# THE SOUTH DAKOTA SNO PLAINSMAN

**March 2023** 



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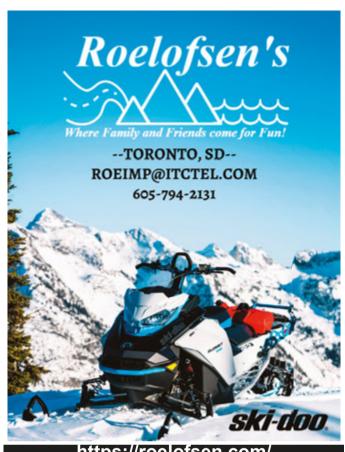


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# From SDSA's President



Duane Duerr Brandon, South Dakota

Wow, what a great year for Snowmobiling!! As I look forward to the weekend, I need to choose what event I am planning to attend. It is great seeing all the activities each of the clubs are having.

In January our club rode in the Black Hills and the snow was great. Many of us stayed at Recreation Springs and they were awesome to work with. We rode from Mountain Meadows to Cement Ridge, it was great!! We attended the Rusty Nutz Vintage Show at Trailshead Resort with over 122 vintage snowmobiles showing. It is great talking to the owners and learn-

ing the story behind the restore sled. I believe that knowing where we came from as an industry is important in steering where we go. Ask that Vintage sled owner his story, it may surprise you!!

I had the opportunity to ride in the Parkston Poker run. Well run event with 71 hands sold and great trails. Our 5-year-old and 4-year-old Grand Daughters came along and enjoyed the ride. They enjoyed playing darts at one stop to bouncing on inflatables at another stop, Great Event!!

I am continuing with club visits, and it is great hearing the events the Clubs are planning. Some with guaranteed payouts on poker runs and having excellent turnouts, Others with Charity rides, Memorial rides, Radar Runs and Family events. I have also had the opportunity to do two Snowmobile TV interviews about snowmobiling.

Interlakes Snow Roamers a Club that 2 years ago only had 3 members, last year had 28 members is continuing to grow. They hosted a really great Vintage show and swap meet at Hillside Resort on Long Lake. The had 101 sleds, with Kids Couch rides and hot dogs and smores. What a great showing!!



SnoCross in Deadwood was another great event, Friday we added more snow to the Hills and Saturday was cold. It was great having plenty of people helping with the event. This year it was at Deadwood but will be coming in March to Huset's in Brandon. I am expecting great attendance. SDSA will have a tent so stop and see us!!

"With Snow Lets Grow" This year is the year as clubs we need to be growing our membership!! Don't forget to ask fellow snowmobilers to join. We have a lot to offer snowmobilers and their support

helps us maintain the trail system and grow your CLUB!!

"With Snow Let's Grow"

SDSA President Duane Duerr



### SDSA OFFICERS PRESIDENT

Duane Duerr

26618 481st St Brandon, SD 57005 605-310-8437 evergreenacres@hotmail.com

### PRESIDENT-ELECT Kelly Weaver

3600 Rolling Meadows Drive Aberdeen SD 57401 605-216-1564 jkweaver4@gmail.com

### PAST PRESIDENT Greg Nordstrom

5508 W 37th Sioux Falls SD 57106 605-929-4175 sdsnow181@gmail.com

### SECRETARY/EDITOR Mary Anne Grabow

P O Box 206 Gary, SD 57237 office:605-272-5900 cell:605-881-1943 sdsa@itctel.com

### TREASURER Diane Hiles

604 Root Ave SW DeSmet, SD 57231 605-203-0059 dj.hiles@hotmail.com

### DISTRICT 1 DIRECTOR

position open

### DISTRICT 2 DIRECTOR Mike Boock

13696 Mountain Beaver Way Rapid City, SD 57702 605-484-5681 mikeboock@hotmail.com

### DISTRICT 3 DIRECTOR Lee Olson

39277 107th St Frederick SD 57441 701-320-6252 lee.olson@greenironequipment.com

### DISTRICT 4 DIRECTOR Tracey Erickson

21260 452nd Avenue Arlington, SD 57212 605-651-3461 terickson1213@gmail.com

### DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR Pat Hanten-Duerr

26618 481st St Brandon, SD 57005 605-351-8362 evergreenacres@hotmail.com

### DISTRICT 6 DIRECTOR Jason Shepherd

1205E. Kemp Watertown, SD 57201 605-881-5507 shepherd\_57226@yahoo.com

### DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR Trace Damm

19833 450th Ave Lake Norden, SD 57248 605-203-1594 Trace.damm@hotmail.com

### YETIS DIRECTOR Jediah Smith

Hazel, SD 57242

### TRAILS PROGRAM SPECIALIST Ryan Raynor

1301 Farm Island Rd Pierre, SD 57501 Office (605) 773-2888 Cell:605-280-6953 Ryan.Raynor@state.sd.us



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# South Dakota Snowmobile Advisory Council

Chairman: Bruce Hintz 21377 Snowshoe Lead, SD 584-3336

Vice Chairman: Al Nagel 1324 3rd Ave SW Aberdeen, SD 57401 Phone 228-5574

> Todd Sprang Box 112 Hayti, SD 605-881-8214

Todd Wilkinson P O Box 29 103 Joliet Ave DeSmet, SD 57231

Scott Erstad Box 126 Badger, SD 57214 203-0022

Gary Ulmer 43230 290th Street Menno, SD 57045 Phone 387-5695

Dave Kennedy 825 W King Street Spearfish, SD 57783 Phone 569-0323



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SDSA OFFICE P O Box 206 Gary, SD 57237 Phone (605)272-5900

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#### District 1

Sturgis Sno-Drifters
Cody King President
phone# 605-209-5474
Meetings vary

#### District 2

#### Director: Mike Boock

Black Hills Snowmobile Club
Chet Thomas, Phone 605-415-2593
bhsnowmobileclub@hotmail.com
Meetings on 1st Tuesday of each month at
7:30pm (come early for food!)
Meeting Place: Rice's Rapid Motorsports,
3337 E. Mall Drive, Rapid City. SD 57701

Mile High Snow Drifters
Duane Stanley, President
508 S 16th
Hot Springs, SD 57747
605-745-5626
2nd Monday of Oct, Dec, & Feb 7 p.m.
Lintz Brothers Pizza in Hermosa

#### **District 3**

Director :Lee Olson

Aberdeen Driftbusters

President Casey Weismantel
Club address:
P O Box 204

Aberdeen. SD 57401

Meets 1st Thurs. 7:30 pm meeting place varies www.aberdeendriftbusters.com

Jim Valley Snowmobile Club

Club address: P O Box 604 Redfield, SD 57469

Meeting first Mon. Chrystals 7 pm New members welcome

<u>Day County Trailblazers</u>
Zack Bremmon, President
402 E 11th Ave
Webster SD 57274
Meeting 2nd & 4th Thurs 7:30 pm VFW

#### District 4

Director: Tracey Erickson
Hand County Sno-Goers
Nathan VanZee, President
club address: P O Box 153
St. Lawrence, SD 57373
1st Friday of each month at 8 p.m.
St Lawrence Fire Hall

Great Plains Snowtrailers

Vince Jager, President 605-350-8991 PO Box 526 Huron, SD 57350

Meetings 1st Thursday of Month - places vary.

Town & Country Snow Drifters

Jamie Hohm President 43048 186th St Willow Lake SD 57278 Meets 3rd Wed 8 p.m. Places to vary

#### District 5

Director: Pat Hanten Duerr
James Valley Drift Skippers
Keith Crago, President
605-996-9002
P O Box 272
Mitchell SD 57301
Meets 2nd Thurs. 7:30 p.m. at Blarneys'
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SnoTrackers of Sioux Falls
Duane Duerr, President
26618 481st Ave
Brandon, SD
605-310-8437
Meets 1st Thurs 7 p.m.
Brandon Steakhouse
www.sfsnowtrackers.com

Trailbusters Snowmobile Club Gary Ulmer, President 387-5695 Meets 2nd Saturday 7:30 p.m. Clubhouse trailbusters. org

#### Dakota Ditch Rippers

David Scheetz, Jr, President Club address: P O Box 802 Parkston, SD 57366 2nd Thursday

### District 6

Director:Jason Shepherd
Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Club
Roger Hansen, President
P O Box 543 Milbank SD 57252
RSHansen@tnics.com
wvsnowclub.com
Meets 1st Mon 7 pm Speedway Bar
Milbank

Watertown Snowmobile Club Jason Shepherd, President club address: P O Box 1715 Watertown, SD 57201 1st Sunday Cloud 9 5 p.m.

Northeast Trail Blazers Club Brian Steen, President Sisseton, SD 57262 meetings held 2nd Tues Places vary www.netrailblazers.com

#### District 7

Director: Trace Damm
Dakota Trail Blazers
Brent Jeppesen, President
P O Box 43 Clear Lake, SD 57226
Meets 3rd Friday 7 pm Places vary

Poinsett Pounders
Josh Raw, President
45486 194th st, Lake Norden, SD 57248
612-616-1972
www.poinsettpounders.com
poinsettpounders@gmail.com or josh@rawfamilv.net

Meets @ 7:30pm 1st Wed of the month

Valley Rough Riders
Julie Westberg, President
102 Complex
White SD 57276
690-0691
Meetings and times vary

<u>Dakota Drifters Snowmobile Club</u> Greg Spiering, President 605-690-5671 www.dakotadrifters.org Meets 2nd Wed @ The Lodge Bar & Grill

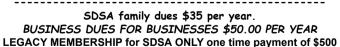
Brookings 7 pm

Interlakes Snowroamers
Shawn Martin
24106 461st Ave
Chester SD
martinsj@itctel.com
Meets 1st Tuesday 7 p.m. Hillside Resort on

Lake Madison

ATTENTION SDSA CLUBS:

If the information about your club is incorrect, PLEASE let me know. Send me an email at sdsa@itctel.com or a text at 605-881-1943



Name	Spouse's Name
Mailing Address	
# in family	

The Legacy memberships is for ONE PERSON only - and DOES NOT include Club Dues!!!!

City/State/Zip	
Phone#	
Email Address	

### From SDSA's President-Elect

Kelly Weaver, Aberdeen, SD

I have never considered myself much of a salesperson but we all know it is easier to 'sell' something that is important to us. We can easily speak about the topic and all the ways it is good. Selling SDSA and your club should be that easy too.

As a member of SDSA, you are in the know! You know how important organized snowmobiling is to the continuation of our sport. You know all the good things that come with being involved with SDSA:

- Local clubs that support local trails and snowmobile activities like radar runs and poker rides
- Safety courses
- Business discounts for members
- Awards to recognize the efforts of snowmobile volunteers
- A statewide magazine and communication platforms for sharing snowmobiling events and activities
- Scholarships
- Youth engagement and leadership activities (YETIS)
- Support for fellow snowmobilers who are suffering a hardship
- Collaboration with the Snowmobile Advisory Council providing funding support for trails and safety programs
- Best practices for trail signage and maintenance
- Awareness of legislative activities and support for keeping public lands open to snowmobiling
- Collaborative work with snowmobile manufacturers and other state and provincials associations

That's a great list of the good things about this organization that supports snowmobiling. Even if you are not a salesman, it's pretty easy to 'sell' SDSA and your local club. You are in the know, and it is up to you to share the knowledge. All you need to do is strike up a conversation with a fellow snowmobiler to let them in on the secret. That's a lot easier to do when you are out on the trails or at local events where you cross paths with other snowmobilers. These snowmobilers may not know the local club or SDSA exists, let alone all the good things they provide. Share your knowledge and make it known how they can benefit. Let them know how important their support is to maintaining snowmobile access not only locally but on public lands in other places where they ride. Let them know how easy (and inexpensive) it is for them to 'be in the know.' See you on the trails,

Kelly Weaver SDSA President Elect

Governor's Ride Photo: Rep. Scott Odenbach and his wife Laura with Jim and Kelly Weaver and Gary Ulmer. Photo provided by Kelly.







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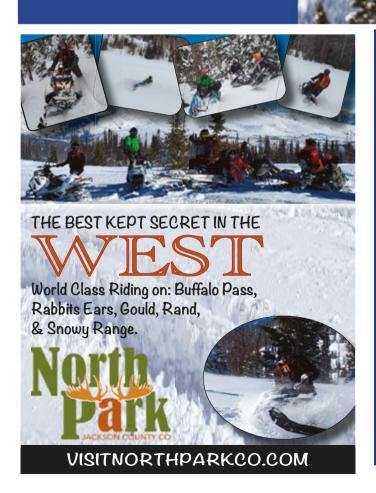
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### Trace Damm, District 7

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are all taking advantage of the Winter we are having, at least in my area. I took part in a cold, but snow filled Poinsett Pounder Kitty Kat race/Poker Run. With the cold we were experiencing we did everything we could to make it comfortable and enjoyable for the kids. We blocked the little wind with trailers and had heat and hot chocolate available inside. With the excitement of seeing the z120 going in circles, I'm not sure the kids realized how cold it actually was. It was a team effort to get it set up and I want to thank everyone who helped and was involved.

Recently I was lucky enough to take a trip to Steamboat. Lucky enough to hit a 57" storm right before we arrived, conditions could not have been any better. We had a big group of 8

riders and it was awesome to see everyone understanding and respecting snowmobile safety. Every morning one guy would go ahead and wait for each one of us to drive by and make sure our beacons were turned on. Probes, beacons, radios, shovels, and avy bags were our top priorities. Climbing hills we were one at a time and stayed away if it didn't look safe. All great practices of what we preach every time we think of safe snowmobiling. Day 1 and 2 we were in untouched snow and over the hood deep, days we all dream of. Day 3 everyone showed up to the party and things got tore up fast, but all in all a great trip with great friends. Maybe I'll think about sneaking in one more trip, of course only if Bre says its ok......well let's be honest, its usually the night before and I start the conversation as I'm packing, "oh by the way, we're leaving tomorrow..."Till Next Time, Trace Damm

Photo is Eric stuck!

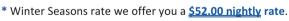








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### Mike Boock, District 2

Hello snowmobilers!

It's hard to believe that the snowmobile season is already coming to an end. I definitely have not been on my sled enough! It's been a busy month with the Snocross races in Deadwood, the BHSC Radar Run, and the Governors Ride. The Snocross is always a fun event but man is it cold standing there for 10-12 hours a day! I would much rather be riding to stay warm. I want to thank everyone that came up and helped me get n the booth this year! That was the most help I've had in years. Thank you! If you have any ideas as how to get more people into our booth and registered, I would love to hear them. There are a lot of people that attend these events, but not too many that stop and see us.



The radar run was a huge success this year. We ran a shorter 660' track that really tightened up the competition. It slowed the speeds down quite a bit which is a lot safer as well. Congratulations to my nephew, Corbin Boock for getting King of the Ice with a speed of 98.8 mph! I believe he was going to break the 100 mph mark his last run, but he broke his chain and was done for the day. There were a few others in the high 90's but they just couldn't quite catch him. Lastly, I want to thank everyone for attending the Governor's Ride. This event is always a huge success thanks to all the support from your clubs. Thanks for making the trip out and enjoying a great day on the snow. The BHSC provided another great breakfast for the group. Thanks everyone! Next the BHSC are off to their annual trip to Dubois. Hopefully the snow will be great and the weather will cooperate. I've heard the snow is looking great all across the state. It's great that everyone is getting to ride their "local" trails. Thanks to all the groomers and volunteers that put in the trails. You guys and gals are awesome. So I guess the theme of this article is "Thank you"! These clubs don't work without each and every one of you. Keep up the great work and know that you are much appreciated. Until next time... keep riding and stay safe.

### Jason Shepherd, District 6

Hello from the Northeast. I hope everyone has been out on the trails this year. The snow has been very good. It was very nice seeing everyone at the races last weekend in Deadwood. It was also nice to catch up with some of the racers and crew guys also. It snowed all weekend while I was there so it sounds like the snow should be very good for the Governor's ride this weekend. Some of the clubs in the northeast here have been doing poker runs and some have them coming up. Hope everyone can



get out and enjoy the trails while doing the poker runs and also support the local clubs. Until next month remember snocross at husets on March 3rd and 4th. Hope to see everyone there and also put on the trails.



### Traczy Crickson, District 4

The Eyes are Upon Us...

"Watching You" Lyrics by Rodney Atkins Driving through town just my boy and me With a happy meal in his booster seat Knowing that he couldn't have the toy 'Till his nuggets were By then I'll be as strong as superman We'll be just alike, hey won't we dad When I can do everything you do Cause I've been watching you

I started with the lyrics to this song in my article, to remind each and every one of us how important it is to set a good example. We often complain about how our youth are not involved in the sport of snowmobiling and the organization but as adults in our clubs I need to ask how much are we doing to actually get them involved and show them how to be a leader. Not by doing it for them but instead allowing them to "Learn By Doing" (the 4-H Motto). Yes, it takes patience but when youth are asked to step up and be involved with defined expectations I think you might be surprised how willing they are to help when simply asked.

My other reason for including the lyrics to this song is to ask "what kind of example are we setting for our youth and others as snowmobilers? Are we respectful of landowners and good stewards of the land when we are enjoying the great outdoors? This past month I have heard and read about several complaints regarding trespassing and littering from landowners and caretakers of our public trails concerning these issues. Thus, I ask that we look to within first and be respectful of landowners and public lands before it is too late. As the saying goes, "when you point the finger at someone else, remember there are 3 pointing back at yourself". It only takes one bad actor to give all of us a bad name. So don't be afraid to speak up and make the right choice. You never know who might be watching you.

On a lighter note, I am looking forward to a couple of upcoming trips to the Black Hills and Alpine, Wy. Brian and I will be attending the Governor's Ride and the upcoming Mountain Riding Group Meeting & Ride. So if we don't see you at one of these events, stay safe and continue to share your concerns and ideas with us as board members. We look forward to seeing you along the way

All the best, Tracey

gone

Green traffic light turned straight to red
I hit my brakes and mumbled under my breath
His fries went a flying and his orange drink covered
his lap

Well then my four year old said a four letter word That started with "s" and I was concerned So I said son now where did you learn to talk like that He said I've been watching you dad, ain't that cool I'm your buckaroo, I wanna be like you And eat all my food and grow as tall as you are We got cowboy boots and camo pants Yeah we're just alike, hey ain't we dad I wanna do everything you do So I've been watching you We got back home and I went to the barn I bowed my head and I prayed real hard Said lord please help me help my stupid self Then this side of bedtime later that night Turning on my son's scooby doo nightlight He crawled out of bed and he got down on his knees He closed his little eyes, folded his little hands And spoke to God like he was talking to a friend And I said son now where'd you learn to pray like that He said I've been watching you dad, ain't that cool I'm your buckaroo, I wanna be like you And eat all my food and grow as tall as you are We like fixing things and holding mama's hand Yeah we're just alike, hey ain't we dad I wanna do everything you do So I've been watching you With tears in my eyes I wrapped him in a hug Said my little bear is growing up And he said but when I'm big I'll still know what to do Cause I've been watching you dad, ain't that cool I'm your buckaroo, I wanna be like you And eat all my food and grow as tall as you are







### **Beyond Tragedy: A Legacy Continues**

For Johnny and Audrey Rider and their two children, snowmobiling is more than just a fun family hobby, it's an opportunity to develop future leaders.

In 2016, while attending the International Snowmobile Congress, the Riders, long-time members of the South Dakota Snowmobile Association (SDSA) met a youth snowmobiling club from Michigan. Known as the KAOS Kids, these young snowmobilers inspired Johnny and Audrey.

"They were impressive young leaders," said Audrey. "They presented to the entire Congress on safety and mentorship and how being a member of the KAOS Kids positively impacted their life. This was an opportunity we wanted for South Dakota's young snowmobilers as well."

The couple worked with Jon LaFramboise, President of the SDSA to launch the YETIS program –

Youth Empowerment through Involvement in Snowmobiling as part of the SDSA. The program combines passion for snowmobiling with practical leadership training, including presentation skills, parliamentary procedure, and safety training. Mentorship of younger riders is also a cornerstone of the program. YETIS participants even network with members of the legislature during the annual Governor's Ride.

"With Jon's support and leadership, the program expanded across the state and grew to include an ex-officio YETIS member on the SDSA board," said Audrey. "It was our YETIS board member who inspired our shift to virtual safety training. They bring a new perspective and understand how best to sustain the organization for the next generation."

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Tragically, Jon LaFramboise lost his life in an avalanche on March 12, 2022, while snowmobiling in the Sierra Madre mountains. "It was such a loss to our South Dakota snowmobiling family," said Audrey. "Jon had done so much, particularly for our YETIS participants, we had to continue his legacy."

In consultation with Jon's wife Sheridan, the Riders created the Youth Empowerment Through Involvement in Snowmobiling Scholarship Fund in Memory of Jon LaFramboise at the Watertown Area Community Foundation. The fund will award an annual scholarship to a graduating student involved in the YETIS program. The fund has received numerous gifts in honor of Jon and continues to grow as word spreads through regular SDSA member publications.

"We are grateful that Jon's passion and commitment to youth snowmobilers continues with the YETIS Scholarship Fund," said Audrey. "He loved snowmobiling and I know he would be proud that children who also share this passion for the sport will have additional opportunities because of this scholarship fund."

The YETIS – The YETIS program combines passion for snowmobiling with practical leadership training. YETIS participants are eligible to apply for the YETIS Scholarship in honor of Jon LaFramboise.



### Pat Hanten-Duerr, District 5

The Good Lord has blessed the east side of South Dakota with snow this winter. It is fun to have 12–15-inch base of snow to ride on the trails on many weekends. The Sioux Falls area has lots of snow piles for children to play on for the 1st time in many years. I do not remember the last time the Sioux Falls area has more snow then our fellow snowmobilers to the north.

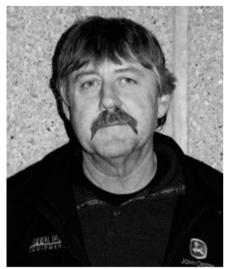
It is great to see so many snowmobilers riding in poker runs and doing family fun events, that eastern South Dakota clubs are hosting. This is the perfect year to ask other people that you know that are snowmobilers to join SDSA and your club. Also, a good year to try get many businesses

in your area to become an associate member.

Snow will disappear fast when the weather starts to warm up, so enjoy the snow while you can!! Have Fun in the Snow Now. Also, mark your calendars to come to Sno Cross at Husets Speedway the 1st Weekend in March.

Photo is Pat on the Governor's Ride.





### Leg Olson, District 3

Returning from a great weekend in the Hills at the Governor's Ride, I am writing my article on the trip home. Since my wife doesn't want to drive and pull the trailer, she has to type so I assume she will have editor rights to what shows up in the article.

We would like to thank the Black Hills snowmobile club for making breakfast at the Governor's ride, it was awesome! Also, thanks to the legislators in attendance, the forestry personnel and of course our infamous Game, Fish and Parks team as this event would not be possible without all of you. A subgroup will be reviewing how to continue to promote snowmobiling to our legis-

lators and how to improve future Governor ride events. If you have suggestions or ideas, reach out to your District Director with input.

While we enjoyed 300 miles of snowmobiling on beautiful snow and weather conditions, there was an accident that involved a rental sled, a youth and our friends. It was a reminder to us of how important safety is. As members of SDSA and our local clubs we have a responsibility to role model safety and to help educate others so we can continue to be proud of our sport as being one that is fun and safe for all to participate in. Snowmobiles are not toys and can lead to death or injury. Please help to make snowmobiling safe, educate your family members and friends that are planning a snowmobile vacation on the rules —wear a helmet, ride to the right side of the trail, slow down when meeting other sleds and in blind corners, don't stop in the middle of the trail, pull off to the side, ride at a safe speed, know your hand signals and stay on the trail when designated. Snowmobile safety courses are available online and are free to SDSA members. If you haven't taken a course, have a youth just starting to ride or want to refresh your safety awareness, check out taking a safety course. SDSA also has a safety trailer and simulator available, let us know if you want to have this at one of your events!

I see clubs have been hosting several events including poker runs, radar runs and fun events. It has been a great year of snow statewide to get out and promote our love of snowmobiling. Be safe and have fun!

Finally, we are looking forward to the upcoming SnoCross races in Sioux Falls the first weekend in March. Plan to stop by the SDSA booth and say, "hi".

P.S. The groundhog did say 6 more weeks of winter, right?!



### On the Trails

### Ryan Raynor, Trails Specialist

Happy 2023 Everyone! I hope you started off your new year with a couple planned snowmobile trips to the hills, you've kept up with your new year's resolutions (I didn't) and we take advantage what always feels like a fresh start.

Very happy to report snow conditions are way better across the state, especially in the Black Hills, then this time in 2022 and 2021. We had a wonderful Veteran's ride which I'll talk more about later, it looks like we'll have



great snow conditions for the Governor's Ride and people are flocking to the hills to catch up on a few low snow years.

On the eastern side of the state, it may turn out to be one of the best snowmobiling seasons ever. I've never seen so many grooming rotations from all the trail systems, over a longer period as I have seen this year. For those of us that live east river, you know what normally happens. You get a good snowstorm to roll through, gives you a couple grooming rotations over a 2 or 3-week period and then warm weather ruins everything to the point where you are starting all over again. Very few seasons have all clubs getting to one grooming rotation and this season has all clubs performing multiple grooming rotations and grooming over half of the season. We've also had some breakdowns in various locations that have caused grooming to stop over a 2 to-3-week period. Clubs have done a great job getting parts ordered and their groomers up and running as soon as possible so people can enjoy a safe trail ride. Huge thanks to all our groomer operators who are going out two to three times a week to groom your whole trail system.

We had just over 20 veterans from our 3rd annual South Dakota State University Veteran's Snow-mobile Ride. Game Fish and Parks and the Snowmobile community have been partnering with the SDSU Veteran's Affairs Office to provide this opportunity for 6 years now. The first year we were a little in coordinating so while we met the group at Hardy Camp and talked about our operations, we couldn't get on the trail. After two successful years of getting on the trail, we had two years of

not meeting due to covid and low snow conditions. We were all excited to provide this opportunity for once again. Weather was perfect, the trails held up for a great day. Another shoutout to the members from the Brookings club who show up every year to make sure our group sizes make for a good mix of experiences snowmobilers with folks who have never ridden before. They also help pick up and drop off sleds and take a lot of worry out of GFP folks who are talking to the group about program operations.

Happy New Years from everyone here at Game, Fish and Parks and we'll see you next time!





### Diane Hiles, SDSA Treasurer

### CHARITY REPORT Due April 1, 2023

The International Snowmobile Council (ISC) gathers information from clubs across the Snowbelt States and Providences to showcase the efforts snowmobilers take to raise money for charities and to capture the dedicated volunteerism snowmobilers have. The information gathered is valuable in promoting the good of snowmobiling and is often used when making our annual visits to the Hill in Washington DC.

This year's report, which is due April 1, will cover the period of April 1, 2022 to March 30, 2023 and will encompass the total amount and/or hours donated to Major/National Charities, Local Charities and the total number

of Volunteer Hours from your club members. As this is written, we are yet to receive the 2023 report to know for sure if additional information will be requested. Last year we were asked for specific trail and maintenance information so expect to have similar reporting components. Once we have that information, club contacts will be made aware via email and the form will be posted to the SDSA Website, under "Forms".

Within the form, we will provide suggestions of charities and volunteer activities that have been captured in the past. While this can be a guide, please report whatever activity your club has been involved during the reporting period. If you have any questions on what should be included, please do not hesitate to ask. Once this form is completed, you are asked to please email it to Diane Hiles at dj.hiles@hotmail.com. Please submit your completed report at your earliest convenience, however, please no later than April 3rd so that we can compile the results and in turn submit to the ISC Charity Report Committee.

If you are an SDSA Only member and you have some volunteer hours or made charitable contributions, please report that to either Mary Anne at the office or email me directly at di.hiles@hotmail.com.

### Note to SDSA Officers and Board of Directors:

We will want to capture the amount of time you have spent on SDSA Leadership activities and events you attended on behalf of SDSA. This would include time traveled to board meetings, club meetings, dealer open houses, committee work, etc. We want to include this time as well on SDSA's report. You can complete the form accordingly or send me an email with your detailed information.

South Dakota can be very proud of the charity work that our clubs and our individual members are involved with across the state. Each club has something to report with all of the Poker Runs, Radar Runs, and grooming and trail maintenance there has been this snow season so we should have no problem getting a report from every club. Let's take credit and get credit for all that SDSA members and clubs accomplish during the year. We have 22 clubs (YETIS included), let's have 22 Charity Reports. Let's get 100% reporting!!!

Thank you all for everything snowmobilers do in the name of Snowmobiling and SDSA!! Diane Hiles Charity Committee

### **Trailbusters**

The Trailbusters have been quite busy this winter...in a good way. We started getting snow in our area shortly before Christmas, and unlike most recent years, it stayed and was added to! Riders from all over the area have been enjoying 72 miles of freshly groomed trails ever since. We are grateful to have many club members who are willing to share the grooming duties as it involves late nights and early mornings at times.

We've had nice turnouts for monthly meetings and hosted a cold but fun poker run the last weekend in January. 1st place was won by Angie Henderson. 2nd place went to Creed Gravely, and 3rd place went to Michael Hoffman.

The first weekend in February brought our annual club ride to Mallo Camp in the Black Hills. Shannon Percy and his crew always seem to make sure the trails are in top condition for riders to enjoy.

Our next meeting is March 11. The club will provide sloppy joes, taverns, and bar-b-ques (depending on what part of the state you are from). Please bring a side or dessert to share.







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### **Dakota Drifters**

Well the trails in the Brookings area have been great this season, thanks to our dedicated crew of groomer operators. Walt, Darrin, Dave, Greg, Eric, and Lynn, you guys rock, Thanks for all the hours you have spent in the groomer! This last weekend we held our Annual Charity/Poker Ride, and a huge thank you goes out to everyone who came out and rode on Saturday! We had over 80 riders hit the trails, and the weather was beautiful. We had riders come from Sioux Falls, Aberdeen, Toronto, Milbank, Madison, Iowa, and many other areas. We would like to send out a special thank you to our SDSA President Duane Duerr and his group for attending. Through the silent auction items and the poker ride we were able to raise close to \$3000 this year for our Charity, Sleep In Heavenly Peace. Thank you to everyone who donated time and money to make this annual event possible. S.H.P. does wonderful work in our local area building and donating complete beds to kids who need them. If you get a chance please look them up, they are a great local organization that always needs donations and our volunteer help. Thank you to all of the Associate Sponsors/Ride stops for supporting SDSA and our local club ride in 2023, Lucky Dog, Valley Mart and Valley Restaurant, Midway Camp, Brookings Powersports, The Lanes, Lemke's Bar, Aurora QuickStop, Bushnell Garage, The Ridge, Jay Street Pub, Corner Gas and Goodies, Lefty's Bar, Skyview Junction, and Elkton Municipal Bar, we sincerely appreciate your help with our ride. And thank you to all of our other Associate sponsors who weren't stops but still spend their funds to help snowmobiling in SD year after year.

Charity Ride results:

Natalie Hanten - Won the Dathan Lamp Memorial Trophy for youngest rider. Jenni Kindt was the 50/50 board winner.

Kyle Proedahl (1st), Rod Brandenberger (2nd), and Bob Winter (3rd), had the winning hands for the poker ride.

Dave Miller had the winning auction bid for the John Green limited edition framed

Our next meeting will be help Feb. 8th at The Lanes in Brookings. We will have several more monthly meeting coming up this spring, along with our club banquet in April. We are discussing holding another poker ride towards the end of February, keep an eye on our FB page for more info. The Dakota Drifters club has also submitted a bid to possibly hold the 2024 state SDSA snowmobile convention in Brookings.







### Watertown Snowmobile Club

Happy Winter from the Watertown Snowmobile Club! It's so nice to see that pretty white stuff all around the NE! Many of our club members have taken multiple trips already with more scheduled. The Governor's Ride this weekend will have a crew attending from Watertown, then a bunch leave for Colorado and also the Bug Horns.

We held our February meeting Sunday the 5th at Cloud 9. Our Radar run is tentatively going to be held March 11th South of Cloud 9 in Steve Wess's field, watch for flyers and facebook info! Our Poker Run was held Saturday, January 21st and we had a nice turn out. Thank you to all who attended and helped put on the event. We had 39 riders considering a little chilly and very foggy that day. Winners included 1st place to Jordin Jurgens, 2nd place to Bruce Cozad and 3rd place to Nathan Sowers and well as donated prize winners: goggles from Glacial Lakes won by Jason Shepherd (Ruby Bruns), Gift Certificates donated by Evolution Power Sports won by Steve Wess and Mitch Hanes. (pictured)

Not a lot else for news from the club side, will hopefully have more next month as some will be back from trips with some fun pictures and information from other areas. Take care and ride safe! Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 5th at Cloud 9 5pm!

Reporting Amy Sowers

1st two pics riders leaving for Poker Run, last one the winners



# C

### **Town & Country**

Hello fellow snowmobilers,

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B

This month has been pretty good for snow and snowmobiling if you ask us. Jalen got to ride her snowmobile to school a couple times. She had a blast riding on the trails she got to help groom with her dad. She had a nice ride to school with her group of friends and her guardian angel, Jakob. Caden got to ride his sled around as well and had a great time. Some members of our club also attended the Poinsett Pounder Event, where they had a great time. They got to watch little kids ride around a little track and develop their love for snowmobiling. We have the Dakota Drifters Charity Ride and Governor's Ride coming up as well. It is great to have all these events to keep the snowmobiling sport alive. We hope that as we continue to grow so does the snowmobile population. We hope to see you all on the trails.

We are sharing a few pictures of club members and their recent snowmobile adventures.

Love,

Jalen Hohm and Caden Hojer

N

Jalen Hohm riding FourLakes Trail system, eastern SD 2023.

Below:

JayZee Hohm riding FourLakes trail system, eastern SD 2023.

E

W

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### **Great Plains Snowtrailers**

Hello from the Great Plains Snowtrailers,

We finally have some snow and can ride!!! Our club was super excited had we were able to have two club events this month. We held a poker ride on January 7th. We left from Big D's in Huron, with stops at DJ's Travel Center in Huron, the Office Bar in Cavour, the

Chop Stop in Iroquois and the Red Zone in Yale. We had a good turn out and all went very well. We were also able to get a few new more club members added to our club. Thank you to all that attended. The second event was our yearly club ride in the Black Hills on January 14th. We had 11 people for the weekend. It was good snow and we had a blast. We are all already looking forward to next year.

Our February meeting was held on Thursday, February 2, 2023. We talked about the possibility of hosting another poker ride in March if we get more snow. Everyone has such busy schedules it is hard to get a date set so we decided to wait and see if we get more snow – so hope for more snow. Several of our club members will be attending the Snocross at Huset's Speedway in first part of March. That sounds like a lot of fun.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 2nd at the Scoreboard in Huron

Brenda Jager Great Plains Snowtrailers

Photo below is the winners of the poker run.





# C

### **Interlakes Snow Roamers**

L

On February 5th the Interlakes Snow Roamers hosted the Hillside Resort Vintage Show on Long Lake south of Lake Madison. The weather was great, and the show was well attended with 102 sleds signed up for the show. Five awards were present for best of show and 3 new members joined the club. The youth enjoyed Couch rides on the Lake as they had a couch on skis being pulled by a snowmobile as seen below. It seldom stopped, granddaughter took three rides on it and wanted more. They also had Hot dogs, chili, Smores while Hillside had a tent serving Burgers and more.

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The Sno Traveler pictured below is a 1956 Polaris serial number 4 from Minnesota. The owner, his Daughter driving it, has restored it to like new condition and has much of the paperwork for the sled. When built Polaris went to the Hardware store and bought an engine to put on it. It has a ohn Clinton

to the Hardware store and bought an engine to put on it. It has a 9hp Clinton engine and is belt driven. Although sought after by many it is not for sale. Many of the serial number before have been lost or destroyed. There were 6 built and one is in a museum, the rest are gone. It is a must see and I really enjoyed talking to them about the sled.

The John Deere Spitfire, I took a picture of because it was the first sled this writer owned. How did I ever fit on it? The new sleds are so much bigger. This one was in excellent condition. The Suzuki Sled is owned by Tim Smith and is in Mint condition.

The peoples choice award winners were: Mike Dossett, Gina Lemley, Jay Shank, Lance Dossett and Darin Netf. Congratulations to those that won, thanks to everyone that voted!!

The Interlakes Snow Roamers have a meeting this Tuesday evening at Hill-side resort.

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James Valley Driftskippers
The new trail from Mitchell to Tripp is being used alot. Dakota Ditch Rippers had

The new trail from Mitchell to Tripp is being used alot. Dakota Ditch Rippers had a poker run. Had a really good turn out. We have had lots of snow here so been lots of riding.

C

In January we made it to the Rusty Nutz snowmobile show and ride. They had a really good turn out to. We got lots of riding in, rode Spearfish canyon and it was a great day for that. My grandson got to ride his Kitty Cat all over and did win youngest driver in the show.

Spring will be here before we know it and we hope for more snow. So get as much riding in as you can.

U









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### **Sioux Falls Sno Trackers**



Wow, what a year with Multiple Events every weekend. In January our club had a Fun and Family Fun Day in Garretson at the Houg Residence. Thanks Johnny, Kristen & Family for hosting!! There was a field next to their Shop for everyone to ride. An enclosed Snow Scoot was provided for youth to ride in be-

hind a sled, it never stopped all afternoon. Hot dogs, Chili, Hot Chocolate, water, and pop were provided with plenty of sleds for everyone to ride. The event was well attended.

On weekends we have had the opportunity to ride several other trails. Some of the groups have gone up to Brookings and rode their Trails, while other went to Tripp, SD and rode in their Poker Run. It is great having snow in every area.

We have completed our local Trail Map in Conjunction with Interlakes Snow Roamers to show our trail and recognize our Associate members that help support us and the Trail System. On February 4th Steve's Bar in Trent has a Poker Run, February 5th Interlakes Snow Roamers has a Vintage Show, Governor's ride ins on February 10th & 11th and On February 25th is Baltic Bar & Grill Corner 1st Annual Jarvis Brende Memorial Ride. He was a snowmobiler killed by Hartford, SD.

On March 3 & 4th is the 1st SnoCross at Huset's Speedway, the snow has been hauled in and snow machines are making snow as I write. This should be a great event in our area. SDSA will have a tent their and Sno Trackers will help with it.

For the 2023 Convention we are working on A painting idea that builds on the Convention theme "Snowmobiling brings Family, Friends and Fun" We have committees appointed and plan on meeting at the Ramkota to Discuss how to best use the space to put on a great Convention. See you all in 2023!!



Club Reporter Duane Duerr



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### Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Association

February is already here, it doesn't seem possible another month has come and gone. The Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Club has again been busy. The guys have been busy grooming the trail on a regular basis. With the amount of snow we've had, the trails have been great. We could use a couple of inches of new snow before next weekends Mega Poker Ride, but even if we don't get it we are expecting a better turn out this year, due to actually being able to ride snowmobiles this year. The Ride starts at 10:00 a.m on Saturday February 11th. We would like to thank all of our participating businesses including, MacDad-

dys in Big Stone, Johnny's, The VFW, and Triple C of Milbank, The Wharf and SoDak Supper Club of Big Stone Lake, Ol' Gunslinger's of Twin Brooks, Wildlife Bar of Corona, Whetstone Valley Saloon and Lancer's Bar in Wilmot and the Big Stone Legion of Big Stone.

We have also been working with the Milbank and area Schools, to get our information to them for the scholarship we give away each year. We hope to have several applications to choose from. Until next month, Stay Safe and Keep riding. Shelly Secretary, WVSA

### **Northeast Trailblazers**

Hello from the Northeast corner of the state. We have plenty of snow over in our corner of the state, but Cold oh my, we've had above our share of the fridged cold.

We've been taking advantage of the snow, with four weekends in a row of Poker Runs in the surrounding areas.

A few of our club members rode the Watertown Poker Run a few weeks ago. The weather and the trail were great. Thanks to the Watertown for hosting a great day.

Last week our club held its 18th annual poker run. The day was a little cold but the trails were good. We had a great attendance with snowmobile riders and non-snowmobile riders. They Dealt over 300 hands of poker. Our 50/50 was \$860, with the club's half going to the charity of our choice.

Next is the Great Bend, North Dakota Fire department host a poker run. They have some very nice trails and they do a super job hosting.

We'll finish it up with the Whetstone Valley poker run the 11th of February. It's always fun to ride over in the Big Stone area and meet up with the Milbank club members. It's so fun to see how everyone puts their personal twist on Poker Runs. As of now none of our riders have drawn any good hands to early retirement but I'll get

back to you on that one.



Our next club meeting is February 9th at Deano's in Claire City.

Till next time, stay warm & ride safe

# C

### Black Hills Snowmobile Club

Here we are again! Everyone should be out enjoying the snow- this is what we have waited for. Snow totals continue to pile up and it is great to see more people out on the trails and in the mountains. I love seeing families together out enjoying this winter sport and continuing to involve the younger generations. Snowmobiling is an activity you can start at any age and enjoy as long as your body is willing to participate!

We just completed out yearly Radar Run on Deerfield lake February 4th and had a great turn out- both for racers and spectators. I talked with many who showed up to watch their first Radar Run many just out of curiosity and some riders who took a break from the trails to watch the action. This was a year of firsts for the event. We purchased a new radar gun and digital sign that was displayed for the riders to see their times at the end of the track. We did a 660 ft track length this year - and this went over really well. We saw a variety of ages race, lots of newcomers men and women that could enjoyed this shorter track length. We had a food truck this year for lunch – thank you Rico's Mexican Restaurant for the great tacos and burritos. We had 50 registrations with 162 runs. We also crowned a new King of The ICE – Corbin Boock who went 98.9 mph before some sled malfunctions – he was on track to go over 100 mph, maybe next year. Keep in mind next year's event ALL sleds are welcome and we would love to see move east river riders and Wyoming riders. We want to mention the rest of our winners in the various classes – CONGRATULATIONS to all the racers. article continued on page 27

N E W



Corbin Boock, King of the Ice!



2023 Radar Run Winners:

Stock Short Track Classes (143 inches and below)

0-599 Stock 1st Pitsamai Promta 70.7 mph -3 runs at this speed

2nd Allen Schwane 70.7 mph

600-799 Stock 1st David Powers 77.9 mph

2nd Dan Holsworth 77.8 mph

800-899 Stock 1st John Crozman 86.8 mph

2nd Tim McTavish 81.4 mph

**Improved Short Track Classes** 

0-599 Improved 1st Graham Winchester 78.4 mph

600-799 1st Samual Hoeft 90.8 mph

2nd Justin Rudland 83.9 mph

800-899 1st Corbin Boock 98.9 mph

2nd John Crozman 97.3 mph

900 Open 1st Ryan Thorson 95.8 mph

Long Track Stock Classes (144 inches and above)

o-799 LT Stock 1st Michael Bay 70.7 mph

800-899 1st Rick Schuelke 71.3 mph

2nd Allen Schwane 69.8 mph

900 Open 1st Bret Meggs 72.7 mph

Long Track Improved Classes

800-899 LT Im. 1st Rick Schuelke 74.9 mph

2nd Andy Sumners 74.5 mph

Vintage 82 and older class

1st Justin Rudland 84.3 mph 2nd Dennis Bernal 76.1 mph

Our club looks forward to hosting the Governors' Ride breakfast February 11th. We are excited for the annual Club ride in Dubois, Wy February 22nd to 26th.

Until next month: (a quote from my husband!!) *If you are not happy single, you won't be happy married. HAPPINESS COMES FROM SNOWMOBILES, not relationships!* 

### Holly Thomas, BHSC Secretary





### **Aberdeen Driftbusters**

It has been a busy month for the Aberdeen Driftbusters. We are experiencing the best snow and trails as we have had in years. The great conditions have allowed us to host some phenomenal events in the past month. We started off with a Poker Run allowing members and community members a chance to ride together and patronize some of our association members. Thanks to the donations from club members, we were able to offer a total of \$1,500 in cash prizes. We had 77 riders and gained 5 new family members and 1 new association membership! A few weeks later, we hosted a Radar Run, where riders were able to compete for bragging rights of being the fastest or to challenge themselves to beat their own personal records. One rider

clocked in at 99.6 MPH! Others, were much slower but were pleased to "almost" hit 50 MPH. (It was me....I was pleased!) With almost 50 riders showing up for the event, it was great fun to see all the sleds and visit with everyone about the sport!

We are planning another Poker Run on Sunday, February 26 along with more events in the coming months, and invite everyone to follow us on Facebook (@AberdeenDriftbusters) for the most up-to-date information on our events. We have had some warmer weather, but still have a little snow on the trails. We will pray for some more snow so we can continue to enjoy the sport.Kelly Weismantel Aberdeen Driftbusters Snowmobile Club Secretary

### Current Committees

#### Government Relations

- 1.Greg Nordstrom
- 2.Duane Duerr

#### **Scholarship**

- 1.Kelly Weaver
- 2.Trace Damm
- 3.Lee Olson

#### By Laws & Right to Ride

- 1.Greg Nordstrom
- 2.Duane Duerr
- 3.Mike Boock

#### Safety

- 1.Lee Olson
- 2. Jason Shepherd

#### Grants

- 1.Tracey Erickson
- 2.Kelly Weaver

#### **Snocross**

- 1. Jason Shepherd
- 2.Lee Olson
- 3.Mike Boock

#### Charities

1Diane Hiles

#### Membership/Website

- 1.Mike Boock
- 2.Mary Anne Grabow
- 3.Tracey Erickson

#### **Awards**

1.Greg Nordstrom

### Convention

- 1.Pat Hanten-Duerr
- 2.Kelly Weaver
- 3.Trace Damm

#### Fundraiser/Raffle

- 1.Trace Damm
- 2.Tracey Erickson
- 3.Pat Hanten-Duerr
- 4.Doug Weelborg

### **SnoPlainsman Committee**

- 1.Mary Anne Grabow
- 2.Mike Boock
- 3.Trace Damm
- 4. Duane Duerr

#### **Governors Ride**

- 1.Mike Boock
- 2. Jason Shepherd
- 3.Duane Duerr

#### Investments

- 1.Diane Hiles
- 2.Pat Hanten-Duerr

### **Snowmobilers for Snowmobilers**

- 1.SDSA President
- 2. Jason Shepherd
- 3.Sheridan LaFramboise
- 4.Mike Boock
- 5.Mary Anne Grabow

#### Nominating committee

- 1.All SDSA club Presidents
- 2.Hall of fame members
- 3.Board of directors

#### **Yetis Advisors**

- 1.Kelly Weaver
- 2.Kirsten VanDenHemel
- 3.Audrey Rider
- 4.Doug Weelborg

#### Special Committee for Back The Ride

- 1.Tracey Erickson
- 2.Pat Hanten-Duerr

#### UTV

- 1.Tracey Erickson
- 2.Brian Erickson
- 3.Greg Nordstrom
- 4.Trace Damm



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2018 Yamaha Kodiak 700 SE \$7500 2009 Kawasaki KVF750 w blade \$4500

#### Motorcycle

2017 Yamaha FZ07 10660 miles salv title

2014 Yamaha V-Max1700 1750 miles \$16500 2011 Vamaha YZ450F

2002 Polaris Victory Deluxe 32k miles\$4500 1993 Yamaha GTS1000

\$4000 1992 Honda ST1100 94k miles 1992 Yamaha TDM850 74k miles \$2000

#### Snowmobiles

2018Ski-doo Renegade Backcountry  $850~5\mathrm{k}$ 

2006 Yamaha Apex new 1.25 track, reverse

2000 Yamaha SXR600 136" 4800 miles





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### Rusty Nutz Vintage Snowmobile Show

The Rusty Nutz Vintage Snowmobile show took place at Trailshead Lodge on January 14th with 122 Vintage sleds registered for the show. Featured sled at the show was Triples and some really well restored Triples were at the show. This year's winners were Dick Sterns, Best of Show Dave Koch, Unrestored sled Calvin Moser, Youngest rider Drayden VanderHamm age 4, Oldest Rider Jim Dixon age 87, Farthest distance travel Matthew and Phil Klopp 658 miles, Best Dressed Woman Katie Butts, Best Dressed man Dalton Jacobsma.

The real stories are why they have that Vintage sled. Some owned it as a youth, First family sled, found it in a grove, only one of it's kind, and much more. Vintage Snowmobiles are our history and knowing where we came from can help define the future. Did you know?

- First Snowmobile 1922 by J Armand Bombardier.
- First Fuel injected Sled "Polaris 650 RXL EFI"
- First Liquid Cooled Snowmobile "1972 Brut LC44" by Scorpion Industries.
- First Four Stroke Snowmobile "2002 Yamaha RX-1"
- 1964 Artic Cat first two stroke Snowmobile.
- 1973 Ski Doo introduces Ski Carbides.
- 1973 Scorpion introduces Heat Exchangers.
- 1976 Heated Handlebars.
- 1980 Polaris TXL Indy 340 Independent Front Suspension.
- 1998 Ski Doo Electronic Reverse.





### OUR LEGACY MEMBERS



1.**Donald R. Larson**Milbank, SD
Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Association
11/2013



2. Jack Colwell DeSmet, SD Town & Country Snowdrifters 1/2014



3. **LeRoy Erickson** Ramona, SD Town & Country Snowdrifters 1/2014



4. **Duane Hojer** Oldham, SD Town & Country Snowdrifters 1/2014



5. **Thomas C. Keimig**Gary, SD
Dakota Trailblazers 1/2015



6. **Todd Wilkinson**DeSmet, SD
Town & Country Snowdrifters 11/2015



7. **Greg Hiles**DeSmet, SD
Town & Country Snow-drifters 11/2015



8. **Russell Johnson** Beresford, SD Trailbusters 12/2015



**9.Lisa Johnson** Beresford, SD Trailbusters 12/2015



10. **Mick Hehn**Clear Lake, SD
Dakota Trail Blazers
12/2015



11. **Neal Boeke** Clear Lake, SD Dakota Trail Blazers 12/2015



12. **Courtney Livingston**Watertown, SD
Watertown Snowmobile
Club 01/2016



13. **Neal Grabow**Silver City, IA
Dakota Trail Blazers
3/2016



14. **Jakob Hohm**-Willow Lake, SD Town & Country Snowdrifters 3/2017



15. **Brian Erickson**Arlington, SD
Town & Country Snow-drifters 11/2017



16. **Jay Hojer** Oldham, SD Town & Country Snowdrifters 1/2018



17.**Steve Wess**Watertown,SD
Watertown Snowmobile
Club 3/2018



18.**Jay Schilling**Rapid City,SD
Black Hills Snowmobile
Club 3/2018



19.**Rich Nelson** Miller,SD SDSA member 3/2018



20.**Marty Grabow**Gary,SD
Dakota Trail Blazers
10/2018



21.Mary Anne Grabow Gary,SD Dakota Trail Blazers 10/2018



22..**Dan Boone**Watertown, SD
Watertown Club 12/2018



23. Carey Holt
Clear Lake, SD
Dakota Trailblazers03/2019



24. **Dean Austad**-Sioux Falls, SD Sioux Falls Sno Trackers 09/2019



25. **Bob Wuertz**Aberdeen, SD
Aberdeen Driftbusters
12/2019



26. **Hazel Seloover**Sioux Falls, SD
Sioux Falls Sno Trackers
12/2019



27. **Virginia Hojer**Oldham, SD
Town & Country Snow-drifters 02/2020



28. Randy Knadle
Desmet, SD
Town & Country Snowdrifters 10/2020



29. **Myrna Knadle**DeSmet, SD
Town & Country Snow-drifters 10/2020



30. **Preston Fischer**Milbank,SD
Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Association 10/2020



31. Scott Erstad Badger,SD Poinsett Pounders 12/2020

32. Judy Nelson

33. Dennis Nelson

35. Wayne Boeke

37. Roger Seloover

Sioux Falls, SD

Clear Lake, SD

Sisseton,SD

East

East

**Trailblazers** 

**Trailblazers** 

Sisseton.SD

North

North

1/2021

1/2021



40.Nathan Lakness Hayti,SD **Pounders** Poinsett 11/2021



41.Jody Lemme Arlington, SD



Poinsett Pounders 11/2021



42.Jim LeTendre Sioux FallsSD combined effort: 5 clubs 11/2021



34. Jordan Hinsvark Gary,SD Dakota Trail Blazers 7/2021



43.Richard Berens Milbank, SD



Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Association 8/2022



44.Dave Hammer Milbank, SD Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Association 8/2022



36. Jean Wilkinson DeSmet. SD Town & Country Snowdrifters 10/2021

Dakota Trail Blazers 7/2021



45. Jon LaFramboise Rapid City SD Black Hills Snowmobile Association 11/2022



46. Sheridan LaFramboise Rapid City SD Black Hills Snowmobile Association 11/2022



38. Kim Raap Sioux Falls, SD Sioux Falls SnoTrackers 11/2021

by his daughter Char 10/2021



39. Sara Shepherd Watertown,SD Watertown Snowmobile Club 11/2021



Legacy Membership \$500

- (1) Any individual active member is eligible for legacy membership, who has an interest in snowmobiling and is willing to pay current legacy membership dues. Dues must be paid prior to granting a legacy membership. A legacy member maintains the same privileges as an active member.
- (2) To honor the dedicated interest in snowmobiling and in club activities, a snowmobile club in good standing with SDSA, may sponsor an individual club member for a Legacy Membership by making an application and paying, on behalf of the individual, the current legacy membership dues



**Codak Murphy** clutches his trophy after the Poinsett Pounder event!

### January 21 – 27 is International Snowmobile Safety and Awareness Week By Anita Dixon

Ruddy faces, red noses, frozen eyelashes, tingling toes and fingers. These may be part of the job for the farmer or the mailman but for the Beresford Trailbusters Snowmobile Club they are the mark of a happy day! We have snow, and winter enthusiasts are embracing it!

Beresford's Trailbusters Snowmobile Club meets once a month. The yearly membership fee per family is \$10. The Club is roughly two dozen families strong, with infants to members in their mid to late sixties. Member Lisa Watkins says Trailbusters currently has two three-generation Trailbuster families.

As a Club with a family focus, children from the age of four or five are brought up riding 'sleds'. They ride along with their parents or pilot their own mini size snowmobile.

When riding with an adult small fry sit in front of the adult and hold on to a mountain bar, a specialized piece mounted on the handlebar, and wear a harness that keeps them safely and snuggly attached to the adult. Parents have an established communication process with their little riders; it may be a pull on the sleeve or a tap on the leg. "And always helmets, helmets helmets no matter what," Member Lisa Johnson adds. "They're geared up just like mom and dad: snow boots, snow pants, coat, helmet, they have all of the same protective gear. They get to see a side of things that kids their age probably will never have the opportunity to see."

Many young riders have met peers through snowmobiling that they still correspond and hook up with to go riding. The sport of snowmobiling teaches young riders common sense and respect. Riders have to learn to read the terrain and make decisions for their safety and the safety of other riders: will I get stuck, will I get stranded, don't ride through someone's private yard, don't tear up someone's field, respect the environment around you. When the snow is gone, so should the evidence that snowmobiles were there.

Trailbusters maintains 73 miles of trail between Beresford and Parker. It is laid out in two loops so that other than a short spur into Parker riders don't need to back track and can ride something different the entire day and get back to where they started without repeating any of the trail. Snowmobile riders spend money on gas and food in the communities along the way. The trail can be accessed from Truck Towne Plaza in Beresford. The trail is open to the public; it is there for all registered snowmobile riders from any state. There is no out-of-state registration reguirement. In the fall, members head out and mark the path of the trail. They meticulously mark all of the hazards, culverts, utility quide wires, mailboxes and other obstacles to establish a safe route. When (IF) there is snow, club members maintain the trail throughout the sledding season. Signs are removed at the end of the season so they don't interfere with landowners. Club volunteers put the trail in and take it out every year whether there is snow or not. The State Trail program provides the signs.

Traffic on the trail has been heavy with the recent snow bonanza. Veteran rider Lisa Johnson emphasizes the importance of being respectful and mindful of private property crossings while using the trail because easements and leases are purely voluntary. Stay on the trail, stay between the orange diamonds. Johnson says "It's so important on this side of the state, because ditches can be so dangerous to ride in. Everyone is excited because there's snow and they want to get out and ride."

Trailbusters owns two groomers with drags purchased with RPG, Regional Partnership Grants, and club funds. Not all clubs own groomers. The recently purchased four-seat Tucker was made with an eye to assisting in search/rescue and stranded motorist situations. "It is a very good, very reliable high quality piece of equipment," says Watkins. Trailbusters is signed up with Beresford Fire and Rescue and through them, also the surrounding communities.

Local group rides are pulled together as the snow permits. The weekend of January 7 & 8 was The Trail Run. If the snow holds Club members are looking forward to poker runs. and after ride pizza parties. The annual club ride will be in February out in the Black Hills at Mallo Camp, Wyoming. Formerly a Christian camp, Trailbusters reserves the entire facility for a two-day ride. Everybody is looking forward to a "fun outing and an opportunity to get away from everything and to share a sport that we all love to do" says Johnson. Watkins adds "last couple of years the Black Hills hasn't had the snow so we haven't been able to go, but we are hoping that the snow out there will hold long enough for us this vear."

Why join a snowmobile club? Watkins says it provides an "organized collective voice to all things snowmobile, access to riding areas, funding, safety programs, and a social way to connect with people with the same interests." As a non-profit Trailbusters is involved in a lot of behind the scene community work. They have done fundraisers to donate to After Prom and ambulance funds and have hosted numerous free safety courses for the public. Of extreme importance are the youth safety programs geared to new riders to teach safety and trail etiquette rules. They remain connected to the fire department so the grooming machines are available to help facilitate rescues.

New this year was the "Ready to Ride" program offered to the community. Trailbusters veterans invited non-members to bring their machines out and helped them through some

of their mechanical questions and safety issues. The goal was to share knowledge and experience with the community. Trailbuster's founding member Russ Johnson said "years of doing something is worth something to somebody else. You can give them your wisdom for free and maybe make their experience better. That's what we were hoping for, to help people out."

Trailbusters belongs to the South Dakota Snowmobiling Association. State membership costs \$35 a year and provides information on riding areas, group rides, legislation and funding for the trail programs.

International Snowmobile Safety and Awareness Week was created to encourage people to use necessary safety equipment like helmets and protective gear and to use snowmobiles that undergo strict pollution checks. Safety, courtesy, and protection of the environment are important to all people who use the outdoors. Snowmobilers share the trail with other snowmobilers and non-motorized groups, such as cross-country skiers. All users should respect another person's right to the trail

South Dakota has a voluntary snowmobile safety program that is administered by snowmobile clubs affiliated with the South Dakota Snowmobile Association. The courses are designed for both youth and adults who wish to learn more about safely and ethically operating a snowmobile. While SD doesn't require a safety course certification to operate a snowmobile here, other states do have this as a requirement. Game Fish and Parks along with the South Dakota Snowmobile Association and Governor Appointed Snowmobile Advisory Council strongly encourage all snowmobile enthusiasts taking the time through the online course, or an in person course hosted by various snowmobile clubs across the state, to learn how to operate a snowmobile safely.

For additional trail information you can contact Russ Johnson at 605-957-5602. For more information on all things snowmobile feel free to contact veteran sledders Lisa Johnson, 605-957-5603 and Lisa Watkins, 605-759-1542.





The Group headed out to ride at the 42nd Annual Governor's Ride. Mother Nature was kind to us for the event and a great time was had by all. Thanks to everyone who makes this event work.

Photo below is Jason Shepherd, District 6 Director for SDSA red-bibbing at the Governor's Ride.













Badger Oil, Inc







### Cur Associate Members

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**Trailshead Lodge** 22075 US HWY 85 Lead SD 57754 605-584-3464

trailsheadlodge.com

**The Lodge at Deadwood** 100 Pine Crest Lane Deadwood SD 57732

Saloon #10 657 Main Street Deadwood SD 57732

Jacobs Welding & Machining 522 S Main Lead SD 57754

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HI-Mark LLC 604 Root Ave SW DeSmet, SD 57231

**Oldham Saloon** 201 E Main Oldham, SD

Sunset Lodge 28181 182nd Street Pierre SD 57501 sunsetlodgelakeoahe.com

Oxbow Restaurant

DeSmet, SD

Steele Financial Services P O Box 128 LakePreston, SD

**New Horizon Lounge** 202 Spring Ave S Lake Preston SD

**1481 Grille** 408 S Hwy 81 & 14 Arlington SD 57212

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Whetstone Valley Saloon II 719 Main St Wilmot SD 57279 605-938-4127

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### PERKS for 2022-2023 season

By showing your valid SDSA membership card you can receive the following additional discounts/benefits from the following businesses:

**Sturgis Motorsports** 2695 Lazelle St **Sturgis SD** 605-720-1206 10% off on Snowmobile parts and accessories sturgismotorsports.net

\*Mountain Meadow Resort & Campground 11321 Gillette Prairie Road Hill City, SD **57745** 605-574-2636 10% off snowmobile rental or lodging. **MUST SAY WHEN BOOKING!** mtmeadow.com

\*Track to Trail 2905 Russell Street W Sioux Falls SD 605-336-5611 10% on all snowmobile clothing, oil & accessories track2trail.com



\*Trailshead Lodge 22075 US Hwy 85 Lead, SD 57754 605-584-3464 One time use per season: \$20 off a room or stay. trailsheadlodge.com

\*Vern Eide Motoplex **4915N Northview Ave** Sioux Falls SD 605-221-4000 10% off all snowmobile clothing & accessories



verneidemotoplex.com



\*Dakota Motor Sports, LLC 628 Circle Drive. Aberdeen, (605-725-2887) -10% off all regular clothing priced and accessories under \$3,000.

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\*Midwest Power **Sports** 1608 Morningside Dr. Milbank SD 57252 605-432-9111 10% off all snowmo-

bile clothing, helmets & goggles. midwestpowersports.net

Thank you again for your support of the SDSA and the **South Dakota Trail Systems!** 

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Excludes current sale priced items, must show your SDSA card for ALL DIS-COUNTS! Room discounts require notification of membership when booking!!!!

Thank you again for your support of the SDSA and the **South Dakota Trail Systems!** 





Calendar of Events
If you want your events listed, please email
them to sdsa@itctel.com

March 3 & 4
Snocross at Brandon, SD
March 11
Watertown Snowmobile Club
Radar Run
June 8 - 10
ISC Moline Illinois



### THANK YOU....

I'd like to thank Shannon, Ryan, Mary Anne and Diane for making it possible for me to ride in the recent Governors Ride. It was an awesome day with great temperatures. I also enjoyed going to all the meetings as well. David Ruediger



#### SDSA promotes trails & your right to ride. SDSA keeps you posted on changing legislation that could affect our right to ride in national forests. Our lobbyist gives us a voice in State & National Government. United We Stand - Divided We Fall. **BENEFITS AS A MEMBER INCLUDE:** Membership in a local club. State and local trail maps. · A quality magazine, 7 issues a year. · Activities, club rides and poker runs. · Access to monthly meetings. · Safety courses by certified instructors. Snowmobilers 4 Snowmobilers Program. •Discounts at featured businesses each year MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$35 PER YEAR. CONTACT MARY ANNE AT 605-272-5900 SDSA@ITCTEL.COM OR WWW.SNOWMOBILESD.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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SDSA OFFICE P O Box 206 Gary, SD 57237 Phone (605)272-5900

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