PRESIDENT



those hopes in mind to realize at the end of the season, it was often a lot of work for very little riding...but we do it anyway. And, somehow, we look forward to start the preparations for the next season.

If and when your clubs are meeting, invite your snowmobile friends and buddies to come to those meetings and ask them to get involved, join the club and, most importantly, include the youth in your area. They are our future! If every active member would recruit and bring one new member to your club to join, everyone wins!

Happy Holidays, and I pray for a better 2021.

Special Election Results

Following the pandemic-related cancellation of the 2020 ISSA Annual Convention in November, the ISSA conducted a special election online to fill open board seats.

Voting ended a minute before midnight on Dec. 15. Region 7 Director John Kahler was elected Vice President, and incumbent Sue Paulus was re-elected Secretary.

With 2020 an even-numbered year, incumbent directors in Regions 2, 4, 8 and 10 were re-elected. In Region 6, Assistant Jamie Rohlf swapped positions with incumbent Gene Gerdes.

Former Vice President Scott Nauman was automatically named ISSA President in accordance with ISSA By-Laws. Director positions are for two-year terms on the board of directors. Officers are elected annually, and the Treasurer is appointed.



Drew Gaffney (second from right) from Track, Inc., Bloomington, Minn., delivered a 2018 Tucker 2000 groomer to the Iowa River Riders in Region 3 Nov. 28. On hand for the delivery were, from left, Chris Willey and Terry Durby, RSC co-administrators; club members Mike Eddy and Gary McVicker; and ISSA President Scott Nauman.

'New to Us' Groomer Finally Arrives in Franklin County

The backlog of federal grants used by the Iowa State Snowmobile Trail Grant Program to purchase grooming equipment in Iowa loosened a little in late November when a used 2018 Tucker 2000 groomer was finally delivered to the Iowa River Riders in Region 3.

In the fall of 2017, the Franklin County Board of Supervisors applied for and received a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant on behalf of the club and the state snowmobile program. Past ISSA President Gary McVicker is a Franklin County Supervisor and a member of the club and helped the process along.

"It took awhile but we finally got our 'new to us' groomer," McVicker said.

Causing a three-year delay, the equipment purchase had to satisfy the federal Buy American Act. After clearing several hurdles, the ISSA's Review and Selection

Committee (RSC), which oversees groomer placement, was able to acquire a late-model Tucker groomer.

"We had to work through the challenges presented with the requirements of the RTP and only being able to buy certified American products," explained Past ISSA President Chris Willey, an RSC co-administrator. "Tucker has the documents to meet these requirements, starting with the 2018 model year."

The RSC still has two additional RTP grants to obligate, and committee members are currently working through that process. For now, they are glad to get one purchase out of the way.

"We were able to bring the first of what we hope are several new groomers to Iowa," Willey said. "We want to make sure we are fiscally stable before making such large purchases."

WIN \$500 CASH!

ISSA Grand Raffle

Tickets Cost \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

- Winner drawn Jan. 30
- Need not be present to win
- Limited number of tickets printed

Contact your region director to purchase.
Call or text (641) 512-1932 for more information.



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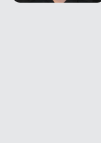
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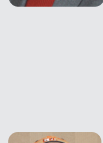
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International Snowmobile Safety Week Jan. 16-24

The ISSA is joining the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association (ISMA) in observance of Jan. 16-24 as International Snowmobile Safety Awareness Week for 2021. Club-related activities are being encouraged at the local level.

“The purpose of International Snowmobile Safety Week is to expose people to safe snowmobiling practices and to demonstrate how operating safely can prevent mishaps,” explained ISMA President Ed Klim. “Snowmobiling is a fun and exciting family activity enjoyed by over four million people across the United States and Canada. The sport is a safe and enjoyable form of recreation if done properly and with respect.”

In Iowa, snowmobiles are operated by men, women and children of all ages. Depending on weather conditions, approximately 8,800 miles of snow-covered trails are maintained and groomed by snowmobile club volunteers across the state and enjoyed by a variety of winter recreationists.

Activities and events held during Snowmobile Safety Awareness Week will promote responsible attitudes and actions that will foster the safe, family image of snowmobiling.

“Safe Snowmobiling means riding within your own capabilities, operating at safe and appropriate speeds for the terrain and never drinking alcoholic beverages before or while driving,” explained ISSA President Scott Nauman. “Always wear a helmet and adequate clothing, stay within designated riding areas and always snowmobile with another person, never alone.”

Occasionally, problems occur, and snowmobilers should be prepared for all possible scenarios.

“Take along a spare belt, spark plugs and tools to do basic repairs. You also should carry emergency supplies, such as a basic first aid kit, and overnight survival provi-



sions, such as food, matches, flashlight and extra batteries,” Nauman recommended. “Most importantly, always use common sense and keep a clear head. Learn all you can about responsible snowmobiling and keep safety as your top priority.”

Ideas and suggestions are available online through ISMA’s Campaign Action Manual at www.snowmobile.org. Also posted there is information on ISMA’s Safe Riders! program.

Materials that are available from both programs include the following: posters, fact books, a safety video, public service announcements, a website and decals that highlight safety messages and enhance safety education efforts.

“We hope that you will find this web-based information useful in your organization’s snowmobile safety campaign,” Klim said. “The suggested activities contained there can be modified to meet your club’s needs. Any suggestions or ways to improve this manual are welcome. Have a great snowmobile season!”

Safe Snowmobiling Tips

1. Never consume alcohol or drugs.
2. Become familiar with the snowmobile you ride.
3. Operate at safe and reasonable speeds.
4. Stay on trails and areas where snowmobiling is permitted.
5. Avoid travel on unfamiliar frozen bodies of water.
6. Use extra caution at night.
7. Keep your snowmobile properly maintained.
8. Become familiar with the terrain you will travel on.
9. Listen to the weather forecast before you leave.
10. Always wear a helmet and proper clothing.
11. Never ride alone and let someone know where you’re going.
12. Carry emergency supplies and learn survival skills.



SNOWMOBILE IOWA



Snowmobile Iowa coordinator Bruno Andreini directs riders through an intersection during the Saylorville Dam club ride last February.

Six Clubs Confirmed for Guided Rides this Winter

The ISSA has finalized the ride schedule for the fifth annual Snowmobile Iowa program this winter. Organizer Bruno Andreini, a past ISSA president, had planned on seven weekend events, but only six clubs stepped forward to host, so the first calendar slot was dropped.

Starting Jan. 16 in western Iowa and ending Feb. 20 in eastern Iowa, six Saturdays have been set aside by ISSA-member clubs to host guided tours of their areas. All rides depart at 10 a.m., and host clubs should have chase vehicles and trailers available in case of breakdowns out on the trail. See the table below for the ride dates and contact information for each.

“This program is an excellent opportunity for Iowa riders to learn about Iowa’s best-kept snowmobile trail secrets,” Andreini said. “The goal is to inform our Iowa riders about our beautiful places to ride and increase ridership and membership within our state.”

The ride dates coincide with the season-long Take-A-Friend Snowmobiling campaign sponsored by the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association. With that in mind, Andreini is encouraging participants to bring along riders who may be new to the sport and to introduce non-members to the ISSA.

“This is a great way to invite a non-snowmobile friend to tag along for the day while introducing him or her to our sport of snowmobiling,” he said. “In addition to this, keep in mind those snowmobile friends who are not ISSA members are welcome to be part of all ‘Snowmobile Iowa’ rides as well.”

Additional ride information and trail conditions will be posted on social media as the dates get closer. The ISSA has snowmobile gear available for anyone bringing along a non-snowmobiling guest. For more information on the Snowmobile Iowa program, contact Andreini at (515) 240-3858 or awbrunoa3@gmail.com.

Date	Host Club	Meeting Location	Contact	Phone Number
Jan. 16	Sac County Snow Lovers	Odebolt, IA	Jamie Rohlf	(712) 830-2196
Jan. 23	Driftrunners	Howard County Fairgrounds, Cresco	Cody Began	(563) 203-0082
Jan. 30	Butler County Sno Snoops Floyd County Groomers North Iowa Snow Seekers	221 N. Main St., Clarksville or 311 Mill St., Rock Falls	Seth Bram	(641) 512-1932
Feb. 6	Humboldt Sno-Skimmers	2050 13th St. N., Humboldt (north end)	Shane Braby	(515) 890-1945
Feb. 13	Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club	West Elementary School, Slater	Barry Starmer	(515) 240-5444
Feb. 20	Dyersville Driftskippers	Dirty Ernie’s 201 1st St. NW, Farley	Ryan Ameskamp	(563) 599-6312

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Andreini Honored by ISSA

by Cameron Hanson

Past ISSA President Bruno Andreini averages close to 1,000 miles a season on his snowmobile. Some winters see a little more action; others, a little less. He could probably do even better if he didn't choose to split his time between the trails and meeting rooms each year.

Andreini, 82, of Dallas Center, has been involved in organized snowmobiling nearly as long as he's been riding. He hopped on his first sled in 1970 and, by 1974, had joined the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club in Region 7. His desire to get involved was driven by what he observed early on in the sport.

Snowmobilers back then acted like teenagers, riding whenever and wherever they wanted, he said. Trails did not exist, and people rode across private property without permission. "I could recognize the problems we were headed for," Andreini recalled. "There was so much to accomplish to make the sport better during those early years."

Andreini, a retired electrical contractor, served in several capacities at the local level, including a stint as president in 1989. In 1992, he joined the ISSA Board of Directors as a Region 7 Assistant. Two years later, he was elected vice president and, in late 1996, became the organization's 16th president. He has remained an active board member since his two-year term in office ended.

"Fortunately, the sport of snowmobiling fit my occupation well," Andreini said. "During the construction season, hours were long, but winters would be a little leaner, allowing me time to recreate and volunteer."

Charity work

For more than 20 years, Andreini has led the ISSA's Education and Scholarship Foundation as its executive director and currently serves as the board's liaison to the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa, the ISSA's official charity. He coordinates the Winter Fun Day for Spina Bifida families—an annual ISSA event he started in 2007—and also spearheads the ISSA's Snowmobile Iowa program.

In 2002, he helped form the ISSA's Emergency Funding and Legislation Committee. This lobbying team was created in response to the Iowa Legislature's depletion of nearly \$1 million in snowmobile registration receipts. The funds were eventually restored six years later, and for their efforts, Andreini and the rest of the committee were named "Most Valuable Snowmobilers" by *Snowmobile* magazine.

Andreini is also a member of the international Iron Dog Brigade, an honorary society of club volunteers and industry legends recognized for their contributions to the sport. In 2007, he received the ISSA's Past Presidents Award and, in 2009, was inducted into the International Snowmobile Hall Fame (ISHOF), joining six other Iowans enshrined since 1991.

"Bruno has been involved in every aspect of snowmobiling, from attending meetings to grooming trails," his biography reads at the ISHOF. "He has spent countless hours to promote snowmobiling as a family sport and preserving it for future generations."

The ISSA could not agree more, and late last year, officials honored Andreini with the ISSA's Lifetime Achievement Award for 2020. He was originally scheduled to receive his glass plaque at the Nov. 14 Awards Ceremony in Ames, but following the cancellation of the state convention due to COVID-19, he was presented with his award at his home last month.

"We can't thank you enough for everything you have done for the ISSA," then-ISSA President Brian Carmichael told Andreini when announcing the award at the ISSA's virtual board meeting Nov. 15.

"I am very humbled to receive this award," replied Andreini, the 12th ISSA member to receive the honor. "Thank you for supporting me over the years. I will value this award the rest of my life."



ISSA Vice President John Kahler, left, presents Past ISSA President Bruno Andreini with his 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award.

**See p. 13-14 for additional
2020 ISSA award winners.**



Bruno Andreini, left, with fellow Saylorville Dam club member Barry Starmer at the Snowmobile Iowa ride in Slater last February.

Legislative legacy

Andreini's resume in snowmobiling tells the story of a volunteer committed to an organization, compassionate about special-needs families and dedicated to educating the future of the sport. It also illustrates his skills as a leader and motivator, getting others to buy into what he's trying to accomplish.

What he hopes stands out for his legacy is his work on the legislative front. In addition to his efforts on getting the snowmobile registration money returned, Andreini said he worked extensively on creating the antique snowmobile registration system and lobbied hard for snowmobile titles in the late 1990s.

"I spent bookoo hours getting that done," he said. "We organized and attended legislative breakfasts and negotiated as needed to move the legislation along. I am very proud of that. Having snowmobiles titled is important for so many reasons, including proof of ownership, insurance and theft prevention."

Andreini admits his involvement gives him the same rush as squeezing the throttle. As shown by the odometer reading on his Ski-Doo, he can still be found out on the trail, but he truly relishes the time spent with fellow board members and others committed to improving the sport.

"I seemed to get along with all the people I have been associated with over the years," he said. "I have never met a snowmobiler that I truly dislike. It's been a wonderful ride."

Follow Me to Cresco

Driftrunners to celebrate 50th Annual Snowfest this month



by Cameron Hanson

The Cresco Driftrunners snowmobile club in Region 5 will be celebrating its 50th Annual Snowfest Jan. 21-24, marking the milestone occasion with snowmobile trail rides, fundraisers and socially-distanced activities.

Amidst the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, organizers are cautiously yet optimistically moving forward with event planning and will be adhering to the most up-to-date safety and health guidelines. The latest developments will be posted on the club's Facebook page as the four-day weekend draws near.

As detailed in this month's Club News and on the flyer on page 12, the 2021 Snowfest schedule will include Early Bird and Ladies rides on Thursday and Friday and a Snowmobile Iowa ride Saturday morning. Evening trail rides are also planned, capped off by a torchlight parade through downtown Cresco Saturday evening.

Including fundraising meals, most activities will be centered around the Driftrunners' clubhouse and the Expo Center on the Howard County Fairgrounds in Cresco. The band, 'The Dweebs', will headline the annual Snowball Dance Saturday night, and a bonfire and fireworks display are planned after the parade.

During the dance, the club will be drawing for two snowmobile/trailer packages. Members had planned on just one snowmobile and trailer raffle, but the first 150 tickets sold out by October, so they decided to hold a second raffle, again at 150 tickets at \$100 each. The original raffle is for a 2020 Ski-Doo Renegade and two-place trailer. The second raffle is for a 2020 Polaris Indy 600 and Triton trailer.

Tickets for the second raffle went on sale Dec. 11. To purchase, visit the club's Facebook page. "We would like to thank Mason City Powersports and Bodensteiner Motorsports for sponsoring these raffles alongside with us," the club posted online.

Formed in 1968, the Driftrunners stand as the largest snowmobile club in Iowa, ending last season with 139 members. The club is 100 percent ISSA, and as shown on the trail map in this month's center spread, members maintain close to 220 miles of trail in and around the Cresco area.

Nearly all of the club's trail system is cross-country, highlighted by bluffs and woods. Near the Minnesota border, the club is known statewide for its elaborate warming bin and trailside gathering place south of Florenceville, home of the club's annual Charlie's Chili Feed each February.

Just a few miles north of there is another popular destination: the State Line Trail Bridge, a massive 180-foot span the club built over the Upper Iowa River in 1995 and refurbished in 2017. Complete with wooden rails to guide skis, this impressive structure leads riders into Florenceville and its sister city of Granger, Minn.

The Driftrunners started Snowfest in 1971 as the International Snow Fest, later shortening it to just Snowfest. With snowmobiling at its core, the winter celebration over the years has included charity events, broomball tournaments and even ice sculpture contests.

Club members said they are proud to continue the tradition this year and will do whatever it takes to provide a safe and exciting four days for anyone who makes the journey over to northeast Iowa. For more information on Snowfest, like the club on Facebook or contact Brandon at (563) 605-0141 or Lee at (641) 229-1588.



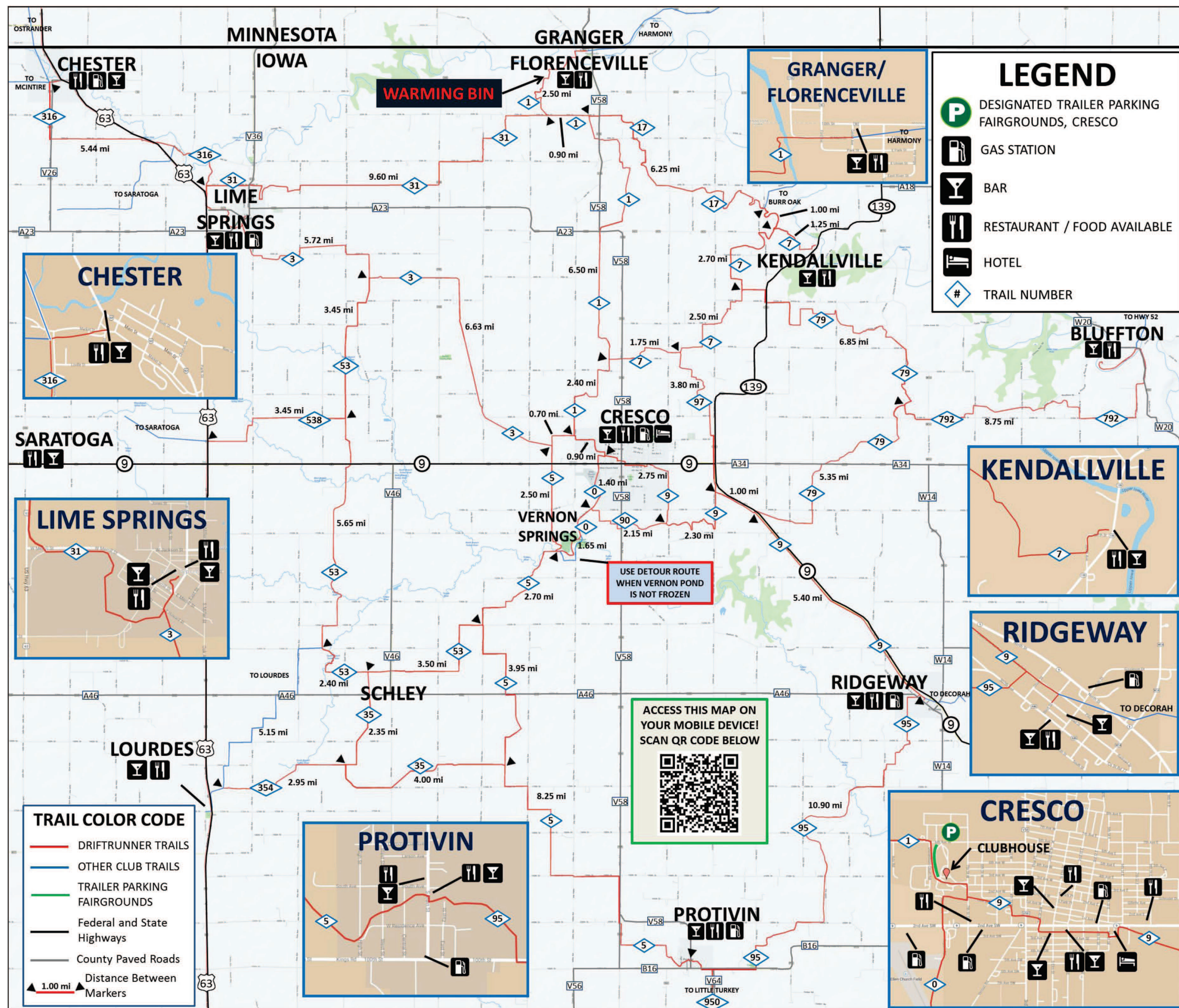
Crossing the Stateline Trail Bridge



Trailside selfie at Bluffton



Outcroppings near Kendallville



Find us on:
facebook

Scan QR Code

WATCH FOR THESE EVENTS EACH YEAR:

STEAK FRY IN SEPTEMBER

KICK-OFF DANCE IN NOVEMBER

SNOWFEST IN JANUARY

CHARLIE'S CHILI FEED IN FEBUARY

Cresco, IA
DRIFTRUNNERS
Snowmobile Club

SNOWMOBILE TRAIL MAP

Driftrunners

SNOWMOBILE CLUB

50th Annual Snowfest

January 21 - 24,

2021



**POKER
RUN**

BINGO

**VINTAGE
SLED
RIDE**

**LADIES
CLUB
RIDE**

**SNOWBALL
DANCE
WITH
BAND**

**The
Dweebs**

**TORCHLIGHT
PARADE**

**BOY
SCOUT
BREAKFAST**

**EVENING
TRAIL
RIDES**

**SUNDAY
BRUNCH**

- **COMMUNITY EVENTS**
- **SNOWMOBILE RAFFLE**
- **MANY MORE ACTIVITIES!**



Find us on Facebook at "DRIFTRUNNERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB" for event locations, times & updates!

For more info contact Brandon or Lee at:

563-605-0141 or 641-229-1588

2020 ISSA Award Winners

Editor's note: Due to the pandemic-related cancellation of the ISSA Annual Convention in November, the ISSA's annual awards were delivered to their respective recipients by ISSA officials. What follows here are the ISSA Awards Committee presentations previously planned for the convention's Saturday evening Awards Banquet. Please note there were no submissions for Dealer of the Year nor Young Snowmobiler of the Year. The Club of the Year is included with this month's Club News on the following page.



2020 Groomer Operator of the Year

ISSA President Scott Nauman, left, and Past ISSA President Brian Carmichael present Wayne Vokaty of the Cresco Driftrunners with his Groomer Operator of the Year Award Nov. 25. Also pictured is Wayne's wife, Darla.

The **ISSA Groomer Operator of the Year for 2020** was Wayne Vokaty of the Cresco Driftrunners in Region 5.

Wayne has been involved in snowmobiling for more than 40 years and, following his retirement, began grooming club trails during the 2018-19 season. He maintains 42 miles on the Driftrunners' trail system and coordinates with other operators to meet up at the end of his grooming shift. He helps with trail maintenance, groomer prep and operator training. When he's not in the groomer, he and his wife, Darla, regularly participate in club rides, meetings and other activities.

Congratulations to Wayne Vokaty.



2020 Snowmobiler of the Year

The **ISSA Snowmobiler of the Year for 2020** was Barry Starmer of Ankeny, president of the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club in Region 7.

Barry started snowmobiling in the mid-70s on a 340cc Wheel Horse, but due to a lack of snow in his area, he left the sport before returning in the mid-90s. He joined the Saylorville Dam club in 2009 and quickly became an active member. He served several years as trail coordinator and is now in his second term as the club's president.

Barry volunteers each year at the Adaptive Sports Ski event at Seven Oaks Ski Park, using his snowmobile to pull disabled skiers up the hill. Barry also works with the ISU Clean Snowmobile Challenge and has established a permanent connection between the club and the team at Iowa State University.

Barry led the effort to rekindle the club's relationship with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to help re-establish the trail at Big Creek State Park through extensive cleanup and repair efforts. He can always be counted on to show up to help on trail days, groomer days and the club's annual grass drags.

Congratulations to Barry Starmer.

At left, ISSA Vice President John Kahler presents Barry Starmer with his plaque at a Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club meeting Dec. 15.



2020 Snowmobile Family of the Year

ISSA Vice President John Kahler presents the Krapfl family with their award Dec. 15. From left, Julia, Madison, Mackenzie and Craig. Unavailable for the picture was daughter Megan.

The **ISSA Snowmobile Family of the Year for 2020** was the Krapfl family of Ankeny: Craig, Julia and daughters Megan, Madison and Mackenzie. They have been members of Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club in Region 7 since 2010.

Craig has been a member of the club's board for eight years serving as secretary, vice president, president and currently as trail coordinator. The entire family has been involved in club events, including the Spina Bifida Rock n' Roll and the Winter Fun Day as well as the club's grass drag event.

Not only does the family volunteer with putting on the grass drags, but Madison and Mackenzie also participate in the races. Since joining the club they have worked to create a family-friendly environment that has helped grow the club, not just in numbers, but in participation.

Congratulations to the Krapfl family.

Thank you to the following 2020 award sponsors:

Groomer Operator of the Year..... V&V Insurance
Family of the YearMatt Miner
Snowmobiler of the YearDickinson County SnowHawks
Club of the Year Floyd County Groomers

Region 1

CLUB NEWS

Dickinson County SnowHawks



Dickinson County SnowHawks at their Dec. 9 club meeting.

by the ISSA Awards Committee

The **ISSA Snowmobile Club of the Year for 2020** was the Dickinson County SnowHawks in Region 1. The club finished the 2019-20 season with 84 members. The club is 100 percent ISSA, meaning all of their members are also members of the state organization.

The club has held an annual youth snowmobile safety class for more than 20 years. The club donates to a local family that has a child with Spina Bifida and also donates to the ISSA Scholarship Foundation and Club Challenge and gives club scholarships to students in the four schools in Dickinson County.

Club trails do not go on private land, so instead of a landowners' appreciation event, members hold a Sponsorship Fun Run for the businesses that support the club.

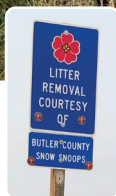
Congratulations to the Dickinson County SnowHawks.

Region 4

Butler County Snow Snoops



Twice a year, the Butler County Snow Snoops clean up a two-mile stretch of Highway 14 north of Allison on their secondary trail system as part of the Adopt-A-Highway litter removal program.



Region 5

Driftrunners, Inc.

by Bob Martinek, Member

Season's greetings from Cresco! Well, I stopped today (Dec. 11) and got my tags and trail passes, and by the time you are reading this, second season deer hunting will be over. Also, I know our trails have been marked and are ready. So now all that remains is

Mother Nature. Hopefully, she has been good to us with plenty of the white bounty for Christmas and New Year's. Please stay on the trails and respect our landowners as it is truly a privilege to ride on their land.

Our 50th Annual Snowfest is almost here; It is slated for Jan. 21-24. We have many, many activities planned. Club trail rides, a fun run, Boy Scout pancake breakfast, vendor show, Bingo, ISSA Snowmobile Iowa Ride, vintage sled show and ride, torchlight parade down main street Cresco, bonfire with fireworks, dance at the Expo, three big raffles and a brunch/breakfast fun run card turn in Sunday at the Firemen's Inn followed by a family trail ride are all events set to take place.

Now for the disclaimer: Because of COVID-19 and the governor, the best way to stay up to date on our events is to follow our page, Driftrunners Snowmobile Club, on Facebook. Personally, I like to think that no matter what, COVID-19 can't take our trails and trail riding away from us!

Also, right after Snowfest is Charlie's Chili Feed on Feb. 13, held at the bin site on the trail to Cresco just south of Granger. More details next month. Until then, thanks, think snow and see you on the trails!



The Cresco Driftrunners held a drive-thru toy drive at their clubhouse on the Howard County Fairgrounds Nov. 27.

Region 7

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club

by Barry Starmer, President

I hope by the time you are reading this, some of you have been riding. Mother Nature reminded us in October to get our sleds and trailers ready. We received nine inches of snow; two days later, the temperature was 50 degrees. We have our groomer hooked to the drag, topped off the fluids and checked the trail signs to make sure they haven't been knocked over or destroyed. We are ready for snow. Continue to do THE SNOW DANCE.

I hope everyone had a safe and healthy Christmas and Happy New Year. Until next month, GET INVOLVED!



ISSA Sholarship Update

The ISSA Education and Scholarship Foundation handed out four scholarships in 2020 to students from ISSA-member families. The awards totaled \$3,000, the same amount as 2019.

Last year's recipients include Morgan and Allison Nuss from the Chickasaw Sno-Riders, Region 4; Isabelle Willey from the Snow Pioneers, Region 5; and Garret Ollendieck from the Cresco Driftrunners, Region 5.

Scholarship awards ranged between \$500 and \$1,000 per student. They were made possible by the foundation's annual fundraising efforts and by income from interest-bearing investments. Scholarships are available for graduating high school seniors and those already enrolled in college.

Applications for 2021 are due April 15. Students must belong to ISSA-member families to qualify. Materials are available for download at www.iowasnowmobiler.com/issa/scholarship. Completed applications should be mailed to foundation secretary Carol Nauman at 402 Fifth Street, Rudd, IA 50471.

Each applicant is also required to obtain an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) rating number from the Iowa College Access Network at www.icansucceed.org. To get this number, the student will need 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 an EFC number.

Each applicant is also expected to submit an essay on 'What Snowmobiling Means to Me'. Last year's submissions accompany this article.

The ISSA's scholarship foundation was created with the seed money leftover from the ISSA's hosting of the International Snowmobile Congress in Cedar Rapids in 1995. Since 1998, the foundation has supported 58 students.

The foundation continues to raise funds through club donations and, for the second year in a row, a gas card raffle. Due to the cancellation of convention last November, Sally Carmichael's scholarship quilt raffle was postponed.



Roger Bates, left, of Lone Tree, a member of the Eastern Iowa Sledheads in Region 9, won the 2020 Casey's \$300 gas card raffle to benefit the ISSA Education and Scholarship Foundation. The raffle is back on this winter with the drawing planned in early March. Tickets cost 1/\$5 or 5/\$20. To purchase, contact your Region Director or Bruno Andreini, right, at (515) 240-3858.

Scholarship Essays

What Snowmobiling Means to Me

by Morgan Nuss, Chickasaw Sno-Riders

The cool gust of frosty air, the bright light of the rising sun, and the greasy smell of ready-to-go gasoline hit me as I walk outside to jump on my snowmobile to go for a spin. I brush the remnants of my last ride off my helmet and glance behind me to see my family getting dressed in heavy winter clothing. After they are set, I watch my sisters and dad pull away in front of me to start our ride. I take a deep breath and push the throttle.

Snowmobiling has been an incredible and relaxing activity to enjoy with my family in the winter. Our family jumps for joy when we see the first snowfall of the season appear on the projected forecast. We get excited when we see the groomer go out for the first time. My sisters, dad, and I do not usually go far, but that does not mean we don't have fun. A simple ride out to a family friend's house or a couple of miles on the trail is enough for us to enjoy ourselves. My favorite is riding to Ionia or North Washington. I love to go on the trail and view the wildlife as I ride. It is quite a feeling to listen to the low hum of a snowmobile and be in the middle of nowhere, yet be surrounded by overhanging trees and itinerant rodents.

I can always count on snowmobiling to give me a chance to spend time with my family. Being actively involved in numerous sports and activities throughout the year does not give us a great amount of time to spend with each other. Our family is more often than not "scattered," meaning at least one of us is out and about at some sort of practice or game. Snowmobiling gives me a sense of unity. Riding in a single line symbolizes that we are a pack. My family and I are together, away from the busy schedules and pressured reality of schoolwork. Going for a ride is a time to take it all in and reflect on how blessed I am to have the opportunity to ride.

As my house comes into view, I close my eyes for a second and reminisce about the exciting moments of our ride. Waving at other riders to watching a herd of deer run through the woods is an amazing ride in my book. I see the snow melt away from the warm sunlight, but I remember one important thing: Winter will come again.



by Allison Nuss, Chickasaw Sno-Riders

When I look at photos from my childhood, I always come across the same picture of myself on a snowmobile. In this photo, I am sitting on an Arctic Cat ZL 600 and my twin sister Morgan is on an Arctic Cat Jag. The snowmobiles were in our driveway on a trailer getting ready to be put away for the spring. My dad has always had snowmobiles, and we've had them since I was very young. At first, he'd pull us on sleds behind the snowmobiles. We eventually got older and bigger and were eager to ride them for the first time. We'd ride around the house and through our backyard with our dad. I loved it and thought it was a ton of fun. Morgan and I would chase each other and "race" to see who was the fastest. We loved getting a lot of snow because we knew we would be able to ride our snowmobiles. We continued to ride as we got older, and eventually, we were able to get our own sleds.

I now have my own Arctic Cat Jag. My dad has an Arctic Cat F7 Firecat Limited Edition Joker snowmobile, and my twin sister has an Arctic Cat sled as well. My other younger sisters have youth snowmobiles, and they love them. Lauren's is white and lime green and Kirsten's is purple. They both have matching snowmobile coats and helmets that are really cool. When we go riding, we normally go on the trails around New Hampton. Our house is near the edge of town so the trails are easily accessible. We also ride to neighboring towns like Ionia and North Washington, and sometimes stop for food on our ride. Although I don't ride as much as my sisters nowadays, I still enjoy getting on a snowmobile.



Next page

What Snowmobiling Means to Me

Snowmobiling is a great way to spend time with family. It allows me to do something fun with my dad and younger sisters. It's a way for us to get outside and enjoy the fresh air. Snowmobiling is what you make of it. You can ride around your hometown and surrounding areas or you can travel hundreds of miles for a trip up north. It's a family-friendly activity that you can participate in all of your life, no matter what age. I will be able to continue snowmobiling with family and friends as I get older, and someday, maybe my kids will ride. I'm excited for what the future holds for me, and I will continue to be active and involved in the snowmobile community.

by Isabelle Willey, Snow Pioneers

What does snowmobiling mean to me? Snowmobiling means family, community and new opportunities.

I grew up with the sport. It wasn't something I just decided to do because my friends were doing, so it means something special to me. I have been snowmobiling for as long as I can remember, and now as I look back, snowmobiling has brought a lot of things into my life.

Through snowmobiling, I have gained a closeness to my family as it is something we all have in common. It has brought us on several family trips with countless memories, days doing trail work together, hours spent with sled maintenance and several conventions and ISC trips.

Along with family togetherness, snowmobiling has brought me a community. The snowmobiling community is a great one full of people who are always there for you. They're the ones you can call if you're broke down on the side of the road, and they're there to celebrate all the exciting parts of life right there alongside you. This is a community that you will have for a lifetime.

Lastly, snowmobiling has brought me countless opportunities. It has given me the chance to meet people from all over the state, country and even some from outside of the U.S. These people just mean my snowmobiling community has been extended. I know that someday if I decide to road trip out west with friends and break down, I have people out there that I can count on to help me out.

After college, I will be pursuing a journalism career, and snowmobiling gives me a hidden advantage if I would choose to work for a snowmobiling-related company. I now have several people I could use as references, and I already have the background knowledge. I could take my degree and write for a company's website or for a magazine or really anything that could take me anywhere in the world, but I will always know that I have friends and those who have basically become family wherever I go who will always be ready to jump in a truck and head to wherever the snow is so we can ride.

So you asked me, what does snowmobiling mean to me? It's a sport/hobby that has shaped me into the person I am today. Without the life lessons, new friendships, hardships and celebrations, I wouldn't be who I am today in the slightest. I am forever thankful for my dad for bringing this hobby into my life and all the things that have come out of it.

by Garret Ollendieck, Cresco Driftrunners

Snowmobiling to me means a lot more than riding a motorized vehicle around the country for fun. Snowmobiling has been a part of my life since I have been eight years old. I will never forget the excitement I felt on the day my Dad brought home two snowmobiles for me and my brother. On that day, I would have never guessed what buying those two snowmobiles would do for not only my childhood, but for me as a person.

As I grew up, I could finally start riding trails with my brother and my Dad. Snowmobiling was a hobby that we did as a family that we all really enjoyed. Throughout elementary and junior high, we would ride many

miles during the week, but not on the weekend, because we were young and Dad didn't want us to cause an accident. Dad taught me the importance of spending family times together and teaching me how to drive responsibly.

When I was 14 years old, snowmobiling became a passion for me. All I wanted to do was ride my snowmobile around the yard or the trails. It was also the first time I rode in the groomer with my dad. I loved to ride in the groomer. My father and I would have great talks about life and about where we were going to ride later that day. He showed me the importance of community service and how much people appreciate you volunteering your time for the fun of others.

In the fall of 2017, my brother, dad and I helped rebuild the Granger bridge for the Driftrunners snowmobile club. I had problem helping because I knew, as a snowmobiler, everyone helps everyone, and we all come together to make it a fun snowmobiling experience.

Snowmobiling was something that made me feel invincible. I always felt like a king when I would handle my snowmobile through a corner in the exact path I wanted to follow. One day, this feeling of invincibility changed completely. We were riding in southern Minnesota when my brother crashed his snowmobile onto a road just a few feet from me. His snowmobile was completely wrecked, and he had dislocated his hip. I will never forget the calmness my Dad showed during this situation. Without hesitation, he called 911 to ensure my brother would be okay. I learned so many lessons that day. No matter how many times you do something, bad outcomes can still occur. Dad said, "It's called life." I also learned how, in times of an accident, no money and no snowmobile comes before someone's health.



2021 DONATIONS

Friends of the ISSA (\$100 minimum)

Best's Powerhouse, Dunkerton.....	\$100
Dan and Kolette Delperdang, Spirit Lake.....	\$100
Bob and Judy King, Council Bluffs	\$100
Dickinson County SnowHawks.....	\$100

ISSA Lobbyist Club Challenge

Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$407
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$350
Floyd County Groomers Association.....	\$300
Iowa River Riders.....	\$100

Spina Bifida Association of Iowa

Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$500
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$407
Floyd County Groomers Association.....	\$300
Iowa River Riders.....	\$200

ACSA Legal Defense Fund

Floyd County Groomers Association.....	\$200
Iowa River Riders.....	\$100

ISSA Scholarship Foundation

Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$250
Floyd County Groomers Association.....	\$200
Iowa River Riders.....	\$200
Dickinson County Snowhaws.....	\$100

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

**REGION ONE****Buena Vista Blizzard Busters**

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

Clay County Sno Broncos

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

Dickinson County SnowHawks

www.dickinsoncountysnowhawks.com
P.O. Box 504, Spirit Lake, IA 51360
President: Kevin Winters
P.O. Box 305, Lake Park, IA 51347
(712) 320-9530
kwinters9530@gmail.com

Lyon County Sno-Lyons

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

O'Brien County Snowtrackers

Steven Wiersma
5801 370th St, Primghar, IA 51245
(712) 461-2774
steelpack2017@yahoo.com

Osceola County High Point Riders

www.highpointriders.com
President: Jeremy Wollmuth
5992 200th Street, Melvin, IA 51350
(712) 461-1510
jeremywoll10@gmail.com

Powder Players Inc.

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

Sioux County Snowmobile Club

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

REGION TWO**Emmet County Driftbusters**

President: Mike Blomstrom
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(515) 408-8053
mblomstrom@forceamerica.com

Humboldt Sno-Skimmers

President: Shane Braby
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snoskimmers@gmail.com

Kossuth County Drift Skippers

President: Jeremy Walker
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(515) 341-1626, jlkwalk@gmail.com

Palo Alto Rough Riders

President: Adam Kerr
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(712) 298-0338

Sno-Pak

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

REGION THREE**Hancock County Snowmobile Assn.**

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

Iowa River Riders

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

Lakota Sno-Eagles

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

North Iowa Sno-Jammers

P.O. Box 103, Lake Mills, IA 50450
www.northiowasnojammers.com
President: Matt Trunkhill
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North Iowa Snow Seekers

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

Worth County Fence Stretchers

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

REGION FOUR**Bremer County Sno-Knights**

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

Butler County Snow Snoops

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

Cedar Falls Sno Hawks

President: Gary Matthias
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gmkm2161@gmail.com

Chickasaw Sno-Riders

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

Dewar Snow Chasers

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

Floyd County Groomers Association

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

Howard County Stump Jumpers

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

Mitchell County E-Z Riders, Inc.,

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

REGION FIVE**Allamakee Sno-Blazers**

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

Asbury Snowhawks

President: Tom Spalla
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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

Driftrunners, Inc.

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

Dyersville Driftskippers

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

Snow Pioneers

President: Mitchell Heims
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Trail Blaz-zers Inc.

President: Randy Henniges
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randyhenniges@gmail.com

Trails Unlimited

1222 Hwy. 150, Festina, IA 52144
President: Bud Winter
(319) 231-3337, bwinter@acegroup.cc
Wapsipicon Snowmobile Association

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

Winneshiek Trail Twisters Inc.

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

REGION SIX**Sac County Snow Lovers**

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

REGION SEVEN**High Bridge Trailblazers**

President: Robyn Hefler
1122 W. Mamie Eisenhower
Ave. Boone, IA 50036
(515) 236-0500
robyn.hefler@gmail.com

Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers

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

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

Team Iowa Snowmobilers

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

Webster County Ice Breakers

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

REGION EIGHT**Central Iowa Snowmobilers**

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

Tri-County Snowmobile Association

P.O. Box 231, Traer, IA 50675
President: John McKenna
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Cascade Snowmobile Club
President: Steve Peiffer
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Eastern Iowa Sledheads

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Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders

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Scott County Sno-Seekers

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President: Bill Hogan
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REGION TEN**Southwest Iowa Snow Scooters**

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Stag Island Skol Patrol

President: Brad Landhuis
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Appanoose County Trails, Inc.
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Southeast Iowa Ridge Blasters

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President: Aaron Dorothy
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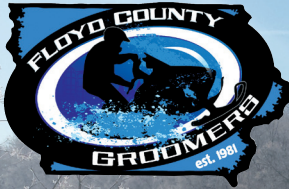
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Clear Lake, IA**

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Radar Runs
Noon Kitty Kat Race
Youth 120 Race
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Challenge



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