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ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SNOWMOBILE CLUBS

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www.ilsnowmobile.com

The Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs and its 66 member clubs throughout the state INVITE YOU to join us as we ride the picturesque scenery of winter snowmobiling. Founded in 1972, the Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs:

- Develops and maintains the trails you ride
 Creates a strong, unified voice for Illinois snowmobilers
- Educates the public through snowmobile safety and awareness programs
- Promotes safe and responsible recreational snowmobiling
- Preserves the trail system and maintains a good working relationship with other trail users and groups
- Develops fraternal spirit among local snowmobile clubs
 Sponsors the Illinois Snowmobiler magazine
- Offers annual scholarship and recognition programs
- Provides informational website accessible to all snowmobilers
- Supports the SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge

To Learn More About the IASC and its Affiliate Clubs Visit www.ilsnowmobile.com or Call (815) 210-0587

IASC	MEMBER	RSHIP	APPI	ICATION
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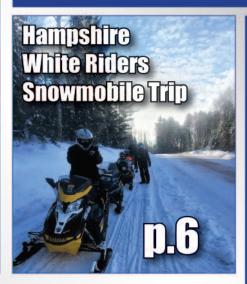
I am interested in joining an IASC club. Please send me further information.
I am interested in helping form a new snowmobile club. Please send me further information.
I wish to join the IASC as an individual Associate Member. Dues are \$25 annually. Enclose \$25 check payable to IASC.
I wish to join the IASC as a Business Associate Member. Dues are \$35 annually. Enclose \$35 check payable to IASC.
I belong to a snowmobile club, but our club does not yet belong to the IASC. Please send information on the benefits of our club joining the IASC.
Name
Address
City
StateZIP
Telephone
Email
Club Affiliation
Check # Amount Enc. \$
Credit Card #
Visa Master Card Exp. Date
CVV # (3 Digit Security Code On Back)

Please note there is a \$3.00 credit card convenience charge. Questions? Call (815) 210-0587

Mail form and fee to: Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs, Inc. P.O. Box 265, Marseilles, IL 61341-0265

COVER STORY The IASC is hosting the International Snowmobile Congress D.10

CONTENTS FEBRUARY 2023



DEPARTMENTS

President's Desk

Office Notes

8 Events

15 Safety Education

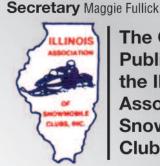
16 Officers, Directors & Clubs

18 IASC Business Associates



IASC Executive Board

President George Thompson
1st Vice President Kai Steward
2nd Vice President Kaite Polhill
3rd Vice President Chris Palmer
Treasurer Carol Bly-Julian



The Official
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Association of
Snowmobile
Clubs

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IASC Office PO Box 265 Marseilles, IL 61341 Illinois Snowmobiler is published by:



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FEATURES

Hampshire
White Riders
Snowmobile Trip

Duey Stadie and the gang head up to beautiful Mercer, Wisconsin for great trails and great times with friends. Once again illustrating the benefits of joining a club.

10 The IASC is Hosting the International Snowmobile Congress

Here are the latest updates about the upcoming ISC and how you can get involved to help make this a spectacular event.

19 Tales from the Earlier Years

Ken Conti shares more stories from his vast collection of snowmobiling reportage.



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PRESIDENT'S DESK



George Thompson

Hi all,

As I sit down to write my message, I will have to admit that I'm a little frustrated and a little depressed. Why? WHERE IS THE SNOW? It is January and all we been getting is rain and 50 degree temps here in Illinois. Most of us have been ready to go since the holidays. Trails

marked and groomers ready to go! Sleds ready to go! What else do we need? So you all don't be like me, stay positive and do your snow dances and maybe the weather will change!

On the business side of things the grant money has been trickling in. We are at the DNR's discretion, and we have to keep working at it and keep hoping they don't put us on the take care of later list. I guess we all have those lists. I was just informed that the new grant cycles were just opened up. A little later than what we were told but opened up just the same. As you know, that is government. I know our volunteer members will now be hard at work writing and applying for these grants now that the cycle is open. I am so proud of these dedicated hard working volunteers! Without them the IASC would cease to exist, along with snowmobiling in Illinois! Hmmmmm... I don't think any of us would like that!

In closing, I would like to give a special thanks to Jane, our office administrator, for all she has done. She is always there to pick up the pieces when we need something taken care of. I don't know where this association would be without her. In my opinion she is the glue that keeps things together, something that this president needs! Again thank you, Jane!

Regards, George

P.S. Don't forget to get your registration in for Congress in June! Snow dances PLEASE!



Hampshire White Riders Club Snowmobile Trip

By Dwain "Duey" Stadie

The Hampshire White Riders Club trip this year was January 13-16, always MLK Weekend so the kids don't have to miss school. For so many years now, we've stayed at the Great Northern Motel in beautiful Mercer, Wisconsin. This location is perfect for a club gathering, The motel has eighty rooms, decent parking for vehicles with trailers, a bar/restaurant and the Great Room which is awesome for members to hang out together in when not riding. It's like a giant family room. Plus, the motel is located right on the trail with a gas station just two doors down.

The Mercer area of Iron County consists of 74,500 + acres of public land, 214 lakes, the magnificent 14,300 acres of Turtle Flambeau Flowage, and 200+ miles of snowmobile trails wandering through it, all beautifully maintained by The Sno-Goers Snowmobile Club. Iron County all together has 500+ miles of snowmobile trails. That's a lot of riding.

The club reserved 10 rooms this year for the holiday weekend. Some members arrived early in the week, with all members on site by Friday night. There are groups who will be happy to do some sightseeing and put on 80 miles for the day, others that will ride 125 to 150 miles in a day, and the diehard riders who won't be happy until they've exceeded 200+ miles for the day. The adventure is best if you find a group that's right for your style of riding.



Some of us studying the maps and others studying the GPS. Either way, where are we?

Mercer and Iron County offer many nice riding opportunities The main corridor trail 17 (The Grade as it's known) is located right outside the back door of the Great Northern Motel. The old railroad line is a major north south route used in the county. If you ride north, you'll ride through Pine Lake and to areas like Hurley, Montreal, Pence, Upson, and Saxon Harbor right on the shore of Lake Superior.



Left to right: Renee, Burt, Heather, Garrett, Pete and Ethan enjoying our lunch stop.

The views from the harbor looking out over Lake Superior are very majestic for sure.

Northeast of Mercer is "Da U.P." of Michigan with Ironwood, Wakefield, Lake Gogebic, Marenisco, and Watersmeet. The lake effect snow always makes riding here very nice, and with elevations of up to 1,800 feet, it's a very cool area to ride in with scenic view around every corner.

Ride the grade south and you'll find Manitowish, Boulder, Springstead, and Lac Du Flambeau. To the west is the massive 14,000+ acres of The Turtle Flambeau Flowage. There are all kinds of wonderful areas to ride, and with the location so close to the Lake Superior snow machine, Mercer is blessed with an annual snowfall of 130 inches of snow and Hurley just to the north receives 160 inches every season. Very cool.

Twenty-five club members gather Saturday evening in the Great Room after a day of riding. Everyone brought snacks to share, the club bought pizzas and there were conversations, stories, and, of course enhanced stories. The truth can be stretched rather far sometimes when it comes to snowmobile stories. NFL playoff football was on the big TV.The same scene repeated itself on Sunday before we all headed home on Monday.

I spent the weekend riding with my friends. I had a wonderful time, my weekend was filled with fun, and all of it was made possible by being a member of a snowmobile club. You can't beat that. Make sure to check out Mercer and Iron County this upcoming season. With many wonderfully-groomed miles of trails over all kinds of beautiful terrain and majestic scenery, it's a great area to ride and you'll be happy you did.

OFFICE NOTES



Jane Austin

As I look out the window, all I see is dead grass. Well, what a bummer this season has been so far, NO SNOW! Or the little teaser we get every once and a while. My granddaughter and her family recently moved to New Mexico and guess what; they had snow! The pictures showed it was almost knee high. Who would have thought...

The scholarship deadline is April 1st. The topic for 2023 is "Please tell me your ideas on how, as an association/region or club we can educate other snowmobilers about trespassing issues, loud pipes and respect for the trail system, our landowners, and other snowmobilers." See the IASC website www. ilsnowmobile.com for information or contact the IASC office iasc@mtco.com.

The IASC annual fundraiser drawing will be March 14, 2023 after the monthly IASC meeting. Contact your local club for tickets.

The IASC is hosting ISC 2023 June 7-10, 2023 at the Wyndham Moline on John Deere Commons, Moline IL. Checkout the article in this issue. Make plans to come.

The IASC Convention 2022, turned out well and we are in the process of making plans for the 2023 Convention. We will let you know when and it will be.

I know the IASC awards aren't due until October 1st, 2023, but if you know who you want to nominate, do it now so you don't forget. Check the IASC website for all of the award forms.

Until next time, think snow and ride responsibility.



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EVENTS

FEBRUARY

February 18th:

16th Annual Manawa Snodeo 4 snow/ice tracks racing simultaneously. Lakecross (slalom), USSA ProStar Series Ice oval racing (Sat/Sun), Radar Runs 1000', WI Kitty Kat Championship, Motorcycles, Mini Bikes, Barrel Racing and Ice Car/Truck Drags. Vintage Snowmobile Show on Saturday. Hot Air Balloons, Sky Diving and much more. Bear Lake Resort in Manawa, WI. More details at: www.manawasnodeo. org \$20/day or \$30/weekend (920) 470-1417 Call 920-470-1429 for more information.

February 18th:

Bay City Bluff Busters
Vintage Show
Registration is 9:00 to 11:00
with a 10 mile ride leaving
around noon (weather
permiting).
Bluffs Bar and Grill in Hager
City WI. For more information:
Roger at 715-495-8836 or

APRIL

April 1st:

Meat and Basket Raffle Noon to 3pm Rt. 20 Bar and Grill, 2051 N AYP Rd, Freeport Chance to win meat bundles, baskets, 50/50, \$5 for \$100 Call Georgia for more information at 815-238-7826

JUNE

June 7th-10th:

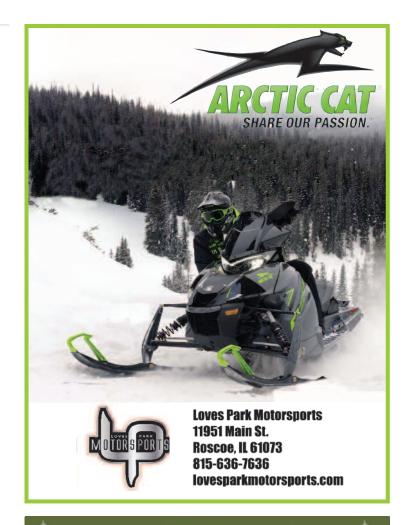
55th International Snowmobile Congress

Full Congress Registration Includes: Wednesday welcome reception, lunches Thursday, Friday and Saturday, all Afternoon breaks, Thursday off-site event, Friday groomer reception, Saturday evening awards banquet, all educational breakout sessions.

Wyndham Hotel on John Deere Commons/TaxSlayer Center 1415 River Drive Moline, IL 61265 For more information, email isc2023ja@mtco.com

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







Some restrictions apply. Call for details

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Please think about attending, participate and volunteer to help make this a successful event and show case our Illinois Pride to snowmobilers from Canada, all the snow states and maybe a few from other countries.

2023 International Snowmobile Congress
June 6, 2023 through June 10, 2023 Moline, IL
Host Hotel: Wyndham on John Deere Commons;
Secondary Hotel: Element Hotel
Venue: Vibrant Arena at the Mark
(f/k/a Tax Slayer Center)
Check out the Web site: www.snowmobilers.org/isc/
Like us on Face Book:
www.facebook.com/snowmobilecongress

What is the ISC? The ISC is dedicated to the development and collaboration of Snowmobilers worldwide in cooperation with and respect to the environment, conservation, access, education and accountability. The ISC is made up of the following: American Council of Snowmobile Associations, Canada Council of Snowmobile Associations, International Snowmobile Manufacture Associations, International Association of Snowmobile Administrators, International Snowmobile Media Council, International Snowmobile Tourism Council and Iron Dog Brigade. It is several days of meetings, speakers, seminars/workshops and social events as well as trade and groomer displays.

What is the Agenda? Meetings of the different organizations list above as well as the ACSA Trail, Mountain and Northeast Chapters are held during the day on Thursday, Friday and Saturday with most open to the Public. There will be a

speaker at each of the daily luncheons as follow: Thursday -Sean Considine, an Illinois snowmobiler and landowner, Super Bowl Champ; Friday - Ed Klim, President of International Snowmobile Manufacture Association and Saturday - Mike Caplan, Meteorologist, Fox Chicago. On Friday, there will be a variety of seminars/workshops discussing avalanche training (not a class), media presentation, groomer round table with representatives from the groomer industries; grant application process, Volunteer Recruitment, Development and Retention presentation and Cross County Trips/Planning for Clubs presentation to name a few. The social Events are many! There will be a Motorcycle/Car Ride on Tuesday. On Wednesday afternoon, The Friends of Snowmobiling Political Action Committee (FOSPAC) will host a fundraiser, then there will be the IASC welcome reception that evening. Thursday night will be a Riverboat Dinner Cruise on the Mississippi River. Friday there is a groomer reception and the 2024 ISC host reception. In addition, Friday afternoon, there will be a taste testing and fun activity of some type. Saturday night is the big Awards Banquet and then the Thirsty Dog reception. A groomer display and trade show Thur - Sat. Your full registration fee includes the IASC reception through the reception.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS SUCCESSFUL FOR THE IASC

Sponsorships: Available from \$100 to \$10,000. Information on the ISC website and soon on the IASC web site. Attached is a sponsor form to forward to any interested businesses or we will welcome your clubs or region participation. Contact Don Schaefer at 847-917-4202 or dssschaefer@msn.com if any questions.

International Snowmobile Congress

Volunteers Needed: We have several opportunities that you can help and volunteer to make this a successful and profitable for the IASC. Below is an idea of the different opportunities that we will need assistance from IASC members. We will accept your assistance once, daily or whatever your schedule permits. You are welcomed to work more than one position and all help is greatly appreciated. Contact Sue Giese if interested 815-276-3250, text is best or email suzygiese8484@att.net

Registration/information desk: (Barb Dicker, chair): Hours will be Weds 11:30am to 7:00pm, Thursday/Friday: 8:00am to 5:00pm and Saturday 8:00am to 4:00pm. Looking to have 2-3 people per shift and about 3-4 hour shifts (16-20 shifts). Will provide registration information and answer questions as well as provide assistance to attendees and vendors.

Motorcycle/car ride helpers: 2 to 4 people to represent the IASC and participate in the Motorcycle/car ride on Tuesday. Ride leaves about 9:00am and returns about 4:00pm. Assist with the group leader and provide help as needed while enjoying the ride.

Welcoming committee: Assist with the hosting duties during the IASC reception on Wednesday night from 7:00pm to 10:00pm. About 3 -4 people.

Wednesday set up: Assist committee members with setting up doing various duties as needed from 10:00am to 7:00pm, 2 shifts of about 4 hours. Need about 4 per shift. The Arena workers will be doing the heavy lifting.

Sunday clean up: Assist with committee members with cleaning up and packing doing various duties as needed from 8:00am to 12pm. 4 people

Silent Auction attendants (Ellen Hazzard, Chair) To monitor

the Silent Auction area. Thursday/Friday open 9:00am to 5:00pm and Saturday 9:00am to 6:30pm. About 2 people per shift, 4 hour shifts.

Ticket Takers and Bus Guides: Offsite event Thursday night. Buses begin departing at 6:00pm and Cruise leaves at 6:30pm (5 min bus ride). Take the tickets & be a guide on bus to & from Riverboat. About 8 needed.

Decorating Crew: Decorate for the IASC reception, lunches and Saturday Banquet. Decorations will be planned and prepared but will need to be put together. This will be for the IASC reception Weds night, Set up Luncheon tables on Thursday morning and Saturday afternoon for awards banquet.

Videographer: Video tape the various daily functions and compose a 5-10 min presentation to be shown at the Thurs, Friday and Saturday Luncheon. This is a Stipend Job.

Graphic Designer: Assist with preparation of a daily news letter incorporating a summary of the previous day events to be provided at the Thursday, Friday and Saturday Luncheon. This is a stipend Job.

Hope to see you in Moline, II and thank you!!
The 2023 ISC Steering Committee,
Sue Giese (815-276-3250 or suzygiese8484@att.net)
Jane Austin (815-228-4762 or isc2023ja@mtco.com)
Co-Chairs

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February 2023

Page 12









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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 Damptz, 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 Kampfranz, 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





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Pat Pendergast

While trying to decide what to write this month's article on. looking started snowmobile UD incident reports from neighboring states, namely fatalities. As sad as the news is, it is still very aggravating to me.

Michigan showing 6 fatalities as of January 12th, Minnesota has had 6 deaths since the beginning of 2023! I have no current numbers for Wisconsin as of this writing, but they posted 16 deaths in the 2022 calendar year. And the ages of a good number of the victims are much older than the youth we volunteer our time to educate. We're talking folks in their 40's, 50's, 60's and up. As I imagine you can guess, speed and alcohol were big factors, leaving the trail and striking a fixed object was almost always involved, too. It makes me curious, at what point does everything we as adults have learned about snowmobile safety go right out the window and we make these poor choices? Do those of us who have been riding for many

years just get too comfortable with our abilities and let our guard down? I suppose some of these folks are old enough that they were not required to take a safety course. In Wisconsin, since 2011, 70% of the fatal accidents involved alcohol, over 50% in Minnesota were alcohol related. While I feel strongly about educating our snowmobiling youth, it appears that the larger issue is educating our adults. Changing the culture of making the rounds to our favorite establishments and having a few drinks at each one is a step in the right direction, in my opinion. I was up north recently and was amazed at the amount of riders that appeared to be in no condition to take off on a 120-180 hp snowmobile across a frozen lake or through the woods on trails, much less cross a busy highway. Wherever we stopped for a meal or break, probably 90% of the folks in that establishment were drinking. Now don't get me wrong, I enjoy a good beer as much as the next person, but I feel if we want to see the statistics swing in our favor we need to do better. What kind of example are we setting for the youth we are educating? And what message is this sending to the non-snowmobiling community? I just don't like the fact that this is how folks perceive this as what snowmobiling is about. Like I stated earlier, I don't think there

is anything wrong with having a good time, but if drinking is a major part of our sport and it is also the reason for a large portion of related fatalities, don't you think it is time to make a few adjustments?

I hope readers don't take this article the wrong way, or feel I am pointing fingers, I just don't want to keep reading these numbers and names in state snowmobile incident reports. It is both sad and aggravating, and there is room for improvement. I'm stepping down off of my soapbox now, ride safe everyone.



What is the first step when crossing a road?

- a) Select a crossing point that offers good visibility in both directions
- b) Slow down on the shoulder of the road
- c) Look both ways and yield to oncoming traffic
- d) Have your passenger dismount

🤏 Safety Class Schedule 🤏

Class Date Location **Address**

Time

Registration

No classes scheduled at this time



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 815-210-0587, 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.

The Safe Riders! Snowmobile Safety Awareness Program provides basic essentials about snowmobile safety and includes short quizzes to help test your knowledge about safe snowmobiling practices. It is meant to supplement information provided by the state or province in which you register or ride your snowmobile, so be sure to check local rules and requirements before venturing out on the snow.

This Program has been produced through a partnership between the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA), the International Association of Snowmobile Administrators (IASA), and the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association (ISMA) with financial assistance from the Recreational Trails Program administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation — Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).



Test Your Snowmobiling Knowledge

snowmobiling practices. If you're an experienced snowmobiler, you may try a quiz first to see how much you think you know — and then take the quiz again after you've reviewed a section's materials to see how much you've learned. If you're new to snowmobiling, work through each section first before taking the quiz to enhance your learning experience.

Snowmobile Safety Awareness Program

OUBS & DIRECTORS

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SNOWMOBILE CLUBS

PO Box 265

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847-612-8830 chrispalmer513@gmail.com

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630-546-8059 bly.carol@gmail.com

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Bill Brown, Regions 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, & 11 815-993-4002 littlebenny78@sbcglobal.net

SEP Chair

Pat Pendergast 309-335-4095 ppenderg@knox.edu

Scholarship Chair

Stephanie Steward 262-745-6002 iascscholarshipfund@gmail.com

Region 1 Director Don Schaefer 847-917-4202 dssschaefer@msn.com Call or email for more information

Gages Lake Snowmobile Club Mike Foye

847-902-6510 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 Meets 7:30pm 1st & 3rd Mondays 3D-Sideouts 4018 Roberts Rd, Island Lake

Sno-Kommanders of Lake County Skip Schaefer

224-627-1406 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

Region 2 Director Jeff Lehman 815-388-5380 doonut20@yahoo.com

Harvard Snow Gophers Adam Kirkpatrick

226-215-0531 Adam_kp33@yahoo.com Meets 7:00pm 3rd Wednesday Heritage House Restaurant 21225 Route 14, Harvard

Lakers/Sno-Bugs Bill Rieke

815-405-6065 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 Meets 7:30pm 1st Wednesday Rusty Nail Saloon 4520 Ringwood Rd, Ringwood

OUTS 2022-2028

Polar Bares Mike Flaherty

847-268-8020 flaherty3107@sbcgloabl.net Meets 7pm 2nd Tuesday Sides Out Eatery, 4018 Roberts Rd, Island Lake

Richmond Trailblazers Dick Arseneau

815-675-1234 funnyfarmer@comcast.net Meets 7:30pm 1st & 3rd Thursday Rusty Nail Saloon 4520 Ringwood Rd, Ringwood

Spring Grove Sno-Grovers Dave Rudolph

815-560-1656 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 Meets 7 pm 2nd Wednesday Napoli Pizza 135 Washington St., Woodstock

Region 3 Director Dan Damptz 815-985-6071 dandamptz@gmail.com

Blackhawk Snowblazers of Oregon Keith Stranberg

815-508-9129 kstrandberg@gmail.com Meets 7:15pm 2nd Tuesday VFW, 13010 Washington St, Oregon IL

Byron Sno-Blasters Chris Criddle

815-289-9885 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 Meets 1st Tuesday 7pm Best Dam Bar 13965 Best Rd., Davis

German Valley Sno-Riders Kevin Baumann

815-541-9940 baumann.deb@gmail.com Meeting location rotates, call for location 45 Church St, German Valley

Midway Sno-Busters Nick Kuhlmeier

815-703-3830 nkuhl22@hotmail.com Meets 7pm 2nd Wednesday Call for location

Neboshone Trail Riders Carl Trimble

815-978-3296 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 bjack@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 Meets 7pm, 2nd Tuesday Chesty-Ps Bar, Polo

Rochelle Rail Riders Stuart White

815-718-0843 swhite61068@gmail.com Meets 7pm 3rd Tuesday Moose Knuckle Bar & Grill 341 E IL 38, Creston

Rockford Moonriders Royal Taylor

815-874-4502 rltsnow@comcast.net Meets 7pm 2nd Thursday The Image 5524 Auburn, Rockford

Tri-County Alliance Steve Hill

815-790-6663 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 Meets 7pm 3rd Tuesday Bago Lounge 817 N Elida St., Winnebago

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

Corn Belt Driftbusters Bob Herberg

309-797-1284 rjherberg@gmail.com Meets 7pm 1st Tuesday The O Kitchen & Tap 306 10th Ave, Orion

Prairie Drifters Phil Hennenfent

309-299-4247 phil@hennhousebbq.com Meets 7pm 1st Monday Genisio's 249 N Division St. Woodhull

Region 5 Director
Rod Kampfranz
815-236-4028
rkampfranz@yahoo.com
Meets 7pm 2nd Wednesday
Red 0x Restaurant
129 E 0ak 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 0x 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

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 stangslayerss@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

815-249-5342 thumpr161@aol.com Call or email for information

I&M Trailblazers Dale Fritz

815-467-2836 dalefritz2@comcast.net Meets 7pm 2nd Thursday Channahon Lanes 25306 W. Eames St., Channahon

IL Valley Winter Sports Club Anthony Caselli

815-712-1552 Antcaseilli@yahoo.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 Beggers 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 Timmermann

618-973-4331 Tmann1987@gmail.com 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

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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 815-493-6835

Specialty Floors, Inc.

PO Box 8098 Rockford IL 61126 779-368-0333 dirtygyms@comcast.net

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 II 60098 815-308-5705 woodstockpowersports.com admin@woodstockpowersports.net

REGION 6

Eastland Motor Sports

110 E IL Route 64 Lanark, IL 61046

Full Throttle Power Sports

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

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

Dockside Marine

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Independence Physical Therapy

Dan Gerk 1397 Main St,.Crete, IL 60417 708-367-8050 www.iptcrete@att.net independencept.com

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Little Bennys Garage

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Rich's Yamaha

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Talty Polaris

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REGION 8

McNabb Motorsports

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Four Seasons Island Resort

N16800 Shoreline Drive Pembine WI 54156 715-324-5800 www.TheFourSeasonsWI.com barb@pinemountainresort.com

Hayward Visitors Convention Bureau

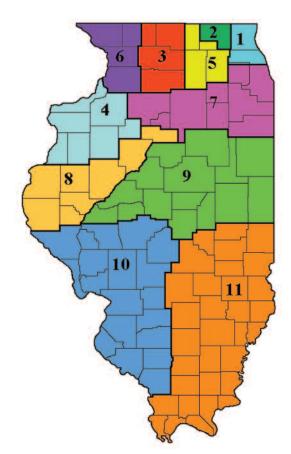
PO Box 1055 Hayward, WI 54843 800-724-2992 www.haywardlakes.com info@haywardlakes.com

Walker Equipment, Inc./ **Arrowhead Groomers**

PO Box 305 St Germain, WI 54558 715-479-4200 dave@arrowheadgroomers.com

CANADA

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Ken's Tales From the Earlier Years



Living here in the Midwest, we were fortunate to be close to the birthplace of snowmobiling. A pioneer by the name Edgar Heeten and his brother, who worked for a company called Polaris, was credited with being one of the first to create a snow machine. The original factory was in Minnesota and they are still made there today. Soon, over a hundred more companies started making snowmobiles and some of the most notable ones like Arctic Cat, John Deere, Mercury

were being made in factories from Minnesota and Wisconsin. Although riding first evolved riding across flat terrain, it quickly spread to other more challenging landscapes, one of the earliest being hills. Ask any old rider who just couldn't pass up the opportunity to climb to the top of some crazy hill they came upon. I say crazy because if you made it to the top it gave you an exhilarating feeling of having conquered an intimidating challenge, but wow, if you didn't because you likely would be left with a damaged sled rolling back down the hill to the delight of those watching, not to mention the embarrassment of



We have become accustomed to the extreme use of snowmobiling by watching the fastest sleds in the world race in Eagle River, Wisconsin, The famous Soo 500 cross country races farther north and the national Snocross events at the grand finals at Lake Geneva and more recently the National's at Dubuque, Iowa. But that being said, unless you are among the few willing to travel a long distance, we generally have missed out on the greatest hill climbing events in the country. The Rocky Mountain Snowmobile Hill Climbing Association sponsors a series of mountain climbing events starting in January and usually concluding in April. The sleds and riders who participate in these events are truly the best of the best.



For many years, some of the highest climbs were only attempted by professional riders with highly modified sleds big in horsepower, custommade suspensions and very long tracks. It wasn't long before the manufacturers started accommodating this desire by creating

the long tracked high horsepower sleds available today. The turbo charged machines that are available today have taken the lid off for almost anyone with the courage and desire to climb a crazy mountain or do extreme side hilling. Mind you to become proficient in side hilling and climb steep verticals requires a little understanding of the laws of physics and, of course, a lot of courage. As an example, the laws of energy when turning require what's called opposite thinking

or counter steering. If your intention is to turn to the left you will need to steer to the right, yes really check it out. Also one of the rules for high marking is to maintain more momentum, then the degree of slope or simply put you need to have enough forward thrust to offset the pull of gravity. You also need to know at what point to make your turn to get safely back down to the bottom. If



you lose your momentum and become high sided by your sled, bad things can happen including getting injured and for sure demolishing your sled. I know watching the experts can make it look easy but rest assured they have put in many, many hours of practice to gain the skill and experience to execute their extreme climbs and side hilling. That being said if you are still so inclined and are ever presented with the opportunity to climb a challenging hill, remember snowmobiling is all about angles and lines. The easiest and safest way to attack a slope is by hitting them straight on. By squaring up to the angle you will have the best chance to maintain your balance and reach the top or to turn out when you need to. For us Midwesterners, the closest hill climbing events we have had the opportunity to see were the Grand Finals the Lake Geneva ski hill and the recent nationals on the mountain in Dubuque. Plus, the sponsored events by the RMSHA all takes place in Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming. The world championship takes place every March in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and is televised.

For most snowmobilers, it is probably best to avoid extreme hill climbing unless you're with an experienced mentor to guide you through the proper skills to safely do so. Have I ever climbed steep hills and extreme side hilling? The answer is yes. Some of my early attempts resulted in trouble but later on, with better sleds and more horsepower, I was able to execute them successfully. That being said, at my age now and not having done so for quite a while, I'm not sure the results would be as good. In any event, it's sure fun to watch.



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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