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- Breakfast on your own
- Enjoy area activities
- · Lunch on your own
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2018	ISSA	Fall	Campout	Registration

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Mailing Address:	
Phone Number: _	Email Address:
Camping costs: \$	16/night. Includes 30-amp service & water hookup. Dump station available.
Circle # of nights:	1 2 No campout fee.
Please make che	ck payable to the ISSA Campout and mail to:

Becky Willey ISSA Campout 20838 247th Street Delhi, IA 52223

> For more information, please contact Steve Vorwald at (563) 920-8403 or Jim Willey at (563) 920-0911.



ABOUTUS

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IOWA SNOWMOBILER

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Snowdrifters Earn National Recognition

Scott County Club Member Donates Toolcat Trailer to ISSA



Spur of the Moment Ride in Region 2

Taking Advantage of Late February Snow in Humboldt County





Snocross Action Returns to Dubuque

Hibbert Sweeps Weekend in Towa, Captures Series Championship, then Retires on Top





Upcoming ISSA Events Planned this Fall

Campout Pushed Back to October; Western Regions to Host Convention at Okoboji









COVER: 2018 ISOC Series Champion Tucker Hibbert of Minnesota accelerates out of a hairpin turn during practice March 10 at the Theisen's National Snocross at Sundown Mountain Resort in Dubuque.

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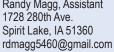
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Frustrated

Success in Iowa House Last Year Does Not Translate to Senate for Single-Sticker Measure in 2018

by Cameron Hanson

espite breezing through the Iowa House of Representatives in 2017, a bill to merge the snowmobile registration sticker and the optional trail user permit into one decal failed to move out of the Senate Ways and Means Committee earlier this year and ultimately perished at the end of the 2018 legislative session in Iowa.

Supported by the ISSA Board of Directors and bolstered by surveys among many snowmobilers in Iowa, House File 628 would have increased the \$15 annual snowmobile registration fee to \$30 and eliminated the requirement for a trail pass for in-state residents.

If approved, the measure would have increased funding for the Iowa State Snowmobile Trail Grant Program by \$90,000 annually by capturing those snowmobilers who choose not to purchase the trail pass. Some sled owners claim they only ride out of state and therefore do not need the extra sticker, while others wait for the arrival of rideable snow before making a commitment to purchase.

"We've learned that some club members feel they should not have to pay extra if it doesn't snow, and to the others, do they truly never ride in Iowa?" asked ISSA President Chris Willey, co-administrator of the state snowmobile program, following the latest legislative setback.

According to ISSA Lobbyist Mike Heller, opposition to the proposed legislation surfaced from snowmobilers in western Iowa and dealers in southern Iowa; and Sen. Randy Feenstra, R-Hull, from northwest Iowa, who chaired the Senate committee, decided not to bring it to a vote.

"Unfortunately, legislators adjourned without holding a subcommittee meeting or voting on our single-sticker bill," Heller wrote in his final legislative update of the season in May. "Legislators pointed to a division within the (ISSA) membership and the objections by some dealers to what they viewed as an increased cost of doing business.

"The bill passed the House in overwhelming numbers last year, but Senators refused to bring the bill up for a vote this year," Heller continued. "We need to let legislators know we need their support for this bill to pass in the future."

Heller, several ISSA board members and this publication all reached out to Feenstra during the session for an explanation on the inactivity but did not receive a response.

Sen. Waylon Brown, R-St. Ansgar, from north central Iowa, served on the Ways and Means Committee and described the bill as a "no brainer." He said he was "in favor" of the legislation but was unable to get any movement on it.

Past ISSA President Terry Durby, coadministrator of the state snowmobile program, said he was frustrated by the legislation's stalled progression at the Statehouse last spring.



Sen. Randy Feenstra R-Hull

"There should be no reason to keep this bill from moving forward," Durby said in April. "We have a survey and meeting minutes showing that the vast majority of Iowa snowmobilers, snowmobile leadership and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources all support this bill."

Enacted in 2013, the \$15 trail pass surfaced as a compromise to the last time the ISSA attempted to increase snowmobile registration fees. At first, trail pass compliance hovered around 75 percent of all registered sleds in Iowa but slowly dipped to nearly 50 percent last season as snowmobilers suffered through their third straight winter of poor riding conditions.

"I want to remind all snowmobiliers that whether it snows or not, we have to buy trail insurance, trail signs, pay for trail improvement projects and groomer maintenance and repairs," Willey pointed out. "These are not things we can wait and do once it snows. The only money we really save in a low-snow year is money that would be spent on groomer fuel."

For at least one more season now, snowmobilers here will need to purchase two stickers to legally ride in Iowa: one for registration and another for the trail permit. Both are required to operate on public trails, rights of way and frozen bodies of water.

"Ever since the trail pass was started, I have been asked by snowmobiliers across Iowa, 'Why can't we just have one sticker?" Willey said. "It seems like we missed a great opportunity to get this issue fixed."

The ISSA convention rotates to northwest Iowa in November, and Willey said the ISSA Legislative Committee plans to bring this topic up for discussion.



Busy Offseason Begins with Legislative Setback

It's time to start a new snowmobile sea-Lson. Last season is in the books, and we get to focus on a fresh, new start. We've all had some time away from the sleds and the sport...well, most of us have anyways.

If you ask Terry Durby's or my wife, they'll likely argue that there is no "off-season" for snowmobiling. In our positions as co-administrators of the Iowa State Snow-



mobile Trail Grant Program, there really isn't. It has been a busy summer in the snowmobiling world.

The Review and Selection Committee (RSC) meeting took place in June. We are a full year into the new program under the RSC's direction. The new committee and the additional funding coming to the program have made a difference. We were able to meet every club's needs for operational expenses for the coming year. We are also able to assist clubs with several trail repair or expansion projects.

We okayed \$163,000 in operational expenses and repairs and \$149,000 for trail insurance, emergency repairs and signs. We are working closely with the Iowa DOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to use our Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grants to their full funding and hoping to spend \$850,000 in RTP funds to continue to update equipment across the

We will be looking to finalize the purchase of the last two Prinoths we had on lease and have established an updated list for future groomer purchases based on the requests received on this year's grant applications. We are still learning and refining the scope and processes of the RSC but are certainly moving in the right direction.



Chris Willey ISSA President

Single-Sticker **Measure Dies**

The legislative season came to a close with our legislation for one sticker and a single \$30 cost to ride in Iowa being stuck in the Senate Ways and Means Committee and never even being brought up for discussion. I have received a lot of phone

calls and emails asking why, with all the support we had across the state, the bill never got out of committee.

First, let me say THANK YOU to everyone who contacted their legislators and voiced your support. Simply put, based on information from snowmobilers in his area, Sen. Randy Feenstra, chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee chose to not let it move. He refused to even have a discussion about the bill with any ISSA representatives despite countless attempts and requests from ISSA to meet. In talking to snowmobilers from Senator Fenestra's area, it was the feeling of a few local club members that they shouldn't have to pay for a trail pass unless it snowed enough in their

Dollars At Work

lowa State Snowmobile Trail Grant Program

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

Members By Position

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

Members By Election

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

lowa DNR Representative

Rhonda Fowler

Iowa Recreational Trails Advisory Committee Representative

· John Kahler (by appointment)

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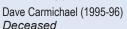
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area to ride. They voiced this to Sen. Fenestra, and he apparently took the position of not letting it move forward, regardless of how the rest of the state felt. While I respect him for listening to his constituents, it is frustrating that a few can ruin it for the group. But as snowmobilers, we are all too well aware of this type of treatment.

Expenses Still Exist

As for the few snowmobilers who held up our bill, I understand their frustration with the lack of snow in the state from year to year. But there are a lot of areas across the state that did get snow and were able to have groomed and rideable trails. No matter where the snow falls each year, every club in the state needs to have funds to operate.

Even when we don't get snow, the snowmobile program and clubs have expenses. We have to pay for the trail insurance, service and repair groomers, purchase trail signs and fund trail improvements. The RSC doesn't get to tell clubs, "We'll give you money if it snows." We have to be ready for when it does snow.

As long as I am part of the RSC, we will always make sure the clubs have the funds and support they need to be ready when the snow does fall. Everyone needs to understand the only money we save in a low-snow year is the money that doesn't get spent on fuel.

As snowmobilers, we are self-funded and always there to help each other out...on and off the trail. I am very proud of that fact and share it with other user groups every chance I get. At convention this year, I want to have discussion with everyone on how to proceed with this. From there it will be up to Brian and the ISSA Board of Directors to decide if and how we proceed when the next legislative session starts. The need for a constant and stable funding stream is always going to be there.

Congrats to the Snowdrifters

The Iowa Snowdrifters of Region 9 were awarded as the American Council of Snowmobile Associations Snowmobile Club of the Year. It was great to see a club from Iowa be recognized at the National and International level. I attended their cookout in July to present them with the award.

Also this summer, Joshua Clare, a member of the Scott County Sno-Seekers, donated a custom-built trailer to the ISSA. The trailer is specially designed to haul the Bobcat Toolcat and mower. This will make movement of the equipment between clubs a lot easier. Look for more info on the trailer on page 9 in this issue.

As I enter my last fall as ISSA president, I am a little bummed that the last two years have gone by so fast, but I am very proud of the things I have been able to be a part of and accomplish. I am looking forward to the coming season and continuing to work with everyone to keep Iowa trails some of the best in the nation.

I'm excited to see where Brian leads us. I know he has some great plans to keep ISSA one of the elite groups in organized snow-

Gipp Retires as IDNR Director; Trautman Assumes Interim Role

irector Chuck Gipp of Decorah retired May 1 from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), and Deputy Director Bruce Trautman is presently serving as acting director. Both have been considered friendly to snowmobiling in lowa.

Past ISSA President Jim Willey, who worked closely with Gipp on snowmobiling issues as well as the damrebuilding effort at Lake Delhi in eastern Iowa, said he was "surprised" by the announcement but acknowledged it was "well deserved."

"We definitely want to recognize Chuck's support for snowmobiling in Iowa," Willey said. "He will be missed, but we want to thank him for everything he and Bruce have done for us over the years."

Gipp began serving as deputy director of the IDNR in August 2011. Not long after that, he was named director.

Before then, he worked for three years as director of the Division of Soil Conservation for the Iowa Department of Agriculture, and beginning in 1990, he served nine consecutive terms in the Iowa House of Representatives, including a stint as House Majority Leader.

'It's been an absolute pleasure to serve lowans for the past 28 years," Gipp said in an IDNR press release. "I've been blessed to work among some of the best in the state, and nothing is more gratifying than being able to make a difference in the lives of lowans."



Chuck Gipp



Snowmobile Sales Outperform **Economic Growth Worldwide**

long lasting cold and snowy winter in Amuch of the snowmobile community, and continued enthusiasm and interest in snowmobiling powered snowmobile sales to increase worldwide to 124,786 new sleds sold this past year. This is an increase of over 6,100 units, which is a five percent gain from last year.



Sales in the United States grew to 53,179 new snowmobiles sold —a 5 percent gain from

last year, while sales in Canada rose over 6.4 percent to 47,024 new snowmobiles sold. The sales increase wasn't confined to North America. Sales increases were realized in Norway, Sweden and Finland in

The snowmobile community is optimistic following the above-average late snowfall throughout most of North America this past season. The 2018 manufacturers' spring snowmobile shows reported increases in attendance. In many of the spring shows, attendance was up over 20 percent. Spring orders were strong and that points to a good 2019 sales year.

The snowmobile industry reports that registered snowmobiles in North America remained at 2 million registered snowmobiles. Increased registration in northern Europe continues.

Survey Results

Snowmobile-related tourism also in-



Ed Klim laughs during his annual ISMA update at the 2018 International Snowmobile Congress at Nova Scotia in June. Photo courtesy Mary Anne Grabow, South Dakota Snowmobile Association.

creased in North America and beyond. This can be seen in economic impact studies conducted throughout North America by major business colleges and universities. Miles ridden by snowmobilers (which



Ed Klim ISMA President

is always predictive of economic impact) showed an increase from the 2017-2018 season. This is a result of riding conditions and improved and expanded riding areas and trail sys-

The average age of a snowmobiler this past season was determined to be 45

years of age. Snowmobilers are active, outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy snowmobiling with family and friends.

Surveys conducted by ISMA have shown that 73 percent of first-time buyers in the snowmobile market purchased a used snowmobile. Many of them are young adults, and they move on to purchase a new snowmobile later in life.

The majority of snowmobilers in North America are club members and/or association-federation members (over 60 percent). These active, involved, outdoor enthusiasts build the trails and support snowmobiling access. Snowmobilers are also active charity fundraisers who raised over \$3.5 million dollars for national charities last year.

The Go Snowmobiling website serves as another strong indicator for the interest in snowmobiling. This year, the Go Snowmobiling site received more than 2.4 million hits. Forty percent of those visitors to the website were new snowmobilers or individuals who do not own a snowmobile but are expressing a great deal of interest in owning a snowmobile and going snowmobiling. Twenty percent of the visitors to the site visited the rental outlet pages of the

Indications are that many of the individuals visiting the rental site do not own a snowmobile but want to rent one during their winter vacation. This high level of interest in renting bodes well for future sales and the growth in the snowmobile rental market.

Great Winter Activity

Additional surveys have found that snowmobilers are active in many outdoor activities. Snowmobilers are also boaters, motorcycle riders, camping enthusiasts,

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Many families have discovered that snowmobiling is a great winter recreational activity. Research shows people go snowmobiling for reasons such as viewing the scenery, be with family and friends, to get away from the usual demands of life and be close to nature.

State and provincial snowmobile organizations continue to grow and expand club membership. Many organizations report that new trails are being developed to support the positive economic impact of snowmobiling and job growth for the rural community.

Economic impact studies generated by universities in North America show that snowmobiling is growing in importance as part of the overall economic engine and job growth for winter tourism.

Studies show that snowmobiling now generates more than \$30 billion in economic activity in North America. The economic activity generated by snowmobiling provides many jobs and investment opportunities and generates considerable tax revenue for local governments which eagerly support snowmobiling.

Kahler Replaces Hoermann on Rec Trail Advisory Board

▼SSA Region 7 Director John Kahler has replaced Past ISSA President Merv Hoermann as the ISSA's lone representative on the Iowa Recreational Trails Advisory Committee.

Working closely with the Iowa Department of Transportation, volunteer board annually grades grant applications from various user groups for federal funding through the Recreational Trails Program (RTP).

addition snowmobilers, organizations represented on this board include bicyclists, hikers, equestrians, canoers and all-terrain vehicle owners. Each year, the IDOT receives more than \$1 million in RTP funding to disperse to these and other various user groups.

RTP is financed by a small percentage of the federal fuel taxes paid by off-road user groups. According to guidelines from the Federal Highway Administration, grant funding must be spread across three trail user groups: 30 percent motorized, 30 percent non-motorized and 40 percent diversified.

Since 2001, the snowmobile program in Iowa has relied on this funding source to help update its aging groomer fleet; and for more than a dozen years, Hoermann has represented snowmobiling interests on the committee which recommonds grant awards.

"Merv has served in this position for the ISSA for many years, and I want to thank him for being the snowmobile representative for as long as I can remember," ISSA President Chris Willey said. "I have asked him to continue in an advisory role working with our Review and Selection Committee (RSC) in preparing RTP grants."

Willey explained last April that a change was needed as the ISSA assumed control of the state snowmobile program last year from the Iowa Department of Natural Rescources (IDNR). As co-administrator of the new program, he felt a member of the RSC would be a better fit. Kahler currently serves as the Central Representative on the RSC, and Willey said he will be a "great addition" to the advisory board.

"With the changes in our program and the (RSC) taking over the administration of the snowmobile program from the (IDNR), committee members decided that we need to make a change to the position and have someone from the (RSC) serve in the position as well as bring new perspective to the advisory committee," Willey said.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

- ISSA Board of Directors meeting TBD.
- · Hay Days Sept. 8-9 at North Branch, MN.

October

- ISSA Fall Campout Oct. 5-7 at Manchester.
- Spina Bifida Association of Iowa Walk-N-Roll Saturday, Oct. 6, at 1 p.m. at Principal Park, Des Moines
- · Central Iowa Snowmobilers Grass Drags Saturday, Oct. 27, at Marshalltown. Event features snowmobile, ATV and UTV drag racing.

November

2018 ISSA Annual Convention Nov. 16-18 at Arrowwood Resort, Okoboji.

Region 9

lowa Snowdrifters

by Ron Roe

Tello everyone in snow land. I do know that this is not quite snow time yet. ■ I was real quiet writing this as my ATV can hear real well, and I didn't



want to disturb it. The ATV just took seven of us on a 560-mile run, so I can't just park it and wait until spring. We should thank Don Miller for the good group and good trails for five days. Four of the seven of us

were Snowdrifters and we took a week to go to northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. It was very nice riding for everyone and no major getting stuck. One new rider had a little scare. She knows who she is (Kate), just a little spinning and she was back in position. That was the only close call with deep mud.

Well now for the real news. Our club hosted its annual tractor pull on Aug 18. We also have a golf tournament planned for Sept. 29 at Lake McBride golf course in Solon. Start time is 8 a.m. For more information, contact Andy Lawrence at (319) 541-2721 or e-mail larry090175@hotmail.com. This will get you all the directions and rules to a great day of golf, and is appreciated by the Snowdrifters club.

I don't have a lot more news. I hope everyone has done all they had planned for the summer and enjoyed all the hot weather—although some days put us all to the test. We need to be thinking that this will be a good snow winter for everyone. Hopefully have good snow here in Iowa as well as up north so everyone can spread out and have good riding everywhere.

Well for starters, this is about all I have for now. So enjoy the rest of summer until it gets closer to snow time. See ya. My ATV feels better knowing it is not locked up until spring.



Following up their state award in the same category at the ISSA annual convention in Cedar Rapids last November, the Iowa Snowdrifters snowmobile club of Region 9 was named the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) Club of the Year at the 50th Annual International Snowmobile Congress in June at Nova Scotia. Above, ISSA President Chris Willey presents the club with their plaque at their summer cookout.

Formed in the late 1970s, the Snowdrifters were recognized for their "outstanding contributions" to the sport of snowmobiling. The club became the third from Iowa to be honored by ACSA, following the Eastern Iowa Sledheads in 2014 and the Trail Blaz-zers in 2016.

The Snowdrifters is a 100 percent member of the ISSA, and club membership currently exceeds 100 members. They maintain 220 miles of trail in the Solon-North Liberty area, and last month, they hosted their fourth annual Big Town Showdown truck and tractor pull in Cedar Rapids. Proceeds from that event benefit state and local organizations as well as the club's scholarship program.



Josh Clare, president of Hawk Technology Ltd., left, presents Past ISSA President Jim Willey with a new trailer his company manufactured for use with the ISSA's Toolcat flail mower.

Scott County Member Donates Trailer for Toolcat

by Jim Willey

Chair, ISSA Communications Committee

ast year snowmobile clubs across Iowa prepared their snowmobile trails before the first snowflakes fell with the use of the ISSA's Toolcat and mower for pre-season mowing of snowmobile trails.

The heavy duty utility vehicle and trail mower became available with the ISSA implementation of the new Review and Selection Committee (RSC) structure in partnership with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Soon the ISSA Toolcat and mower will be preparing a snowmobile trail near you!

A problem encountered last year with getting the Toolcat moved around the state to clubs ready to mow their trails was the need for a heavy duty trailer to haul the unit with. Since the ISSA did not have a trailer available, clubs had to locate a trailer and a capable towing vehicle to move the unit from club to club.

When the Toolcat was mowing trails for the Scott County Sno-Seekers in southeast Iowa, club member Joshua Clare of Walcott, president of Hawk Technology Ltd. of Rock Island, Ill., decided to do something about the trailer needed for the Toolcat.

After discussions with Past ISSA President Jim Willey, who managed the Toolcat program on behalf of the ISSA RSC, specifications were set and in May of 2018, the trailer was ready. This month, the trailer begins carrying the Toolcat to clubs around Iowa.

Lifelong Snowmobiler

Josh is originally from Michigan, where he graduated from Ferris State University with a Bachelor's degree in Welding Engineering. He started his career working for John Deere Cylinder Division in Moline, Ill. After several years with John Deere, Josh purchased Hawk Technology Ltd, growing the company to its present size of nearly 100 employees.

Hawk Technology Ltd designs and builds custom equipment and automation for manufacturers all over the globe, developing fixtures, robots and unique factory automation to help manufacturers such as John Deere, Whirlpool, Tesla, Amazon, Case New Holland, and Freightliner manufacture their products more efficiently, accurately and safely.

Josh has been an avid snowmobiler since he was a kid in Michigan, often spending winters in the Upper Penninsula snowmobiling with his dad. Josh and his dad still make the trip from Southeast Iowa to the U.P. at least once each year to enjoy snowmobiling in the Northwoods of Michigan, now taking along his kids and girlfriend. Of course, they ride in Iowa as often as the weather will allow.

Josh told Willey, "It is with great pleasure that I am donating a 2018 Tandem Axle Trailer to the ISSA. This trailer is a brand new manufactured trailer with 18' x 6'6" treated wood deck bed, heavy duty ramps, tandem axles with electric brakes and breakaway brake system, over 10,000 pound Dexter Sure Lube Axles and 2 5/16" heavy duty coupler.

"I sincerely hope the ISSA will benefit greatly from the use of this trailer, and it will bring many useful years of service to our organization," he continued. "As an avid snowmobiler, I hope that this will help move our sport forward in the state of Iowa."

Willey expressed his appreciation to Josh for his generosity on behalf of all snowmobilers and ISSA President Chris Willey, who stated, "Josh represents what is best about Iowa snowmobilers and what makes Iowa snowmobile clubs great. Josh saw a need and used his own resources to custom build a perfect trailer to benefit all Iowa snowmobile clubs. We see this across Iowa every year, where snowmobilers step up, give of their own resources to make Iowa snowmobiling better. Thanks Josh!"

Toolcat Schedule

By the time you read this writing, the Toolcat will be out on its new trailer traveling to clubs, some of which requested their dates to have the Toolcat for this fall as early as last March. Use of the Toolcat is based on a first come, first serve basis, with the ISSA Toolcat coordinator doing his best to get the Toolcat to clubs when they request it, but the realities of logistics also pay a large roll in

2018 ISSA Club Challenge

Iowa Snowdrifters	
Worth County Fence Stretchers	\$500
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$376
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	\$350
Snow Pioneers	\$350
Sac County Sno Lovers	
Floyd County Groomers	\$300
Bremer County Sno-Knights	
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks	\$250
Dickinson County Snowhawks	\$250
Howard County Stump Jumpers	
Humboldt Sno-Skimmers	
Chickasaw Sno-Riders	\$250
Lyon County Sno-Lyons	
Allamakee Sno-Blazers	\$200
Team Iowa Snowmobilers	
Iowa River Riders	
Butler County Snow Snoops	
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club	\$100
Sajisi ilii Balii Siis iiliobilo Olabiiiilii	

Proceeds benefit the ISSA's lobbying effort.



Schedule your club's time with the ISSA's Toolcat flail mower by contacting Past ISSA President Jim Willey at james.willey@camoplast.com.

when it can be available in a certain area.

The schedule is now being put together for the fall and early winter months. If your club would like to get on the Toolcat schedule, send your club name, contact name, contact phone number, contact email, address where Bobcat will be located while in the club's possession, and requested date for use to james.willey@camoplast.com.

The club who will use the unit next is to pick it up from the previous club using it, so each club only has to move it once. You will need a pickup or other vehicle capable of towing 10,000 pounds with a receiver hitch to pull the unit on the trailer.

The expense of moving the unit can be turned in to the ISSA Snowmobile Trail Grant Program on your grant reimbursement request at the rate of \$1 per mile. The expense for moving the Toolcat does not come out of your grant authorization amount.

Each club will receive the Toolcat full of fuel and is to ensure it is full of fuel when it is passed to the next club. Fuel dollars designated for club groomer operation from the club grant allotment may be used for the Toolcat.

Clubs are to record the Toolcat miles in their groomer log with the amount of fuel used, and also in the Toolcat log book. Receipts for the fuel used in the Toolcat are required for reimbursement just as they are for the groomer fuel.

When a club receives the unit, they are expected to do everything possible to complete their use of the unit as quickly as possible, so it can be moved on to the next club waiting to use it. If a club is not able to use the Toolcat when notified it is ready for them, it will be moved to the next club on the list and rescheduled for the club that was not ready for the unit.

The Toolcat will keep moving to wherever there is a use for it until there is snow on the trails.

2018 ARSA Donations

Driftrunners	\$505
lowa Snowdrifters	\$250
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club	\$200
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	\$200
Floyd County Groomers	\$200
Team Iowa Snowmobilers	\$150
Iowa River Riders	\$100
Sac County Sno Lovers	\$100
ZACCESS?	D

Proceeds benefit snowmobile access nationwide. Contact your region director to make a donation.









Snowmobilers in Humboldt County take advantage of late February snow

by Brian Ricklefs

President, Humboldt County Sno-Skimmers

ast season seemed to be one snow tease after another. In Humboldt County, we had several different shots of snow that would have provided a great base for the next snowfall, but we kept getting that threeday stretch of upper 40-degree weather constantly melting our snow. In fact, none of the three fun runs we had scheduled last year were able to be held.

We finally had some awesome riding conditions the last Sunday of February, even after a totally blown weather forecast that promised six inches of snow only produced rain, sleet and then a few inches of the white stuff.

I actually just began the day tinkering on trying to get a small issue ironed out on my wife's snowmobile. It was during my test ride that morning that I realized the conditions were actually really good!!!

I immediately picked up my phone and sent a text to my friend in Boone, which said, "Hey, Tom, you're going to think I'm crazy but you need to load your sled up and head this way ASAP!!" After a small barrage of photos being sent, he was on his way north to Humboldt. I then proceeded to text several friends to get a small group rounded up.

Once assembled, we rode the Three Rivers Trail to Rolfe, and it was absolutely excellent. The lack of wind with some of the prior snow events and the wet heavy snow that we did receive the day before all laid nicely on that old railway.

We then found a small jump and played for a bit taking turns hitting the jump and trying to catch the perfect picture. After we had a few good shots (and nobody died), we decided we'd give the road ditches a try and go find some lunch at Miller's Landing in Humboldt.

The ditches were decent but paled in comparison to the trail we'd previously ridden. We met up with another friend at Miller's and decided to hit the Des Moines River after lunch.

The river proved to be just as good as the Three Rivers Trail. We rode down to Fort Dodge, and there were only a few small areas with open water that you could ride around easily so we continued our trek past Fort Dodge to LeHigh.

After a short break in LeHigh, we headed back north to get as far as we could before dark. We arrived safely and dry back in Humboldt with 140 miles racked up on the sleds for the day!!

The few who turned down our invitation to ride that day were kicking themselves after the stories and pictures we had of our adventure. That was for sure one to be remembered!! It makes walking around the sleds all summer more tolerable.



ISSA snowmobile simulator trailer for sale

Committee Sells Simulator, Now Taking Bids for Trailer

The Review and Selection Committee (RSC) with the Iowa State Snowmobile Trail Grant Program has placed its snowmobile simulator trailer up for sale.

The committee will be accepting bids from interested parties via its general email address at issa.rsc@gmail.com. Bidders need to type 'Trailer Bid' in the subject line to be considered.

Initially purchased by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to haul a snowmobile simulator and an all-terrain vehicle, the Aluma trailer measures 10 feet tall, seven feet wide and 18 feet long. Including a five-foot V nose and trailer tongue, the unit measures 25 feet long overall.

The tandem axle trailer has a gross vehicle weight rating of 7,000 pounds, and ramp doors are located on the front and rear of the trailer. The unit is currently being stored in Dubuque and can be viewed by appointment.

Similar to the simulator itself and the Toolcat featured on page 10 of this month's issue, the RSC acquired the trailer during the transfer of equipment from the IDNR as part of the transition in management of the state snowmobile program last year.

At its June meeting, the ISSA's RSC reviewed sealed bids for the simulator and awarded it to the Southeast Iowa Ridge-Blasters for \$1,000. Backed by a private donor, the Region 10 club plans to make needed repairs to the simulator and keep it as an educational and promotional tool in that area.

"All of the bids received were from lowa snowmobile clubs wishing to have full ownership of the simulator and use it to promote their club and the sport throughout the year," ISSA President Chris Willey said.

The trailer used to haul the simulator was not included as part of the sale of the simulator equipment, noted Willey, who serves as co-administrator of the trail grant program.

"The RSC has reviewed possible uses for the trailer and has decided to sell it and use the funds towards the purchase of equipment that can be better utilized by clubs across the state," he said.

Anyone with questions or requesting to inspect the trailer can contact the committee through the address noted above. The buyer will be responsible for picking up the trailer from its current location unless other arrangements are made.

"The RSC has set a minimum bid it is willing to accept and reserves the right to refuse any or all bids as the committee sees fit to do so," Willey outlined. "The bids will be reviewed and awarded at an upcoming ISSA meeting."

ISSA to Host Fall Campout in Absence of Summer Event

s no club stepped forward to host an ISSA campout this past As no club stepped forward to host an instance of summer, the ISSA, per its by-laws, became responsible for sponsoring the event this year. What resulted was a new twist on an old tradition with a campout set for this fall at the Delaware County Fairgrounds in Manchester Oct. 5-7.

Approved by the board in an online vote in early August, the event is being planned by the following ISSA members: Past President Jim Willey, Eastern Iowa Tourism Committee Chair Becky Willey, Scholarship Board member Steve Vorwald and Sherry Vorwald.

The fairgrounds is the same location the Snow Pioneers used when its members hosted the 2015 ISSA Summer Campout, as pictured on the registration form on the inside cover of this month's issue.

Camping for Friday and Saturday nights are \$16 per night. Campsites are all 30-amp electric sites with water, and a dump station is available. To reserve your campsite, fill out the form and mail to Beck Willey, ISSA Campout, 20838 247th St., Delhi, IA 52223

"Please note there is no campout registration fee, only the camping fee," the campout committee pointed out.

A tentative agenda appears on the inside cover as well. Area activities include an Amish tour, waterpark, shopping, Backbone State Park, Lake Delhi, National Farm Toy Museum and the Field of Dreams.

For the Saturday evening potluck supper, the ISSA will be supplying the meat. Campers are asked to bring their own table service as well as a side dish or dessert to share.

No camper? No problem. You can camp at one of two local motels: Days Inn (563) 927-1011 or America's Best Value Inn (563) 927-2533.

The address for the fairgrounds is 200 East Acres Street, Manchester, IA. Directions to the campgrounds are as follows:

From Highway 20, take Highway 13 north through downtown Manchester, continue north on Highway 13 (North Franklin) to stoplight on Acers Street, east on Acers Street past the cemetery, take the second fairgrounds entrance, ISSA members will be on hand to help you get parked.

If you have any questions, please call Steve Vorwald at (563) 920-8403 or Jim Willey at (563) 920-0911.

"We look forward to having you join us in Manchester the first weekend in October," the committee said.

2018 Spina Bifida Donations	5
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Association	\$2,200
Hancock County Snowmobile Association	
Eastern Iowa Siedheads	
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks	
North Iowa Sno-Jammers	
Driftrunners	
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	
Floyd County Groomers	
Bremer County Sno-Knights	
Snowdrifters	\$250
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	\$200
Trail Blaz-zers	\$200
Trails Unlimited	
Team Iowa Snowmobilers	
Snow Pioneers	\$100
Iowa River Riders	
Butler County Snow Snoops	
Allamakee Sno-Blazers	



by Cameron Hanson

Professional snocross racer Tucker Hibbert played King of the Mountain at a Dubuque area ski resort the second weekend in March and came out on top, sweeping both Pro Open Finals and claiming three of the four qualifying heats.

The top finishes at the Theisen's National Snocross event at Sundown Mountiain solified his points lead in the Amsoil Championship Series, a title the Arctic Cat-backed racer secured the following weekend in Wisconsin for the 11th time in his career.

"I felt the best I have my whole career this season—fast and consistent with a rock-solid sled," he said following the seasonending race at Lake Geneva. "We achieved our goal of winning the championship, and I couldn't be happier about that.

"I'm really proud of how hard everyone on the team and everyone who supported us worked this past year," he said. "What



Taven Woodie (873) finished third in Round 14 of the Pro AM women's competition at the Theisen's National Snocross.

people see at the track is a tiny window into what goes into making a program successful. I'm thankful for the passion and dedication that was put into this championship and will always hold this one close."

Going Out on Top

Two months after taking the 2018 crown, Hibbert, now 34, decided to go out on top and announced his retirement from professional racing. He leaves the sport as the most decorated racer in snocross history, a career which began at age 8 as an amateur.

Hailing from Pelican Rapids, Minn., Hibbert turned professional at age 16, and over the next 18 seasons, he won 138 of the 235 national events he entered. Besides his 11 Pro Open titles, he also collected 10 X Games gold medals and two World Championship

"It's time for me to retire from professional snocross racing," Hibbert said in May. "It's been a great career and now is the right time to move on. I'm healthy and happy. I've accomplished my goals, which were to do my best and enjoy the process of working hard with the people around me. We just finished a great season where I felt as good as I ever have."

In announcing his departure from the sport, Hibbert credited his fan base for keeping him motivated on the track. "I'm blessed to have met a lot of great people through racing," he said. "Their energy and excitement helped push me to do my best. I truly thank all of them for their passion and support."

That fandom was quite evident at the Iowa race where a mile or so outside of the track, a local farmer had spread Hibbert's team number '68' in organic matter across a corner of his snow-covered

"Nothin' says 'welcome to Iowa' like seeing your number written in manure on your way to the track," Hibbert posted on Facebook along with a photo of the fan's aromatic show of allegiance.



The March 9-10 race at Dubuque marked the second consecutive year Sundown Mountain hosted an International Series of Champions (ISOC) snocross race. Dubuque-based Theisen's was also back as title sponsor for the weekend.

Supported by abundant sunshine and 40-degree weather, ISOC reported "a record crowd" turned out for the show at Sundown. Besides the Pro Open events, spectators took in two full days of racing action in classes ranging from 120 and Sport Lite to Pro Lite and women's Pro Am.

Unlike the race in 2017, which was confined to just one ski run on the north end of the hill, the eastern Iowa venue earlier this year featured a revamped layout with racing action crossing the tops of at least two ski runs. The change improved spectator viewing and increased speed on the track.

> Hibbert's team described the 35-second layout as a "technical course...with elevation changes with big jumps, sweeping turns and off-camber corners.'



Petter Narsa (54) crosses the finish line at Sundown Mountain.

Team Hibbert brand manager and raceday mechanic Robby Dahlen provides lap times to Tucker during Saturday afternoon practice.

"Saturday's track was a lot rougher than Friday and more chal-

lenging, which was good for racing," Hibbert said about racing back in Iowa. "I was glad to be out front early and find the lines I wanted to slowly pull away and build up a good lead. The track was really technical. I had to be careful not to make mistakes. It was fun to pick my lines and charge around the track."

Polaris-backed racer Petter Narsa from Hentges Racing, teammate to 2017 points champion Kody Kamm, finished in the top five of both Pro Open finals at Iowa and also commented on the new course design.

"The track had a little bit different layout this year, and it was challenging," Narsa said. "I felt good all weekend, and we were more than competitive. We just couldn't get the breaks in the finals. Both nights I got a bad start, and it was tough to make up ground on this track."

Back for 2019

Race promoters and sponsors felt a new track layout was needed based on feedback following the inaugural race at Sundown in 2017. They are

planning to keep the course the same when the series returns to Dubuque next March 8-9 with Theisen's back on board as well.

"The new track layout was well received by the fans. We got to feature more of Sundown Mountain's terrain and their buildings," observed Peter Theisen, marketing promotions specialist for Theisen's.

"It definitely felt a lot less claustrophobic and allowed the fans to get a lot closer to the high-flying action," he continued. "We will continue to work with Sundown and snocross to polish a few things and look forward to building on an already great event."

"We received a ton of compliments on the track this year, so I think next year's track layout will be nearly identical," added Sundown manager Mark Gordon.



Spectators at Dubuque were treated to high-flying action.

State Convention Returns to Okoboj This Fall



Arrowwood Resort to Host Event for Second Time this Decade

by Cameron Hanson

ollowing the west-to-east rotation for convention host sites, the ISSA Annual Convention returns to western Iowa this fall for the 45th consecutive gathering of snowmobile clubs in Iowa.

Last hosting the event in 2012, the Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center at Okoboji will once again serve as base camp for the three-day weekend, beginning Nov. 16.

Convention details are still being worked out by the clubs in the ISSA's western regions; but convention registration is open, and sponsorship opportunities are currently available for clubs from around the state to help offset expenses.

Becoming a sponsor is "a great opportunity to showcase your club and make your convention an event to remember," ISSA Region 1 Director Dan Delperdang said. Helping the ISSA cover convention costs, "all sponsorships are available on a first-come basis so if you are interested in one of them, please contact us right away."

The sponsorship form on page 16 is just a sampling of the categories needing assistance. "These numbers are just suggestions so feel free to give an amount that works for your club," Delperdang said. "Let us know too if you would like to sponsor an event not listed here as well."

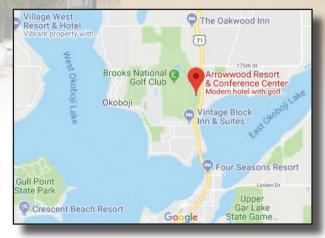
New President to be Elected

New leadership will be elected at this fall's convention as current ISSA President Chris Willey fulfills his two-year term at the helm. Following elections in 2016, he and his father, Jim, became the first father-son tandem to lead the ISSA in its history.

At this year's convention, current Vice President Brian Carmichael is expected to ascend to the role of ISSA President, thus becoming the second legacy to hold the top office. Carmichael's late father, Dave, served as ISSA president from 1995-96.

The ISSA Nomination Committee will be recruiting new board members to run for the office of vice president at this year's con-





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

vention. With 2018 an even-numbered year, director elections for even-numbered regions will also be held that weekend.

The Iowa State Snowmobile Trail Program will be holding its first election for membership on its Review and Selection Committee as well. Appointed last year, the seat for the Western Representative will be up for election at this year's convention.

The two positions for the Central and Eastern reps will be elected at their respective conventions the following two years, giving each seat a three-year term on this volunteer board.

All elections will likely be held during the Saturday morning annual meeting. A legislative update, afternoon seminars and the awards banquet will fill out the rest of the day on Saturday.

More to Come

The convention opens with the Friday evening hospitality and closes with the Saturday evening entertainment. Sunday mornings are normally reserved for the ISSA Board of Directors meeting. Once finalized, the convention agenda will appear in the October and November issues of this magazine.

Also returning this year will be the 'Snowmobile Iowa' club showcase. Originating in 2003 when the state convention was also held in the Iowa Great Lakes Region, this display allows clubs to set up booths in the convention halls, highlighting their trail systems and local events.

Snowmobile Iowa is free to participating clubs, and pre-registration is encouraged by filling out the form on page 13. The complete convention registration form appears on that page as well. Full registration costs \$75, and lodging at the resort is \$79 per night.

For hotel rooms, please contact the Arrowwood Resort at (800) 727-4561 or (712) 332-2161 or www.arrowwoodokoboji.com. Be sure to tell them you are with the ISSA Convention to secure the group rate.

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

Sponsorship Opportunities

Convention

Friday Night Hospitality Saturday Afternoon Seminar Saturday Evening Guest Speaker Saturday Evening Entertainment Saturday Evening Social Hour Program Printing Name Badges General Expense Donation	\$300 \$200 \$500 \$500 \$400 \$200 \$200 \$300
Awards Bangue	r
Family Award Youth Award Young Adult Award Snowmobiler Award Lady Snowmobiler Award Groomer Award Club Award	\$200 \$200 \$200 \$200 \$200 \$200 \$200 \$200
Name/Club	
Address	
Phone Number	
Email	

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

Sponsorship Type:

Donor

Convention

Awards

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

For more information, contact Dan at (712) 330-2609 or dandelperdang@hotmail.com

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

Registration Form

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone Number		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Email		
Snowmobile Club _		
Organization		
Check all that apply:		
Full Registration Friday only Reg		
Saturday only Reg	Registration \$60	
Youth Registrati	ion \$30 (5 to 12 y	ears old)
Under 5 are Fre	e.	
Please Note: Regis		
For hotel rooms, ple Resort at 1-800-727		
arrowwoodokoboji.c		
with the ISSA Conve		
\$79 plus tax		-
Amount Enclosed: \$	<u> </u>	
Please make Mail payment and	check payable to d completed regis	

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

For more information, contact Dan at (712) 330-2609 or dandelperdang@hotmail.com

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

Snowmobile Iowa Club Showcase

Club Name		Region				
Contact Person						
Address						
Phone Number	Email					
Mail completed form to:						
	Dan Delnerdang					

2668 Hwy 9/71 Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360

For more information, contact Dan at (712) 330-2609 or dandelperdang@hotmail.com

Official Notice of ISSA **Elections & Proposed** By-Law Changes

Who:

Officers & Directors from Even-Numbered Regions

When:

ISSA General Membership Assembly ISSA Annual Convention, Nov. 17

Where:

Arrowwood Resort Okobjoi, IA



Sponsorship Item: Amount Enclosed: \$

Join the ISSA Today!

f you enjoy the sport of snowmobiling in Iowa, you are not alone. In 2017, more than 22,000 sleds registered with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and more than 50 clubs around the state maintained a 8,800-mile trail system.

The glue that bonds us together is the Iowa State Snowmobile Association and its network of 2,224 dedicated family members and associates. Since 1973, our organization has helped to maintain an expansive fleet of groomers and lobbied on behalf of snowmobile-friendly legislation.

Without the ISSA over the past 30 years, snowmobiles—for example—would have been held to a 15 mph speed limit, and

Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31.

there would not have been any night riding, ditch riding nor access to state parks.

We continue to work to increase funding for trail maintenance and development, and in 2017, our organization assumed control of the state snowmobile trail grant program and of the entire groomer fleet. Our efforts continue, and your support would be greatly appreciated.

Fill out the form below and join the ISSA today.

With your paid annual membership, you will receive a free subscription to the Iowa Snowmobiler magazine, our official publication.

Iowa State Snowmobile Association

2019 Family/Single Membership Application



		Please remit with payment.	Iowa State Snowmobile Association
	I hereby apply for member	rship in the Iowa State Snowmobile Association. C	Check all that apply:
Single/Family (\$15)	Scholarship Donation \$	Spina Bifida Association of Iowa Donation \$	Legislative Action Fund Donation \$
Name:		Spouse:	
Children:		Snowmobile Club:	
Address:	City:	County of Residence	State: Zip:
Dhana	- ·		#! - t
Phone:	Email wimportant as this will be how y		# registered snowmobiles
	y important as this will be how wherehip magazine.	:we can get information to you in a timely manner. Send your membership form and dues today to Brittany Paulus at:	# registered snowmobiles

Iowa State Snowmobile Association

2019 Associate Membership Application

Please remit with payment.

I hereby ap	oply for membership in the Iowa State Snowmobile Association. CheckAssociate Membership (\$25)Spina Bifida Association of Iowa Donation \$Legislative Act	all that apply: tion Fund Donation \$		
Name of Business or Dealership:	Contact	Contact Person:		
Address:	City:	State: Zip:		
Phone: Ema	il:Website:			
Snowmobile Club/Region	Snowmobile Brand(s) (if applicable	e)		
Anything you'd like to add to your listing in	n the magazine?	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Included with membership is a subscription to this magazine.	Send your membership form and dues today to Brittany Paulus at:			
Check here if you only want digital version of magazine. Membership year runs from	ISSA Membership 1924 270th Street Marble Rock, IA 50653			

bepaulus@outlook.com



ISSA GLUBS

Clubs in red reported 100% ISSA Membership

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 èliteautodoug@gmail.com

Dickinson County SnowHawks

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

kwinters9530@gmail.com Lyon County Sno-Lyons

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

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

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

REGION TWO

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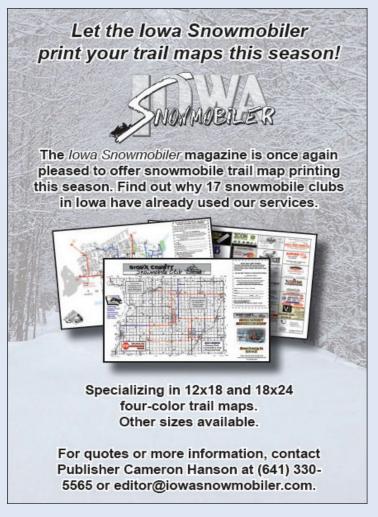
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