

THE SOUTH DAKOTA SNOW PLAINSMAN

The official publication of the South Dakota Snowmobile Association

October 2024

Celebrating
50 YEARS

SDSA members at
ISC in Green Bay



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Kelly Weaver, SDSA President



Welcome to a new snow season! Coming off back-to-back snow seasons that were on opposite ends of the spectrum, I am hoping for a Goldilocks winter, one that's 'just right! **Check out the SDSA events calendar for some statewide and re-**

gional events to put on your winter riding calendar.

This spring and summer I had the opportunity to attend American Council of Snowmobile Association (ACSA)'s DC Fly-in and the International Snowmobile Congress (ISC). These events give us an opportunity to connect with industry partners, federal agencies, our Congressional members and staff, and State Associations from across the snowbelt. For me, these events reinforce the importance of our organized snowmobile programs and the continual need to stay informed and get involved as needed.

During our meetings at ISC, Michigan shared that a snowmobile club was facing the closure of 0.8 miles of county road that would close a trail that has provided access to a scenic and popular destination, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore National Park, for decades. A county board meeting was set for the Monday following ISC, and the Michigan state association asked those present to send an email of support to the local club. I did, as did many others in the room. Following the meeting, it was reported that the County board was surprised that people beyond their local area and state sent comments. Some snowmobilers from Wisconsin even attended the meeting. They tabled action on the closure

to a future meeting. While I may never ride on this trail, our collective actions as a snowmobile community helped shine a light on local directives that affect our fellow riders and the business economy they support.

It is only through this collective support, that we can fight the good fight. When, not if, we face an issue in South Dakota, we too can tap our larger snowmobile community for support. With ACSA, we have a network of connections and resources to make this happen. Each Friday, the ACSA E-News shows up in my inbox and my facebook feed with an update on issues facing snowmobiling as well as activities in the snowbelt. Please consider joining ACSA (\$15 family; \$25 club). **www.snowmobilers.org**

While preparing my article, I received the sad news of the passing of Ken Stewart, a snowmobile pioneer in the world of organized snowmobiling. Ken served as SDSA's executive director for many years and had a wealth of snowmobiling knowledge. He was instrumental in establishing SDSA, charter clubs, and the Governor's Ride. When I first joined SDSA in 1985, Ken was long established in this role. He and other seasoned SDSA board members shared stories about the tireless efforts to establish our trail system and fee structure that funds it. Trips to Pierre to educate legislators and agency leaders and letter writing campaigns to state and federal legislators and regulators to support or oppose issues that affect our sport. For the past several decades, my generation has benefitted from this work with little effort on our part. If we are going to continue to enjoy this sport, we once again have to engage in the fight to sustain it. Are you ready?

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Mary Anne Grabow, Editor-Publisher

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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, 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

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 Tuesday 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

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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Siouxland Sno-Trackers

President: Chad Schettler
P O Box 624
Brandon, SD 57005
605-728-2284
Meets 1st Thursday at 7 p.m., places vary
See website or Facebook for details

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 Briggs, President
P O Box 543 Milbank SD 57252
wvsnowclub@gmail.com
wvsnowclub.com
Meets 1st Mon 7 pm VFW
Milbank

Watertown Snowmobile Club

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

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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SDSA President-Elect

Mike Boock



Hello snowmobilers!
 WOW! I can't believe it's that time of year already. This summer went way too fast, but at least we have something to look forward to... SNOW! I'm no weatherman, but the farmers are usually right, and they are predicting a lot of snow. My fingers and toes are crossed, and I hope yours are too. Anything will be better than last year! The weather has already started to cool off and some of the higher elevations have already seen some snow. I hope you are all getting your sleds, trailers, trucks, snowcats, and snow bikes out of storage and starting to go through your yearly maintenance. Get to those meetings, have some open houses/membership drives, get those trails put in, and let's gooooo!

This summer I attended my first ever ISC event and man was it exciting to see all the passion and knowledge of the many different organizations that support snowmobiling. We had 13 SDSA members representing SD! Thank you to everyone that attended and helped support snowmobiling. It was great to hear how all the different clubs and organizations are so willing to help each other out when there is a need. While we were at the event, there was a club that was having issues with a county road committee and a county board member that was trying to shut down a section of road to snowmobiles that would prohibit people from going to a very popular destination spot. Many of us sent emails in support of keeping this section open and it made a huge impact at the county board meeting. Even though we might not be having a lot of issues in SD, it's nice to know that when we need help, there are a lot of people on our side. For years, I've thought that attending ISC and going to Washington, DC was not really needed since we don't have the issues that other states have. After

attending this event, I can assure you that we need to be attending these events. Once the ball gets rolling, it can be difficult to stop on our

own. With the help of all the other states, it's a lot easier to get things done.

I want to start off this season by thanking everyone that helped get the Jon LaFramboise Yetis Scholarship 100% funded and congratulating the winners of the first ever Jon LaFramboise Yetis Scholarships! This year, we were able to give out two scholarships: Austin Copper - \$1000 and Brayden Boock - \$500. Congratulations to you two!! Both young men are attending SDSU and have thanked SDSA for this assistance. Both are also members of the BHSC and have helped with many events over the years. They also had the privilege of knowing Jon and riding with him over the years on both snowmobiles and buggies. Jon's legacy will be continued for years to come with these two young men. Thanks again everyone!

Lastly, this is our 50th year publishing the Sno-Plainsman! I want to thank Mary Anne for all her hard work and countless hours that she puts in to make this happen every month!! I'm sure there will be several articles this year focused on this huge milestone, so I look forward to reading those. Keep those snow dances up and let's get them club meetings full.

Mike



continued from President's page.....

Ryan Raynor reported at our August meeting that the Snowmobile Trails Fund balance increased this year with higher than expected revenues and lower costs due to the open winter. However, work continues on a review of our fee structure for the Snowmobile Trails Fund. A planning committee of GFP, Snowmobile Advisory Council, and SDSA members will be meeting over the fall. More information will be presented during the SDSA Convention. If you have input you would like the committee to consider, please let me know.

Also during this meeting, Shannon Percy reported on the impact of OHV use in the Black Hills and how it is affecting our snowmobile trail system. Our Black Hills system is a combination of public land (Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management), private land and public right-of-ways. We are seeing hesitation (if not outright

denial) to allow snowmobile access from all of these parties due to the experience these landowners are having with OHV users. Some of our trails are perilously close to being lost altogether. The damage that is caused, trespassing on riding areas that are off limits, and disrespect for landowners by these users is now affecting the snowmobile community. I know a lot of snowmobilers (and former snowmobilers) are also OHV users. I urge you to be informed on riding areas and rules so we are not part of this problem and to educate your fellow OHV riders as well. United we stand, divided we fall.

I look forward to visiting more clubs this fall and hosting a Roundtable with the President at Convention to answer questions and take input from our members.

Kelly Weaver
SDSA President

Celebrating

50 YEARS

The South Dakota Sno Plainsman's first issue was published in
September of 1974.

Editors have included:

Duane Mack 1974- thru the 1977-1978 season

Pat Porter 1978 thru the 1981-1982 season

Marilyn Ruediger 1982 thru the 2003-2004 season

Mary Anne Grabow 2004 to present





Milbank Show



Hopedale, IL - July 18 & 19 2024
Pictured: Linda and Cal Moser (right) accepting award from
President Tony Rolphes (left) Sartell, MN

Gina Lemley Sioux Falls, SD trophy winner of the Jerry Wantey Award created by Gary Koska of Cold Springs, MN. Guest speaker was Lil Andy.



Trail ride of about 30 units!

South Dakota award winners
Polaris Trail 69-74 Restored: Honorable Mention Gina Lemley, Sioux Falls
Polaris Trail 75-86 Survivor Original: 1st place Jeff Metzinger Pierre and
Honorable Mention Brad Gomer, Bryant
Polaris Trail 75-86 Restored: Honorable Mention Brad Gomer, Bryant
Polaris Vintage Race Survivor Original: 1st place Keith Elsberry Garretson
Polaris Vintage Race Restored: Honorable Mention James and Cheryl Gelling, Fredrick
Polaris Classic 87-2000 Restored: 1st place Lee Olson, Fredrick and Honorable Mention Jeff Blankespoor, Madison
Antique Front Engine Survivor Original: 1st place Doug Koch, Wentworth
Vintage Race Survivor Original: Honorable Mention Doug Koch, Wentworth
Vintage Race Restored: Honorable Mention Dave Koch, Brookings
As Raced Oval & Drag: Dave Koch, Brookings



Thank you to the following club donations. Milbank, Brookings, Aberdeen and Sisseton. Special thanks to the North East Trailblazers for providing the hog and to Brett Summer for roasting the hog.

Clayton Busch Sanford, MT winner of the \$1000 drawing and also the winner of longest distance

We had a very good live auction due to everyone that brought items, therefore next year's show participate fee will be less.

Thank you Marty and Maryanne Grabow Auctioneer & clerk



Hand County Snogers used their groomer to honor Ken Stewart at his funeral.





Duane Sutton delivered the eulogy at Ken Stewart's funeral.



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Duane Duerr, SDSA Past President

“It’s the little things that make big things happen”

Wow, the summer has gone so fast, I have seen Pictures of snow already in Togwotee pass and more. It’s also hard to believe it is 50 years for the SnoPlainsman. The success would not be here if it wasn’t for all our Snowmobile members that make things happen. So, what are some of the little things that make big things happen:

- **Membership.** Every snowmobiler makes a difference whether active or not by their support. Membership makes a difference with our bottom line, with legislation, with advertising, keeping our trail system going and more. **We need every Snowmobiler and associate member we can get!!**
- **Convention Awards.** It is so important to recognize those in our clubs that make a difference. We need every club to nominate someone for the awards presented at the SDSA convention this year in Brookings. **We need competition for those awards. Get your award nominations in now!!**
- **Snowmobile Safety.** We are one of the Safest Outdoor Recreation Sports in the Industry. We now have a great online Snowmobile safety course for youth age 12 and older to get their safety certificate. The course can be free by contacting an SDSA board member to help make that connection. Clubs need to help the youth connect to the course to keep our sport safe. **Have a Snowmobile safety day in your club!!**
- **Snowmobilers for Snowmobilers.** This fund is available for SDSA members that suffer a major loss. It has been totally funded by our membership. Having served on this committee I have seen the difference it can make. We need to remember those in need and help them, but we also need to keep funds in that program to keep it happening. This year there is something special at the convention to help this fund. **Come to the Convention and see what it is for Snowmobilers for Snowmobilers.**
- **Scholarships and Yetis.** This year we gave away 4 Scholarship, two SDSA and two Jon Laframboise Scholarship’s to some very deserving youth furthering their education. Thanks to all the memberships for helping fund that Program. But

if we are going to make that program successful every club needs to grow their Yetis Memberships as well as their Yetis activities. They need a reason to belong!! **Get out and sign up all your Yetis youth and have some fun events to get them involved!!**

- **Sno Cross.** Sno Cross to date has not announce the 2024-25 Season Schedule and locations. SDSA has approved a 200 Snowmobile to be raffled at those events as well as the Convention and Governor’s ride. Tickets are \$10 for a chance to win. Sno Cross brings a lot of snowmobilers together and it is great that your state organization SDSA supports the event. **Tickets for the raffle will be available at the Convention.**

- **Membership Appreciation and Governor’s Ride.** This year the event will be on February 7-8th. It is so important that we have great attendance by membership to show legislators what we are all about. This year the Iron Dogs will in at the event. The event takes place at Hardy Camp with a great Buffet Breakfast. **Plan this event into your schedule in February.**

- **SnoPlainsman.** This is SDSA’s way of keeping our membership informed, it is your paper. Mary Ann does a great job as editor!! It is available in both Paper and electronic form. It is only successful because of memberships support and advertisers’ support driven by our membership numbers. **Congratulations on 50 years of a great Publication!!**

Looking forward to a great snow season and lots of riding. Remember its all the Little things that make Big Things Happen!!

PS: Congratulations to Olivia Hanten, age 6, Granddaughter, for winning 1st Place in the Kitty Cat grass drags in Princeton, MN.



Mary Anne Grabow, SDSA Secretary/Editor

Wow! What a summer it has been for me. I thought I would be attending ISC this summer until my health took a major dive and I knew something was seriously wrong.

All of my tests said I was 100% healthy and there was nothing wrong. It got to the point that I expected the tests to say that I was healthy. But, I knew better. So, I insisted that they do an angiogram - and that told a whole different story.

When I was young, I'd slump off my chair, nearly pass out if I ran, etc. They always said I had low blood sugar, etc. It never seemed right but no one had any answers. Fast forward to my 30's and the doctors detected a murmur but more testing revealed that it was in fact aortic stenosis that they believe I was born with. No one told me. I found out when I switched doctors and my new doctor asked how often I had ultrasounds to monitor my condition. Condition?! What condition?!

Roughly 2 years ago, my symptoms were progressing and I was referred to a cardiologist who ran a bunch of tests and said I was fine. Then in January, I said I was again worse than I'd been. No energy, huffing when I walked, etc. As I said before, the tests were not helpful. I even made a trip to the ER and the ER doctor basically laughed at me - he was sure it was my lungs, not my heart.....and wanted to know when I quit smoking. Uhhhhh. I've NEVER smoked.

You begin to think you're paranoid and you wonder why you are going for tests. Well, after my angiogram, the cardiologist informed Marty that I needed open heart surgery to replace my aortic valve which was now malfunctioning. No one told me....they just talked to Marty. Fast forward to mid June and I had open heart surgery.

I wouldn't wish that on my worst enemy. It is a major surgery and I have to be grateful for a wonderful surgeon and hospital staff and also for such an understanding board

www.snowmobilesd.com Sno Plainsman October 2024 Page 10

of directors. I was able to relax and get well. I am not 100% yet but I am so much better than I was a few months ago. My family were all so helpful in my recovery, especially Marty.

I missed a lot of events that I normally would go to. Hay Days, the State Fair, the 4th of July celebration in Gary, fundraisers for friends fighting cancer, a utv trip that we had planned.....but there's always next summer!

Many thanks for all the phone calls, text messages, cards, flowers, gifts, videos, etc that everyone took the time to send me. I am so blessed.

And this is our 50th year of the SD Sno Plainsman. What an accomplishment for SDSA to have a publication in existence for FIFTY YEARS! See elsewhere for a listing of the editors who have put this amazing newspaper/magazine out!

Below are our 13 grandchildren. We have 5 boys and 8 girls.



Lisa Cain, SDSA Treasurer

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great summer and is ready for the beginning of a great season! After Mother Nature's dismal performance last year, hopefully we'll be blessed with a great year of riding and many feet of snow. We are starting off the year with a fresh budget and we have forecasted for big things to happen with SDSA this year. This was my first budget, and I can't thank Kelly Weaver enough for working with me to get it done. We're very lucky to have Kelly as our SDSA President. We had a good year last year, and are looking forward to an even better year this year. We always strive to retain members and gain new members, so invite your friends and neighbors to join this incredible group!

When I joined the Brookings Dakota Drifters, I would hear over the years about "Back the Ride", "Right to Ride", "Snowmobilers 4 Snowmobilers", the Legacy Membership and the Yetis, I had an idea of what Snowmobilers 4 Snowmobilers was and I knew a little bit about the YETIS, but only what they did, and not how they actually worked, and I didn't really know what the other programs were for. Over the next few articles, these programs will be a focus in my article for those that don't know exactly how these programs work. They all have a special purpose and are important to SDSA. What I would like to talk about as we start our new year is our Snowmobilers 4 Snowmobilers program. If you don't already know what that is, it is a pro-

Are you 12-20 years old and involved in snowmobiling? We want to get more kids involved in the Youth Empowered Through Involvement in Snowmobiling (YETIS) group from throughout SD and the many clubs. We will be having a Zoom meeting soon and Audrey can also come visit clubs and youth groups to talk about our fun group. For more information and to be added to the group communications please contact Audrey Rider at Audrey.rider@sdstate.edu and make sure and join the SD YETIS FB page for more updates.

gram that allows clubs to nominate any of their members that are going through a hardship due to medical issues, a house fire, or any other life altering event to receive \$1000 to help defray costs. Once someone has been nominated, it is brought in front of the Snowmobiler's 4 Snowmobiler's committee for a decision. That decision comes very quickly within a couple days, and, once approved, a check is sent to the recipient. The process is completely anonymous from beginning to end unless the recipient would like to make it public. As the name suggests, it is funded 100% from donations that come from individual snowmobilers, families and clubs. I have never seen the members of SDSA fail at coming together to support one another, so please keep Snowmobilers 4 Snowmobilers in mind if you are looking to make a donation of any size. The form to nominate someone can be found on the SDSA website. Thank you to everyone that has made a contribution to this fund; without you, this program would not be able to continue to support our fellow riders in their times of need.

I am very excited to get the new year started and hope to see all of you at the SDSA Annual Convention in December. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out!

Lisa Cain
SDSA Treasurer





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Ryan Raynor, Trails Specialist

Another Labor Day Weekend in the books and another snowmobile winter to continue planning for. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. It was another great camping season, but I'd be lying if I didn't say I'm ready to move on to the Snowmobile season.

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 great discussion about the budget and reroutes taking place in the Black Hills.

Fourteen grants were approved for the 2024-2025 Grant-in-Aid program, with those grants totaling just under \$380,000. Thank You to the clubs and volunteers who do a great job providing safe snowmobiling opportunities throughout eastern South Dakota.

Also approved at the meeting was the fiscal year 2026 snowmobile budget. Not much changed from the previous year which is standard for the snowmobile program as we roll into a \$1.45 million dollar budget starting July 1st, 2025. The council was also updated about where the programs current trails fund balance is and where our fiscal year 2024 revenue and expenses ended up. Total revenue earned last year was just over \$956,000 where our final expenses came in just under \$800,000. This meant our Snowmobile Trails Fund went from \$552,246 to just over \$712,858. This fund balance is in a good place compared to what we had a year ago as you can tell. Main reason for this growth was due to the poor snow conditions which means less expenses maintaining trails and an extremely good excise tax revenue that was generated. This number came in just over \$370,000.

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. I'll also be contacting clubs to coordinate equipment inspections sometime in mid to late September.

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.

That's all for this month.

Stay safe!

Ryan Raynor
Snowmobile Trails Coordinator



Snowmobile Day October 26, 2024

Snowmobile Events 2024/2025
 International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association (ISMA)
 1640 Haslett Road
 Haslett, Michigan 48840
 Phone (517) 339-7788
www.snowmobile.org
www.gosnowmobiling.org
www.avosmotoneiges.org



HASLETT, MI, August 13th, 2024: The International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association (ISMA) is pleased to announce Snowmobile Day will be held on October 26th, 2024, and International Snowmobile Ride Day on February 8th, 2025. These events are geared to celebrate the sport of snowmobiling and the upcoming winter season. Snowmobile clubs, local dealers, associations, and snowmobile groups are invited to participate in these events.

Snowmobile Day aligns with "Snöskoters Dag," an event that has been held in Sweden for over 40 years. ISMA encourages snowmobile clubs to partner with a local snowmobile dealership as the location of the celebration, bringing members of their community together while supporting local business.

Over the past three years many new riders have entered the sport and Snowmobile Day is a great opportunity for clubs and associations to increase membership and recruit volunteers for trail maintenance activities. Snowmobile Day should be a fun, family festival type event, where BBQ, refreshments, music, vintage sleds, and an open house can get snowmobilers looking at the new products in the market and getting excited for the upcoming season.

Snowmobile Day Page 2

International Snowmobile Ride Day was launched 2 years ago by Bombardier Recreational Products (BRP), manufacturer of the Ski-doo and Lynx. Responsibility for the event has now been handed over to ISMA. The event encourages riders of all brands of snowmobiles to get out and ride on the second Saturday of February.

ISMA encourages Snowmobile Clubs to host an event such as an open house at a Clubhouse, Hot Chocolate at a trail intersection, or BBQ at the trailhead to celebrate this day.

The snowmobile manufacturers of ISMA want to support Snowmobile Day and International Snowmobile Day in North America by offering up to \$500.00 to select snowmobile clubs / associations participating in both events. If your snowmobile club would like to be considered for this offer, please email Susan.Andrews@snowmobile.org for the application form and submit it no later than September 16th, 2024. Clubs filling out an application will be contacted by ISMA regarding their submission by October 1, 2024.

###



Trespassing! Threatening snowmobiling access everywhere!

Dave Newman, ACSA Vice President

I believe, or at least I hope, I am preaching to the choir here. If you are a club member you should already know that you are only allowed to ride where you have permission. But we also know that is not always the case with everyone. Too often we are seeing snowmobilers riding where they are not allowed, by definition, trespassing.

Trespassing is a problem across the county. In the trails riding areas where trails are located on private property, landowners typically only allow snowmobiling to use their property on a designated corridor and any riding outside of the marked trail without permission is considered trespassing. This not only leads to a closure of a trail across one property, but it also often results in the closures of an entire section of a trail system. Many times we have found trespassing may have triggered a trail closure, but other underlying issues may have contributed, such as loud pipes or personality conflicts with club members or government officials. Regardless, this requires club volunteers to work with local landowners to create a new trail or in some cases, a permanent loss of a trail.

Even in areas when snowmobiles are allowed on public lands, it may not mean you are allowed to ride everywhere. In areas where most snowmobiling takes place on public lands, it is important to know there are areas where snowmobiles are not allowed. Riding in areas off limits to snowmobiles is considered trespassing. It is every snowmobiler's responsibility to know where they can legally ride and where it is prohibited.

While laws vary from state to state, trespassing will result in a fine if caught. Even more important, trespassing costs us access.

What has the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) done about the problem? We have used social media to bring attention to the issue and encouraged snowmobiles to use the Snowmobile Manufacturers "Take the Pledge" campaign. ACSA has held several contests to bring attention to trespassing. We are currently holding another contest for all ages, to bring attention to the issue through the youth and hopefully their parents. Participants may have a chance to win prizes by submitting coloring pages, a word search, memes or a short video. For more information go to the ACSA website at www.snowmobilers.org.

What can you do? When someone riding in your group rides where not allowed, call them out and explain to them why it is a problem. If you catch someone trespassing report them to your local law enforcement. Let your local law enforcement know where problem areas are, so they know where to best use their resources when patrolling. Clubs can also use their social media pages to bring attention to trespassing. Make sure your trails have appropriate signage to educate everyone to stay on the trail and only ride where allowed.

We ask clubs who experience trail closures resulting from trespassing to report them to their state snowmobile association so we can show the true cost of this issue. We find many times clubs just react to the closure by finding a re-route.

We encourage everyone to be part of the solution, not part of the problem!



Hey Snowmobile Enthusiasts! The Drift-busters are gearing up for an epic 2024-2025 snowmobile season, and we've got some exciting events lined up just for you! Despite the heat outside, we're cool as ice and ready to hit the trails.

Mark your calendars for August 24th, as we'll be revving our engines at Aberdeen's Sizzling Summer Nights Car Show. We'll be showcasing our sleek sleds and spreading the word about our awesome club. It's the perfect opportunity for snowmobilers to connect and discover the thrill of joining our snow-loving community.

And that's not all! On September 5th, join us for our season's kickoff meeting where

we'll be finalizing plans for our epic annual club campout on September 13-14 at Wylie Park. Whether you're a camping pro or prefer a cozy night at home, everyone is welcome to join in on the fun. Expect potlucks, bonfires, go-karts, and endless snowmobiling stories to be shared. Don't miss out on the first club social of the season - it's a fantastic chance to bond with fellow members and extend a warm welcome to new snowmobile enthusiasts. Get ready for a season filled with adrenaline-pumping adventures and unforgettable memories with the Driftbusters Snowmobile Club!

Get ready to rev up your engines and join us for a snowmobiling extravaganza at Ken's Superfair Foods on October 26th! Our 3rd annual Snowmobile Show and Shine is the perfect way to celebrate International Snowmobiling Day in Aberdeen. Last year's event was a hit with a stunning display of sleds for everyone to admire. Plus, we'll be serving up free hotdogs and hot chocolate to keep you warm and fueled up for the festivities. Join us for a day of snowmobile fun and camaraderie at the Snowmobile Show and Shine - we can't wait to see you there!

This event is not just about snowmobiles; it's a celebration of community spirit and the support we receive from our incredible sponsors. Without them, our events wouldn't be possible. Stay tuned for more exciting updates by following our Aberdeen Drift Buster Facebook Page and checking out our newly revamped website at AberdeenDriftBuster.com.

Let's all come together and do a collective "snow-dance" to usher in a season filled with exhilarating rides and unforgettable memories.

Warm regards,
 Kelly Weismantel
 President of the
 Aberdeen Drift
 Busters Snowmobile
 Club

Snowmobile Safety Course:

<https://www.snowmobile-ed.com/>
 Contact:
Ryan.Raynor@state.sd.us
 for a code to take the course free!



Hello again, summer seems to go by faster every year. I am writing this article on a day when the temperature is 98 degrees. Temperatures this warm make it really hard to think about the snowmobile season. While researching the Farmer's Almanac they forecast a "Calmer, Gentler" winter. This winter's predictions claim temperatures will be up and snowfall down throughout most of the US. We can hope these will be wrong otherwise we

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may need to find a few side hobbies this winter. June 21-23rd some club members along with friends and family gathered for a camping / UTV - Dirt Therapy Ride. We gathered at Nemo Guest Ranch for a great weekend together to enjoy some summertime fun and riding. Always a win when we can promote family time with our love of the outdoors. We had a great turnout and enjoyed a couple of days riding the trails near Nemo with some great campfire stories in the evening.



The Jon LaFramboise scholarship awarded two scholarships this year. Our club is extremely proud of the first two recipients, **Austin Cooper and Brayden Boock.** **CONGRATULATIONS** boys – enjoy your continued education journey.

The club's first meeting will be on Tuesday October 1st at 7:00 pm at Rice's Rapid Motorsports. We welcome anyone who would like to stop in and check out our club.

Until next month.....
THERE IS NO BETTER WAY TO RELIEVE STRESS THAN WITH A LITTLE THROTTLE THERAPY!

Holly Thomas
Black Hills Snowmobile Club



C L U B N E W S



We have enjoyed the summer and are looking forward to a great snowmobiling year ahead. At our annual meeting we elected 2024-25 officers and board members. We would like to thank our past officers,

Duane Duerr, Rich Kormann, and Robert Van Den Oever for all their contributions over the past years. Our officers are Chad Schettler – President, Brian Moss - Vice-President, Kristen Houg – Treasurer, and Jenny Schettler – Secretary and our board members are Johnny Houg, Pat Hanten-Duerr, Austin Hanten, Kelly Bunde, Dean Olson, Kim Raap, and Jody Moss.

During the summer we took on the task of revising our club by-laws. This was a much-needed update as I believe they were the original version of the by-laws. We clarified leadership roles and responsibilities, set up a couple of standing committees, and added an annual review of the by-laws. The other big accomplishment over the summer was updating the club website, www.sfsnotrackers.com. New pictures of recent activities were added to the site. The information on our Associate members was updated and now includes working links to their websites or Facebook pages. Many of the links listed on our website were not working, so we fixed the links. One of our young club members, Olivia Hanten, participated in the Princeton Grass Drags. She beat all the other Kitty Cats but got beat by the 120's. Great job Olivia!

Our focus will now be on collecting memberships and making plans for club rides and other events. Our first meeting was held on September 5th and we discussed the club by-laws, plans for the coming season, and planned for membership recruitment. Our next meeting is on October 3rd and will be held at Pizza Ranch in Dell Rapids at 6:30 p.m.





Dakota Drifters held their season-ending spring banquet on April 20 at the home of Dwaine and Gayle Chapel. The grilled meat was provided by the club with all the delicious sides, salads and desserts provided by attendees. Some “vintage” members were invited to share stories, pictures and enjoy the comradery. Officer elections were held at

the spring banquet with the following being sworn into office: President – Lynn Nilsson; Vice-President – Ron Benthin; Secretary – Lisa Cain; Treasurer – Darrin Hai; Public Relations – Gena Hult, and Past President – Greg Spiering. Club Board of Directors include: Brian Melchert, Troy Ness, Julie Westberg and Bob Weisbeck.

A Convention Planning Committee was organized earlier in the year and has been meeting monthly throughout the summer preparing for the 55th Annual SDSA Convention to be held in Brookings, December 6-7, 2024. We are looking forward for everyone to “Experience the Rush”!

On June 15, Dakota Drifters held an ATV/UTV Poker Run with proceeds going towards the convention fund. Registration, start/finish was at Lefty’s in White. Minimum maintenance and gravel roads (as little asphalt as possible) were traveled to Bushnell Garage and Lemke’s in Aurora, with return route to White. It was a wet and rainy morning/early afternoon – so there was plenty of splash therapy!

The first full meeting of the season is just around the corner in September and looking forward to get the wheels, or should I say “track”, rolling!

Cheers ~ Gena

 Hello in the Northeast Corner of the State. This summer has went by again too fast. Our club kept busy with promoting snowmobiling.



Hope everyone had a great summer! Being it was a HOT one we can only hope that means a long cold winter for us snowmobilers??? Our club had a lot of campers, racers, state fair goers etc so we only got together with our club members for our summer picnic. Potluck food was of course so good but had to cut it short with rain predicted. Many of members will be heading to Hay Days Sept 7th and 8th which is always a lot of fun! We have our Annual meeting and supper planned for Sun-

day, Oct 4th at Cloud 9 with a meeting and election of members at 4pm and supper to follow. After that our monthly meetings will be the 1st Sunday of every month at Cloud 9 at 5pm. As always you're welcome to join us! However please RSVP for Annual meeting for supper head count! Hope to see you all soon on the trails!

Secretary Amy Sowers Basowers@midco.net with any questions!

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Where has summer gone? This past July many club members were busy supporting the JHORA (Jakob Hohm Off Road Adventures) Event held in Willow Lake, SD. This is an ATV/UTV ride, along with silent/live auction which concludes with a dance in the park in Willow Lake. This foundation was created to honor the memory of

Jakob Hohm, one of our younger members who passed too suddenly. Since the creation of the JHORA foundation, they have gone on to do many great things for families in need and the community. Please mark July 26, 2025, on your calendar for next year's event.

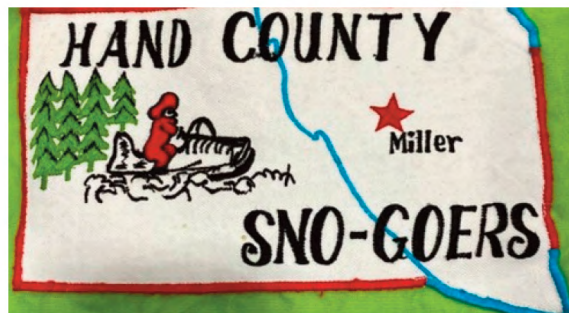
The Town & Country Riders will resume their normal monthly meeting schedule in September and typically meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm. To find out more about and follow the club happenings go to our Facebook page: Town & Country Riders or our Instagram Page: towncountryriders. Please watch our Facebook and Instagram pages for upcoming events such as our 2024 Poker Run. The Town & Country Riders is an outdoor recreation club that focuses on snowmobiling and ATV/UTV riding, comradery, and public access to riding areas.

Getting ready to head out on the 2023 Poker Run...watch our social media pages for info on the 2024 T&C Poker Run.

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It is that time of year again where summer is coming to an end. School has started with fall sports underway, and the State Fair is going on as I type this article. Where has summer gone? It seems like our club was just finalizing for our 13th Annual Barrell Racing Event that was held during Miller SD's 4th of July Holiday weekend. Hard to believe that our club has held this event for 13 years now! Wow has the memories added up. It was touch and go on whether we were going to be able to have the event. With all the rain during the spring, it made the arena more like a lake than what we needed. With all the work of club members coming together, we got the arena prepared and done and the Barrell Racing Event was a go. Prior to the Barrell Racing, we had the Groomer and drag decorated and full of candy for the parade. The day ended with a down pour of rain, everyone soaking wet, a canopy blowing across the arena, some side-by-sides and vehicles caked in mud and a lot of fun had!! Time to look at next year for the 14th year of a fun time had by all.



With little snow that we did have last year, there were some random chances of being able to ride our trail. Not many but it was better than not riding at all. Our trail system last year ran from Ree Heights to Miller then to Wessington and ending at Wolsey. With the random chances to ride locally last year, our club members noticed that there was activity of snowmobilers riding from Highmore to Ree Heights. With this our club voted to add this section into our trail system to unite our communities and to support more snowmobilers. Also talking with Ryan Raynor and trying to do some brainstorming on getting more involvement between clubs, we will now be able to connect with Great Plains Snowtrailers, as they will be adding a section from Huron to Wolsey. This will now make it available for snowmobilers to ride the Eastern Trail System from Highmore, SD to Brookings, SD. This is exciting to know that there are some fun possibilities to do some fun events.

Seeing that there is snow coming down out in Wyoming and Montana really makes it real that the upcoming snowmobile season is just about to show up. We are looking forward to the upcoming season with our club scheduled for a meeting on September 8th to get some things done and lined up before harvest gets underway. We are planning a cookout with a little work to go along with it. Preparing signs for the additional section, getting a trailer ready for that section, discussing all the club things we need to before starting the season, having some good food and just enjoying the time.



Just a side note that our club has a schedule of having our meetings the 1st Friday of each month at 8:00pm at the St Lawrence Fire Hall, but we have found that we try to be flexible with our meeting date and time. We want to get as many members as possible to these monthly meetings that we can. Anyone is welcome to come and join us, so with that if you would like to attend, please contact Nathan VanZee at 605-204-0303 for an update of the monthly meeting date and time.

With saddened hearts ending this article, the snowmobile community has lost an essential member. Kenneth Stewart, known as the "Catman", was one unique human being. He not only helped to create the SD Snowmobile Association (SDSA) in 1969 but also the Hand County Sno-Goers in the same year. If you talk to anyone, they will say Ken always had a story about snowmobiling and you better have planned to sit a long while to listen. He was a man of great knowledge about Arctic Cat snowmobiles and the snowmobiling community. Ken is a man that cannot be replaced, and we know that God had an Arctic Cat ready for him to ride in the snowy mountains of Heaven. Ken you will be greatly missed but have some great rides up there until we all meet you again!!

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

No Trespassing Snowmobile Awareness Contest

The American Council of Snowmobile Associations today announced the 2024-2025 No Trespassing Snowmobile Awareness Contest. This Contest will include snowmobilers of all ages, from the little ones through the experienced riders and will generate the conversation and awareness of snowmobilers across the U.S. on an issue that impacts snowmobile access. Too often volunteers are left scrambling trying to re-route snowmobilers because of trespass incursions by snowmobilers that do not understand the consequences of riding on trails/areas that are off limits to snowmobilers.

Creating the awareness of the importance of riding where marked will assist the over 2,500 snowmobile clubs across the northern tier of the U.S. "Areas that are not marked for snowmobile use are often a safety issue, with rocks or downed trees, as well as protected because of crops", says Karyn Robare, Committee Chairman with the American Council of Snowmobile Associations. "Volunteers find themselves spending valuable time with land owners or land managers that could be better spent creating new trails or maintaining the existing trail system of over 100,000 miles and thousands of acres of riding areas."

The Contest includes the following categories to promote rider responsibility, including the need to respect Land Owners and Land Managers that allow us the privilege of riding by Not Trespassing.

- Snowmobilers up to the age of 6: Coloring Contest
- Snowmobilers between the ages of 7 -12: Word Search
- Snowmobilers between 13 – 17: Create a Meme
- Snowmobilers over age 18: Create a Video no longer than 30 seconds

Entries for the Contest can be made by emailing submissions to snowygirl1974@gmail.com until January 15, 2025. For more information on contest details, visit www.snowmobilers.org.

About ACSA: The American Council of Snowmobile Associations, a national organization uniting the snowmobile community was started in 1995. ACSA promotes snowmobiling as a safe, fun and environmentally friendly family sport enjoyed by over one million snowmobilers across the United States.



Snowmobile Trail Volunteerism in United States

Len Neisler, ACSA Secretary/Treasurer

This year the International Snowmobile Council completed a survey of clubs and the amount of volunteering necessary to create and maintain snowmobile trails. Many clubs participated in this survey from the US. We are sharing that information with you.

Many snowmobilers do not realize that the trails they ride on are primarily done by club members who volunteer their time because of their love of our sport. Yes, volunteers are what keeps our snowmobile trails open! What does it take to get it to a condition we enjoy riding on?

There are many parts to setting up a snowmobile trail.

- * Working with the state Department of Parks/Natural Resources to confirm acceptance of the trail.

- * Grants must be completed and submitted to the DNR or other state agency for approval to receive funding to pay for the cost of equipment, maintenance of their groomer and drag, and other equipment needed for trail work. Most of the planning, decisions, operating and paperwork is done by volunteers.

- * These club volunteers must go to each landowner for permission to cross their land to obtain a legal agreement for permission to do so. Each club in the survey averaged needing signatures on 28 contracts. But it does not stop with the landowners, these club volunteers must maintain contact with them to keep the trail open and for any extraordinary circumstances that may need to be addressed, like trespassing. The average club spends 24 hours doing this.

So, how many trail miles does a club brush and clear for when snow comes? The survey suggests they manage about 348 miles with about 135 hours by volunteers preparing the trail. Oh, it also takes another 111 hours per club for properly installing/removing the trail signs!

Then, once snow comes volunteers operate the groomer with a drag to groom the trails. The average club groomer 1,172 miles of trail during the snow season traveling at about 4 miles per hour. Don't forget the volunteer labor time to operate the groomers which is an average of 366 hours per club. According to the survey, the average club has 5 volunteers operating the groomers and maintaining their equipment during the season.

During the season equipment must be maintained, again by volunteers, that amounts to 46 hours per club. Trails must be regularly checked for fallen trees and other debris that must be removed. The volunteer hours for this are 243 hours per club.

Many times, I have met snowmobilers on the trails who have no concept of what it takes to ride on a well-groomed trail. Many riders assume that state employees do the work! Many riders are not familiar with state snowmobile associations, that the clubs belongs to that are maintaining the trail with volunteers.

Hopefully this information gives you a better perspective of what it takes for trail systems and to appreciate the volunteers that work to make your snowmobiling day exciting and safe.

When you're riding, think about joining the club whose volunteers maintain it. They can use your financial help. Furthermore, you may find joining the club beneficial to find more people to ride with next time!





Honoring Ken Stewart for his many years of dedication to SDSA

Ken Stewart wrote this article MANY years ago and I featured it in the April 2023 issue. It's only fitting that we feature it after the news of Ken's passing. Ken was so important to SDSA's existence. RIP Ken.

1969 was the beginning of an organization that would become one of the strongest volunteer groups in South Dakota. In the fall of 1969 the first South Dakota Snowmobile convention was held at the Sunny Side Inn in Watertown. Duane Mack presided over the meeting. It started at about 2 p.m. and was over by 4:30 p.m. There was about 12 or 15 people in attendance. The subject of the convention was entirely on the subject of racing.

From here SDSA was on its way up with a few rough spots on the way. Duane Mack was the first president of SDSA and seemed to have a second sense on when and how to take the organization on its way. Duane started a newsletter, printing it in his basement. Clubs began to spring up all over South Dakota. The organization was growing to the point that we needed a goal and some regulations to achieve this goal.

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

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

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

refund and from the license fee to go to the county treasure of each county to be spent in that county.

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

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

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

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

I was at another Midwest chapter meeting when it was mentioned about a tax that some association was trying to get access to. I got the idea that we should try to get the 3% tax we were paying on snowmobiles when we purchased them. Again after a lot of work and trips to Pierre we got the

bill passed. The funds raised from these taxes went into the trails fund and became our largest source of income.

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

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

Happy snowmobiling.





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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
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*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.





Darin Cooper, District 1 Director

Well, I guess it's that time of the year again. Not sure what to write about, with it being in the 90's pretty much all summer long, I'm ready for some cooler temps. Seems like more prairie fires than forest fires this year. Interstate 90 was even closed due to several large fires between Gillette and Buffalo Wyoming. Hopefully we get some early snow to help out. SDSA will be raffling off another MXZ 200 this year, thanks to Iverson Powersports in Mitchell. The one that was raffled last year was a big success and it really helped draw more attention to the SDSA booth at the Dead-

wood and Sioux Falls sno-cross. Thank you to everyone that volunteered at the booths and sold tickets.

The Sno Plainsman has a Calendar of Events toward the back of the magazine, please let MaryAnne know if your club has any events going on, so she can list it there. It's much easier to look at this calendar then to thumb back through all the articles to see what's happening. That's all for this month.

Darin

Jackson Wenger, District 2 Director



Good morning, good afternoon and good evening from District #2. Hard to believe summer is over and we're transitioning into fall. It's great to see the kids back in school and high school and middle school sports ramping back up. Be sure to make plans to attend your upcoming snowmobile club meetings and mark your calendars for the upcoming SDSA convention. I would like to challenge everyone to become more visible with your local clubs and the SDSA and all their events. It would definitely be great to see growth in a positive direction! Till next time! Jackson Wenger

Nathan VanZee, District 4 Director



Hello everyone

I hope everyone had a great summer. It went by way to fast -where did the time go. Hopefully soon we will all be playing in the white gold.

We lost a good one this past month. Kenny Stewart passed away. He was one of the founding fathers of SDSA and also our local Hand County Sno-goers. He had over 50 years of dedication -can you imagine the stories of snowmobiler evolution he could tell?

Convention will be coming up before we know it. Is everyone ready for a good time in Brookings this year? It sounds like they have some exciting things going on so be sure to mark your calendar. Have a great month and remember to get your dues in!





Lee Olson, District 3 Director

Hello everyone, how's summer been for everybody? Days are getting shorter, time to start thinking about winter coming.

We attended the Milbank show in June, they put in a nice show at the park. This year the weather was great that weekend. Later in the summer we went to the national vintage show. Show was held in Duluth MN this year. Soon we'll be marking the trails, maybe we'll get to use them this year. One topic that comes up at every meeting is trespassing. We as a group need to work at following the trail signs on private property. We also need to have other riders doing the same thing. I think we've all witnessed this issue in the Black Hills, where it's posted to stay on the trail and you won't see a spot over many acres that doesn't have a track over it, It's not just a problem in our state, it's a problem in most all states in snow country. We can do better going forward.

Not much else going on in our area. Fall camp out and first meeting for the season coming up soon.

See you on the trails this winter!

Lee Olson

District 3 Director



Pat Hanten-Duerr, District 5 Director

Wow, summer is over, and fall is in the air. Now it is time to start thinking about snowmobiles and get the snowmobiles all tuned up for the first snow. Most clubs start meeting more regularly to plan events for the year. Everyone should find a fellow snowmobiler in your area to join your club and SDSA.

The 2024 Big Payout tickets are printed and should be with your Clubs President to start selling now up to the time of the SDSA Convention in Brookings on December 6-7, 2024. Tickets are \$20 each. Grand Prize is \$7500; 2nd Prize \$1000 and \$500 Club that sells the most tickets. You do not need to be present to win.

SDSA Board voted at the May meeting to buy a snowmobile again this year to sell tickets on. These tickets will be printed and ready to sell after the Big Payout tickets are done. More ticket information will be given at the Convention in December.



Jason Shepherd, District 6 Director

Hello again. I hope the summer has been for everyone this year. As we head into fall here the winter time events are starting to heat up along with the clubs starting to get together again for the year. As the temps are starting to cool down in the evenings it is starting to feel like fall and time to get the machines out and get them prepped for the coming winter. I hope everyone is as excited as I am for this coming winter. Until next month enjoy the end of summer.



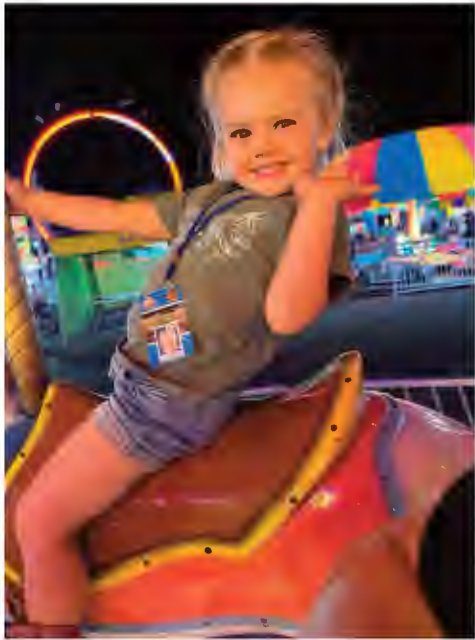


Trace Damm, District 7 Director



Hello everyone,

As usual, summer seemed to fly right by. We started spring thinking planting was going to be a breeze and then mother nature reminded us really quick that she is always in charge. We were lucky enough to get all our crops in. Speaking on how fast summer went, we sent our oldest, Logan(4) off to Pre-School this year, she loves it and



thinks she is pretty cool riding the bus home. Younger sister Allie(3) is patiently waiting her turn. Not that they didn't get along before, but it seems a little distance has brought them closer together. I think they exchanged about 6 hugs on the first morning and ran to each other that evening.



The state fair is a great adventure for us as well. They love the fair, from sheep showing to rides they couldn't get enough. As for me, eh 5-6 days of that is plenty. 😊

I'm excited for fall to get here and start rolling into harvest which then rolls us into winter. I've heard some predictions of an ABOVE average snowfall. Now if there is anything we learned this summer, 5% chance of precipitation means 110% some days. Let's get through harvest and then let the snow fly! There will be Big Payout Tickets getting passed out to clubs, so make sure you can get them dispersed at your upcoming kickoff meetings. Per usual, when I get the text and email that the Article is due.....a day or 2 ago(sorry Mary Anne), I always get excited about the winter to come, going to look at the new sleds, the girls getting excited for snowmobile rides and snow angels. It's a great way to get the excitement and passion started about a sport we all love!

-Trace

**Join SDSA today.
Let's protect our right to ride!**





SDSA Big Payout
\$20 per ticket
\$7500 Grand Prize
\$1000 to second ticket drawn
Need not be present to win
Winners drawn at convention
December 7, 2024
Tickets available from clubs,
Directors and the office!

Preston Fischer, 76, of Milbank, SD, passed away on Thursday, August 8, 2024. Preston was a member of the Whetstone Valley Snowmobile Association and SDSA. His obituary can be found at MundwilerFuneralHome.net RIP Preston.

New expanded trailer parking with electric hookups.

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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



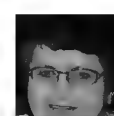
26. Hazel Seloover
Sioux Falls, SD
Sioux Falls Sno Trackers
12/2019



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 Seloover**
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





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Nominations for 1,3,5 & 7

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

SDSA Announces Scholarship Winner



Jalen Hohm is shown receiving her scholarship award from Diane Hiles. Jalen is the daughter of Jamie & Colleen Hohm and a member of the Town & Country Riders. She will be attending Black Hills State University majoring in Elementary Education.

Her essay is featured below:

From the moment I was born, snowmobiling has been a huge part of my life. I was about 12 months old when I took my first spin on a snowmobile. My dad bundled me up in my little pink snowsuit and took me for a small ride around the yard. From then on, all I have ever wanted to do is ride snowmobile. I wait all year for the day I wake up, look outside, and smile in excitement because there is enough fresh powder for me to start up my Polaris 800 RMK.

Snowmobiling is not only very important to me, but the state of South Dakota as well. This is a way for us to experience God's country and be in the great outdoors. It is amazing to see and utilize the trail system that my family, friends, and fellow snowmobilers volunteer to put in place and maintain throughout the state of South Dakota. Not only do I participate in helping put a small fragment of the trail system in, I have also helped my snowmobile club teach snowmobile safety courses to future young riders. It is important that everyone knows the rules of proper etiquette of snowmobiling as well as safety. If kids learn to do it correctly when they are young, they are more than likely going to follow it all through their life. I believe that safety is something that needs more attention as we can never be too careful. My mom always says "it is better to be safe than sorry."

Snowmobiling isn't just a recreation sport or hobby; it is a way of life. Snowmobiling is something that brings my family and I closer together as we all love to ride, including my five-year-old sister. Unfortunately, when I was 10 years old, I lost my favorite riding partner very unexpectedly. My brother and I could spend hours riding together without ever getting bored. Since he went to his heavenly home, we continue to ride together, but in a different way. Before I go for a ride, whether it's far or just a couple laps around the yard, I make sure to talk to him and make sure he is watching over me.

As I reach adulthood and head to the beautiful Black Hills for college, I feel that I need to continue to do my part to keep snowmobiling alive and growing. I will not be around to physically attend our monthly meetings, but I can continue to introduce the sport to the new friends I make at college. It's never too late to start something new and snowmobiling is awesome because it's an activity for everyone. What better way to spend the weekend, then meeting new people on the trails while enjoying the peaceful and beautiful scenery of South Dakota. So all of you fellow South Dakotans let's "grip it and rip it."



SDSA Announces Scholarship Winner

Trace VanRegenmorter is shown receiving his scholarship award from Diane Hiles. Trace is the son of Dave & Abi VanRegenmorter and a member of the Town & Country Riders. He will be attending Mitchell Technical Institute majoring in Power Line Construction and Maintenance.

His essay is featured below:

Snowmobiling is a winter activity that allows people to have fun while enjoying the outdoors. Riding snowmobiles has been a big part of my childhood. I have spent many hours learning how to ride safely and push the limits on my snowmobile. I have been fortunate to ride on different terrain between the Black Hills, my grandparents pastures on their ranch in West River South Dakota, the Big Horns, and the groomed trails in northeastern South Dakota. Many people do not realize the impact that the snowmobiling industry has on South Dakota and families.



Snowmobiling is important to the state of South Dakota because it generates money and it is a prime opportunity for visitors to see the landscape of our state. A study by Allgrunn in 2012 showed that snowmobiling brings over \$58 million to the state of South Dakota annually. The snowmobiling industry also provides employment opportunities to our citizens. Snowmobiling allows for locals and visitors alike to experience the beauty of the state during winter months. In addition, snowmobiling is important because of the access to emergency services in blizzard conditions. Rescuing individuals trapped in vehicles or at homes during dangerous winter storms have been safely done on snowmobiles.

Snowmobiling is important to me because of the thrill of riding and the memories that I have created while riding with family and friends. Carving the snow on a side hill, the views of the snow covered land, and watching wildlife on my snowmobile are some of the best parts of being a snowmobiler. The adrenaline of climbing a hill or racing a friend is a fun way to get your mind off of stressful situations. Some of my favorite memories from my childhood are not only in the Black Hills, but also riding with my family on the trails around our community. I take pride in knowing that the trails that people ride on are possible because I am a part of a club that volunteers time to put the signage in each fall. It is important that the rights of snowmobilers are protected so future generations can continue spending time together making memories.

In today's society, many teenagers are glued to their phones or video games. However, there is nothing that I would rather do than be outdoors. Snowmobiling is healthy for one's physical body and one's emotional state. The sport of riding a snowmobile brings many benefits to the great state of South Dakota. Family time, fun and making memories are additional reasons why snowmobiling is important to me personally. I am grateful to be a part of a local club and SDSA that continues to educate others and support snowmobilers.





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Lead, SD 57754

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hepperssportcenter.com

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gellingsautoservice.com

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Bushnell Garage
47818 Main
Bushnell SD 57276

Valley Restaurant & Catering
103 Caspian
Volga SD

Smith Cattle
47238 226th Street
Flandreau SD 57028

The Lanes
722 Western Ave
Brookings, SD 57006

The Ridge
919 Jay St
Bruce SD 57220

Lefty's
P O Box 857
White, SD 57276

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

Brookings Powersports
1723 16th Ave W
Brookings, SD 57006

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

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

Midway Camp
46576 211th Street
Volga, SD 57071

Ponderosa Hills
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Brookings, SD 57006
VRBO 356446

Siouxland Bar & Grill
19555 Hwy 81
Arlington SD

Braun's Lawns LLC
1817 Lincoln Lane
Brookings, SD 57006

Weiland Marine-
19592 US Hwy 81
Arlington, SD

Havoc Engineering Group
2301 Research Park Way #130
Brookings, SD 57006

Frosted Prairie
P O Box 516
Volga SD 57071

High Caliber Insulation
45876 225th St
Nunda, SD 57050

Schade Vineyard
21095 463rd Ave
Volga SD 57071

Knotty Pine Supper Club
1014 Co Hwy 10
Elkton SD 57026

Boss' Pizza & Chicken
2515 6th St
Brookings, SD 57006

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

Tucker SnoCat
2872 S Pacific Highway
Medford OR 97501

S and K Trailers
2709 212th Street
Blairsburg IA 50034

JD's Service & Repair
501 S 4th Street
Council Bluffs IA 51503

Tracks USA
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**SDSA BUSINESS
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Zip _____

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P O Box 206 Gary SD 57237



PERKS for 2024~2025 season

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

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

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

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



***Trailshead Lodge**
22075 US Hwy 85
Lead, SD 57754
605-584-3464
Stay 4 nights, get the 5th night FREE!

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



verneidemotoplex.com



dakotamotorsportsllc.com

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

Interlakes Sport Center
702 SW 10th Street
Madison SD 57042-1-800-727-0672
10% off all snowmobile clothing, parts, oil and accessories
interlakessportcenter.com



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

bile clothing, helmets & goggles.
midwestpowersports.net

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

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



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



Roelofsen Implement
595 Main Avenue
Toronto SD 57107
605-7942131
10% discount on all snowmobile parts, oil & 20% on snowmobile clothing.
roelofsen.com

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



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

bile clothing, oil and accessories
.hepperssportcenter.com

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

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

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Calendar of Events

- December 6-7
55th Annual SDSA Convention
Brookings Inn, Brookings
- January 23 - 25, 2025
ACSA Trails Riding Winter Ride
Tower MN
- February 8, 2025 Governor's Ride
- Feb 19 -23, 2025
ACSA Mountain Riding Summit -
Big Horns
- May 30,31 & June 1
Milbank Show
- June 2025 ISC Charlottetown PEI
- July 26, 2025 Jakob Hohm OffRoad
Adventures
- December 5 & 6, 2025 56th
annual Convention Rapid City



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DECEMBER 6-7, 2024

BROOKINGS INN & CONVENTION CENTER



ACTIVITIES:

- Avenza GPS Map Seminar
- Groomer Roundtable
- Vendor/Trade Show
- On/Off Trail Safety 101 Class
- Silent/Live Auctions
- Casino Night

CONVENTION:

Join us for a fun weekend at the State Snowmobile Convention. Enjoy Seminars, Roundtables, Tradeshow, Beer and Bull, great Local Food, Annual Meeting and Banquet, with a Casino Night to top off the weekend!

REGISTER AT:

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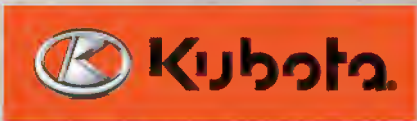
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