

2015 ISSA
Convention
Registration Inside
Sign up on p. 8

IOWA SNOWMOBILER

November 2015 • Volume 37 • Issue 3

**ISSA
Retreat
to Copper
Country**

**Rolling Prairie
Trail Bridges
Undergo
Facelifts**

*Survivor
Contestant
Planned for
Convention*





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IOWA SNOWMOBILER

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Membership, Website Changes Underway

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January	Dec. 18
February	Jan. 15
March	Feb. 12

COVER: ISSA Region 6 Director Gene Gerdes cruises down Trail 8 in the Western U.P. of Michigan last March as part of the ISSA's planned snowmobile retreat to the area.

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President's Desk

Giving Kids the Ride of their Lives

Watching the Weather Channel this morning, the signs of winter are present. With snow in Michigan and snow in the western states and colder temperatures with frost in areas, it's time to start thinking about the upcoming snow season.

I hear of club meetings going on so do not forget to attend your local club meetings. To quote Bill Bradfield with MichCanSka, "for adventure, we need to dream it, plan it, do it, so get involved."

First off, a reminder to not forget the upcoming ISSA convention at King's Pointe in Storm Lake Nov. 20-22. I know many of us tend to put off until the last minute, but for the convention committee to plan accordingly, your attendance would be appreciated. See page 10 of this issue for the details for registration, room reservations and agenda.

In September, I attended the Iowa Outdoor Expo at the Issac Walton League park in Des Moines. There was a wide variety of displays and demos available to participate in, to learn more but mostly to have fun with

outdoor activities, I had the Snowmobile Simulator set up and was busy the whole day with 120 kids climbing up on the machine.

I would say at least 99 percent of them had never experienced anything motorized



Merv Hoermann
ISSA President

like that before. There were a lot of happy faces that enjoyed themselves. I visited with many of the parents as well to tell the story of snowmobiling. I want to thank Steve (Klink) for helping to move the simulator around for me. It is greatly appreciated.

If you have functions in your area and would like to have the simulator there, let me know as we are setting up reservations for the season already.

Well, this is all for now. Have fun and be safe, and we'll see you later this month in Storm Lake.

Vice President's Message

Don't Be Afraid to Hand the Keys Over to the Next Generation

When I became a father in 2002, I knew the day would come that my daughter would ask me the question that every dad is scared to hear. "Dad, can I have the keys to your truck?" Now, my daughter, Isabelle, isn't quite old enough yet to take off with the truck down the road, but I have heard this question as she helps around the Willey Homestead and at her grandparent's place. It's a scary thought to think about one of the things most precious to you is now out of your control...not to mention your child is out there too.

As I have worked with snowmobile clubs across the state, I often hear about a similar situation happening. I get asked by newer members:

"How can we get the older guys in the club to let us run the groomer?"

"How can we get the older members to understand why we need to change the way we do fundraisers?"

"How do I keep this guy from running the groomer? He's going to tear it apart."

Usually, it comes down to both sides finding some common ground and understanding. I will be honest. I've been on both sides of these situations. Both sides have to be open-minded and work together for the good of the club and the snowmobilers they serve.



Chris Willey
ISSA Vice President

When I first started being involved in my club, I wanted to jump right in. I had tons of ideas and changes to make, and my biggest concern was getting in that groomer. There was apprehension from the older guys—some who had run the groomer for years, some since it was new—to let this young throttle jockey kid take off unsupervised with their "baby."

Or to suggest a Poker Run as a fundraiser. I felt discouraged as I was a new member ready to make the club bigger,

better and help out. I was excited to get out there and these guys seemed like they didn't want me to. I kept at it, went out helped mark trails, rode with other operators and learned and gained knowledge on how the club did things.

At the same time, I demonstrated that I knew what I was doing, and they let me get out there on my own, eventually becoming vice president and grooming coordinator for the club. Over the years I have found myself going from a new member to one of the older members and becoming one of the apprehensive about a new member or operator and their ideas or ability.

It was on a cold January night talking with Todd Mangold—the guy that taught me a lot when I started grooming—as we made our way across a long field, grooming the trail. I was telling him my worries about the new groomer and operators running it. He said he felt the same way but also reminded me that when I started, there were those who felt the same way about me. It made me realize I needed to be a little more open minded.

We too often get set in our ways and don't look at doing something different until someone comes along and questions it or has a new idea. I want snowmobilers new and old to think about this as it comes up in your clubs. Look at all aspects of the club: trail signing, building new trail or changing trails, fundraisers, grant applications,

officers, etc. Look at both sides and work together.

To the new members, you need to bring your ideas and enthusiasm to club meetings and events. But remember and respect that the older members in the club have been at this awhile and know what has to be done. Some things have to be done a certain way for a reason. Learn from them, help out and offer ideas as you think of them.

To the older members who have been in the club a while, be open to new ideas, listen to them and work with new members. Teach the newer members how and why things are done the way they are. Give them the knowledge to keep the club going and maybe even growing.

When both groups work together, the club grows and the sport becomes more enjoyable for everyone. So I guess I'm asking the guys and gals that have been doing this awhile to not be afraid to hand over the keys to the club or the groomer to the newer members and let them see what they can do. Be there to guide them when it's needed. Enjoy some free time to ride the trails.

It's the same way I need to be when April rolls around, and Izzy has that driver's permit in her hand and she asks me for the keys to my truck. I will let her take it out for a drive with me there to guide her but trusting that she knows what she's doing from what I've taught her.

Snow Show Cancelled at Last Minute due to Vendor Withdrawal

The second annual ISSA Snow Show planned for the last weekend in October at the Grand River Center in Dubuque was cancelled at the last minute due to unexpected vendor withdrawal and anticipated low attendance related to ongoing field work in Iowa.

"Many of our vendors were unable to make the show as it was being held a month earlier than last year," Snow Show Chair Andrea Willey explained in announcing the cancellation Oct. 22. "Between harvest still going strong, many deciding to cut back on attending shows such as this as well as the timing not working out, our vendor attendance was going to be down considerably."

Planned for Oct. 24-25, the ISSA had decided on a stand-alone show this year based off the success of last year's event, which was held a month later in conjunction with the ISSA's annual convention in Dubuque. Officials said the decision to cancel this year's event was "not easy," and the ISSA apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused.

"It's unfortunate," ISSA Vice President

Chris Willey said. "We are definitely going to have to re-evaluate the timing of this event if we decide to do it again next year. Maybe a show doesn't work without having it the same weekend as convention. I'm sure last winter's poor snow season contributed to this as well."

"This past week alone, we have had four vendors back out of their commitments to attend, blaming family illnesses, lack of employees, etc. For whatever reason, it was not going to work for them anymore," Andrea Willey said. "After this, we decided to cancel the show. We did not want to risk upsetting those who have committed by not giving them the best possible outcome with a good show and would like to continue having a good relationship with them in the future."

Vendors who had registered for the event were contacted by show organizers with the bad news, and the ISSA was looking to negotiate a cancellation fee with the host facility, Chris Willey said.

The ISSA Board of Directors meeting slated for that same weekend was also cancelled due to the lack of a quorum.

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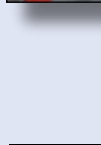
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Remember to Bring Club Challenge Donations to Convention this Month

The Des Moines-based lobbying team of Mike Heller and Paula Feltner completed their 12th legislative session representing the ISSA and snowmobiling interests in Iowa at the Statehouse earlier this year.

While they were not able to secure any fuel tax reimbursement for snowmobilers with the state's gas tax hike, they did successfully lobby for the passage of a bill which preserved snowmobile trail access near interstates and divided highways.

Sponsored by Sen. Dick Dearden (D-Des Moines) and signed by Gov. Terry Branstad in April, Senate File 218 restored the ability of snowmobiles to cross interstates and divided highways on bridges and overpasses.

"This was an important bill that clarifies that snowmobiles can operate on right-of-ways and use bridges to cross primary roads," Heller said in his weekly in-session update to the ISSA. "It also sends a message that snowmobiles have a right to operate on trails in Iowa."

The language clarification stems from a situation in Region 9, where a disgruntled homeowner challenged the legality of snowmobilers crossing primary highways. The new law became effective July 1.

Another bill of interest to ISSA members that gained some traction last session was a proposal to allow snowmobilers to purchase specialty license plates for their personal vehicles. Once passed, the bill (House File 617) would create special vehicle

registration plates with ISSA decals.

According to Heller, the bill cleared the House but remains in committee in the Senate in Des Moines, thus making it eligible for consideration when the Legislature convenes this January.

"It was a long but productive session for ISSA members," Heller said, recapping the 2015 legislative calendar. "It has been our pleasure to represent you at the Capitol. It is important to note our bill on trail access was one of the very few bills coming out of the Natural Resources Committee to make it to the Governor this year."

The need for a full-time lobbyist for the ISSA dates back to May of 2002, when the Iowa Legislature de-appropriated nearly \$1 million in snowmobile registration fees. The funds were eventually reimbursed, thanks to the hard work of the lobbyists and the ISSA's Emergency Funding Committee which oversees them.

Heller and Feltner began representing the ISSA in November of 2003 for \$17,500 per year. Their current contract costs the association \$23,000 annually.

To help offset that expense, the ISSA relies on its Club Challenge fundraising program. Here, member-clubs are encouraged to donate to the effort, and as tallied below, more than \$6,500 was collected in 2015, down slightly from 2014's total of \$7,253.

The fundraising year renews each November at convention, and clubs are encouraged to bring their donations to Storm Lake later this month.

2015 ISSA Club Challenge

Webster County Ice Breakers.....	\$1,001
Wapsipinicon Snowmobile Association	\$1,000
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club.....	\$500
Frozen Few.....	\$500
Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....	\$500
Iowa River Riders	\$400
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$351
Jones County Snow Chasers	\$351
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$350
Snow Pioneers	\$350
Sac County Snow Lovers	\$301
Floyd County Groomers	\$300
Bremer County Sno-Knights.....	\$250
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks	\$200
Howard County Stump Jumpers.....	\$150
Palo Alto Rough Riders	\$150
Driftrunners.....	\$100
Trails Unlimited	\$100
O'Brien County Snowtrackers	\$100
Emmet County Driftbusters	\$100

Send your contribution to your Region Director or ISSA Treasurer Kim Herman.
Contact information can be found in the front half of this magazine.

Membership, Website Changes Underway for ISSA

Brittany Paulus of Marble Rock, Secretary of the Floyd County Groomers Association of Region 4, has been named the ISSA's new Membership Committee chair.

Paulus succeeds Kim Herman of Osage, who will continue to serve as ISSA Treasurer. The move was approved by the ISSA Board of Directors at its September meeting.

To streamline the bookkeeping process, the treasurer and membership position were first combined at the 2010 ISSA



Paulus

Convention after Vera Thomas and Diane Childs both retired from those posts, respectively.

Herman has served in that joint capacity for five years and began looking for some relief earlier this year. She will assist Paulus in the transition process throughout the 2016 membership year.

Paulus, who was named the ISSA's Young Adult Snowmobiler of the Year in 2011, can be reached at bepaulus@outlook.com, and memberships can be mailed to her at 1924 270th Street, Marble Rock, IA 50653.

Separating the two positions comes at a time when the ISSA is converting its membership database to MemberClicks, an online, all-in-one membership management



New look website

software system.

Now in its second year, the program costs the ISSA \$4,500 annually but is intended to simplify the membership recruitment and renewal process. Eventually, club members will be able to renew their memberships online.

Included with the MemberClicks package are webhosting services, and the ISSA is currently migrating its content from its existing website at www.iowasnowmobiler.com to issa.memberclicks.net.

The ISSA will continue to maintain the website and control its content. The new site includes member login pages, a user-submitted event calendar and multi-layer menus, which will hopefully lead to a better experience for the visitor.

Pending feedback from the general membership, the ISSA will provide both sites throughout this season and will eventually merge its web presence into one site in the off-season, if not sooner.

2015-16 EMR Program

Join the ISSA Early & You Could Win a Trip to Pat's Landing!



Courtesy of the ISSA's Early Membership and Renewal Program (EMR), snowmobilers who join or renew with the ISSA by Dec. 1 are eligible to win a three-night, six-person vacation package to Pat's Landing near Hayward, WI.

Valued at \$990, the trip could be yours for the price of an ISSA membership of \$15. Additionally, members who renew or join by Nov. 1 will be entered into the drawing twice. If joining through a club, the club also earns two chances at each drawing. An ISSA membership application is available online at www.iowasnowmobiler.com/issa/2016memapp.jpg.

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42nd Annual ISSA Convention

Tentative Agenda

FRIDAY, NOV. 20

4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Convention registration
"Snowmobile Iowa" setup
7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Hospitality & entertainment w/raffles

SATURDAY, NOV. 21

8:15 a.m. to 10 a.m. Convention registration
8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. Opening remarks
8:50 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Region meetings/director elections
9:35 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. General membership annual meeting
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Brunch w/lobbyist update
Silent auction opens
1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Women's off-site

ISSA seminars

1 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.: Snowmobile Iowa expansion
1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. MichCanSka charity ride
2 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Geomapping/tracking
2:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. ISU Clean Snowmobile Challenge
3 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Watercross racing
3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. IDNR Open Forum

Awards Banquet

5:30 p.m. Social hour. Silent auction closes
6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Dinner
7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Entertainment
8 p.m. to 9 p.m. Awards
9 p.m. Drawings, quilt raffle & grand raffle
10 p.m. Closing ceremonies

SUNDAY, NOV. 22

8 a.m. to noon Groomer operator recertification
8 a.m. to noon New groomer operator certification
8 a.m. to noon Youth safety instructor training

'Snowmobile Iowa' Club Showcase

Nov. 20-22, 2015

King's Pointe Resort, Storm Lake

Attention, ISSA Clubs:

Showcase Your Trails, Generate Membership.

Sign Up for a Booth Today. It's Free.

Award for Top Display and Best Scrapbook!

Please RSVP by Nov. 1.

To register, fill out form below.

Snowmobile Club _____ Region _____

Contact Person _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail completed registration form to:

Dan Delperdang

2668 Hwy 9/71, Spirit Lake, IA 51360

(712) 330-2609

42nd Annual ISSA Convention

Nov. 20-22, 2015

King's Pointe Resort

Storm Lake, IA

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Snowmobile Club: _____

Organization: _____

(Check all that apply)

____ Full Registration: \$65/person

____ Friday-Only Registration: \$15

____ Saturday-Only Registration: \$45

____ Youth Registration: \$30

Included in Full Convention Registration:

- Friday night hospitality
- Saturday Brunch
- Saturday afternoon seminars
- Saturday evening Banquet and Awards Ceremony w/entertainment

PLEASE NOTE: Registration fees DO NOT cover hotel rooms. Lodging rates start at \$109 per night. For more information, contact King's Pointe Resort at (866) 552-5960 or visit www.kingspointeresort.com. Be sure to ask for the ISSA room rate.

Mail completed form and payment to:

Kevin and Teri Eddie

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Storm Lake, IA 50588

(712) 732-4083

For more information or questions on the convention, contact ISSA President Merv Hoermann, 2015 Convention Planning Committee Chair, at (712) 260-4810 or mebeefeater2@yahoo.com.

Hope to see you there!

Out-of-State Speakers Planned Convention Weekend

by Cameron Hanson

Motivational speaker and Survivor Nicaragua contestant Holly Hoffman of Eureka, S.D., will be the keynote speaker at the 42nd Annual ISSA Convention in Storm Lake later this month at King's Pointe Resort.

2015 ISSA Convention Preview

Hoffman is slated to speak during the Awards Banquet Saturday evening, Nov. 21. Her presentation will not only offer encouragement and optimism to those in attendance but also provide a roadmap for self-discovery and spiritual enlightenment.

"I hope you will walk out of the room realizing you can do anything in life you set your mind to," she said in an interview posted on her website. "When you face your fears, you gain strength and courage. Don't let your past mistakes define your future. Nobody can go back and make a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new end."

Gaining her celebrity on television, Hoffman was the last remaining member of the Espada Tribe and the last woman standing on Season 21 of the CBS reality show Survivor Nicaragua. Through that experience in 2010, and others throughout her life, she was inspired to share her message of positivity, determination and confidence with business leaders, teachers and students.

ISSA President Merv Hoermann, who serves as chair of the 2015 ISSA Convention Planning Committee, first met Hoffman in June at a Western Iowa Tourism region meeting at LeMars. Hoermann represents the ISSA on that board and was impressed by Hoffman's message.

"At our conventions, we always seem to want to bring in someone related to snowmobiling to speak," Hoermann said. "This year, I thought we would shake things up a bit and invite someone with a different perspective, someone who can inspire and motivate us as an organization."

Most of Hoffman's experience stems from her appearance on Survivor. After sending in one application, one audition DVD and having one casting call, she made the show for Season 21. Little did she know, this was only the beginning of her journey. Hoffman feels that what she learned from being on the reality show, she has been able to apply to the real world of survival.

Bradfield Returns to Iowa

Hoffman won't be the only out-of-state convention guest returning to Iowa this month. Bill Bradfield of Cadillac, Mich., is also making the trip to Storm Lake to share his stories with MichCanSka Adventures, an extreme snowmobile club benefitting diabetes research. His seminar can be heard at 1:30 p.m. Saturday afternoon.

Bradfield founded his organization in 2008 and first appeared in Iowa at the 2010 International Snowmobile Congress in Coralville to share the story of their inaugural snowmobile ride from Michigan to Alaska in February of 2010. Since then, club members have participated in trips across Ontario, around Lake Superior and to the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec.

Their most recent adventure was last February's Worldwide Tour, which included snowmobile adventures across Scandinavia and Russia. That trip began in Cadillac and participants spent three days in Michigan and another three in Ontario before nine members boarded a plane for Norway Feb. 14.



www.MichCanSka.com

Over the next six days, club members were guided through Norway, Sweden and Finland on snowmobiles. The group was then escorted to the Russian border and began a four-day ride to the city of Murmansk. They then took a flight to St. Petersburg for the grand finale and banquet. Throughout the journey, riders were equipped with satellite tracking devices.

The 2015 ride was the club's most ambitious adventure since 2010, when the team crossed five states, five provinces and four time zones from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Tot, Alaska. Averaging close to 200 miles a day, the group logged 4,000 miles in 25 days on their sleds.

That event was billed as the "Iditarod of Snowmobiling" and was responsible for giving the club its name as the convoy of snow machines crossed Mich(igan), Can(ada) and Ala(Ska). Featuring 54 participants, that event raised \$102,000 for diabetes research in America and Canada.

HOLLY HOFFMAN

survivor Nicaragua season 21 Finalist

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"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning but anyone can start today and make a new ending."

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SEE HOLLY IN STORM
LAKE NOV. 21

Official Notice of ISSA Elections & Proposed By-Law Changes



Who:
Officers & Directors from
Odd-Numbered Regions

When:
ISSA General
Membership Assembly
ISSA Annual Convention
Nov. 21, 2015

Where:
King's Pointe Resort
Storm Lake, IA

Bradfield is heavily involved with the Diabetes Research Institute. As a Vietnam Vet, Bradfield was diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes because of his exposure to Agent Orange during the war. He had participated in other fundraisers for diabetes research and felt a long-distance snowmobile ride could raise significant funds for the effort.

"We are firm believers that if you are going to do a really big snowmobile run, you should do it for a worthy cause because it really puts the snowmobile community in the public eye and makes that image shine," he explained at the 2010 ISC.

Bradfield said his organization's efforts "get us one step closer to finding a cure" for diabetes. He said his fellow club members are committed to reaching a goal of a "diabetes-free tomorrow." "The mission of our partnerships is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by the disease," he

said.

Take Advantage of Training Opportunities

Another seminar planned for convention weekend not previously profiled in this magazine is the session on GPS mapping and tracking through smartphones. Hoermann said he met a service provider at Hay Days this year and thought their product would be of benefit to Iowa snowmobilers.

"How do we know where are out on the trail? What are you going to do if you get injured, especially in Iowa where we don't have real good ways of knowing where you are out on the trail," he said. "I think you should come to convention on see how GPS tracking can enhance your riding experience."

ISSA members are also encouraged to stay for the training seminars planned by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Sunday morning. Those offerings include groomer operator certification and recertification as well as youth safety instructor training. Please email IDNR Snowmobile Education Coordinator Rhonda Fowler at Rhonda.Fowler@dnr.iowa.gov if you are planning to attend any one of these IDNR sessions.

Please note convention weekend is the first opportunity this season that volunteers can receive or renew their groomer cards. For more than 10 years now, club members who operate state-owned grooming equipment are required to complete operator training. Certificates are currently good for three years, and a proposal is on the table to stretch that requirement to five years.

"Hopefully those who are close by in Region 1 will be able to show up for this required training," Hoermann said.

Across Iowa, approximately 600 club members are certified to operate state-owned grooming equipment. That number is down about half since the IDNR began mandating recertification every three years. The ISSA and IDNR are aware some operators have

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yet to receive their groomer cards from past training sessions and are working to rectify the situation.

“What we are going to have to do is reconcile the list of members who have been trained and re-issue cards as needed,” explained ISSA Vice President and Operator Training Coordinator Chris Willey said. “We have an up-to-date list and need to go with it.”

After convention, Willey said additional groomer operator training opportunities will be planned across the state. For those areas which have received tracked utility vehicles instead of traditional grooming equipment, special classes will be arranged for them as well.

“People are starting to think about getting certified again, so we will have more classes planned as the season gets closer, but for now, the best opportunity for recertifications will be convention weekend,” Willey said.

In addition to the groomer training, Hoermann hopes ISSA members will take advantage of the youth instructor training at convention and thereby increase the number of traditional snowmobile safety courses offered across Iowa. While recognizing the convenience of the online courses, Hoermann feels club members will see and appreciate the value of hands-on training for the next generation of snowmobilers.

“There are a number of clubs who are not doing the youth safety training any more, and that’s unfortunate,” Hoermann said. “I would like to see us get back to that.”

The ISSA convention is planned for Nov. 20-22 at King’s Pointe Resort, Storm Lake, at 1520 East Lakeshore Drive. Rooms are available under the ISSA rate of \$109+ per night. To reserve a room, contact the hotel at (866) 552-5960. Convention registration costs \$65.

For more information, see the agenda and registration form on page 8 of this month’s issue. Otherwise, contact Hoermann at (712) 260-4810 or email him at mebeefeater2@yahoo.com.



MichCanSka’s Bill Bradfield (seated), president, and Ron Corbett, current president of the Michigan Snowmobile Association, at the 2010 International Snowmobile Congress in Coralville.

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ISSA Retreat to the U.P.

Members Spend First Week of March in Copper Country

by Cameron Hanson

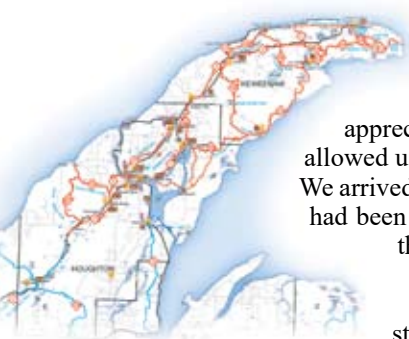
The older I get, it seems, the more discriminating my tastes have become. Take snowmobiling, for example. Twenty years ago, a fenceline snowdrift or a dusting in a ditch would have pried the remote from my hand and inspired me off the couch. Now, my motivation requires a little more influence from the sky and a nicely groomed trail across the section.

Last winter, however, was a real test to that shift in philosophy, and the temptation to lower my standards crept further into my head with each flip of the calendar. Very few snow events had occurred in my neighborhood in north central Iowa, and by early February, it was looking like I was going to have to travel to find any rideable snow for the season.

So when the ISSA announced it was hosting a snowmobile retreat to the Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan in early March, I was sold. ISSA President Merv Hoermann was already going to be in the area for the Clean Snowmobile Challenge at Michigan Tech University, so Region 6 Director Gene Gerdes and I made plans to meet up with him and the rest of the group at Houghton.

For Gerdes, the trip would serve as his first and only ride of the season as well as an opportunity to break in the new Ski-Doo Renegade 600 his daughter, Kelli Ann, had won in the ISSA's Grand Raffle last fall. I, on the other hand, was able to sneak away two weeks earlier to the Arrowhead region of Minnesota for an extended weekend with a few friends, but that abbreviated trip just fueled my desire to get in additional riding before the snowmelt.

As organized by Past ISSA President Bruno Andreini, the plan for the ISSA's inaugural snowmobile vacation was for members to meet at the Magnuson Hotel Copper Crown at Houghton the afternoon of Monday, March 2. Always on the lookout for backpacking opportunities, I talked Gerdes into starting out a day earlier south of there at Lake Gogebic and then riding north up into the U.P.



Departure from Bergland

Base camp for the trip was The Timbers Resort at Bergland. We had met owners Tim and Sarah Long at the ISSA Convention and Snow Show the previous November in Dubuque and wanted to show our appreciation for their visit to Iowa by staying in one of their cabins the first night of the trip. Plus, they graciously allowed us to leave our tow vehicle in their parking lot for our four-day tour of the U.P. We arrived at The Timbers Resort just shy of nightfall on Sunday, March 1. For Gerdes, who had been cooped up in a pickup for the better part of 10 hours, there wasn't much on the agenda that night except for a quick ride down the lake's west shore for a late dinner at Fish Tales Resort. Before returning to the cabin, we did take the time to fuel up our sleds in town and secure our Michigan trail stickers for the following day's ride.

The next morning came early, and we were both restless at daybreak. I guess that's another sign of time catching up to you. It wasn't long before we were both checked out of the cabin and on our sleds for the first leg of the journey. Following breakfast and a quick stop by The Timbers Resort sign to document our departure, we hung a right on Trail 8 and motored towards Bruce Crossing.

For me, heading east out of Bergland was the farthest I had ever ventured into the U.P. I know it sounds strange, but every trip previously to the area had always started out on the Wisconsin side of the stateline, and Lake Gogebic or the Lake of the Clouds at Silver City had always served as the turnaround point. Now, those previous endpoints became our gateway to the rest of the Keweenaw Peninsula.

Mining Remnants

Like most of the trails in this neck of the woods, Trail 8 was a converted rail-trail and had been freshly groomed overnight. Traffic was light, and





it didn't take long to reach the intersection with Trail 3 and head north toward Rockland. By all accounts, the first hour of our trail ride was certainly satisfying my itch, but with an average snowfall of more than 200 inches each winter, I guess it should have.

At Rockland, we continued northeast on Trail 3 toward Mass City and picked up the Bill Nicholls Trail. Named after a Copper Range agent, this 41-mile multi-purpose trail had been abandoned by the Copper Range Railroad in 1972 and has served as a snowmobile trail since its acquisition by the state two years later. The scenery and landmarks along this ridge corridor were certainly impressive and noteworthy.

After crossing Highway 38, the trail famously spans the west and east branches of the Firesteel River on three successive steel trestle bridges. The height above the water reaches nearly 100 feet, and the view of the gorges below is simply breathtaking. During my time as editor of this magazine, I have received several photographs of this part of the trail, but nothing truly compares to witnessing it firsthand.

Once past the bridges, you begin to understand why this part of the U.P. is known as Copper Country, as remnants of the area's copper mining heritage crop up out of the landscape. Following lunch at the Mosquito Inn at Toivola—where a dry-erase board posted the total snowfall through Feb. 15 at 221.5 inches—we landed at Painesdale. Here, an abandoned mine shafthouse was hard to miss from the trail.

Further internet research revealed this towering structure produced copper up until 1967. According to the Copper Country Explorer website, the shafthouse, better known locally as Champion #4, was one of four such buildings still standing in the Keweenaw Peninsula. During the heyday of copper mining, several dozens of

these shafthouses once dotted the rugged terrain.

Headstones to a Bygone Era

From Painesdale, we inched toward our final destination of the day at Houghton. Just outside of town, the trail drops down to the road level and passes by what I can only describe as 'Snowmobiling's Stonehenge', a line of massive cement uprights once employed to support the copper-laden railcars overhead. Rising up out of the snowbanks, the grey forms stand as headstones to a bygone industry and era.

A little farther down the trail, as civilization came back into view, more eye candy would greet us as we reached Lake Portage at Houghton. The ice remained thick enough for the two of us to cross the lake safely and even allowed for a photo opportunity in front of the Houghton-Hancock Lift Bridge, the world's heaviest and widest double-decked vertical-lift bridge.

Built in 1959 and featuring two decks for vehicular traffic, this bridge could be raised to allow ships underneath and lowered to allow trains to cross. Rail service ended in 1982, and each winter after the lake freezes, the bridge is placed in the lowest position to allow the lower deck to be used by snowmobile traffic, although we didn't need this access this week.

Thanks to the nice, wide manicured trails of the first stretch of the day, we arrived in Houghton well ahead of schedule. After checking in to the hotel, we decided to suit up for a little more riding north of Houghton toward Calumet to get our bearings for the next day, when we would visit the Clean Snowmobile Challenge at the Keweenaw Research Center (KRC) near the airport.

As day faded into night, we arrived back in Houghton for our pre-planned pizza party downtown with the rest of the ISSA members who had made it to the U.P. for the ISSA ride. While 20 guests initially signed up for the event, only 14 made the trek north. Despite the surprisingly low number of participants, Andreini and others were still pleased with the turnout, given the first time attempting such an out-of-state retreat.

"Even though we did not end up with as many as we thought we would have at the beginning, it was still a very enjoyable time," he said. "You need to start somewhere, and I think we can grow from here."

By design, daily rides over the next three days would be divided by skill level and destination interests. Tuesday morning, several groups dispersed from the hotel, some riding north from Houghton up to Copper Harbor and others riding south to Ontonagon, Silver City and Bergland. The only schedules to keep were breakfast in the morning at the hotel and dinner together at night downtown.

"Every evening, we ate together and shared our day's ride with one another," Andreini said. "Riding up in the U.P. is always good at that time of year. The trails were great, and it was like riding on



Shafthouse at Painesdale



Houghton-Hancock Lift Bridge

a level floor the entire time we were up there.”

Appointment with Clean Snowmobile Challenge

While the rest of the group went their separate ways on Tuesday, Gerdes and I fulfilled a commitment to meet Hoermann at the opening ceremonies of the Clean Snowmobile Challenge. As profiled in the September issue of this magazine, a team from Iowa was competing in the event for the first time, and we felt it was important to be there to not only cover the event but to show our support for the students from Iowa State University.

After the media blitz and parade laps, we tagged along with the students as they participated in the endurance ride to Copper Harbor Tuesday afternoon. Escorted by volunteer members from the Michigan Snowmobile Association and knifing through a pretty heavy lake-effect snowfall, a record 11 teams completed the 45-mile ride to the northernmost tip of the peninsula.

As the contestants loaded up their sleds on trailers for their commute back south, Gerdes and I stayed in Copper Harbor for lunch and eventually meandered back to Houghton, spending some time at the Brockway Mountain overlook above Copper Harbor and Lake Superior as well as stopping off at Phoenix and Calumet along the way.

Like Andreini, Gerdes, who had ridden in the U.P. several times over the past 30 years, commented often how great the trails were this week. Groomer sightings were frequent throughout the trip, meeting them two to three times on the trail each day. The excellent trail conditions made for an enjoyable trip to the U.P. and easily justified our decision to take time off from work and leave behind the brown landscape back home.

“These are some of the best trails I’ve ever seen up here,” Gerdes noted.

On Wednesday, most of the Iowa contingent attended the Clean Snowmobile Challenge. As we had the day before, Andreini and others visited with the team members from Iowa State and were impressed by what they learned at the event. The ISSA’s presence at the Challenge also created quite a buzz, according to Hoermann who has volunteered at the competition every year since 2004.

“That was the first time ever that a state organization had sledgers attend the snowmobile challenge,” Hoermann noted. “They really liked to see that and the ISU boys did as

well. There was a lot of positive feedback from our appearance. You normally don’t see that kind of turnout from one state coming in.”

“We now understand why Merv goes up there every year and donates his time to that event,” Andreini said.

“That’s a great thing up there. What they do there is just fantastic. ISU had a good showing for the first year, and we definitely got acquainted with those guys.”

As we had already spent time at the challenge, Gerdes and I escorted the group to the KRC and then turned around and began our trip back south to Bergland. A parent-teacher conference later in the week was preventing me from staying any longer in the U.P., and after an overnight stop in Mass City, we arrived back at The Timbers Resort mid-morning Thursday.

Positive Reports from Participants

Meanwhile, back at Houghton, the ISSA group decided to ride as one on Thursday. By not splitting up, Andreini said the riders were able to create a comradery with each other and spend more time together, which was one of the objectives of the retreat in the first place.

“We had a great time on Thursday,” he said. “We know so many people by name, but we don’t get to know them until you spend several days with each other. Those relationships started to form very effectively on that last day.”

The positive interaction among the members fostered talk of another snowmobile retreat this season. As discussed at the ISSA Board of Directors meeting in May, several featured destinations exist to make it happen again, whether it’s back to the U.P., north to Minnesota or out west to South Dakota and Wyoming.

“We have a lot of expertise in this room, people who have gone to other places who can organize these types of trips and take us to different locations,” Immediate Past ISSA President Jim Willey said. “It’s a great thing for the ISSA and for all Iowa riders get involved in this. We might get a lot of interest and certainly build a rapport with other states that we visit.”

“We had a lot of good positive reports from the people who attended our trip last winter and who want to do it again this year,” Andreini said. “I think everyone enjoyed themselves, and that was the secret for making this a success. We will wait and see what happens, and if the opportunity arises again, we will try it again. I think everybody had a good time, and that was pleasing to me, of course.”



Brockway Mountain overlook



ISSA CLUBS

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REGION ONE

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

Clay County Sno Broncos

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

Dickinson County SnowHawks

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

Lyon County Sno-Lyons

P.O. Box 576, Rock Rapids, IA 51246
President: Eric Borman
405 N. 4th Ave, Rock Rapids, IA 51246
(712) 470-0190, ebconst@yahoo.com

O'Brien County Snowtrackers

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

Osceola County High Point Riders

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

Powder Players Inc.

P.O. Box 154, Remsen, IA 51050
www.powder-players.com
President: Dee Jay Kellen
23657 Marble Ave., Le Mars, IA 51031

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

Kossuth County Drift Skippers

President: Jeremy Walker
1402 170th St., LuVerne, IA 50560-8552
(515) 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, kbonsnte@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 Mühlenbruch
206 Highway 3, Alexander, IA 50420
(641) 425-2790, iowariverriders@yahoo.com

Club News

Region 1

O'Brien County Snowtrackers

by Zelda Buse Christensen, Reporter

There was a thin layer of ice on the tanks this morning, Oct. 16, with more expected tonight. With virtually all of the soybeans harvested, combines are rapidly devouring corn during our recent ideal harvesting weather. This is autumn.

Another sign of autumn is the Snowtrackers' annual membership supper scheduled for Saturday night, Nov. 14. Jenni Rohlfen has lined up Granville's Home Plate Café to cater the feast for \$10.50 per plate. However, the club is paying the 50 cents for everyone plus all new members will eat FREE! Besides enjoying delicious food and friendly camaraderie, people can win door prizes, get lucky in an available raffle and pick up a trail map.

The club has paid ISSA convention registration for four members the next weekend since plans for snowmobile activities continue in November—all leading up to WINTER and SNOW! Hopefully, the Snowtrackers will continue on their path "to revive, grow and be active!"

Region 5

Cresco Driftrunners

by Bob Martinek, Treasurer

Hello. Not much new to write about this month so I wanted to take the opportunity to tell about our steak fry held in September.

First, "Thank You" to the five board members who completed their terms: Zach, Lori, Jacob, Matt and Alex. Now, Zach and Matt were talked into coming back on the board along with new board members: Chris, John and Cody. Junior board member is Kale. Brandon has been elected second vice president. The award for Most Miles Male went to Terry with 3,330 miles last season. The Most Miles Female award went to Janice with 2,442 miles. We also received 27 membership renewals at the steak fry. Good food, good weather and a great time!

Otherwise, an event coming in November that I missed last month is the Youth Safety Class for all students age 12 or older. It is set for Nov. 14 at the clubhouse in Cresco with Greg and Theresa slated to instruct again. Check the Cresco newspaper or call me for more details.

Then of course the next weekend, Nov. 20-22, is the ISSA Convention in Storm Lake. And don't forget our "Toys for Tots" and Kickoff Dance on Nov. 28 at the K-Town Tap in Kendalville from 8 p.m. until ?? Well that's enough for now so until next month or on the trails this winter. Thanks.

Region 12

Snowdrifters, Inc.

by Ron Roe

Hello, everyone. I am much more fired up than I was 30 days ago. Well, Hay Days has come and gone. I thought it was larger than ever and a lot more people there, especially

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Club News

on Sunday. Sunday afternoon had a lot more people walking around and looking than in the last couple of years. It would be nice to see the swappers stay longer but by noon most of them had pulled out.

We are getting off to a good start on bridge work. One Saturday, we put together a 45-foot bridge and then went and put another one back over the creek where it had washed away. That one took a little more work than we had planned. The poles came loose from under the bridge, so we had to get the bridge back on top of the poles and screw it down. Before, it had been nailed and was not good. It should stay together now but maybe not in place. Sort of funny but we can't seem to control the spring waters. "DUH!" On Sunday, we had about the same thing, but we took some boards and x-braced the bridge to hold it straight when we moved it around. We were learning, I guess. Some crews still have bridge work to do when crops are out of the fields. That shouldn't be long if the weather here holds out for a while longer.

We just had our monthly meeting, and the guys are talking about going to the convention later on this month. We have our swap meet coming up on Oct. 25, but that will be over by the time this magazine comes out.

That's about all the news I have for now. Now we are just waiting for everything to turn white. More next month.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

- Trails Unlimited membership drive and chicken dinner Nov. 6 at The Zipper, Festina.
- Capitol City Shootout Grass Drags, Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club, Saturday, Nov. 7, Todd's Air Field, Ankeny.
- Scott County Sno-Seekers annual motorsport swap meet Sunday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Victory Park, Walcott. For more information, contact Kevin Toft at (563) 340-9671 or Kevin House at (563) 505-3385.
- O'Brien County Snowtrackers membership supper Nov. 14 at the Primghar Community Center.
- Driftrunners' Youth Safety Course Saturday, Nov. 14, at the clubhouse in Cresco.
- Avalanche Rescue Skills seminar Thursday, Nov. 19, at 6 p.m. at Sioux City Yamaha/Can-Am. For more information, visit www.avalanche1.com. Course is sponsored by BRP and free to attend.
- 42nd Annual ISSA Convention Nov. 20-22 at King's Pointe Resort, Storm Lake.
- Avalanche Rescue Skills seminar Friday, Nov. 20, at 6 p.m. at House of Sports, Mason City. For more information, visit www.avalanche1.com. Course is sponsored by BRP and free to attend.
- Avalanche Rescue Skills seminar Saturday, Nov. 21, at 6 p.m. at McGrath Powersports, Cedar Rapids. For more information, visit www.avalanche1.com. Registration costs \$49.
- Driftrunners Kick-Off Dance and Toys for Tots Drive Nov. 28 at 8 p.m. at K-Town Tap, Kendallville. Music by No Passengers Allowed.

December

- Avalanche Rescue Skills seminar Thursday, Dec. 3, at 6 p.m. at Lake Mills Motorsports 2 in Algona. For more information, visit www.avalanche1.com. Course is sponsored by the dealer and free to attend.
- ISSA Board of Directors meeting Sunday, Dec. 13, at 9 a.m. at Farm Bureau, Hampton.

January

- ISSA Board of Directors meeting TBD.
- ISSA Charity Ride for Spina Bifida at Huxley TBD.
- The Jack Race on Clear Lake Jan. 15-16.
- O'Brien County Snowtrackers' Youth Snowmobile Education Class for 12-17-year-olds Saturday, Jan. 16, at Northwest Iowa Community College, Sheldon. Contact Evan Bensley at (800) 352-4907 to pre-register. Visit the club's Facebook page for more information.
- Driftrunners' SnowFest Jan. 21-24 at Cresco.

February

- Driftrunners' Charlie's Chili Feed Feb. 13.

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

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
snohawk68@gmail.com

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@poppec.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: Brandon Fahey
snoblazers@yahoo.com

Asbury Snowhawks

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

Clayton County Snowbirds

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





ISSA CLUBS

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Driftrunners, Inc.

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

Dyersville Driftskippers

www.dyersvilldriftdrivers.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

Wapsipinicon Snowmobile Association

P.O. Box 802, Independence, IA 50644
www.wsaiowa.com

President: Morgan J. Kuper
1916 Central Ave., Jesup, IA 50648.
(319) 239-0590, mkuper3@jtt.net

Winneshiek Trail Twisters Inc.

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

REGION SIX

Sac County Snow Lovers

P.O. Box 464, Lakeview, IA 51450
President: 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

Team Iowa Snowmobilers

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

Webster County Ice Breakers

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

Region 3 Profile

After



Rolling Prairie Trail Bridge Improvement Project Nears Completion

Before

A pair of bridge improvement projects on the multi-purpose Rolling Prairie Trail in Region 3 are nearing completion in Franklin County. Thanks to several grants, the bridge decks have been replaced and railings have been added to two bridge spans between Hampton and Hansell.

Work began in September with the project costing close to \$220,000. Funding came from a \$152,000 Transportation Alternatives Program grant from the North Iowa Area Council of Governments and another \$32,750 grant through the state's snowmobile trail grant program administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). The balance of the cost was covered by Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP)

funds.

Past ISSA President Gary McVicker, a member of the Iowa River Riders snowmobile club who applied for the IDNR grant, has been involved with the trail since the Franklin County Conservation



Board assumed ownership of the former rail bed from Union Pacific in 2009.

"As a club, we have now invested close to \$54,000 in time, labor and money on this trail," explained McVicker, a past conservation board member and current Franklin County supervisor. "In fact, we are the only user

ISSA Charity Fundraiser Drawing at this Month's Convention

The ISSA is once again teaming up with Pat's Landing in Hayward, Wis., to sponsor a charity fundraiser to benefit the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa (SBAI).

Similar to its support of the Early Membership and Renewal Program, the Chippewa Flowage resort is working with the ISSA on its charity raffle prize of a three-night, six-person vacation package valued at \$990.

Tickets cost \$5 each and all proceeds benefit the SBAI, the ISSA's official charity. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Region 3 Assistant Director Matt Trunkhill at (515) 320-0737 or mtrunk@wctatel.com.

The winner will be drawn at the November ISSA convention.



group on this trail which has really stepped forward with any money and labor since the line fell under local control."

McVicker said the contributions from snowmobilers has "locked us into the trail permanently." For this project, the snowmobile grant money basically allowed the width of the bridge to increase from eight to 12 feet and therefore accommodate the size of the club's groomer.

Grading work continues on the trail to make the bridge approaches safer for both motorized and non-motorized users. The conservation board will be using a special tiller to work up the existing rock base and then smooth it out to match the height of the new bridge surface.

"We have a few more smaller areas that need some attention, but with this new wider surface, we are now able to groom most of this trail," McVicker reported.

The club's trail continues to county line where it turns north towards Aredale and



connects with neighboring club trails. As of this time, motorized vehicles are not allowed on the Butler County portion of the Rolling Prairie Trail.

In Franklin County, a nine-mile stretch of the Rolling Prairie Trail is already completed from Coulter to Hampton. Now the eastern half of the trail is inching closer to reality.

"These new bridges are really going to set this new section apart," conservation director Jason Gooder said in an interview with local media.

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 51526
trentlarsn@gmail.com

Stag Island Skol Patrol

President: Brad Landhuis
3046 210th St., Clarinda IA 51632

REGION ELEVEN

Appanoose County Trails, Inc.

P.O. Box 825, Centerville, IA 52544

REGION TWELVE

Cedar County Winter Warriors

ccwarriors@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 Ia 52641
(319) 986-5188(h), 319-671-0329 (c)
aarond65@hotmail.com

2015 ISSA Grand Raffle

Win the Sled of Your Dreams!

Win the snowmobile of your choice valued up to \$10,000 from any ISSA Associate Member Dealer.

Winner is responsible for all taxes, titles and fees. ISSA will provide payment to dealer for up to \$10,000.

**Grand Prize Drawing at the
42nd Annual ISSA Convention
Saturday, Nov. 21, Storm Lake**

Purchase tickets from your Region Director or
at convention. Need not be present to win.

**Tickets cost \$20 each
or six for \$100.**

Questions? Contact ISSA Raffle Committee
Chair Gary McVicker at (641) 425-1375.

2013
Winner: Michael Gaudin, Trillix
Participating Dealer: Trillix's
Cycle Center, Austin, Minn.

2012
Winner: Al Zentgraf, Leisure Lift Sports
Participating Dealer: Leisure Lift Sports, Concord

2013
Winner: Dennis Sorenson, Lake View
Participating Dealer: Lake View
Valley Cycle, Atlanta

2014
Winner: Kelly Ann Chiles
Participating Dealer: Hawk
Marine, Lake View



ISSA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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208 16th St., Sheldon, IA 51201
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rentals@okobojiboatworks.com
www.parkmarina.com

Project Mayhem Power Sports

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(712) 441-0934
jesse_wynia@hotmail.com

REGION 2

Big Ride Restoration

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(712) 210-1267
bigriderestoration@yahoo.com

Carlson Auto Body Repair

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(712) 297-5517
carlsonauto@hotmail.com

J & K Snowmobile

2703 7th Ave. S., Estherville, IA 51334
(712) 362-3031

Rasmuson Electric

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Rockwell City, IA 50579
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Ramthun Trucking, Inc

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Auto Parts Wholesale

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(641) 456-2594
apwhampton@yahoo.com

Buffalo Lanes, LLC

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

C R Fuel

223 N Main St., Clarion, IA 50525
(515) 293-1569
nelsoncurt2@yahoo.com

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

Dave's Auto Service

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(641) 592-9951, daves66@wctatel.net
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(641) 585-4631
dkafe@dkaarndtcpa.net
www.dkaarndtcpa.net

Don's Motor Mart

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

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

E & E Repair

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

Farm & City Insurance

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

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

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
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House of Sports

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

Howie Equipment

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(641) 456-5651

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(641) 592-2145

www.lakemillsmotorsports.com

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6401 Hwy 9, Buffalo Center, IA 50424
Mason City Powersports
4499 4th St SW, Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 423-3181
mcps@netconx.net

Muhlenbruch Insurance

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(515) 290-2968
buck@trvnet.net

Mulford Concrete Inc.

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Murra Hardware

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Buffalo Center, IA 50424

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Buffalo Center, IA 50424

Outlaws

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(641) 425-0240
symenslaw@frontiernet.net

Pralle's Wash City

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(641) 866-6889
dyanne@iowaconnect.com

Priebe Seed Sales

129 Industrial Dr.
Forest City, IA 50436
priebemi@gmail.com

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(641) 456-5200

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Sheri's Southside Store

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Crystal Lake, IA 50432, (641) 565-3100
Smith Crop Insurance Agency
2285 Taylor Ave, Rowan, IA 50470
(515) 689-3986
smithins@wmtel.net

Squid Willy's Bar & Grill

387 3rd Ave. W, Thompson, IA 50478
(641) 584-2820
squidwilly@wctatel.net

The Branding Iron

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(641) 584-2912

Timber Tree Service

Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 581-2579

Uptown Liquor

306 Hwy 69 S., Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 585-5137
squidwilly@wctatel.net

Vinje Pub

15960 490th St, Scarville, IA 50473
(641) 568-3150

Weaver's Leather Store

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Buffalo Center, IA 50424

West Scott Farm LLC

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www.drpowersports.com

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(712) 830-2047

Blackhawk Marine Sales & Service

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Lake View, IA, 51450-7204
(712) 657-2368

Boulders Inn

119 Boulders Dr., Lake View, IA 51450
(712) 657-2660

D & K - 10th Hole Golf Course

16323 120th St., Breda, IA 51436
(712) 673-4653

Denny's Texaco

Hwy 71/175, Lake View, IA 51450
(712) 657-2123

Dolly's Bar & Grill

109 Pine St, Auburn, IA 51433
(712) 688-2220

ISSA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



First State Bank

200 Moorehead Ave
Ida Grove, IA 51445
(712) 364-3500

Hemers Plumbing

213 Maple St., Odebolt, IA 51458
(712) 668-2243

Jarod Frank's Repair

3235 396th St., Breda, IA 51436
(712) 473-4661

Laney's Corral

PO Box 684
Lake View, IA 51450-0684
(712) 657-2008

Odebolt Bowling Alley

401 S. Des Moines St.
Odebolt, IA 51458

Quality Sign

1690 260th St., Odebolt, IA 51458
(712) 668-2243

Quirk Seed Center Inc.

P.O. Box 256, Lake View, IA 51450
(712) 657-2000

Red's Place

116 Main St., Breda, IA 51436
(712) 673-4410

Rudd Sanitation

2955 Union Ave W, Sac City, IA 50583
(712) 662-4711

Ryan's Bar & Grill

111 Boulders Dr., Lake View, IA 51450
(712) 657-2212

The Bar

416 Main St., Lake View, IA 51450
(712) 665-2614

Thirsty Carp

930 9th St., Lake View, IA 51450
(712) 657-2313

REGION 7

Fast Trax Sports

102 - 1st St, Sully, IA 50251
(641) 594-4462
fasttrax@netins.net

Hicklin Power Sports, LLC

Ski-Doo
3160 SE Grimes Blvd Suite #700
Grimes, IA 50111
(515) 986-4880
hicklin3160@gmail.com
www.hicklinpowersports.com

Spina Bifida Association of Iowa

8525 Douglas Ave., Suite 39
Urbandale IA 50322
(515) 287-0209

REGION 10

Nishna Valley Cycle, Inc

Yamaha
2500 E 7th St., Atlantic, IA 50022-8301
(712) 243-6343
rob@nishnavalleycycle.com
www.nishnavalleycycle.com

Olsen's Outdoor Power

Ski-Doo
2800 E 7th St, Atlantic, IA 50022
(712) 243-4867, (800) 383-4108
tad@olsensoutdoorpower.com
www.olsensoutdoorpower.com

REGION 12

Fast City, Inc.

Arctic Cat
2449 IWW Rd., Oxford, IA 52322
(319) 545-2795
fastcityinc@aol.com
www.fastcityusa.com

JB's Grub & Pub

1110 N. Columbus
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Holiday Inn

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(320) 235-6060
gm@willmarhotels.com
www.willmarhotels.com

Leisure Life Sports

Ski-Doo/Polaris
9004 S 145th St., Omaha, NE 68138
(402) 333-0655
dan@leisurelifesports.com
www.leisurelifesports.com

Midwest Motor Sports, Inc.

Polaris/Arctic Cat
3699 Prism Lane, Kieler, WI 53812
(608) 568-3600, stkunkel@yousq.net
www.midwestmotorsportsonline.com

Nick's Powersports

Ski-Doo
315 N Main St., Dickeyville, WI 53808
(608) 568-3343
nickspowersports@tds.net

Pat's Landing

7476 N Pat's Landing Rd
Hayward, WI 54843, (715) 945-2511
www.patslandingresort.com

Rhinelanders-Resorts.com

P.O. Box 1476
Rhineland, WI 54501
(715) 362-6471
rhinelandresorts@yahoo.com
www.rhinelanders-resorts.com

Trimbles Cycle Center

Arctic Cat/Ski-Doo
900 10th Dr. SE, Austin, MN 55912
(507) 437-6661
jeff@trimbles.biz, www.trimbles.com

Vega Lodge

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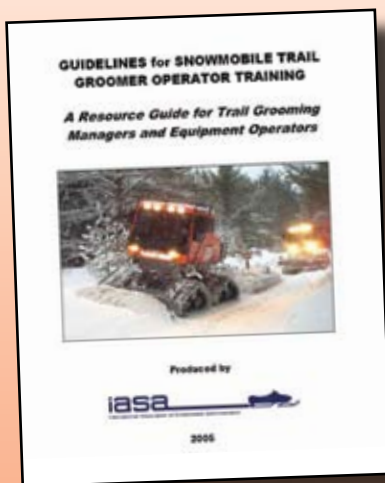


Scheduled Sessions

SATURDAY, NOV. 21

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Snowmobile Program Update with David Downing, Manager



SUNDAY, NOV. 22

8 a.m. to noon

Groomer operator recertification

8 a.m. to noon

New groomer operator certification

8 a.m. to noon

Youth safety instructor training

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