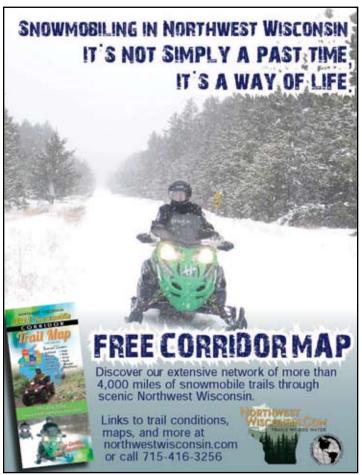
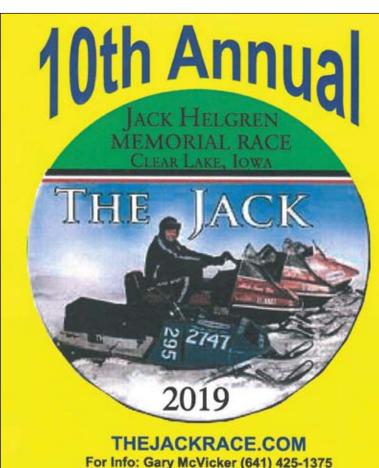




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Back-up Dates Feb. 8th & 9th

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Saturday Night

Awards banquet (LeMans races, Radar Runs and Vintage Show) and live band.

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SNOWMOBILER

The Official Magazine of the Iowa State Snowmobile Association www.iowasnowmobiler.com 1924 270th Street Marble Rock, IA 50653 issa1257@yahoo.com

ISSA OFFICERS President

Chris Willey (Andrea) 1220 E Main Street Manchester IA, 52057 (563) 920-9010 kioti79@gmail.com



Vice President

Brian Carmichael 1369 Midway Ave Tripoli, IA 50676 (319) 215-5006 snohawk68@gmail.com



Secretary

Sue Paulus (Joe) 1631 227th St. Rockford, IA 50468 suepaulus81@gmail.com



Treasurer/Membership

Brittany Paulus (Mike) 1924 270th Street Marble Rock, IA 50653 (641) 228-0977 bepaulus@outlook.com



ISSA

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Jim Willey, Chair **Becky Willey** 20838 247th St. Delhi, IA 52223 (563) 927-4670, (563) 920-0911 Jim.Willey@camso.co

Gary and Karen McVicker 1120 110th Street, Hampton, IA 50441(641) 425-1375 gmcvic@yahoo.com

John Kahler 635 Greene Street, Slater, IA 50244 (515) 202-4061 jfkahler@hotmail.com

Managing Editor

Cameron Hanson 2552 Woodland Place Charles City, IA 50616 (641) 330-5565 editor@iowasnowmobiler.com



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Profiling Adults with Spina Bifida

Monthly Series Highlights Active lowans Living with Disability



Seminars Set for Convention Weekend

Local Cross-Country Racer Headlines Afternoon Sessions; Host Sought for 2019



Boondocking in **Butler County**

Trio of Region 4 Riders Take Advantage of Late-Season Snowfall last March





20 8- 9 Magazine Do	Nov. 16
January February March	Dec. 7
February	Jan. 11
March	Feb. 8



COVER: Unable to resist unseasonable snowfall in his area last spring, Steve King of Marble Rock cruises along the Shell Rock River between Greene and Clarksville on the Butler County Snow Snoops trail system March 25.

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REGION ONE

Dan Delperdang (Kolette), Director 2668 Hwy 9 / 71 Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360 (712) 330-2609 dandelperdang@hotmail.com



REGION TWO

Jeremy Walker (Kayla), Director 1402 170th St. LuVerne, IA 50560-8552 (515) 341-1626 ilkwalk@gmail.com



Terril Johnson, Assistant 203 S. Finn Dr. Algona, IA 50511, terril@motorinnalgona.com

REGION THREE

Ben Diekhuis (Mindi), Director 2115 Nash Ave. Britt, IA 50423 (515) 291-2329, diekhuis@gmail.com



REGION FOUR

Scott Nauman, Director 402 Fifth St. Rudd, IA 50471 (641) 425-9898 sdnauman04@gmail.com

Brent Nauman, Assistant 23667 210th St., Rockford, IA 50468 (641) 425-8964 bmnauman@gmail.com

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

REGION FIVE

Matt Miner, Director 17879 State Hwy 9 Lime Springs, IA 52155 (563) 380-7142 mmmfarms@hotmail.com

Randy Kaune, Sr., Assistant 11419 90th St., Fayette, IA 52142 (563) 920-8491 randysr05@hotmail.com





















Getting Involved, Setting Goals, Answering Questions

Well, here we are at the end of my term as president of the ISSA and my last editorial in the Iowa Snowmobiler to share my thoughts in this lead role.

But, this won't be the last time you hear from me. I have promised Cameron that I will continue to contribute to the magazine with timely information from the Iowa State Snowmobile Grant Program and its

Review and Selection Committee (RSC). fact, an article on the

groomer selection process will be in an upcoming issue, and I hope to do a few articles highlighting places to ride here in the

As I sit down to write this final editorial, I started to think where this adventure all started. It was about 16 years ago when I was just a member of the Snow Pioneers snowmobile club from Region 5. I started asking and wanting to know more about the grooming program and funding. My club at the time was sharing a groomer with two other clubs and a 1985 Tucker couldn't cover 300-plus miles in three counties.

I started asking questions. Soon, Past ISSA President David Carmichael pulled me aside after an ISSA meeting and, with a sly smile, told me, "You want to make a difference and get your answers? You need to get involved with this board."

Those words, combined with the passion for serving my community and love of snowmobiling my father has instilled in me, lit a fire in me to make a difference in snowmobiling in Iowa. I took those words of advice to heart and began to serve.

I started out as an assistant director for Region 5 and then moved on to the director spot. That's when I really got involved. David Downing, then snowmobile program manager for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and the ISSA Board of Directors asked me to overhaul the groomer operator program. That assignment even-



Chris Willey ISSA President

tually led to Carmichael and other past presidents to nominate me for the International Groomer of the Year Award. Receiving that award in 2014 is what I consider the highest honor a groomer operator can get.

Soonafter, I was asked by the snowmobilers from my region to run for ISSA vice president. I was

humbled and a little concerned that they thought I was the right guy for the job. Following that election, I got more involved and found that there was room for more improvement and expansion of the trail grant and groomer process. My list of questions was growing, both from myself and others asking me. I set out to get ISSA-member questions answered and more information out to the membership.

When I became president two years ago, I knew I had some big shoes to fill as the guys before me made their mark on our sport both here in Iowa and across the nation. I remember a quote from Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: "A goal without a plan is just a wish."

I knew my goals were to have the ISSA membership gain a better understanding of where their registration dollars go and what it is spent on, establishing a set criteria for how a club applies and gets a groomer and to get rid of that dang second sticker.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

- · Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club annual grass drags Saturday, Nov. 3, at Todd's Airfield, Ankeny
- · Worth County Fence Stretchers membership drive Nov. 13.
- 2018 ISSA Annual Convention Nov. 16-18 at Arrowwood Resort, Okoboji.
- ISSA Board of Directors meeting Nov. 18 at 8:30 a.m. at Okoboji.
- Iowa Snowdrifters Trail-Marking Day, Saturday, Nov. 17. Meet for breakfast at the American Legion, Solon, at 8 a.m.
- · Cresco Driftrunners Toys for Tots Drive Saturday, Nov. 24, at South Side Bar & Grill, Cresco. DJ starts at 8 p.m. Admission is an unwrapped toy or cash donation.

December

· ISSA Board of Directors meeting TBD.



After the goals were set, I now had to figure out the plan. When I shared these goals with the ISSA board, I said I felt the best way to achieve this is the snowmobilers of Iowa need to be in charge of the program. I think they thought I had lost my mind, but the plan was set in motion with the help of the ISSA directors, ISSA membership and a lot of background work from past presidents who knew a lot more than I did.

In the end, we got the job done. The

snowmobilers of Iowa have control of our future and our registration dollars. We have more funding to improve trails and equipment. I fell short on the one sticker, but that goal is still attainable if we want it.

So as I wrap up my term as captain of the ship and pass it to Brian, I'm passing on those same words of advice that inspired me. You want to make a difference and get your answers? You need to get involved and set a goal.

Architect of Snowmobile Program in Iowa Passes Away

Poy Downing of Albia, a 41-year employee of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the architect behind the registration feebased snowmobile program in lowa, passed away Oct. 14 at the age of 94.

Downing served as the Superintendent of Waters for the Iowa Conservation Commission (now the IDNR) from 1964 until his retirement in 1986. Before that, he worked as a conservation officer in Appanoose and Monroe counties in Iowa.

In 1973, he assumed responsibility for the growing sport of snowmobiling in the state and put in place many of the same standards he had previously applied to the boating industry, including paying registration fees.

Downing firmly believed a registration system for snowmobiles would only strengthen the sport and provide additional riding opportunities. "Pay to play is the only way" was a mantra he often uttered as he stumped for a fee-based trail system.

Recognizing his contributions to the sport, Downing earned the ISSA's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2006. In 1981, he left the snowmobile program, and his second wife, Nancy (Exline) Downing, ran it for two years.

In 2003, his son, David, became program manager, overseeing both snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicle registrations in Iowa. In 2016, Downing transferred to another department within the IDNR but still earned lifetime distinction honors from the ISSA for his 13 years of service.

In 2017, the ISSA gained control of the program from the IDNR.

Preparing for New Role

reetings, Iowa snowmobilers. It's get-Jting close to our favorite time of the year again. It's time for club meetings, trail maintenance and groomer classes. I hope we get the moisture this winter that we have been getting all fall. We could be in for a

great season.



I am working with current president Chris

Willey on preparing myself to take over the presidency of the ISSA. I will work hard for all Iowa snowmobilers as all the past presidents have done before me and will lean on them at times.

As we move forward with the Iowa snowmobile program, we are all getting things done across the state that are in need of improving. My late father, David Carmichael, put his heart and soul into the ISSA, and although I'm not my father, I have all

snowmobilers in mind and hope to do justice to everything we have strived so hard to accomplish over the many years the association has been going.



Brian Carmichael ISSA Vice President

I would like to get together with different clubs and ride together this winter. I did do a couple rides last year with some ISSA board members and we had a great time riding all areas that we could with the low snow that we had.

Hope to see all of you at the state convention this year as it is always a great

time to catch up and acknowledge the ones who do so much work for snowmobiling in Iowa. Think SNOW!!

ISSA DIRECTORY



Steve Vorwald (Sherri), Assistant 1582 210th St. Manchester, IA 52057 (563) 927-5362

REGION SIX

Gene Gerdes (Anne), Director P.O. Box 826, Lake View, IA 51450 (712) 665-8541, gaskgerdes@gmail.com



REGION SEVEN

John Kahler, Director 635 Greene St. Slater, IA 50244 (515) 202-4061 jfkahler@hotmail.com



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



Daryl Promes, Assistant 810 4th St. Gowrie, IA 50543 (515)-352-3393 dpromes@wccta.com



REGION EIGHT

Craig Smith, Director 27472 J Ave, Grundy Center, IA 50638 (641) 366-2233 casfarmboy@gmail.com



Ron Sienknecht, Assistant 1307 Lilac Lane Cedar Falls, IA 50613 (319) 404-0054, ron. sienknecht@gmail.com



Brian Sienknecht, Assistant 2805 130th St. Buckingham, IA 50612 (319) 478-8099, samm0000@traer.net

Geo Prescott, Assistant 302 Main St., St. Anthony, IA 50239 (641) 485-6525 geomoney@icloud.com



REGION NINE

Tim McPherson (Jean), Director P.O. Box 225, Olin, IA 52320 (563) 593-0305 timnjean@netins.net



Jamie Prull, Assistant 1101 First Street, Palo, IA 52324 (319) 981-0397 jprull@aol.com



Derrick Parker, Assistant 115 Bayberry Ln. North Liberty, IA 52317 (563) 554-3971 iowasnowdrifters@gmail.com

Todd Sieverding, Assistant

4737 St. Catherine Rd. Bellevue, IA 52031

ISSA DIRECTORY

REGION TEN

Dorothy (Anna), Director 502 E. Cedar Ln. Mt. Pleasant IA 52641 (319) 986-5188(h), (319) 217-6361 (c) aarond65@hotmail.com



Cody Krueger, Assistant 19272 Danville Rd. New London, IA 52645 (414) 313-5973 cik4@uwmalumni.com.



Mike Rauenbuehler, Assistant 2509 Hwy 78, Winfield, IA 52659

PAST PRESIDENTS

Merv Hoermann (2007-08, 2015-16) P.O. Box 22, Sutherland, IA 51058 (712) 260-4810 mebeefeater2@yahoo.com



Jim Willey (2013-14) 20838 247th St.Delhi, IA 52223 (563) 927-4670, (563) 920-0911 james.willey@camso.co



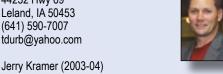
7255 NW 54th Court Johnston, IA, 50131 (515) 334-0360, gary@burgersofiowa.com



Gary McVicker (2009-10) 1120 110th Street Hampton, IA 50441 (641) 425-1375 gmcvic@yahoo.com



Terry Durby (2005-06) 44232 Hwy 69 Leland, IA 50453 (641) 590-7007



Jerry Kramer (2003-04) 1930 Lincoln Ave. Humboldt, IA 50548 (515) 890-1099





Jeff Jans (1999-2000) 308 2nd St. NW. P.O. Box 153 Fostoria, IA 51340-0153 (712) 262-3309





Spina Bifida Profiles

New Series Intends to Show How Children with Condition Mature into Productive Adults

by Cameron Hanson

Since 1982, the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa (SBAIA) has served as the ISSA's official charity. Over those 30 years and counting, snowmobilers from Iowa have contributed more than \$250,000 to this non-profit organization.

Spina bifida is a birth defect where the spinal cord does not develop properly. Children with the condition have limited sensation in their lower body, and as a result, mobility and incontinence are major obstacles for the families to overcome. More than 150,000 people suffer from spina bifida nationally, and the SBAIA has members across the state.

Each November, charitable donations from snowmobilers are collected at the IS-SA's annual convention with the top fundraising club earning a plaque of appreciation from SBAIA officials, who are also on hand to interact with snowmobilers there and share their inspirational stories.

The Urbandale-based organization earmarks those funds for travel expenses, equipment purchases and educational programs aimed at assisting families coping with the disability.

In October, club members also participate in the SBAIA's Walk-N-Roll at Principal Park in Des Moines; and then each January, they meet in Huxley for the ISSA's annual Winter Kids' Day and snowmobile or utility vehicle ride on the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail.

Now, this month in the Iowa Snowmobiler begins a new series of SBAIA member profiles, entitled "Spina Bifida Grows Up."

This collection of articles was developed by SBAIA board member Diane Glass of Des Moines, who was employed by the Des Moines Register for 17 years.

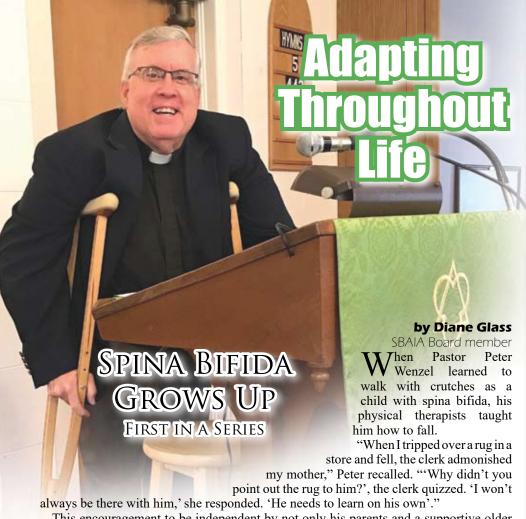
Glass, now 71, said she was born with spina bifida "at a time when babies were not always treated or expected to live." She said her articles will "show how an investment in the lives of children with spina bifida results in successful teens and adults, living productive and interesting lives."

Before 1960, Glass said 90 percent of babies born with spina bifida died, primarily due to hydrocephalus, or fluid on the brain. With the invention of the shunt—a tube that drains that fluid—babies began to live normal life spans. The Americans with Disabilities Act, passed 28 years ago, along with improved public education "opened the door to participation in the workplace, schools and community for us," she said.

Over the next six issues, her profiles will peer into the lives of a marketing executive, a teacher, a world traveler, an exercise enthusiast, a mental health specialist and an ice hockey player. Beginning on the next page, her first story is about a pastor from Clarksville.

"These Iowans, all born with spina bifida, now live active, productive lives due to medical advances, increased public awareness and community support from organizations like the ISSA," Glass said. "Snowmobilers have been long-term supporters of ours, and we would like you to know how your investment in babies and children has paid off in terms of people who are living full lives."

2018 Spina Bifida Dona	itions
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Association	\$2,200
Hancock County Snowmobile Association	\$2,017
Driftrunners	\$505
Eastern Iowa Sledheads	\$500
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks	\$500
North Iowa Sno-Jammers	<u></u> \$500
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$376
Floyd County Groomers	\$300
Bremer County Sno-Knights	\$250
Snowdrifters	\$250
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	\$200
Trail Blaz-zers	\$200
Trails Unlimited	\$200
Team Iowa Snowmobilers	
Snow Pioneers	
Iowa River Riders	
Butler County Snow Snoops	\$100
Allamakee Sno-Blazers	\$100



This encouragement to be independent by not only his parents and a supportive older brother and sister, but also his teachers, gave young Peter the foundation on which he built his life.

Born in 1957 in an era when doctors didn't always know how to treat spina bifida, Peter recounts that the doctor attending his birth left the delivery room, told his father that his son was born with spina bifida and said, "You need to see a neurosurgeon." He then walked off. His dad carried him in a basket when he was one month old to see that neurosurgeon.

"My parents had to fly by the seat of their pants," Peter said.

At a time when adaptations for children with disabilities were rare, Peter, like his parents, made things work with ingenuity, creativity and persistence.

"I was born adapting," he said. "This is all I've ever known. This is my norm."

Adapting meant crawling up the stairs to his bedroom. Going to an "orthopedic school" for children with intellectual and physical disabilities for the first eight years of his school life. Turning to his dad, a draftsman, to design an ileostomy that didn't leak. Enduring a psychological test at five years of age when he was told he would "never be college material." Responding to a nurse who told him children with spina bifida "were dropping like flies" at a nearby facility.

"I had great parents who saw me through. I am who I am today because of my family. My teachers saw potential in me at my orthopedic school," he recalled. Upon recommendation of his principal, he was mainstreamed at the local high school.

That was the beginning of his academic life. Peter attended the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee for one year and then transferred to Lake College in Sheboygan, Wis, studying religion and theater. Graduating with a B.A., he then enrolled in seminary at the Boston School of Theology where he earned his M.Div.

He was ordained in 1990, and today, he serves as pastor of First United Church of Christ-Pleasant Valley in rural Clarksville. Peter was married for 23 years and has a son who recently graduated from college.

"When I told a friend that I would like to go skydiving, he said 'let's do it.' When I explained that my legs might not hold up, he came up with a solution," Peter said. His friends, now numbering six, bookended him to ensure a soft landing.

Peter says he's not much of an advocate. He prefers to communicate a message with his actions, not his words. He doesn't talk about his disability in sermons at his church.

"I'm there. Isn't that message enough?" he said.

ISSA DIRECTORY



Scott Kooiker (1993 -94) 261 160th Ave. Ellsworth, MN 56129 (507) 360-4667 sjkooiker@hotmail.com

Dale Vagts (1991-92) 24573 Kings Rd. Cresco, IA 52136 (563) 547-2161

Dick Melick (1989-90) 1314 Washington St. Cedar Falls, IA 50613-4153 (319) 266-0445

Roger Muth (1987-88) 365 West 5th St., Garner, IA 50438 (641) 923-3560

Larry Childs (1986) 311 E. Prospect St. Manchester, IA 52057-1456 (563) 927-5934

Dan Martin (1984-85) 4712 Candlelight Dr. Davenport, IA 52806 (563) 386-3769

Mary Heikens (1982-83) Deceased

Chuck Colegrove (1981) 5606 6th Ave. Armstrong, IA 50514 (712) 864-3170

Rich Moench (1980) 2155 Iowa Ave., Humboldt, IA 50548 (515) 332-3587

Gary Fairchild (1979) 933 170th St. Ogden, IA 50212 (515) 275-4133

Bill Nordstrom (1978) Deceased

Gary Bruns (1977) 102 Honeysuckle. Baytown, TX 77520

Richard Grosse 7543 Ford Rd. (Mar 1975-Dec 1976) Janesville, IA 50647 (319) 987-2155

Larry Huntley (Nov 1973-Mar 1975) 401 East 1st St. Alta, IA 51002

See You at Okoboji

Local Cross-Country Racer Planned for Convention Seminar this Month by Cameron Hanson

Pross-country snowmobile racer Mitch Sebastian of Spencer will headline the Saturday afternoon seminars at this month's ISSA annual convention in Okoboji.

Slated to begin at 2 p.m., the 22-year-old, who began riding snowmobiles when he was just two years old, will share his stories from the track and trail during his presentation, entitled "Racing from Day 1."

After dabbling in snowmobile drag racing, Sebastian first entered the United States Cross-Country circuit in 2012. In 2013, he was named Rookie of the Year and won a Sport class championship before stepping up to the Semi Pro class during the 2016-17 campaign.

A lifelong member of the Clay County Sno Brones, Sebastian and his family have been strong supporters of the local snowmobile community, and at the 2017 ISSA Annual Convention, he received the ISSA's Young Adult Snowmobiler of the Year Award.

Sebastian's seminar is expected to last an hour and will be followed by the Ride Iowa planning session. Approaching its third season, this guided trail program for the ISSA invites clubs from around the state to host rides and encourage guests



from other parts of Iowa to tour their local trail systems.

The third seminar planned for convention weekend is the groomer operator training and recertification course, as detailed in the October issue of this publication. This training begins at 1 p.m.

Book Your Room Early

As in 2012, the Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center is serving as the host site for this year's convention, Nov. 16-18. Full registration costs \$75, and other options are available on the registration form printed on page 10.

Please note that registration fees do not include lodging. To re-



Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center 1405 Highway 71, Okoboji, IA 51355

2018 ISSA Annual Convention Nov. 16-18 Okoboji, IA

Friday, Nov. 16

4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Convention Registration,

Vintage Snowmobile Show-N-

Shine Set Up

Snowmobile Iowa Set Up

6:30 p.m. Avalanche Seminar presented

by Mike Duffy. Courtesy of

Lyon County Sno-Lyons

Hospitality/Hog Feed. Courtesy 7 p.m.-10:30 p.m. of Lyon County Sno-Lyons

Saturday, Nov. 17

8:15 a.m. to 10 a.m. Convention Registration

Vintage Snowmobile Show-N-

Shine Set Up

Snowmobile Iowa Set Up

8:30 a.m. Opening Remarks & Welcome 8:50 a.m. Region Meetings & Elections

9:00 a.m. General Membership Meeting Brunch. Silent Auction Opens 10:30 a.m. 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. **Groomer Recertification Class**

2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Mitch Sebastian Motorsports: "Racing Since Day 1"

3 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Ride Iowa Planning Session

5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Social Hour

Youth Program Planning

Session

6 p.m. Dinner

7 p.m. Awards Ceremony.

Donation Presentations

Drawings & Raffle 8:30 p.m. 10:00 p.m. Closing Ceremony

Hypnotist Sami Dare

Sunday, Nov. 18

8:30 a.m. ISSA Board Meeting

serve a hotel room, contact the resort directly at 1-800-727-4561 or 1-712-332-2161 or www.arrowwoodokoboji.com. Be sure to tell them you are with the ISSA convention to receive the group rate of \$79 plus tax.

According to the convention planning committee, rooms are still available for convention weekend. "We want to remind everyone to book their rooms as soon as possible to take advantage of the ISSA block rate," committee co-chair and Region 1 Director Dan Delperdang urged.

Working with several clubs from northwest Iowa, the committee is also looking for additional prizes for fundraiser drawings as well as silent auction items. The ISSA will also be raffling off two donated Grizzly coolers, and several sponsorship opportunities are still available, Delperdang said. To become a sponsor, fill out the form on page 10.

Friday evening will include a hog roast and avalanche awareness class, sponsored by the Lyon County Sno-Lyons of Region 1, and all day Saturday will be a vintage snowmobile Show-N-Shine display, coordinated by the Dickinson County Snowhawks of Region 1.

Clubs from across the state are also invited to set up booths to provide information on their activities as part of the annual Snowmobile Iowa showcase, a tradition which began in 2003 when the convention was also held in the Iowa Great Lakes region.



Hypnotist Planned for Evening Entertainment

Saturday morning will include officer and director elections for the ISSA, the general membership meeting and an update on snowmobile legislation.

The western representative on the Iowa State Snowmobile Trail Grant Program's Review and Selection Committee (RSC) will also be voted on. This position is open to any registered sled owner in the state.

In 2017, the ISSA assumed control of the program from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Working in step with the RSC, the program is co-administered by ISSA President Chris Willey and Past ISSA President Terry Durby. A financial update on the program is expected either during the Saturday morning session or prior to the start of the groomer training seminar, Willey said.

Following the seminars Saturday afternoon will be the evening banquet, awards ceremony, drawings and club donations. Running concurrent to the 5 p.m. Social Hour will be an opportunity for adolescent snowmobilers to meet and discuss the IS-SA's Youth Program.

Providing entertainment for the evening will be hypnotist Sami Dare from Red Wing, Minn. The weekend wraps up with the monthly ISSA Board of Directors meeting Sunday morning.

For more information or questions regarding convention, please contact Delperdang at (712) 330-2609 dandelperdang@hotmail.com

Host Needed for 2019

As of press time, a convention host for



Sami Dare performing

2019 was still needed. Since 2012, the site for state convention has been on a west-toeast rotation. Next year is the central part of the state's turn, but through the middle of October, a bid had not been turned in yet. Bids were due by the end of the month.

"If no proposals are received from a central club, it is open to any club to submit a proposal," Willey said. "If no clubs submit a proposal, it is up to the ISSA board of directors to take action."

The board was faced with a similar situation this summer when nary a club stepped forward to host the annual campout. The planning fell back onto the ISSA, and what resulted was a fall campout at Manchester which had to be cancelled due to excessive rain at the Delaware County Fairgrounds during the week leading up to the event.

Officials hope to announce the date and location of the 2019 convention at the conclusion of this month's event.

Toolcat Mower Clearing Trails Across State This Fall

R epresenting six of the 10 ISSA regions, 13 snowmobile clubs have signed up to use the Toolcat mower this fall for trail maintenance and preparation.

The ISSA inherited the machine from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources

during the transfer of equipment following the transition in management of the state snowmobile program.

"We are scheduling the unit as efficiently as possible, taking into consideration logistics and dates requested," explained Past ISSA President Jim Willey, who is coordinating the unit's movement across the state.



If your club is interested in reserving the mower, please contact Willey at (563) 920-0911 or email him at james.willey@camoplast.com. Please note only certified groomer operators are eligible to run the machine on the trails and or in the ditches.

"When you receive the unit, we ask that you do everything possible to complete your use as quickly as possible, so it can be moved on to the next club waiting to use it," he said. "If you are not able to use the Toolcat when I call you to let you know that it is available, we will take it to the next club on the list and reschedule your time with it."

COMMITTEES



ALS CHARITY LIAISON Brian Carmichael, snohawk68@gmail.com

Mindy Scott, scott4@iowatelecom.net

BREAST CANCER CHARITY LIAISON Angie Sprung, angiesprung@gmail.com

BUDGET/FINANCE Brittany Paulus, bepaulus@outlook.com

BY-LAWS AND SOPS Jim Willey, jim.willey@camso.co

CAMPOUT 2019 OPEN

CHARITY Angie Sprung, angiesprung@gmail.com

Mindy Scott, scott4@iowatelecom.net

COMMUNICATIONS Jim Willey, jim.willey@camso.co

CONVENTION 2018 Dan Delperdang, dandelperdang@hotmail.com

EARLY MEMBERSHIP Matt Trunkhill, mtrunk@wctatel.com

Terry Durby, tdurb@yahoo.com

GRANTS Ron Sienknecht, ron.sienknecht@gmail.com

GROOMER TRAINING COORDINATOR Chris Willey, kioti79@gmail.com

IOWA REC TRAILS ADVISORY REP John Kahler, jfkahler@hotmail.com

LEGISLATIVE Terry Durby, tdurb@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP Brittany Paulus, bepaulus@outlook.com

TRAIL BREAK TRAILER Brian Carmichael, snohawk68@gmail.com

NOMINATIONS Jim Willey, jim.willey@camso.co

Jeremy Walker, jlkwalk@gmail.com

Jim Willey, jim.willey@camso.co

REVIEW & SELECTION Terry Durby, tdurb@yahoo.com

EASTERN IOWA TOURISM Becky Willey, beckywilley@iowatelecom.net

CENTRAL IOWA TOURISM OPEN

WESTERN IOWA TOURISM Merv Hoermann, mebeefeater2@yahoo.com

TRAIL SIGN & TRAIL DEVELOPMENT Matt Miner, mmmfarms@hotmail.com

YOUTH PROGRAM Isabelle Willey

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION Bruno Andreini, awbrunoa3@gmail.com

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2018 ISSA Annual Convention Nov. 16-18 Okoboji, IA

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Family Award	\$200

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Name/Club _____ Address _____ Phone Number _____

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To secure your sponsorship, please send your sponsorship check made out to the ISSA and this

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Dan Delperdang 2668 Hwy 9/71 Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360

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2018 ISSA Annual Convention Nov. 16-18 Okoboji, IA

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2018 ISSA Annual Convention Nov. 16-18 Okoboji, IA

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2018 ISSA Convention **Election Notice**

- Offices of President & Vice President
- Region Directors from **Even-Numbered Regions**
- Western Representative, **Review & Selection Committee**

ISSA General Membership Assembly ISSA Annual Convention, Nov. 17

> Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center 1405 Highway 71 Okoboji, IA 51355





now Snoops President Seth Bram plays in a meadow along the Shell Rock River March 25.

Boondocking in Butler **County**

by Cameron Hanson

ropping temperatures 20 degrees below normal, a weather system moved through Iowa the second weekend in October and, with two months of fall left, produced an unexpected and unseasonable couple of inches of snow across parts of the state.

Although short-lived, the thin, white blanket seemed to provide a morale boost to snowmobilers here who came off their third straight season last winter of sub-par riding conditions. Hopefully, this early tease of the white stuff will translate into abundant snowcover this year.

Besides giving orange pumpkins a white toupee, the premature snow event also bookended an off-season which began just six months earlier after four spring storms each dumped close to a foot of snow across the northern tier of Iowa, as documented in last month's magazine.

While that article admittedly focused on last winter's bad timing, the tardy arrival of snow last year did salvage the season for at least three riders from Region 4, including myself. I guess the glass wasn't completely empty, even though I had already put my machine away for the year when the storms arrived.

Up until that fourth weekend of March, riding in Iowa for me



Besides plenty of riverbottom, the 180-mail trail system in Butler County also features field crossings, courtesy of the Snow Snoops more than 200 private landowners in the area.

Taking Advantage of Late-Season Snowfall

last season had amounted to a couple laps around Clear Lake during the Jack Race, a day trip to Okoboji for Winter Games and a frustrating attempt to ride to a club meeting in Greene two weeks

Sprinkled in between those in-state events were three trips to the Northwoods of Wisconsin, all of which helped to push my season's total over 1,000 miles last winter but failed to provide the satisfaction of riding local trails created by the hard-working volunteers from nearby clubs.

So when blizzard-like conditions hit close to home March 23-24, it didn't take too much arm-twisting to pull the sled out of storage and back where it belonged out on the trail. By noon on Sunday, March 25, a few quick text messages had set the plan in motion for the day for this trio of diehard sledders.

Make-Up Date for Ride Iowa

Heading west from Floyd, I first met up with Steve King, trail coordinator for the Floyd County Groomers, near Rudd, at which time we turned back south toward Rockford and Marble Rock to hook up with Seth Bram, president of the Butler County Snow Snoops, who was coming up from the south on the Aredale trail.

As expected for this time of the year, the snow was heavy and wet but plenty thick enough to create ideal trail conditions as we cruised along the Shell Rock River. The sun was shining, and temperatures were well above freezing to make for a very comfortable

Just west of Marble Rock, we departed the meandering riverbottom trail and turned toward Aredale. About six miles down that cross-country path, we could begin to see a lone snowmobiler riding toward us on the horizon, and like the opening shot to a western movie, Bram slowly came into view.

Throughout our first 35 miles of riding, traffic was very light this afternoon. In fact, Bram, up until this point, was the only other sled we had encountered. Other tracks were visible on the trail, but there was still plenty of room to ride on undisturbed snow, which can oftentimes be just as plush as a freshly groomed trail.

While invitations were sent out, no other riders were expected to be joining us, and with very little options for open businesses on a Sunday, we decided to double back toward Marble Rock and



Snow-flocked evergreens on the west side of the Shell Rock River made this early spring ride feel more like Christmas.

head towards Greene and Clarksville, thus resuming our scenic tour along the Shell Rock.

Our route for the day pretty much mirrored the southern half of the first Ride Iowa event planned for Jan. 13 last season, which King and Bram were jointly coordinating and which ultimately had been cancelled due to poor trail conditions. In fact, only one of the six Ride Iowa dates were actually fulfilled last winter, unless you count this day as a make-up date for that first one.

Riding Both Sides of the River

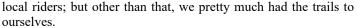
At Greene, we departed the Floyd County trail system and picked up the Butler County trail to Clarksville. On the way down, we rode the southeasterly side of the river, which included a nice loop through some meadows and created an opportunity for some "Butler County boondocking," as Bram called it.

"I may be a little biased, but I would have to say that riding along the Shell Rock between Greene and Clarksville is about the best Iowa riding you can get," he boasted. "It's just perfect, weaving in and out of the timber and coming to openings that overlook the river. The pictures really don't do it justice."

"I've been riding these trails pretty much all my life, and they have yet to let me down," added King. "They always seem to catch a lot of snow and are well maintained by the club down here."

It was near Packard that we ran into the only other real traffic for the day as a dozen or so riders were heading back toward their trailers parked at the trailhead in Greene. When we arrived at the restaurant in Clarksville, we met a few more

> South Campais put @amp@mfortlboksalbti better in the winter.



After supper in Clarksville, we opted for the club's northwesterly route along the Shell Rock River, which began just south of town at Heery Woods State Park. Getting to this connection was a bit of a challenge, however, as most of the snow on the streets through town had melted and this was the only way to get across the railroad tracks.

With carbides still intact, we painstakingly made it to the state park for some nice wooded riding before banging a ditch and scraping over a bridge to get to the other side of the river. Once back on the trail, the sleds and their riders were both a lot happier, and we followed the signs up to the Camp Comfort Recreation Area, site of the 2017 ISSA Summer Campout hosted by the Snow Snoops.

From the campground, the trail followed the same path the Snow Snoops had used for their hay ride into Greene during campout weekend. Now covered in a thick coat of snow, the scenery appeared quite familiar, although we were taking it in at a much faster clip than on the hay racks nine months earlier.

Extended Daylight Hours

Riding five days after the first day of spring, the sun did not set that night until 7:30 p.m. so our circadian rhythm was a little off balance when we arrived at the bowling alley in Greene for our second stop of the day. Normally riding in the dark after 5 p.m., the waning light of the day made it feel a lot earlier than it actually

From there, we headed back into Floyd County and eventually split off for home, ending with close to 150 miles for this last ride of the season. Looking back on it now, rideable snow would vanish by mid-week so the decision to pull the sled out of storage seemed like the right thing to do last March. Better late than never, I guess.

'Abundant snow, warm temperatures, extended daylight and getting out to ride with friends made for a pretty good day for all of us," King noted.

King and Bram said they are both looking forward to hosting another Ride Iowa event this year, and after two straight winters of getting shut out by Mother Nature, they hope the third time is the charm.

Following the goal of the ISSA's guided trail-ride program, Bram said he is eager to showcase his club's 180-mile trail system this season and is grateful to the 200 private property owners in their area who open up their land for public use.

"I'm definitely proud of these trails and thankful to our wonderful landowners who allow us goofy snowmobilers to enjoy their beautiful land," he said. "We have a lot of nice areas to ride in and hope the weather cooperates a little earlier this year, although we had



Region 1

O'Brien County Snowtrackers

by Zelda Buse Christensen, Reporter

I am writing this on Oct. 12, nearly eight weeks since I fractured my leg, unfortunately. Wearing a brace on a leg and walking with crutches for nearly seven weeks, my activities have been greatly curtailed.

For example, someone else has been mowing my lawn, which needed mowing repeatedly during our frequently wet weather. But now I could do it myself. Although the ground was far from dry, I did mow some of the front stuff before quitting for dinner and letting the dew dry more. Although I was dressed in several layers, with the temperature in the low 30s, I needed to warm up also. Get-



ting heavy clothes on again to finish the job after eating, I looked out the window. And what greeted my eyes on this October day? SNOW! The air was filled with fluffy flakes drifting down. They did change to

water the second they landed in the grass or on the ground—no drifting! But the snow continued for a couple hours, and the lawn-mower went back in the shed.

What conclusions can be drawn from this kind of weather? One is simply that this is Iowa, so anything is possible. Another possibility is that two things just got flipped: snow that should come in January came in October, so October-type weather can be expected in January, squelching any need for grooming snowmobile trails. But still another possibility is that this snow is a harbinger of bountiful snow to come this winter, making for excellent snowmobiling.

Let's hope that last idea is the one that happens—leading to renewed interest and enthusiasm in snowmobiling in the state of Iowa! Remember to attend the ISSA state convention at the Iowa Great Lakes later this month!

Region 3

Worth County Fence Stretchers

by Nicole Knudson, Secretary

Fall is in full swing, harvest is underway and we are preparing for yet another snowmobile season.

The Worth County Fence Stretchers will again host a membership night Nov. 13 in which we gather for socializing, food and

2018 ISSA Club Challenge

08	
Iowa Snowdrifters	\$500
Worth County Fence Stretchers	\$500
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$376
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	
Snow Pioneers	
Sac County Sno Lovers	
Floyd County Groomers	\$300
Bremer County Sno-Knights	\$250
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks	\$250
Dickinson County Snowhawks	
Howard County Stump Jumpers	
Humboldt Sno-Skimmers	\$250
Chickasaw Sno-Riders	
Lyon County Sno-Lyons	
Allamakee Śno-Blazers	\$200
Team Iowa Snowmobilers	
Iowa River Riders	\$100
Butler County Snow Snoops	
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club	\$100

Proceeds benefit the ISSA's lobbying effort.

Contact your region director to make a donation.

renewing of memberships for both our club but also the ISSA.

As we think of the upcoming season, we also must remember the importance of purchasing two stickers for our sleds: one for registration but also a trail permit. In the September issue, an article written by Cameron Hanson highlighted the importance of encouraging all to purchase a state trail permit. Even in years of no snow, it still takes money to maintain the trail system, so that when it does snow, we all can enjoy what Iowa has to offer. This is a great point that we can remind all of our fellow snowmobile enthusiasts of, especially since recent years have left us with very little opportunities for local riding.

Our club was once again able to offer the "Tom Coyle Memorial Scholarship" to a local high school graduate whose family has been involved in our club. This year, the recipient was Maria Determan, who was very deserving of this scholarship. Her family has been dedicated members of our club, teaching the youth snowmobile safety class locally for many years. Congrats to Maria!

This is all for now so until next time, may the harvest be bountiful and safe for all!

Region 4 **Butler County Snow Snoops**

by Seth Bram, President

Greetings from beautiful Butler County!! WE HAVE STRUCK WHITE GOLD!!! Never would have guessed as I type this that it would be snowing in October!! We've gotten a little over an inch here in the Packard area, and it is still coming down. You can't help but get a little excited.

Anyway, the Snow Snoops have been hard at it this year. In June, we set up a dsiplay at the Butler County Fair in Allison, and then in July, we hosted our first annual golf tournament, the Snow





Snow Snoops display at the Butler County Fair in June

Snoops Open, at the Round Grove Country Club in Greene that was a huge hit. We've also had a couple sponsorship car cruises that were fun as well.

We haven't been able to inspect our trails to see if they have sustained any damage from this latest flooding event. Currently, several club members are teaming together to build what may be the first trail roller in Iowa! We are hopeful that this will help build a trail-base for the drag to work later and speed up initial grooming operations.

Lastly, you will see that our trail map is this month's centerfold. We hope that you can hang it up in your shop and enjoy!! Well, that's all for me. I need to go open the garage and let my sled see this white stuff coming down. Hope to see you on the trails in Butler County this winter!

Region 5

Cresco Driftrunners

by Bob Martinek, Treasurer

Wow! Hard to believe November already. That means it's time to tell about our annual Toys for Tots Kickoff Dance on Nov. 24. This year, Wayne at the South Side Bar & Grill in Cresco will be our host. We will have a D.J. starting at 8 p.m. until ??. Admission will be a new unwrapped toy or cash donation. The cash donations are used to buy more toys, and then all toys are donated locally in time for Christmas. It's a real 'feel good' event that the club has sponsored for many years now. If you are unable to attend and want to donate, you can drop off your toys or donation at the Cresco Chamber of Commerce office.

I would also like to report that as of Oct. 12, I have received 77 memberships for the 2019 year. We are again running our same promotion as last year. All membership renewals and new memberships received or postmarked by Dec. 1 will get one free raffle ticket book (6 tickets) in the Snowfest Raffle. Pretty good deal:

2018 AGSA Donations

Iowa Snowdrifters	. \$250
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club	. \$200
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	. \$200
Floyd County Groomers	. \$200
Team Iowa Snowmobilers	. \$150
Iowa River Riders	
Sac County Sno Lovers	. \$100

Proceeds benefit snowmobile access nationwide. Contact your region director to make a donation. \$40 gets a Driftrunner membership, an ISSA membership and a chance to win in our big Snowfest raffle! If you want, you can mail your check payable to Driftrunners to me at 15854 Valley Ave., Cresco, Iowa 52136.

Please also mark your calendars. The 2019 Snowfest will be Jan. 24-27 and Charlie's Chilli Feed is on Feb. 9. Thanks for now, and I hope to see all at the Kickoff Dance or on the trails later this season!

Region 9

lowa Snowdrifters

by Ron Roe

Hello snowmobile enthusiasts. Another month has passed, and we're now 30 days closer to the white snow.

We had two club meetings the second week of October. There was not a lot to get started on yet, but we have so many trails that are under water, that it's questionable if and when we will get the trails marked. We will probably have more bridge work than usual because of the high water.

We had a trail clean up day the last Saturday of October, and we will then be marking the trails on Saturday, Nov 17. Anyone that can come and help with the trails should meet at the Solon Legion at 8 a.m. for breakfast, and we will start working at 9 a.m. The more hands we have, the faster it goes. Thank you in advance for

Well, I am sort of on the injured reserve list. I had surgery on my right shoulder. They put in a new ball and socket. For a right handed person, that makes a lot of things difficult to do. Because of that, I am shrinking this letter quite a bit. That is all for now. It is hard to write, and there is not much to talk about yet.

Remember the state convention is Nov 16-18 in Okoboji at the Arrowwood Resort. I promise to have more next month.



From left, John Kahler, Steve Klinkefus, Bruno Andreini and Barry Starmer of the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club of Region 7 participated in the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa's Walk-N-Roll Oct. 6 at Principal Park in Des Moines. This annual fall event raises funds, provides support and entertains families living with spina bifida.

Please Notify ISSA of Officer, **Address Changes**

If your club has elected new officers or if you have an address change, please email ISSA Membership Chair Brittany Paulus at bepaulus@outlook.com so we can keep our Club Directory current. Thank you.



Clubs in red reported 100% ISSA Membership

REGION ONE

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

Clay County Sno Broncs

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

èliteautodoug@gmail.com

Dickinson County SnowHawks

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

Lyon County Sno-Lyons P.O. Box 576, Rock Rapids, IA 51246

President: Walt Dibbern 902 1st Ave, Rock Rapids, IA 51246 (712) 472-3804

walt.dibbern@yahoo.com

O'Brien County Snowtrackers President: Kelly Jongerius

Visit club's Facebook page at www. facebook.com/pages/OBrien-County-Snowtrackers/149959738392476.

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

P.O. Box 154, Remsen, IA 51050 www.powder-players.com President: Jim Skinner 4871 Pierce Ave., Paullina, IA 51046 (712) 448-2567

Sioux County Snowmobile Club

Find us on Facebook President: Jesse Wynia 133 W 1st St, Sioux Center, IA 51250 712-441-0934 jesse wynia@hotmail.com

REGION TWO

Emmet County Driftbusters President: Carson Glasnapp

1551 560th Ave., Amstrong, IA 50514 (712) 209-2282 glasnapp11@gmail.com

Humboldt Sno-Skimmers

President: Brian Ricklefs P.O. Box 72, Dakota City, IA 50529 (515) 368-0384,

bricklef@goldfieldaccess.net ossuth County Drift Skippers

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

lo Alto Rough Riders

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

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

Hancock County Snowmobile Assn. President: Dan Stromer 1840 Hwy 69, Klemme, IA 50449 (641) 587-9903, stromerd@yahoo.com Iowa River Riders

President: Lenny Watts

2835 Sycamore Ave., Dows, IA 50071 (515) 571-6034

lenny@usa-chemical.com

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

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

President: Chad Brouwer 15 Williamsburg Cir Mason City, IA 50401 (641) 425-4872

northiowasnowseekers@yahoo.com

P.O. Box 27, Northwood, IA 50459 President: Steve Arnold 1906 Hwy 105, Northwood, IA 50459 (641) 324-1125, (641) 390-0567 k44arnold@gmail.com REGION FOUR

Bremer County Sno-Knights President: Randall Thomsen 10037 W Marquis Rd Janesville, IA 50647 (319) 404-4701 snowthomsen@yahoo.com **Butler County Snow Snoops**

President: Seth Bram 17313 Packard Ave. Clarksville, IA 50619

(641) 512-1932, sethbram@gmail.com Cedar Falls Sno Hawks

President: Kathy Matthias 2161 Rainbow Drive, Waterloo, IA kathymatthias@yahoo.com

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kaumansn@bodimp.com.

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

Floyd County Groomers Association President: Philip Schrage P.O. Box 7, Marble Rock, IA 50653 (641) 397-2775, schrage@windstream.net

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buckarro0149@hotmail.com hell County E-Z Riders, Inc.,

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jkconstruction92@yahoo.com REGION FIVE

Allamakee Sno-Blazers

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

President: Tom Spalla 3309 Brook Hollow Dr.,

Asbury, IA 52002 (563) 582-8893. tnspalla@hotmail.com Clayton County Snowbirds 12469 Hwy. 18, Postville, IA 52162 President: Dan Torkelson

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driftrunnerssnowmobileclub@gmail.com Dyersville Driftskippers www.dyersvilledriftskippers.net

President: Josh Ruley (563) 663 4024, fourtrakcity@aol.com **Snow Pioneers**

President: Chad Eschen 1582 210th St,. Manchester, IA 52057 (563) 608-2525 cjeschen@gmail.com

Trail Blaz-zers Inc.

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

Trails Unlimited

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P.O. Box 802, Indepedence, 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, ÍA 51450 President: Jamie Rohlf 408 Center St., Wall Lake, IA 51466 (712) 830-2196

REGION SEVEN

High Bridge Trailblazers President: Ryan Lowman 603 Allison St, Boone, IA 50036 (515) 230-1181, lowman700@gmail.com

Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers

President: Mike Patten 5204 Neva Pt., Panora, IA 50216 (641) 755-3863, mjpat76@aol.com Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club P.O. Box 3133, Des Moines, IA 50316 www.saylorvilledamsnowmobileclub.org President: Zac Parry 4685 Merle Hay Rd Ste 106 Des Moines, IA 50322, (515) 313-3730 zacparrydc@yahoo.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: Jim Suchan 3374 Garfield Ave., Gowrie, IA 50543 (515) 352-3039, (515) 351-0072 jsmgr@lvcta.com

REGION EIGHT

Central Iowa Snowmobilers

P.O. Box 1751 Marshalltown, IA 50158 President: Blake Matney

ISSA CLUBS

PO Box 171. Liscomb, IA 50148 (641) 485-3161 bmatney05@gmail.com

Snowmobile Association P.O. Box 231, Traer, IA 50675 President: John McKenna 5164 23rd Ave., Mt. Auburn, IA 52313 319-721-5895, jnmckenna1@gmail.com

REGION NINE

Cedar County Winter Warriors ccwwarriors@yahoo.com President: Jerry Meier 1241 Jackson Áve., Tipton, IA 52772 (319) 325-6021 jerrymeier2040@gmail.com

Cascade Snowmobile Club President: Steve Peiffer

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

Eastern Iowa Sledheads
P.O. Box 519, Lone Tree, IA 52755 easterniowasledheads@aol.com President: Mindy Scott P.O. Box 435, 204 W. Dougherty Dr. Lone Tree, IA 52755 scott4@iowatelecom.net (319) 629-4630(h), (319) 325-1903(c) Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders

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

Frozen Few

P.O. Box 612 Cedar Rapids. IA 52406-0612 President: Rodney Rocarek 1718 O'Connor Rd Mt. Vernon, IA 52314 (319) 533-1115 rocarek.inc@gmail.com

ones County Snow Chasers

P.O. Box 225, Olin, IA 52320 President: Burgundie McClure 1155 160th St., Stanwood, IA 52337 (563) 945-6217 bassman7333@yahoo.com

Scott County Sno-Seekers

www.snoseekers.org P.O. Box 2332 Davenport, IA 52809-2332 President: Conor Flaherty (563) 505-4806, eagle3382@aol.com

P.O. Box 5135, Coralville, IA, 52241

www.iowa-snowdrifters.org President: Bill Hogan 3959 MacBride Pl NE, Solon, IA 52333 (319) 325-5588, bshogan@msn.com

President: Aaron Michels 39014 308th St., Bellevue, IA 52031 (563) 599-4935 jcsnowmobile@gmail.com

REGION TEN

Southwest Iowa Snow Scooters President: Trent Larson 25817 208th St., Crescent, IA 51526 (712) 309-1516, trentlarsn@gmail.com

Stag Island Skol Patrol President: Brad Landhuis 3046 210th St., Clarinda IA 51632

Appanoose County Trails, Inc. P.O. Box 825, Centerville, IA 52544

outheast Iowa Ridge Blasters se.iowa.ridge.blasters@gmail.com

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





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Project MayhemPower Sports 509 Inc.

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jesse_wynia@hotmail.com

59 Powersports

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Storm Lake Honda

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

REGION 2

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Brian's Construction 206 4th Ave NE, Pocahontas, IA 50574 (712) 335-3229

brianslama@hotmail.com

Byron's

112 S. Main St, Pomeroy, IA 50575 (712) 468-2372; byrons@ncn.net www.byrons-bar.com LIVE music every Sunday at 5 p.m.

Champion Chrysler Center

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

Collision Center

704 NW 7th St, Pocahontas, IA 50574 (712) 358-0350

pokycollision1@yahoo.com

Co-Op Bar and Grill

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

Earl Demolition

600 Read St., Wesley, IA 50483 (515) 679-4062 earlsdemo@hotmail.com

Hwy 7 Cafe

815 Queen St, Fonda, IA 50540 (712) 288-5898 pankeyscott@gmail.com

Ike's Bar

310 N. Main, Pocahontas, IA 50574 (712) 358-0037

J & K Snowmobile

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

John Erpelding Farms

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Jud's Bar & Grill

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KC's Halftime Lounge

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Klocko Construction

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Lynch's Mainstreet Bar & Grill 336 Main St, Rockwell City, IA 50579

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ramthun96@gmail.com

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Zinnel Bean Rolling

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(641) 648-2547

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Chappy's on Main 122 S Main St, Clarion, IA 50525

(515) 532-2727

ragingcy@yahoo.com

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DK Arndt, PC

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

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agundmonson@hotmail.com

Gorder's Service Co. 201 Main St S, PO Box 95

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dyanne@iowaconnect.com

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jason@principalbuildersinc.com

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smithinsavery@gmail.com

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owasamadbiker@yahoo.com

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meg@drpowersports.com www.drpowersports.com

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info@alsaiowa.org webia.alsa.org Autism Society of Iowa

P.O. Box 65311 West Des Moines, IA 50265 (515) 327-9075 autism50ia@aol.com www.autismia.com

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contact@sbaia.org, sbaofia.org

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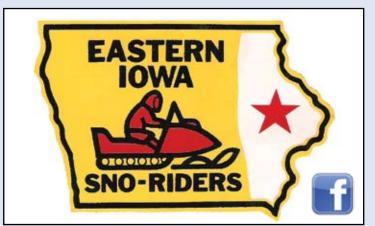
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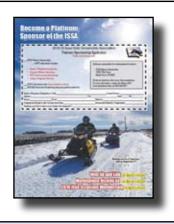


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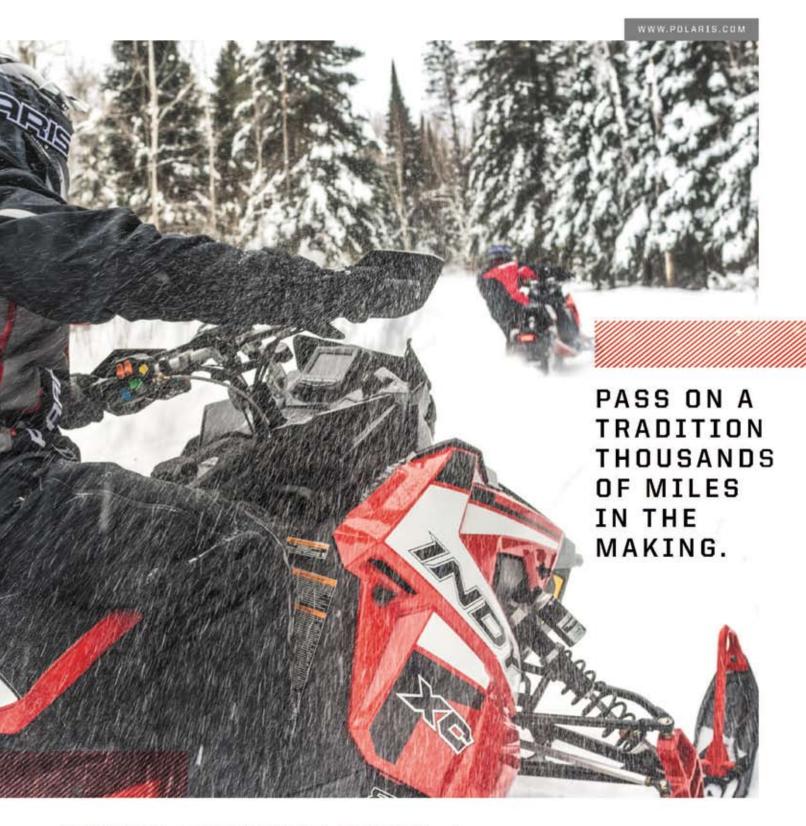












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