

THE SOUTH DAKOTA SNOW PLAINSMAN

The official publication of the South Dakota Snowmobile Association

October 2023



SDSA CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Full Registrations: include Friday Beer & Bull and Auction, Saturday meeting Break, Lunch and Programs, Awards Banquet and Entertainment. Children's registrations include all meals with Parents and activities on Friday night and Saturday. Youth are ages 6-14; 5 and under are free.

PRE-REGISTRATION (Before 10/15/2023)

	Fee		Number	=	Total
<input type="radio"/> Adult Registration	\$130	x	_____	=	_____
<input type="radio"/> Youth with Banquet	\$80	x	_____	=	_____
<input type="radio"/> Youth w/o Banquet	\$55	x	_____	=	_____

Late Registration (After 11/15/2023)

	Fee		Number	=	Total
<input type="radio"/> Adult Registration	\$150	x	_____	=	_____
<input type="radio"/> Youth with Banquet	\$100	x	_____	=	_____
<input type="radio"/> Youth w/o Banquet	\$75	x	_____	=	_____

Individual Tickets*

ADULT TICKETS

	Fee		Number	=	Total
<input type="radio"/> Friday Beer & Bull and Auction	\$50	x	_____	=	_____
<input type="radio"/> Saturday Lunch & Programs	\$30	x	_____	=	_____
<input type="radio"/> Awards Banquet and Entertainment	\$50	x	_____	=	_____

YOUTH TICKETS

	Fee		Number	=	Total
<input type="radio"/> Friday Beer Bull and Auction	\$25	x	_____	=	_____
<input type="radio"/> Saturday Lunch and Programs	\$20	x	_____	=	_____
<input type="radio"/> Awards Banquet and Entertainment	\$30	x	_____	=	_____

Shirts (long Sleeve) Size _____
Sweatshirts (crew Neck) Size _____

\$30	x	_____	=	_____
\$35	x	_____	=	_____

***Continental Breakfast Provided by Ramkota.**

***All PRICES \$5 MORE IF PAID AT THE DOOR.**

Total Registration Fees \$_____

For planning purposes please indicate the number of Persons interested in Free Activities below:

- ☐ Avalanche Class with Mike Duffy
- ☐ Polaris Ride Command
- ☐ Snowmobile Safety course and Snowmobiling 101.
- ☐ Make and Take Craft project.

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ADULT NAME(S): _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: _____
PHONE#: _____ E-MAIL: _____
CLUB: _____ 1ST SDSA CONVENTION: YES NO
YOUTH NAMES: (6-14) _____ (0-5) _____

No refunds will be given after November 15th, 2023

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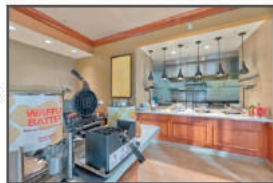
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From SDSA's President

Duane Duerr Brandon, South Dakota



Kids are on their way back to school, after a really hot summer temperatures are starting to cool down and Harvest is beginning. What a great year for snow last season for Snowmobilers, Associate Members, Dealers, Resorts, etc.

This summer I had a great time at ACSA in Moline, ILL. Many locations had great snow and some awesome Ideas to share. We enjoyed a Riverboat Supper on the Mississippi River and seen the home base for John Deere. It was neat seeing Interlakes Sports Center win the International Dealer of the year award and to be inducted into the Hall of Fame at Eagle River Wisconsin on September 15th.

The Farmer's Almanac forecast Snow and cold for the upcoming season. So let's start early in planning membership events. ISMA has a \$200 grant for clubs having their membership event on October 28th. The number of registered sleds is up in South Dakota so "Lets grow with snow!"

SDSA 2023 convention this year is in Sioux Falls, SD. at the Best Western Ramkota on December 1st and 2nd. Avalanche Safety with Mike Duffy open to the public, Polaris Ride Command-know where your kids are! Snowmobile 101 and Safety Training, Build your own Arts and Craft. The room block is set up and registration is coming soon. You can also register and pay online at sfsnotrackers.com. Be sure to get your room early before they are all taken.

Here is where I need your help, everyone has someone that has made a difference!! By getting these in it makes Saturday events much better!!

- Groomer of the year.
- Youth Snowmobiler of the year.
 - Teen Snowmobiler of the year.
 - Male Snowmobiler of the year.
 - Female Snowmobiler of the year.
 - Family Snowmobiler of the year.
 - Snowmobile Club of the year.

This may be our best year ever so let's start now and make it great.



***To the left:
Here's where we stand with fundraising for
the YETI Scholarship that was established
in honor of Jon LaFramboise! We still have
quite a bit to raise!***

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at

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Phone 569-0323

District 1

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

District 2**Director: Mike Boock**

Black Hills Snowmobile Club
Brad Richey, President
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 Jim Friedt
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.
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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@rawfamily.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

Dakota Drifters Snowmobile Club

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



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From SDSA's President-Elect

Kelly Weaver, Aberdeen, SD

Wow! I can't believe it is fall already. Even though the sleds have been stored away for the summer, snowmobiling has been pretty front and center this summer. Here's a quick update of the off season action.

During our SDSA May Board meeting, Ryan Raynor reported on the great snow year we had. It was a record breaking year for East River trails with more than 2,300 grooming hours and nearly \$200,000 in grooming expense reimbursements. We can't thank our groomers and trail volunteers enough. We should NOT be lacking for Groomer of the Year nominations at Convention this year! Fundraising tickets for the SDSA BIG Payout were distributed so now is great time to kickoff sales if you haven't already. Last year, SDSA had 669 individual/family members which is below our budgeted goal of 750 members. Let's take advantage of events this fall to capitalize on the excitement of last year's good snow year and increase membership.

It was with regret that we accepted Diane Hiles' resignation as SDSA Treasurer. She has done a great job keeping us all informed on SDSA's fiscal activities and will do an equally fine job of assisting her replacement as she transitions out at the end of 2023. The search is underway – please encourage club members with fiscal abilities to apply. Position details can be found at <https://snowmobilesd.com/employment>.

In June, South Dakota was well represented at the International Snowmobile Congress (ISC) in Moline, IL. This event brings together the American Council of State Associations (ACSA) and the Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organizations (CCSO) to talk about all things snowmobiling, inform us of regulations and laws affecting our sport, and share best practices for operating and growing our associations and clubs. A new initiative for ACSA this year is the creation of a Youth Ambassador Program. They are currently seeking input from 12-30 year olds. (see QR code in Tracey's article on page 27) International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association (ISMA) shared a report on the state of the industry. Some 2023 facts can be found at: <https://snowmobile.org/snowmobile-facts-2023-08.html>

Together with about 400 of our snowmobile friends, we were able to celebrate SDSA members receiving awards this year. SDSA Secretary/Editor Mary Anne Grabow was inducted into the Iron Dog Brigade, and Elizabeth Brakefield of the Aberdeen Drift Busters was awarded the CJ Ramstad Memorial Scholarship. Congratulations, ladies!

We learned of funding opportunities which local clubs should consider. First of all, what club wouldn't want \$200 to throw a snowmobile party!??? ISMA is offering clubs a \$200 grant to promote snowmobiling on Snowmobile Day (Saturday, October 28th). Several clubs applied last year and had a great time hosting events like a show and shine, safety training, or sled maintenance clinic to expose more people to our favorite sport. I challenge all clubs to apply- it's simple and due October 10: <https://snowmobile.org/snowmobile-day-2023.html> If your club is more ambitious and has a bigger project in mind, consider the Ski-Doo Snow P.A.S.S. (Protect-Access-Sustain-Support) grant for up to \$5,000 which is due September 15 at <https://www.ski-doo.com/us/en/snow-pass-grant-program.html>.

Membership was a continued topic of discussion at the August SDSA Board meeting,. We are investigating ways to direct riders to SDSA while out enjoying the sport such as placing QR codes with trail signs to direct folks to the SDSA website for information and membership application. We also discussed creating recognition opportunities for our clubs at the annual convention. For clubs who submitted GIA applications for their trail, the Snowmobile Advisory Council approved increases to reimbursement levels for trail expenses including signing, grooming and storage. GIA grant awards for the 2023-2024 season will reflect the increase.

Last fall a Master Planning Committee was created to review the operations and funding of the Snowmobile Trails program. Members are snowmobilers Dave Kennedy, Bruce Hintz, Todd Sprang, and Tracey & Brian Erickson along with GFP staff Shannon Percy, Al Nedved, Matt Snyder, and Ryan Raynor. The projected balance of the Snowmobile Trails Fund (which funds ALL snowmobile trail activity in South Dakota) is trending lower to negative in the next 5 years. Last year, the fund received revenue of just over \$741,000 which did not cover the expenses of nearly \$1,000,000. Even with a typical snow year, we are not generating enough revenue to cover expenses. The Advisory Council is in support of increasing sled licenses to \$20 per year and increasing the 5 day permit fee accordingly. An out-of-state user fee was discussed as well. Some of these changes will require legislative action so the changes will not be immediate but they will likely be imminent. Once the Master Planning Committee has done its research, expect changes in how our trails program is funded going forward and share your thoughts with your SDSA Board members. Look forward to seeing you at future snowmobile events and enjoy a great kickoff to the season.





From SDSA's Past President

Greg Nordstrom

Hello snow lovers

It's that time of year to start thinking about the upcoming snowmobile season and all the fun that can be had, but first we must think about getting our stuff ready for another year. Like are my tires and wheel bearings on the trailer ok maybe even think about getting the trailer wheels aligned. Oh yaw what about the sleds. Any way after this long and very hot summer I think all of us are ready for cooler weather and hopefully a snowy winter.

Clubs are starting to meet now and hope you belong to one and if not join one in or close to your area as it is important for our sport for your good and the rest of the snowmobile community. Without clubs there would be no trails in East river and would be detrimental to the entire state trails program.

For now we are looking forward to the SDSA convention December 1&2 in Sioux Falls sure hope you make an effort to attend as the conventions are a lot of fun and very informative.

Enough for now.

2023 ACSA Snowmobile Dealer of the Year: Interlakes Sport Center in Madison, South Dakota and International Snowmobile Hall of Fame inductees!





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SDSA announces Scholarship winner



Elizabeth Brakefield from the Aberdeen Driftbusters was named a scholarship winner by the Scholarship Committee recently. Elizabeth is the daughter of Brian & Melissa Brakefield and is attending Black Hills State University majoring in Elementary Education. Pictured is Kelly Weaver our President Elect presenting Elizabeth with the scholarship.

Her essay:

Snowmobiling is an incredibly popular winter past time, especially throughout South Dakota. This activity is important to the state, and to me for several reasons; including its importance in South Dakota's economy, tourism, and its role in creating memories.

First, snowmobiling brings in an excellent source of revenue for the state which subsequently boosts the economy. South Dakota has hundreds of public trails throughout the state. These trails attract people from all across the nation to come, and ride in the winter, making snowmobiling a valuable asset to the state. Not only does it bring in revenue, snowmobiling also opens up a wide array of job and business opportunities within South Dakota. These opportunities include boost to the hospitality, food, and hotel industries, creating an overall surplus for the South Dakota economy.

Alongside its role in economy, snowmobiling is an activity that is important to many individuals and families. I mentioned above that many people travel into the state to participate in this activity. South Dakota is one of the most popular places in the US for snowmobiling. It has several trails that allow people to come and explore the beautiful sights of the state in the winter. My families favorite was always the Dakota Midland Trail in Aberdeen having traveled there several times a year ever since I was little. These public trails provide a healthy form of activity that allow people to relieve their stress and enjoy the beauty of nature during the winter season.

Snowmobiling is enjoyed by many in South, Dakota, including myself, because it is an excellent past time for all – a great opportunity for recreation during the months of winter. Since I can recall, I have always enjoyed snowmobiling. When I was young, my father would always take me on a little rides in the winter. I would ride with him until I was old enough to drive myself. I still have so many enjoyable memories with him and the rest of the family growing up riding across South Dakota. This is an important activity to me because it has always brought my family together to enjoy this wonderful winter past time. In fact, snowmobiling is one of the reasons I decided to come out to the Black Hills for college, as I wanted to experience more of the joys of snowmobiling on the other side of the state. It has shown me the true beauty of South Dakota in the winter time and provided me with a healthy activity to help relieve some of the stress of college life.

Snowmobiling is an important activity to me, and to the entire state of South Dakota. It provides many economic benefits to the state as well as provides an attraction for many people to travel to South Dakota and experience the states many underrated qualities, myself included. However, this activity will always be a special importance to me, because of how it has brought my family together and helped us craft so many salient memories and moments.

Northeast Trailblazers

Hello from the Northeast Corner of the State.

What a busy, hot, dry Summer. On one of the hottest days of the Summer, we had our hometown celebration. We entered a float with the countdown to winter (yes, we did receive some booing 🙄) Our younger members sat on snowmobiles on the float throwing out summer snowballs aka water balloons.



In August we lost a long-time snowmobile member, groomer, and friend.

Jerry Schauman passed away due to a health issue on his way to Sturgis for the bike rally. Jerry has been a long-time member of our club, serving as past president and helped with club events. Jerry was a co-organizer of our Radar Run which he helped with all the registrations and ran the radar

gun. Jerry also ran our groomer for our club for as long as we can remember. Jerry will be truly missed.

Northeast Trailblazers will be meeting September 14th at Cheetahs starting at 8:00.

Gina Steen

James Valley Drift Skippers

This spring we lost a great person.

Keith Crago.

He enjoyed snowmobile riding, was a big supporter of the SDSA, enjoyed taking his pride and joy the Midnight Oil a one of a kind snowmobile to shows around the area. Won several awards with it. But now with his passing the Crago family is putting it up for sale in hopes someone will take over showing the midnight oil. Along with a 1974 Mercury Twister. Keith was working on the Twister putting it together. Crago Estate is looking for serious inquiries, if someone is interested call 605-999-4298.



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C L U B N E W S

Siouxland Snotrackers

School has started and fall is here, summer went so fast. Siouxland Sno Trackers is busy planning the 2023 SDSA Convention for December 1st & 2nd at the Best Western Ramkota in Sioux Falls, SD on December 1st and 2nd. We have a great line up of events for the convention:

- Avalanche Training with Mike Duffy
- Polaris Ride Command
- Snowmobiling 101 and safety class
- Arts and Crafts
- Groomer Round Table
- Friday Night Beer and Bull
- Live and Silent Auction
- Saturday Evening Awards Banquet
- Awards Judging.

We have a room block set up at the Best Western Ramkota and will soon have the registration posted and available to pay online. Ramkota 605-303-7047

We are planning a Joint event with Interlakes Snow Roamers on October 28th for membership. We know members are why we have Trails so join us and keep the trails open.

Looking for another great snow year,
Siouxland Snotrackers reporting

Interlakes

As Summer turns to fall it is time to start getting ready for the Snowmobile Season. Last year was great, I hope that continues this season.

We are planning a membership event for October 28th as ISMA would like that to be Snowmobile membership day. Without snowmobile clubs we would not have a local trail system. We are trying to organize something that will get members there and grow the club.

We are also working on the Best of Vintage Snowmobiles to show at the 2023 SDSA Convention at the Best Western Ramkota in Sioux Falls on December 1st and 2nd with Siouxland Snotrackers. This is looking like a really great event for all Snowmobilers to attend with Avalanche Training and Polaris Ride Command and much more.

We want to congratulate Interlakes Sports Center on being chosen as ISMA International Dealer of the Year and being Inducted into the Hall of Fame on September 15th in Eagle River Wisconsin, they are truly deserving of that honor.

Looking forward to another Great Season!!

Reporting for Interlake Snow Roamers.



South Dakotans at ISC in Moline Illinois this past June. Back row (L-R) Greg & Diane Hiles, Kim & DeeDee Raap, Duane & Pat Duerr, Brian & Tracey Erickson, Duane Sutton, Chris VanDenHemel and Steve Koch. Next: Marty & Mary Anne Grabow, Jim & Kelly Weaver, Kirsten VanDenHemel, Dawn Koch, Steve & Dawn's daughter, Amy and her son, Alex.



Mary Anne Grabow, secretary/editor for the SDSA was inducted into the Iron Dog Brigade at the ISC held in Moline, Illinois. Mary Anne is shown giving Duane Sutton (her sponsor for the honor) a hug and with her fellow pups below. Thank you Duane for the recognition. It was a true honor to be recognized!



Join the SDSA team!



We are searching for the next SDSA treasurer.
Help support our favorite sport with your financial
skills!

<http://www.snowmobilesd.com/employment>

Watertown Snowmobile Club

Greetings from the Watertown Snowmobile Club! After these crazy 102 temps I think most will agree bring on the snow!!!

We will be having our Annual meeting and our first meeting of the season rolled into one on Sunday, Oct 1st at 5pm at Cloud 9.

We will be sending invites with more details, but if you would like to attend please reach out to me basowers@midco.net! We'd love to have you!

More information will be in our next article after our first meeting!
Amy Sowers



Driftbusters

Are you prepared?

Time to get prepared for winter activities. This starts with becoming a member or renewing your membership to a snowmobile club or organization. The Aberdeen Driftbuster Snowmobile Club is pushing past summer and already looking forward to this fall and winter. We have some club activities that need just one thing,

You! Club activities include a late summer campout September 15-16 at Wylie Park in Aberdeen. We will also be celebrating International Snowmobile Day with a Show and Shine Event in the parking lot of Ken's Fairway a sponsoring member of the club on Saturday, October 28th. We could not host these events without the help of our members! Meetings begin the first part of September and continue through April the following year. You enjoyed last year, right? Now is the time to renew your membership! The club is also looking forward to another great year of winter activities. With your help we can host another great year. I have heard comments like, we had snow last year, it was easy! As the past president of the Aberdeen Driftbusters Snowmobile Club I can tell you it was a lot of hard work and it all comes together with the help of the club's membership. The events we hosted throughout the year like grooming the trails, hosting the radar runs, poker runs, and ride socials were all brought together by the hard work of the club and its members. Will we have snow this year, not sure... but I hope so. Not everyone is fortunate enough to pack up the rig and head to the Hills for the weekend. The local clubs that host events and groom the trails need your support as well. Please consider becoming a member or renewing your membership right away. This membership helps support the club and the activities we all make time to enjoy. We saw quite a few NEW faces and sleds last year with the help of the snow. I hope to see even more this year. Will we have snow this year, not sure... but what I do know is, I will renew my membership right away to support the Aberdeen Driftbusters Snowmobile Club. You can do the same. Join the Aberdeen Driftbuster Snowmobile Club or a local club near you!

Safe riding this winter. I hope to share the Dakota Midland Trail with you this season.

Aberdeen Driftbuster Snowmobile Club Past President Casey Weismantel

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C L U B N E W S

Black Hills Snowmobile Club

Hello from the beautiful Black Hills! I can believe it is time to be doing this again. This spring/ summer the Black Hills were blessed with rain and cooler temperatures. I have not seen it this green for many years in our region. The only downside was that we are still mowing our lawn..... but that's not a bad trade off. I hope some of you were able to vacation or explore the hills over our off season.

With the end of our season in March our club had a new changing of the guard with Brad Richey moving up to become the new President. Thus, needing a new Vice President which was graciously filled by Rick Schuelke. Following, our club Treasurer – Shane Devine will continue his duties along with the Secretary – Holly Thomas.

On June 24th we had a fun weekend camping at Kickstands Campground in Sturgis and a side-by-side fun ride. I believe we had 19 sxs gather to head out and ride through the trails in the hills. It went from beautiful warm sunshine to rain – providing lots of extra water obstacles to wind that did not quit until late evening. We all made it back to camp safely with A LOT of mud and a few more stories and memories.

We also enjoyed a potluck supper that evening where families gather and enjoy the evening. We also had a couple of pop up birthday's, Mike Boock 50 and Bart Banks 60, so we did a little celebrating. Our club has had a year of 50th birthday's several members hitting the Golden Age and we had fun with each one of them. You need to remember that you are only as old as you feel- thus making our snowmobile family very young at heart!

We also did the annual Juel & Sally Rall Award. This is given in honor of Juel & Sally in recognition of their contributions to our sport. This year's recipient is RJ Simonson—we congratulate him for his continued support to our club and the sport of snowmobiling. RJ's love of snowmobiling includes his wife Shannon and 2 daughters. He loves the mountains and riding in the trees, he makes several trips to Encampment and the Sierra Madres every year and always invites others to join him. The first club meeting is scheduled for October 3rd at 7:00 pm at Rice's Rapid Motorsports. **WE WELCOME ANYONE** who would like to know more about our club or just want to meet fellow snowmobilers to attend.

Ready or not, winter will be arriving and we all be starting our sleds and getting winter plans made- but for now I will enjoy fall. The crisp air, the pumpkin spice drinks and the occasional sweatshirt by the fire.

Until next month—THE DAYS WILL GET SHORTER, THE NIGHTS WILL GET LONGER and EVENTUALLY THE SNOW WILL FALL AND GET DEEPER---- LIFE JUST KEEPS GETTING BETTER!!

Holly Thomas- Club Secretary



On the Trails

Ryan Raynor, Trails Specialist

I typically enjoy a nice cool Labor Day weekend in the park, but this year's Labor Day Weekend was way to hot. Hopefully we didn't see anymore 100-degree temperatures in September. Always tough to transition between parks and snowmobile as the seasons mesh together in the spring and fall but I appreciate Mary Anne reminding me that my report was due.

As usual to start the year off I want to discuss what took place at our most important meeting of the year with the Advisory Council in August. We had a healthy discussion about our budget and made some positive changes to our grant reimbursement rates as well. I won't dive into every single detail this article but over the next couple of articles I will continue to highlight the important parts of that meeting.

At the August council meeting, fourteen grants were approved for the 2023-2024 Grant-in-Aid program, with those grants totaling just under \$309,000. Thank You to the clubs and volunteers who do a wonderful job providing safe snowmobiling opportunities throughout eastern South Dakota. The council agreed to increase specific reimbursement rates which included the Grooming, Signing, Equipment Storage and Maintaining and Servicing Equipment. I'll talk more about this next month and provide more details about how those rates have changed.

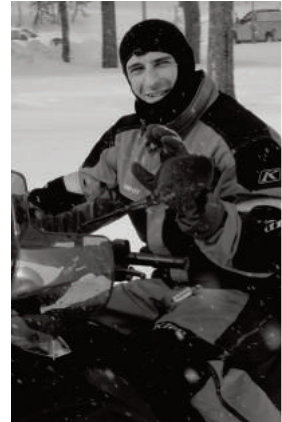
Also approved at the meeting was the fiscal year 2025 snowmobile budget. Not much changed from the previous year as we hope to have our \$1.4 million dollar budget approved by the GFP commission later this year. The council was also updated about where the programs current trails fund balance is and where our fiscal year 2023 revenue and expenses ended up. Total revenue earned last year was just over \$853,000 where our final expenses came in just over \$1,217,000. This meant our Snowmobile Trails Fund went from \$916,256 to just over \$552,000. This fund balance is low compared to what we have averaged over the past 10 to 15 years so GFP's and the council understood we have some decisions to make over the next year.

The month of September is always busy with the necessary paperwork to keep the snowmobile season moving forward. This includes GIA and Equipment Agreements, DOT right of way agreements, and other necessary requirements. The agreements that GFP has with the state should be in the mail by late September and if those clubs could send back a PDQ, instead of mailing it back, you can certainly do so.

Don't forget to start getting sign requests into me right away and I know clubs start meeting this month so let me know and if my schedule allows, I can plan on attending. Shout out to the Sisseton club who's meeting I attend in early September.

That's all for this month

Stay safe! Ryan Raynor Snowmobile Trails Coordinator





Diane Hiles, SDSA Treasurer

When I was hired for the SDSA Treasurer position in June 2015, I pledged to stay in the position for 5 years. Well, it has been 8+ years and it is time for me to step away to be able to do other things, like grandkids, travel, sewing/quilting/embroidery, and fun stuff like that. In order to have an orderly transition for SDSA, I provided the Board with ample time to find a replacement, provide that

person with guidance and know how before being done on 12/31/2023. I was confident there would be someone amongst SDSA's membership that would be interested in being involved with SDSA and filling the position. Let me say that if you like snowmobiling and are passionate enough about keeping the sport alive, enhance all of that by becoming the next treasurer for SDSA.

About the position:

SDSA will provide a treasurer's laptop which is covered by a Total Tech subscription with Best Buy. This laptop is set up with Microsoft 365 (Word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher), Trend Micro and QuickBooks. The QuickBooks software is set up with a complete chart of accounts specific to SDSA's budget and financial reporting needs.

The Treasurer maintains the following accounts: General Account, Savings Account, Right to Ride Account, Legacy Membership Account along with the checking account for the YETIS and also for Snowmobilers for Snowmobilers. In addition, SDSA has investment accounts with Edward Jones. Each account has a specific purpose and use of funds.

Time spent on the Treasurer's functions will vary from month to month with each month paying a few monthly operating expenses and payroll. Deposits for membership dues and advertising income pick up with October, November and December being the busiest months for those deposits. Convention adds another level all its own with fundraising activities (live and silent auction, Big Payout raffle) along with a recap of all that activity. January, February and March continue with some membership dues and advertising income, but at a much slower rate as we head into the end of the season and to the end of the fiscal year in June.

The Board of Directors meets four 4 times requiring a current Treasurer's Report be prepared for each of the meetings, along with a proposed budget for the next year by the May meeting. Once the Fiscal Year has ended and the Board of Directors have accepted the final fiscal year report, that information is submitted for preparation of the current year's tax return (Form 990 and Form 990T). Payroll also involves www.snowmobilesd.com Sno Plainsman October 2023Page 16

quarterly 941 Reports, W2s and W3 along with SD Unemployment reporting and occasional MN Workmen's Comp reporting. And of course, writing an article for each issue of the Sno Plainsman.

The Treasurer is also charged with preparing the convention booklet that each of the delegates receive at the annual meeting. This book is prepared in Publisher with a template set up to basically cut/paste in the appropriate financial reports, meeting minutes, etc. Once the booklet is prepared, a professional printer is used to copy, staple and fold the booklet. This is just a brief summary of the duties and responsibilities of the SDSA Treasurer. A more detailed job description can be found at <http://www.snowmobilesd.com/employment>. I would be most happy to visit with anyone that may be interested in learning more about the position in consideration of submitting an application.

SDSA is headed in the right direction of improving the value of membership, benefiting that membership by working hard and working together with ACSA to ensure continuation of the sport for future generations. I encourage you, if you are even a tiny bit interested, to give me a call (605-203-0059) so I can answer any questions you may have. You may also direct any questions regarding the position to any of the Search Committee members:

Kelly Weaver at 605-216-1564 or email Kelly at jkweaver4@gmail.com

Duane Duerr at 605-310-8437 or email Duane at evergreenacres@hotmail.com

Mike Boock at 605-484-5681 or email Mike at mikeboock@hotmail.com

Once you have decided, Yes, I can do this, please submit a cover letter and resume along with at least 2 references to Kelly Weaver, 3600 Rolling Meadow Drive, Aberdeen, SD 57401. Applications are currently being accepted and reviewed. The position will remain open until filled.

Clubs are gearing up for the season and have or will be having their first meeting of the season and dues collection will start. Dues can be sent in as soon as you receive them. In fact, it is best if you submit them periodically and not wait for everyone to be paid. Membership Benefits start once dues are received at the SDSA Office. SDSA dues are \$35.00 plus whatever your local club dues are. SDSA Associate Membership dues are \$50. Use of the PayPal option to pay SDSA only and SDSA and Club dues is available on the SDSA website at www.snowmobilesd.org/membership-form/.

And as always, if there are any financial questions that I can answer for you, please do not hesitate to ask. I would be happy to explain what needs to be explained. Feel free to call my cell 605-203-0059 or send me an email me at dj.hiles@hotmail.com.

Mary Anne Grabow, SDSA Secretary/Editor

I was shocked by my friend Diane's announcement that she would be retiring in December. I knew that she had considered it before but I was convinced that she had got that foolish notion out of her head. We will definitely miss her expertise in many ways.

I have worked with several treasurers while I've worked for SDSA. Every single one of them has become a dear friend. Diane is certainly no exception to that rule. I will miss working with her (especially at convention!)

I look forward to seeing who the board hires as her replacement!



We're in a new snow season for SDSA so that means I'll be sending out renewal notices shortly to all of the SDSA only members as well as the Associate members. I'll also be getting your information out for convention soon, too. Since convention isn't until December, you don't have to have your nominations in until November 15th. I'm sure there is someone in your club who deserves to be snowmobiler of the year!

Marty was the auctioneer again at Milbanks' Show this past June. I was photographing a wedding so I missed it this year. I do have results from the show to share but they will wait until next issue as I had plenty of information to include in this issue already.

Clubs, how are you doing on raffle sales? We'd really like to have everything sold and turned back in PRIOR to the convention this year. It would make a stress free environment for all of us!

If your officers have changed, please let me know. It's hard for me to make the updates if I'm unaware of your elections. That goes for if you've moved too! I want you to get your issue of the Sno Plainsman, rather than it going in a trash bin!

As you'll see on a different page, I was honored to be nominated by Duane Sutton and inducted into the Iron Dog Brigade this year. Thank you to everyone who had a hand in helping Duane get the nomination together. South Dakota also had ACSA's Dealer of the Year Interlakes Sports Center of Madison, SD. Interlakes was also told they will be honored at Eagle River soon at the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame induction. Congratulations Steve & Dawn! I think that our President Duane Duerr will attend to see them receive the honor!

On the homefront, it's been a busy summer. Not only did we go to Moline for International Snowmobile Congress but Marty & I took a road trip down to Texas and saw a lot of sights along the way. We drove the coastline and came home a different route so that we saw a lot of states along the way. Then we went on a UTV trip to Dubois, WY with Jessi & Brent and their family. While we were in Wyoming, it rained, it snowed, and it was beautiful. All in the same day! We stopped in a warming hut to have lunch - and the rain switched to snow. Good thing we were prepared for any weather! We had Marty's class reunion and we went to several car shows and even hosted a car show on the 4th of July in Gary.



We also found out that we're going to have grandbaby #13 to add to our clan. He is expected in December and will be joining Ali & Aaron's family. That will make our total at 5 grandsons and 8 granddaughters. It makes for a loud but fun Christmas!

The photos are from our trip to Wyoming.

I hope to see you all at convention, if not before!



C L U B N E W S

Town & Country Snowdrifters

Hello everyone!!

It is great to be back and writing our monthly articles! We have all enjoyed another great, but fast summer. We are all so incredibly excited to start up our monthly meetings in September. Our August meeting was held via zoom. Our club, however, did get to spend some great fun together this summer enjoying Jakob Hohm Off-Road Adventures' annual ATV/UTV family fun ride. JHORA had an amazing turnout even with the heat. They made a great amount of money that will help them help out families in need. With that being said if your are looking for a great time mark your calendars for July 27, 2024 for the 8th annual JHORA ride! Coming up this month on September 16th, 2023 our club will be hosting our annual ATV/UTV Poker Run. Registration takes place from noon-1PM at the Other Bar in Lake Preston, South Dakota. The proceeds we make will be donated to Zander Ulvestad and Dawson Liable. Both of these youth men had endured severe medical hardships this past year. We will have 4-5 stops with food and drink availability at each stop. Children 17 and under must wear a helmet. We would also greatly appreciate if all those who attend would bring to canned items to be donated to the Kingsbury food pantry. All those who bring two items will be entered in a \$50 cash drawing.

We hope to see you all there!!!

Jalen Hohm and Caden Hojer the Town and Country Snowdrifters' Reporters



**2023
SDSA
CONVENTION**

DECEMBER 1 - 2 | BEST WESTERN RAMKOTA SIOUX FALLS, SD

- Avalanche Class with Mike Duffy
- Polaris Ride Command class
- Snowmobiling 1,2,3 and snowmobile safety class.
- Vintage Snowmobile show
- Arts and Craft Show

FRIENDS • FAMILY • FUN

SDSA announces Scholarship winner

Austin Cooper was named a scholarship winner. Austin is a senior at Spearfish High School with plans to attend SDSU majoring in Aviation. Austin is the son of Darin Cooper and Marie Kurtenbach. Austin is a member of the Black Hills Snowmobile Club.



Pictured is Mike Boock, District 2 Director presenting the scholarship to Austin.

Here is his essay:

I enjoy snowmobiling because of the feeling of exploration and the thought of being able to access places in the winter. It is giving me something to look forward to doing the long and hot summer months. It first started when I was about three or four years old and my dad bought me my first snowmobile. I don't remember my first snowmobile much because we didn't have it long. All I know is that it was green. My second snowmobile was a Polaris 120 that was red and blue. I can still remember watching my dad unload it and me riding around the yard. These early experiences have led me into a sport that I greatly enjoy and still participate in to this day. I have many memories of being in the mountains with family and friends riding until almost sunset. To this day I don't know why I love the sport so much. It could be the feeling of exploration, discovering new areas or the thrill of speeding down an open meadow. Also, could be the deep powder days where everyone gets stuck. I think the fun comes with the people that you ride with, and the moment you experience together. There's no other place I would rather be than in the mountains, preferably on a snowmobile or hunting.

Snowmobiling is important to South Dakota for a few reasons. The first is it allows for motorized travel to places that normal vehicles can't go. An example would be if roads were closed down because of heavy snowfall. Snowmobile's would still be able to travel. If there is an emergency during that time, emergency personnel would still be able to travel by snowmobile or a different tracked vehicle. They also allow landowners to access and check their property when the snow is deep. Second, it's a part of the tourism industry and generates around \$130 million in one way or another for the state. One way snowmobiles generate money is through registration fees for residents and trail passes for non-residents. Around 14.5 thousand snowmobile's are registered in the state. Another way is by someone renting a Snowmobile. Also, when people travel to go, snowmobiling, they spend money on gas, food, and rooms inside of our state. There are multiple restaurants along the trails that riders stop by to fill up and get a bite to eat. If the state were to ban snowmobiling, many businesses would go bankrupt, and others wouldn't be able to afford staying open in the winter time. These businesses rely on snowmobilers to keep the doors open. The last reason is it gives the state something to be proud of with over 1000 miles of trails that are maintained for many to experience our beautiful state

Preconvention Minutes

Preconvention meeting of the Board of Directors,
November 11, 2022 1:30 p.m.
Ramkota Hotel Aberdeen SD

President Duane Duerr called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

Mary Anne called the roll with the following present: Kelly, Greg, Ann, Tracey, Pat, Jason, Jediah, Diane & Mary Anne. Trace was not present. Mike joined the meeting at 1:54.

Guests included: Marty Grabow, Duane Sutton, Lee Olson, Chris VanDenHemel, Bill Shepherd, Calvin Moser, Freda Nordstrom, Earl Klersy, Brian Erickson, Kim Raap, Al Nagel, Jim Weaver & Mike VanDenHemel.

Motion to accept the agenda with changes was made by Greg and seconded by Ann. Motion carried.

Motion by Tracey and 2nd by Greg to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Financial report was explained at length. Kelly made a motion to file the financial report for review. Pat seconded. Motion carried.

Presidents Report: Duane stated that he's been attending club meeting as much as he can.

Sno Plainsman: Mary Anne explained the glitches that have been happening with the mailing at Leader Printing and that it will not happen again. She also gave a shout out to Earl

Klersy who was in the room and is a back the ride donor.

Gov Relations no report

Back the Ride – Donations were covered from last year. The program is still available.

Fundraiser – 1250 were went out to sell.

Convention – No report.

ISMA Grant was awarded for the Governor's Ride. \$2500 has been received.

Awards – we need more applicants.

Safety – Trailer is at Trace's.

Charity – no report

Scholarship – no report

YETIS – Bowling at 2:30. Hoping for snow to do some riding! Many of them are working at convention.

Membership – Mike ran over the year end #'s as has been reported. There is a new membership flier available. Contact Mary Anne if you want some.

Website – no report

Gov. Ride – Sleds are reserved @ Trailshead. Spearfish Holdiy Inn. \$80.00 standard Room. Code is GOV

Invites will go out after the first of the year. BHSC is willing to do the breakfast for cost. Greg made a motion to accept that bid. Kelly seconded the motion. Motion carried. Reception on Friday. Ride on Saturday this year.

Snocross is Jan 27. No contact at all so far. Would like more ads on the jumbotron to get more people to the booth. Snocross is also in Brandon

March 3 & 4.

2022 Convention – Ann welcomed everyone. Turn your auction items in. Registration is at 3 Presidents meeting at 5 Beer & Bull 6:30.

YETIS Scholarship – Johnny & Audrey Rider wanted to establish a yeti's scholarship in memory of Jon LaFramboise. \$25,-\$30,000 goal. Watertown Community Are Foundation would handle for 1.5% per year. \$500 donation was made by Riders. Signed agreement w/WCAF is needed. Donations made directly to them. Much discussion was held. Kelly clarified some things with WCAF. Mike made a motion and Greg seconded to sign the scholarship program contract. Motion carried.

Tracey made a motion and Pat seconded to extend bids for 2024 Convention to February 1. Carried.

Mtn & Trails meeting tabled .

SD event Connection info. Diane presented the info . Investigate information on it. Tabled.

Board Shirts – Diane & Mary Anne will research.

Executive session was called at 2:54 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 3:25 p.m.

Motion by Tracey and second by Jason to adjourn at 3:30 p.m.

Annual Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the 53rd Annual meeting held November 12, 2022 at Aberdeen, SD

Duane Duerr declared the meeting in session at 9:05 a.m.

A welcome was given by Mayor Travis Schaunaman.

Duane appointed, Kirsten VanDenHemel, Linda Moser and Patty Holmberg as tellers/registrars.

Mary Anne established a quorum of 58 for voting.

- Black Hills 4
- Dakota Drifters 4
- Dakota Trailblazers 2
- Ditch Rippers 2
- Driftbusters 5
- Hand County 2
- Interlakes 2
- North East 3
- Poinsett Pounders 3
- Sioux Falls Sno Trackers 5
- GP Sno Trailers 2
- Town & Country 4
- Trailbusters 1
- Valley Rough Riders 2
- Watertown 2
- Whetstone 4
- YETIS 3

Total of 50

With 8 votes on the board: Kelly, Greg, Mike, Ann, Tracey, Pat, Jason & Trace. Also present were Duane, Jediah, Diane & Mary Anne.

Diane presented the Financial report which was filed for review. Presidents report was given by Duane Duerr. Attended ISC this year as part of his position.

Sno Plainsman: First year of being a magazine was a success. Advertising exceeded the projections. We picked up some new advertisers and managed to maintain our existing advertisers.

YETIS – Jediah - weather hasn't allowed much for snowmobiling activities for the Yetis.

Government relations: Lots of issues with new property owners not wanting snowmobiles on their property in the Black Hills. SDSA met with legislators since we cancelled Governor's Ride – and gave the leaders some information on organized snowmobiling in South Dakota and an SDSA branded tumbler in place of having our ride.

Investment: Diane reported on our current investments. Investments are up and down lately but it will all straighten out. Our initial investment is still intact.

Safety: Online safety courses are available. Our trailer is at Badger SD. Thanks to Scott Erstad for doing service on our trailer and donating it!

Membership –

2021-2022 SDSA MEMBERSHIP Based on Dues Money Deposited as of 06-30-2022 NOT Reconciled with Mary Anne's numbers

06-30-2022

6-30-2021

Club membership 574 616

SDSA ONLY members 109 123

Legacy Members	32	22
Total membership	715	761
Assoc Club membership	83	72
SDSA Assoc membership	9	21
Total associate mem.	92	93

Fundraiser – very few tickets are available to sell at convention!
Charity: Charity – 15 clubs reported including SDSA. Totals included: Major Charities \$5,259.00 Local Charities \$46,892.14 Total Dollars \$52,151.14 Volunteer Hours donated to charities 7786.5 ; Volunteers involved in operation of trail 129 Number of Miles Groomed 1,497 Volunteer Groomer operators/mechanics 43 Number of hours operating trail 2,378

Back the Ride: \$3050 was received from donors for the Back the Ride promotion during 2022. Program will continue this season as well.

- UTV - Tracey reported on their meeting regarding UTV. Brian Erickson, Tracey Erickson, Kim Raap, Duane Duerr, & Trace Damm were on the sub- committee. Increase clubs' membership.

- Grow year-round Activities for clubs.
- Many Snowmobilers own ATV/UTV's
- Allows some that have moved out of snowmobiling to ATVs to stay involved with SDSA and snowmobile clubs.

Negatives:

- South Dakota trails do not allow ATV/UTV use on them. Statues written for snowmobiles. Changing statues could affect funding for Snowmobiling.

- Increased Insurance of \$300-500 cannot be paid from Grant and Aid Funding thru GFP. Clubs would need to cover that cost thru membership.

- Trying to Change laws can negatively affect South Dakota snowmobile funding.

- Forestry service will not approve widening of trails for ATV/UTV access in the Black Hills to accommodate larger UTV's being made.

- Some clubs are against ATV/UTV's on Snowmobile trails.

- SDSA not currently set up for Year-round activity with ATV/UTV's (SnoPlainsman 7 issues per winter months, ATV/UTV safety training, etc.)

- ATV/UTV members would need to pay SDSA dues to be Members of SDSA or dues re-structuring would need to be considered to accommodate both.

- Clubs must provide ATV/UTV Benefits for those members joining. (ATV/UTV rides, poker runs, Benefit rides, safety training, meetings, etc.)

Bylaws – Right to Ride: Greg Nordstrom reported no changes to the bylaws. Some clarifications were made to the SOPS. Right to Ride – Duane touched on that with private land owners not wanting snowmobilers on their properties.

Convention – Pat Hanten Duerr, Kelly Weaver, & Ann Nagel are on the convention committee. They reviewed the convention booklet with Duane, Mary Anne & Diane through zoom. Ann welcomed everyone to Aberdeen.

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Minutes continued from page 21

John & Audrey Rider proposed a scholarship for the YETIS in honor of Jon LaFramboise. Much work has been done on this. The Rider's have given the first \$500 for this. Audrey Rider gave a presentation on this at our convention. Audrey talked about YETIS inception 5 years ago. Jon was very involved in how important youth are in organized snowmobiling. \$1000 scholarship thru the Wiertown Area Community Foundation. Checks should be made to WACF.

Duane signed the contract with the WACF and gave a donation. Tracey Erickson asked for a round of applause for Johnny & Audrey Rider for all their work with the YETIS for the past 5 years.

10 minute break at 10:14 a.m.

Reconvened 10:30

ACSA report was given by Brian Erickson. He explained what ACSA is and who all had been ACSA

Presidents/Representatives from SDSA.

Judy King reported on who ISHOF is and what they are about.

NOMINATIONS:

Sno Trackers nominated Duane D for President. Dakota Trailblazers seconded. Nominations were called for 3 times. Aberdeen Driftbusters made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Duane. Sno Trackers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Aberdeen Driftbusters nominated Kelly Weaver for President-Elect. BHSC seconded the motion. Nominations were called for three times. Town & Country made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Kelly. Trailbusters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

District 1 – Called for nominations three times. No nominations were received.

District 3 – Lee Olson was pre-nominated. Nominations were called for three times. Aberdeen Driftbusters made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Lee. Sno Trackers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

District 5 – Sno Trackers nominated Pat Hanten – Duerr. Dakota Trailblazers seconded the motion. Nominations were called for three times. Sno Trackers made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Pat. Aberdeen Driftbusters seconded. Motion carried.

District 7 – Poinsett pounders nominated Trace Damm. BHSC seconded the motion. Nominations were called for three times. Dakota Trailblazers made a motion to cease

nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Trace. Sno Trackers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Governor's Ride: This season's Governor's Ride will be Feb. 10th & 11. Governor's Ride host hotel will be Spearfish Holiday Inn. Code is GOV. Tumblers were well received by legislature. We did get the ISMA \$3000 grant again this year.

Snowmobilers for snowmobilers – It's an important program for those who need it.

Awards – Send in your nominations. We were very light on nominations this year.

Sno Cross January 27 & 28. Set up Thursday from 9 – 9. March 3 & 4 in Brandon this year, too.

Volunteers are needed.

Advisory Council – Todd Wilkinson spoke about Advisory Council and how you get appointed to the council. They work with Game Fish & Parks. He also talked about snowmobile easements.

Sioux Falls Ramkota December 1 & 2nd for next years convention. They have avalanche class, Polaris Ride Command, Snowmobile Safety & Snowmobile 101.

Deadline for submitting a bid for 2024 convention is February 1.

Whetstone Valley made a motion to adjourn at 11:32. Parkston seconded the motion.

Minutes of the Post Convention meeting November 12, 2022 Aberdeen, SD

President Duane Duerr called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Mary Anne established the roll call as" Duane, Kelly, Greg, Mike, Lee, Tracey, Pat, Jason, Trace, Jediah, Mary Anne and Diane.

Officers duties were to be emailed to Lee after the meeting. Committee appointments were gone through.

Meetings were gone over – usually 2nd weekend in May and 1st or 2nd weekend of August plus the Governor's Ride and the convention.

Mary Anne told the group to have their articles in by Monday.

Tickets should be available to hand out at our May meeting for our fundraiser.

Governor's Ride meeting will be tentatively set for Saturday at 7 p.m.

February 2023 Minutes

SDSA Board of Directors Meeting February 11, 2023

President Duane Duerr called the meeting to order 5:01 p.m. Roll call was established with Duane, Kelly, Mike, Lee, Tracey, Pat, Jason, Diane & Mary Anne in attendance. Absent were: Greg, Trace & Jediah.

Guests included: Greg Spiering & Lisa Cain; Tracy Olson, Marty Grabow, Jim Weaver, Dave & Jean Kennedy, Kim Raap, Josh Shepherd, Jadrian Niles, Brian Erickson, Ryan Raynor, Shannon Percy, Lois & LeRoy Erickson.

Mike made a motion to accept the agenda. Pat seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mike made a motion to approve the minutes with revisions brought forward by Kelly. Jason seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Diane gave the treasurer's report. Tracey made a motion to accept the report. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President: There have been lots of activities that Duane has attended. Diane & Greg went to the Trails riding meeting in Michigan. ACSA wants to know what we need help with. Share the ACSA newsletter with clubs and members. ISMA is looking for stories on trail closures. Ryan said he thought there were 7 landowners in the Black Hills and 20 east river. DC Flyin will probably occur in April. Mountain riding group will meet soon.

Gov. Relations – We'll have GFP, Forest Service & legislators on the Governor's Ride. Thune will be in Aberdeen February 21. Kelly plans to meet with him.

Convention: Trace, Kelly & Pat went thru the SOPS. Annual Convention report has been implemented thanks to Kelly. This will assist clubs in their plans.

Fundraiser – Tracey, Pat & Trace will do a zoom to discuss the tickets and have them ready for May. Extra tickets unnumbered were suggested and putting the tickets into books of 10 so it's easier to track. Tickets will be \$20 each as that went over as a positive for last year's fundraiser.

Membership - A lot has changed really recently. Total # is currently 614 with 117 associate members.

Safety report – Lee questioned whether rental places give safety lessons. 5 safety courses were done by Kalkomey

this year (online) and there's been one accident East River and 14 in the Black Hills with 2 ER Fatalities that were not on designated trails.

Charity – Waiting to hear the new questions for this year's report. Reports are due April 1. Send these to both the secretaries and the President.

Trails specialist – Shannon thanked Kelly & Aberdeen for his gift. Ryan reported there were 22 Riders on the veteran's ride with 80% being female. They received big help again from the Brookings Club with the ride. Trails Fund covered the rental sled expense for the ride this year.

Scholarships: February 25th deadline. The YETIS scholarship (Jon LaFramboise) is at \$4900 with \$2500 pledged from the Black Hills Snowmobile Club. Goal of \$25,000 - \$30,000. Kelly suggested a thermometer to show our progress on fundraising.

Gov. Ride: Great ride. It was a beautiful day and fantastic event. What do we need to do to spark more interest?

Tracey suggested a landowner ride as a possibility. Pat suggested encouraging more membership participation. KOTA should be contacted to give us coverage. Kelly mentioned that the ride was designed to showcase the trail system.

Tumblers were a great idea. Tracey suggested packets for every legislator in Pierre. Diane mentioned serving lunch to the legislators the last week of sessions. 37 sleds, 38 riders and 69 in attendance at this year's Governor's Ride. Mike mentioned that Gary Cammack attended his 11th year and perhaps we should be tracking legislative attendance and giving special recognition at periodic intervals such as 5 years/10 years.

Snocross – 6 new members were gained with \$169 in donations. Attendance was quite low due to the cold. March 3 & 4 in Brandon – we are hoping koozies are here in time.

UTV – Tracey said they are letting clubs make their own decision on being a snowmobile/atv club. Town & Country Snowdrifters are looking into being a multipurpose club.

Jason made a motion to keep the MSPN contract in effect. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried. Currently they have Visit North Park, Skidoo and Prinoth. The

contract runs April - April.

SD Event Connection – No update.

Shirts – Pat made a motion to use the SDSA round logo that we use on letters etc. and order the red & black and half zip for the board. Tracey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2024 Convention Bid – Proposal is for December 6 & 7 at the Brookings Inn. Tracey made the motion to accept the bid from the Dakota Drifters. Pat seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SOP updates: They were mostly clean up items and included a convention report.

Mary Anne chooses judges. Added suggestions (not included in the SOPS but as a topic for future discussion) an online auction for 10 – 20 silent auction items. Tracey mentioned that the thank you's were well received. Motion was made by Trace to adopt recommended SOP changes. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried. Diane will send updated SOPS.

Duane Duerr will be the ISC delegate with Kelly as alternate.

Fly in – once its set, we'll need people to attend.

Auction Item for ACSA at ISC: Kelly made a motion to do \$200 on a SD gift basket. Pat seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Facebook group – Tracey made a motion to close the Facebook group. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mike will post that it is closing and have it closed by April 1.

Black Hills Snowmobile Club will have an ATV Rally June 23 to 25.

ACSA Calendars are available. SDSA gets \$5 for each one sold.

Avalanche-alliance.org has a raffle on March 26.

Next meeting is set for May 6 at Pierre. Mike can't come. Zoom Link will be needed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.



November 15th Deadline
Snowmobiler of the Year
Groomer of the Year
Hall of Fame
Bids for convention 2025
Nominations for 2,4, & 6
Membership incentive for all members
into the office by Nov.15 (\$100 cash or
\$200 if you are present at the drawing)
forms are on the website for your
nominations



Diane Hiles attending one of many ISC meetings in June.

Kelly Weaver accepted the CJ Ramstad scholarship for Elizabeth Brakefield of Aberdeen which was presented by Mary Anne Grabow.

Facts About Snowmobiling - 2023

Haslett, MI, August 7, 2023: As we begin the 2023-24 snowmobiling season, we thought you may be interested in the following facts while you are preparing to go ride this season:

1. Snowmobilers come in all ages. The average snowmobiler, however, is 54 years old.
2. The average snowmobiler last season rode 1,154 miles / 1,857 kilometers (a 4% increase in ridership compared to 2022.) The number of miles ridden, on average, is dependent on snow cover, so we will see if Mother Nature brings us more days of snow for riding this season.
3. Many snowmobilers belong to a club and participate in many of their club's events. Clubs hold great riding events, great parties, and are made up of wonderful people that become great friends. Join a club and have a great time!!!
4. About 50% of the people that snowmobile, trailer their snowmobile to their riding area. The other 50% ride from their home or cabin.
5. Snowmobiling is a family friendly activity. Most of all those responding to surveys report that they snowmobile with family and with friends and with club members.
6. Snowmobilers are outdoor recreationists all year around. Following is a list of recreational activities that snowmobilers participate in when they aren't out riding:
 59% go ATV Riding
 48% go Camping
 51% go Fishing
 57% go Boating
 43% go Hunting
 30% go Hiking
 25% go Motorcycle Riding
 29% go Golfing
 18% go Personal Watercraft Riding
 11% go Downhill Skiing
 14% do other recreational Activities

Yes, we are a year around active group!

7. Approximately 85% of the snowmobilers are male.
8. Snowmobilers are a big part of the winter economic engine by spending an average of \$2500 each year going snowmobiling, traveling to their snowmobiling spot, and food, gas, and lodging. In many places of North America, snowmobilers pay the bills for people involved in the Winter Tourism

Industries and related businesses.

9. To help snowmobilers promote their sport, the snowmobile manufacturers have created a number of supporting communication tools.

- a. We have created a Dropbox where interested individuals can access the most current family friendly snowmobile photos. (Just click on this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/ocp7tj1aayce3az8ne3sz/h?rlkey=ylohd7pe49hwffb7socbns1vb&dl=0>) We encourage people to use these photos in the development of trail maps, advertising pieces, or just flyers supporting a snowmobiling activity. The photos are free and can be used in promoting recreation family snowmobiling.

- b. Also, ISMA has created a Facebook page www.Facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling . If you are on Facebook and want to see snowmobiling posts, please FOLLOW our page. You can also share your snowmobiling pictures, events, etc. on our page and they will be viewed by followers from around the world!

- c. We have two websites: www.snowmobile.org and www.gosnowmobiling.org that contain a lot of information, links, downloadable materials, etc. to help support you and educate you on key issues related to snowmobiling and help you better know the activities going on. Our websites are connected to other websites around the world including all of the United States and Canadian State and Provincial Snowmobile Associations which contain all of the local information that you may need.

The winter outlook is looking good for snowmobiling and we are looking forward to a great season!

#

Ed Klim President

International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association

1640 Haslett Road, Suite 170

Haslett, MI 48840

517-339-7788 office

517-881-1498 cell

www.snowmobile.org

www.gosnowmobiling.org

www.snowmobilesafetycertification.org

www.Facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling

ISMAEd95@gmail.com

Mike Boock, District 2 Director

Hello snowmobilers!

I can't believe summer is over already. It seems like times just keeps going faster and faster. Fortunately, this summer I had the opportunity to slow down for a week and hiked all around Yosemite National Park in California. My wife and I have been applying for Half Dome Cable permits for a few years and we finally were drawn! The views were spectacular, and it was a great time spent with my wife. If you have



never been to

Yosemite, I would highly encourage you to go. I hope you all had a great summer spending time with your family and friends. Now it's time to start thinking about the fluffy white stuff that a lot of people call a bad four-letter word. Haha! Please attend your club meetings, get your dues paid, buy some raffle tickets, and invite all your riding partners to become members. We can't do anything without your support!

I'm sure you've all heard that our faithful treasurer is stepping down from her position this year. I want to personally thank Diane for her many years of devotion to SDSA and the treasurer position.

Her reports were always on time, accurate, and very detailed. She has also helped me a lot over the years with how the whole system works with SDSA. Hopefully we will still see Greg and Diane at the convention for years to come. Thanks Diane!

Tracey and Brian Erickson with Chris and Kirsten VanDenHemel at the "World's Largest Truck Stop" by Walcott, IA on the way to 2023 ISC.



Tracey Erickson, District 4

Summer will soon be over but that means we are moving into Fall and hopefully a few cooler days! Upon just returning from the SD State Fair with some extremely warm temperatures, I am ready for fall weather. It has been a very busy summer around the Erickson household. I am sure many of you can identify with that statement. I thought I would highlight a few of the things in relation to snowmobiling that I have been focusing on.

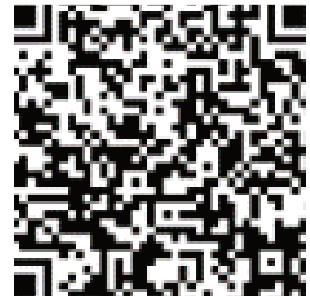
As soon as the planting and spraying was done, Brian and I took off to the International Snowmobile Congress in Moline, IL. Kirsten and Chris VanDenHemel rode along with us and represented the SD Youth Delegation extremely well. We really enjoyed this year's Congress, especially given the change in schedule. Back in April during the DC Fly-in, I was appointed by ACSA President, Dan Long to chair the Youth Ambassador Committee. In a month and a half time span our committee was able to put together a Zoom meeting and gather some valuable input from across the nation to help provide direction for ACSA regarding youth involvement in Snowmobiling. At Congress this year, we gave a presentation on the findings from the Zoom input session. The ACSA Board of Directors then provided directions back to the committee stating we needed to focus on three areas: 1) Provide an outline for a state, regional, and national youth ambassador program. 2) Develop a budget for the program. And 3) Develop an on-line survey for youth and young adults to gain further input into the program outline. The committee has put together an on-line input survey and I will put the links and QR code at the bottom of the article. We encourage anyone under the age of 30 to take a moment and provide some feedback as we work to develop the program. I admit that this is going to be challenging but the need for this is much greater.

Our SDSA Board received the resignation of our present Treasurer, Diane Hiles, during the May meeting. Diane's tenure as treasurer will be complete at the end of 2023. I would personally like to thank her for all her efforts and the tremendous job she has done as treasurer of SDSA! You will be missed! If you are interested in the Treasurer position, please contact the SDSA office or any SDSA Director for an application or job description.

At the local level I just wanted to highlight our club's upcoming Poker Run on September 16th. This is an ATV-UTV Poker run and will be a benefit fundraiser for Zander Ulvestad and Dawson Liabe. As co-benefactors of the fundraiser, they will receive 50% of the payout with these funds being matched by the club, the remaining 50% of the gross proceeds will be split between the top three poker hands with 1st place receiving 50%, 2nd-30%, and 3rd – 20%. Both youth have endured severe medical hardships this past year. Registration will be from noon till 1 pm at "the Other Bar" in Lake Preston, SD. We will ride as a group to our destinations. Youth 17 and under must wear a helmet. We are also doing a food drive with the Poker run and participants are encouraged to bring 2 canned items to be donated to the Kingsbury Food Pantry and be entered in a \$50 cash drawing.

Survey link: ACSA Youth Ambassador Program Development Input Survey
IMPORTANT: Please note that you may only provide input once from each electronic device or IP address.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JQDFX9R>





Pat Hanten-Duerr, District 5

Summer is over now, but the first part of September still seems to have temperatures in that 100-degree range. The days will soon be cooler, and the Winter snow season is just around the corner. It is time to start thinking about checking those snowmobiles over for any needed updating or repairing before the snow fly's. If you believe in the Farmer's Almanac, it says the Midwest is going to have an excess amount of snow with colder than usual temperatures from November 2023 through February 2024.

Also, it is a great time to start selling the 2023 SDSA BIG PAYOUT tickets, \$20 per ticket. Grand Prize being \$7500; 2nd Prize \$1000; Person that sells most tickets prize is \$500. Your Club Presidents were mailed the tickets earlier this summer. If you need some tickets to sell, please contact your Club President. If your club needs additional tickets, please contact Mary Ann as she has the extra tickets.

October events to be putting on your calendar for Snowmobile Kickoff Day, and Dealers Open Houses.

Wishing you all the Best, Pat Hanten Duerr

Jason Shepherd, District 6

Hello again. I hope everyone had a great summer. With the fall school activities starting and hay days coming up that means riding season is just around the corner. As for me I am ready for the cooler temps after this summer warmer days. The clubs up here are just starting to plan the first meeting of the year to get things planned out the best they can for the year.

Hopefully we all can talk out non club member friends into joking a club and showing them how much fun it is being a club member. Until next month stay cool and enjoy the last part of summer.



Trace Damm, District 7



Hello Everyone,

With having one of the hottest State Fair's i can remember, the cold weather and snow can't come soon enough. It's the first article of the year which means it's time to start thinking snowmobiling. The SDSA's big payout tickets have been distributed and handed out, make sure at your meetings you get them passed out and start selling! Last year went really well, so thank

you and let's s do that again! The convention is going to be in Sioux Falls this year Dec 1st and 2nd, keep an eye out for the registration. I hope meetings are starting to fire and get some game plans thrown together for marking trail as that always seems to creep up fast. I hope you all had a great summer and are excited to see what this winter has in store for us!

-Trace

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the sport
and **SDSA****

Used Inventory

ATV

2019 Can-Am Outlander 570 XT 665 miles
\$7500

2016 Can-Am Commander 800 XT 4500 miles
\$13500

2012 Yamaha Rhino 700 SE 7400 miles cab, plow,
heat \$7500

Snowmobile

2021 Summit 850 Summit 165" 560 miles
SHOT \$13500

2019 Ski-doo 850 Summit 165" 1360 miles
SHOT \$11500

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MXZ 120 \$5100

MXZ 200 \$6500

Summit NEO 55hp
\$9100

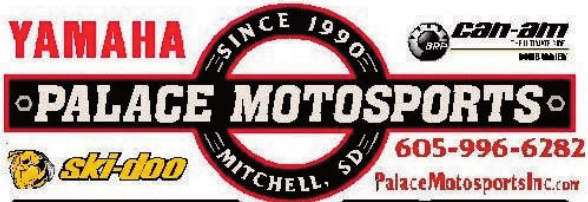
Backcountry 600 ETec
ES 1.6" \$14000

Backcountry 850 2.0"
\$16000

Summit 850 Adren
154X2.5 SHOT \$16000

Summit 850 Edge 154x3
SHOT \$16750

Shredder RE TURBO
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2023 SDSA BIG PAYOUT

\$20 per ticket

\$7500 Grand Prize

\$1000 to second ticket drawn

Need not be present to win

Tickets drawn at convention

December 2nd, 2023

Tickets available from clubs,

Directors and the office!

C u r r e n t C o m m i t t e e s

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

O U R L E G A C Y M E M B E R S



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 Snowdrifters 11/2015



8. Russell Johnson
Beresford, SD
Trailbusters 12/2015



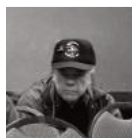
9. Lisa Johnson
Beresford, SD
Trailbusters 12/2015



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 Snowdrifters 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 Trailblazers-
03/2019



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 Snowdrifters 02/2020



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



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



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

O U R L E G A C Y M E M B E R S



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



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



49. **Marty Keimig**
Clear Lake, SD
Dakota Trail Blazers
06/2023



32. **Judy Nelson**
Sisseton, SD
North East Trailblazers
1/2021



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



33. **Dennis Nelson**
Sisseton, SD
North East Trailblazers
1/2021



42. **Jim LeTendre**
Sioux Falls SD
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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



47. **Marvin Keimig Jr**
Clear Lake, SD
Dakota Trail Blazers
03/2023



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



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

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



WANTED...

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 +
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- ⇒ Copper Donor Sponsor Level—\$499—\$250
- ⇒ Silver Donor Sponsor Level—\$249-\$100
- ⇒ Bronze Donor Sponsor Level—\$25-\$99

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- For more information contact a South Dakota Snowmobile Association Board Director or the SDSA Secretary.

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- ♦ *State & local trail maps.*
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- ♦ *Safety courses by certified instructors.*
- ♦ *Snowmobilers 4 Snowmobilers Program.*
- ♦ *Discounts at featured businesses each year.*
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www.snowmobilesd.com for more information



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