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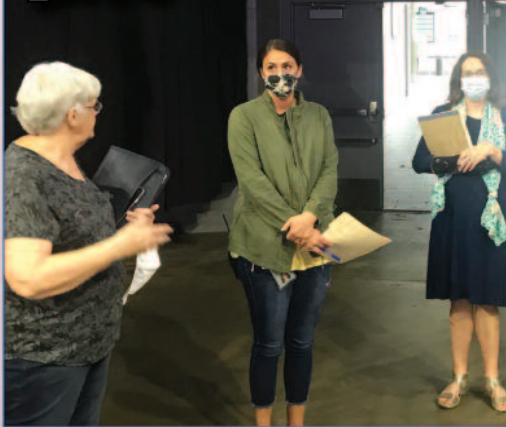
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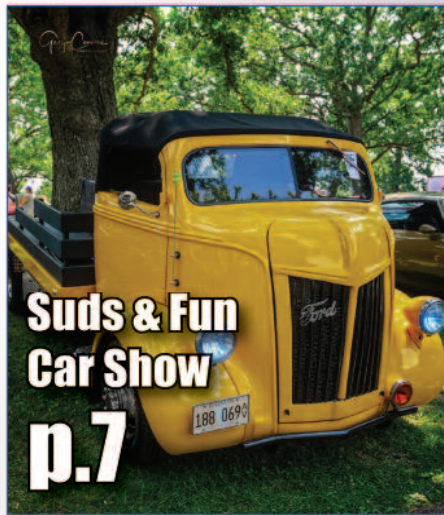
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# PRESIDENT'S DESK



George Thompson

Hi Everybody!

Do you feel the itch to start riding? I sure do! The clubs and regions located around me are in full swing, with meetings and such, planning the riding season. This is the ideal time to get involved, for current club members and prospective new ones. The more people doing tasks to help the club activities goes a long way. It doesn't matter how much you do, a little or a lot, it all adds up.

I would like to stress how important the clubs are in keeping our sport active in the state. The more clubs we have along with how many active members that belong to these clubs will stand out in conversations with the DNR and other state officials and organizations. In the state's eye's we are a very small piece of the big picture. However I believe, working together, we can make enough noise that we will be heard. What is the saying, the squeaky wheel gets the oil! LOL!

Another thing I would like to stress for the clubs, the relationship with your land owners. If you haven't yet, please get out and talk to them. Some clubs just go ahead and mark the trail on permission that they might have gotten five years ago. Which in most cases would probably be alright with the property owner. However if you were the landowner wouldn't it be nice to have somebody stop by and check with you to make sure everything is okay? Examples: Was all the garbage picked up? Did we leave any signs up that you wanted taken down? Did you notice any snowmobile's not staying on the trails where they are supposed to be? I think this type of a relationship goes a long way in keeping the landowner happy. This type of good will and stewardship will help the relationship when problems do arise. I know it can't hurt. Think about this one. Wouldn't it be nice to be able to use this land owner as reference to possibly get permission to go across the neighbor's field and get that trail out of the dreaded road ditch? I hope my message helps, it seem to with our land owners around us.

I also would like to mention again that the Illinois Association will be hosting the International Snowmobile Congress next June. We met with the ISC board in Moline this past September to get their approval on our agenda. They liked what they saw and its all systems go. I would love to see as many of you attend, if not for all of the activities, maybe for some. It's a good time and you learn how our sport is treated in not just other states but also in other countries. It is really neat when you sit down with somebody from another country, like Canada! You will come to realize you have the same interests and concerns when it comes to our sport!

In closing I would like to thank everybody that has helped me through the last two years. From what past members have told me there has been a lot of changes during my tenure that have happened or is happening at this time. It looks like the future will be bright! Thank you all!

Yours Truly!  
George

P.S. Do your snow dances!



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# 2022 Suds & Fun Car Show

By Dwain "Duey" Stadie

For the 41st time in Hampshire history, the Early Times Street Rods Car Club put on the Suds & Fun Rod Run (car show) at the majestic Seyller Park in Beautiful Hampshire. For as long as I can remember, the Hampshire White Riders Snowmobile Club has been there to help them. We worked with the car club to fence in the entire park on Saturday, August 13th for the car show the following day, Sunday, August 14th.

Sunday morning arrived and, as I was loading up the truck in my garage, I could hear the distinct rumble of hot rods trying to be quiet entering majestic Seyller Park which is just down the street from my house. Diehards to say the least because it's 5:30am! The car show is from 8am-3pm. I guess they wanted a good spot. Better to be early than late, as they say.



*Steve Urkel's favorite, you'll see all kinds of cars at this show.*

This is always a very cool event and as the cars and trucks were coming in KB Crane of Hampshire hoisted up a huge American flag to be flown over the event. The local Lions Club was parking cars in the spectator lot, the Knights of Columbus food tent was going to be selling hamburgers and pork sandwiches, 2 food trucks were on site, one selling tacos the other burritos, Dairy Queen had Blizzards and Dilly Bars, a beer stand to quench your thirst. A DJ was playing classic rock and roll car tunes, and of course, the Hampshire White Riders food tent. What an event.

With 635 hot rods/classic cars in the park and a couple thousand spectators on site, at noon sharp, everyone removed their hats stood proudly looking at the flag as "God Bless America" was sung, followed by the National Anthem, and the local VFW finished it up with a gun salute. It was really cool, awesome to witness and be a part of.

The Hampshire White Riders food tent served up loaded baked potatoes with butter, sour cream, chill, cheese, salt and pepper, nachos with cheese and jalapeno peppers on the side, sweet corn dipped

(soaked) in butter, pop and water. We also had a table set up next to the beer stand where we sold our club fundraiser tickets. This worked out very well as it seems the beer stand is visited by about everyone at the show. The south entrance gate was also manned by Hampshire White Riders club members.

It drizzled for about an hour after lunch, but not too many people left. Awards were given out around 2:30 for the different classes of cars, a 50/50 raffle was held along with an auction of a couple of unique car items with all the proceeds going to local and national nonprofit organizations, such as the Hampshire/Burlington Food Pantry, Burlington Fire Department, VFW, Lions Club, American Cancer Society, and Lurie Children's Hospital. Once that was all over with, people slowly started leaving and the Hampshire White Riders took down all the fencing and loaded it on to a trailer for the car club and packed up our tent putting everything back in the storage unit for next year. A fun time was had by all.

Thank you to club members Dan & Chery Linnemann of Prairie View Garden Center and Farm Market for their generous donations for the food tent. That helped cut down on overhead. Thanks to all the club members who worked, cooked, set up, took down, shopped and anything else for this event, Ed Hagendorn, Jeff Meindl, Kathy Meindl, Keith Lima, Kevin Hansen, Leesa Hansen, Paul Bertucci, Mike Bensko, Chris Moore, Mack Hagendorn, Jenny Jeschke, Haley Hagendorn, Pete Fields, Jodi Fields, Joline Smith, Kent Nussbaum, Steve Gustafson, Linda Gustafson, Buzz Marwig, Laurie Marwig, Dan Eiklor, Melissa Eiklor, Scott Haseman, Becky Haseman, Cameron Haseman. Gerry Kolb, Laura Stadie, and Dwain Stadie.



*The now world-famous Hampshire White Riders Snowmobile Club's food tent.*

Check out the Suds & Fun Facebook page for all the cool pictures from this day. We all hope to see you next year at the 42nd Suds & Fun Rod Run.



# OFFICE NOTES



Jane Austin

It looks like fall is here. The weather is cooler, the trees are turning color, frost on the ground and the hopes for a snow-filled season. There's a lot of things happening during the next few months.

We hope that everyone who attended the IASC 50th Anniversary Celebration had a good time and learned from the seminars. One seminar topic was grants from start to finish, the process, how and what is the required paperwork

needed submitting the required forms to your Trail Advisor. Not submitting the proper paperwork will cause delays until everything is correctly submitted. The other seminar was on completing and submitting the proper IASC forms. These forms included annual club renewal, insurance, incorporation and tax returns and charity.

There's the annual IASC fundraiser, by the time this magazine hits the post office all the clubs should have received their tickets. We are sorry for the untimely arrival.

Then it's trail liability insurance time again. Please look over your renewal policy and if changes need to be made contact the provider. The IASC will send your club an invoice according to your renewal. Please make premium check out to the IASC. It needs to be done this way in order to apply for the reimbursement grant. The premium is no later than November 15th in the IASC office.

Club renewals, you should have received your club renewal in early November. These are due in the IASC office December 31st.

Other projects we are working on, the new IASC website. Phase 1 should be up and running now or shortly. It has been a challenge getting what we need vs. what we want.

ISC 2023 - June 7-10, 2023, Wyndham Hotel on John Deere Commons and Vibrant Area (formerly the TaxSlayer) in Moline, IL. ISC 2023 Co-Chairs are Sue Giese and Jane Austin. Read more about ISC 2023 in this issue.

Lastly for this month, it's with sadness I have to say the IASC physical office will be closing at the end of November. We will be moving to a home office and Jane will still be the Office Manager, email and phone number should stay the same. The IASC Office has been in the same location since September 1986. The only difference being is we moved from downstairs to upstairs. Thank you to IL Valley Winter Sports Club in Marseilles who mostly moved the office from downstairs to upstairs and all the help I needed over the past years with office projects. It is greatly appreciated. It sure was a sight seeing the copier being move upstairs on a forklift. For phase 1 of the office closing, thank you to Mike and Barb Dicker, Ron and Carol Bly-Julian and Kai Steward for their recent help. Now for phase 2 the rest of the stuff has to go. Thanks again, it's been a challenge. But we're almost there!!!

Until next time, think snow!!!



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# Remembering Shirley Hinz

By Dwain "Duey" Stadie

Shirley R. Hinz, 79, of Marengo, IL, passed away on October 12, 2022. Shirley was born on August 3, 1943, in Lincoln, Nebraska to Hubert and Alma Schultz. At a young age, Shirley and her family moved to Illinois. She grew up on a farm in Woodstock and loved to show her animals, competing at local fairs in the area. In 1962, Shirley graduated from Woodstock High School. On January 23, 1965, Shirley married Wayne Hinz. Shirley and Wayne were high school sweethearts after meeting at the 4H Busy Beavers Club in Cary, IL. Shirley worked as a bookkeeper for Floor to Ceiling Store for over 20 years.

Shirley and her husband Wayne loved to spend their winters snowmobiling up north at their cabin. They were very active in the IASC, the Region 5 snowmobile clubs, and the local Marengo Snow Goers Club. Shirley was the SnowGoers treasure the last ten years. Shirley held the treasure and secretary board positions for Region 5 several times between 1989 and 2000. Shirley was the Illinois Association of Snowmobile club's secretary for three seasons: 1990, 1994, and 1995.

Together, Shirley and Wayne belong to five snowmobile clubs; the Marengo Snowgoers, and the Huntley Penguins clubs in Illinois, and the Boulder Junction, Presque Isle Sno-Bunnies, and the Lac Du Flambeau Northern Hornshoe clubs in Wisconsin. Additionally, this makes them members of the Illinois and Wisconsin Snowmobile Associations. Not to be forgotten, they're even associate members of the Michigan Snowmobile Association. Shirley and Wayne have ridden in the states of Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Colorado, Montana, and Utah, and also in Canada. Together, they have put in over 130,000 miles. That's an average of over 3,000 miles a year, every year, for over forty years!

They rode in The MS500 run for five years from 1985 to 1990. They put in many hours setting up and operating the Region 5 radar run from 1988 to 1996. They were the IASC King and Queen, the IASC Family of the Tear, and attended the International Snowmobile Congress. They have been majorly involved in the SnowGoers Snowmobile Club Brat Fry and main fundraiser from 1980 to present. Every Region 5 hosted



IASC conventions since 1989 has been made possible by Shirley negotiating the hotel accommodations and putting in countless hours before, during, and after working. If that wasn't enough, they've helped set up and worked the Region 5 food tent, the region's major fundraiser at the Belvidere Grass Drags and Swap Meet from 1989 to present. Lastly, they have also hosted the Region 5 Unity Snowmobile Ride in Boulder Junction, Wisconsin for the past fifteen years. They met and

made many close and special friends over the years attending these club activities.

Shirley was a faithful and devoted member of Zion Lutheran Church of Marengo. Shirley was a faithful and devoted wife to Wayne for 57 years and a wonderful mother, mother-in-law, and grandma. Shirley lived to serve, above all else, God and her family. There was nothing she loved more than spending time with her children, grandchildren, and friends.

Shirley was preceded in death by her husband Wayne Hinz. A Visitation was held on Thursday, October 20, 2022, from 4pm to 8pm at Zion Lutheran Church and burial on Friday, October 21, at Windridge Memorial Park in Cary, IL. In lieu of flowers memorials can be made in Shirley's name to Zion Lutheran Church in Marengo, IL.

She was a pleasure to be around and though we will miss her, her impact on the snowmobile community and beyond will never be forgotten. If you're reading this, consider doing a little something extra for your local club or taking a little bit more time to enjoy the trails this year in Shirley's memory. She is now reunited with Wayne in Heaven. RIP, I miss you both.



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# Planning a Congress: Part 2

By Suzy Giese

I left off last time by telling you how we came to be chosen as the Hosts for the International Snowmobile Congress (ISC) and the steps we took to pick a venue, put together a team of volunteers and started working on putting the event together.

The Steering Committee for the IASC ISC 2023 has been busy from the start. Jane Austin and Sue Giese are the co-chairs for the event. Don Schaefer is Secretary and Carol Bly-Julian is Treasurer, George and Joanne Thompson, Dan and Cathy Dampitz, Mike and Barb Dicker, Mark and Ellen Hazzard all round out the Committee. Each one has volunteered to help put the work in needed to host this event. They have already made commitments to attend a meeting once a month as well as handle other things.

Now that the facility for the event has been chosen and contracted, the hotel has been secured and the overflow hotel secured, we can give you some more specific information. The entire event will be held in Moline, IL. at the TaxSlayer Arena. This is an enclosed facility that houses semi pro hockey, concerts, etc. We are very excited about the space. It will allow us to not only have plenty of room for meals, but the participants will be able to view the Groomers and talk to the sales representatives whenever they want and not have to worry about the weather. The Silent Auction that is held will also be available to be viewed whenever someone is in the arena. There is a Jumbo Video Wall that will allow everyone to see the speakers on stage. There is also a Video Ribbon, that runs all around the area and anyone

who sponsors our event will have their ad posted and viewed all day long on the ribbon.

Moline is very excited about us coming in June 2023 and has done many things that have helped us. The Visit Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce has secured a monetary grant to be given after the event is held. The Restaurants and Hotels has also offered us a monetary gift. The Host Hotel, now called the Wyndham on John Deere Commons, has offered special room rate and will be giving us a reimbursement for each room, reserved per day, back to the IASC ISC. The offsite excursion is a cruise on the Mississippi River for a dinner and entertainment cruise. We were able to secure a sponsor to pay for the cruise. Along with the donation of \$30,000 that the four Manufacturers donate for help with the meals allows us to have a great head start on making the event a reality.

Now that we have the place, hotels, offsite and plans set it was time to get the approval of the ISC Planning Committee's approval of the event. The ISC Planning Committee comprises of a representative of each group that meets during the Congress as well as the hosts of the past ISC and next ISC. Andrea Willey represented Iowa, Manufacturers had Ed Klem represent, Administrators had Yvonne Rideout from Canada, Iron Dogs had Christine Jourdain. Bob King and Judy King represented Media and Tourism, Dan Long, ACSA president, Joe Thievin, from Canada, represented CCSO and Christine Jourdain, executive director for ACSA. The IASC reps were George Thompson, president, Jane





Austin, Sue Giese, Don Schafer and Carol Bly-Jillian.

The meeting was held in Moline, so the ISC Planning Committee could tour all the facilities and check out the area establishments. We took them out to one of the Pizza places just a short walk from the hotel. It was a very nice gathering, and we enjoyed the social evening. The next day was a tour of the TaxSlayer, both Hotels, and a Planning Committee meeting. Andrea Willey, chair of the Iowa ISC 2022 gave her final report and all the books on ISC 2022 were closed. It was time to start approving our plans for ISC. The biggest change, that has many concerned, is that we are not going to be having the general meetings during a 7 am Breakfast. The hotels charge you for the breakfast whether you use it or not. Lots of people don't even come until the guest speakers are going to start. We are going to have the general meetings and speakers during a lunch. No more the same choices for 3 days. Lunch allows us to have a variety of choices for meals. Seminars can start at 8:30, break for Lunch and Speakers around noon and then more meetings/seminars. We got the approval to try it as a pilot program and we are very excited to show that there are options out there and that as one of the members of the of the Planning Committee stated, "Change is good".

After a day of walking and meeting, Dan and Barb Long very graciously hosted a wonderful dinner at their place. Everyone, again, had a chance to relax and get to know each other on a more personal level. The weather was

gorgeous, the food delicious and company was very enjoyable.

The following morning everyone headed out to the next stop on their agendas. We all got the feeling that things went well and on the right path for ISC 2023.

Our meetings for the IASC ISC Steering Committee is now in the process of buckling down and working on getting Sponsors for one of many opportunities. Even a Coffee Break or Afternoon Break, Welcome to IASC ISC 2023 Hospitality. If you own a company, work for someone that you think would be interested in helping, some lodging place that you have a personal relationship that you can ask if they would be willing to help, or just plain donate to the event, we would like your help in making this the best ISC yet.

Somewhere in the magazine, for the next few issues, a list of Sponsorships and costs can be found. Feel free to share with anyone and ask for their help.

Do you want to help? We will be sending out a letter requesting anyone who would like to help even for a couple hours to sign up. Things that we will be looking for is help at Registration Desk, Silent Auction help, Hospitality help, set up help. More information to follow.

Stay tuned, we are working all year long to put this event on and I will be writing more in the next few issues. Think Snow!



# EVENTS

## NOVEMBER

**November 4th-6th:**  
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See ad in this issue for more  
details and registration info.

## DECEMBER

**December 3rd:**  
14th Annual Vintage  
Sled Extravaganza  
Swap Meet 9-4  
Show from 11-2  
Trail Ride @ 2 weather  
permitting, Trophies @ 3  
Great Food, Cold Beer and Fun  
Howlin' Wolf Creek Bar St.  
Croix Falls, WI  
Call 715-294-4640 for more  
information

## JANUARY

**January 19th:**  
5th Annual 100 Mile Vintage  
Snowmobile Challenge Ride  
Hosted by: Northwest Relic  
Riders Vintage Snowmobile Club  
Cost \$50 per sled  
Includes food, "100 Mile  
Challenge" t-shirt, & 4" decal  
indicating whether or not you  
completed the challenge!  
Trail leaders, tow sleds and dead  
sled trailers will also be available.  
Trivia, raffles and drawings!  
"Hall of Fame" award for 3  
successful years of partition.  
Limiting riders to first 70  
vintage sleds - so register early!  
Flat Creek Lodge - Hwy 27 S,  
Hayward, WI 54843  
Call 763-258-4038 for more  
information

**Please Email Us Your  
IASC Club Events to  
production  
@ilsnowmobiler.com**



**Leone's  
Snow Lover Days !  
Nov 25 & 26  
Peru, IL**

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## Region Meeting Schedule:

Be a Part of the Process - Attend Your Local  
IASC Region Meeting!

### Region 1

Don Schaefer, Region Director  
847-917-4202 dssschaefer@msn.com  
Call or email for more information.

### Region 2

Jeff Lehman, Director - 815-388-5380  
First Wednesday of the Month  
Aug.-Apr. - Rusty Nail Bar & Grill  
Ringwood, IL - 7:30pm

### Region 3

Dan Dampitz, Director - 815-985-6071  
Second Monday of the Month  
July-Apr. - Location Rotates  
Call for Location

### Region 4

Pat Pendergast, Director - 309-335-4095  
September, Nov. & Mar.  
Third Monday of the Month  
Call for Location - 7pm

### Region 5

Rodney Kampranz, Director - 815-236-4028  
Second Wednesday of the Month  
Red Ox Bar and Grill  
Rt. 72, Hampshire, IL - 7pm

### Region 6

Kirk Polhill - Director 815-275-3371  
2nd Thursday of the month  
Bottle Shed, Stockton IL  
Sept - April

### Region 7

Dale Fritz, Director - 815-791-6375  
Dalefritz2@Comcast.net  
Call for information

### Region 8

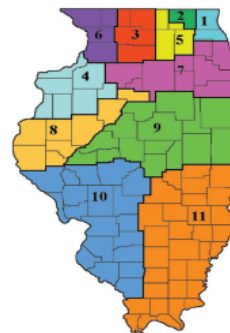
Director Position Vacant  
Contact IASC Office  
815-795-2021 for Information

### Region 9

Bob Atkins, Director - 309-397-6922  
Call for Location

### Region 10 & 11

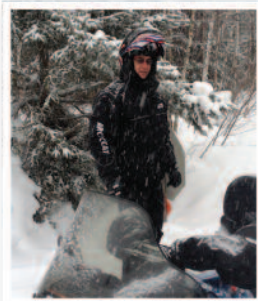
Carson Hanner Director - 217-948-5579  
Call for Information







# Safety & Education



Pat Pendergast

As I write this, fall is definitely in the air, and we all know what that means. No, not leaf raking! Getting ready for our favorite season means going to snow shows, marking trails, going

through the sleds to make sure they are ready to do their thing when the snow flies. Don't forget to check out that trailer and tow vehicle, also. Winter roads with all of their salt can do a number on a hitch, wiring, brakes, etc., so make sure you don't overlook something because it is a pain in the you know what to get to, check or replace. Also, take a good look at the tires all the way around. They can get weak in a hurry, so give them a close look over to make sure they aren't cracked.

Anyone who is a safety instructor should have your class info entered and class materials ordered. You never know how shipping will work nowadays, so don't wait too long. Get

your teaching spaces reserved and let's get the word out about the benefits of instructor-taught safety classes. I remain hopeful that our classes will be growing and I hope to get close to the amount of kids the onlines do. It is definitely the best way for a kid to learn. It just isn't the easiest or fastest.

If you're out there trail marking or brushing trails, make sure you are not doing that alone. An accident can happen there just as it can on a snowmobile trail. So after you get your permissions from landowners, the crops are out and it isn't too wet out, get out there with some members to get trails marked. I bet even a non-member would go just to see what all is involved when brushing trails and setting trail markers. They may find they actually have some fun while doing this kind of work. We need to show this younger crowd the benefits of joining a club. Plus, we need their strong, healthy backs!

Club meetings are in full swing, Convention is happening in November, work days are being scheduled, so please make plans to get involved at least at the club level this year. Clubs can always use someone with a new perspective on things. Those of us who have been club members

for 40+ years sometimes don't always have the freshest outlook on things and how they are done. I'll probably have to put a more safety-oriented article out in the near future, but I hope this gets folks thinking about all things snowmobile-related. That, along with safety, of course. Until next time, I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving.



## QUESTION

How can you protect the environment when riding your snowmobile?

- a) Avoid riding in large groups.
- b) Ride only when the ground is covered by at least four inches of snow.
- c) Ride only in residential areas.
- d) Wear a helmet approved by the Department of Transportation

Answer: b) Ride only when the ground is covered by at least four inches of snow.



## Safety Class Schedule



| Class Date | Location  | Address                              | Time          | Registration                                       |
|------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| 11/12/22   | Hampshire Township Building                             | 170 Mill Ave., Hampshire             | 7:30am-5:00pm | Genice Brettschneider<br>847-987-3986              |
| 11/12/22   | Brewster Creek Forest Preserve                          | 6N921 Route 25, St. Charles          | 8:00am-4:30pm | Ron Julian<br>630-546-8058                         |
| 11/19/22   | Pingree Grove & Countryside Fire Protection New station | 10N255 Dittman Plato Township, Elgin | 7:30am-4:30pm | Call Larry 847-695-5914<br>info@elgincoldducks.com |
| 12/10/22   | Aviston Fire House                                      | 498 West Railroad St., Aviston       | 8:30am-4:30pm | 618-228-7021<br>or 618-910-2553                    |
| 12/10/22   | Watage Fire Station                                     | 316 W. Willard St., Wataga           | 8:00am-4:30pm | 309-368-0620<br>or 309-335-4095                    |
| 12/18/22   | Lena Community Center                                   | 497 Lions Dr., Lena                  | 8:00am-4:30pm | 815-275-2528                                       |
| 1/7/23     | Kane County Forest Preserve Headquarters                | 1996 Kirk Rd., Geneva                | 8:00am-4:30pm | Ron Julian<br>630-546-8058                         |



Pre-registration is required. Call the number listed by the date and location of the class you wish to attend. Please note that most class sizes are limited. Instructors are volunteers and are not paid. Please remember to cancel your reservation if you find you cannot attend the class so that your spot can be filled by another student. For additional classes scheduled after the magazine deadline, please visit the IASC website or call the IDNR office at 800-832-2599 or 216-557-9206, the IASC office at 815-795-2021, Pat Pendergast at 309-344-2554. If you have lost your Snowmobile Safety Certificate verifying that you have passed the required safety class, visit the IDNR website at [www.dnr.state.il.us/safety/safety.htm](http://www.dnr.state.il.us/safety/safety.htm).



# Holiday Gift Guide

## Yamaha Women's Snowmobile Suit

If you need reliable winter gear that will keep you warm as you snowmobile on the trails, you can rely on YAMAHA's gear for the highest quality and durability materials. This 2-piece set is available for a special price at Richs Yamaha. It's made from nylon, waterproofed, DuPont™, Teflon®, and insulated. Available at Richs Yamaha, 14354 S. Archer Ave., Lockport, IL 60441, [www.richsyamaha.com](http://www.richsyamaha.com)



## Hammerhead Mudhead 208

The Hammerhead Mudhead 208 is newest addition to the youth segment. It comes equipped with reverse and a 208cc (6.5 HP) LCT electric-start engine utilizing a manual choke for all-weather starting. Its standard features include an adjustable driver's seat, LED headlights, reverse mechanism, horn, dual head lights, all wheel fenders, adjustable individual seats, canopy top and a throttle governor. Available at Leone's Polaris, 3061 E. 103rd Rd., Peru, IL 61354, [www.leonespolaris.com](http://www.leonespolaris.com)



## FLY IGNITOR HEATED GLOVES

Keep your hands warm with the Fly Ignitor LI battery powered heated gloves, with the 3 level adjustable heat control, adjustable wrist strap, and gauntlet adjuster. This is a great glove for many cold weather activities to include sporting events, snowmobiling, or a cold work environment. When it's cold outside keep your hands warm with the Fly Ignitor heated gloves. Available at Rt. 12 Arctic Cat, 1320 East Rand Rd., Arlington Heights, IL 60004, [www.route12arcticcat.com](http://www.route12arcticcat.com)







## FXR WOMENS SHERPA

For the ladies the FXR Sherpa comes in two colorways (cream/charcoal, and black/mint). This comfy jacket could be worn as a casual jacket, or a base layer on colder snowmobile days. This jacket is super soft, comes with zippered closed hand pockets, and embroidered FXR logo. Available at Rt. 12 Arctic Cat, 1320 East Rand Rd., Arlington Heights, IL 60004, [www.route12arcticcat.com](http://www.route12arcticcat.com)



## CKX MISSION HELMET

Lightweight, insulated and aerodynamic, the Mission is designed to let you enjoy longer rides and at full speed without fear of extreme cold. Efficient in reducing the risk of fogging, the helmet introduces AMS, an integrated air management system. A CKX exclusive, AMS technology (patent pending) allows you to enjoy a clean environment, free from condensation and fogging by wicking away moist air to the outside. Available at Rt. 12 Arctic Cat, 1320 East Rand Rd., Arlington Heights, IL 60004, [www.route12arcticcat.com](http://www.route12arcticcat.com)



## LADIES' AND MEN'S PUFFER JACKETS

The perfect jacket for multiple conditions! The puffer jackets can be worn as an everyday jacket or a mid-layer! They are made of 100% stretchable polyester construction and down-inspired filling. They also have an inside chest pocket for your cell phone and a removable hood! Available at Rob's Performance, 601 County Rd Y, PO Box 159, Johnson Creek, WI 53038, [www.robsperformance.com](http://www.robsperformance.com)



## LINQ SPORT BAG – 17L

Enjoy all the benefits of the LinQ system. Simple, fast, and secure. With a rigid bottom, and semi-rigid top, this easy tool-less system is just what you need for your next adventure. Available at Rob's Performance, 601 County Rd Y, PO Box 159, Johnson Creek, WI 53038, [www.robsperformance.com](http://www.robsperformance.com)



## CLUBS & DIRECTORS

### ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SNOWMOBILE CLUBS

PO Box 265  
Marseilles, IL 61341-0265  
Phone: 815-795-2021  
Web Site: [www.ilsnowmobile.com](http://www.ilsnowmobile.com)  
E-Mail: [iasc@mtco.com](mailto:iasc@mtco.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/iasc](http://www.facebook.com/iasc)

#### OFFICE HOURS:

Jan.- Dec., Mon.-Fri. 9am-1pm

#### OFFICERS:

##### President

**George F. Thompson**  
815-739-8094  
[gthompson@thompsoninsurance.com](mailto:gthompson@thompsoninsurance.com)

##### 1st Vice President

**Mike Dicker**  
815-354-4632  
[Raptor17.mike@gmail.com](mailto:Raptor17.mike@gmail.com)

##### 2nd Vice President

**Kaite Polhill**  
815-990-2652  
[Polhill11@gmail.com](mailto:Polhill11@gmail.com)

##### 3rd Vice President

**Kai Steward**  
815-509-0472  
[kastew91@gmail.com](mailto:kastew91@gmail.com)

##### Treasurer

**Carol Bly-Julian**  
630-546-8059  
[bly.carol@gmail.com](mailto:bly.carol@gmail.com)

##### Secretary

**Jane Austin**  
815-228-4762  
[jaustin@mtco.com](mailto:jaustin@mtco.com)

##### Trail Advisors

Bill Rieke, Region 1, 2 & 5  
815-405-6065  
[rieke7603@frontier.com](mailto:rieke7603@frontier.com)

Mark Hazzard, Regions 3 & 6  
815-985-5952  
[mrhazzman@gmail.com](mailto:mrhazzman@gmail.com)

Bill Brown, Regions 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, & 11  
815-993-4002  
[littlebenny78@sbcglobal.net](mailto:littlebenny78@sbcglobal.net)

##### SEP Chair

Pat Pendergast 309-335-4095  
[ppenderg@knox.edu](mailto:ppenderg@knox.edu)

##### Scholarship Chair

Stephanie Steward 262-745-6002  
[iascscholarshipfund@gmail.com](mailto:iascscholarshipfund@gmail.com)

#### Region 1 Director

**Don Schaefer**  
847-917-4202  
[dssschaefer@msn.com](mailto:dssschaefer@msn.com)  
Call or email for more information

##### Gages Lake Snowmobile Club

**Mike Foye**  
847-902-6510  
[mikefoye@hotmail.com](mailto:mikefoye@hotmail.com)  
Meets 7pm 2nd Tuesday  
Timothy O'Toole Pup  
10 W Grand Ave., Lake Villa

##### Riverbend Benders

**Eric Urban**  
847-894-3812  
[EGUKSU@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:EGUKSU@HOTMAIL.COM)  
Meets 7:30pm 3rd Thursday  
Sides Out Eatery  
4018 Roberts Rd, Island Lake

##### Sno-Kommanders of Lake County

**Skip Schaefer**  
224-627-1406  
[skipschaefer5804@gmail.com](mailto:skipschaefer5804@gmail.com)  
Meets 7pm 2nd Monday  
El Puerto Restaurant  
200 N Forest Ave, Fox Lake

##### Windy City Sledheads

**Paul Gris**  
Email or call for information  
773-545-7222  
[sledhead@comcast.net](mailto:sledhead@comcast.net)

#### Region 2 Director

**Jeff Lehman**  
815-388-5380  
[doonut20@yahoo.com](mailto:doonut20@yahoo.com)

##### Harvard Snow Gophers

**Adam Kirkpatrick**  
226-215-0531  
[Adam\\_kp33@yahoo.com](mailto:Adam_kp33@yahoo.com)  
Meets 7:00pm 2nd Thursday  
Heritage House Restaurant  
21225 Route 14, Harvard

##### Lakers/Sno-Bugs

**Bill Rieke**  
815-405-6065  
[rieke7603@frontier.com](mailto:rieke7603@frontier.com)  
Meets 7:30pm 1st Tuesday  
Rusty Nail Saloon  
4520 Ringwood Rd, Ringwood

##### McHenry Co. Snowmobile Assoc.

**Dave Rudolph**  
815-560-1656  
[dave.rudolph@hotmail.com](mailto:dave.rudolph@hotmail.com)  
Meets 7:30pm 1st Wednesday  
Rusty Nail Saloon  
4520 Ringwood Rd, Ringwood

## CLUBS 2022-2023

#### Polar Bares

**Mike Flaherty**  
847-268-8020  
[flaherty3107@sbcglobal.net](mailto:flaherty3107@sbcglobal.net)  
Meets 7pm  
Tuesday Sides Out Eatery,  
4018 Roberts Rd, Island Lake

#### Richmond Trailblazers

**Dick Arseneau**  
815-675-1234  
[funnyfarmer@comcast.net](mailto:funnyfarmer@comcast.net)  
Meets 7:30pm 1st Thursday  
Rusty Nail Saloon  
4520 Ringwood Rd, Ringwood

#### Spring Grove Sno-Grovers

**Dave Rudolph**  
815-560-1656  
[dave.rudolph@hotmail.com](mailto:dave.rudolph@hotmail.com)  
Meets 7:30 2nd & 4th Thursday  
Rusty Nail Saloon  
4520 Ringwood Rd, Ringwood

#### Woodstock Snowmobile Club

**Jim Ponstein**  
815-382-4818  
[jponstein@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jponstein@sbcglobal.net)  
Meets 7 pm 2nd Wednesday  
Napoli Pizza  
135 Washington St., Woodstock

#### Region 3 Director

**Dan Dampitz**  
815-985-6071  
[dandampitz@gmail.com](mailto:dandampitz@gmail.com)

#### Blackhawk Snowblazers of Oregon

**Dianne Frye**  
815-976-0599  
[Diannefrye59@yahoo.com](mailto:Diannefrye59@yahoo.com)  
Meets 7:15pm 2nd Tuesday VFW,  
13010 Washington St, Oregon IL

#### Byron Sno-Blasters

**Chris Criddle**  
815-289-9885  
[ccrid4@yahoo.com](mailto:ccrid4@yahoo.com)  
Meets 7:30 1st Thursday  
Uptown Lanes /Back Alley Bar & Grill  
106 W 2nd St., Byron

#### Durand Ditch Riders

**Mark Wilson**  
815-713-9626  
[Mowilson1974@gmail.com](mailto:Mowilson1974@gmail.com)  
Meets 1st Tuesday 7pm  
Best Dam Bar  
13965 Best Rd., Davis

#### German Valley Sno-Riders

**Kevin Baumann**  
815-541-9940  
[baumann.deb@gmail.com](mailto:baumann.deb@gmail.com)  
Meets 7:30pm 1st Tuesday  
Loose Screw  
45 Church St, German Valley

#### Midway Sno-Busters

**Kevin Kerchner**  
815-291-4087  
[kerch06@gmail.com](mailto:kerch06@gmail.com)  
Meets 7pm 2nd Wednesday  
Call for location

#### Neboshone Trail Riders

**Carl Trimble**  
815-978-3296  
[cttdoorman@gmail.com](mailto:cttdoorman@gmail.com)  
Meets 7pm 1st Monday  
Fritz's Wooden Nickel  
208 Walnut St Stillman Valley, IL

#### Oaks Ridge Riders

**Brandon Jack**  
815-636-7636  
[bj@lovesparkmotorsports.com](mailto:bj@lovesparkmotorsports.com)  
Meets 7pm 3rd Tuesday  
Roscoe VFW  
11385 2nd St, Roscoe IL

#### Polo Snow Rangers

**Contact Ashley Nelson**  
815-590-2595  
[ashleyhouck@yahoo.com](mailto:ashleyhouck@yahoo.com)  
Meets 7pm, 2nd Tuesday  
Chesty-Ps Bar, Polo

#### Rochelle Rail Riders

**Stuart White**  
815-718-0843  
[swhite61068@gmail.com](mailto:swhite61068@gmail.com)  
Meets 7pm 2nd Wednesday  
Moose Knuckle Bar & Grill  
341 E IL 38, Creston

#### Rockford Moonriders

**Royal Taylor**  
815-874-4502  
[rlltsnow@comcast.net](mailto:rlltsnow@comcast.net)  
Meets 7pm 2nd Thursday  
The Image  
5524 Auburn, Rockford

#### Tri-County Alliance

**Steve Hill**  
815-790-6663  
[Hillsp1@gmail.com](mailto:Hillsp1@gmail.com)  
Meets 7pm 2nd Monday 7pm  
SM & SF Park  
7526 Kishwaukee Rd .  
Stillman Valley

#### Winnebago Sno-Gliders

**Alex Hazzard**  
815-985-0661  
[bagosnopro440@hotmail.com](mailto:bagosnopro440@hotmail.com)  
Meets 7pm 3rd Tuesday  
Bago Lounge  
817 N Elida St., Winnebago



## CLUBS 2022-2023

**Region 4 Director**  
**Pat Pendergast**  
**309-335-4095**  
**ppenderg@knox.edu**  
**Meetings Call for information**

**Corn Belt Driftbusters**  
**Craig Shehorn**  
 309-781-4557  
 craigshehorn@gmail.com  
 Meets 7pm 1st Tuesday Side Tracked Saloon  
 809 3rd St, Orion

**Prairie Drifters**  
**Kevin Schwarzkopf**  
 309-299-4347  
 clayhillfarm@divcominc.net  
 Meets 7pm 1st Monday Genio's  
 249 N Division St. Woodhull

**Region 5 Director**  
**Rod Kampfranz**  
**815-236-4028**  
**rkampfranz@yahoo.com**  
**Meets 7pm 2nd Wednesday**  
**Red Ox Restaurant**  
**129 E Oak Knoll Dr, Hampshire**

**DeKane Sno-Trackers**  
**Ron Julian**  
 630-546-8058  
 RGJulian@comcast.net  
 Meets 7:30pm 1st Tuesday  
 Bootleggers, Maple Park

**Elgin Cold Ducks**  
**Mark Gibb**  
 847-347-0038  
 markgibb9@gmail.com  
 Meets 7:30pm 3rd Tuesday  
 Village Squire  
 480 S Randell Rd., South Elgin

**G.K. Trailblazers**  
**Jay Schaack**  
 224-339-4266 jschaack@yahoo.com  
 Meets 7pm 2nd Thursday  
 Genoa VFW  
 311 S Washington St, Genoa

**Hampshire White Riders**  
**Dwain Stadie**  
 847-683-0140  
 duey683@msn.com  
 Meets 7:30pm 1st Wednesday  
 Red Ox Restaurant  
 129 Oak Knoll Dr., Hampshire

**Huntley Penguins**  
**Henry Regard**  
 847-910-0142  
 Hank56@comcast.net  
 Meets 7:30pm 1st Tuesday  
 Huntley American Legion  
 11712 Coral St, Huntley

**Marengo Snow Goers, Gary Zickuhr**  
 815-970-1732, gzickr@gmail.com  
 7:00pm 1st Thursday  
 Joes Place  
 19716 E Grant Hwy., Marengo

**Prairie Riders Snowmobile Club**  
**Jeremy Baumgartner**  
 815-509-1180  
 stangslayers@aol.com  
 Meets 6:30pm 1st Thursday  
 Coach's Corner Bar & Grill  
 622 S State St., Belvidere

**Region 5 Association of Snowmobile Clubs**  
**Rodney Kampfranz**  
 815-236-4026  
 rkampfranz@yahoo.com  
 Meets 7PM, 2nd Wednesday  
 Red Ox Restaurant  
 129 E Oak Knoll Dr., Hampshire

**Region 6 Director**  
**Kirk Polhill**  
**815-275-3371**  
**kdpwire@yahoo.com**

**Cedarville Snow Travelers**  
**Brad Pfile**  
 815-541-8778  
 bpfile95@gmail.com  
 Meets 7:30pm 3rd Wednesday  
 Route 20 Bar & Grill  
 2051 AYP Rd., Freeport

**Elkhorn Creek Runners**  
**Tom Plog**  
 815-631-6270  
 kingcub@jcwifi.com (Alan)  
 Meets 7pm 3rd Thursday  
 The Other Bar  
 436 N Main St, Milledgeville

**Lena Blackhawk Trailblazers**  
**Kory Polhill**  
 815-275-1299  
 korypolhill@gmail.com  
 Meets 7pm 3rd Thursday  
 Coach's Sport Bar & Grill  
 621 W Lena St, Lena

**NWISA**  
**Alan Bracken**  
 815-631-6270  
 kingcub@jcwifi.com  
 Meets 7:30pm 2nd Thursday 7:30  
 The Bottle Shed  
 IL Route 20, Stockton

**Sno-Pearls**  
**Ryan Gruhn**  
 815-541-9521  
 0978firecat@gmail.com  
 Meets 7pm 1st Thursday  
 Slurp n Burp,  
 4319 S Loran Rd, Pearl City

**Thomson F.A.S.T. Trax**  
**Marvin Green**  
 815-821-5341  
 mc\_green4@hotmail.com  
 Meets 6:30pm 3rd Thursday  
 The Riverview Lodge  
 5403 Riverview Rd., Thomson

**Whiteside County Snowbirds**  
**Tim Geiger**  
 815-499-3720  
 chevymudder@hotmail.com  
 Meets 7pm 3rd Wednesday  
 Kickback Saloon  
 102 N Main St, Tampico

**Warren Winter Warriors**  
**Brian Saunders**  
 815-541-1031  
 saunders@aeroinc.net  
 Meets 7:30pm 2nd Monday call for location

**Region 7 Director**  
**Dale Fritz**  
**815-791-6375**  
**Dalefritz2@Comcast.net**

**Evergreen Snowmobile Club**  
**Ron Planis**  
 815-240-5343  
 thumpr161@aol.com  
 Call or email for information

**I&M Trailblazers**  
**Dale Fritz**  
 815-467-2836 D  
 alefritz2@comcast.net  
 Meets 7pm 2nd Tuesday  
 Twin Rail Pub  
 502 Twin Rail Dr, Minooka

**IL Valley Winter Sports Club**  
**Larry Michaels**  
 815-252-6292 lasfm@mtco.com  
 Meets 7:30pm 1st Thursday  
 VFW, 571 Rutland St, Marseilles

**Region 7 Association of Snowmobile Clubs, Inc**  
**Dale Fritz**  
 815-791-6375  
 Dalefritz2@comcast.net  
 Meeting, call for date and location

**Rusty Runners**  
**Paul Killa**  
 630-391-3645  
 paulki@sbcglobal.com  
 Meets 7pm 3rd Wednesday  
 Beggars Pizza  
 300 Veterans Parkway, Bolingbrook

**Will County Driftbusters**  
**Char Spiess**  
 815-485-3023  
 c\_spiess@msn.com  
 7pm 2nd Monday call for location

**Region 8 Director**  
**IASC Office**  
**815-795-2021**  
**iasc@mtco.com**

**Yellow Streakers**  
**Kevin Connell**  
 815-257-6772  
 traciekjbc@gmail.com  
 Meets 7pm 2nd Tuesday  
 Boardwalk Tap  
 124 N Chestnut St, Wenona

**Region 9 Director**  
**Bob Atkins**  
**309-397-6922**  
**atkinbscrew@gmail.com**

**Woodford County Snowmobile Club**  
**Larry Griffith**  
 309-360-8582  
 marygr@mtco.com  
 Meets 7:30pm 1st Monday  
 Kouri's Grill  
 Route 116, Germantown Hills

**Region 10 & 11 Director**  
**Carson Hanner**  
**217-948-5579**

**Heartland Polar Riders**  
**Kyle Timmerman**  
 618-228-5013  
 Meets 7pm 3rd Wednesday  
 Call for location

**Central IL Ditch Riders**  
**Drew Bartolozzi**  
 217-306-4751  
 Bartolozzi5@aol.com  
 Meets 7:30pm 3rd Wednesday  
 Bunkers  
 220 Old Route 36, Illiopolis



# BUSINESS & ASSOCIATION MEMBERS 2022-2023

## REGION 1

**El Puerto Mexican Restaurant**  
200 N Forest Ave  
Fox Lake, IL 60020  
847-973-1370  
elpuertorestaurant.net  
MAYO.SAUL@yahoo.com

**Nielsen Enterprises**  
130 S Milwaukee Ave.  
Lake Villa, IL 60046  
847-356-3000  
info@nielsens.com  
nielsens.com

**Route 12 Arctic Cat**  
1306 East Rand Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
847-818-8859  
www.route12arcticcat.com  
info@route12arcticcat.com

## REGION 2

**Rusty Nail Bar & Grill**  
4520 Ringwood Rd  
Ringwood, IL 60097  
815-728-3017  
www.rustynailringwood.com  
mikesiudak@yahoo.com

## REGION 3

**Fritz's Wooden Nickel**  
208 N Walnut  
Stillman Valley, IL 61084  
815-645-9828

**Loves Park Motor Sports**  
11951 Mail St.  
Roscoe, IL 61073  
815-636-7636  
lovesparkmotorsports.com

**Meirtran Inc**  
3549 Merchandise Drive  
Rockford, IL 61109  
815 874-7786

**Rockford Tech – Supplies**  
3549 Merchandise Drive  
Rockford IL 61109  
815-874-7786

**Skinners Auto Body**  
320 Reed St., PO Box 261  
Pecatonica, IL 61063  
815-239-1853  
skinnersautobody@yahoo.com

**Specialty Floors, Inc**  
PO Box 8098  
Rockford IL 61126  
779-368-0333  
dirtygyms@comcast.net

## REGION 4

**Genisio's**  
249 N Division St.  
Woodhull, IL 61490  
309-334-2665

**Long's Carpet & Interiors**  
Dan Long, 4200 11th Street  
Rock Island, IL 61201  
309-786-3656

**Tempo Marine & Sport**  
1235 14th Ave  
East Moline, IL 61244  
309-752-0868  
sales@tempomarine.com

## REGION 5

**Action Auto Clinic**  
1312 E. Main St.  
St. Charles, IL 60174  
630-584-2277  
www.actionautostcharles.com  
ArielleActionAuto@gmail.com

**Hammertime Sports**  
**Polaris, Yamaha**  
2252 Anderson Dr.  
Belvidere, IL 61008  
815-544-5800  
www.hammertimesports.com

**Pleasant Street Tavern**  
6828 Pleasant St.  
Garden Prairie, IL 61038  
815-597-3002

**Red Ox Restaurant & Bar**  
129 E. Oak Knoll Dr.  
Hampshire, IL 60140  
847-683-2300  
www.redoxhampshire.com

**Woodstock Polaris**  
2055 S Eastwood Dr.  
Woodstock IL 60098  
815-308-5705  
woodstockpowersports.com  
admin@woodstockpower-  
sports.net

## REGION 6

**Eastland Motor Sports**  
110 E IL Route 64  
Lanark, IL 61046  
815-493-6835

**Full Throttle Power Sports**  
Yamaha Polaris  
11003 U.S. Rt. 20 W  
Lena IL 61048  
815-369-2153  
full-throttle-powersports.com

## REGION 7

**American Legion Post 235**  
571 Rutland St.  
Marseilles, IL 61341  
815-795-4404

**Dockside Marine**  
Ski Doo  
23210 W Strip Mine Rd  
Wilmington, IL 60481  
815-476-7802  
www.docksidemarine.com  
tthomas@docksidemarine.net

**Highlands Yamaha**  
Yamaha  
5320 East Ave.  
Countryside, IL 60525  
708-246-4003  
www.highlandsyamaha.com  
hyi\_yamaha@ameritech.net

**Independence Physical Therapy**  
Dan Gerk  
1397 Main St., Crete, IL 60417  
708-367-8050  
www.iptcrete@att.net  
independept.com

**Leone's**  
Polaris  
3061 E. 103rd Rd.  
Peru, IL 61354  
815-220-1780  
www.leonepolaris.com  
leonespolaris@hotmail.com

**Little Bennys Garage**  
Bill Brown, 415 Johnson St.  
Utica, IL 61373  
815-667-4000  
littlebenny78@sbcglobal.net

**Rich's Yamaha**  
Yamaha  
14354 S. Archer Ave.  
Lockport, IL 60441  
815-838-8130  
www.richsyamaha.com  
richayamaha@gmail.com

**Talty Polaris**  
Polaris  
2498 N. 15th Rd.  
Streator, IL 61364  
815-586-4895  
www.taltypolaris.com  
taltypolaris@fairpoint.net

## REGION 8

**McNabb Motorsports**  
211 S Railroad Street  
McNabb IL 61335  
815-882-2500  
McNabbmotorsports.com

## INDIANA

Contact the IASC office to list  
your business iasc@mtco.com.

## IOWA

**V&V Insurance Agency**  
Dale Vagts  
PO Box 159  
Cresco, IA 52136  
563-547-2161  
www.vandvins.com  
insurance@vandvins.com

## MICHIGAN

Contact the IASC office to list  
your business iasc@mtco.com.

## MINNESOTA

Contact the IASC office to list  
your business iasc@mtco.com.

## WISCONSIN

**Ambassadors of Snowmobiling**  
PO Box 41  
Mosinee, WI 54455  
715-693-3979

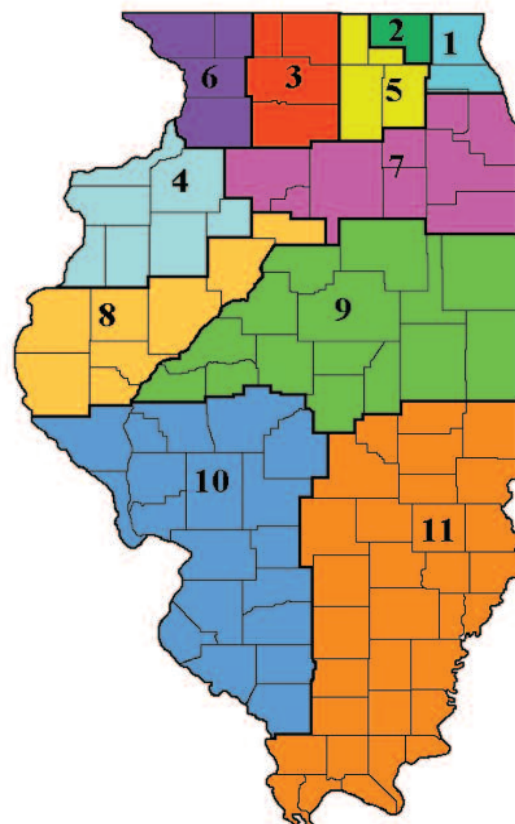
**Four Seasons Island Resort**  
N16800 Shoreline Drive  
Pembine WI 54156  
715-324-5800  
www.TheFourSeasonsWI.com  
barb@pinemountainresort.com

**Hayward Visitors Convention Bureau**  
PO Box 1055  
Hayward, WI 54843  
800-724-2992  
www.haywardlakes.com  
info@haywardlakes.com

**Walker Equipment, Inc./ Arrowhead Groomers**  
PO Box 305  
St Germain, WI 54558  
715-479-4200  
dave@arrowheadgroomers.com

## CANADA

Contact the IASC office to list  
your business iasc@mtco.com.



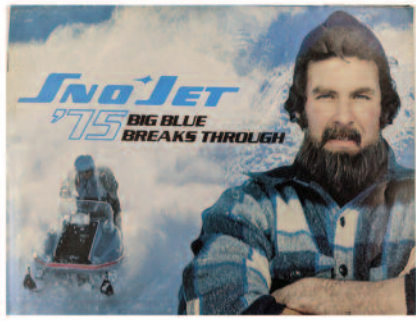


# Ken's Tales From the Earlier Years



Imagine being in your 20's or 30's with the resources to buy a thunder "JET". Perhaps I should clarify that as a state of the art 1974 SST Free Air Sno-Jet snowmobile. Mind you, this was not just another O hum recreational trail sled, but a fully engineered sled that featured the speed, stability and handling that was among the best in the marketplace. The sled featured

A tapered tunnel, new clutch, SDI ignition, slide valve carbs and a front mounted engine with a low center of gravity, 30" skis w/ carbides and a special light weight high performance track. In addition it had many more convenience and safety features too numerous to mention



here. In fact this sled was so outstanding in the F/A class that they dominated all over Canada, Michigan, the ASA and the SWSRA races in Wisconsin. Hall of fame driver, Jim Adema, took this sled to two consecutive Kawasaki cup wins and Ian Corbett won a world cup.

In Peterborough, Ontario. These were considered to be the oldest and most prestigious race events of that era. So with all the history of Ski-doo and Polaris how did a company like Sno-Jet become so prominent at the time. The company started out of Canada and built 25 units its first year in 1965. The company grew so fast that it had sold over 25,000 sleds by the 68-69 season. Even so the original owners decided they wanted to get out of the market and before the end of 1968 ownership was transfer to Conroy Inc, a company that built and owned the Glastron Boat Company. Under their leadership the sales continued to soar reaching 31,181 units in 1970. But things started to turn and by 1974 the oil embargo caused our economy to collapse as the country experience the highest gas prices ever up to that time. Boy does that sound familiar in 2022? The turn in the economy caused many small companies to collapse but in the 1975 sales brochure Keith Orme, president and CEO of Conroy was so committed to the future of snowmobiling that the brochure announced the completion of a 3.5 million dollar plant expansion to meet the future demand and openly invited snowmobilers to compare the '75 Sno-jet machine with any other machine in the market. At the same time the company ran into problems on the race circuit. The USSA decided to start a new professional racing circuit but to qualify sleds had to have some kind of production limit and the thunder jet was not able to meet the requirements. As a result, the Sno-jet was only able to race in other associations where it was qualified.

With the continued downturn in the economy and despite their early successes they too decided to get out of the snowmobile market. Hello Kawasaki! It just so happened that Kawasaki was looking for a way to get into the market the same time Conroy was thinking of getting out and so a deal was made and ownership was transferred to Kawasaki USA. Kawasaki USA had a contract with Japan's Kawasaki heavy Industries division in 1973 to build and provide them with a snowmobile no later than 1977 or else loose the contract but it had become apparent that Japan's heavy Industries division would not be able to have a sled ready before 1978 so this seemed to be a perfect solution. They continued to have Sno-Jet build the machines and send them directly to the Kawasaki dealers and then passed on all the bills to Japan to be paid. From 1977 to 1980 only the invaders and intruders were built with all other waste forwarded to Japan for payment, what a sweet deal. This was not to last, in 1983 just three weeks before all the dealers meetings the board of directors in Japan took a hard look at the track record and the huge debt that Kawasaki USA stuck them with they voted to shut down and close the USA division. The last year of production was 1976 which an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 machines were built. Some of the innovations they invented are still present in our modern machines. The next time you go to a vintage show or museum be sure to look for one.



*I became involved with snowmobiling way back in the early 70's when it was still in its infancy and rapidly growing. Having joined a club my very first year brought with it all the organizational activities taking place in Illinois as well as the entire Midwest. Various papers and publications about snowmobiling were starting up all over and, partly because of my hoarding ways and later by purpose, I have virtually compiled a documented history of snowmobiling from its earliest years to the present. It's easy to spend hours reading about these past days and how snowmobiling evolved to the sport we enjoy today. I hope you will enjoy my tales of earlier days as much as I do.*



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