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SNOWMOBILER

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Klim Provides State of Industry Udpate

Sales of pickup trucks good indicator for snowmobile growth



Members asked to ratify change at November convention

Antique Club Holds Winter Meeting in Iowa

Members relocate to North lowa Fairgrounds after Jack Race postpones

Ideal Weather for Rivers Bend Shootout

Sioux County club hosts second annual watercross races at Rock Valley in July

2016-17 Magazine D	eadlines
November	Oct. 14
December	
January	Dec. 9
February	Jan. 20
March	Feb. 17

















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- Club News
- Associate Members
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COVER: Joe Swanson of Ely, Minn., wins the Friday shootout at the Rivers Bend Campground in Rock Valley. IWA racers stopped there for the fourth race of the season last July. Photo courtesy Eric Sherman Images.

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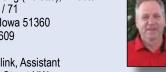
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Future of Snowmobiling in Iowa on Minds of Many

Tow fast is time going? Already another month has come and gone since the last magazine article, which is good. We are just that much closer to winter and hopefully snowfall.

I made the trip up north to Hay Days for their 50th anniversary this year with near perfect weather. The event was well attended with a record number of vendors and swappers. I visited with a number of Iowans with a wide array of questions. There

From the **President's** Lauton

is much concern about the future of snowmobile program in Iowa. We all still have our work cut out for us

yet. Everyone was encouraged to attend the annual ISSA convention coming up this November in Waterloo.

While at Hay Days, I also visited with many other snowmobilers on where to snowmobile in Iowa. Our neighboring states have been experiencing low snowfall also, and people there are interested in coming to Iowa to snowmobile. If and when we get snowfall, we need to invite our neighbors to join us in Iowa.

With trail signs being delivered to the clubs, I have been hearing of many clubs setting up dates to mark their trails, clear the trails and get equipment ready. The season is fast upon all of us. I would recommend keeping your equipment in good running order with regular maintenance and do

repairs when needed.



Merv Hoermann ISSA President optimistic.

We need snowmobilers Iowa to register their sleds and purchase their trail permits. The funds are needed to keep our trails safe, and our equipment running. I know it takes snowfall, but we are due for a good winter so be

As days go on, there are many clubs starting up their club meetings again. Please attend and bring new potential members. With low or no snowfall the past few years, we all are losing members to age and to interest. I am sure all clubs need more volunteers to help whereever needed. We all need to send out letters and cards to invite snowmobilers to our meetings, but a personal invite is best.



Courtesy of the ISSA's Early Membership and Renewal Program (EMR), snowmobilers who join or renew with the ISSA by Dec. 1 are eligible to win a five-night, two-person vacation package to The Timbers Resort on Lake Gogebic in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Valued at \$800, the trip could be yours for the price of an ISSA membership of \$15. Additionally, members who renew or join by Nov. 1 will be entered into the drawing twice. If joining through a club, the club also earns two chances at the drawing. An ISSA membership application is available on page 22 of this month's issue or online at www.iowasnowmobiler.com/issa/2017memapp.jpg.

Recruiting Younger Members May Mean Adapting to Industry Changes

I just got back from Hay Days, and it was a little different for me this time. I didn't have a swap spot this year and just went up for the day. It gave me the opportunity to see our sport from a little different perspective.

Everybody knows my daughter Isabelle. She has been going to Hay Days with me since she was little. So that wasn't anything new, but a couple things were. First, the response she got from vendors and people when she would talk to them and ask questions about their products. They wanted to know what she thought and what she wanted. They wanted her opinion because she was a young up-and-coming rider, and she was a girl. They wanted to make sure they knew what her perspective was so they could appeal to her as a consumer and the future of the sport.

I also got to see Hay Days from the perspective of a "newbie," guys who had never been to Hay Days before. They had

Vice President's Message

an excitement that I hadn't seen in most of the guys I go to snowmobile events with in years. Nathan, Wyatt, Aus-

tin and Zach were there with a pure love of snowmobiling. They had no preset thoughts on what it should or shouldn't be. I know I've said this before, but it's still out there. Those of us who have been in the sport for a while now tend to have a "well this is the way we've always done it and we aren't going to change" mindset.

This got me thinking. What can we do to get this kind of excitement back? I'll be honest. I wasn't even sure if I was going to go to the "Official Start of Winter" this year, but I'm sure glad I did. Seeing the excitement and drive in these young people started a new drive in me.

I was talking to some "veteran snowmobilers" shortly after I was in Minnesota, and they had been up there as well and their take was a little different. They told me they thought Hay Days was just full of partiers and fun-seekers and that organized snowmobiling (clubs and associations) wasn't well represented or on the minds of the average attendee.

Well, I do agree with them. That is probably true. I guess I tend to lean towards the group they were talking about. Didn't we all start snowmobiling to have FUN? Don't get me wrong. Without organized snowmobiling, we wouldn't have trails, grooming and trail signs. But we need to HAVE FUN or why do it?

Yes, it can't be a party all the time. Sometimes, we need to sit down and do work. But anyone who has come into the sport in the last 25 years has always had trails and doesn't understand what it used to be like. Unless they grew up in a snowmobile family, they don't understand



Chris Willey ISSA Vice President

the value of a club or state organization. They are a "what's in it for me" mentality, and if it looks like all work and no play, they aren't going to get involved.

I do prefer "off trail riding" in a legal manner as in mountain riding out west or ditch banging in Iowa. But even with

that, we need organized clubs and associations to protect that right. What I see needing to happen is organized snowmobiling from the smallest club to the biggest association needs to figure out how to get in touch with these "newer riders," and that means understanding what they want out of their snowmobiling experience.

We, as in organized snowmobiling, have to adapt with the changes in the industry. A perfect example of this are snow bikes. They aren't going away, guys. The OEMs are building them—Polaris has Timbersled and Arctic Cat has the SVX450—and the younger generation wants them. I have ridden with guys on snow bikes, and they don't leave any more of a track than a sled does. We need to get these riders involved and get things changed so they can be registered and ridden on our trails. If we don't, we lose riders and registration dollars, which equals less money for our program to operate and groom trails.

So I want you to consider asking someone who is a younger/newer snowmobiler to go to an event or for a ride with you. Try seeing things from their perspective. Ask them what they want to see or get out of snowmobiling. Then take that knowledge and insight and apply it to your club or organization.

Our state convention is coming up in November. Isabelle will be giving a presentation on the topic of getting the younger generation more active. Snowmobiling is alive and well, but if we don't get the younger and fun-seekers active in organized snowmobiling, I'm not sure what our sport will look like in the future.

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Director position is open. If you are interested in serving, please contact ISSA President Merv Hoermann or Region 7 Director John Kahler.







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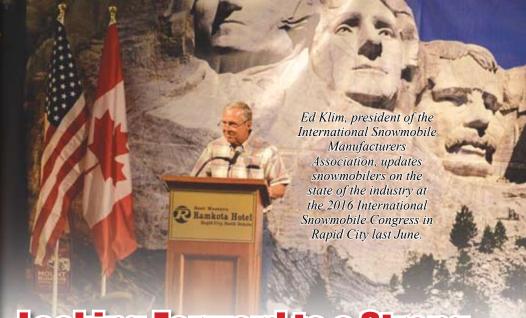












Looking Forward to a Strong Snowmobile Sales Year

by Ed Klim

President, International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association

The snowmobile manufacturers are looking forward to a strong sales year and great snowmobiling. New products at spring shows had a warm acceptance, and advanced showings and open houses are touting excellent crowd interest and deposits on new sleds.

winter This promises abundant. reasonably-priced fuel matched with a snowy winter, supported by a La Niña forecast for the Snow Belt across North America. According to weather forecasters, we can expect higher than normal snowfalls and "real winter" temperatures.

This past year, the snowmobile industry worked through an El Nino winter, which brought warmer/moderate winter climate. and low snowfall. Yet, the manufacturers realized a 10 percent gain in sales over the last five years.

The forecast for the upcoming winter season calls for copious amounts of snowfall, according to the experts. The winter forecast is welcome news for snowmobilers who are already preparing the trails, riding areas and their snowmobiles. Work has begun on trails and riding areas across North America, which are always being improved with new signs, new bridges (if needed) and care and maintenance to the overall infrastructure.

Go Snowmobiling/Take a Friend Snowmobiling campaigns are being planned and expanded as more snowmobile clubs and associations are helping introduce new riders and others to the sport each year. Visit the www.gosnowmobiling.org website to see the Go Snowmobiling/Take a Friend guide.

Recent survevs highlight snowmobilers are active outdoor enthusiasts participating in many activities, such as fishing, hunting, camping, boating, etc.

By the Numbers

Sales for 2015-16 in the United States totaled 56,006 new snowmobiles, while snowmobile sales in Canada showed 44.431 new snowmobiles sold. Sales in Europe were steady at 20,000 new snowmobiles sold. Based on new economic impact data, snowmobilers generated more than \$34 billion dollars in economic activity and supported record collection of tax revenue to local, state, and federal government agencies.

Club and association participation is increasing and supporting the snowmobiling Previously-owned infrastructure. snowmobiles are increasing in market value. The supply of used snowmobiles continues to be relatively low but yet available to the many new snowmobilers interested in entering the sport with a proven, well-maintained product.

The sale of parts, garments and accessories has been very strong as well as the sales of snowmobile-related gear, trailers, etc. Record sales of pick-up trucks in the U.S. and Canada point to a positive future for snowmobiling, since most pickup truck owners are outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy snowmobiling and outdoor winter recreation.

Snowmobilers continue to purchase hightech products for their use and enjoyment and are eagerly embracing new global positioning and communication equipment for their snowmobiles.

Snowmobilers are also very safety conscious and are improving their preparedness for a safe snowmobiling winter. A growing number of snowmobilers participate in mountain riding. With this continued increase in mountain riding, there is special emphasis on avalanche safety equipment (such as beacons, shovels, etc.) and participation in avalanche safety awareness classes.

Snowmobile dealerships are well

positioned to take advantage of the growth potential this year, and with the strong La Niña forecast, many can expect early snowfall that will last through the winter. Snowmobilers are excited about the upcoming winter. You are invited to like us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling and tell your friends too! Share your enthusiasm and visit with us on our Go Snowmobiling website: www.gosnowmobiling.org.

Walk-N-Roll for Spina Bifida Oct. 15 in Des Moines

The ISSA is inviting snowmobile clubs in Iowa to participate in the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa's (SBAI) Walk-N-Roll fundraiser Oct. 15 at 1 p.m. at Principal Park in Des Moines.

"The Walk-N-Roll is a family-friendly, non-competitive, one-mile walk and



educational resource fair that raises awareness of Spina Bifida and celebrates the accomplishments of the over 166,000 Americans living with its challenges," explained Carlyn Crowe, SBAI executive director.

The SBAI is the official charity of the ISSA. There is no fee to enter, and anyone who donates \$100 or more will receive a commemorative t-shirt. Proceeds will be used to support local community programs and services for all affected by Spina Bifida.

"The name Walk-N-Roll was selected because it embodies a sense of inclusiveness and invokes the sense of empowerment which the Spina Bifida community embraces in all that it does," Crowe said. "A belief in a better tomorrow is our vision, and the steps taken in this walk represent steps on a path to realizing that dream."

Participants are encouraged to form teams and to show their spirit by wearing coordinating apparel and carrying signs.

If you are unable to attend, donations are being accepted by mail to Spina Bifida Association of Iowa 8525 Douglas Ave. Suite 39, Urbandale, IA 50322. Please specify if your check is a general donation or if it should be applied to a team.

Snocross Racing Coming to Iowa in Early March

Sundown Mountain Resort at Dubuque will host the seventh leg of the eightrace season for the Amsoil Championship Snocross series March 3-4, according to the circuit's official website at www.snocross.com.

Releasing its schedule in September, the professional season begins Nov. 25-27 at Duluth and ends two weeks after its Iowa stop at Lake Geneva, Wis.

The ISSA officials are making plans to promote the organization and Iowa snowmobiling in general at the Dubuque event.

"We are going to want to have an ISSA presence there," ISSA Vice President Chris Willey said in announcing the race stop to the ISSA Board of Directors. "There will be a lot of people coming into Iowa for



this event, and it will be a good captive audience for us."

"This will be good exposure for the ISSA, and it's nice to see these type of events still coming to our state," added ISSA President Merv Hoermann. "We just need to pray for snow so they can have it here."

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Reduction in Regions Proposed to Help ISSA Conduct Business

Membership to Ratify Changes at Waterloo in November

by Cameron Hanson

Poor attendance at board meetings and the absence of directors in the land the absence of directors in the bottom tier of the state are forcing ISSA officials to consolidate regions and redraw boundary lines south of Interstate 80.

The ISSA Board of Directors has not had an elected director from Regions 10

2016 ISSA Convention **Preview**

through 12 for the past two years, leaving just nine regions with active representation.

In order for the ISSA to conduct its business at monthly meetings, eight directors and elected officers are needed at roll call to constitute a quorum. When that majority fails to materialize, the board must move into a "committee as a whole," and any action taken must be approved by the board at its next meeting when a quroum is present.

The latest example of that situation came at the August board meeting, thus prompting the board's discussion to merge regions. The move is designed to reduce the number of directors needed to create a quorum, and if approved, officials feel they will be able to better serve its constituents more effectively.

8 7 6 11 10

"The biggest reason we are looking at this change is what we just went through last month," ISSA Vice President Chris Willey explained during a special online meeting Sept. 18. "We need to make sure we have a quorum each month."

Since its inception, the ISSA has been divided into 12 regions, the directors for which are elected at the ISSA Annual Convention in November. Odd-numbered regions hold elections in odd-numbered years and vice-versa for the even-numbered regions. Terms last for two years.

Since 1995, the regions have been defined by the current boundary lines. Borders basically follow major highways and state lines, and the density of the regions and clubs in Iowa mirror that of the annual snowfall coverage for the state.

Hugging the Minnesota state line from west to east, Regions 1 through 5 represent 38 of the ISSA's 60 member clubs in the top tier of Iowa from Highway 20 north. Four regions represent 14 clubs south of there to I-80, and eight clubs belong to Regions 10 through 12 in the area stretching south to the Missouri border.

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



Officers & Directors from **Even-Numbered Regions**

W/hen:

ISSA General Membership Assembly ISSA Annual Convention, Nov. 19

Where:

Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center, Waterloo, IA

By-Law Change Required

Past President Dick Melick, chair of the ISSA's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and By-Laws Committee, has been tasked with drawing up three proposals to eliminate two of the southern regions. His suggestions were distributed electronically to the board prior to its webinar last

In some form or another, each proposal erased the boundaries south of I-80 and either lengthened Region 6 or Region 9 to the south or widened Region 10. The board will vote on the proposals at its Oct. 9 board meeting, and the ISSA general membership will be asked to ratify the new regions at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo Nov. 19.

"The by-laws are going to have to be changed at the annual meeting to show we have 10 regions instead of 12," Melick explained. "The boundaries are defined in the SOPs and can be changed at any time before the election."

In the meantime, the board appointed Aaron Dorothy, president of the Southeast Iowa Ridge-Blasters, Region 12 Director. According to Willey, Dorothy is aware the area he will be representing may be doubling or tripling in size in the very near future.

"Some of these proposals that we have been considering are going to tax some of our region directors because they are going to be a large area to cover," Willey said. "Aaron is going to have some travel time in there, and he realizes that."

Region 6 Director Gene Gerdes did not respond too favorably to the proposal which doubled his region to the south. He represents only one club in his area, and he said it makes more sense for his Region to merge with Region 1. "We are only a few minutes away from that boundary anyway," he said.

During discussion, ISSA President Merv Hoermann urged the board to redraw region boundaries based on county lines instead of major highways. "We've been doing it that for as many years as I can remember in Region 1," the former Region 1 Director said. "We have always gone by county lines because the highways normally cut the counties in half. Why don't we just keep them together?"

"It really comes down to a gentleman's agreement," said Willey, whose home club, the Snow Pioneers, jumped from Region 9 to Region 5 seven years ago based on its members' proximity to the northern region. "If a club is close enough to another region's boundary and they feel they are better served from a different region, they can do that."

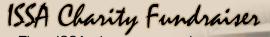
Ironically, the host city for this year's convention is a prime example where the dividing highway may not make the most sense as a region boundary, at least not in the northern third where Highway 63 splits Waterloo down the center.

Closer to the Minnesota state line, though, the highway does work nicely as a border where the trail from the Howard County Stumpjumpers from Region 4 connects to the trail from the Driftrunners of Region 5 just north of Davis Corners.

Saturday Morning Decision

The by-law vote on the region reduction and boundary changes will be held during the annual meeting Saturday at 9:35 a.m. at this year's convention. As detailed in the tentative agenda at right, the motion will be preceded by opening remarks and region meetings and director elections.

The 2016 convention returns to the Five Sullivan Brothers



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

The Chippewa Flowage resort is working with the ISSA on its charity raffle prize of a three-night, six-person vacation package valued at \$990.

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

The winner will be drawn at the November ISSA convention.



Nov. 18-20, 2016

Five Sullivan Brothers

Convention Center, Waterloo

Tentative Agenda

FRIDAY, November 18

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

"Snowmobile Iowa" Club Showcase setup Show-N-Shine and Snow Show setup

7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Hospitality

SATURDAY, November 19

8:15 a.m. to 10 a.m. Convention Registration 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ISSA Snow Show Opening Remarks

8:50 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Region Meetings/Director Elections 9:35 a.m. to 11 a.m. General Membership Annual Meeting

11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Lunch w/Lobbyist Update

1 p.m. Silent Auction opens
1 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. ACSA Update
1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. Snowmobile lowa
2 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Youth in Snowmobiling
2:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. IDNR Open Forum

5 p.m. Social Hour

6 p.m. Silent Auction Closes

6 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m.

Awards Presentations, Drawings,

Quilt Raffle & Grand Raffle Drawing

9 p.m. Entertainment

SUNDAY, November 20

9 a.m. ISSA Board Meeting

Convention Center, which last hosted the event in 2011. Clubs from Region 4 are coordinating the effort, and Region 4 Director Scott Nauman is serving as chair.

He is joined on the planning committee by fellow ISSA legacies Chris Willey and Brian Carmichael. Also assisting are Andrea Willey, Brent Nauman, Dennis and Carol Nauman and Sally Carmichael.

Based on their success at Dubuque in 2014, the Willeys are handling the Snow Show portion of the weekend, although securing vendors has become a bit of a challenge following two subpar snowmobiling seasons in Iowa.

"We're not getting a lot of responses back from people who attended our show two years ago," Chris Willey said. "What we are hearing is that a lot of them are not doing anything this fall because of the last two dismal winters. People are just not interested in doing it."

While last year's Snow Show at Dubuque had to be cancelled for similar reasons, Willey said this year's Nov. 19 show will take place regardless of vendor participation.

He said two local dealers have been secured for the day, and at least one groomer manufacturer has expressed interest in coming.

He said there will be plenty of showroom floor for the Club Iowa showcase as well as a Show-N-Shine sled dispaly.

"We are adding a few different elements this year to utilize this area," Willey said. "Clubs are invited to come set up booths and showcase their trails, and inviduals are encouraged to bring their vintage sleds or tricked-out rides for the show."

The adjoining Ramada Inn is serving as the host hotel for the weekend, and room rates appear on the convention registration form at right. Please note room rates are not included with the registration fees.

The convention opens Friday at 4 p.m. with setup and registration followed by hospitality at 7 p.m. Registration resumes in the morning at 8:15 a.m. followed by the business meetings. Seminars continue in the afternoon followed by the banquet Saturday night.

The planning committee has asked each region director to bring items for the silent auction, and Chris Willey said his first order of business as president will be to resume having ISSA board meetings the Sunday morning of convention weekend. The ISSA had moved away from this tradition to accommodate workshops from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources on those Sundays.

Bids to host the 2017 convention are due at the October board meeting. At least two clubs have expressed interest in hosting.

For more information on this year's convention, contact Scott Nauman at (641) 425-9898. For information on the snow show or to reserve space, contact Andrea Willey at (563) 920-4398. Clubs interested in a Snowmobile Iowa booth need to fill out the form below.



Club Showcase Nov. 19, 2016 • 9 - 5 Five Sullivan Brothers **Convention Center** Waterloo, IA

Attention, ISSA Clubs: Showcase Your Trails, Generate Membership. Sign Up for a Booth Today. It's Free. Award for Top Display!

Please RSVP by Nov. 1. Electricity Extra. To register, fill out form below.

Snowmobile Club Region Contact Person ____Email Phone Address

State

Please include \$45 for electricity if required.

Mail completed registration form to:

ISSA Convention c/o Sally Carmichael 1216 Ashworth #4 Cedar Falls, IA 50613

For more information, contact Scott Nauman at (641) 425-9898 or sdnauman@gmail.com or Brian Carmichael at (319) 215-5006 or snohawk68@gmail.com.

43rd ISSA Annual Convention Nov. 18-20, 2016 **Five Sullivan Brothers Convention Center, Waterloo** Registration Form Name: Address: City:_____ State: ____ Zip: ____ Phone: _____ Email: Snowmobile Club:

Check all that apply:

Early Bird* Registration by Nov. 1: \$55/person

Organization:

Full Registration after Nov. 1: \$65/person

Friday only Registration: \$15

Saturday only Registration: \$50/person

Youth Registration: \$30/person (under 12)

*Early bird registrants eligible for special drawing!

Full Convention Registration Includes:

- Friday night hospitality and entertainment
- · Saturday lunch
- · Saturday afternoon seminars
- · Saturday evening banquet, awards ceremony & entertainment

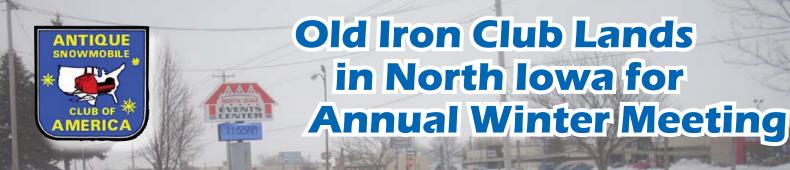
Please Note: Registration fees DO NOT include lodging. For hotel rooms, contact the Ramada Inn at (319) 233-7560. Be sure to ask for the ISSA rate of \$79.95 plus tax. Block of rooms will be held until Oct. 28.

Mail completed form and payment to:

ISSA Convention c/o Sally Carmichael 1216 Ashworth #4 Cedar Falls, IA 50613



City



by Cameron Hanson

ike most snowmobilers. Aaron Kelly of Tipton can remember the first snowmobile he ever rode and

the first snowmobile he ever owned. Both machines—a 1971 Scorpion and a 1974 Polaris respectively—were older than he was, but they were equally as fun and ultimately sparked in him a passion for antique sleds.

"We fixed the machines as often as we rode them, but we loved it," recalled Kelly, now 39 and a member of the Cedar County Winter Warriors in Region 12. "We later bought a John Deere and thought we had the world by the tail. It was quite an improvement. I then got a Polaris on my own in trade after powerwashing a farmer's farrowing house."

That labor deal as a teen would serve as the first of many barn finds he would eventually encounter over the next two decades as embarked—somewhat unknowingly-into a hobby of collecting and restoring more than 20 vintage snowmobiles. His next discovery would lead the Charles City native even deeper into the world of antique machines.

"I always had old sleds around that were simply just riders to me, but a friend looked me up one day and sold me a 1964 Polaris Comet that was sitting under a tree on



Aaron Kelly on his 1958 Polaris Trailmaster O-13 at the ASCOA Winter Meeting in Pequot Lake, Minn., in 2014.

a property he was cleaning up," he recalled. "It was so prehistoric and crude and unusual to me that I did not even know what I had for sure."

Kelly said that acquisition "is the reason I learned to use the Internet," as he began to research the old iron and search for its missing parts. Along the way, he met others with similar interests, including Jon Dorman of Exline and Russ Willis of Illinois, and they helped guide and further his journey into this eclectic and self-funded hobby.

"In the process of learning about that sled and others and finding

Antique Collectors Relocate to Mason City last **January**

parts for them, I have met some good friends along the way," he said.

Returning to lowa

Kelly eventually joined the Antique Snowmobile Club of America (ASCOA), and after serving as the organization's secretary, he recently replaced

Dorman as the club's director in Iowa. This past January, he and other club members met in north Iowa for their annual Winter Meeting. The last time members were in Iowa was for their Summer Meeting in West Des Moines in 2011.

The club had settled on Clear Lake for its 2016 location and date in conjunction with the Jack Helgren Memorial LeMans Vintage Races Jan. 15-16, but that annual event was delayed a month due to unsafe ice conditions out on the lake. Because of existing travel arrangements for most of its members, the club decided to continue on with its annual meeting as planned and relocated activities to the North Iowa Fairgrounds in Mason City.

Former ASCOA President Valdi Stefanson gave a lot of credit to Kelly for his efforts in keeping the club meeting on track in spite of the Jack Race postponement. "This one didn't go off as planned, but we all owe a debt of gratitude to Aaron for pulling it all off," Stefanson said of the weekend's "Plan B."

"It was a real bummer for myself as well as the other club members to not be able to be a part of the Jack. It would have been great exposure for our club," Kelly said. "We did have about 20 members still attend that weekend and take part in our events, for which I am grateful. I hope in a few years to try to make this work again with the Jack Race."

Representing Collectors Worldwide

According to club officials, ASCOA's biannual meetings provide their members—now at 2.600 worldwide—a chance to reunite and show off their antique sleds. In the winter, the weekends are more popular because members have a chance to actually ride the machines on which they spend the rest of the year wrenching.

"Our meetings bring us together twice a year," Stefanson explained. "The winter meeting is usually more fun because we get to demonstrate the old iron. Our summer meeting tends to be a static show with our annual general membership meeting to elect officers, set policies, etc."

At the fairgrounds in Mason City last winter, members

participated in "exhibition runs" around the front lawn of the North Iowa Events Center. Despite a Saturday afternoon high of only two degrees, all of the antique sleds started up, including Don Hamilton's 1965 Sno Bug. Hamilton, who succeeded Kelly as ASCOA secretary, hauled that conversation-starter 850 miles from Guelph, Ontario.

"Now that thing really drew stares from spectators and club members alike," Stefanson said.

Bookending the day were a membership meeting in the morning and a trip to the historic Surf Ballroom that night for the annual banquet. "Truly impressive, most of us spent the evening looking at the pictures on the wall and reading the stories," Stefanson said of their off-site excursion to Clear Lake.

Formed in 1976

The ASCOA is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year. The organization was founded in 1976, according to its website, "to preserve and restore the early snow machines and to help promote wider acquaintances, closer relationships and to aid members in their preservation, restoration and demonstration efforts."

According to Stefanson, who serves as ASCOA webmaster, the club "leads the way in promoting and preserving the rich heritage of the early days of snowmobiling." The club defines an antique snowmobile as any machine manufactured in 1968 or earlier. A vintage sled would be considered 1969 to 1985, and 1986 to 1995 is called a "classic."

Kelly thinks these definitions may be starting to hurt membership in the ASCOA. As newer sleds reach classic and vintage status and as vintage racing grows in popularity, people are looking for the sleds they used to own as kids in the 1970s. Collectors who started out in the antique category are also "slowly aging out of the hobby," he said.

"Our club has been suffering from a slow decline in membership





ASCOA Secretary Don Hamilton on his 1965 Sno Bug.

over the years, and we are trying to find new ways to bring younger members in," Kelly noted.

Graduating from high school in 1995, Kelly would be considered one of the younger members of the ASCOA. He encourages others from his generation to catch the bug as he did 20 years ago. While he realizes it is a niche market, he hopes others find the aesthetics and mechanics of the antique machines as appealing as he has.

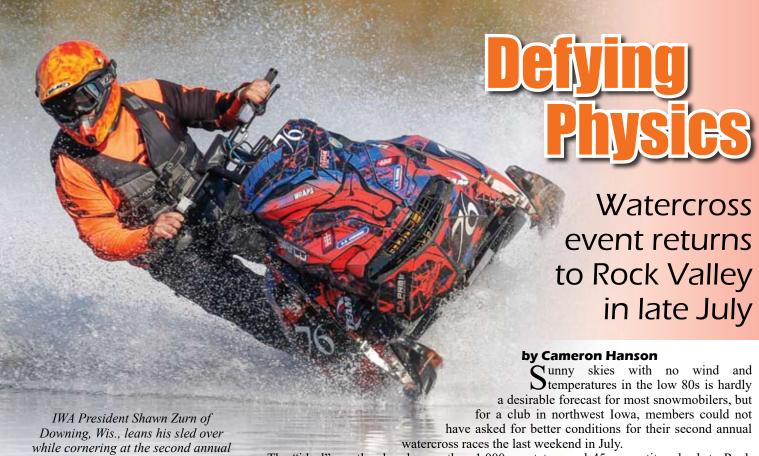
"I have always loved antique equipment. I will walk right past a Corvette to look at a Model T so the antique sleds fit right in for me," he said. "To many, these sleds are just some cool old machines that are funny to watch driving around, but to others, they are neat old machines that are fun to figure out. I've found that anyone who likes any type of machinery enjoys looking them over, even if they have never been on a sled in their life."

At one time, Kelly amassed a collection of 25 antique snowmobiles in varying stages of restoration. Due to time and family commitments, he has thinned the herd to about seven "running riders," including his favorite, a 1958 Polaris Trailmaster O-13. Testing them out on the fields next to his house, his machines are always a head-turner to passing motorists, and they continue to be a crowd-pleaser when he takes them to various events.

"I could spend all day letting strangers drive them around at shows, and every one of them will come back with a huge smile on their face," he said. "As old and unusual as they are, these machines are very capable and get around very well, albeit slowly. They are easy to work on and are very reliable as long as you do your maintenance. Most of the moving parts are either available at the local farm store or can be fabricated fairly easily."

For information on the ASCOA, visit its website at www.ascoa.





Rivers Bend Shootout.

The "ideal" weather lured more than 1,000 spectators and 45 competitors back to Rock Valley for the 2016 Rivers Bend Shootout at Rivers Bend Campround on the northwest edge of town. For the second year in a row, the Sioux County Snowmobile Club of Region 1 has

sponsored this unique race on one of the park's three man-made ponds.

Sanctioned by the International Watercross Association (IWA), the two-day event featured drag races, oval qualifiers and a shootout on Friday, July 29, and oval racing all day on Saturday. Kyler Carpenter of Stacy, Minn., won the Pro Stock class, and David Fischer of Eagan, Minn., took home the Pro Open title.

Fischer is the son of Jeff Fischer of SledHead 24-7 fame and who also raced that weekend. Another noteworthy competitor was Scott Martinson of Ramsey, MN, a paraplegic who finished third in the modified drag races on Friday, as well as IWA President Shawn Zurn of Downing, Wis.

First-time racer and Sioux County club vice president Jesse Wynia of Sioux Center also joined the show, finishing fifth in the 800 drags and 10th in the Semi Pro Stock Final. A part-time snowmobile mechanic in the area, Wynia plans to join the IWA circuit full-time next summer.

"I've been following the races for a while now, and they talked me into a building a sled this year," said Wynia, owner of Project Mayhem Power Sports in Sioux Center. "Now that I'm racing in the series, everyone knows I'm in it for the long haul, and they appreciate that we jumped in. We've already started planning for next year."

Wynia's small-engine repair shop has sponsored the GOH watercross team from Wisconsin for the past five years, and that connection is what led the Sioux County club to hosting the event in Iowa the past two years. While still in its infancy, the club is hoping to build the Rivers Bend Shootout into a mainstay on the circuit and double its attendance going forward.

"If you have never seen this type of racing before, it is very action-packed," Wynia said in promoting the off-season attraction. "You don't know what's going to happen around each turn. I've been around oval dirt track racing for years, but this type of racing is so much different because you are not stuck to the ground. If you mess up on a corner, you are going to get wet."

Planning Started in January

With a year under its belt already, planning for the 2016 shootout brought very few surprises with it. The club secured its date in January and began raising funds, signing up sponsors and advertising the event right away. The City of Rock Valley again embraced the races, and the weather was ideal, noted club member and race organizer Kelly Roder.

"You couldn't have asked for anything better. It was a perfect weekend," he said.

The race date for the shootout was a full month earlier than 2015, which did create some scheduling conflicts as a country concert in nearby Cherokee that same weekend

Photos courtesy Eric Sherman Images.



Fighting for position.

competed for the local crowd. Families taking summer vacations was also a consideration at that time of year, but the club was still pleased with the turnout.

"Out of 13 weekends in a summer, there seems to be something going on all the time," Roder said. "We took our chances and did get a better crowd this year. Word is starting to spread. We spent a lot of money in advertising and did draw in a pretty good number of people from Minnesota and South Dakota."

Pulling campers with out-of-state plates, spectators arrived from as far away as Nebraska and Rapid City, and competitors came from as far north as Ely, Minn., and Ashland, Wis. Besides Wynia, nearly all of the racers were from Minnesota and Wisconsin. Roder did chat with visiting club members who were attending the races to gauge their level of interest in hosting a similar event back home.

"This type of racing gets people thinking," Roder said. "If you love snowmobiling, you need to find ways to do it all year round."

"This is so different than what most people think snowmobiling is," Wynia added. "It completely defies anything you have ever believed about snowmobiles. They are not supposed to be able to ride on water. The competition is incredible, and the whole IWA group is just awesome. They appreciate everything you do for them."

Having a local racer competing in the event also helped to create a buzz in the community, Roder said. In the weeks leading up to the races, Wynia would test and tune his race sled on a sandpit pond near the campground, and the sound of his machine turning laps on the water would often break the quiet calm of a summer

"That generated a lot of interest in town," Roder said. "People started talking about this event early on. It's been a big deal for our area, and we've had a lot of support for it. With the amount of effort that goes into an event like this, if you had to fight for every inch, the pressure of it alone would make you fold up."

Rescue Pontoon Back in Service

Wynia hopes his participation in the races this year will help inspire other local snowmobilers to join in the fun. While most professional riders modify their sleds with shorter skis and narrower suspensions, he said stock sleds can maneuver around the liquid course just fine.

"The biggest modification is to seal up the engine compartment to make sure water doesn't seep in and to make sure you have crank drain plugs so you can drain your motor in case you sink it,"

he said. "If I do it put in the water, it only takes me 15 minutes to get my sled up and going again."

Built for the inaugural event in 2015, the club's "sled retriever," a converted pontoon boat with a platform, open bow and winch, was again put in service this past summer to recover sunken sleds. Per IWA rules, each sled is equipped with a marker buoy to aid in the recovery process, and all premixed gas is contained in a small, leak-proof tank to prevent water contamination.

"There's only enough gas in the tank to run eight laps so the environmental concerns are very minimal," Wynia said. "A jet-ski lets out more of an oil slick than one of these sleds does."

Wynia and Roder said the snowmobiles competing in the races can reach speeds in excess of 70 mph, and many can outmaneuver a personal watercraft. Roder said he is amazed at the talent of these riders and the performance of the sleds.

"People really don't understand what it takes to set a sled up so it can ride on water," he said. "Having to navigate and maintain speeds to keep it afloat is pretty exciting. Everyone expects a snowmobile to run on ice or snow but to see it on open water is impressive."

Leave Your Coat at Home

Besides the excitement on the pond, race organizers feel the warm weather makes their event more appealing for spectators over other forms of snowmobile racing at other times of the year.

"For our races, you don't have to get all bundled up in winter gear to come out and enjoy the show and stay warm," Roder said. "Here, you can show up in your shorts, sandals and t-shirt and come and go as you please."

Looking ahead to next year, Roder and others are identifying ways to keep the crowd engaged throughout the entire weekend. They want to extend Friday night events further into the evening, shorten the intermission on Saturday, potentially add a powersports swap meet and increase vendor participation.

"We have our basis figured out. Now, we're just trying to find ways to build on it, get more going with it," Roder said. "It's just going to take a little time to get it all together. Getting the word out takes a lot more effort than you think, but overall, it has been a successful event for our club."

As identified last year, the club eventually hopes to use the proceeds from the races toward a down payment on a new groomer. So far, gate money has been reinvested in advertising and



Watercross competitors launch from the beach at the campground. The racer on the right is Scott Martinson of Ramsey, Minn., a paraplegic who is featured on page 16.

promotion, but members hope to reach their fundraising goal within the next five years.

"It's going to take a while to get there, but eventually, we hope we can start to pull in the dollars we were hoping to get from the beginning," Roder said.

"Raising funds for a new groomer is still the purpose behind this event, but we know the first couple of years here are going to be the testing ground to make sure we can pull it off," added Wynia. "As long as we can make a little bit of money doing it, we hope it will get bigger and bigger every year."

If anyone is interested in learning more about the sport or in building a watercross sled, Wynia said he is more than willing to help out. He can be reached at (712) 441-0934.



Jesse Wynia, vice president of the Sioux County Snowmobile Club, finished 10th in the Semi Pro Stock class in his first attempt at watercross. In the background is the club's rescue pontoon.



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, eliteautodoug@hotmail.com

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

yon County Sno-Lyons

P.O. Box 576, Rock Rapids, IA 51246 President: Walt Dibbern 902 1st Ave, Rock Rapids, IA 51246 (712) 472-3804, waltdibbern@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: Dee Jay Kellen 23657 Marble Ave., Le Mars, IA 51031 (712) 540-5723, dkellen91@yahoo.com

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

mmet 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

uth 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, kbonnste@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

(641) 425-2790, iowariverriders@yahoo.com

Iowa River Riders President: Al Muhlenbruch 206 Highway 3, Alexander, IA 50420





ISSA GLUBS

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

lowa 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

President: Brian Carmichael 14784 290th St., Aplington, IA 50604-9368 319-215-5006 snohawk68@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: Cory Allspach 4016 Round St., Cedar Falls, IA, 50613 (319) 404-2878

Floyd County Groomers Association

President: Philip Schrage P.O. Box 7, Marble Rock, IA 50653 (641) 397-2775, schrage@windstream.net www.floydcountygroomers.webs.com

Howard County Stump Jumpers

President: Nathan Hale 4145 Hillcrest Dr., Riceville, IA 50466 (641) 985-2699.

Mitchell County E-Z Riders, Inc.,

President: Keith Popp 1408 Pleasant St., Osage, IA 50461 (641) 732-3625, keith@poppexc.com

REGION FIVE

Allamakee Sno-Blazers

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

Asbury Snowhawks

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

Clayton County Snowbirds

12469 Hwy. 18, Postville, IA 52162 President: Mark Bries

21352 Highway 18, Monona, IA 52159

(563) 539-4555, mbconstruction@neitel.net



Paraplegic Watercross Racer **Inspires Others on Circuit**

by Tamara Horton

Brainerd Dispatch Reprinted with permission

Tever one to back down from a challenge, Scott Martinson, a Ramsey man with paraplegia, dreamed of racing his own skipper in watercross drag races.

In 1998, at the age of 22, Martinson was involved in a snowmobile crash that left him paralyzed. An avid motorsports fan, he didn't want to give up the things he most enjoyed.

"Scott is the kind of guy who reminds me every day how simple my problems can be," said friend and fellow racer Jerry Tongen. "He reminds me of what perseverance is and what it can do."

With a shop at his home, Martinson enjoys building things and keeping them running. He also has been an employee at Polaris Industries for the past 12 years.

"Scott is very mechanically inclined," his mother Susan Martinson said. "He even made his own grill out of an old engine."

Determined not to let anything stand in his way, Martinson used his mechanical inclinations to guide him. He decided in 2015 to build a customized 2010 Polaris IOR 800cc fully modified engine, which he raced at the Brainerd International Raceway (BIR) Wet and Wild Watercross Drag races June 10-12. A few years prior, he built a sled, but sold it before he could race it.

"I didn't know if I could do it," he said.

Although his family encourages him, Martinson said they are all concerned, but that is part of racing.

"They support me with it, but they don't care for it all that much."

Martinson along with a host of racing companions have spent time trying to build the perfect machine that would allow him to race uninhibited.

"The only thing different with my sled from everyone else's is that I have side guards on it so my feet won't fall off," Martinson said. "Jerry (Tongen) gave me the idea of cutting an old snowmobile tunnel and using that being it has a nice round edge. After doing that, I used the backside (heel) of a water ski binding for a foot stop."

Martinson also had to adapt the seat a

"It's an old snowmobile seat I cut up to



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

- ISSA Board of Directors meeting Oct. 9 at 9 a.m. Location TBD.
- 2017 ISSA Convention bids due Oct. 9.
- Frozen Few Snowmobile Club grass drags Sunday, Oct. 16, at 9 a.m. at Palo.
- Spina Bifida Walk-N-Roll Saturday, Oct. 15, at 1 p.m. at Principal Park, Des Moines.
- · Central Iowa Snowmobilers grass drags Saturday, Oct. 29, at 8 a.m. at the Marshall County Fairgrounds in Marshalltown.

November

- Trails Unlimited Membership Drive Nov. 4 at the Zipper, Festina.
- · Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club grass drags Saturday, Nov. 5, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. at Todd's Airfield, Ankeny. Proceeds benefit the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa.
- Western Iowa Tourism region meeting Nov. 16 at Oakland.
- 43rd Annual ISSA Convention Nov. 18-20 Waterloo.
- ISSA Grand Raffle drawing Nov. 19.
- ISSA Board of Directors meeting Nov. 20 at 9 a.m. at the Ramada Inn, Waterloo.
- Driftrunners Toys for Tots Drive and Kick-off Dan Nov. 26 at 8 p.m. at The Place, Protivin.

December

Early Membership Renewal drawing Dec. 11.

fit on my sled and cut out the center so I could put a wheelchair cushion in it," he

He credits his crew of fellow racers namely: Aaron Godeen, Gabe Godeen, Nick Gustafson, Tongen and Justin Gully for helping him achieve his goal of racing his first watercross this year. He also thanks his sponsors Rapid Marine, Marty's Fabrication Shop, IWA and Special Cutting Tools for assisting in his efforts.

"Scott's the guy that you can always count on," said long-time friend Aaron Godeen. "He's been a huge help with my racing and building my sled. He handles everything with a smile."

Proving to himself that it was possible,

Martinson placed second in the first race of the event in his division at Wet and Wild. However, in the second race he placed last and blew up his engine.

"I had issues with a piston skirt which wrecked the motor," said Martinson.

When discussing what he enjoyed most about his experience racing at BIR, Martinson said: "Just the fact that I can do it."

His goal is to eventually race ovals with his skipper. At this point, Martinson feels he needs more practice at turning before he commits to that.

Editor's Note: At Rock Valley, Martinson finished third in the modified drag races.

2016 ISSA Club Challenge

Webster County Ice Breakers	\$1,100
Wapsipinicon Śnowmobile Association	\$1000
Snowmobilers of Jackson County	\$750
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club	\$500
Eastern Iowa Sledheads	\$500
Mitchell County E-Z Riders	\$500
Tri-County Snowmobile Association	\$376
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	\$350
Snow Pioneers	\$350
Floyd County Groomers	\$300
Clay County Sno Broncs	\$301
Bremer County Sno-Knights	
Dickinson County Snowhawks	\$250
Chickasaw Sno-Riders	\$250
Humboldt Sno-Skimmers	\$250
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks	
Palo Alto Rough Riders	\$150
Driftrunners	\$200
Snowdrifters	\$100
Allamakee Sno-Blazers	\$100

Send your contribution to your Region Director or turn in at the 2016 ISSA Annual Convention in Waterloo Nov. 18-20.

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Clubs in red reported 100% ISSA Membership

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

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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

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Frozen Few

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County Snow Chasers

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Snowmobilers of Jackson County

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

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Stag Island Skol Patrol

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

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1241 Jackson Áve., Tipton, IA 52772 (319) 325-6021, jerrymeier2040@gmail.com

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

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cott County Sno-Seekers

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Snowdrifters, Inc.

P.O. Box 5135, Coralville, IA, 52241 www.iowa-snowdrifters.org President:Jeff Wardenburg 1745 Radio Rd, Marion, IĂ 52302 (319) 331-1651 Jeff.Wardenburg@Titanmachinery.com

outheast Iowa Ridge Blasters

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

Region 5

Cresco Driftrunners

by Bob Martinek, Treasurer

Hello from Cresco. I would like to start out asking for everyone's help. I know the excessive rain and flooding this summer will have created some or many trail "issues". First off, we need to know what's wrong before we can fix it. Please contact me or any board member and let us know. Better yet, everyone is welcome to help when we do trail work. Watch on Facebook for details. Remember "many hands make light work"!

Club News

Now to move on. We have finalized the details on our Kickoff /Toys for Tots Dance. It will be Saturday night, Nov. 26, from 8 p.m. to midnight at "The Place" in Protivin. Mark (the owner) is really excited to be hosting us. We have a DJ booked and will be asking for an unwrapped toy or cash donation at the door. All toys and cash will then go to Community Action to be passed out

before Christmas. Anyone is welcome to donate, just drop your toys off at The Place or Cresco Chamber office.

Lastly, plans are progressing nicely for the 46th Annual Snow Fest Jan. 26-29. We have booked the band "Troubleshooter" from Rushford, Minn. Yes that's right "Troubleshooter"! I know many of you have heard them before and know how good they are. Spread the word. They play Saturday night Jan. 28 at the Expo in Cresco from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Oh and one more to remind everyone. Charlie's Chili Feed will be on Feb. 11. Until next month, thanks for now.

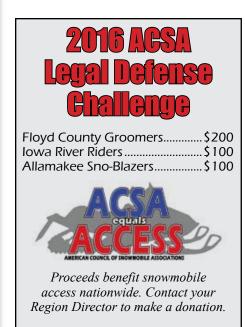
Trails Unlimited

by Bud Winter

It was a quiet summer for Trails Unlimited, but at the time of this writing, we've had our first meeting and have things ready to go for the season! Our club will get things going with our annual chicken dinner and membership drive Nov. 4 at The Zipper. Jan. 28 we will have a club family ride followed by a brick oven pizza party hosted by Duane Hageman. April 2 will be our landowners' appreciation breakfast and fundraiser. Lastly. we will try to have a poker run when snow allows.

Like many clubs, we will most likely have some creek crossings to address when we can get to them. With all the heavy rains and flooding in our area this year, there are bound to be some newly discovered headaches. A couple stretches of trails need some tree trimming, but it shouldn't be too bad of a project. We can only hope that this wet summer will carry over into a wet winter.

Of course, we want a lot of snow for riding, but we need to get the revenue up again via registrations and trail passes. It still amazes me how many people don't understand the concept of our trail passes or think they cost too much. Iowa is still a very inexpensive place to ride! Many members of our club would love to be able to backpack around Iowa rather than head north to do it. With all of the work clubs do to connect trails with one another, it only makes sense to take advantage of the opportunity.





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Join the ISSA Today!

If you enjoy the sport of snowmobiling in Iowa, you are not alone. In 2016, more than 23,000 sleds registered with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and more than 50 clubs around the state maintained an 8,000-mile trail system.

The glue that bonds us together is the Iowa State Snowmobile Association and its network of 2,347 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

there would not have been any night riding, ditch riding nor access to state parks. 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) as well as a complimentary accidental death and dismemberment insurance policy. In order to receive the full \$3,500 benefit, though, please list each family member in the space provided.

Thank You!

Iowa State Snowmobile Association 2017 Family/Single Membership Application



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Iowa State Snowmobile Association

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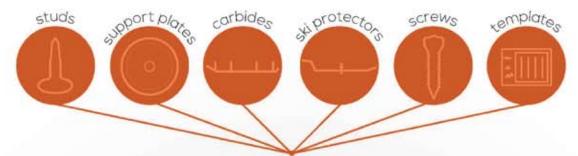
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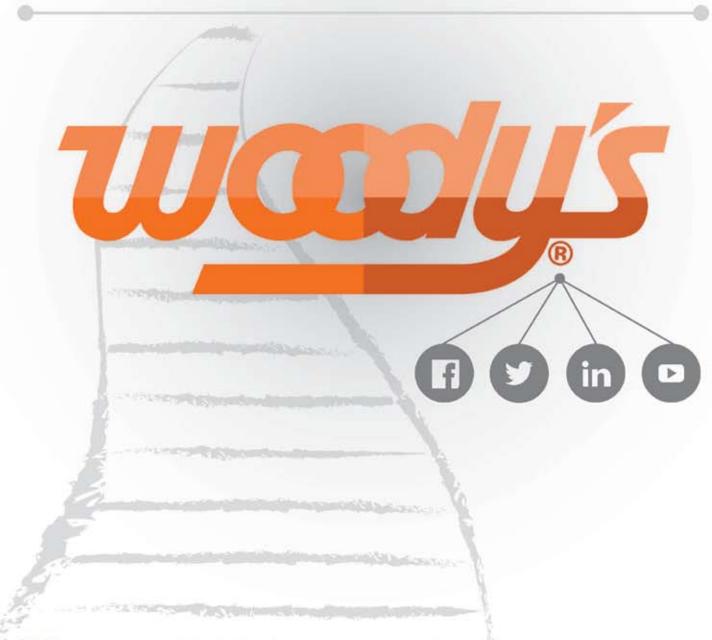
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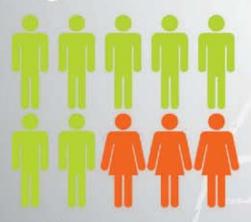
This data was gathered from ISMA at www.snowmobile.org and is based on the 2014-15 season.



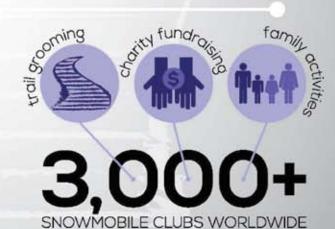








APPROXIMATELY
OF
SNOWMOBILERS
ARE MALE; 30%
ARE FEMALE





U.S.A. \$26 Europe 8 Russia

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