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**April 2023** 





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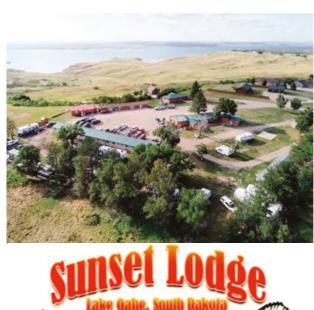
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# From SDSA's President



### Duane Duerr Brandon, South Dakota

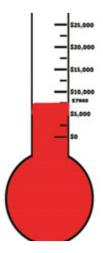
Soon March 31st will be here, and the Trails will close for another year. It has been great to see what snow can do for us. It is great seeing the Resorts in the Black Hills having a great snowmobiling season. Associate memberships are way up, and they have seen the benefits of Poker Runs, Charity Rides, Radar runs and Family Fun Days. Membership numbers are looking good statewide. Advertising in the SnoPlainsman is great and I have seen more Snowmobiles on the trail then I have for many Seasons. Although there have been some snowmobile Accidents and some fatalities, snowmobiling is still a safe activity to be involved in.

We do have some concerns: Trespassing is still a problem with private landowners, putting the trail system at risk. Every Snowmobiler needs to be concerned when we see someone breaking the rules as they are risking your right to ride. We need to respect landowners' rights to keep the trails open!!

Thank you to the Dakota Drifters Snowmobile Club in Brookings for bidding the 2024 SDSA Convention. I am looking forward to the convention and I know you will do a great job.

Sno Trackers are working hard at putting together this year's convention on December 1st and 2nd at the Best Western Ramkota in Sioux Falls. The room block is set up and ready to book. Interlakes Snow Roamers will be showing some of the best Vintage Snowmobiles in the Area. The theme is "Snowmobiling brings Family, Friends and Fun." I think it will be a must-see event.

This is the second time that South Dakota has had two SnoCross events in the state. Deadwood is always great to see, although cold this year it was still a great show. Husets in Brandon, SD. is hosting the "Octane Ink SnoCross National" and this year they have snow. It was a great show, many of the races were really close, nice weather and many fans left winning \$50 gift cards. Thanks to everyone that stopped at the SDSA tent and signed up to win.



One thing I need your help with is the YETIS "Youth Empowerment through Involvement in Snowmobiling." Scholarship Fund. The goal is to reach \$25,000 and be able to offer a \$1000 Scholarship to a deserving YETIS member going on to a Secondary school. We are currently at \$7,900 in contributions but need more to make it happen. (see thermometer to the left) The youth are our Future leaders in snowmobiling and all of us need to help make this happen. No one contribution is going to make this happen, but many small donations will build it up!!

Let's finish the year big. With Snow Let's Grow!! SDSA President Duane Duerr

# SDSA OFFICERS PRESIDENT

**Duane Duerr** 

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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

**Day County Trailblazers** 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 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 Rippers

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

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

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@rawfam-

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

Greg Spiering, President

Dakota Drifters Snowmobile Club

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:**

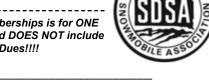
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Watertown Snowmobile Club

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# From SDSA's President-Elect

Kelly Weaver, Aberdeen, SD

Can it be that we have reached the last Sno-Plainsman issue for the season? This might be a good time to review my wishes I dusted with Christmas magic and see if it worked!

My first wish was for a good snow year. BINGO! In many areas, it was a top-five winter and it will replenish much needed soil moisture in all corners of our state. Our groomers across the state have been getting a lot of practice. Ryan will be distributing a lot of Grant In Aid money this



year! Clubs and SDSA are seeing increased membership which we hope is the start of new positive trend.

My second wish was for continued involvement among our local clubs. CHECK! It was so much fun to see all the snowmobiling events promoted by all the clubs. If there wasn't one event every weekend, there were two or three! Several events also raised funds for community needs and charities. Make sure to capture that info for the Charity Reports due April 1! We also accepted a bid for the 2024 SDSA convention from the Dakota Drifters. Make plans to be in Brookings, December 6-7, 2024!

My third wish was for strong support for the newly launched endowment for the YETIS Scholarship in memory of Jon LaFramboise. As of January, we were close to 25% of the initial goal which is a great start. I love the energy that the YETIS bring to all they do! This scholarship is just another brick in the path to future leadership for them. Consider helping us grow that number.

I'd say my wishes did come true; the magic Christmas dust must work. Guess I should have sprinkled some of that on the cards before I drew my poker hand on the poker ride!

Before I sign off, I want to give a shout out to the Governor's Ride committee and our Game Fish and Park Team for organizing a great event and to the Black Hills Snowmobile Club for making sure we were well nourished for the day! It was a top 10 day in the Hills with warm weather and sun. Moving the Ride off of the President's Day weekend meant we had to compete with less sleds on the trails as well. While we had a smaller group this year, the 3 legislators and their guests that attended had an awesome time and truly looked forward to the event. Thanks for making the time to join us.

Enjoy your remaining snowmobile activities and be safe as you close out the season. Perhaps your club has some summer activities planned as well such as campouts, ATV rides, bean bag tournaments. Take advantage of the SDSA facebook page to share. Before you know it, we'll be marking trail, making plans for sledding trips, and getting ready for the fun all over again!

Have a great summer, Kelly Weaver SDSA President Elect



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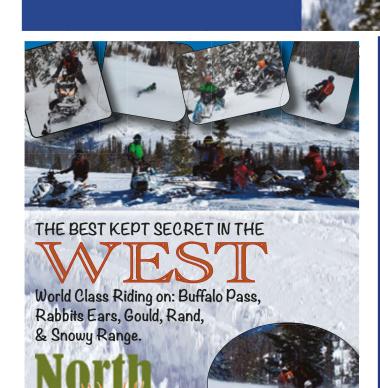
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# Mike Boock, District 2

Hello snowmobilers!

I can't believe this is the last issue for the season. I have been so busy with special events and work that I have only been to the mountains once. NOT COOL! I do have several trips planned from now until May though, so I should be able to "get my fix". Maybe we can even get a June ride in this year. It's been quite a few years since I've been able to snowmobile in the mountains on Saturday and swim at the lake on Sunday. Fingers crossed!

It has been awesome to hear from the east river clubs that they have been able to groom and ride their local trails all winter! I haven't seen this many poker runs and family days for years. That is truly exciting to see. Make sure to get them young ones out there so they can become members for life and our future leaders one day. Go YETIS!

It's always great to see how our clubs respond when asked to volunteer for a job. Whether it's for signing a trail, grooming, clearing trees, cutting firewood, or helping with a rescue; our clubs always respond. This past week, the BHSC was asked to help in a search for two missing snowmobilers. Six members of the club took the time to respond to the call. They all put their personal lives on hold and went to work. Fortunately, by the time they all arrived on scene in Rochford, the two men had just been found. Unfortunately, that meant they all had to go back to work to their real jobs. It was still great to see the response and the willingness of club members to take on this task. The two men were both found in good health and just needed a little assistance and a place to warm up as they spent a very cold night under the stars. It was a good reminder that you should always be prepared to spend the night, even if you're just going for a nice easy ride in the Hills. I see so many people riding in the Hills with no backpack or bag on the back of their sled. At minimum, you need to carry a way to start a fire, a shovel, and a saw to cut down branches for a fire and a shelter. These two men would have been a lot better off with those three items. It gets very cold overnight in the Hills and even colder in the mountains out west. Please carry these simple items and practice making fires on your trips. You will be surprised how fast the wood burns. It takes a lot of wood to keep a fire going all night long!

Cutting that much wood also burns a lot of energy so then you will wish you also had snacks and water. Oh, did I mention you may also need tools, rope, tiewire, zip-ties, bungee cords, a first aid kit, and Vaseline dipped



cotton balls? Vaseline dipped cotton balls??? Yes! They make great fire starters. Give it a try some time. Yes, snowmobiling in the mountains takes a lot of preparation and supplies. It's not fun carrying all these supplies on your back, so a lot of people carry them in their tunnel bag on the back of their sled. What happens if your sled gets completely buried in an avalanche? You need to carry at least some of your more important supplies with you. That is why you see so many people riding with back packs. It's not fun riding with all these supplies, but if you ever need them, you will be very happy to have them. Another great tool is a GPS device. The two gentleman that were stuck would have benefitted greatly from this simple little device. If they could have seen their location on a map, they would have noticed that they were within walking distance to a house and a trail. Always be prepared for the worst and know where you're at.

Thank you all for your continued support of SDSA and your local clubs! I wish you all the best for the rest of the season and into the summer.

Hopefully I will see a lot of you at the BHSC summer UTV ride and campout. Watch their Facebook page for more information. The dates are June 23-26, 2023.

Be safe everyone, Mike



# Traczy Crickson, District 4

Greetings from the SNOWY East....

It has been many years, since we have had this much snow most of the winter! It has made for some excellent riding and opportunities to get out and promote the sport of snowmobiling. We have personally been trying to make a few of these events and network with other snowmobilers along the way.

Recently, we got to participate in the Dakota Drifters Poker Run after the latest 3-day blizzard, since we were not able to make it to the Mountain

Riding meetings in Alpine, Wy. (Note the picture of the wonderful drift in front of our garage door/house.) The Dakota Drifters were able to get the trails groomed in time for this and it made for some excellent riding east of Brookings, up and down the I-29 corridor. For this particular Poker run the Dakota Drifters' hosted was a fund raiser for their upcoming 2024 convention efforts. I was even lucky enough to draw the winning hand, woot, woot! So, a big thanks to them for putting this event on!

As the snowmobile season winds down, we would like to remind clubs to make sure they complete the SDSA Club Charity Report that is due April 1st. Your club will be receiving an email with the copy of the SDSA Charity Report form, or you can go to the webpage and access the form at https://snowmobilesd.com/forms/. This information helps SDSA tell the story of all the great efforts you as snowmobilers due all year long, when we talk to influencers about the sport. As an example, we will utilize this information when we talk to our Federal Legislators and provide them with a synopsis of the South Dakota Snowmobile Association at the upcoming DC-Fly-in at the end of April.

Speaking of the DC-Fly-in, Brian and I will be headed to Washington, DC the end of April as he continues to serve on the American Council of Snowmobilers (ACSA) board as a Director at Large. I will help represent the state association (SDSA), along with Duane Duerr, SDSA President. I am personally, looking forward to this event as it helps us interact with other states and the Federal agencies, such as the Forest Service. Additionally, it gives us the opportunity to learn about pertinent national issues that impact our sport, while visiting with our Federal Representatives and Senators.

Lastly, if you have never been to a International Snowmobile Congress (ISC) here is your chance... the 55th, ISC is being held in Moline, Illinois, June 7-10th, 2023. For more information and to register while still getting a reduced rate (before May 15th) go to https://www.snowmobilers.org/isc/.

Please feel free to reach out if you have questions about anything that I have mentioned above or comments that you would like to share on these topics or any other.

All the best, Tracey Erickson, Dist. 4 Director











Some of the group that attended Governor's Ride in February.





# Pat Hanten-Duerr, District 5

On the east side of state, we have had a good amount of snow from December 2022 through March 2023. It certainly has helped the enthusiasm for snowmobiling. For the first time in many years you could find a Poker Run some where in your area almost every weekend. I have heard people say that they have not put so many miles on there snowmobile in years. Hopefully everyone pushed to get new memberships during this snowy season.

A event that drew a crowd in Brandon was the Octane Ink SnoCross at Huset's Speedway which was held on March 3 &4, 2023. Crowd on Friday, March 3rd, was about 1000 people and on Saturday, March 4, about 3000 people. This was well attend by many snowmobile families, with children starting at age 6 months and older. Temperatures

were nice in the 30's. SDSA had a great booth, with many workers contacting many people and getting the word out about supporting the snowmobile trails in South Dakota. A good amount of donations was collected along with some new members.

With snowmobile season coming to an end soon, just want to give you a reminder to SAVE THE DATE DECEMBER 1ST, and 2ND 2023 to plan to attend SDSA Convention in Sioux Falls.

# Trace Damm, District 7

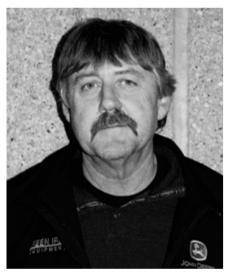
Hello Everyone,

It seems like our luck has changed for the better this year on snow accumulation. We have been fortunate enough to keep our ditches for the most part full and groomed. Some of the larger snows we received caused us to get behind on grooming with the groomer getting stuck multiple times. A problem we have not seen for quite some time. I would say in general out west had an amazing year for snow, I made a couple trips, one to steamboat and one to island park. Both filled with many memories and lucky enough to hit fresh snow on both trips. It's been good to see the sleds in the ditch this year and being



able to participate in poker runs with our sleds! Which I think is a good reminder to try and get out whenever we can and go support the business that have supported us throughout the years, good or bad snow. I know the pounders are going to be partaking in the hotdog champagne ride again this year and the weather forecast looks great. With the rollercoaster of weather that looks like is coming in this month warm and snow, I plan on taking full advantage of it with the girls. Good temperatures and good snow make it comfortable and wanting them to go back out on the 120 for hours. I hope you all had a great winter!

Till next time Trace Damm



# Leg Olson, District 3

Hello everyone, another snow storm today. Hate to complain, but I'm tired of moving snow every other day. We even had to back out of a couple planned trips this winter because of storms and ice. It is March now, so spring isn't that far off.

It's been a good winter for snowmobiling around Aberdeen this year. Probably the first time for a couple years now. We had a couple poker runs, both were pretty successful. 77 snowmobiles both times. Both days we had beautiful weather. We also had a radar run. That day was also beautiful, don't know how we got the lucky to pick 3 days that were nice. It was nice to see families, riders of

all ages participating in these events. Thank you to the Shed in Westport, Richmond Oasis, and the Crossing Bar at Mina for taking part in the poker runs. Also thank you to Casey and Kelly Weismantel for all you did to make these events happen.

We did get out to the Black Hills twice this winter, both times trails were great, and weather was nice. Seems there are still some riders trespassing on private property. Hopefully nobody that's reading this. Those areas are posted because the owners don't want snowmobiles running all over their property. So let's respect the land owners and their property in the hills.

Hope everyone got a chance to put some miles on the sleds this winter.

Lee Olson, District 3 Director

# Jason Shepherd, District 6

Hello again from the Northeast. Hope everyone has been out enjoying the great trails in the state. Most of the state has had great snow this year.

The snocross races in Sioux Falls had a very good turnout along with plenty of great racing. It is hard to believe that the winter is starting to come to a end. Some of the clubs are having fun days with members of the club and community.



The clubs still are having poker rides also so get out and enjoy the snow before it is gone.

Until next year see you all on the trails. Jason

# On the Trails

# Ryan Raynor, Trails Specialist

With the last SnoPlainsman article, I always like to reflect on the season and say thanks to those who dedicate days, hours, weeks, and months to the statewide Snowmobile Program. On the eastern side of the state, I'm guessing this will go down as the more hours we have ever groomed through the Grant in Aid program. With that statement, came the many challenges that a season like this brings.



I'd first like to thank our groomer operators on both sides of the state for the hard work through cold late nights, equipment malfunctions and managing every other hurdle that you folks deal with. Grooming with a ton of snow has many challenges, and I think our folks did a fantastic fighting through those challenges. If you didn't know already, we hire around 18 seasonal groomer operators for the 350-mile trail system, and they do so much more than groom to help maintain the trails. Thanks for your efforts this season and we hope to see you next year!

For those in eastern SD, you also deserve a huge thank you as grooming isn't your job. A passion yes, but you spend your days working your regular 8 to 5 or later, then attending kids or family events, then you groom. Thanks for volunteering and keeping snowmobilers safe across eastern, SD. The rest of the volunteers who participate in the Grant in Aid program, thanks for your commitment to managing the signs, the grant paperwork and everything else you do.

Finally, for those who do participate in the Grant in Aid program, please remember to send in all receipts, grant forms such as the groomer and maintenance log, and reimbursement requests. All signs must be pulled by April 30th as well.

In closing for the season, we had an amazing snow year on both sides of the state, and we needed

that. The Snowmobile Advisory Council and South Dakota Snowmobile Association are always a pleasure to work for because the high points, and low, are always shared with people you can count. Thanks for another great season everyone!





# Diang Hiles, SDSA Treasurer

I will forewarn you from the get-go about the length of this article. But there is a lot of good information that needs to be shared from two different meetings which both cover areas of interest to SDSA and our membership. Please take the time to become informed.

In February, Greg and I were able to attend both the ACSA Trails Riding Region Meeting in Watersmeet, MI and the ACSA Mountain Riding Region Meeting in Alpine, WY. Weather conditions put us in to Travel Plans D or E so it was 3000+ miles between the two trips. Add in a trip to the Hills for the Governor's Ride in between, let's just say 3,800 miles for the good of snowmobiling! And that's what these ACSA and SDSA Meetings are for, the good of snowmobiling.

In the Trails Region Meeting, we had good discussion about trespassing issues and the impact trespassing has on trail closures and reroutes. I add in re-routes as most clubs won't just let a closure happen, they find a way to re-route the trail so the ride can continue. Signage changes to reflect surveillance efforts, trail cam coverage and prosecution expectations may help deter some culprits, but not all. Making an example out of the situation with additional press coverage when a trespasser is caught could go a long way. Trespassing laws differ from state to state making situations in one state different than another. There are concerns being noted of landowners being reluctant to allow trails on their property due to lawyer ads on TV making it easy to sue and also local land ownership is dwindling as farm conglomerates are owning more. Good communication with the landowners or tenants along the trail is important so they know clubs are trying to combat trespassing problems as well.

Trail conditions, prepping and maintaining the trail throughout the season differs from state to state as well. Northern Wisconsin and Michigan both have heavy tree and brush cover which needs to be cleared before the season. Summer storms and even early winter storms can raise havoc when trying to get signage done before the season starts. While South Dakota has one opening and closing date, clubs in Wisconsin and Michigan set their own open/close dates based upon when their trail can get in, frozen and open water areas (lots of lakes and water involved) and if it can be kept maintained. States are also dealing with tracked ATV/UTVs on their trails.

The Trails Region is also impacted by several Forest Service Bridges throughout their trail system. There is a concern brewing that as these bridges age, they need to be inspected and repaired and/or replaced. Even though the bridge may be multi-use, for groomers to continue passing over, snowmobile funding may be tapped for the expenses to maintain, repair and/or replace. There is discussion that before we get to that point, an inspection process is needed and perhaps snowmobilers may need to be part of that inspection process. Volunteers can be certified to do the bridge inspection so that process is being explored.

This was the first Trails Riding Region Meeting held in season. While a small group (14 from 4 states), it was great discussion with good information shared and a good foundation for future Trails Riding meetings. Despite the below zero weather, the group also got some riding in on Friday and again after the meeting on Saturday.

Topics of discussion at the Mountain Region Meeting included avalanche training, weather forecasting, Wyoming's economic impact study along with updates from all of the states regarding membership, registration, funding and projects.

The Wyoming State Trails partners with the Bridger-Teton Avalanche Center which provides avalanche and weather information for the region. The BTAC and its Foundation work tirelessly to raise awareness of the Center's essential contributions of daily, detailed avalanche forecasts, snow and weather data and avalanche awareness education for Northwest Wyoming

Frank Carus spoke to our group covering aspects of public safety, data collection, information exchange, accident reporting and community engagement. There are 22 avalanche/weather forecasting centers in the US, 14 are FS, 1 State of Colorado and 7 are private/non-profit centers. Centers are either a Type 1 Center or a Type II Center depending upon management and staffing. And yes, there is a shortage of staff and even people interested in this field of work. The majority of avalanche fatalities occur on National Forest Service land and as more (cont. next page)

and more people are headed to the back country, forecasting and education is becoming more and more essential. There is a need for additional Pro and Level II avalanche trainers and the ability to conduct additional training courses.

Wyoming Economic Impact Study was recently completed reflecting a \$255 million impact to the state. University of WY started the study in 2019, which was delayed slightly by COVID, but completed the study in May 2022 with a cost of \$54,960. Kim Raap, Trails Work Consulting, broke the study down for the group with interesting numbers, trends and components of the study addressing visitor use, demographics, satisfaction and priorities of the study. He also outlined considerations to think about when preparing to complete a study with university help, timing of the study (should be completed every 7-10 years) and building relationships with the agency/organization that handles the state registration process.

Christine Jourdain, ACSA Executive Director provided ACSA updates at both meetings. After 3 years, the DC Fly-in will happen on April 22-25. We will have meetings, speakers and a day on the Hill meeting our respective state legislators at their offices. ISC 2023 is set for Moline, IL on June 7-10th. Christine previewed speakers, the offsite activity, FOSPAC, VIP and the road trip. ISC 2024 will be in Green Bay, WI and bids are being accepted for ISC 2025. Award nominations are due in April 1st.

Christine also updated the group on the status of the Stanislaus National Forest which the Sierra Snowmobile Foundation is spearheading, along with ACSA. The main issues here that will impact future forest planning is the 12" snow depth requirement before grooming can begin. The judge for this case has been replaced, they are waiting on a new hearing date, and it appears it will not be an in-person hearing. The judge will take the affidavits and information from both sides and make a decision from there.

ACSA President Dan Long, from Illinois also attended both meetings. He touched on aspects of the Strategic Planning which was completed in 2018. Dan encouraged states to let ACSA know what they need help with as far as state issues. Leadership Development was identified in the planning process so education session(s) at ISC are being planned. Sponsoring a Sno Cross racer is being looked at along with utilizing industry ambassador's support in tagging or hash tagging ACSA in their posts and videos. It is important for states to get ACSA's information out to individual club members as best as they can through sharing Facebook posts, the E-News, etc. The more people hear about "ACSA", the more they are educated, the more they know and that will enhance the brand improvement component of the Strategic Planning.

Each of the 8 states (total of 31 people) represented gave a brief report on happenings and status of snowmobiling in their state. I included in the report for SD, the number of registered sleds, trails counts from the Black Hills, GIA information as to number of clubs with trails, trail miles and clubs owning their own groomers. I also covered increased club activity with poker runs, charity rides, etc. as our snow conditions have been good. Membership is steady with Associate membership up 20%. Sno Plainsman advertising is up with some new advertisers. SD will host two Sno Cross events this year. The Online Safety Course is up and running. Our Economic Impact Study was last completed in 2011-2012 with \$131.6 million impact. I also included information on the new YETIS Scholarship Endowment Fund established in memory of Jon Laframboise and where to find the donation form on the SDSA website. Most of the people in attendance knew Jon through his involvement with ACSA.

Did you catch the awesome video made by Logan Jones from WY about the importance of young adults being involved with their local clubs? It was shared on SDSA's Facebook page shortly after the meetings. Also, Oregon's keynote speakers at their recent convention were some of the KAOS youth from Wisconsin. It was a great presentation by the Youth and their message was well received by the Oregon membership. Its great to see these youth take an active role in organized snowmobiling issues and activities.

The meeting kicked off the fundraising for the new ACSA Scholarship being established this year. Each state was asked to bring a t-shirt, sweatshirt, tumbler, or the like to donate to the cause and items were then auctioned off. There were 11 items donated and together \$1,040.00 was raised. Greg and I donated a specially marked "Sturgis, SD" bottle of Woodford Reserve bourdon which brought \$350!!

February flew by so fast and with the Governor's Ride in between, I was gone more than I was home. But as I said in the beginning, "All for the good of snowmobiling"! Diane Hiles SDSA Treasurer

# C

# **Dakota Drifters**

L

Hello all from the Dakota Drifters. Our trails this season have been great thanks to mother nature and our groomer operators. We have snow in the forecast, and the trails are definitely still in good shape. A big Thank You goes out to all of the local and not so local riders who have ridden with us this year! We held another poker ride at the end of February and it was a great success with right at 50 riders. Thanks to Lemke's Bar for hosting us, and thanks to all of the stops who helped make the ride possible. Congrats to Tracey, Rod, and Chad for winning the poker drawings, and congrats to Kyle for winning the 50/50 board.

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fundraising events coming up for the convention. We will again be holding our end of the year club party in April. All are invited, more details will be on our Facebook page soon. Thats all for now, enjoy the rest of our winter riding season!

Lynn Nilsson, Dakota Drifters

The Dakota Drifters have been awarded the honor of hosting the 2024 SDSA State Snowmobile Convention in Brookings! We are very excited to work with everyone and plans are already being made have a fun and successful event. Stay tuned for more info in the next few months about our



# Watertown Snowmobile Club

Hello from the Watertown Snowmobile Club! We hope everyone has had a chance to get out and enjoy some snowmobiling this winter! The Northeast has finally had some significant snowfall and I think it is because of our group who heads to Colorado because two years in a row they leave and then we get a blizzard here in Watertown while they are away. However the snow does follow them as the last two years they have also been confined to the cabin a day or two out of the trip due to TOO MUCH wind and snow to be able to see to ride! However they always seem to have a great time! A true snowmobiler is depressed sitting inside the lodge watching the snow pile up on the outside window and they can't go out to play in it! (pics to follow)

Our club met on Sunday, March 5th and it was decided we will not be hosting the Radar Run this year that we had planned on March 11th. We just don't have the man power to put it on with some of our members gone on trips and having other things they need to attend to. We did discuss the trail would be closing soon and our charity report is due. Those who attended Sno Cross in Deadwood and Brandon SD had a great time! If you missed it be sure to check it out next year and oh by the way, dress warm! Each of our board members plan an outing each month so for March we are going to try and do one more trail ride on Sunday, March 12th around our loop. In April we are having a bowling night. Then our last meeting of the season will be Sunday, April 2nd at Cloud 9 at 5pm. Then we will decide on our summer activities. We try to do something each month to stay in touch with our members and fellow sled friends. If you are interested in attending any functions please check out our facebook page-Watertown Snowmobile Club as we try to keep it updated with our events!

Hopefully everyone can get in a few more rides before the snow disappears! Some of our members still have trips planned yet into March to the Hills and the Big Horns!

Have Fun Ride Safe!

Reporting

**Amy Sowers** 

(Ride Free Sara we think about you a lot and miss you so much!)



pic collage of snow piling up outside at the Electric Mountain Lodge (1 hr difference between pics) Paonia CO

3 the Colorado Crew building a fire and having a snack



# C

### Hello everyone!

# C Hallo o

This month we had to postpone our monthly meeting due to all of this AWESOME snow that has been falling. On a positive note, this fresh white powder makes for superb riding. We have really enjoyed riding our sleds around the community and on the trails that we work hard to put in. It has been a great year for snow and we have been taking complete advantage of it. Caden, and a few other members of the Town and Country Snowdrifters' club, even rode their snowmobiles on a fun little poker run. They had a great time with friends and some great snow. Jalen sadly had to miss out, as she was on a trip out in Rapid City supporting her team as a statistician at the state wrestling tournament. The Black Hills received quite a bit of snow while she was out there, making her really wish she could have brought her sled out there. Caden and his family are scheduled to take a snowmobiling trip out to the Black Hills soon, so check out next month's article for an update on that. With that being said we don't have much more to add.

**Town & Country** 

In the wise words of advisor, Jay, "see you on the trails!"

Jalen Hohm and Caden Hojer

# N E W



Participating in **Dakota Drifters** Poker Run 2/25: L-front around circle to R: Brian Erickson, Chad Aker, John Jorgenson, Caden Hojer, Hojer, Michelle Aker, and Erick-Tracey son

### **Poinsett Pounders**

What a year! After 3+ years of not grooming the trails even once, we finally got snow and a lot of it.

It's been wonderful seeing people on the trails again, riding to locations for meetings or just for fun. Poinsett Pounder had a Winter fun day on January 28th in which we had kitty Kat races and a poker run. Even though mother nature had it cooled down a bit that day, we still had a great turnout of kids for the races and over 200 poker hands for the poker run.

It was great seeing people out riding the trails and enjoying time with family and friends!

We are also having our annual champagne and hotdog ride on March 12th on Lake Albert by Hogsback if weather and lake safety permits.



We will have our last club meeting on April 5th and start up again in October for next season.

We look forward to seeing everyone out on the trails!

Until next time, introduce a kid to snowmobiling, be safe out there, and have fun on the snow!

--Josh Raw President, Poinsett Pounders

# C L U B

# Interlakes Snow Roamers

The Snow Roamers next meeting is on March 7th at the Hillside Resort on Lake Madison. We are planning for a Vintage Snowmobile Ride and



Chili Feed at Shawn Martin's south of Lake Madison on March 11th. If the snow

MADISON S.D.

is good he has several fields for sleds to ride in. Check out our new Facebook page and Club logo.

N E W S Photos below are from the Black Hills Snowmobile Club.



# **Northeast Trailblazers**

Hello from the Northeast corner of the state.

It's been a wonderful season for snowmobiling. The trails are getting a lot of traffic, it's fun to see all the sleds out. We've been limited on snow the last few years, but we are making up for it this year. With that said, I'm ready for Spring. And with calving season right around the corner we need some nice weather. I do remember quite a few years ago checking the cows on snowmobiles over the calving season, let's hope we don't revisit that again.

I talked to few families with young kids that just got a snowmobile. They remembered all the fun they had on sleds when they were younger and want to share that experience with their family. Our club sponsored a youth ride on a beautiful Sunday afternoon, just before another snow storm hit. We invited all the youth in our community to come out to Scott and Michelle Nelson's farm for a ride on a snowmobile. The youth experienced riding on a snowmobile, snacks, hot chocolate and playing in the snow. We had over 20 very excited youth that experienced there first ride on a snowmobile. A huge thank you to Scott and Michelle for hosting and all the club members that donated their time and sleds for the afternoon.

Northeast Trailblazers March meeting is on the 9th at Mikey's in New Effington.

Stay Warm and Ride Safe. Gina Steen





N E W S

# Sioux Falls Sno Trackers



Sno Trackers has had a busy month!! Charity Rides, Poker Runs and a group trip to Wisconsin.

On February 4, Steve's Bar in Trent, SD an Associate Member of Sno Trackers had a poker run with over 130 hands sold. They charged \$20 per hand with 100 percent payout and a 50/50 drawing. Five stops were included on the run. Sno Trackers made sure the trail was groomed so

everyone could take part in the event.

On February 5th many attended the Interlake Sno Roamers Hillside Vintage Show on Long Lake. Great Show with Hot Dogs and Smores on the open fire and Couch rides pulled by a snowmobile. First Couch I have seen on skis.

Then on February 10th & 11th we attended the Governor's ride in the Hills at Spearfish Holiday Inn for meet the legislators and then for a great Buffet Breakfast at Hardy camp west of Trailshead Lodge. We had great support from the GFP, Forestry Service and Legislators and had four groups on the ride. Although the group was smaller, we had a great ride traveling south from Hardy Camp.

To Wisconsin we go on February 16th through the 19th. We stayed in Cabins at Tri-Lake Timbers Resort outside of Iron River, Wisconsin. We traveled to Lake Superior the first day making several stops on the way. That evening we had a Soup Buffets put on by members of our club. The following day we went south to Drummond to see the Bar Stool Races, the creativity of those in the races was something to see. They had some original Bar stool Creations. Next year we may have to join as "Team South Dakota".

Those that did not go to Wisconsin attend the Charity Ride from Mike's Bar in Sherman, SD, on February 18th. They sold 60 hands as a Benefit to Dan Hansen the previous owner of the Bar that suffered a stroke and many medical bills. Thanks to all that attended.

Then come February 25th Jarvis Brende 1st Annual Memorial Ride from the Baltic Corner Bar another Associate member by Baltic, SD. They sold 139 hands at \$20 per hand and gave each of the locations on the trail a lot of business. Again, Sno Trackers made sure we had the trail groomed to make it a great event. Jarvis Brende was a snowmobile killed by Hartford, SD. when he was hit by a car on HWY 38. He will be missed!!

To close out the month and start march we have Sno Cross at Husets. We had 360 sign ups to win \$50 gift cards and added 5 new members to the club. Thanks to everyone that helped with the booth, we could not have did it without you.

We have our next club meeting on April 6th at The Best Western Ramkota to continue planning the convention for December 1st and 2nd in Sioux Falls. Currently we have a Vintage Show, Vendor Booths, Avalanche Class, Polaris Ride Command training and Snowmobiling 101 Safety course. The Convention theme is "Snowmobiling brings Family, Friends and Fun" Check our Facebook page for more to come.

> Have a Great Summer and see you in the fall. Reporting Duane Duerr







# **Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Association**

The Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Club has had a busy month. Several of our club members were able to participate in the Northeast Trailblazers Poker ride the end of January. We completed our Mega Poker Ride on February 11th. The snow had started to melt but we still had enough that a lot of the participants were able to ride the whole trail. The weather was so nice that a few even rode on Motor cycles. Winners this year included Doug Barland, 1st, Cyndi Wiseman 2nd and Brad Swenson 3rd. It was great to see so many sleds using the trails this year.

Since the 11th we have been blessed with additional snowfall and in fact at times almost too much snow, but, our trail is again in great shape for riding. We hosted a club ride on March 5th, more details on this in next month's article.

We are in the process of reviewing Scholarship applications for this year's scholarship, and hope to have this completed by the 1st of April.

Ride Safe and have fun til next Month Shelly

Secretary, Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Association







# C

# **Black Hills Snowmobile Club**

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Hello again, WOW what an amazing winter we have had. The Black Hills are still getting snow – so you still have time to enjoy some hills riding.

. .

The Governors ride took place February 10th and 11th as planned. Our club provide the breakfast for the SDSA members, state delegates and family members along with the Games, Fish & Parks personal that attended. Club members helped prepare and serve breakfast for roughly 65 people at Hardy Camp on Saturday.

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We also completed the annual club ride in Dubois Wy. Many members battled the Wyoming blizzard to make the trip on February 22nd. We even had our North Dakota riders make it through to join us again this year. We rode the first day out of Line Shack and did a lot of tree riding and along some beautiful creek beds with all members arriving back to home base safely. Day 2 we decided to head up the mountain towards Togwotee and found even better snow conditions. We found big untouched meadows to play, along with a few hills to climb and a lot of tree riding. One club member got a bit to "close and personal" with a pine tree and another had a hard stop with a rock. Needless to say this required some late night repairs. No problem because the whole crew made it out for the 3rd day of riding. We started from the same location up the mountain. Again, we had some fun testing our limits and enjoying the warmest day of our rides. The day ended back in the parking lot where we would attempt a world record for getting as many people as possible in a snowmobile trailer (picture included). Where we had to hydrate and have a few snacks. I can attest to how much fun this group has when all together. We made some lasting memories and have more than enough stories to get us through until next season. Thank you to our leaders, Brian Boock and Rick Schuelke for getting the group started in the right direction every day. Thanks to every club member who helped locate stuck riders and help them out, made sure the we all left an area together, made sure the path forged was ok for everyone's riding ability and to those who always brought up the end to make sure we all made it back safely.

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Our club will end with the last regularly monthly meeting March 7th. We will wrap up club business and elect a few new officers. The club had such a great turnout at our summer ATV/ UTV fun ride- camping weekend last June we have decided to do this again. The date we currently have planned is for June 23rd-25th weekend. Please follow our club Facebook page for additional information during the snowmobile off season.

Until next time: IF YOU ASK A FRIEND TO GO RIDING AND THEY SAY NO – UNFRIEND THAT PERSON, YOU DO NOT NEED THAT KIND OF NEGATIVITY IN YOUR LIFE!!!!

ENJOY the rest of your snowmobile season. Holly Thomas, BHSC Secretary photos are included elsewhere in this issue

# Snowmobiling – 30 Years

Ken Stewart wrote this article MANY years ago and gave it to me to re-run when I had room. It's been a busy snow season so I've saved it for last! I enjoyed reading it, hope that you will too!

1969 was the beginning of an organization that would become one of the strongest volunteer groups in South Dakota. In the fall of 1969 the first South Dakota Snowmobile convention was held at the Sunny Side Inn in Watertown. Duane Mack presided over the meeting. It started at about 2 p.m. and was over by 4:30 p.m. There was about 12 or 15 people in attendance. The subject of the convention was entirely on the subject of racing. From here SDSA was on its way up with a few rough spots on the way. Duane Mack was the first president of SDSA and seemed to have a second sense on when and how to take the organization on its way. Duane started a newsletter, printing it in his basement. Clubs began to spring up all over South Dakota. The organization was growing to the point that we needed a goal and some regulations to achieve this goal.

Many hours were spent driving and flying (Duane had a plane) to Pierre to talk to legislators and Game Fish & Parks people to get laws passed to the best interest of snowmobile families. We wrote the registration laws to follow the motor vehicle laws with a \$10 per year license fee. The money from this fee went into the county bridge fund. The funds from this fee, we felt, should be used for snowmobile trails so the snowmobile trails fund was established. \$8 of the \$10 was to be put in the trails fund, a dedicated fund to be only used for the promotion and establishment of snowmobile trails. We needed someone to administer this fund.

The state organization that ran somewhat close to our sport was Game Fish & Parks so they were chosen to administer this fund. There was an advisory council chosen from people interested in snowmobiling across the state to advise GFY P on the expenditure of this money.

When Gov. Janklow became Governor he felt he should appoint this group therefore giving it more credibility. The next thing was the gas tax refund. We felt the tax we paid on the gas we used in our sleds should go into the trails fund. After a long uphill battle, we got the legislators to pass a bill allowing the return of the tax money based on 100 gallons of gas for each registered sled in South Dakota. The people out west (the nine coun-

ties on the western border of SD) decided they wanted to have the funds from the gas tax refund and from the license fee to go to the county treasure of each county to be spent in that county.

I was elected to the board of directors in 1976. I had been involved in my local club in Redfield than in SDSA but I had seen some things happening that I didn't like very well. I thought it was unproductive to have the state split into two areas. I found that the county commissioners were not realizing the funds that came in from the license and gas tax. They didn't want to spend "tax payer" money on snowmobiling. After countless trips to the Black Hills at our own expense and man hours of time we eventually got all the funds put into the trails fund and the whole state under one roof. We reorganized the Board of Directors to include the Black Hills.

In 1985 we had the opportunity to host the International snowmobile congress. This is the organization made up of delegates from 29 states and all the provinces of Canada to protect and monitor snowmobiling across the whole Snowbelt. It was very challenging and we made SDSA some money to operate our organization. I was the chairman of the congress and with the help of Don Grable, Marilyn Ruediger and many others we held a very successful congress.

I was attending a Midwest chapter meeting and one of the other state delegates mentioned that they held a legislator ride each year. I thought why not go one step further and host a Governors Ride. After a lot of planning and convincing we got the ride set up. We took Gov. Janklow and his group snowmobiling. The Governor rode like a madman and did he ever have fun. There were many pictures taken. One of him flying thru the air on his sled that ended up on the cover of the SD highway map.

The Governor and I were standing talking at the foot of the hill at four corners when I realized he had his mind on something else. All of a sudden he turned and said "look at all of these snowmobiles and this beautiful scenery, we are missing the boat, we need to promote this." Two weeks later the Black Hills was full of cameras, tourism people interviewing snowmobilers, resort owners, SDSA officers, club members and anyone else interested in snowmobiling. Shortly after, a video was produced and in the hands of every snowmobile club in North America.

I was at another Midwest chapter meeting when it was mentioned about a tax that some association was trying to get access to. I got the idea that we should try to get the 3% tax we were paying on snowmobiles when we purchased them. Again after a lot of work and trips to Pierre we got the bill passed. The funds raised from these taxes went into the trails fund and became our largest source of income

In the past 30 years my family came first and snowmobiling and SDSA was my second love. Snowmobiling has been good to me. My family is all interested in snowmobiling and supports me to the fullest. I have received many rewards including snowmobiler of the year in SD, national snowmobiler of the year, inducted into the international hall of fame and president of the Iron Dogs.

Over the 30 years there have been many challenges and there will continue to be. As I write this there are groups of extremists out there trying to shut down snowmobiling. Not only are they trying to shut snowmobiling tut they want to shut everyone out of federal lands. Duane Sutton and I just got back from Washington DC where we and representatives from 24 states talked to our representatives and Senators about taking our rights away on national public lands. We feel public lands belong to us not the Government. We know we have to take care of the land so that we, our kids, grandkids and great grandkids can enjoy the forest and the lands. Do your part to help keep our land open to the public. Happy snowmobiling.





### **Aberdeen Driftbusters**

We have just come through another multiday snow event which affected most of the state once again. We received over 7 inches and the groomers were ready to hit the trails after this much needed snow. The high winds which accompanied the storm whipped up some nice drifts. Like many other clubs, we have had a lot of fun hosting several snowmobile events this winter. People enjoyed the Poker Ride in January

so much that we held another one the end of February after the very timely snow. Nearly 80 hands were drawn and fun was had by all. Thanks to club members who contributed to the prize money fund: Gelling Auto, Millstone Restaurant and Ken's Shell Express. Our radar run held in early February was also well attended and it was fun to see all the old sleds and some familiar faces from racing days at the event. We've been blessed with the best weather for all of our events and have gained some new members in the process.

As our riding season is coming to an end, members were reminded at the March meeting of the last grooming date and the need to remove trail signs by May 1. There has been some interest in extending our trail back to Columbia so we'll see if there are volunteers willing to put in the new section. We will confirm our trail route for next year at our April meeting.

Here's hoping for this is the start of a snow cycle so we can repeat all this fun again next year! Kelly Weaver





Photos below are from the radar run and the poker run



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We were saddened to hear of the passing of another SDSA member, Keith Crago. Keith was a member of the James Valley Driftskippers. Keith is pictured below at the convention in 2016.

Keith Crago, 82, of Mitchell, SD, passed away February 28, 2023, at his home peacefully with his dogs, Kookie and Ziggy, by his side.

Keith Virgil "Clutch" Crago was born on June 11, 1940 in Corsica, SD to Lyle & Adeline (Schnabel) Crago, where he attended the Baker 41 rural school. He worked on the family farm and also spent many summers working at his aunt and uncle's farm in Platte. Keith enlisted in the National Guard in 1959. After the National Guard, he moved to Mitchell and

started his employment at Dick's Body Shop. On May 1, 1964, he married VivaDell "Vi" Herr. Into this union was born one daughter, Victoria in 1964, and one son Kyle in 1967.

His love for cars led him to his lifelong career as an autobody technician and tow truck driver at Dick's Body Shop. Keith and Vi bought the business from Dick Miller in 1983 and Keith continued to work there until February 2023, when he retired at age 82. Keith was still applying his legendary skills as semi wrecker operator until his retirement.

He was a member of the James Valley Drift Skippers, OutKast Car Club, South Dakota Automotive Association, and the Moose Lodge. He enjoyed many years at Thunder Valley Drag Strip with his family where he obtained his nickname "Clutch".

Keith also enjoyed snowmobiling, pontooning on Lake Mitchell and Okoboji, gardening, four-wheeling and most of all restoring his old cars. He was very proud of all the awards he received at the car shows he attended. Keith also enjoyed visiting with his many friends over a cold beer.



# Current Comm

### **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

### ittees

### Investments

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

### **Snowmobilers for Snowmobilers**

- 1.SDSA President
- 2. Jason Shepherd
- 3. Sheridan La Framboise
- 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

### UT\

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

### M



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



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



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



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





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

23. Carey Holt Clear Lake, SD

Dakota

03/2019

21.Mary Anne Grabow

**Dakota Trail Blazers** 

Gary, SD

10/2018





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



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

Trailblazers-



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



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



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



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



15. Brian Erickson Arlington, SD Town & Country Snowdrifters 11/2017



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



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



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



27. Virginia Hojer Oldham, SD Town & Country Snowdrifters 02/2020



7. Greg Hiles DeSmet, SD Town & Country Snowdrifters 11/2015



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



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



8. Russell Johnson Beresford, SD Trailbusters 12/2015



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



29. Myrna Knadle DeSmet, SD Town & Country Snowdrifters 10/2020



9.Lisa Johnson Beresford, SD Trailbusters 12/2015



20.Marty Grabow Gary,SD **Dakota Trail Blazers** 

SDSA member 3/2018

19. Rich Nelson

Miller.SD

10/2018



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



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



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

32. Judy Nelson

33. Dennis Nelson

East

East

Sisseton, SD

Sisseton.SD

North

1/2021

North

1/2021



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

Legacy Membership

\$500

(1) Any individual active member is eligible for legacy membership,

and is willing to pay current

an active member.

membership dues

legacy membership dues. Dues

must be paid prior to granting a legacy membership. A legacy member maintains the same privileges as

(2) To honor the dedicated interest

in snowmobiling and in club activi-

ties, a snowmobile club in good standing with SDSA, may sponsor

an individual club member for a

the individual, the current legacy

Legacy Membership by making an

application and paying, on behalf of

who has an interest in snowmobiling



41.Jody Lemme Arlington, SD Poinsett Pounders 11/2021





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



Trailblazers

**Trailblazers** 



43.Richard Berens Milbank, SD Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Association 8/2022



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



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



46. Sheridan LaFramboise Rapid City SD Black Hills Snowmobile Association

11/2022



47 Marvin Keimig Jr Clear Lake, SD **Dakota Trail Blazers** 



03/2023



48. Kim Hehn Clear Lake, SD **Dakota Trail Blazers** 03/2023



35. Wayne Boeke Clear Lake, SD Dakota Trail Blazers 7/2021



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



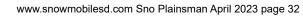
37. Roger Seloover Sioux Falls, SD by his daughter Char 10/2021



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



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



# MaryAnne Grabow, SPSA Secretary/Editor

Last issue for the season? Really? Where did that time go?

I didn't put an article in last month and was surprised by the number of calls and emails that I received wondering why I didn't write one. Most of the people knew that I was limited on space and didn't feel I had anything to say that you all needed to hear! It's nice to know that people do read my article, though!

I can't believe it but I am in my twentieth year of working with SDSA! My first day was January 1, 2004. It feels like I just started yesterday but apparently, that's not the case!



Since this is the final issue for the season, I can't emphasize enough how grateful we are for the continued support of all the advertisers, associate members and SDSA members! Without each one of you, SDSA couldn't continue to be the voice of snowmobiling that we are! The excellent snow this year allowed our associate membership to grow this year and we hope that when the year is over, we'll show an increase in the number of family memberships as well! Year end doesn't roll around until June 30th!

Did you all see the video that was released about the YETIS on youtube? If you didn't see it, you really should take the time to find it and view it. It's short and sweet but what a positive video for South Dakota snowmobilers! Great job YETIS! I'll provide the link here so that it's easier for you to find it! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqjv6bBVVKw

Shout out to Audrey Rider for the great leadership that she has and is providing for the YETIS! You are a gift to SDSA!

ACSA Fly in will take place this year! This hasn't happened due to Covid for several years and we are excited to have the chance to visit with lawmakers in Washington, DC once again! Several SDSA members and leaders will be in attendance!

ISC will be in Moline Illinois this summer. That's always a highlight of the summer. Meetings with lots of important issues and fellowship time with old and new friends. Who can beat that? You should consider attending!

Milbank Show will be in June too. Marty & I always try to help out with the auction there. Still up in the air whether it fits into my schedule this year, but if I can make it, I'll be there!

I hope that you'll all enjoy what's left of the snow. Take in that last trip to the Hills or the Mountains! Perhaps we'll see each other somewhere this summer and if not, I'll see you again in the fall!

Mary Anne



# Marshall Rollr Blade

SW Ridgerunners Snowmobile Club needed a better way to groom and pack the trail base on their 168 miles of trails in Lyon County. Groomer operators tried grooming with just a roller, but noticed it was not laying down a good trail as it was leaving groomer tracks exposed in the snow. In addition, during the beginning of the snowmobile season, along with heavy snows, the groomer drags were difficult to use.

Built out of necessity, Doug Anderson, the Trail Coordinator for SW Ridgerunners, came up with the idea of a box blade and roller combination with transport wheels. The 8 foot wide Marshall Rollr Blade is manufactured at Marshall Machine Shop, Inc., in Marshall, MN and is for sale, according to Doug, owner of Marshall Machine Shop, Inc.

These units are built heavy in order to pack the snow base and roll through deep snow. The front box blade can carry snow along to fill in spots and hydraulically lifts up to dump the snow, when needed. The large 36" diameter roller lays the trail down and makes the unit pull easier and the six "pizza cutters" on the drum prevents sliding on side hills. The transport wheels are only used when not on the trail.

The Ridgerunners are grooming with 2 Tucker Snow Cats, 2 Marshall Rollr Blades, and 2 drags. Doug says, "With the Marshall Rollr Blade, we are able to start grooming with less snow and use less fuel while running faster ground speeds."

The Marshall Rollr Blade is a new design to aid in the snowmobile trail grooming industry.

For more information contact Marshall Machine Shop, Inc. 507-532-3613

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

### Photo from Black Hills Snowmobile Club:







Badger Oil, Inc

Badger, SD









This year to help with the cost of the show we will be etching your favorite sled (new or old) on a mug for a small fee. You are welcome to come be a participant or if you can't attend, we will mail it to you.

Please go to

www.milbankshow.com

Contact Cal 605-880-1578

or Linda 605-880-1803



# Cur Associate Members

### District 1

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

 $t\,r\,a\,i\,l\,s\,h\,e\,a\,d\,l\,o\,d\,g\,e\,.\,c\,o\,m$ 

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

District 2

Elite Fabz & Design 1807 S Valley Drive Rapid City SD 57703

Rices Polaris of the Black Hills 11740 Constitution St Summerset, SD 57718 RRMWeSellFun.com

French's Upholstery 1511 E Philadelphia St Rapid City, SD 57703

Rice's Spearfish Canyon Motorsports

3245 E Colorado Blvd Spearfish, SD 57783

Sumners Automotive 1807 S Valley Drive Rapid City, SD 57703

Rice's Rapid Motorsports 3337 E Maill Drive Rapid City, SD 57701 RRMWesellFun.com

District 3

Curts Motor Sports 2323 W Hwy 12 Aberdeen SD 57401

Millstone Family Restaurant 2210 6th Ave SE Aberdeen SD 57401 605-229-4105

facebook.com/aberdeenmillstone

Herreid Sporting Center

Box 215 Herreid SD 57632

Hepper's Sport Center 501 N Hwy 281 Aberdeen SD 57401 605-225-9279 hepperssportcenter.com

Gellings Auto 503 N Roosevelt Aberdeen SD 57401 gellingsautoservice.com C-Express

2303 SD 6th Avenue Aberdeen, SD 57401

**Biegler Construction** 382021 N Shore Drive Aberdeen SD 57401

Wakeside Bar & Grill 103 Sunset Drive Mina SD

Richmond Oasis 12845 382nd Ave Aberdeen, SD 57401

Elite Collision Center 3011 8th Ave NE Aberdeen SD 57401

Anchors Away 12800 S Shore Drive Aberdeen SD 57401

Aberdeen Convention & Visitors Aberdeen SD 57401

Mack's Auto Body 803 Third Ave SE Aberdeen, SD 57401 District 4

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

District 5

Palace MotoSports 600 S Sanborn Mitchell, SD 57301

Olson's Pest Technicians 178 Spring St Yankton SD 57078

CHS East Farmers Coop 601 S Depot Ave Garretson, SD 57030 Sioux Equipment 1310 E 39th St N Sioux Falls SD 57104

**The Gulch** 516 Main St Garretson, SD 57030

**Performance Press** 900 E Redwood Blvd Brandon, SD 47003

Hillside Resort 46042 238th St Wentworth, SD

Track 2 Trail Arctic Cat 2905 W Russell Sioux Falls SD track2trail.com

Trails Work Consulting 3400 S Florence Avenue Sioux Falls, SD 57103 605-371-9799

Steve's Bar Trent SD

Vern Eide Motoplex 4915 N Northview Ave Sioux Falls SD 57107 verneidemotoplex.com

Fresh Horses Saloon 106 Willow Street Sioux Falls SD 57107

Nordstroms Automotive Inc 5513 48th Ave Garretson SD 57030 nordstromsauto.com

**Tailgators** 1013 Splitrock Blvd Brandon, SD 57003

Pizza Ranch 500 W 4th Street Dell Rapids SD 57022

Baltic Corner Inc 25001 475th Avenue Dell Rapids SD 57022

Palisades Propane Inc & Palisades Oil 25353 485th Ave Garretson SD 57030

**The Point** 23491 Johnson Pt Rd Madison SD 57042

Crow Bar Lounge 3805 S Minnesota Ave Sioux Falls SD 57105

One Stop 1104 NW 2nd Street Madison SD 57042

Classic Corner LP 500 SE 10th St Madison SD 57042 Mike's Bar 512 N Clark Ave Dell Rapids, SD 57022

Prohibition Pub 313 N Garfield Dell Rapids SD 57022

District 6

VFW Post 3486 205 Thirst St S Milbank SD 57252

**Ships Inn Bar & Grill** P O Box 155 Castlewood SD 57223

Midwest Powersports Inc P O Box 1003 Milbank SD 57252

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

Johnny's Sports Bar 1404 Morningside Drive Milbank SD 57252

**Lancers Bar** 720 Main Wilmot SD

Twin Valley Tire 516 W 4th Ave Milbank, SD 57252

Fiberglass Specialties 1225 14th St SE Watertown, SD 57201

**Triple C (Back Door Pub)** 220 E 2nd Avenue Milbank SD 57252

The Wharf 1108 S Wheatland Ave Sioux Falls SD 57106

**SoDak Shores** 13514 SoDak Road Wilmot SD 57279

First Premier Bank 824 34th St SE Watertown SD 57201

Speedway Bar & Grill 221 E Third Ave Milbank SD 57252

BLU Salon & Spa 213 9th Ave SE Watertown, SD

**Glacial Lakes Powersports** 1605 9th Ave SW Watertown, SD 57201

Cloud 9 Bar & Grill Watertown SD 57201

# Cur Associate Members

**Bobcat of Watertown** 1800 9th Ave SE Watertown, SD 57201

Gunslingers Bar 203 Twin Brooks Rd Twin Brooks SD 57269

Advantage RV & Trailers 922 23rd St SW Watertown, SD 57201

Exit Realty Connection 1001 9th Ave SE Watertown, SD 57201

Prairie Stop 1007 9th Ave SW Watertown, SD 57201

South Dakota Shop 633 21st St SW Watertown, SD 57201

**212 One Stop** 305 Main Henry, SD

Food N Fuel 103 W 4th Ave Milbank SD 57252

MacDaddy's 757 Main St Big Stone City, SD 57216

GoFaster Powersports LLC 209 NW 1st St Ortonville MN 56278 gofasters.com

Keller Kountry Korner P O Box 71 Wallace SD

Milbank Grand Stay Hotel & Suites
1005 South Dakota Street

Milbank, SD 57252

<u>District 7</u> **Lemme Agency, Inc** 19553 US Hwy 81 Arlington SD 57212 www.lemmeagency.com

**Adee Honey** 517 Jay Street Bruce SD 57220

Jackrabbit Tire & Service 225 Third Ave S Brookings, SD 57006 www.snowmobilesd.com Sno PlainsmanApril 2023Page 38

**Bushnell Garage** 47818 Main Bushnell SD 57276

Valley Restaurant & Catering 103 Caspian Volga SD

**The Ridge** 919 Jay St Bruce SD 57220

Lefty's P O Box 857 White, SD 57276

Back in Motion Chiropractic 1453 6th St Brookings, SD 57006 brandenburgerchiro.com

**Brookings Powersports** 1723 16th Ave W Brookings, SD 57006

Lemke's Bar & Grill 213 N Broadway Aurora, SD 57002

Aurora Auto Body & Glass 203 Broadway Aurora, SD 57002

**Bothun Insurance** 307 Sixth St City Plaza Brookings, SD 57006

**B & E Auto Repair** 105 N Samara Ave Volga SD 57279

Jay Street Pub 915 Doe St Bruce SD 57220

Handimart P O Box 301 Arlington SD

BLU Salon & Spa 1118 Sixth St Brookings, SD 57006

Hamlin County Farmers Coop P O Box 68 Hayti, SD 57241

Midway Camp 46576 211th Street Volga, SD 57071 **Ponderosa Hills** 105 N Samara Ave Brookings, SD 57006 VRBO 356446

Siouxland Bar & Grill 19555 Hwy 81 Arlington SD

Kings Lanes/Schmidty's 101 Main Arlington SD 57212

The Lucky Dog Bar & Grill 323 Hwy 14 Volga, SD 57071

The Corner Gas & Goodies White, SD

**Blacks Pheasants Fields**Estelline, SD

**Badger Oil** Badger SD

Massage by Bre 321 E Main Badger, SD 57214

**Weiland Marine- Gilby's Marine** 19592 US Hwy 81 Arlington, SD 57212

Braun's Lawns LLC 1817 Lincoln Lane Brookings, SD 57006 Citizens State Bank 108 E Main Castlewood, SD

Knotty Pine Supper Club 1014 Co Hwy 10 Elkton SD 57026

Other Members Sledtrack.com 115 Allen Rd Port Crane, NY 13833 607-693-1031 sledtrack.com

Track Inc 1809 Hwy 8 Monico WI 54501

Hilton Garden Inn Laramie 2229 Grand Avenue Laramie WY 82070 laramie.stayhgi.com

**Tucker SnoCat** 2872 S Pacific Highway Medford OR 97501

S and K Trailers 2709 212th Street Blairsburg IA 50034

### SDSA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP \$50 PER YEAR

Name	
Address	
City/State	
Zip	

Thank you for your donation in support of snowmobiling in South Dakota mail to SDSA
P O Box 206 Gary SD 57237

### 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 & Camp-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 Russell 2905 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



\*Dakota

### verneidemotoplex.com



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

Motor

dakotamotorsportsllc.com

**Interlakes Sport Center** 702 SW 10th Street Madison 57042-1-800-727-0672

10% off all snowmobile clothing, parts, oil and accessories



interlakessportcenter.com



\*Midwest Power **Sports** 1608 Morningside 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!

\*Mystic Hills Hideaway 21766 Custer Peak Road Deadwood SD **57732** 605-584-4713 \$20 off a room er stay December 15 -

March 15 mystichillshideaway@gmail.com mystichillshideaway.com



\*Palace Motorsports 600 S Sanborn Blvd Mitchell SD 57301 605-996-6282 10% off all snowmobile clothing & acces-

palacemotosportsinc.com

\*Power Brokers Inc 2819 W Benson Road Sioux Falls SD 57107 605-334-7355 10% off on snowmobile parts & accessories powerbrokersinc.com





roelofsen.com

\*Spearfish Canyon Lodge 10619 Roughlock Falls Road Lead, SD 57754 605-584-3435 10% off a room spfcanyon.com



\*Hepper's Sport Cen-501 N Hwy 281 Aberdeen, SD 57401 (605-225-9279) -10% off all snowmo-

bile clothing, oil and accessories .hepperssportcenter.com

\*Recreational Springs, Lead SD 10% off one night hotel stay

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

April 22 - April 25 ACSA Fly in

June 8 - 10

ISC Moline Illinois

May 6 9 am Gov Advisory Council/SDSA BOARD follows

December 1 - December 2 54th Annual SDSA Convention

June 1 -3 Milbank Show & Swap

Sioux Falls Sno Trackers will host the 54th Annual SDSA Convention at the Ramkota in Sioux Falls December 1 & 2, 2023.



### WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN SDSA?

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.



# Snowmobile Supporters



# Become a South Dakota Snowmobile Association Back the Ride Donor

### About Us...

We are an organization of Snowmobilers working to promote and protect snowmobiling in South Dakota and throughout the country. We work closely with South Dakota GF&P, local federal forest managers and many State and local legislators to keep the outdoor recreation of Snowmobiling alive and well in our State for generations to come. SDSA also partners with the American Council of Snowmobile Associations. ACSA works on a more national level and brings the state associations together as a single stronger voice for Snowmobiling.

- Your tax deductible donation will continue to enable the positive work that the South Dakota Snowmobile Association does throughout South Dakota and nationwide. Such as...
  - Supporting the sport of snowmobiling and motorized recreation through continued access to trails and public lands.
  - Networking opportunities with fellow snowmobile enthusiasts .
  - Offering safety courses, basic riding courses, and avalanche training.
  - ♦ Lobbying for federal trail funding of the Rails to Trails Program.
- We hope you will consider becoming a SDSA Back the Ride Donor Today
- Your donation can be made either on-line through the website at https://snowmobilesd.com/ or by check made to SDSA ~ % Back the Ride.

### Donor Levels

- ⇒ Platinum Donor Sponsor Level—\$1,000 +
- ⇒ Gold Donor Sponsor Level—\$999—\$500
- ⇒ Copper Donor Sponsor Level—\$499—\$250
- ⇒ Silver Donor Sponsor Level—\$249-\$100
- ⇒ Bronze Donor Sponsor Level—\$25-\$99

Go above and beyond and become a donor today!

- In exchange you will be listed annually as a SDSA Back the Ride Sponsor in the last issue
  of the SnoPlainsman along with being listed on the SDSA Webpage as a Back the Ride
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- For more information contact a South Dakota Snowmobile Association Board Director or the SDSA Secretary.



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