

THE SOUTH DAKOTA SNOW PLAINSMAN

The official publication of the South Dakota Snowmobile Association

March 2024



SDSA Directors and members who worked at the SDSA booth at Deadwood Sno Cross. Photo credit Tracy Olson.

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN SDSA?

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- ❄️ 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.



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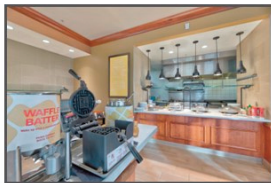
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Kelly Weaver, SDSA President



While I have been busy with many activities and interactions in my short couple of months as President, I am afraid I have failed in the snow delivery department. I applaud the clubs who organized events with the early snows and are finding activities that can held snow or no snow. Even social events are a great way to keep club members involved during the season. Unfortunately, the lack of snow did result in the cancellation of the Governor's Ride for the 2nd time in 3 years. We will be looking at other ways to engage with our legislators this session.

I am excited to visit as many clubs as possible during my term as President. I attended 3 club meetings in January with more on the schedule through the spring. One of the things I am sharing with clubs is an overview of the funding which supports our snowmobile trail system. It has been an eye-opening discussion to hear their questions and provide some insight on the program. Since FY 2011, the Trails Fund Balance has seen a negative trend and is at its lowest balance in over two decades. In recent years, annual expenses average around \$924,000 and revenues just over \$864,000. We all need to be educated on this topic as we move forward to make the changes necessary to sustain

the Snowmobile Trail Program. Why is this important, you ask?

First, a brief overview of the Snowmobile Trails Fund that supports our Black Hills Trail System and the Grant In Aid program for the East River trails that your clubs manage. What do I mean when I say "support"? The Snowmobile Trail Fund pays for all the groomers, drags and trail marking sign materials along with related operating expenses (fuel, maintenance, insurance, facilities, etc). It pays for the Grants given to snowmobile clubs for maintaining trails East River. It pays for all the State staff that work on the snowmobile trails – groomers, mechanics and administrators who negotiate the trail routes with other stakeholders and manage the program. All things snowmobiling - you get the picture.

There are 3 primary funding sources for the Snowmobile Trails Fund, listed here in order of revenue generated: 3% excise tax on new and used sleds, gas tax on 125 gallons of gas for each registered snowmobile, and snowmobile registration fees. We have also successfully accessed federal Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grants over the years to assist in purchasing grooming equipment.

The key point is that these funding sources are paid by snowmobilers for snowmobiling. It is time to take a serious look at fee changes to sustain South Dakota snowmobiling as we know it. This may come in the form of increases to existing fees or possibly instituting an out of state user permit. There is still some data to be collected before any specific recommendations are made, and any changes made will need to go through the legislative process. We as snowmobilers will need to step forward and ask the legislature to allow us to raise fees on ourselves. We are not asking for money from the State; we are asking for money from ourselves.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find articles from Ryan Raynor and Kim Raap with additional detail and insight. Please take the time to soak in this information and ask all the questions you have. This will help us as we prepare to educate our legislators and make our case. Keep an eye on future Sno-Plainsman issues for updates as recommendations are being developed. And when the President comes to visit your club, see if you can stump her!

See you on the trails (next year?)

Kelly

South Dakota Snowmobile Trails Program Fun Facts:

	Start (Year)	Today	Highest (Year)
Registered Snowmobiles	6,425 (1972)	10,569	15,544 (2012)
Snowmobile Trail Miles	235 (1981)	1,299	1,963 (2007)

- The \$10 registration fee has not been raised since it was instituted in 1971!
- For each registered sled, roughly \$35 in gas taxes are deposited into the fund. That's a pretty good return on a \$10 investment.
- Of the twelve surrounding states in the snowbelt, South Dakota is only one of two states in the region with no out of state user fee. (The other is Nebraska which does not have a statewide trail system.)
- The Governor's Snowmobile Advisory Council consist of 7 member who provide oversight and guidance of the Snowmobile Trails Fund administered by the SD Game Fish and Parks.



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Darrell Vig

125 Pine Cone Crt Spearfish, SD 57783

605-347-1904 darrell_vig@yahoo.com

District 2

Director: Jackson Wenger

Black Hills Snowmobile Club

Brad Richey, President

3337 E Mall Drive Rapid City, SD 57701

bhsnowmobileclub@hotmail.com

Meetings on 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00

pm (come early for food!)

Meeting Place: Rice's Rapid Motorsports,

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Mile High Snow Drifters

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Aberdeen Driftbusters

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Club address:

P O Box 204

Aberdeen, SD 57401

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www.aberdeendrftbusters.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

Matt Halbkat, President

309 W 6th Avenue

Webster SD 57274

Meeting 2nd & 4th Thurs 7:30 pm VFW

District 4

Director: Nathan VanZee

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 Riders

Jamie Hohm President

43048 186th St

Willow Lake SD 57278

Meets 3rd Wed 8 p.m.

Places to vary

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Director: Pat Hanten Duerr

James Valley Drift Skippers

P O Box 272

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Club address:

P O Box 802

Parkston, SD 57366

2nd Thursday

District 6

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P O Box 543 Milbank SD 57252

wvsnowclub@gmail.com

wvsnowclub.com

Meets 1st Mon 7 pm VFW

Milbank

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Jason Shepherd, President

club address:

114 18th St NE

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

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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

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SDSA President-Elect Mike Boock



Hello Snowmobilers,

Well, I just got back from a cruise and during most of my trip the difference in temperature between the Caribbean and the Black Hills was only 10-20 degrees. Mother nature has lost her mind at this point! With the poor snow conditions, unfortunately we had to cancel a couple of important events. The first being the Governor's Ride. I believe this is only the 3rd time we have had to cancel this event. We tried to hold out for the snow in the beginning of the month, but unfortunately, it came down as rain. The Board will try to get information together to give to the legislators so we can keep the communication lines open. It's extremely important to keep that relationship on good standings in order to keep our trail system open and accessible to the thousands of tourists that enjoy riding here... when we have snow. I don't know about you, but I've been praying extra hard and putting in some extra hours of snow dancing to try and get the snow gods on our side again. The other event cancelled was the BHSC's annual Radar Run at Deerfield Lake. The ice was just too thin to put that many people on it. Hopefully, next year will be a better year for us.

It sounds like the Snocross races in Deadwood were a success even though it was t-shirt weather. I want to thank everyone that stepped up and filled in for me while I was escaping the non-existent cold weather and cruising the Caribbean. You all are rock stars! The booth looked great and we had great participation. Adding the snowmobile give-a-way was a huge success in bringing people into the booth and the new feather banners really attracted a lot of attention.

After making a name change, the Jon LaFramboise YETIS Scholarship Fund is fully funded!! Thank you to everyone who helped get this taken care of! Many clubs stepped up and made special donations this past month and I really appreciate that. It shows that when we come together as an organization, we can do the impossible. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Our YETIS deserve this and it will help them out tremendously.

Keep thinking SNOW!

Mike Boock SDSA President-Elect



To the right:
Here's where we stand with the Jon LaFramboise Scholarship for the YETIS.

We have surpassed our goal and the fund stands at \$44,500 currently!

Thank you to EVERYONE who made this a reality! I can't help but think that Jon is smiling down from heaven to see this come to fruition.

Photo to the left: Jon LaFramboise





Duane Duerr, SDSA Past President

Well snow in 2023-24 looks like it will be a challenge to get. We still have some events that we can attend or do to make it a good winter.

SnoCross on January 26th & 27th was a good event to attend in Deadwood. SDSA had great representation working the event and many came to attend. Skidoo raffles tickets went well and drawing for \$50 gift card was well received. On March 1st and 2nd SnoCross will be in Sioux Falls at the Fair grounds, should have great attendance. Remember SDSA members can get tickets at a Discount.

I know many clubs have Poker runs, Charity rides or Vintage Shows with Snow or no snow. If you get the chance to attend these can still be fun events to attend.

Looking for some season ending snowfall.

Past President Duane Duerr

Lisa Cain, SDSA Treasurer

As I look outside today, all of our snow is gone. The Governor's Ride has been canceled, and the forecast looks more like balmy spring than wintery-white February. As we are lamenting about not being able to snowmobile, the economic impact of not having snow is something that I never seriously considered before.

USD did an economic impact study in 2011 about the economic impact of snowmobiling in South Dakota. While these figures are definitely dated, it still gives us an idea of how important snowmobiling is to the state of South Dakota. Roughly 1400 jobs are supported by snowmobiling. \$15 million comes in from trip-related spending for hotels, cabins, casinos, and eating establishments. Snowmobile retailers and distributors bring in \$58 million and with the rise in the cost of snowmobiles, this number is most likely higher now. The total economic impact is \$131.6 million. This is a good reminder of why we support Back the Ride and the Right to Ride. The cooperatives that we have with landowners and the forestry division are fostered with care to ensure that we have trails to ride on, and in turn, bring money into the state. As a whole, snowmobiling generates over \$26 billion in annual spending across the United States. We may fall short this year, but I'm hoping that March will bring us a few more blasts of snow to enjoy!

Lisa Cain

SDSA Treasurer

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3. Entries will not necessarily be judged on financial need.
4. A \$500 award for the winner will be sent to the institution of choice upon acceptance of student's enrollment.
5. A completed application must be submitted by 2/25 ABSOLUTE DEADLINE to SDSA P O Box 206 Gary SD 57237.
6. Limited to SDSA members & their families that live full time in South Dakota.
7. On a separate sheet of paper write an essay in 500 words or less on a minimum of 2 pages and not more than 4 on "WHY SNOWMOBILING IS IMPORTANT TO SOUTH DAKOTA AND TO ME".
8. Your name should NOT appear anywhere on the essay!!! Judges will not see who the essay belongs to when judging. If your name is on the essay, it will be disqualified.
9. Note: no transcripts or letters of recommendation. Entries exceeding 500 words will be disqualified.

Please include at least one photo with your application.

Name _____

Birthdate _____

Home address _____

Telephone _____

Name of SDSA member _____

Parent or guardian _____

High school grad. date _____

GPA _____

Name of high school _____

City of high school _____ College you plan to attend _____

Major _____

Or are you already in college? Yes/No

On a separate sheet fill us in on the following areas:

1. Snowmobile club & state association involvement:
2. Community activities/Dates Participated/ Hours committed/ Leadership/ Positions held
3. Awards:
4. Work Experience/Positions/Dates of employment
5. Extra curricular activities/Years participated/ Leadership positions





Jon LaFramboise YETIS Scholarship!

Jon was a member of the South Dakota Snowmobile Association board when the YETIS organization was created and strongly supported the effort to give young snowmobilers leadership experience and encourage their continued involvement in the sport.

Requirements:

1. High school seniors or enrolled college students up to 20 years old must be a student in good standing and awards are not based on academic achievement.
2. Definite choice of a Liberal Arts College, Technical Institute, Specialized College, School of Nursing, Junior College, provided that the institution provides a standard degree of certification.
3. Entries will not necessarily be judged on financial need.
4. A \$1000 award for the winner will be sent to the institution of choice upon acceptance of the student's enrollment.
5. A completed application must be submitted by 2/25 ABSOLUTE DEADLINE to SDSA P.O. Box 206 Gary SD 57237.
6. Limited to YETIS members that live full time in South Dakota and are SDSA members. On a separate sheet of paper write an essay in 500 words or less on a minimum of 2 pages and not more than 4 on "How have you helped promote snowmobiling to younger kids and how has YETIS helped you grow?".

- Your name should NOT appear anywhere on the essay!!! Judges will not see who the essay belongs to when judging. If your name is on the essay, it will be disqualified.

Please include the following information at the end of your essay:

- YETIS involvement including activities and positions held:
- Club and SDSA involvement:
- What would this scholarship mean to you?

Note: no transcripts or letters of recommendation. Entries exceeding 500 words will be disqualified.

Please include at least one photo with your application.

Name _____ Birthdate _____
 Home address _____ Telephone _____
 Name of SDSA member _____
 Parent or guardian _____
 High school grad. date _____ GPA _____
 Name of high school _____
 City of high school _____
 College, you plan to attend _____ Major _____





Reflections from the 2023 Hall of Fame Inductee

I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Siouxland Sno-Trackers for their nomination and to SDSA for inducting me into the South Dakota Snowmobile Hall of Fame. This was truly a humbling surprise and an honor I will always treasure.

I'm a life-long snowmobiler, lucky to grow up in a snowmobiling family in Groton in the early 1970's, and have been extremely fortunate to work professionally for the past 45 years developing and managing snowmobile trail programs. My early years were spent working for SD GFP as a park manager and as the state trails coordinator, followed by being Wyoming's trails program manager.

For the past 20 years I've operated Trails Work Consulting, helping the American Council of Snowmobile Associations, as well as snowmobile associations and government agencies across the U.S. and Canada do long-range-planning, promote safe and responsible snowmobiling and to, most importantly, help keep motorized trails and riding access open and properly funded. My work has taken me to 20 states and 9 Canadian provinces and allowed me to actually snowmobile in 12 different states and 5 provinces. What an adventure it has been! But as I reflect on all my experiences over the years, my favorite place (still) to snowmobile with friends and family is in the Black Hills, the crown-jewel of South Dakota snowmobiling when we have good snow. It is such a beautiful place, with great trails as well as a wide range of family-friendly off-trail riding opportunities that is simply hard to beat.

I was recently compiling information for Wyoming about snowmobile fees in other states within their immediate region, as well as the states from where their snowmobile visitors. Having done several user studies for Wyoming, I know it's a well-established fact that half of all snowmobilers are nonresidents and that a full two-thirds of their out-of-state snowmobile visitors are typically from the Midwest. And having worked in both states, my observation is that is probably also true in respect to nonresident snowmobile visitors to the Black Hills – they also come from the south, east and north of South Dakota and likely represent up to a half of total snowmobile use in the Black Hills.

The table below shows the current annual registration/trail permit cost in surrounding states. The states shown with an average (avg.) cost are state's that have the combination of a multi-year registration fee plus an additional annual trail pass fee. Note that Nebraska and South Dakota were not included in the bottom average since (a) while Nebraska has a 2-year registration fee, it doesn't really have a statewide snowmobile trail system and (b) the purpose is to show the true regional average cost to snowmobile in surrounding states, outside of South Dakota.

State	Resident \$	Nonresident \$
South Dakota	10	0
Colorado	30.25	30.25
Idaho	45.50	59.50
Illinois	45	25
Iowa	17.50	17.50
Michigan	62 avg.	52
Minnesota	37.83 avg.	51
Nebraska	8 avg.	0
North Dakota	25 avg.	25
Wisconsin	40 avg.	50
Wyoming	35	35
Avg. without NE & SD	37.56	38.36

What comes to mind in respect to South Dakota is that (1) South Dakota is far below the average cost to snowmobile and (2) South Dakota is the only state in the region (outside of Nebraska which doesn't have a statewide trail system) that doesn't charge a nonresident snowmobile fee.

The current \$10 annual resident snowmobile fee (of which \$2 goes to the Motor Vehicle Fund, so only \$8 is deposited into the Snowmobile Trails Fund) was established by the state legislature in 1971 – 53 years ago – and has never been increased.

It should be noted that \$1.00 in 1971 had the same purchasing power as it would have taken \$7.43 to purchase in 2023. The cost of grooming equipment, fuel, repairs, labor, etc., etc. have all gone up tremendously since 1971. Today we have far more challenges to continued access in

many of our favorite, most popular snowmobiling areas. The snowmobile fee was established in 1971 because SDSA and its clubs went to the legislature and asked them to "please let us charge ourselves a user fee so that we can fund our own trails and riding areas." All funding for Snowmobile Trails Fund comes from revenue initiated and pursued by SDSA, not from revenue proposed and pursued by Game, Fish and Parks or any other entity. It is something that snowmobilers' clearly own.

Perhaps it's time – perhaps far past time – for SDSA, its clubs and snowmobilers in general to start having conversations about the need for a fee increase, as well as to perhaps also consider getting into the business of asking our visitors to start paying a fee. SDSA and its members need to continue working to ensure that the snowmobile program remains adequately funded into the future. If anything is going to change, it's going to have to come from SDSA and its members taking the initiative and talking to their local legislators. The future of snowmobiling trails and continued access is very likely going to require additional funding. Which trail into the future are you going to choose to support – forward, backwards or gone?

Kim Raap
Sioux Falls



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2014 Can-Am Outlander 650 XT	\$5000
2015 Can-Am Commander 800 3600 miles	\$9500

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2022 Kawasaki KLX140	\$3800
2022 Honda Grom 800 miles	\$3000
2019 Honda CRF450L 500 miles	\$7500
2014 Yamaha YZ450F	\$5500
2004 Honda VTX1300	\$1800

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2021 Summit 850 Summit 165" 560 miles SHOT	\$13500
2017 Summit 850 165" 1450 miles	\$8900
2003 Yamaha RX1 Mountain	\$2500

Ski-Doo MXZ 120 \$5100

Freeride 165" Turbo \$21600

Summit 850 Edge SHOT 154x3 \$16750

Motoreycle Off Road

TTR50 \$2150

YZ65 \$4900

125X \$7100

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Ryan Raynor, Trails Specialist

Unfortunately snow conditions haven't quite been what we always hope for and while a few spots in the state received some good snow over a 2-to-3-week period, that quickly disappeared due to lack of new snow and above average temperatures.

We felt it an appropriate time to coordinate with a few other articles and provide an overview of program funding and a little bit of history mixed in. Thanks to Kim Raap, I'll share some charts that really paint a clear picture of how your snowmobile funds have seen some great highs but also some lows that are worth paying attention too.

As you know, South Dakota's Snowmobile Program is paid for completely from dedicated snowmobile funds. These funds come out of the pockets of snowmobilers and snowmobilers only. A \$10 resident license, 3% excise tax when purchasing a new or used snowmobile and finally a gas tax formula which usually amounts to about half of the generated revenue from year to year. (See Kim Raap's article to learn more about our resident fee and other states resident and non-resident fee structures.) The formula for the Gas Tax includes the number of resident registered sleds as of July 1st x Gas Tax which is currently .28 cents x 125 gallons of fuel. These 3 major sources of funding were all created through the SD Legislature with the resident license and Gas Tax implemented in the early 70's and the excise tax created in 1990. While other revenue streams come through the program such as the trail directory fee on the map, surplus of snowmobile related equipment, donations, and a few others, these all add up to pennies when comparing to the 3 major sources of funding. The last source of funding I'll mention is the 5-Day \$40 Temporary Permit. This permit was also created through Legislation and last changed in 2007

where the permit went from \$10 to \$40. It was increased to \$40 because it was a way to collect funding that would otherwise be lost when a resident, doesn't license their snowmobile. \$27.50 is created through the gas tax and \$10 through the registration when a resident licenses their sled or \$37.50 between the two. Of course, a non-resident who comes to SD who doesn't have their sled legally registered in their home state would purchase the \$40 5 Day Temporary Permit as well and

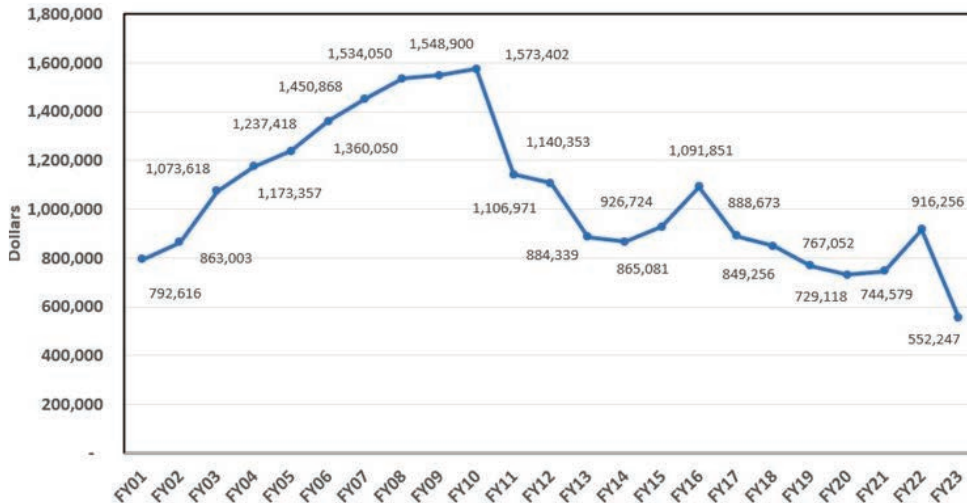
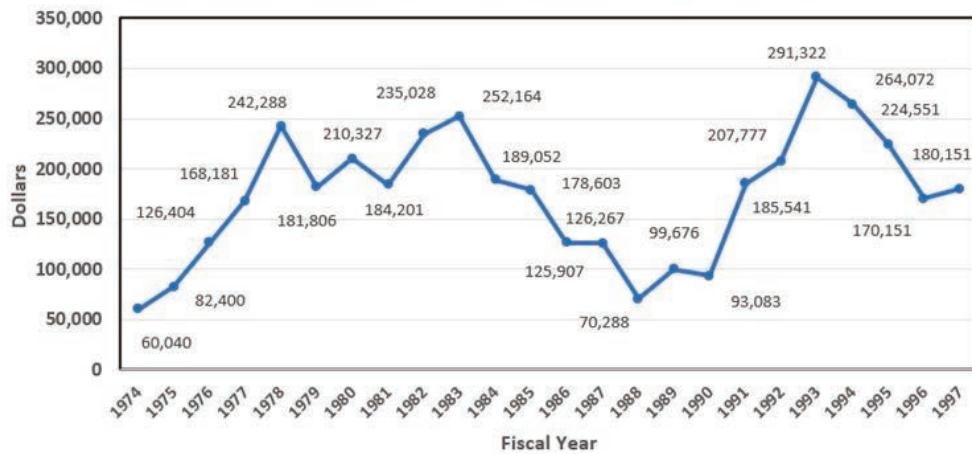
the Gas tax formula doesn't include non-residents.

All revenue generated from what was discussed above goes into the Snowmobile Trails Fund. Below are a few graphs which show the history of that fund balance. As you'll see, our current fund balance is as low as it's been since the late 90's and early 2000's. While these figures along with others are shared consistently with the Snowmobile Advisory Council, if you don't attend these meetings, you may not be as aware of the history or current state. I hope this article, along with others shared in the February issue has provided some valuable insight to those who weren't aware of the programs funding sources or a nice refresher for those who aren't as involved in SDSA or clubs as they used to be.

For my next article, I'll discuss more about expenses vs revenue specifically and how GFP manages your snowmobile funds through a dedicated snowmobile budget.



Early History of Snowmobile Fund Balance - FY 1974 to FY 1997



Snow Lovers Create Trails and Lifelong Friendships Through Club Membership

By Shannon Marvel SDREA
Shannon.marvel@sdrea.coop

Editor's note: This article is from the SDREA's magazine and reprinted with their permission.

Being a member of one of South Dakota's many snowmobiling clubs is more like being a member of a big, adrenaline-loving family.

Being a part of a snowmobile club provides the opportunity to meet likeminded individuals that can easily turn into some of your best friends. That's the case for Mike Boock, of Rapid City, who is a longtime member of the Black Hills Snowmobile Club (BHSC).

"Most of the friendships that I have today are because of the snowmobile club. Many of us even camp together during the summer at the lake," Boock said.

Boock said the club boasts up to 70 members in all. While he primarily rides the mountains of Colorado and Wyoming, Boock loves riding in Black Hills when the area receives enough snow. There are a total of 416 miles of groomed snowmobile trails in the Black Hills National Forest, making it a pristine spot for snowmobiling.

The snowmobile clubs in the Black Hills have it a little easier than those out east as they don't have to mark, install, groom or repair trails.

"The state takes care of that," Boock said. "This allows clubs like the BHSC to become more of an educational and community support organization."

This allows club members more free time to volunteer or participate in community events, such as the Festival of Lights Parade and Storybook Island Christmas Nights of Light.

Kelly Weaver is the President of the South Dakota Snowmobile Association and a member

of the Aberdeen Drift Busters Snowmobile Club. The Aberdeen Drift Busters maintain what's called the Dakota Midland trail system, which connects Aberdeen, Mina Lake, Richmond Lake, Westport, Frederick and Columbia.

"This provides about 75 miles of riding in a safe, marked, and groomed corridor," Weaver said.

There are rules governing the trail system. While there are no posted speed limits on the trail, when the trail is located in a road right-of-way, the speed limit of the road applies.

There are also laws governing the type of vehicle that can be ridden on a snowmobile trail. Machines must meet the state definition of a snowmobile. ATV's and other motorized vehicles do not typically meet that definition.

Aberdeen Drift Busters has held the title of being the largest snowmobile club in the state for several years. It was established in 1969, the same year the South Dakota Snowmobile Association was established.

"Currently, our membership is right around 100 families," Weaver said. "The club has been as large as 225 members but membership has slowed over the past decade due to the lack of snow and the growing number of activities that families have an opportunity to participate in."

Anyone can join a snowmobile club and snowmobile ownership is not a requirement.

"You are connected with very experienced snowmobilers who can provide information about machines, riding ventures and how organized snowmobiling operates," Weaver said.

"It is a way to connect with people who have a shared passion for the sport."

Weaver had her first taste of snowmobiling as a young child with her father and neighbors.

"When I was young, I only rode as a passenger, which I found was not to my liking. When I met my future husband, he also had a snowmobile and I had to ride as a passenger once again," Weaver said.

Weaver and her husband decided to join the Aberdeen Drift Busters while taking a break from riding for a bite to eat years ago.

"In 1986, my fiancé – now husband – and I were on a snowmobile ride and stopped to eat at a trailside business. Another snowmobiler, who we did not know, approached us and told us we needed to join the club. We did and have been actively involved ever since. That snowmobiling 'stranger' became a lifelong friend who we've shared many snowmobile memories with," Weaver said. "Like most things we are drawn to, it is the ability to connect with others who share a common interest that keeps us involved. We have met so many people across the state and the nation through our involvement and have experienced some awesome and fun-filled trips over the years. There are so many ways to be involved that even members who are not avid riders can benefit from and enjoy being part of the club."

Once married, Weaver decided she'd need her own sled if she were to continue with snowmobiling. When her husband acquired a new Polaris, she was granted a used Arctic Cat Jag that she described as a "trusty starter sled."

"Early on in our riding, we were able to make trips to the Black Hills, Big Horn Mountains and West Yellowstone. These venues are even more breathtaking in the winter," Weaver said.

A long day on the trail in a large riding area might last six to eight hours. There needs to be a minimum of six inches of snow on the ground, depending on the terrain.

It may take several layers of snow to create a base for the trail, which can then be

groomed and maintained throughout the season. With adequate snow and a trail in place, an ideal riding day for Weaver would be sunny skies with a little wind, and temperatures between 0 and 30 degrees.

Over in the southeastern corner of the state, Duane Duerr, President of the Siouxland Sno Trackers, finds great enjoyment in riding his Ski Doo 900 Ave Four Cycle snowmobile.

The Siouxland Sno Trackers is one of the original snowmobile clubs in South Dakota and has around 78 miles of groomed trails for its 80 members.

Duerr grew up in Minnesota and joined the club in 2006 when he moved to South Dakota. Joining the club helped him to learn the trails and rules, and provided him with many friendships.

"I think snowmobiling has become more popular, but involvement in all organizations is down," Duerr said. "Many do not realize that snowmobile clubs are why we have a trail system and that they put it in and take it out. Without the clubs, we will no longer have trails in South Dakota. Member support is what makes a difference and too many take that involvement for granted."

More information on the state's snowmobile clubs can be found at the SDSA's website at snowmobilesd.com





Mary Anne Grabow, SDSA Secretary/Editor

I'm working on my article Saturday afternoon after an almost 4 hour zoom call last evening with the Board. Yes, you read that right. We were meeting for just shy of 4 hours and believe it or not, we need another zoom meeting to finish up our business! I have to admit that at a certain point I just started listening (as I was recording the call) and started to work on creation of the magazine!

I will admit that I am going to be guilty of plagerism as I'm copying some (most) of Diane's article from last year - (with permission of course). She does a great job of outlining what should be captured on the Charity report and it's time for your club to be thinking about what all your club has done this season that can be captured on that report! (Thank you Diane for leaving this in an easy format to re-use).

The report is Due April 1st!

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

This year's report, which is due April 1, will cover the period of April 1, 2023 to March 30, 2024 and will encompass the total amount and/or hours donated to Major/National Charities, Local Charities and the total number of Volunteer Hours from your club members. As this is written, we haven't yet received the 2024 report to know for sure if additional information will be requested.

Last year we were asked for specific trail and maintenance information so expect to have similar reporting components. Once we have that information, club contacts will be made aware via email and the form will be posted to the SDSA Website, under "Forms".

Within the form, we will provide suggestions of charities and volunteer activities that have been captured in the past. While this can be a guide, please report whatever activity your club has been involved during the reporting period. If you have any questions on what should be included, please do not hesitate to ask. Once this form is completed, you are asked to please email it to both Lisa and Mary Anne. **lisa.m.cain1@outlook.com and sdsa@itctel.com** Please submit your completed report at your earliest convenience, however, please no later than April 3rd so that we can compile the results and in turn submit to the ISC Charity Report Committee.

If you are an SDSA Only member and you have some volunteer hours or made charitable contributions, please report that as well!

Note to SDSA Officers and Board of Directors:

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

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

Thank you all for everything snowmobilers do in the name of Snowmobiling and SDSA!!



It has definitely been a long and frustrating winter for us at the Interlakes Club with all these warm temps and lack of snow. It feels like winter hasn't even come yet. I know we've had some snow but that wasn't enough to get us through the year.

Unfortunately, with the lack of snow, planning our snowmobile show and ride day has been very difficult. As I'm writing this, we are in postponement in hopes this weather turns around so we

can have a fun day for everyone to come hang out, show off their sleds, and talk snowmobiles. We will also have classes for everyone.

We will be providing updates on our club group Facebook page (Interlakes SnowRoamers Snowmobile Club) if anyone would like to join, they are more than welcome to. Otherwise we will be trying our best to get the word spread throughout the SDSA community. Until next time everyone please keep doing that snow dance.

Hello again from the Watertown Snowmobile Club!

Boy this season is really turning out to be a flop for us snowmobilers! Even trips out west aren't looking great for snow. So we have been trying to do a few things around here with our club members with a fun time at our annual Christmas party.

We held a "all vehicles welcome" Poker Run on Saturday, February 3rd. We had a few come out even tho we couldn't ride sleds. Big thank you to all who worked it, the donations from Evolution, Glacier Lakes Powersports and Cloud 9 for gift cards and also Cloud 9 for letting us host the event there. Each month we try to plan an event whether it be a supper out or bowling etc. Hope a lot of you can make it to Snocross in March! Til then not much from here in Watertown!



Reporting
Amy Sowers

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Hello again snowmobile friends. I sat to write to all of you and it is 37 degrees and clear skies. We are currently in a warming trend according to the forecasts. Looking to reach mid 50's in the next week. This has certainly caused a little concern on the trails, but I will hold out hope that we get some snow and cooler temperatures directly to follow.

I must admit, I have to keep focused because as I write I am also getting ready to leave for the warm Caribbean waters on a cruise. I know many of you are heading off to your favorite snow-filled playlands and I hope you find just as much joy and adventure.

The end of February will be our annual club ride and I will share more about that a little later.

Our Annual Thunder on Ice Radar was sadly cancelled due to the unseasonably warm weather and poor ice conditions.

At Our club meeting we took a moment to focus on the organizations our club would like to support. Along with ACSA we also joined the Blue-Ribbon Coalition. We realize it will only be a matter of when more riding areas get closed. It takes all of us to help fight for our right to ride and encourage everyone to join any of the many organizations that are fighting to protect our outdoor recreation areas.

Until next month – **ALWAYS BEWARE OF THAT TINGLY FEELING YOU GET WHEN YOUR COMMON SENSE LEAVES YOUR BODY.....**

Holly Thomas
Black Hills Snowmobile Club Secretary

Snowmobile Safety Course:

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Ryan.Raynor@state.sd.us
for a code to take the course free!



Sno Trackers met on February 1st at Dell Rapids Pizza Ranch. Discussions were held on the upcoming SnoCross on March 1st & 2nd in Sioux Falls and hoping snow will allow the event to happen. SnoCross has snow machines on site and hopes that cooler weather at the end of February will allow that event to happen.

We did groom for two weeks and the groomer is ready if more snow comes our way. We have made a great effort to keep the groomer grooming. Thanks to all those operators for your efforts.

We set our next meeting at Tailgators for March 7th at 6:30. Sno Trackers Annual meeting is set for Saturday April 20th at Tailgators with Social hour at 6pm and Banquet at 7pm.

Hoping for snow to end the season,
Reporting Duane Duerr President.



Left: Meeting Pizza Ranch Dell Rapids
Right: Christmas Party at the Gulch Garretson



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The Driftbusters have been meeting and planning some winter events. Before Christmas we participated in the Aberdeen parade of lights. A great way to kick off the winter season!

Our first event of the new year is usually a steak feed for our members in January; however, the weather was too cold so we have

postponed. We haven't had enough snow to plan a club ride; however, our groomer operators, Jim Weaver and Sonny Pence were able to get out and groom the trail at the middle of January. Lee and I rode the new leg from Columbia to Westport and then onto Richmond Oasis. The east-west ditches were good; however, minimal snow north and south. At least got to try out the new Polaris 650 – so far I like it!

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After convention we brought back the challenge to help continue to support the funding for the YETI's scholarship. The fund needs \$25,000 to give an annual \$1,000 scholarship. The Driftbusters voted to give \$1000 toward the YETI scholarship fund.

We also have a Poker run planned for Feb. 3rd snow or no snow! Hope to patronize our associate members along our trail – Karen's in Columbia, Richmond Oasis and The Crossing at Mina. It is important to show our support of our associate members especially when there is not snow.

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S

Check out our new website www.aberdeendrftbusters.com!

Thank you the McQuillen Group and Casey & Kelli Weismantel for working on the updates. It looks great!!

You can also find us on Facebook. If you are in the area, join an event or attend a club meeting. You are always welcome!
Tracy Olson





Hello from the Northeast Corner of the State.

We haven't had enough snow to get the sleds out yet this year. We are still hopeful that we will get some snow so we can get out there.

Our club just hosted our 19th Annual Poker Run. We were not able to ride the trails due to no snow. But It was a beautiful day to get out of the house and visit with fellow snowmobiler and neighbors. Our community are great supporters of our club. We would like to thank our participating businesses; Cheetah's, Rosalie's, Deano's, Mikey's, NE Liquor Store, Crossroads, Corner Bar and LTR. These businesses open up early for us and donate door prizes - we couldn't do this without them. We dealt 156 hands of Poker. Our 50/50 drawing this year went to a little 7-year-old girl who is fighting leukemia. The winners of the 50/50 was Tony Scholler who very generous donated it back. So, we were able to gift her family \$1000.00. Proud moment to be a NETB member!

Till next time, stay warm & ride safe.



Photo,
Aaron Hannach 1st & 3rd, 2nd Robert Huff, 4th Tony Scholler, 5th Gina Steen





The Dakota Drifters held our Annual Charity Ride on Feb, 3rd 2024. Even though the snow conditions were warm and dry, a great group of supporters turned out to enjoy the day and raise money for The Brookings County Youth Mentoring Program. Thank you to everyone who donated to this event! In total we raised over \$3600 this year which will directly help our local young people through the hard work of the BCYMP. Huge thank you to Gena and Ali with BCYMP for all of your hours of work arranging the Charity donations. Thank you to all of the local businesses who donated basket items for the ticket drawings and silent auctions. Thank you to our Associate members who opened their doors and provided the stops. Thank you to Midway Camp for hosting us again this year, and thank you to Brian with Alien Skis for donating the money raised from the ski raffle directly to BCYMP. Congratulations to the winners of the poker ride: Rod Brandenburger 1st, Kyle Prodoehl 2nd, and Kyleigh, Grace, Kenzie in 3rd. Also congrats to Roger Thue for winning the 50/50 board. Thank you to Julie with the White club for arranging the party bus, and thank you to the participants who rode their SxS 's and UTV's on the ride. Finally, thanks again to everyone who so generously supported the Charity Ride! Please check out the Youth Mentoring program's website and donate or get involved and be a Mentor for our kids! Photos on the next page.

We are hard at work in the planning stages for the 2024 Annual Snowmobile Convention in Brookings this December. We are hoping to get more snow this winter, and will be holding another poker ride on the East side of our trail system if the weather cooperates. Our club members are planning to attend the Snocross event in Sioux Falls on March 1st and 2nd. We are also making plans for our Spring Club Banquet, so keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates.

Lynn Nilsson, Dakota Drifters





ACSA UPDATE

What a Winter!

Mother Nature certainly dealt the snowmobile industry, from the riders to the dealers to the businesses that rely on snowmobilers, a really bad bad hand this winter.

Thousands of events, from charity rides to club rides to races, have been rescheduled and cancelled.

It is inspiring to see many clubs and businesses pivoting on some the scheduled events to make them happen and still have fun!

* Rewind Parties * Warmest Winter Luau Parties
 * * Can't Ride Events *

* Many Club Rides and State Association Events have still occurred replacing rides with fun and games!

The businesses certainly appreciate seeing you - with or without your sleds. Businesses in rural America have come to count on the economic impact of snowmobilers. Empty parking lots and facilities are racking up millions of dollars of lost revenue across the United States this winter.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

February 10 – 19: International Take A Friend Snowmobiling

February 22 - 25: Mountain Region Ride/Meeting West Yellowstone, MT

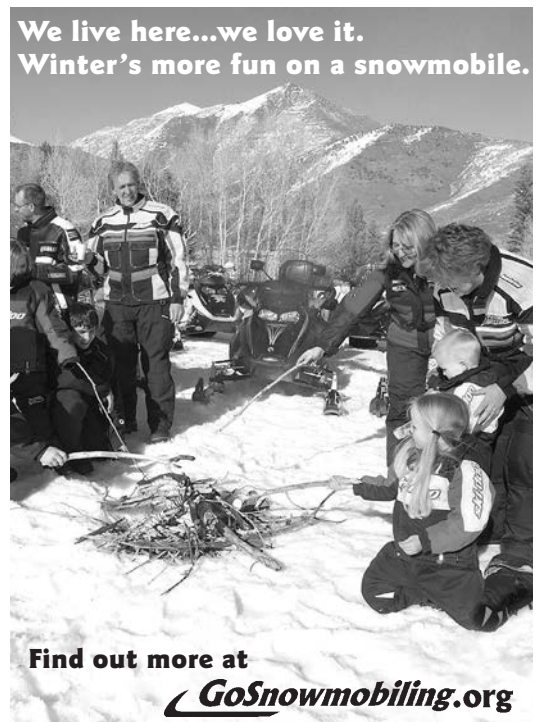
February 28-March 1: MISORVA Groomer Workshop Sault Ste. Marie, MI

March 1 - 3: Wyoming Fun Days DuBois, WY

March 22 - 24: AWSC Convention Elkhart Lake, WI

June 13 - 15, 2024: ISC in Green Bay, WI

June, 2025: ISC in Charlottetown, PEI





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





Darin Cooper, District 1 Director

What a crazy winter this has been, the beginning of February and it's raining. We need lots more moisture or it's going to be a smokey summer. The Deadwood Snocross was a great time as usual. Thank you to everyone that came out and helped with the SDSA booth. Corbin Boock did an awesome job at selling tickets for the mini snowmobile raffle. I think he was trying to sell them all and leave none for the Sioux Falls Snocross.

The Jon LaFramboise YETI scholarship reached its goal with a very generous donation. Let's keep donating and growing this fund and hopefully

gain a second scholarship from it.

The Governor's ride has been canceled from the lack of snow conditions, imagine that. There is lots of other things going on, so check the calendar of events in the Sno Plainsman, get out and enjoy!!Darin Cooper

Jackson Wenger, District 2 Director

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening from district #2. I can honestly say I've had more fog than measurable snow this year at the Wenger residence. Great news for the Jon LaFramboise YETIS Scholarship! The scholarship was fully funded and then some and will be providing scholarships for youth snowmobilers for many years to come!



I was able to go on Saturday morning and help Jason Shepherd and his crew along with Corbin Boock (YETIS president) and in all honesty they didn't need my help and did a great job at the Deadwood Sno-Cross selling tickets for the 200cc mini-Z snowmobile and securing some new members. The weather that weekend was great in terms of how warm it was but the flip side to the nice weather is the cancellation of some annual events.

The SDSA had to make a tuff decision to cancel the annual Governor's ride due to the lack of snow and over a week after that decision the snow that was predicted never came so the decision was definitely the right one as snow conditions in the hills continue to deteriorate. The Black Hills snowmobile club met and also had to cancel one of their long standing events the Thunder on Ice Radar Run at Deerfield lake because of ice conditions and surface water on the lake. The good news is there's snow in the mountains and from my experience it's good riding in the Rabbit/Ears or Buff pass areas and also the Sierra Madres and I heard that Togwotee might be improving as well.

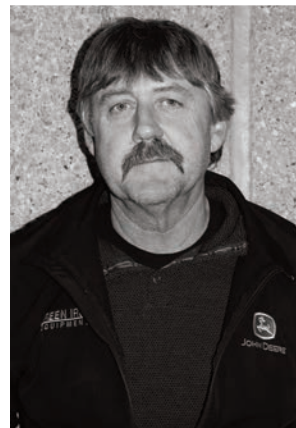
Till next month...good day!



Lee Olson, District 3 Director

I am writing this article as we travel back from another great SnoCross in Deadwood. The weather was beautiful for racing but not for riding the trails.

I spent the weekend with a great group of volunteers from the Watertown, Sioux Falls, Aberdeen and Black Hills clubs promoting snowmobiling at the SDSA tent. While the team was awesome at selling raffle tickets for the SkiDoo MXZ 200 snowmobile, they were even better of telling why SDSA matters. A couple from Montana stopped and bought tickets and were very impressed by our YETI's President's information and knowledge about how SDSA makes a difference and keeps our options for riding available. They were also very impressed how we involve youth in our statewide association. It was great to see the support from our local state members as they stopped by to say hi as well as those who travel with the circuit and of course all the first timers and out of staters there for the SnoCross. Overall I heard the team sold 385 tickets for the weekend --- very impressive results! A big thank you to Jason for leading the setup and tear down and storing/hauling all the necessary supplies. Thank you to Duane for walking the Deadwood streets and getting gift cards for drawings. A final thank you to the Black Hills group who supplied the propane, heat, snowmobile display and for Corbin our YETI's president who I think was the lead salesman in raffle tickets for the weekend.



I also heard there was an accident on the trails resulting in a plane ride for someone. ***I know accidents happen; however, I am an advocate for riding sensibly and understanding the rules of the trail. Please be a role model to others on the trails. Ride safely, share safety rules with others, take a safety course and always be aware of others when you are riding the trail system.***

Kelly and Jim Weaver and Tracy and I attended the Webster club meeting also in District 3 in January. We were greeted with hospitality and great food at the new Roots restaurant on Main Street. This club meets 2x/month during the winter season. They have their trail marked and are awaiting some routine maintenance on the groomer. They are just waiting for some snow! We enjoyed sharing updates on SDSA events, scholarships, YETIs and the importance of snowmobile license and registration and club membership to continue to support our trail system in SD.

Tracy had the article for Driftbusters so she will share the happenings in Aberdeen.

Hopefully we will see some snow soon!
Lee Olson
District 3 Director





Nathan VanZee, District 4 Director

Hello everyone !

Who has their sleds ready for water cross?? Isn't this crazy being 50 in February. There was 17 of us that went out to the Hills Snocross weekend to ride. It was do-able but not great snow. Luckily nothing got wrecked. Thank you to all that put on a great Snocross. We took a bunch of first timers and they loved it. I think they're all hooked. Hopefully we can get some snow before the Soux Falls one and bring everyone down. Hope to see you all there.

Pat Hanten-Duerr, District 5 Director

Although snow is limited , clubs are keeping activities going for Snowmobilers to attend.

Dakota Ditch Rippers of Parkston had a poker run on January 27th with snow. Although we were helping at SnoCross in Deadwood our family said it was a great event to attend.

Trailbusters Snowmobile club had a Poker Run on January 28th that also had some rideable trails. Clubs need your support to make these events a success.

The Wooden Nickel in Crooks is having a Memorial Ride for Jarvis Brende rescheduled now to February 24. Registration will be at 11:00 am with stops at The Wooden Nickel in Crooks and stops, Include South Bar in Hartford, Main Street Humbolt Bar, Big, J's in Humbolt, and Buffalo trading post. We will also be having a 50/50 drawing and raffle baskets. Proceeds will go to Sno-trackers to help maintain the trails to provide safe riding.

Also on March 1st & 2nd is the SnoCross in Sioux Falls at the West Lyon Fairgrounds. SDSA will be there!!



District 5 Director Pat Hanten Duerr



Jarvis Brende Memorial Ride



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Jason Shepherd, District 6 Director

Hello again. We are all still waiting for the snow to come so we can get out and ride. But at least we had some snowmobile racing action to watch to kinda get us by for awhile. It was nice seeing everyone that stopped by the booth at the Deadwood Snocross races. Hope to see you all again at the one in Sioux falls the first weekend of March. On the club news not a lot is going on, with the lack of snow in our area. Some did hold poker runs, some had to cancel. Don't forget to stop by the SDSA booth in Sioux Falls Sno Cross.



Trace Damm, District 7 Director



Hello Everyone,

Well, this winter could not be anything but the complete opposite from last year. The fishing for miracles fishing tournament was canceled due to the weather not even getting cold enough to make ice till early January. But they still held the drawings. With that, the Pounders held a poker run to support a great cause. We tried to do some grooming, but with the lack of snow it was tough in multiple spots. The cold temps and lack of snow held back a lot of riders, with few that showed up by sled but many that showed up by vehicles. It was great to see the

support in tough conditions. Keep an eye out west as there has been some good shots of snow hitting the areas. Grab some buddies, load the trailer, and chase it down. Ride safe and ride smart!
Till next time, Trace Damm

Current Committees

Government Relations

1. Duane Duerr
2. Kelly Weaver

Scholarship

1. Trace Damm
2. Lee Olson
3. Nathan VanZee

By Laws & Right to Ride

1. Duane Duerr
2. Kelly Weaver
3. Mike Boock

Safety

1. Lee Olson
2. Jason Shepherd
3. Nathan VanZee

Grants

1. Pat Hanten Duerr
2. Kelly Weaver

Snocross

1. Jason Shepherd
2. Lee Olson
3. Darin Cooper

Charities

1. Lisa Cain
2. Darin Cooper

Membership/Website

1. Mike Boock
2. Mary Anne Grabow
3. Jackson Wenger

Awards

1. Duane Duerr

Convention

1. Pat Hanten-Duerr
2. Jackson Wenger
3. Trace Damm

Fundraiser/Raffle

1. Trace Damm
2. Darin Cooper
3. Pat Hanten-Duerr

SnoPlainsman Committee

1. Mary Anne Grabow
2. Trace Damm
3. Nathan Vanzee
4. Kelly Weaver

Investments

1. Lisa Cain
2. Pat Hanten-Duerr

Governors Ride

1. Mike Boock
2. Jason Shepherd
3. Jackson Wenger

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. Lee Olson
2. Kirsten VanDenHemel
3. Audrey Rider
4. Tracey Erickson





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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



23. Carey Holt
Clear Lake, SD
Dakota Trailblazers-
03/2019



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



8. Russell Johnson
Beresford, SD
Trailbusters 12/2015



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



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



9. Lisa Johnson
Beresford, SD
Trailbusters 12/2015



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



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



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



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



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



50. **Doug Moeller**
Bryant, SD
Poinsett Pounders
12/2023



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



42. **Jim LeTendre**
Sioux Falls SD
combined effort:
5 clubs
11/2021



51. **Bonnie Moeller**
Bryant, SD
Poinsett Pounders
12/2023



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



43. **Richard Berens**
Milbank, SD
Whetstone Valley Snow-
mobile Association 8/2022



52. **Diane Jo Hiles**
DeSmet, SD
Town & Country Riders
12/2023



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



44. **Dave Hammer**
Milbank, SD
Whetstone Valley Snowmo-
bile Association 8/2022



53. **Charlie Fawcett**
Ree Heights, SD
Hand County Snogooers
12/2023



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



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

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.



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



46. **Sheridan LaFramboise**
Rapid City SD
Black Hills Snowmobile
Club
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

(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





Deadwood Sno Cross Photos courtesy Jason Shepherd





Photos courtesy Jason Shepherd





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Pre-convention meeting Minutes December 1, 2023

Minutes of the Pre-convention meeting of the SDSA board of directors December 1, 2023 Sioux Falls, SD Ramkota.

President Duane Duerr called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Mary Anne called the roll Present were: Duane, Kelly, Greg, Lee, Tracey, Jason, Diane, Mary Anne & (Lisa as a guest). Pat joined the meeting later. Mike & Trace were not present.

Tracey made a motion to accept the agenda with the additions of Treasurer contract and State Travel rate. Greg seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Guests in attendance: Marty Grabow, Jim Weaver, Brian Erickson & Scott Kooiker.

Tracey made the motion to accept the August minutes as well as the October zoom minutes as presented. Kelly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial report: Greg made a motion to accept the financial report and file it for review. Tracey seconded. Motion carried. Venmo is still pending. Training has been going on with Lisa & Diane. The Treasurer's job description should be updated and in the SOPS as well.

President: Duane gave a

short Presidents report and thanked Kelly for all her work in the hiring process.

Sno Plainsman:

Mary Anne gave a short report on the Sno Plainsman and the office happenings.

Government Relations

Duane said that the advisory meeting was very interesting and that any legislative changes need to come through SDSA channels.

Investments: Diane gave a report on the investments which have teetered lately but are relatively \$2300 to the plus side currently for the year.

Tracey made a motion to move **Back the Ride to Fundraising** committee. Greg seconded. Motion carried.

Fundraising – Snowmobile clubs can sell tickets for the snowmobile if they wish. We will print more if needed. Office requests that the ticket say PERSON or CLUB not person/club so that it is clear which is being awarded the \$500.

Convention – 6th & 7th of December for next year.

Grants – ISMA grant was granted for Governor's Ride. MAKE sure we comply to what the grant states.

Membership - 281 with 176 being club

37 legacy

25 club associate 7 SDSA

Awards: The awards changes that have been implemented may warrant a SOP change.

Safety – Let's have a safe season. There's training sessions tomorrow.

Charity – no report

Trails – no report

Governor's Ride – also a member appreciation ride this year.

Meeting will be right after the 5 p.m. Governor's Advisory meeting.

SDSA Board will have pizza for the meeting.

We'll have a little longer ride on Saturday but it needs to be done by 4 for rental returns.

Snocross is January 26 & 27 in the hills and March 1 & 2 in Sioux Falls.

Tracey made a motion to spend \$300 for sno cross supplies & use the rest of the \$621 remaining of the grant money from last year to have QR codes on the trails. Kelly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kelly can make a QR code to go to a specific web page. Fliers hung in associate membership businesses. The QR codes can't be on the trail

because of GF. Kelly can design but is looking for more guidance.

Defend your right to ride? Email to clubs and leave it up to them to

distribute. Provide in jpg and/or pdf. There is a QR code on the trail

maps for GFP to go to their maps on website.

As for the website, use ACSA as our guide as to how to set it up. Mary Anne will work with Mike on this.

Executive session was called at 2:36.

Treasurers contract Kelly made a motion to offer a 6 month contract for this year. Pat seconded. Motion carried.

Greg made a motion to extend bids for the 2025 convention to February 1. Jason seconded. Motion carried.

Mountain & trails region rides info was presented. State travel rate is currently \$.51 and we have been using \$.42. **This rate should be checked each year.**

Yetis' -Tracey made a motion to approve Chris Vandenhemel as the YETIS representative. Kelly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jason made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:02 p.m. Trace seconded.

Our Associate Members

District 1

Trailhead Lodge
22075 US HWY 85
Lead SD 57754
605-584-3464
trailheadlodge.com

Saloon #10
657 Main Street
Deadwood SD 57732

WhiteTail Creek Resort
11295 US Hwy 85/14A
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/aberdennmillstone

Herreid Sporting Center
Box 215
Herreid SD 57632

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

Aberdeen Convention & Visitors
Aberdeen SD 57401

Gellings Auto
503 N Roosevelt
Aberdeen SD 57401
gellingsautoservice.com

Reuer's Auto Service
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Aberdeen, SD 57401

C-Express
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Aberdeen, SD 57401

Biegler Construction
382021 N Shore Drive
Aberdeen SD 57401

Richmond Oasis
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Aberdeen, SD 57401

The Crossing/M Station
800 Newbitt Drive
Mina SD

Elite Collision Center
3011 8th Ave NE
Aberdeen SD 57401

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

Pizza Ranch
1010 6th Ave SE
Aberdeen SD 57401

L & O Acres
12101 386th Avenue
Westport SD

Karen's in Columbia
11 s Broadway St
Columbia SD

District 4

Hi-Mark LLC
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DeSmet, SD 57231

Oldham Saloon
201 E Main
Oldham, SD

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

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

Olson's Pest Technicians
178 Spring St
Yankton SD 57078

The Shipwreck Bar & Grill
23925 464th Avenue
Chester SD 57030

Sioux Equipment
1310 E 39th St N
Sioux Falls SD 57104

The Gulch
516 Main St
Garretson, SD 57030

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
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Dell Rapids SD 57022

Baltic Corner Inc
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Dell Rapids SD 57022

Palisades Propane Inc & Palisades Oil
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Sioux Falls SD 57105

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Madison SD 57042

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500 SE 10th St
Madison SD 57042

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Dell Rapids, SD 57022

Prohibition Pub
313 N Garfield
Dell Rapids SD 57022

District 6
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Milbank SD 57252

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

Country Corner
104 State Ave W
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 Wilmot SD 57279
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Renegades Saloon
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 Hayti Sd 57241

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

Shady Beach
 13655 Shady Street
 Corona SD 57227

Gunslingers Bar
 203 Twin Brooks Rd
 Twin Brooks SD 57269

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

Exit Realty Connection
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 Watertown, SD 57201

Prairie Stop
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 Watertown, SD 57201

Whetstone Insurance
 1512 Morningside Drive
 Milbank SD 57252

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

Keller Kountry Korner
 P O Box 71
 Wallace SD

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 1005 South Dakota Street
 Milbank, SD 57252

District 7

Aurora Auto Body & Glass
 203 Broadway
 Aurora, SD 57002

Adee Honey
 517 Jay Street
 Bruce SD 57220

Jackrabbit Tire & Service
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 Brookings, SD 57006

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 Bushnell SD 57276

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The Ridge
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 Brookings, SD 57006
 brandenburgerchiro.com

Brookings Powersports
 1723 16th Ave W
 Brookings, SD 57006

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 213 N 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

Valley Mart
 101 Caspian Avenue
 Volga, SD

Jay Street Pub
 915 Doe St
 Bruce SD 57220

BLU Salon & Spa
 1118 Sixth St
 Brookings, SD 57006

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 46576 211th Street
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 Brookings, SD 57006
 VRBO 356446

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 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

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 Brookings, SD 57006

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 Arlington, SD 57212

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 Brookings, SD 57006

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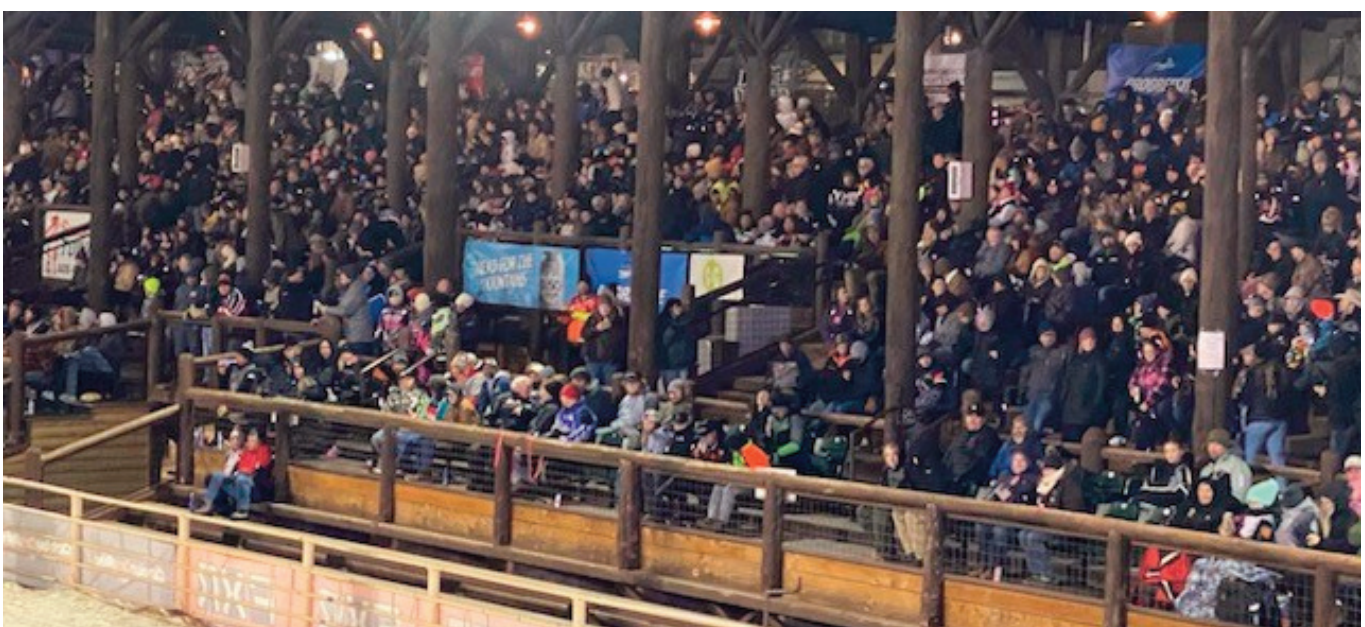
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WARNING! Powersports can be hazardous to operate and are recommended only for use by those age 16 years or older. When operating a personal vehicle, always wear appropriate safety apparel. For your safety, be responsible. Read the owner's manual. Never under the influence of drugs or alcohol. See dealer for complete safety and offer details.

- Calendar of Events**
- February 22-25 ACSA Mountain Riding Summit West Yellowstone**
 - March 1 & 2 Sno Cross Sioux Falls**
 - June 13-15, 2024 ISC Green Bay WI**
 - December 6-7 55th Annual SDSA Convention Brookings Inn, Brookings**
 - June 2025 ISC Charlottetown PEI**



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



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