



Sept. 2017
Vol. 39
Issue 1

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- Campout Revisited
- Convention Preview
- Landmark Legislation

Top Snocross Racers Hit the Slopes at Dubuque





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IOWA SNOWMOBILER

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Promoting Snowmobile Access on Capitol Hill

Iowa delegation participates in 18th Annual ACSA D.C. Fly-In in April



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Butler County club entertains members during busy weekend in Region 4



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Measure expected to preserve local snowmobile trail grants well into the future



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Sundown Mountain Scores Big with Snocross

Dubuque ski resort signs up for two more years of event following successful debut



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2017-18 Magazine Deadlines

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December.....	Nov. 17
January.....	Dec. 8
February.....	Jan. 12
March.....	Feb. 9



Mark Your Calendars!



2017 ISSA Convention
Nov. 17-18 in Cedar Rapids.
Details on page 9.

COVER: Then-defending Pro Open champion Tucker Hibbert (68) of Pelican Rapids, Minn., completes practice laps at Sundown Mountain Resort in Dubuque March 4. The eastern Iowa ski hill brought top level competitors to the first-time venue that weekend with Hibbert finishing second in the Pro Open Final later Saturday night.

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Program Transition will Take Some Time; Please be Patient

It's August in Iowa. Parents are looking forward to their kids heading back to school, and the kids are dreading going back to school. For my kids, it also means the start of fall sports. Wyatt has decided that he wants to play football as he starts junior high, and Isabelle runs high school cross country. Both of them face challenges. Wyatt is learning how a team works, and Isabelle is training and setting goals to make sure she's ready to go the long distance.

From the President's Desk

I can relate to both of them. As we work with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to transfer the administration of the state snowmobile program over to the ISSA, we are getting the team together and making plans to make sure we keep the ISSA and the snowmobile program going for many years to come.

Last January in this column, I said, "I have assembled a team of past presidents and region directors to work on a legislation package for some changes to the snowmobile program." I am proud to report we accomplished almost all of those changes in the Iowa Code for the snowmobile program.

Effective July 1, 70 percent of all snowmobile registrations and trail pass funds will be retained on the local side of the snowmobile program. This means more money back to the clubs to use to maintain, sign and groom trails.

Along with this change in funding, there is a transfer of administrative duties. The administrative responsibilities are switching from the IDNR to the ISSA. This transfer is being handled through a contract between the IDNR and ISSA.

To carry out the administrative duties, we have established a new Review and Selection Committee (RSC). This is a group with equal representation across the state. More information on the RSC has been emailed to all ISSA members, is on the ISSA website and in this issue of the *Iowa Snowmobiler*.

The RSC is responsible for overseeing and carrying out the administration of the snowmobile program. This includes club grants, trail sign orders and groomer operation and purchases. The RSC held its first meeting on July 18th. The club grants were reviewed and approved, and clubs will receive their grant award letters in the coming weeks.

With the ISSA now in charge of the pro-

gram, it is my goal to work with the Emergency Funding and Legislative Committee (EFC) and the ISSA board to set up a detailed standard operating procedure for the RSC and clubs to go by. These procedures will be developed using the Iowa code for snowmobiling in chapter 47 as a guideline.

These policies have been in place for a long time, and I don't see a need to reinvent the wheel, but there are some things I have identified that need to change. I want the program under the RSC to have a quicker turn around on groomer repairs, better communication to all snowmobilers, and easier for clubs to get that help.

In the coming months, the ISSA will be working on getting these changes in place. We will be sending out updates on the new processes in all forms of correspondence. We will also have a full seminar and Q&A session at the ISSA convention in November.

There was one part of our Legislation package that we were not able to get done. The combining of the registration and trail pass stickers into one registration sticker for Iowa residents. As I have visited club meetings and talked to dealers, the majority of Iowa snowmobilers want this change.

We did receive opposition from some snowmobilers who say they don't ride in Iowa and don't want to have to pay more in registration. If you want to have only one sticker on your sled, I encourage you to talk to your fellow snowmobilers and legislators. Explain to them why you want the change. We will be looking into this for legislation this year and will be looking for membership input.

With all these new changes, it will take time to get everything set up. I ask everyone for some patience and understanding. We will have 100 percent transparency where our registration funds are being spent. Having sustained funding for the clubs that is easily applied for is of utmost importance to me.

If you or someone you know has questions or your club would like me to attend their meeting to answer questions, please contact me, and I would be glad to answer questions and attend your club meeting. I look forward to seeing everyone in Cedar Rapids for convention and on the trails this



Chris Willey
ISSA
President



The Iowa delegation of, from left, Brian Carmichael, Chris Willey, Becky Willey and Jim Willey met with Iowa Sen. Joni Ernst during their visit to Washington, D.C., in late April.

ISSA Officials Participate in 18th Annual ACSA D.C. Fly-In in April

by Cameron Hanson

Iowa snowmobilers once again flew to Washington, D.C., last spring to participate in the American Council of Snowmobile Associations' (ACSA) D.C. Fly-In, an annual pilgrimage to the nation's capitol to bring awareness to issues affecting snowmobiling and public access.

Arriving in town on April 22 for three days of meetings, the Iowa delegation included ISSA President Chris Willey, ISSA Vice President Brian Carmichael, Past ISSA President Jim Willey and ISSA Eastern Iowa Tourism Chair Becky Willey.

Also participating from Iowa was Bob King of Council Bluffs, former chair of ACSA's Midwest Chapter and a long-time ACSA supporter. Jim Willey is also a former vice chair of the Midwest Chapter. The Iowa contingent was among 65 snowmobilers from 16 states across the Snow Belt who participated in the event.

Completing its 18th year, the Fly-In featured guest speakers, updates from various federal agencies and presentations by friends of snowmobiling in the political arena. Congressional staffers and more than 200 Senators and Representatives were also visited by the group on Capitol Hill.

According to ACSA Executive Director Christine Jourdain, topics ranged from

continued funding for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP), national monument designations, wilderness area designations, concerns over endangered species and budget priorities. U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell was among the guest speakers.

"It was an exciting time to be in D.C. that week as the Secretary of Agriculture was confirmed and President Trump introduced a review of national monuments that have been established over the last 21 years," Jourdain said.

"When most people hear the word 'monument', they likely think of a statue of a general on a horse or something like that, but a 1906 law allows the federal government to designate land as a national monument and take control of it away from the states," Jim Willey explained.

For instance, as he was leaving office, President Obama, Willey said, "infuriated" Utah officials by designating more than a million acres in Utah as a "national monument." According to an ISSA press release, the Obama Administration, over its years in office, designated close to 265 million acres of land under this act.

"Trump's actions provided a much-overdue correction," Willey said. "While some federal protection

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Communications Committee Announces Magazine Change

The ISSA Communications Committee has assumed the role of publisher of the *Iowa Snowmobiler* magazine following a seven-year run in that capacity by Cameron Hanson of Charles City.

Due to declining advertising revenue, Hanson informed the ISSA Board of Directors in August of 2016 he would not be renewing his contract as publisher beyond the 2016-17 season. At last month's board meeting, he agreed to remain as editor of the magazine for his 18th consecutive year. He will also continue to oversee the ISSA's website at www.iowasnowmobiler.com.

For the second straight year, only one of the four snowmobile manufacturers has committed to support the ISSA's official publication through advertising. Other long-time backers have also pulled away due to budget cuts, thus putting the responsibility of covering the costs of the magazine back on the association.

At the August board meeting, the ISSA agreed to producing, printing and mailing all seven issues of the magazine and hopes to cover those expenses through ad sales and fundraising efforts. All issues of the magazine will also be available online on the ISSA's website.

According to Chair Jim Willey, the communications committee has once again partnered with Minneapolis-based publisher

MSPN to help in that sales endeavor. The ISSA will also be promoting its Platinum Sponsorship program, as printed on the inside cover of this month's issue.

"Club support is vital to the success of our magazine," Willey said. "Last season's ISSA Magazine Maker fundraiser for the magazine will now be replaced with the ISSA encouraging snowmobile clubs to become Platinum Sponsors of the ISSA at a special club rate of \$350, a commitment of just \$50 per issue.

"The regular rate for businesses and associate Platinum Sponsors will remain at \$500," Willey continued. "If clubs choose to provide a lesser amount to support the magazine, as always, any amount is appreciated. We are also counting on clubs to contact their local dealers, motels, restaurants, gas stations and other businesses to become Platinum Sponsors."

For more information on these changes or on the platinum program, please contact Willey at (563) 920-0911 or send him an email at james.willey@camso.co. In an effort to reduce costs, members can now sign up to receive their magazine in digital format only. See the membership form inside the back cover of this issue or contact Membership Committee Chair Brittany Paulus at bepaulus@outlook.com if you are interested in this delivery option.



Also including Bob King of Council Bluffs, far left, ISSA officials met with Iowa Sen. Charles Grassley as part of the ACSA D.C. Fly-In in April.

From page 5 of wilderness may be necessary for conservation, this law has become less about protecting national monuments than it is a monument to federal government overreach and the hubris of Washington bureaucrats."

The Iowa delegation brought this message

to Iowa Sens. Joni Ernst and Charles Grassley as well as to other staffers during their visit to D.C. and "encouraged them to support the efforts to put the control of these millions of acres back into the hands of the states and the local stakeholders, where it belongs," Willey said.



Former Region 12 Director Jim Pickle Passes Away in August

Former Region 12 Director Jim Pickle passed away Aug. 3 at his home in Mount Pleasant. He was 83 years old.

For close to 20 years, Jim served on the ISSA board as either a director or as an assistant. He was first elected in 1994 and retired in 2012.

He was a founding member of the Southeast Iowa Ridge-Blasters snowmobile club in Region 12 and remained active in the club for more than 35 years.

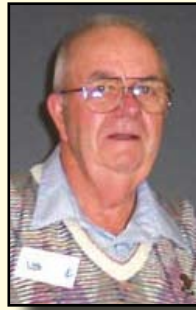
Jim and his wife, Ann, were regular supporters of the ISSA, attending several summer campouts and the annual convention each fall, often earning the "farthest travelled" distinction at most events.

In 2004, he received the ISSA's Past President Award and, in 2002, was named the ISSA's Snowmobiler of the Year.

In addition to snowmobiling, Jim's interests included hunting, fishing and camping. Having served in the Navy during the Korean War, he was a lifetime member and former commander of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars post.

Formerly of New London, he was self-employed as a mechanic for more than 30 years. He later worked for the Iowa Army Ammunition plant and Metromail before helping out with his son's business. His obituary noted he was a diehard Hawkeyes and Packers fan as well.

"It is with heavy hearts that we have to say good-bye to Jim," posted Ridge-Blasters treasurer and current Region 12 director Aaron Dorothy on the club's Facebook page. "Jim was instrumental in promoting and supporting snowmobiling not just in southeast Iowa but in the entire state...He was a great influence to me personally and a number of other members."



Lottery System in Place for Non-Guided Access

Each day during the coming winter season, the National Park Service will allow up to five snowmobiles in each of four non-commercially guided transportation snowmobile trips from each of the four Yellowstone Park gates.

Those select riders will be required to possess a non-commercial snowmobile access permit which will be awarded annually through an online lottery system. The lottery located at the www.recreation.gov website started on Sept. 1 to determine the trip dates for non-commercially guide leaders wanting to visit Yellowstone this winter. The lottery will remain open until Sept. 30.

After the lottery is finished and the initial trips are awarded (only one trip from the lottery), snowmobilers can still sign up to lead a trip or a second trip at www.recreation.gov on a first-come-first-served basis for the dates still available. Note these remaining dates will be available in mid-October.

Finally, a total of only two trips allowed per season per non-commercial guide are allowed. The trips can last up to three days, and each day of the permit will cost the

rider \$40.

Each snowmobile operator will be required to have successfully completed the Yellowstone Snowmobile Safety Education Certification training course. The training course is available online. This course was developed with the help and sponsorship of the Wyoming State Snowmobile Program and is available at no cost at the following website: <http://provalenslearning.com/yellowstone-snowmobile-education-certificate>.

Lastly, snowmobilers will be required to use only current Best Available Technology (BAT) snowmobiles in their group. Note these required machines can be rented at the location near the four gates.

For the complete detailed information on the Non-Commercially Guided Access Program, please see the Yellowstone Park Service website at www.nps.gov/yell/learn/management/ngsap.htm.

For additional information on the Yellowstone Winter Use issue and the snowmobile community's combined 15-year effort to keep snowmobile access to Yellowstone in winter, visit the dedicated website, www.saveyellowstonepark.com.

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Snow Snoops Host Summer Campout at Camp Comfort in Region 4

by Peggy Feltus

Secretary, Butler County
Snow Snoops

The Butler County Snow Snoops (BCSS) of Region 4 hosted the ISSA Summer Campout at Camp Comfort along the Shell Rock River south of Greene Aug. 4-6. An estimated 40 members showed up for the weekend, and a good time was had by all, we hope!

The planning and organizing began only a few months before the campout was to take place, but our club pulled together and made it happen! Our President, Seth Bram, and our Vice President, Daniel Stanbrough, did A LOT of heavy lifting and moving things around to get it all in place.

We filled 11 camping spots at Camp Comfort. Some campers came early and set up the night before to secure their spot, but Seth was there at 6 a.m. Thursday morning to make sure all of us stayed together and had a spot.

As campers rolled in Friday afternoon, our first task of feeding everyone began. We kept it simple with walking tacos followed by smores by the campfire. It was fun

to listen to the many stories of prior campouts and snowmobile trips our guests had been on.

Bright and early Saturday morning, our 'chefs' had the large griddle going with sausages, pancakes and scrambled eggs. If anyone didn't get enough to eat, it was your own fault!!! Before we knew it, it was noon and the ISSA Board was cooking us lunch.

Shortly after lunch, several of us prepared to load up tubes and a kayak on hayracks. BCSS member Shane Jensen pulled us a few miles along one of our trails that follows the Shell Rock river and dropped us off. Those who didn't partake in the float went fishing, 'toured' the area for local establishments, played bags or just relaxed in the great weather.

Once again we found ourselves with hungry campers to feed! No problem - we had it covered and ready to go in no time...I guess you could say our motto was 'keep it simple' and that we did! Oh...did I mention we also had Sno Kones?! After all, it wouldn't be an ISSA event without 'snow'! LOL

Our final planned activity was a 'hayride' without the hay, but a couple dozen of us piled on the hayracks, and once again our chauffeur, Shane, drove us down our snowmobile trail into town. It was pretty dark when we returned but the campfires were roaring and the fellowship continued.

Sunday morning came too quickly for some of us but breakfast was awesome and much needed. Several of the ISSA Board members joined us as they prepared for their regular board meeting that took place at 9 a.m. Those folks are volunteers, and they are passionate about their duties. Support them and give them a pat on the back and thank them for their time the next time you see them.

The BCSS was created many years ago and was robust at one time; and as I'm sure other clubs experience, it dwindles down at some point. But this past two years, our Club has doubled in size and has become more active. Earlier this summer, we held a car/bike cruise to visit our map sponsors' businesses to show our support and appreciation. Another cruise is being planned before fall to get to the sponsors we didn't get to yet.

Our members have established and maintain many miles of trails that connect to neighboring club trail systems, making it possible to travel from town to town, county to county or even from state to state on groomed trails.

On behalf of our Club, I want to thank everyone that helped in any way with pulling this off and especially for those of you who attended from Delhi, Nevada, Estherville, Lone Tree, West Liberty, Marble Rock, Manchester and Jewell for reassuring us we were doing a good job. You can bet that next year there will be BCSS club members attending the campout where ever it may be!



Snow Snoops member Shane Jensen pulls 22 campers on a hayrack ride along the club's trail system near the campground.



Snow Snoops President Seth Bram serves up a Sno Kone for Snowdrifters member A.J. Parker.



ISSA Annual Convention Coming to Cedar Rapids

Snow Show Returns as Host Site Rotates to Eastern Iowa this November

The 2017 ISSA Annual Convention will be held Nov. 17-18 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Cedar Rapids Convention Complex in downtown Cedar Rapids.

Following the ISSA's west-to-east annual rotation of convention sites, the two-day event is being hosted by the snowmobile clubs in Region 9 in eastern Iowa.

Jean McPherson of the Jones County Snow Chasers is chairing this year's Convention Planning Committee, and her husband, Region 9 Director Tim McPherson, is also among the team of volunteers helping to coordinate activities.

An ISSA Snow Show will be held simultaneously to the convention on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The show will be open to the public for a fee of \$5 with children 12 and under admitted for free. Convention registrants will not have to pay either and will have time available on Saturday to visit the show floor.

"The snow show will showcase all the great winter products available today, especially highlighting snowmobiles and related products for the hundreds of snowmobilers expected to attend the show," the McPhersons said.

Vendors are currently being invited to the Snow Show. Booth spaces are set at 10-foot by 10 foot for \$75 and larger booth spaces going up in 10-foot increments at an additional \$75 per increment. Electricity will be handled through PSAV Presentation Services. Set-up will be Friday from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.



"We hope this event will provide businesses with a great opportunity to share their products with snowmobilers and winter enthusiasts from all around the Midwest," the McPhersons said.

Booth space can be reserved by mailing in the form on page 10. Snowmobile clubs are also invited to bring their club displays for the annual Snowmobile Iowa showcase at the show. They can reserve their spot by contacting the McPhersons at timnjean@netins.net or (563) 593-0304.

The planning committee is also seeking event sponsors for the convention and snow show. Opportunities range from title sponsors to banquet sponsors to award sponsors. See the form on page 10 for a complete list of available categories.

"Sponsors of our events and entertainment will be invaluable," organizers said. "Please consider supporting our annual convention with a monetary contribution. We want to make our convention an event to remember."

All sponsors will be recognized on the convention program as well as on any advertising materials for the convention and snow show. Sponsors will also receive free booth space for the Snow Show. Sponsorships will be available on a first come basis.

A tentative agenda for the weekend appears at left. The planning committee is excited about its guest speaker planned for Saturday evening, and they are also soliciting items for the silent and live auctions and raffle drawings.

"We will use these items to raise funds for our charities and scholarship program," the McPhersons said. "Any and all donations are greatly appreciated even if you are unable to participate in the convention and/or snow show."

A convention registration form appears on page 10. Full registration runs \$75 and does not include lodging. For hotel rooms, contact the Double Tree by Hilton directly at (319) 731-4444. Be sure to ask for the ISSA rate of \$112 plus tax. Please reserve your rooms by Nov. 3 to get the special rate. The hotel address is 350 1st Ave. NE. Members who register by Oct. 15 will be entered into an Early Bird drawing.

More information on the 2017 convention and snow show will appear in the October and November issues of the *Iowa Snowmobiler* magazine as well as online at www.iowasnowmobiler.com. If you have questions, please reach out to the McPhersons.

2017 ISSA Annual Convention Nov. 17-18 Cedar Rapids, IA

Tentative Agenda

Friday, Nov. 17

2 p.m. to 9 p.m.	Convention Registration Snow Show Set-up "Snowmobile Iowa" Set-up
7 p.m. to 11 p.m.	Hospitality and Games Raffle Prizes

Saturday, Nov. 18

8 a.m. to Noon	Convention Registration
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	ISSA Snow Show
8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.	Opening Remarks
8:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Region Meetings/ Director Elections
9:00 a.m. to 11 a.m.	General Membership Annual Meeting
11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Brunch w/Lobbyist Update
1 p.m.	Silent Auction opens
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Breakout Sessions
3 p.m.	ISSA Grant Process
5 p.m.	Social Hour
6:00 p.m.	Silent Auction Closes Dinner
6:30 p.m.	Guest Speaker
7:15 p.m.	Awards Raffle Prizes
8:30 p.m.	Entertainment

2017 ISSA Annual Convention Nov. 17-18 Cedar Rapids, IA

Sponsorship Opportunities

Donor

Title Sponsor	\$2500 +
Platinum Sponsor	\$500
Gold Sponsor	\$100

Convention

Guest Speakers	6 @ \$500
Seminar Programs	6 @ \$200
Friday Night Beverages	3 @ \$300
Friday Night Entertainment	2 @ \$250
Saturday Night Entertainment	2 @ \$1000
Saturday Night MC	\$200
Program Printing	\$250
Name Badges	\$250
Youth Event	\$200

Awards Banquet

Past President Award	\$200
Family Award	\$200
Youth Award	\$200
Young Adult Award	\$200
Snowmobiler Award	\$200
Lady Snowmobiler Award	\$200
Groomer Award	\$200
Club Award	\$200

Business _____
 Address _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email _____
 Sponsorship Type: ☐ Donor ☐ Convention ☐ Awards
 Sponsorship Item: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

To secure your sponsorship, please send your sponsorship check made out to the ISSA and this sponsorship form to: Jean McPherson P.O. Box 225 Olin, IA 52320 or email it to timnjean@netins.net. For more information, call (563) 593-0304.

2017 ISSA Annual Convention Nov. 17-18 Cedar Rapids, IA

Registration Form

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email _____
 Snowmobile Club _____
 Organization _____

Check all that apply:

- ☐ Full Registration \$75
☐ Friday only Registration \$20
☐ Saturday only Registration \$60
☐ Youth Registration \$30 (5 to 12 years old)
 Under 5 are Free.

Full Convention Registration Includes:

- Friday night hospitality and entertainment
- Saturday lunch, afternoon seminars
- Snow Show admittance
- Saturday evening banquet

Register by Oct. 15 to qualify for the Early Bird drawing.

Please Note: Registration fees DO NOT include lodging. For hotel rooms, contact the Double Tree by Hilton at (319) 731-4444. Be sure to ask for the ISSA block of rooms at the rate of \$112.00 plus tax. Please reserve rooms by Nov. 3 to get the special rate.

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make check payable to the ISSA. Mail payment and completed registration form to: Jean McPherson, P.O. Box 225 Olin, IA 52320 or email it to timnjean@netins.net. For more information, call (563) 593-0304.



2017 ISSA Snow Show Nov. 18 Cedar Rapids, IA

Vendor Registration Form

Business _____
 Address _____
 Phone Number _____ Email _____
 Booth Size: ☐ 10x10 \$75 ☐ 10x20 \$150 ☐ 10x30 \$225 ☐ 10x40 \$300

Amount Enclosed _____ Make check payable to ISSA.
 Mail form and payment to: ISSA Snow Show c/o Chris Nelson
 41 Anderson Rd., Anamosa, IA 52205

All booths come with pipe and drape. Electricity, Internet and AV equipment costs extra and will be billed separately by the hotel. For more information, email cnelson85@hotmail.com or call (319) 826-5000.

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. 18

Where:

DoubleTree Hilton Hotel
Cedar Rapids Convention

An Eye Toward the Future

Landmark Legislation Paves Way for Additional Trail Funding

by Cameron Hanson

Despite significantly increasing their workload, seasoned volunteers on the ISSA Board of Directors are touting the passage of landmark legislation this year that will ultimately expand snowmobile trail funding in Iowa and preserve the sport, they feel, for years to come.

Unanimously passed by the Iowa Legislature and signed into law by then-Gov. Terry Branstad on April 12, the new legislation increases the share of snowmobile registration receipts for the local club side, shifts administration of the state snowmobile program to the ISSA and transfers ownership of the groomer fleet to the non-profit organization.

"We feel these changes will ensure Iowa snowmobilers will have trails to ride on well into the future," ISSA President Chris Willey said. "It provides an opportunity to give control back to the user group as well as ensure complete transparency of snowmobile program funds. This transition was made possible by a lot of dedicated people, and for that, I am grateful."

"I think this is a major step forward for increasing recreational opportunities here in Iowa," ISSA Lobbyist Mike Heller added. "It demonstrates how dedicated Iowa snowmobilers are to responsibly increasing and maintaining trails here in Iowa. Given the fiscal condition of the state now, this legislation is even more important to preserving our trail system."

Under the new law, 70 percent of the annual snowmobile registration receipts will be earmarked for snowmobile trail grooming, maintenance and improvements. Previously, only 50 percent of those dollars was set aside for snowmobile club grants, with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) retaining the other half for program administration, law enforcement, education and insurance.

Moving forward, the ISSA will enter into a cooperative agreement with the IDNR where the daily tasks of the program will

now fall under the ISSA's jurisdiction.

The IDNR will still assist the ISSA, but its role will be limited. Among other duties, the agency will continue to collect snowmobile registration fees, work with county recorder offices and provide code enforcement in the field.

IDNR Snowmobile Education Coordinator Rhonda Fowler will remain in her support position, while former program manager Randy Schnoebelen will return full time to his supervisory duties in District 2.

"A large part of the day-to-day operations of the program is now going to be the responsibility of the association," Fowler said. "We see this as an opportunity for your members to have a more active role in the program. We look forward to working cooperatively with them to continue to make the program successful."

"One thing we've always prided ourselves on is working with the IDNR and not against them," Past ISSA President Terry Durby said. "We have always been partners in this whole thing. Part of our job has always been to help administer the program. When it came time this year to make the serious changes in the percentages and to transfer the equipment, they seemed receptive to it. I'm really happy we were able to work with them, and they will continue work together with us."

Changes to Review and Selection Committee

For more than 40 years, the ISSA and the IDNR have worked in tandem on dispersing trail grant funds to clubs with the latter having the final say on where the money goes and how it is spent. Now, that responsibility belongs to the ISSA with the IDNR having some input through its cooperative agreement. Fowler will act as a liaison between the two groups.

Fowler will also serve as the IDNR's lone representative on the Review and Selection Committee (RSC). This group meets each off-season to grade trail grant applications from Iowa snowmobile clubs and to determine how much money will be awarded to each. Previously, the committee was comprised of three state officials and two ISSA volunteers. Under the new arrangement, the committee has been expanded to include a larger representation of Iowa snowmobilers.

Willey, who also manages the groomer operator training program for the state, will serve in an administrative role on the RSC, as will Durby, a long-term RSC member. Both will fill permanent spots on the board. Five other positions will have term limits of either two or three years. See the table at left for this season's make-up.

The ISSA president (or his appointee, in this case) will hold a seat as will the office of vice president. Three other positions were created to maintain representation from the east, central and western portions of the state. Appointed for this year, those three positions will be elected at their respective annual ISSA conventions beginning in 2018.

"The intent of the RSC election and appointment process was to provide continuity, geographic representation, accountability and what is best for the snowmobile trail grant program," Willey explained in an update to clubs in August.

The RSC met July 18 in Story City to review and approve club grant applications for the upcoming season. Committee members based their decisions on conservative revenue projections from last

2017-18 Review and Selection Committee

Permanent Administrative Positions

- Chris Willey, ISSA President/Groomer Training Coordinator
- Terry Durby, Past ISSA President

Members By Position

- Scott Nauman (appointed to fill Willey's ISSA President seat)
- Brian Carmichael, ISSA Vice President

Members By Election

- Randy Magg (Western representative)
- John Kahler (Central representative)
- Todd Sieverding (Eastern representative)

Iowa DNR Representative

- Rhonda Fowler

Please communicate with the committee via the following email address: ISSA.RSC@gmail.com.

season's total. The committee won't know the exact dollar amount they are working with until the cooperative agreement is signed by the IDNR. Once that happens, the ISSA will be able to share award amounts with the individual clubs.

"We based those grant award amount decisions off of last year's registration and user permit numbers. We did this so we would make sure we could cover what was awarded to the clubs and not have a shortfall," Willey explained. "I want to remind everyone that before we can officially award those grant amounts, we need to know what we have for dollars in the snowmobile program and have the contract signed and in place."

In addition to trail grant awards, the ISSA's cut of the revenue also needs to cover trail liability insurance, equipment insurance and sign orders. During the decision-making process, committee members followed closely the same criteria as during years previous in hopes of making this transition as seamless as possible for the stakeholders.

"Our revised program is designed to continue with many of the annual deadlines and obligations of clubs as the IDNR already had in place," Willey said. "We want to change the program operations as little as possible, operating the program very closely to previous procedures and requirements."

Agreement Delayed by Equipment Transfer

The ISSA notified the IDNR last fall that its members would be lobbying for these significant changes when the Iowa Legislature convened in January. At that time, Assistant IDNR Director Bruce Trautman said the agency would remain "neutral" on the proposal and would work with whatever changes came about.

When it came time to draft the new cooperative agreement this summer, Fowler said "it was a pretty easy process to get both sides in agreement with the language, requirements and roles of each party." As of late August, however, the agreement had yet to be signed as the transfer of some of the grooming equipment was delaying the process.

Sixteen units are currently tied to federal grant money, and as of

press time, the IDNR was awaiting further guidance from the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) on how to proceed with those units before signing the agreement.

"Both parties want all of the equipment transferred with one agreement," Fowler explained. "It's taking a little bit longer than we would like. We want to get this signed as soon as possible. From our perspective and the ISSA, it's a done deal. We just have to get this last piece okayed."

The IDOT is involved because that agency administers the Federal Highway Administration's Recreational Trail Grant Program (RTP) in Iowa. For the better part of 15 years now, the IDNR and the ISSA has relied on this federal match for the purchase of grooming equipment. Funding for the program is generated by the federal fuel taxes collected on off-road vehicles.

Historically, the state snowmobile program requests \$240,000 annually from the RTP. By design, the state snowmobile program has to finance the purchases up front and then wait to get reimbursed through the federal grant process on the back end. The IDOT's trails advisory committee determines how much is awarded to the various user groups, and the ISSA is represented on that board.

The application deadline for the next round of RTP funding is in October. Depending on the grant award, Willey indicated no new groomers will be purchased this year as RSC members work to purchase two units coming off lease.

"Those two units will be staying in those clubs," Willey said. "As soon as we can get the next round of RTP set in place, the first thing that will occur is getting those two off lease."

EFC to Manage Books

The ISSA's trail grant account will be managed by the ISSA's Emergency Funding and Legislation Committee (EFC). This group drafted the proposal to increase the percentage of the program receipts for the local side and worked closely with Heller and fellow ISSA Lobbyist Paula Feltner on getting the legislation passed earlier this year.

The ISSA's portion of the registration dollars will be delivered by the IDNR quarterly, and an independent firm will audit the account annually. Clubs will submit their reimbursement requests and grant applications to the ISSA at the end of each season, and snowmobile owners will continue to title and register their sleds through electronic licensing agents and at county recorder offices.

"Initially, there's going to be a small amount of back and forth with the money for federal grant purposes; but other than that, we will transfer 70 percent of all of the revenue that's received, and it will then be the ISSA's job to manage it," Fowler said.

The ISSA created the EFC in 2002 following the Iowa Legislature's unprecedented depletion of snowmobile program reserves. Close to \$950,000 in snowmobile registration receipts at that time were de-obligated to cover budget shortfalls elsewhere in the state. Through intense lobbying efforts, the funds were eventually restored five years later.

Since then, the EFC has used that momentum to successfully secure additional changes to the state snowmobile program, including an annual registration period in lieu of a biennial system and the creation of a user permit (trail pass) to increase trail grant funding.

It's important to note that other measures have fallen short over the years, however, including gas tax reimbursement three years ago and, this year, the merger of the optional trail pass into the annual registration fee.

According to EFC member and Past ISSA President Jim Willey, the combined decal—which had been outlined in the ISSA's 2017 legislative package—became a casualty in the negotiations for the increased percentages. The ISSA's recommendation to allow single-ski, motorized snow bikes on public

Turn to page 20



Register Your Sled Early This Fall

The process for renewing or titling your snowmobile remains unchanged. Visit any electronic licensing agent or county recorder office today.

Top Snocross Racers Hit the Slopes at Dubuque

Professional Series to Return to Sundown Mountain this March

by **Cameron Hanson**

Professional snocross racing action will return to eastern Iowa in March following the successful debut of the series in the Hawkeye State earlier this year at Sundown Mountain Resort near Dubuque.

Anticipating 4,000 spectators, the inaugural Theisen's National Snocross event March 3-4 drew an estimated 5,300 fans from the tri-state area to the downhill ski run. The popularity of the weekend prompted resort management to sign up for two more years.

As the seventh of eight stops on the Amsoil Championship Series circuit, the 2018 race at Dubuque will be held a week later on March 9-10; and based on feedback from race teams and spectators, promoters are already looking for ways to improve the experience for all parties involved.

"We are going to be changing the course up a little bit to make it even better," reported Mark Gordon, general manager at Sundown. "I felt we did a pretty good job last year, but I know there are going to be a couple of things we need to fix for next year. We are really going to work on better seating and provide the racers more space and better opportunities for exciting action."

Gordon admits the hairpin turn at the bottom of the track at last March's event was "not popular" with the riders, and he is working with officials from the race's sanctioning body, the International Series of Champions (ISOC), to create a "teardrop" shaped loop in that area instead.

The starting line will also likely be relocated to the bottom of the course so additional bleachers can be placed next to the lodge to increase seating capacity. According to Gordon, chairlifts could also be running to provide a "unique viewing experience" for spectators during the race, and controlled access inside the bottom half of the track may be offered as well.

"We know several people walked down to the lower section just on their own last year and saw some good

racing action," Gordon said. "Next year, we are going to encourage that location and provide security to keep everyone safe. We'll have a spot reserved for them, and it should offer a neat perspective."

As with last March, downhill ski operations will be shut down for race weekend, and the resort will once again rely on shuttle bus routes to bring spectators to the venue. Parking is limited at the resort with team haulers filling the main parking areas and support vehicles and VIPs occupying nearby lots.

"One of the biggest challenges coming into the weekend was parking, and in all honesty, I thought we did a pretty good job with it," Gordon said. "Given our challenges, I thought everything went well with off-site parking and our shuttle bus system."

Profiles from the Pits

Situated near the entrance to the resort at last season's race was the Ingles Performance team of brothers Leo and Hunter Patenaude from Hartland, Vt. This Ski-Doo factory-backed duo competes in the Pro-Lite and Sport class, respectively, and their father, Andre, serves as



Kody Kamm wins at Theisen's National en route to first-ever points title.





Prepping Hunter Patenaude's entry for the next Sport class heat race at Sundown Mountain.

crew chief.

Also participating in the East Coast Snocross (ECS) circuit closer to home, both are considered rising stars in the sport with each achieving varying levels of success on the track. Two weekends before Dubuque, Leo, 21, won the ECS Pro Open Final at Bennington, Vt., and Hunter, 18, finished the 2016-17 campaign with the ACS Sport class points championship.

For this coming season, Hunter is moving up to join his brother in the Pro Lite division. Pro Lite is a step below the Pro Open class, and according to Leo, the racing doesn't get any easier the further up the ranks they climb. For his efforts last season, Leo competed in 12 of the 16 ACS races in that class and finished 23rd in points.

"Competition in the Pro Lite class is very tough," he said from inside his race trailer at Dubuque. "There are a ton of guys who can win on any given weekend. We are all very fast and in good shape to win. It's not easy out there, that's for sure."

Racing on two circuits, the Patenaude brothers spend a majority of their time on the road, living out of hotel rooms and campers most of the time. Racing since he was eight years old, the elder brother admits to occasionally getting homesick but hopes the sacrifice will eventually pay off for him down the road.

"I want to get better every week and I'm motivated to win," Leo said. "I've been fortunate to have success over the last few years. This year is a little tougher as I'm competing against faster guys, but we're improving each week. We're always looking to get to

that next level. It's going to take work and better equipment."

Racing Downhill Not Uncommon

Sundown was the second of three downhill ski resorts the national series visited last year. The season opened at a ski run in Duluth in November and ended two weeks after Dubuque at a resort near Lake Geneva, Wis. Patenaude said ski runs offer different race conditions than the flatter tracks like Canterbury Park in Shakopee, Minn.

"On a flat track, you use your brakes more, whereas on a ski run, you don't want to use them too much going downhill because it will bring your back end up and you can go for a ride," he said. "It takes a lot of knowledge and experience out there on the track."

Patenaude admits he didn't think he'd ever be racing snocross in Iowa, but the stopover was worth it as the terrain and changing elevation of eastern Iowa was slightly reminiscent of his home state in Vermont. "It's been a nice experience over here with some great views," he said.

While his press release described the course as "rough, steep and tight," then-defending Pro Open series champion Tucker Hibbert of Pelican Rapids, Minn., said he enjoyed coming south to Iowa for a new track on the circuit last year. For his efforts at Dubuque, he finished fifth on Friday night and second Saturday night, ending the weekend third in the points race.

"I'm happy to get a podium finish in Iowa," Hibbert said at the time. "I struggled a little bit on Friday but felt better Saturday. I felt like I rode a good race Saturday night, working my way through the pack but came up short."

"It was exciting to see all the fans who came out to see the race," he continued. "It's always fun to go to a new venue and see the excitement of the fans. Everyone seemed really happy to have a race in the Dubuque area so hopefully it's an event that can continue."

Eventual Amsoil season points champion Kody Kamm of Kenosha, Wis., also struggled on Friday but rebounded on Saturday with a Pro Open Final win. His Hengtes Racing team also described the new locale as "one of the toughest downhill sections riders have ever seen, making it one of the most challenging races so far this season."

Team owner Nate Hengtes said the new venue has potential. "I think the crowd was great, but they will need to improve the viewing area for the fans for next year," he said after race weekend. "I know the ski hill is already looking into a number of ways to improve the fan experience."

Polaris-backed Kamm described his performance on Saturday at Dubuque as "excellent" with "some bad luck" on Friday. His team left the weekend just 28 points outside of first place. At the final races of the season at Lake Geneva, Wis., two weeks later, he won





The starting line for next year's race at Dubuque will likely be relocated to allow more spectator seating.

all six of his heat races as well as the Pro Open Final on Friday. He finished second in the Saturday night Pro Open Final to claim his first ISOC Pro Open Championship.

A Pro Lite Champ in 2011-12, Kamm, 23, was able to dethrone Hibbert, the four-time defending champion who had won five of the previous six Pro Open titles. In 17 finals last season, Kamm reached the podium 10 times with five wins, two seconds and three thirds.

"I had lot of ups and down this year. I separated my shoulder and thought I was done after that, but I won my first race back," Kamm said. "I felt great (racing at Lake Geneva); no shoulder pain at all. This is a dream come true."

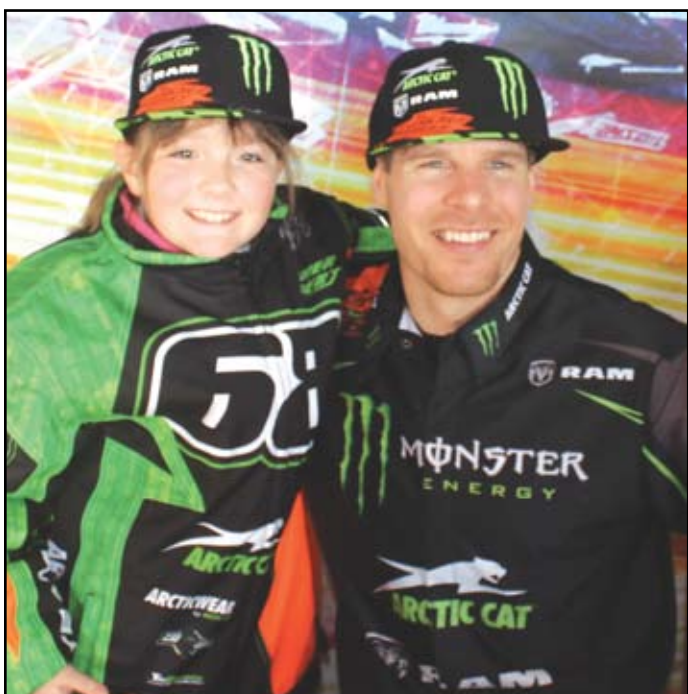
Looking ahead, this season's race at Dubuque will once again have Dubuque-headquartered Theisen's back as a title sponsor. Gordon said promoters are soliciting associate sponsors for race weekend, and interested individuals can contact him at (515) 778-6961.

The ISSA will also be looking for volunteers to work at the track race weekend. Last season, members provided parking assistance

and

also used the weekend to promote the organization and recruit new members with a booth at the main lodge. ISSA President Chris Willey said the experience was very worthwhile for the ISSA.

"The Amsoil snocross event at Dubuque has been a great addition to the Iowa snowmobile season," he said. "It has showcased our sport in a three-state area. The event gave us a chance to talk directly with snowmobilers of all ages who may not know what we do for them. I look forward to attending the event this coming year and hope to see everyone there."



Snocross superstar Tucker Hibbert poses with Abby Heim of Shellsburg, Wis., during a meet-and-greet with fans for Pro Open racers at Sundown Mountain in Dubuque March 4.

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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, kwinters93@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, waltidibbern@yahoo.com

O'Brien County Snowtrackers

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

Osceola County High Point Riders

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

Powder Players Inc.

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

Sioux County Snowmobile Club

www.siouxcountysnowmobileclub.com
Search Sioux County Snowmobile Club on
Facebook under club info in Iowa Snowmobiler
President: Dave Taylor
313 Hunter Ridge, Rock Valley, IA 51247
(712) 449-5556, Dave.Taylor@interstates.com

REGION TWO

Emmet County Driftbusters

President: Tyson Enerson
4591 195th St., Estherville, IA 51334
Enerson747@gmail.com, (712) 209-3330

Humboldt Sno-Skimmers

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

Kossuth County Drift Skippers

President: Jeremy Walker
1402 170th St., LuVerne, IA 50560-8552
(515) 341-1626, jlkwalk@gmail.com

Palo Alto Rough Riders

President: Kurt Bonnstetter
111 Iowa St., P.O. Box 62, Cylinder, IA 50528
(712) 424-3011, kbonnstete@windstream.net

Sno-Pak

P.O. Box 122, Rockwell City, IA 50579
www.snopak.com
President: Kolby Wagner
749 South Street, Rockwell City, IA 50579
(712) 297-7383, kjwagner@windstream.net

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

Region 5

Cresco Driftrunners

by Bob Martinek, Treasurer

Hello again! Summer has flown by. It has been quiet, but busy, for us. The club is working on new and updated trail maps for the upcoming season. The plan is to have them done and ready by mid-November. Thanks to Brandon P. for being in charge of this project.

We also have made lots of plans to update and repair several bridges on the trail system.

The number one priority being the Granger bridge. Along with fixing the bridges, we are adding a trail loop to Lourdes this year. Thanks to Roy P. & Wayne V. for working on that.

Otherwise, our Annual Steak Fry and Membership Drive Meeting will be Sept. 17 at the Featherlite Center on the Howard County Fairgrounds in Cresco. Social hour at 11 a.m. Annual meeting at noon. Steaks on the grill at 1 p.m. The club provides the steaks and beverages for a small donation. Members bring a potluck dish to pass and their own silverware. Always plenty of food and fellowship! All members and potential members are welcome, including the kids. Hope to see you there. Thanks.



Trails Unlimited

by Bud Winter

Where did the summer go? Wow, it feels like yesterday that I was taking signs out, and we had our landowners breakfast!

Recapping our club's year last season...Great riding for a few days here and there, but you really had to get out and go rather than wait for a convenient time. Conditions were best on our trails during the week, it seemed, so if you were a rider fortunate enough to get out, you had some great riding.

We were not able to do a Poker Run last year, but our club pizza party and landowners breakfast both went really well, so two out of three isn't bad. Our membership was down last year overall. Those of us who participate in meetings regularly all agreed that we are not going to continuously beg past members to renew their dues; they either do or they don't. Maybe that's a bad way to look at it, but it's hard to call someone for the third and fourth times asking for club dues.

Our club did not do summer meetings so it's been rather quiet as of late. We intend to kick off our year with our chicken dinner fundraiser Nov. 3 at The Zipper. During the year, we'd like to have a Poker Run when snow allows and then typically the Saturday before the Super Bowl, or roughly somewhere in there, we'll have our Family Ride and Pizza Party.

Enough cannot be said about the work the ISSA board members and everyone have put in to get the changes done within our program as we had. WOW! Thank you all for the hard work. It was greatly needed and is going to help our state take a step forward for once.

2017 ISSA Club Challenge

North Iowa Snow Seekers	\$1,500
Webster County Ice Breakers.....	\$1,100
Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....	\$500
North Iowa Sno-Jammers.....	\$500
Snowdrifters.....	\$500
Mitchell County E-Z Riders.....	\$500
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$376
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$350
Snow Pioneers	\$350
Floyd County Groomers	\$300
Sac County Sno-Lovers.....	\$300
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club.....	\$250
Bremer County Sno-Knights.....	\$250
Humboldt Sno-Skimmers.....	\$250
Howard County Stumpjumpers.....	\$250
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks	\$250
Chickasaw Sno-Riders	\$250
Lyon County Sno-Lyons	\$200
Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders.....	\$200
Iowa River Riders	\$100
Trails Unlimited.....	\$100

Proceeds benefit the ISSA's lobbying effort.



#teamicebin stop on the Webster County Ice Breakers (WCIB) Annual Marlin Benson Fun Run in February. The Ice Bin is a dual partnership with Team Iowa Snowmobilers to provide a place to warm up just off the Des Moines River along a WCIB trail that connects our clubs.

Region 7

Webster County Ice Breakers Club News

by Nancy Lundgren

Winter. Hoping she comes to Webster County with all of her sass this winter.

Last winter was one of the saddest we have seen in awhile. As we sadly watch the corn curl like a pineapple leaf trying to survive this summer drought, we can only hope the precipitation starts to hit this fall and keeps going through March so we can all add on our miles we are owed this winter and add the much-needed moisture to the soil for our farmer members and landowners next summer.

I think the hardest part of this winter in Webster County was realizing we couldn't be "snow snobs" by waiting for the perfect ride to go as we had in 2016. I think many of us missed some of our best riding days waiting for the "perfect snow" which never came. I am pretty sure a majority of my miles came on three inches of slushy snow or less after my nine-year-old convinced me to let them ride their new (to them) big boy sleds. After a summer of watching the transformation of an old, beat up 1996 Indy Lite into a sweet ride with their school mascot sporting the hood, who could blame them for being so anxious to ride snow—or in our case—snirt? If I remember right, we had two decent weekends of riding, and our groomer made one short pass of our trail system that consisted of one of



WCIB Vice President Will Fevold and team strategizing during the WCIB golf tournament.

ISSA CLUBS

Clubs in red reported
100% ISSA Membership



Lakota Sno-Eagles

President: Jordan Valvick
4410 Highway 169, Lakota, IA 50451
(515) 538-0290, jordanvalvick@gmail.com

North Iowa Sno-Jammers

P.O. Box 103, Lake Mills, IA 50450
www.northiowasnojammers.com
President: Valere Holtan
38320 210th Ave., Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 567-3674, vholtan@wctatel.net

North Iowa Snow Seekers

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

Worth County Fence Stretchers

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: Dennis Koehler
805 9th St NW, Waverly, IA 50677
(319) 352-5576, (319) 240-5756
koehler805@gmail.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: Scott Nauman
402 Fifth St., Rudd, IA 50471
(641) 425-9898
sdnauman04@gmail.com

Chickasaw Sno-Riders

President: Dan Feenstra
1310 Jasper Ave., New Hampton, IA 50659
(319) 404-5482, 148danfeen@gmail.com

Dewar Snow Chasers

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
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

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, tnsalla@hotmail.com

Clayton County Snowbirds

12469 Hwy. 18, Postville, IA 52162
President: Dan Torkelson
302 E Church St, Farmersburg, IA 52047
(563) 880-2422





ISSA CLUBS

Clubs in red reported
100% ISSA Membership

Driftrunners, Inc.

Join Us on Facebook under 'Groups'
President: Jeff Zak
607 2nd Ave W, Cresco, IA 52136
563-271-2154,
driftrunnerssnowmobileclub@gmail.com

Dyersville Driftskippers

www.dyersvilledriftskippers.net
President: Josh Ruley
(563) 663 4024, fourtrakcity@aol.com

Snow Pioneers

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

Trail Blaz-ers Inc.

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

Trails Unlimited

Trails Unlimited
15778 282nd St., West Union, IA 52175
President: Bud Winter
(319) 231-3337, bwinter@acegroup.cc

Wapsipinicon Snowmobile Association

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

Winneshiek Trail Twisters Inc.

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

REGION SIX

Sac County Snow Lovers

P.O. Box 464, Lakeview, IA 51450
President: 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, mjpatt76@aol.com

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club
P.O. Box 3133, Des Moines, IA 50316
www.saylorvilledamsnowmobileclub.org
President: Craig Krapfl
3614 SW 29th, Ankeny, IA. 50023
(515) 707-7237, ckrapfl@gmail.com

Team Iowa Snowmobilers

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

Webster County Ice Breakers

President: Jim Suchan
3374 Garfield Ave., Gowrie, IA 50543
(515) 352-3039, (515) 351-0072
jsmgr@lvcta.com

REGION EIGHT

Central Iowa Snowmobilers

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

the four main loops and decided it wasn't worth it as the trail filled in behind them before promptly melting away in a few days.

Now (in July), we are coming off 100-plus degree heat indices and even the meteorologists are hyping that winter can't come soon enough! Seriously, why wouldn't everyone be missing a foot of snow and sub zero temps at that point? For once, even our fair-weather friends have been on our snow loving side!

Here, in Webster County, we have tried to embrace our warm trend. We ran our Annual Marlin Benson Fun Run in February in cars, trucks and fully embraced Webster County's UTV gravel road ordinance by running it on ATVs, side by sides and even a dirt bike! We had a small turnout due to the weather. The intimacy of the event helped for new friendships to form which, in my mind, is what Marlin's legacy is. I never met Marlin myself, but from all the people I have met who knew him, it seems everywhere he went, he made friends. And that legacy becoming the kickstarter of our club is clearly the spirit that grows our club stronger with new members becoming part of our Ice Breaker family.

In May, we were excited to give our annual scholarships to two local youth from the Southeast Valley School District. The 2017 winners were Morgan Jackson and Kaelan Lundberg. Morgan is attending La James this fall for massage therapy and then majoring in Myokinestheticology, and Kaelan is attending Iowa Central for Auto Technology. We wish them luck on their new adventures!

To bring our summer in with a party, we brought back the WCIB golf tournament this summer. We had stopped putting it on for four to five years because summertime is busy for everyone with ball games, county fairs, school or family reunions and the squeezed-in family vacation. We are lucky to have a committee who took the time to commit to restarting our tournament and ensure it becomes an annual event again. We had 10 teams on June 3. Although no one took home the snowmobile this time with a hole in one, I, for one, plan to haul a driver on my sled to practice with. I have a lot of practicing to do before next summer!

So what does the 2017-18 winter hold for the Ice Breakers? Only the very moody Mother Nature and her cranky friend, Old Man Winter, can answer that question, but as a club, we will certainly make the most of whatever they bring us!

Be sure to watch Facebook, Twitter and our web page for meeting plans for the third Wednesday of the month starting in September, as well as for trail conditions and events! We will be starting our mower passes and beginning to sign in a few short months and hope for great volunteer turnouts to lessen the load of our trail leads.

As always, we appreciate each of our volunteers who take time out of their personal lives to help Webster County to have fun, safe and consistent trails to ride. Here is to an excellent, safe, fun and SNOWY 2017-18 Iowa snowmobile season! Stay safe and THINK SNOW!



WCIB Treasurer, Joetta Promes, with Kaelan Lundberg and Morgan Jackson at Southeast Valley's Senior Awards night.

2017 ACSA Legal Defense Challenge

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



Proceeds benefit snowmobile access nationwide.
Contact your Region Director to make a donation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

- Hay Days Sept. 9-10. Visit www.snobarons.com for more details.
- Driftrunners Membership Drive/Steak Dinner Sept. 17 at 11 a.m. Cresco.
- ISSA Board of Directors meeting TBD.

October

- Spina Bifida Association of Iowa Walk-N-Roll Oct. 7 at 1 p.m. at Principal Park, Des Moines.
- Southeast Iowa Ridge-Blasters Inaugural Snowmobile Show and Swap Meet Oct. 21 at 10 a.m. Mount Pleasant

November

- Trails Unlimited chicken dinner fundraiser Nov. 3 at The Zipper, Festina.
- 2017 ISSA Convention and Snow Show Nov. 17-18 Cedar Rapids.

Region 9

Snowdrifters, Inc.

by Ron Roe

Hello everyone. Well, it's that time of year. I don't mean snow yet, but time to start the planning stages of trail work. We need to get permission to use private land and get paperwork taken care of for that. We need to check and examine bridges to see if they are still structurally solid for mowers and later for snowmobiles. All the new bridges should be strong enough to carry the groomer.

We had our monthly meeting Aug. 10. We had the ISSA president and vice president there. Chris gave a talk on how the money is divided and when some things are handed out. He talked about things the ISSA is trying to do to improve the club. We were glad to have them at the meeting, and they are always welcome. Thanks for coming, guys.

Our club is hosting our annual tractor pull Aug. 19. I realize this will be over before we read about it in the magazine. We will start it by handing out the scholarships for this fall. Once we get the tractor pull started, we want to keep it moving. We have 8 classes this year. With a good turnout of tractors, this will take most or all of Saturday evening. It should be a good time.

The subject of the ISSA magazine came up in the meeting. It seems that all or most of the members are in favor of the paper magazine as compared to the digital on the computer. Some can't get the computer in the bathroom!! And not everyone has a smart phone. We did vote to give \$350 to be a sponsor for the magazine. I hope this will work out well, and more clubs will chip in and help keep the magazine.

I must report that I, my wife, and two other snowmobilers couldn't wait for snow, so off to northern Wisconsin and the U.P. we went with our ATVs. Don Miller and his friend, Kevin Krob, sort of got their eyes open to the size of rocks on the trails in some areas and how pretty some of the rural areas are with all the flower and vegetable gardens that you don't see in the winter. We had a great time and will have more trails to ride next summer. Lo and behold, we stopped out on a road to take a break and make sure we were on the right path when we heard these machines come up behind us. It was 10 or 11 people from our home area that we all knew. After a good break, we all ended up in this little country bar for burgers and sodas. The lady at the bar thought it was a pretty good hit for a bar out in the middle of nowhere at 2 p.m. in the afternoon.

Well, this is all for now. I will have more next month. See ya later.

2017 Charitable Contributions

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Association.....	\$2,350
Hancock Snowmobile Association.....	\$2,250
Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....	\$500
Tri-County Snowmobile Association.....	\$376
Floyd County Groomers.....	\$300
Bremer County Sno-Knights.....	\$250
Snowdrifters.....	\$250
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$200
Trail Blaz-zers, Inc.	\$200
Snow Pioneers.....	\$100
Iowa River Riders.....	\$100

Proceeds benefit the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa.

ISSA CLUBS

Clubs in red reported
100% ISSA Membership



Jasper County Ditch Bangers

President: David Huffaker
P.O. Box 391, Baxter, IA 50028
(641) 751-0622, huffaker-dave@hotmail.com

Tri-County Snowmobile Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 231, Traer, IA 50675
President: Jamie Erhardt
312 Mill St., Traer, IA 50675
(319) 415-8189, jhardt88@yahoo.com

REGION NINE

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) 325-8917(c)

Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders

President: Dylan Bousselot
P.O. Box 13, Grand Mound, IA 52751
polarisdude900@gmail.com

Frozen Few

P.O. Box 184, Coggon, IA 52218
President: Jamie Prull
1101 First St., Palo, IA 52324
(319) 981-0397, jprull@aol.com

Jones County Snow Chasers

P.O. Box 225, Olin, IA 52320
President: Chris Nelson
41 Anderson Rd., Anamosa, IA 52205
cnelson85@hotmail.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

Snowdrifters, Inc.

P.O. Box 5135, Coralville, IA, 52241
www.iowa-snowdrifters.org
President: Sarah Allender
freiburgers@gmail.com
(319) 640-1654

Snowmobilers of Jackson County

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

Southeast Iowa Ridge Blasters

se.iowa.ridge.blasters@gmail.com
President: Cody Krueger
19272 Danville Rd.
New London, IA 52645
(414) 313-5973
cjk4@uwmalumni.com





A pair of members of the Butler County Snow Snoops of Region 4 were the lucky winners in two drawings at the ISSA Summer Campout at Camp Comfort near Greene Aug. 6. Kelsey Ufford won the annual Sally Carmichael quilt raffle to benefit the ISSA Education and Scholarship Foundation, and her boyfriend and club president Seth Bram won a Grizzly cooler in the Early Bird drawing for the ISSA's 2017 Grand Raffle. A second larger cooler will be raffled off at the 2017 ISSA Convention in November, and all Grand Raffle tickets sold up until campout will be re-entered into the drawing. Tickets for the Grizzly cooler cost \$5 each and can be purchased through any ISSA officer or region director.

Website Offers Safety Education Resources, Training Materials

To help keep riders educated and safe, the website snowmobileinfo.org has an extensive collection of safety education resources, avalanche education and information, training manuals and other resources available for snowmobilers, the general public, snowmobile clubs, management agencies and land managers.



The website is a collaboration between the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA), the U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the International Snowmobiler Manufacturers Association (ISMA).

A main component of the safety resources page offers links to avalanche education providers and avalanche centers, providing up-to-the-minute weather reports, mountain and snow conditions and avalanche danger ratings.

"Snowmobile riding, especially in mountain regions, is an awesome way to see the grandeur of nature up close, but it is always important to remain vigilant about avalanches," said ISMA President Ed Klim. "The website offers links to avalanche centers worldwide, which provide current terrain and weather conditions imperative to the safety of snowmobilers."

The website also offers the Safe Riders! Safety Awareness Program, designed to educate riders on safe snowmobiling practices, including preparing for a ride, hand signals, common trail signs, roadway hazards, how to get unstuck and how to survive an emergency on the trail or backcountry.

Additional safety resources available at www.snowmobileinfo.org include links to state agencies and organizations that provide snowmobile safety training.

In 2016, ACSA and the FHWA extended their professional relationship with a new, five-year partnership to educate, unite and promote responsible snowmobiling in the U.S. For more information, visit www.snowmobileinfo.org.

From page 12

snowmobile trails also fell by the wayside.

"To get the legislation passed this year that increased our percentages, we had to give up with going with one sticker," Chris Willey pointed out. "This coming season you will still need two stickers to be legal to ride in Iowa. You still have to have the trail pass and the registration sticker."

Not Giving Up on Single Decal

The proposal for one decal was another measure aimed at increasing funding for the state snowmobile program. Currently, a registered sled and a user permit are required to ride on public trails and frozen rivers in Iowa. A snowmobiler who only rides his or her machine out of state is not required to obtain the trail pass.

Since the inception of the trail pass in 2013, the yearly trend shows that 75 percent of the registered sled owners in Iowa purchase the optional user permit. That ratio works out to approximately \$90,000 in lost revenue. By merging the trail permit with the sled registration for a total of \$30, the state snowmobile program could benefit financially.

Well documented in this publication last season, EFC members knew going into the 2017 legislative session that the single-decal measure would be an uphill battle in Des Moines, as snowmobilers in western and southern Iowa typically own mountain sleds and claim they do not ride in Iowa and therefore should not have to pay the extra \$15.

"In actuality, they don't want their registrations to go up to \$30," acknowledged Region 7 Director John Kahler. "They claim they don't ride in this state and only go out west."

The single-decal measure did pass the House last year but stalled in the Senate, where it remains eligible again for the 2018 legislative session. At the ISSA Board of Directors meeting in August, members voted to move forward with the proposal again this January.

"The proposed legislation is still eligible," Durby said. "The EFC felt it should be to the board's decision whether we move forward with it or not."

"I think it's a very small number of Iowans who register their snowmobiles here but don't ride in the state. For the most part, I think the majority of Iowa snowmobilers support the single sticker," Jim Willey said. "I think we have to do a good job now and through this fall to make sure all snowmobilers in Iowa understand why we need this money and why a single-sticker system works better. It provides more predictable income for our program."

"Going to a single sticker will be a challenge, but anything is possible with the right grass-roots efforts," Heller noted later.

"I think this will be a very tooth and nail struggle in the Senate," Chris Willey said. "There are snowmobilers in southern Iowa and western Iowa in particular who were very vocal to their legislators that they did not want this."

Besides the single decal and snow bike proposal, the ISSA had initially requested 80 percent of the total registration receipts be obligated to the local club side. The 10 percent difference was lost in the negotiations.

REGION 1**Glen's Sport Center, Inc.**

Yamaha/Ski-doo snowmobiles
Polaris ORVs
208 16th St., Sheldon, IA 51201
glens1@qwestoffice.net

North Lake Truck Repair

Aluma trailer dealer
1420 North Lake Ave.
Storm Lake, IA 50588
(712) 732-1500
nltruckrepair.com

Project Mayhem Power Sports

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

Storm Lake Honda

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

REGION 2**Advanced Crop Management**

P.O. Box 533, Algona, IA 50511
(515) 341-9315
brycem@netamumail.com

Algona Machine & Supply

2204 Plum Creed Rd., Algona IA 50511
(515) 295-9521

Becker Bros. Trucking

1403 280th St, Burt, IA 50522
(515) 341-0485

Brian's Construction

206 4th Ave NE, Pocahontas, IA 50574
(712) 335-3229
brianslama@hotmail.com

Champion Chrysler Center

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

Cruise Farms

2007 240th Ave., Wesley, IA 50483
(515) 200-9155, bcruise@excite.com

The Flipside Pizza & Pub

11 Dewitt St., LuVerne, IA 50560

J & K Snowmobile

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

JDR Seed LLC

2109 190th St., Wesley, IA 50483
(515) 341-3452, jdrseed@ncn.net

**Jeremy Walker
Snow Removal**

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

John Erpelding Farms

803 190th St., Algona IA 50511
(515) 341-2513
johnerpeldingfarms@hotmail.com

Jud's Bar & Grill

208 Centre St., Knierim, IA 50552
(515) 463-2345

Klocko Construction

114 1st Ave E, Knierim, IA 50552
(515) 571-5724

**Lynch's Mainstreet
Bar & Grill**

336 Main St., Rockwell City, IA 50579

Motor Inn of Algona

1107 N Main St., Algona, IA 50511
(515) 295-2497
motorinnautogroup.com

Nalltronics

2204 150th St., Corwith IA 50430
(515) 368-0715

Ramthun Trucking, Inc

2257 Traer Ave., Manson, IA 50563
(515) 480-3970
ramthun96@gmail.com

Rasmuson Electric

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

Rock-N-J Café & Catering

2602 240th Ave, Wesley, IA 50483
(515) 320-4096; gjranch@hotmail.com
Sedlacek Snowmobile Salvage
135 Lake St., Rockwell City, IA 50579
(712) 210-0718
Find us on Facebook!

Sentral Insurance Service

P.O. Box 9, Fenton, IA 50539
(515) 889-2292

Shore Side Pub&Grub

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

REGION 3**Amsoil Regency Direct**

Heath Palmer
220 Jamestown Rd.
Mason City, IA 50401
(641) 420-6677
www.thesuperiorsynthetic.com
thesuperiorsynthetic@hotmail.com

Auto Parts Wholesale

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

Boone's Removal

3133 200th St., Rowan, IA 50470
(641) 430-9705

Brakke Implement

17551 Killdeer Ave
Mason City, IA 50401
(800) 325-5308

The Branding Iron

Fine dining
135 Jackson St., Thompson, IA 50478
(641) 584-2912

Buffalo Lanes, LLC

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

C R Fuel

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

Chappy's on Main

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

**The Corner Restaurant
& Lounge****ISSA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

207 East Main, Belmond, IA 50421
(641) 444-4451, (515) 577-2635
ericlambzz@gmail.com

County Line Seeds, LLC

129 Industrial Dr., Forest City, IA 50436
Dave's Auto Service

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

Deb's Wild Horse Saloon

1932 Nettle Ave., Hampton, IA 50441
(641) 892-4922
DebLaRue@rocketmail.com

DK Arndt, PC

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

Donna's Lounge

427 1st St PO Box 194
Meservey, IA 50457
(641) 358-6419

Don's Motor Mart

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

Dudley's Corner

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

E & E Repair

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

Fleener Auto Parts & Service

11475 Hwy 9, Thompson, IA 50478
(641) 584-2100

Forest City Ford, Inc.

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

**Friesenborg & Larson
Custom Spraying**

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

The Garage Tavern

103 Main St, Coulter, IA 50431
(641) 430-6855
step@mulfordconcrete.com

Goody's Welding & Metal Art

304 S. 4th Ave E., Lake Mills, IA 50450
(641) 909-4660
agundmonson@hotmail.com

Gorder's Service

201 Main St S, PO Box 95
Bradford, IA 50041
(641) 648-6071; 641-425-0935
brucegorder@gmail.com

Gun Bank

155 Jackson St., Thompson, IA 50478
(641) 584-2907
gmlarson@wctatel.net

H & S Auto Parts, Inc.

301 1st Ave., Buffalo Center, IA 50424
(641) 562-2515

Hair Designs

236 E J St., Forest City, IA 50436
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