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#### Landing in D.C.

ISSA Delegation Meets with Congress Members during ACSA Event



#### Record-Setting Month

February's Snowfall Average for Iowa Breaks 57-Year-Old Mark





#### Ride When You Can

Clubs, Local Snowmobilers Take Advantage of Abbreviated Season





#### **Inspirational Speaker**

Spina Bifida's Biller to Share Story on Hike Through Grand Canyon in April





#### **Quad City Snowcial**

Scott County Club Offers Snowmobile Rides to Women's Club in February











#### Magazine Deadlines

December	Nov. 22
January	Dec. 13
February	
March	

COVER: Groomer operator Mat Formanek of the Hancock County Snowmobile Association approaches the intersection of James Avenue and 200th Street south of Britt Feb. 15. The Region 3 club reported last season was its second highest grooming mileage in the last 15 years.

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# **BRIAN CARMICHAEL**

ISSA PRESIDENT

Happy fall, Iowa snowmobilers.

After the good snow we got at the end of season last year, I can only hope we start the year off the same way it ended...with lots of snow. It seems that the snow has helped spark some more interest in some people to get their sleds out again that have not been out for a couple years or go buy new sleds. We have great dealers across the state which are ready to help out.

So, as many of us get ready to start marking the trails and getting them all ready for everyone to enjoy, it brings up a thought: What if every ISSA member could get just one friend to join our organization? We all know people with sleds who don't belong to a local club or the state association. We need members and new members to help keep our sport going strong.

Hope to see you all at convention. Think SNOW!

## **SCOTT NAUMAN**

ISSA VICE PRESIDENT

reetings again this month, fellow snowmobilers.

As the days of fall tick away and the harvest season across the state grinds on, our thoughts are of course turning to the first measurable snow that will fall on our club's trail systems throughout Iowa. This will be the start of what we all hope will be a great snowmobiling season.

Along with these hopes for snow in the coming months, many club members across the state mark their calendars for the upcoming ISSA state convention. This year, the convention will be held in Burlington at the PZAZZ Convention and Event Center Nov. 22-24. I would like to invite all snowmobilers to attend the convention in order to gain a firsthand look at the work that is done throughout the state by the Board of Directors and the many other volunteers who establish and maintian the trail system that we all enjoy each winter season.

I hope to see all of you later this month at convention.









Past ISSA President Bruno Andreini (center) and Christine Jourdain, executive director of the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) meet with Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa, during the ACSA D.C. Fly-In in April.

# **ISSA Urges RTP Renewal** in Visit to D.C. Last April

#### by Bruno Andreini

Past ISSA President

The leadership from 17 state associa-I tions across the country gathered in Washington, D.C., at the end of April to attend the 20th annual D.C. Fly-In coordinated by the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA).

I was privileged to once again be Iowa's delegate, spending four days with my fellow snowmobilers from neighboring states. As you know, this is a very powerful time for snowmobilers to be informed of the issues relating to our sport and be able to address our concerns with each of our representatives in Washington.

Delegates spent their first day attending business meetings, in addition to listening to a whole day of speakers from our administrations agencies and legislative staff. Our speakers provided updates on current issues impacting snowmobiling and other related recreation.

Our captive audience heard from the Chief of the US. Forest Service, who spoke of recreation and acknowledged the economic impact of recreation in relation to the Forest Service. Some of the topics discussed were the over-snow rule, recommended wilderness areas, wilderness study, budgets, timber, forest plans and other ongoing issues.

One of the key issues of discussion related the reauthorization of the Transportation Act that is up for renewal in 2020. At the time, the basic response to our questions regarding this subject was discussions are currently taking place, making this a perfect time to spend some time on the subject with our elected officials.

Our last day was spent on Capitol Hill visiting with our four congressmen and both senators. Since I was Iowa's only delegate this year, Christine Jourdain, ACSA's executive director, offered to join me in making my visits to each of our Iowa representatives offices. I, of course, welcomed the opportunity to have her join me.

Our message given during each visit centered on the importance of snowmobiling to our state in regards to recreation, the economic importance of snowmobiling in Iowa and the importance of renewing Recreational Trails Program (RTP) legislation in 2020. I described the many uses this funding provides in making the Iowa snowmobiling program the success it is to-

Thank you for allowing me to be your Iowa delegate to the D.C. Fly-In.

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North of Garner March 9

# February Snowfall Sets Statewide Record; Iowa Sees Snow for Six Straight Months

#### by Cameron Hanson

The meteorological winter lasts three I months from December through February. Last winter, the weather pattern in Iowa colored outside those lines, bringing measurable snow to the state for six straight months from late November to late April.

For the 2018-19 snow season, Iowa ended with a statewide average of 46.7 inches. Nearly half of that total was recorded in February alone. In fact, the month's statewide average of 22.6 inches was the "snowiest on record," according to State Climatologist Justin Glisan of the Iowa Climatology Bureau.

February's average broke the previous mark set in 1962. Overall, last winter's snow total was the second highest on record in the last 20 years, bested only by 49.2 inches in 2009-10 and edging out 45.1 inches in 2007-08 and 45.8 inches in 2000-01. The normal season average in Iowa is 32.2 inches.

Last year, several parts of the state exceeded regional averages. A late April snow event helped push Waterloo past the 60-inch total, breaking a previous record from 1962. A little further north on Highway 63, New Hampton closed in on the six-foot mark for the season, making it one of the top five snowiest winters on record in Chickasaw County.

#### **White Blanket**

At one point last February, three-quarters of the state of Iowa was covered by at least five inches of snow. Swea City in western Kossuth County reported 41 inches of snow for the month, and Des Moines and Waterloo finished the month at 25 and 31 inches of snow, respectively-both records, according to National Weather Service's Des Moines bureau.

In his monthly weather report for February, Glisan attributed the large snowfall amounts in February to an "active jet pattern which brought multiple winter systems

#### 2018-19 Iowa Monthly Snowfall Averages

November 2018	4.4 inches
December 2018	2.8 inches
January 2019	
February 2019	22.6 inches
March 2019	2.2 inches
April 2019	1.2 inches
Total	46.7 inches

Source: Iowa Climatology Bureau

throughout the state during the month."

"One of the most potent and widespread winter storms of the season moved through the state between the 16th and the 17th," Glisan reported. "The highest snowfall totals occurred in a narrow band between Red Oak in southwest Iowa to Waterloo in the northeast."

A week later, sleet changed to snow along the I-90 corridor, bringing with it high winds and gusts up to 55 mph to create blizzard conditions. Widespread snowfall amounts of five to 15 inches fell across the northern tier of Iowa, and many highways were drifted shut with snow falling one to three inches per hour in spots.

"The snowpack prior to the storm was already a foot to nearly two feet over portions of western and northern Iowa, causing the additional snow to mainly accumulate in drifts," the National Weather Service observed with the Feb. 22-24 system.

white-out conditions persisted throughout the weekend, travel was not advised. Among the road closures was a portion of I-35 in Worth County, where local snowmobilers rescued stranded motorists and brought them to shelter at the Top of Iowa Welcome Center and its related facilities west of Northwood at Exit 214.

Three other significant snow events in Iowa were recorded during a six-day stretch in early February. Estherville in Emmet







County reported five inches of snow from a Feb. 6-7 storm, Des Moines accumulated seven inches of snow from the Feb. 9-10 system and Strawberry Point in Clayton County received 10 inches of snow from a Feb. 11 storm.

#### **Cold Snap in January**

The second half of January also brought active snow patterns to Iowa and contributed an average of 13.5 inches of snow to the season's overall total. The first system moved through the southern two-thirds of Iowa Jan. 12-13 with weather stations in Davis, Des Moines and Page counties reporting snow totals above 10 inches.

Another storm arrived the following weekend with northeastern Iowa reporting snow totals approaching a foot. One final system moved through Iowa on Jan. 27-28 with measurable snowfall ranging from two to four inches in central and southeastern Iowa to near 10 inches in the northeast.

"This winter storm was the precursor to the Arctic air intrusion that brought dangerously cold air into the state beginning Jan. 29," Glisan said in his monthly report for January. "January was trending warmer than average for much of Iowa until a destabilization in the Polar Vortex led to an extreme cold outbreak across much of the upper Midwest."

The last three days of January were bitterly cold statewide as daytime highs, overnight lows and wind chill values were the lowest observed since 1996. Multiple overnight lows and record low daytime highs were also broken. The coldest conditions were reported near sunrise on Jan. 30 with temperatures ranging from 20 below in southern Iowa to 30 below in northern Iowa.

#### **Notify ISSA of Changes**

If your club has elected new officers or if you have an address change, please email bepaulus@outlook.com.



The dangerous cold snap continued into February until Glisan said a "thermal ridge" arrived Feb. 2-3 and temperatures rebounded with temperature swings of 60to 80-degrees.

Unlike the end of January, unseasonable warmth was observed in December and the first half of January with a 17-day stretch in December of temperatures averaging eight degrees above normal. As a result, December's snowfall in Iowa was only reported at 2.8 inches on average.

A similar warming trend in March also resulted in less than three inches of average snow accumulation in Iowa. Locally, higher totals were reported, but above-average temperatures and rain quickly dissolved any new snowcover. In fact, significant snow delivered to north-central Iowa on March 9 disappeared three days later.

A late April snow shower brought 1.2 inches of snow to Iowa, and a Thanksgiving blizzard brought a foot of snow in areas south of I-80, bookending a winter season which saw snow for six consecutive months.



Snowmobilers in Worth County rescued stranded motorists during a February blizzard in north Iowa. Photo courtesy Facebook.



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#### by Cameron Hanson

ost snowmobilers in Iowa have Llearned to make the most out of every opportunity to ride close to home. Gone are the days of picking and choosing when and where to ride. That luxury ended years ago, and a heightened sense of urgency seems to have risen in its place.

"If we have learned anything over the last 20 years in Iowa, we need to be riding when there's snow on the ground because it probably won't be around for long," acknowledged ISSA President Brian Carmichael, who was among the handful of hearty riders to brave 30-below temps at Snowfest in Cresco last January.

Through the first half of last winter, snowmobile seasons in Iowa had been anything but spectacular in recent memory. Snowfall is either late to the party or arrives in-season only to vanish weeks later when the temperatures rise unseasonably. Windows to ride have narrowed in many corners of the state—from three months historically to just four to six weeks lately.

The statewide average for snowfall in Iowa is normally 32.2 inches, but only half of the winters reached that benchmark in the last 10 years. Over the past two decades, only four winters exceeded the 40inch mark, and most seasoned riders still recall favorably the winter of 2009-10, when the average for the year was nearly 50 inches of snow across the state.

#### **Abbreviated Season**

Last season appeared to be charting much the same course. Sure, a Thanksgiving storm in southern Iowa gave riders premature hope for the season, but a mild stretch of temperatures from December through the middle of January quickly zapped their enthusiasm. Then came the second half of

the season, and with it, plenty of opportunities to ride.

What state meteorologists described as an "arctic intrusion," cold temperatures and "an active jet pattern" brought significant snow to Iowa for a sustained period of seven weeks. The southern portion of Iowa enjoyed the snowfall first and then the majority of the state caught up by the end of January and early part of February.

February's statewide snowfall average of 22.6 inches ended up as the snowiest on record, breaking the old mark set 57 years ago. At least five major snow events in February benefited riders in nearly every corner of the state as local snowmobile clubs filled their Facebook pages with photos of trail conditions, club rides and groomer reports.

Meter readings on the state's groomer fleet also testified to improved riding conditions during the abbreviated season. According to Past ISSA President Terry Durby, co-administrator of the Iowa State Snowmobile Trail Grant Program, clubs groomed 21,328 miles last winter. For comparison, a full season of grooming in 2009-10 reached 26,556 miles.

Volunteer operators logged 4,060 hours, and more than \$52,000 was spent on fuel last season. "Overall, the cost per mile groomed last season was \$8.61/mile," Durby said. "This includes fuel, trail development and direct expense repairs but does not include new equipment purchases. Not all clubs reported operator hours and very few reported their maintenance hours."

#### **Snapshot Across Iowa**

Doug Alger, president of the Clay County Sno Broncs of Region 1, said his club's operators logged 69 hours in the groomer, "which wasn't a bunch because we didn't



Riding near Huxley Feb. 10

actually have measurable snow until February."

A little further east in Region 3, the Hancock County Snowmobile Association reported 146 hours and 769 miles groomed. Club member and Region 3 Director Ben Diekhuis said last season's total was the second most miles in the last 15 years for his club.

In Region 5, Bud Winter, president of Trails Unlimited reported his club logged 1,303 miles on their Prinoth and operators volunteered 230 hours, not bad considering they didn't put any miles on their machine two years ago due to poor snowcover and recurring track issues. Their next highest season in recent memory was the winter of 2015-16 with 802 miles logged for this northeast Iowa club.

In Region 9, where snow began falling in the middle of January, the Snowdrifters reported their groomer log tripled their total entries from previous seasons, registering 629 miles on their stateowned Prinoth and 15 hours on the club-owned 1969 Bombardier

"This was three times the amount of other years," club member Derrick Parker said. "We were really running our equipment, and guys were signing up to volunteer."

And lastly, Team Iowa Snowmobilers of Region 7 reported 414 miles groomed and 183 hours logged last winter.

How this winter will stack up remains to be seen. Hopefully, as is the expectation every fall, snow will arrive early and stay late. When it does show up, Iowa snowmobilers will be ready to ride, and clubs will be ready to groom.



Trails Unlimited in Region 5 finished the 2018-19 grooming season with 1,303 miles and 230 operator hours. Two years ago, members failed to put any miles on their Prinoth due to poor snowcover and recurring track issues.

# Spina Bifida's Biller to **Deliver Keynote Address**

by Cameron Hanson

ary Helen Biller jumped at the chance to give the keynote IVI address at the 2019 ISSA Annual Convention in southeast Iowa later this month. You see, once you've hiked through the Grand Canyon with a disability, nothing else in life seems to be quite as intimidating.

Biller, 51, suffers from spina bifida and will share how she overcame her physical limitations to complete the IConquer Grand Canyon Hike and Adventure April 25-28. She belongs to the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa (SBAI), the ISSA's official charity since



1982, and the hike was organized by the national Spina Bifida Association (SBA).

Biller was among six people from across the country to participate in the hike. In addition to Iowa, other states represented in the adventure were Florida, California, North Dakota and Texas. She explained her motivation in a blog post with the SBA.

"I feel that the SBA's Grand Canyon Adventure is important because it lets those living with spina bifida—and those around us—to realize that anything is possible," she said. "Where there is a will, there is a way for everyone to be included. We all deserve to have the same opportunities and experiences as everyone else...to have fun and to live our lives to the fullest."

As profiled in the February issue of the *Iowa Snowmobiler*, Biller described the hike as an "adventure of a lifetime." She said the goal of the challenge was to build awareness about spina bifida and the need for access to quality health care. The state and



national organizations also want to encourage adults to challenge themselves physically, emotionally and mentally.

To prepare for the trek, Biller began training with the staff at Adaptive Sports Iowa. Her exercise routine included lifting weights, bicycling, swimming and generally "building up my endurance." She also worked hard to raise funds to cover the expense of the trip.

As a preguel to her presentation at convention, Biller recently met with the Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club in Region 7 to share her experiences and will now bring her inspirational message to snowmobilers on a larger stage later this month.

"This was a dream I never thought would be a reality. I had never even been to the Grand Canyon before, even just to see it much less hike through it," she said. "I never thought I would get the chance to experience it and to do it with people facing the same challenges that I face."

#### **Focus on Youth**

Biller's presentation will headline the Awards Banquet Saturday evening. This year's convention is planned for Nov. 22-24 at the Pzazz! Convention and Event Center in Burlington. The Southeast Iowa Ridge-Blasters of Region 10 are hosting this year's event.

In addition to the banquet, the club will be hosting a free snow show during the day on Saturday. The ISSA Trail Break will be on display as will club booths as part of the Snowmobile Iowa exhibit. Local tourism officials are expected to be on hand as well as other vendors. Invitations to local dealers have also been sent out.

Region 10 Director Aaron Dorothy, president of the Ridge-Blasters, is chairing this year's planning committee and is urging clubs to support the event through sponsorships. "We have a lot to pay for so any assistance will be appreciated," he said.

A convention sponsorship form is printed on page 15 of this month's issue. Organizers have also set Friday and Saturday ala carte registration fees at \$15 and \$60 respectively. Full convention registration is \$70 and does not include lodging. Registration details are also printed on page 15.

Youth registration is \$30 for kids ages 5-14. Dorothy, who also oversees the ISSA's Youth Program, said he is planning several youth activities, including a Youth Trail Readiness Class, a Youth Social Hour and, if enough interest exists, off-site go-cart racing. If a sponsor steps forward, take-home gifts are also in the works for the kids.

"My big push this year is the youth," he said. "That's our future. If we don't have something for them to be there for or for them to



In addition to exhibit halls and meeting rooms, the Pzazz! Convention and Event Center in Burlington also includes an indoor water park, arcade games and an indoor electric go-cart track. For more information on the facility, visit www.pzazz.com and be sure to bring the entire family for a weekend of fun in southeast *Iowa later this month.* 



Mary Helen Biller at the Grand Canyon last April

get excited about, will there even be an ISSA in the future? We need to get them more involved, so I plan to have some fun stuff for them to do."

#### **Groomer Operator Certification**

Activities for the entire family are planned as well, including a wreath-making and wine-tasting event Saturday afternoon. Saturday afternoon will also include a groomer operator certification course and an update on the Iowa State Snowmobile Trail Grant Program.

Convention weekend will be the first opportunity this season for groomer operators to get certified if they haven't already done so. The first half of each club's roster of operators expired last January, and the second half of the alphabet is due by the first of this year, according to program guidelines.

Other convention activities this month feature a Snowmobile Iowa ride planning session and Friday night hospitality with live music. Including officer and director elections, the ISSA General Assembly will meet Saturday morning and a regular ISSA board meeting is planned for Sunday morning.

Commemorative T-shirts from the weekend will also be available for sale. See the flyer on page 14 for additional convention details. For more information on this year's event, contact Dorothy at (319) 217-6361 or aarond65@hotmail.com.

#### 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. 23

Where: Pzazz Resort Hotel, Burlington, IA



Shell Rock River near Marble Rock



Fairgrounds west of Charles City



Creek bottom south of Floyd



Tree-lined trail near Rockford

# Snowmobile Iowa Ride Planned for Floyd County

Weather and trail conditions permitting, the Floyd County Groomers Association of Region 4 is planning to co-host another Snowmobile Iowa trail ride this winter. The club's previous three attempts were thwarted by untimely weather and tardy

If everything goes as planned, the club will coordinate this year's effort with the Butler County Snow Snoops to the south and east and the North Iowa Snow Seekers to north and west. A date will likely be confirmed at this month's ISSA Annual Convention in Burlington.

As planned the last three winters, the ride will showcase the Shell Rock River bottom from Rock Falls on the north end to Clarksville on the south end. Cutting diagonally through Floyd County, this 35-year-old route features the multi-purpose Green Belt Trail at



Nora Springs and provides scenic views of the meandering river, abundant wildlife and timber stands.

A Floyd County map has been printed in the centerfold of this month's issue, and a trail map for Butler County will be printed in the centerfold of December's magazine. Be sure to bring them along if you decide to come over for this 60-mile guided tour this winter.

Altogether, Floyd County club members maintain 197 miles of trail, which takes 32 to 40 hours to groom. Last season, seven certified operators ran the groomer for the club. Nearly all of Floyd County's trails are cross-country, thanks to the generosity of 204 landowners—a ratio of more than one lease per mile of

In addition to Nora Springs, the Groomers' trail system serves the communities of Colwell, Charles City, Floyd, Rudd, Rockford, Marble Rock, Greene, Aredale and Rockwell. The club also connects to five neighboring clubs at eight different intersections.

Besides the trail map, all of the club's trails are available digitally on the Polaris Ride Command trail app, and current groomer reports and trail conditions are posted regularly on the club's Facebook page or website at www.floydcountygroomers.webs.

Maps and directional signage are placed at major trail intersections as well. Trailhead parking is located in Floyd and Greene, and overnight lodging is available in Charles City, Nora Springs and Marble Rock.

Please note in Charles City, the bridge on the Charley Western Recreational Trail (a former railbed) has been removed due to structural issues. The club is working with local officials to maintain snowmobile access to this bridge once it is rebuilt as this crucial span provides a safe crossing over the Cedar River and connects a through-town route.

Founded in 1981, the Floyd County Groomers Association is a 100 percent member of the ISSA and supports many of the state organization's initiatives. An ISSA Platinum Sponsor, the club has twice been named the ISSA's Club of the Year, and five club members presently serve on the ISSA Board of Directors as vice president, secretary, treasurer, Region 4 Director and past president.

The club currently has 46 members, down from a high of 114 in 2012. Meetings are held regularly throughout the year, normally the second Monday of the month. Club membership costs \$35 annually and includes an ISSA membership. To join, fill out the membership application available on the club's website.



# **2019 ISSA**



Pzazz Convention and Event Center

Burlington, la

November 22nd-24th 2019

#### Friday Night Hospitality Featuring:

Food, Refreshments, Friends

And live entertainment by: The BOYS

#### Saturday Featuring:

**Opening Ceremonies** 

ISSA general membership meeting

Brunch Buffet

SnowShow open all Day

**Groomer Certification Class** 

Ladies' Wreath-Making Class

Youth Trail readiness class

Seminars: RideCommand and more

Groomer operator appreciation

Youth and open social hour

Evening Banquet with awards, door

prizes, and entertainment

#### Sunday:

ISSA Board meeting



**RIDE**COMMAND

Groomer Class

Meetings and more

#### For the Guys:

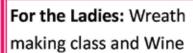
SnowShow

#### For The Kids and Youth:

Youth Trail Readiness Class (for the youth by the youth)

Youth Social Hour—Gocarts and more

Convention T-Shirts will be available for Pre-Order and at SnowShow



Pre-Registration required.

Cost: \$35









### **2019 ISSA CONVENTION**

#### **NOVEMBER 22-24 2019**

**PZAZZ - BURLINGTON, IA REGISTRATION FORM** 

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone #
Email:
Club or Organization
Youth Names:
Check or enter number per that apply:
Full Registration \$70
Friday ONLY Registration \$15
Saturday ONLY Registration \$60
Youth Registration \$30 (5-14)
Under 5 FREE
Ladies Wreath Making Class \$35
Pre-Order Convention T-Shirt \$15 [Youth size [Adult S [Adult M [Adult L [Adult XL [Adult_XL
Please Note: Registration fees do NOT include hotel rooms. There are 3 options for hotels, all connected to event center: PZAZZ \$114 Hampton \$101 Catfish Bend INN \$139 (no-one under 21)
Amount Enclosed: \$
Make Checks payable to ISSA Mail Payment and completed form to:  Aaron Dorothy  502 E Cedar Ln.  Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641
For more information, contact Aaron at (319)217-6361 or aarond65@hotmail.com



#### **2019 ISSA CONVENTION**

#### **NOVEMBER 22-24 2019**

PZAZZ - BURLINGTON, IA

#### **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Convention	
Friday Night Entertainment	\$300
Friday Night Hospitality	\$300
Saturday Afternoon Seminar	\$200
Saturday Evening Social Hour	\$300
Youth Social Hour	\$200
Saturday Evening Entertainment	\$500
Program Printing	\$200
Name Badges	\$200
General Donations	\$100
Awards Banque	
Family Award	\$200
Young Adult Award	\$200
Snowmobiler Award	\$200
Groomer Award	\$200
Dealer Award	\$200
Club Award	\$200
Name/Club	
Address	
Phone#	
Email	
Sponsorship type: _Donor _Conver	ntion _Award
Sponsorship Item:	
Amount Enclosed:\$	
To secure your sponsorship, please sponsorship check made out to the form to:	-

Aaron Dorothy 502 E. Cedar Ln. Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641

For more information, contact Aaron at (319)217-6361 or aarond65@hotmail.com

# 2019 ISSA CONVENTION NOVEMBER 22-24 2019

PZAZZ - BURLINGTON, IA

#### **TENTATIVE AGENDA**

#### **Friday**

Snowshow/Club set up Hospitality Hour/Entertainment

#### Saturday

Snow Show open all day ISSA General meeting Region Meeting / Elections **Groomer Class** Seminars Womens Class Youth Class Social Hour **Banquet** Raffles / Silent Auction Awards Entertainment

#### Sunday

**ISSA Board Meeting** Snow Show tear down





This year's convention site (\*) is just north of the Highway 61/34 interchange in Burlington.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### November

- Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club Grass Drags Nov. 2 at Todd's Airfield, Ankeny.
- ISSA Annual Convention and Snow Show Nov. 22-24 at Pzazz Resort Hotel, Burlington.
- ISSA Board of Directors Meeting Nov.24 at 8:30 a.m. at Burlington.
- Iowa River Riders Youth Safety Class Nov. 24 at The Garage Tavern in Coulter with instructors Chad and Stephanie Mulford. For more info, email iowariverriders@yahoo.com.
- Scott County Sno-Seekers inaugural Turkey Day Shootout grass drags, Sunday, Nov. 24, at the Mississippi Valley Fair Grounds, Davenport. Swap meet opens at 9 a.m. Racing from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Driftrunners' Toys for Tots Drive and Kickoff Dance 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 30, Mill House Bar and Restaurant, Lime Springs. Admission is a new unwrapped toy.

#### <u>December</u>

· ISSA Board of Directors meeting TBD.

#### January

- ISSA Board of Directors meeting TBD.
- · Spina Bifida Kids Day TBD.
- Driftrunners' Snowfest Jan. 23-26.
- University of Okoboji Winter Games 23-26.
- Theisen's Snocross National Jan. 31-Feb. 1 at Dubuque.

#### February

- ISSA Board of Directors meeting TBD.
- Team Iowa Snowmobilers Ice Drags Feb. 1 at Little Wall Lake, Jewell,
- Driftrunners' Charlie's Chili Feed Feb. 8 on the Florenceville/Granger trail.



# **Scott County Club Hosts** QC Women's Event

#### by Cameron Hanson

dozen members of the Scott County Sno-Seekers of Region 9 Ahosted their annual snowmobile ride for members of the Quad Cities Women's Outdoor Club Feb. 2. The tradition began in 2008, and 27 ladies participated in last season's event.

The snowcial is designed to expose non-riders to the sport of snowmobiling. Because volunteers need to line up additional snowmobiles, the club normally limits the number of participants; but after last season's timely snowfall and heightened interest, they are looking to ease that self-imposed restriction so they don't have to turn people away.

"We actually cap the number of attendees because we need to make sure we can have a fun and safe ride," explained club vice president Kevin Toft. "Since our members donate the use of their equipment, we can only host so many people. After the 2019 event, though, we are looking to increase the number of people allowed because the event has been very positive."

When the weather cooperates, the event is hosted on private property and usually lasts three to four hours. Toft said club members stake a route to follow and then provide their guests with a "brief training course" on how to operate a snowmobile. Participants can either ride with someone or on their own.

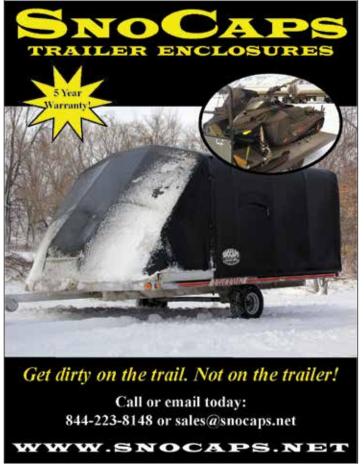
"There have been a few years that we haven't been able to have the event because of a lack of snow, but when we can, it's been a great time," Toft said. "This has been a really good event for our club and helps promote the sport. We have had the chance to meet a lot of great people and teach them about the positives of snowmobiling."

Conservation officers from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources are also on hand to offer tips and foster relationships with both groups. After riding, the participants enjoy a potluck meal.









# **CLUB NEWS**

Region 4

#### Floyd County Groomers

by Amy Hunt, Reporter

friendly reminder that membership dues for 2020 are due in ADecember. The fee is \$35, which includes membership in the Iowa State Snowmobile Association and your subscription to the *Iowa Snowmobiler* magazine. You can be an active member or silent member. Go to Floyd County Groomers Association on Facebook or go to www.floydcountygroomers.webs.com/membershipinfo. htm to renew.

Usually around the third weekend of November, trail signs are put up. This year, we will probably be a few weeks behind due to the late harvest which means more volunteers are needed to help put those up since there is a limited time to get them in. If you would like to help, shoot a message on Facebook and someone will get back to you about where help is needed.

There will be a meeting in November. Watch our Facebook page for details on it.

#### **Butler County Snow Snoops**

by Seth Bram, President

Hello sledders! Had some white stuff come down a couple days ago which is a bit exciting! Sounds like the weather guessers say we are in for a snowy winter (believe it when I see it), but I still can't help getting excited about it.

The Snow Snoops recently had a fall clean up day of our Adopt-A-Highway section here in Butler County, and our trail signs will be getting stuck in the ground soon!!





Butler County Snow Snoops Adopt-A-Highway clean-up effort

#### Region 5

#### **Driftrunners Inc.**

by Bob Martinek, Treasurer

Tello from Cresco. It's hard to imagine, but very soon, it will be ■ Ltime for our annual "Toys for Tots Drive and Kickoff Dance." It is going to be held Nov. 30 at "The Mill House Bar and Restaurant" in Lime Springs. We will have a DJ from 8 p.m. until ?? As always, admission will be a new unwrapped toy or cash donation. First we use monies collected to buy more toys; then we take all the toys and donate them to Community Action to pass out to needy families in time for Christmas. As I have said before, it's a real "feel good" event! If you are unable to attend but would like to donate, contact any board member or just drop off your donation at The Mill House or Cresco Chamber office.

In other club news, as of this writing (Oct. 11), I have received 86 memberships for the new season. Fantastic! Keep them coming. All of them and any additional ones received before Dec. 1 get a free book (6 tickets) in our huge Snow Fest raffle. Pretty good deal. Driftrunner membership with decals for your sled, ISSA membership, and Snow Fest raffle tickets for \$40. How can you go wrong? You can mail memberships payable to Driftrunners to me at 15854 Valley Ave., Cresco, IA 52136 or give them to any board member. If you ride our trails, please support our club!

Lastly, a sad note. On Sept. 24, the club lost a patriarch and staunch supporter with Don Gooder's passing. Don and Rosie had been to Wisconsin and observed "trail riding". Don said we can do that here in Cresco. He and others got together in 1969 to form the Driftrunners and start our trail system. Don was also on the ground floor for the first Snow Fest in 1971. Family runs deep as many "Gooders" continue as active members today, including two grandsons as current board members. Deepest sympathy to all in the family.

Not much else to tell now so I hope to see all at the Kickoff Dance. Thanks.

#### Region 7

#### Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club

by Barry Starmer, President

WOW, another month has gone by.
We had one trail day and had a great turnout. Over thirty people showed up and marked about 35 miles in less than three hours. We have scheduled another trail day, That should finish marking our

Another club meeting is in the books. Great turnout! At our October meeting, our guest speaker was a Snow Pro Racer in the 70's. Really interesting! We have participated in the Walk and Roll for Spina Bifida. That is their biggest fund raiser.

Our club's biggest fund raiser is coming up Nov. 2: Grass Drags at Todd's Airfield in Ankeny.

Until next month, have a great month and GET INVOLVED!



The Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club held a trail work day Sept. 28. Among the volunteers who showed up were 17 members of the Clean Snowmobile Challenge team from Iowa State University.

#### Region 9

#### **lowa Snowdrifters**

by Ron Roe

Hello to all who are watching the weather for the white gold. A little early, but we need to get our eyes trained to watch for it.

We had our club meeting last night, which was Oct. 10. Had a good turnout of members and new potential members. A lot was discussed on one issue that I am not sure about. A few years ago, our club only had an old groomer which we still have and runs good. Not like a nice new one that we have now. Anyway, a few years ago, we had a chance to receive a Tucker that was getting too old for a northern club when they received a new one. It wouldn't have cost us a lot, but it was decided that it was too wide for our ditches, so we declined it. Now, we decided to spend a couple pockets full of money to go 400 miles north and get one that is as old as the other one and truck it back here. This one has to be as wide as or more than the other one and some of our roads have been rebuilt with the shoulders much steeper and narrower than before to make room for

# 2019 ISSA CONVENTION NOVEMBER 22-24 2019

PZAZZ - BURLINGTON, IA SNOWMOBII F IOWA CLUB SHOWCASE

Contact Person:  Address: Phone#: Email:  Mail completed form to: Aaron Dorothy 502 E. Cedar Ln.	Club Name:	
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Mail completed form to: Aaron Dorothy	 Email:	
Mt. Pleasant, la 52641	Aaron Dorothy 502 E. Cedar Ln.	

the 2-wheelers. I missed the boat somewhere on this one. Enough on that one.

Now, we are working on getting some flatbed trailers to make some long bridges. This has worked before, so it should be a great idea. Less cost and less work. More stable for the groomers.

It seems everything has to dry out to get in areas to work on bridges and do mowing in ditches and low areas. We are planning on two different Saturdays to work on the trails: Oct. 25 and Nov. 9. Anyone who can help should meet at the Solon Legion at 8:30 a.m. They will be eating breakfast before that. Details will be on the Snowdrifters website.

One thing that has been brought to our attention of a more important issue is the fact the farmers have to get the crops out so we can get in and mark the trails. With the bad weather this year, it is making it difficult for them and delaying their field work. Good luck to the farmers. We will be thinking of you guys.

That's all I have for now. More in about 30 days.

Glub Challenge Donations		
Snowdrifters	\$500	
Howard County Stump Jumpers	\$500	
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$401	
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	\$350	
Snow Pioneers		
Sac County Snow Lovers	\$303	
Floyd County Groomers Association	\$300	
Bremer County Sno-Knights	\$250	
Cedar Falls Snow Hawks	\$250	
Eastern Iowa Sledheads	\$250	
Team Iowa Snowmobilers		
Dickinson County Snowhawks	\$150	
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club	\$150	
Iowa River Riders	\$100	
Spina Biffela Donations Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club		
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club	. \$2,200	
Hancock County Snowmobile Association	. \$1,800	
Driftrunners	\$505	
Cedar Falls Snow Hawks	\$500	
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	\$500	
Scott County Sno-Seekers	\$500	
Eastern Iowa Sledheads	\$500	
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$401	
Lyon County Sno-Lyons	\$390	
Floyd County Groomers Association	\$300	
Bremer County Sno-Knights	\$250	
Snowdrifters	\$250	
Team Iowa Snowmobilers		
Trail Blaz-zers, Inc.,	\$200	
Butler County Snow Snoops	\$100	
lowa River Riders	\$100	
ACSA Donations		
Snowdrifters	\$250	
Eastern Iowa Sledheads	\$250	
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club	\$250	
Team Iowa Snowmobilers	\$200	
Floyd County Groomers Association	\$200	
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	\$200	
Iowa River Riders	\$100	
Sac County Snow Lovers	\$100	
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Scholarship Donations Floyd County Groomers	\$200	
Dickinson County Snowhawks	\$150	
Snow Pioneers		

#### **REGION ONE**

Buena Vista 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 eliteautodoug@gmail.com

Dickinson County SnowHawks

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

Lyon County Sno-Lyons

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

walt.dibbern@yahoo.com

O'Brien County Snowtrackers

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

sceola County High Point Riders www.highpointriders.com President: Jeremy Wollmuth 5992 200th Street, Melvin, IA 51350 (712) 461-1510

jeremywoll10@gmail.com Powder Players Inc.

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

Sioux County Snowmobile Club

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

#### **RÉGION TWO**

County Driftbusters

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

President: Shane Braby 1005 5th Ave. N, Humboldt, IA 50548 (515) 890-1945

snoskimmers@gmail.com

Kossuth County Drift Skippers President: Jeremy Walker

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

President: Adam Kerr P.O. Box 118, Cylinder, IA 50528 adamkerr1@outlook.com

(712) 298-0338 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 Worth County Fence Stretchers

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

#### **RÉGION FOUR**

**Bremer County Sno-Knights** President: Jeremy Happel 141 N. Powell St., Denver, IA 50622 **Butler County Snow Snoops** 

President: Seth Bram 17313 Packard Ave Clarksville, IA 50619

(641) 512-1932, sethbram@gmail.com Cedar Fall

President: Gary Matthias 2161 Rainbow Dr., Waterloo, IA 50701 (319) 235-7667 gmkm2161@gmail.com

Chickasaw Sno-Riders President: Nick Winter 2997 Vanderbilt Ave. Waucoma, IA 52171 (641) 330-1134

nwinter@statebankia.com

**Dewar Snow Chasers** 

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

loyd County Groomers Association President: Philip Schrage P.O. Box 7, Marble Rock, IA 50653 (641) 397-2775,

schrage@windstream.net www.floydcountygroomers.webs.com

Howard County Stump Jumpers

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

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

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

#### **REGIÓN 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 302 E Church St. Farmersburg, IA 52047

(563) 880-2422

Driftrunners, Inc.

Join Us on Facebook under 'Groups' President: Brandon Plaht 112 3rd Ave E., Cresco, IA 52136 (563) 605-0141 driftrunnerssnowmobileclub@gmail.com

**Dversville Driftskippers** 

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

President: Mitchell Heims 233 Bailey Dr., Manchester, IA 52057 (563) 920-2141, heimsm@live.com

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

Trails Unlimited

1222 Hwy. 150, Festina, IA 52144 President: Bud Winter (319) 231-3337, bwinter@acegroup.cc Wapsipinicon Snowmobile Association 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 Št, 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.Ó. Box 3133, Des Moines, IA 50316 www.saylorvilledamsnowmobileclub.org President: Barry Starmer 602 NE Trilein, Ankeny, IA 50021 (515) 240-5444 sastarmer@q.com

Team Iowa Snowmobilers www.teamiowasnowmobilers.com

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

Webster County Ice Breakers President: 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

319-721-5895, jnmckenna1@gmail.com **REGION NINE** 

5164 23rd Ave., Mt. Auburn, IA 52313

Cedar County Winter Warriors

ccwwarriors@yahoo.com President: Jerry Meier 1241 Jackson Ave., Tipton, IA 52772 (319) 325-6021 jerrymeier2040@gmail.com

Cascade Snowmobile Club President: Steve Peiffer 916 6th Ave. SE, Cascade, IA 52033

(563) 599-1875

Eastern Iowa Sledheads

P.O. Box 519, Lone Tree, IA 52755 easterniowasledheads@aol.com President: Mindy Scott P.O. Box 435, 204 W. Dougherty Dr. 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

P.O. Box 225, Olin, IA 52320 President: Burgundie McClure

1155 160th St., Stanwood, IA 52337 (563) 945-6217

bassman7333@yahoo.com ott 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

Snowmobilers of Jackson County President: Aaron Michels

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

#### **REGION TEN**

outhwest 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

#### **REGION 1 59 Powersports**

Arctic Cat 1990 US Hwy 59 Sibley, IA 51249 (712) 758-3111

#### **Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center**

www.arrowwoodokoboji.com 1405 Hwy 71 Okoboji, IA 51355 (712) 332-2161 arrowwoodsales@ arrowwoodokoboji.com Open year-round

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