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The Official Publication of  
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**October 2023**



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## OFFICE NOTES



Jane Austin

I hope that everyone had a great summer and is ready for the winter season. Here are some notes from the IASC's home office.

There has been a lot going on since March. Everyone knows that the IASC hosted the 55th International Snowmobile Congress this past June in Moline, which turned out to be a huge success.

I had the great pleasure of working with a great team during this process and would like to thank Sue Giese, Don Schaefer, Carol Bly-Julian and George Thompson. Job well done! Also, a huge thank you to all the committee chairs and volunteers for your time. It is greatly appreciated.

ISC 2024 will be hosted in Green Bay, Wisconsin, June 13-15, 2024. We have a lot of people already committed to going. Check the International Snowmobile Congress 2024 for more information. If you are planning on going and need a hotel room, please contact the office as I have a block of rooms for the event.

Fundraiser 2024 tickets are available and will be ready for the clubs at the September 12th IASC meeting. Contact the office if you need tickets sooner.

The 51st IASC Annual Convention 2024 will be held November 4, 2024, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 7675 Walton St., Rockford, IL. There is a room block and the rooms are available until October 4th. Call the hotel directly to book your room at 815-229-3322.

Speaking of convention, nominations for Dealer of the Year, Snowmobiler of the Year, Family of the Year, Sam Madonia, Glue Award, Charles Metcalf, Instructor of the Year, and the Harry Kroll/Mel Blaurock award forms can be found on the website at [www.ilsnowmobile.com/iasc-honors](http://www.ilsnowmobile.com/iasc-honors). Nominations are due October 1st in the IASC office. Of course, you may fill out your nomination form and send it any time before October 1st.

Nominations for the 2023-2024 IASC Officers may be given to Ron Julian. Remember you can run for any one of the positions at any time.

Until next month, stay safe and healthy.

## COVER STORY 2023 International Snowmobile Congress

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# IASC illinois SNOWMOBILER

### IASC Executive Board

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IASC Office  
 PO Box 265  
 Marseilles, IL 61341

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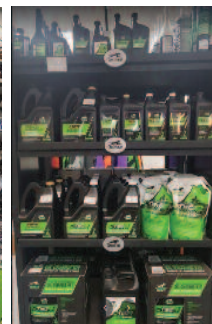
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## EVENTS

### NOVEMBER

#### November 4th:

51st Annual IASC Convention  
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block until October 4th  
Call hotel directly to make  
reservations and mention IASC  
See ad in this magazine for more  
info and registration form  
Hilton Garden Inn Rockford  
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Rockford, IL 61108  
Call 815-229-3322  
[www.ilsnowmobile.com/  
convention](http://www.ilsnowmobile.com/convention)

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production  
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### OCTOBER

#### October 8th:

Powersports Swap Meet  
Hosted by the Tri County  
Snowmobiles, ATVs, UTVs,  
Accessories, Clothing & More  
Snowmobile Alliance  
Winnebago County Fairgrounds  
17210 Sumner Rd.  
Pecatonica, IL  
For more information, contact  
Jon at 815-990-6920

#### October 15th:

Riverbend Benders Meat Raffle  
BEARS VS VIKINGS  
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## A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

I wanted to take a moment to talk about what has been going on at the IASC from my point of view.

We just completed hosting the International Snowmobile Congress 2023 in Moline and it was a great success! More than 380 people attended from the US and Canada. This event was a fundraiser for the IASC and will help us continue to provide support to the regions and clubs in Illinois. I would like to hear from you as members on how best we can help support you.

The next event we host is our annual convention. This year, it will take place on November 4th at the Hilton Gardens in Rockford. There have been some changes in the convention format; to start, it is a one-day event. Our annual meeting and elections are held during the convention. This is one of the best opportunities for you to interact with fellow members and have your voice heard. You also have the opportunity to get your questions answered, as well as problem solve with others who may be experiencing similar issues.

Very soon the tickets for our 2024 fundraiser will be available for distribution. We hope to continue to build on the positive financial strides we are making within the IASC and fundraising is a big part of that. Our commitment extends to the future sustainability of our organization.

If you have any questions for me or if you need my help with something, don't hesitate to reach out. I am here to help and to make your support of the IASC as easy as possible.

I want to thank everyone for everything they do to keep snowmobiling in Illinois alive, even in those hard years when we have little snow. Our volunteers are the most committed to the sport we love and none of this would be possible without you!

Best regards,  
Carol Bly-Julian  
Treasurer, Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs

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# PRESIDENT'S DESK



George Thompson

Hi all,

Well, it's time for me to write the first entry of the year. Kind of tough to do with the heat and humidity we are experiencing! It seems a little early, being the 22nd of August, but I was informed that I have to get it done by the 25th. I don't want to be late like last year. I also want to make sure it is ready for the new digital format that we are moving to. They tell me it's the way of the future. They also say change is good. Hmm, I guess time will tell.

How has everybody's summer been going? For my wife and I, it has been busy. We've had birthday parties, family on the weekends, and the 4th of July! There's also my obsessiveness of keeping my yard in tip top shape. With the drought we've been having up here in McHenry County, it's been tough! It also didn't help when you promised your youngest daughter that you would host her wedding in the front yard! Yeah, the pressure was on to get the job done right! Thank you, Joanne, and family. You guys are the greatest!

As you all know, Illinois hosted the International Snowmobile Congress this year. For those of you who did not attend or don't know what the event is, it is the gathering of snowmobilers from all over the country, including Canada. For those of you who did make it, I hope you had a good time! I sure did! The facility, along with the three hotels, were just right. The food, all the seminars, the groomer exhibit, our three guest speakers, Ed Klim, Mike Kaplan, and Sean Considine were all just awesome! Then we can't forget the offsite experience. It was incredible! Also, I am told we made a little bit of money for the association, which is always a good thing. This was my fourth congress, and I might be a little biased, but this has been the best one I have attended. I would like to thank the steering committee from the bottom of my heart for all the hard work you have all done! The whole event went off with not one hiccup, except maybe a few mistakes by the MC, "me" on name pronunciation! Oops, sorry!

On the grant business with the IDNR, things are looking up. I was informed that we had two STEF grants released. We also just received better clarification on the Made in America waiver for the RTP federal grants. The Made in America rule does not apply for projects of \$500,000 or less. So that should loosen things up a bit. Let's hope the IDNR recognizes it!

In closing, like last year in my first entry, clubs start early and make it easier on yourselves in preparing for the season. Talk to your landowners on trail permission and changes if any. You don't want to get caught in a trail closure or dilemma the first week of December. Make sure you have enough supplies! If you need help, talk to your trail advisors. They will do their best to accommodate.

God Bless!  
George

P.S. Do your snow dances!



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**Region 5 Meets  
here the 2nd Wednesday  
of the month**

## Region Meeting Schedule:

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

### Region 1

Director: **Don Schaefer**  
847-917-4202 dssschaef@msn.com  
Call or email for more information.

### Region 2

Director: **Craig Adams**  
815-687-2844 craigmadams@yahoo.com  
First Wednesday of the Month  
Aug.-Apr. - Rusty Nail Bar & Grill  
Ringwood, IL - 7:30pm

### Region 3

Director: **Dan Dampitz**  
815-985-6071 dandampitz@gmail.com  
Second Monday of the Month  
July.-Apr. - Location Rotates  
Call for Location

### Region 4

Director: **Pat Pendergast**  
309-335-4095 ppenderg@knox.edu  
September, Nov. & Mar.  
Third Monday of the Month  
Call for Location - 7pm

### Region 5

Director: **Rodney Kampfranz**  
815-236-4028 rkampfranz@yahoo.com  
Second Wednesday of the Month  
Red Ox Bar and Grill  
Rt. 72, Hampshire, IL - 7pm

### Region 6

Director: **Kirk Polhill**  
815-275-3371 kdpwire@yahoo.com  
2nd Thursday of the month  
Bottle Shed, Stockton IL  
Sept - April

### Region 7

Director: **Dale Fritz**  
815-791-6375 dalefritz2@comcast.net  
Call for information

### Region 8

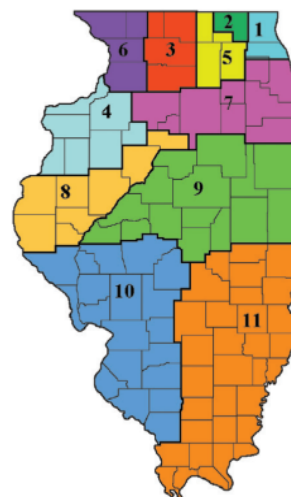
Director: **Position Vacant**  
Contact IASC Office  
815-210-0587 for Information

### Region 9

Director: **Bob Atkins**  
309-397-6922 atkinscrew@gmail.com  
Call for Location

### Region 10 & 11

Director: **Carson Hanner**  
217-948-5579 channerfarms@yahoo.com  
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### IASC CONVENTION REGISTRATION, November 4, 2023

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Plan B • Saturday Lunch Only (\$30.00)		
Plan C - Saturday Dinner & Entertainment (\$50.00)		

**Total Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

- Make checks payable to IASC Convention
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Kaite Polhill, 227 Shippee Rd., Lena, IL 61048

**CC Account Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CVV#:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXP.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attendee Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Club:** \_\_\_\_\_

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# A Great Ride with Route 12

Up close and personal with Bruce Koop & Bill Simon

By Danielle Christoffel & Meghan Naylor

Route 12 Rental Co and Route 12 Arctic Cat have become a trusted name in truck, trailer and equipment rentals and recreational sporting equipment in the Arlington Heights area for decades. Route 12 Rental Co was established in 1963. This family-owned and operated business started out as a rental company, offering a large selection of tools, trucks, trailers, equipment rentals and more. The business even had a small engine repair shop. Since opening its doors, the business was well-received but found the winter months to be slower. It was these slower months that prompted owner, Bill Simon, along with his employee Bruce Koop, to start selling snowmobiles. Illinois Snowmobiler had a chance to sit down with both partners to discuss Route 12, its history, accomplishments and future plans.



Bruce Koop caught the snowmobiling bug early. In fact, he was just 8 years old when his grandfather got him his first 10 horsepower snowmobile. "It was a little guy," Bruce quipped. Bill began working at Route 12 Rental straight out of high school. He has been a member of several snowmobile clubs over the years. Currently, he's a member of the Richmond Trailblazers and involved in organized snowmobiling.

As an equipment, truck, and trailer business, Route 12 Rental was doing well, but it seemed like there was more potential. The winter months were always a bit slower and since they were already selling snowmobiles, another branch of Route 12 was formed in 1984 in its own building. Owner Bill Simon explains, "In 1984, we had the equipment rental store. Many of our employees were avid snowmobilers, and we decided we all wanted to sell snowmobiles. So we contacted Arctic Cat and they told us if we bought 6 snowmobiles, we could become a dealer. So that's what we did."

Route 12 Arctic Cat provides sales and service on Arctic Cat snowmobiles, ATVs, and side by sides. In 2017, they picked up the CF MOTO off road vehicle line, and they offer sales and service on the



CF MOTO ATVs, side by sides and utility vehicles. Route 12 Arctic Cat has a full inventory of clothing and accessories including Arctic Cat, FXR, Fly Racing, HJC, Castle X gear, helmets, accessories, boots, gloves and everything you need to keep you warm while you ride. Route 12 Arctic Cat also has aftermarket parts and a full service repair shop. "Anything from an oil change to an engine rebuild and

everything in between," Bill explains.

It comes as no surprise that Route 12 has remained popular within the organized snowmobiling community. They are 2-time winners of the IASC's coveted Dealer of the Year award. Prior to the pandemic, Route 12 Arctic Cat hosted annual open houses. "We'd have a pretty good turnout. People get together with other snowmobilers," Bruce explains. "Customers really look forward to them," Bill adds.

As Bruce and Bill mull retirement, the business will be in good hands whenever that day comes. Bill Jr. has been involved in the business since the age of 14. "My son John is managing the equipment, truck, and trailer rental part of the business," Bill continued. Route 12 Arctic Cats' main mechanic, Jim Kulling, has been working at Route 12 for roughly 20 years. "Both of these businesses have been blessed with great long term employees, and we couldn't be where we are today without them." Future plans for Bruce include spending time with family up in their cabin right on Lake Superior. "I'd like to do a little more snowmobiling, hunting and fishing. Run around with some of my guys that race high performance stuff and do a little more on the race circuit," Bruce details. As for Bill, "My better half would love to see us move down to Florida! It's been a good ride. I've enjoyed my business."

Congratulations to Bruce and Bill and all who contribute to the success of Route 12. Your commitment to the sport of snowmobiling hasn't gone unnoticed and we look forward to future achievements.



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# Dream Destinations

*Intrepid snowmobiler and travel writer Mike Carr has traveled from coast to coast and throughout the Midwest to explore and enjoy many of North America's premier snowmobiling venues, three of which are presented in each issue for your consideration. Living in the center of the Midwest and the continent gives Illinois snowmobilers endless riding opportunities if they're willing to travel and this series is intended to broaden your horizons and encourage you to explore new places. So take your pick, hook up your trailer and get ready to hit the road for some great riding and outstanding experiences!*



**Location:** Wellston, Kaleva, Thompsonville

**Highlights:** Big Manistee River

**Info:** Visit Manistee County tourism office,  
[www.VisitManisteeCounty.com/Winter](http://www.VisitManisteeCounty.com/Winter)  
231-239-6379

## MANISTEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Lower Michigan's "snow coast" includes numerous counties along Lake Michigan's eastern shore where prevailing winds bring lake effect snow to supplement other winter snowfalls. Manistee County, two-thirds of the way up the coast, is amidst this happy place, with a nice trail system that features plenty of scenic splendor. There are numerous loop routes of varying distance that will easily keep riders busy for two or three days, as well as routes that connect north to Traverse City, east to Cadillac and south to White Cloud, where more trails await.



**Trail Towns:** Onalaska, Holmen, West Salem, Bangor, Mindoro

**Highlights:** Trail tunnel under I-90 at Onalaska, La Crosse River & Great River rail-trails

**Info:** La Crosse County Snowmobile Alliance,  
[www.laxsnowmobile.org](http://www.laxsnowmobile.org), 608-782-4500

## LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

When a place is known as "God's Country," it's obviously something special. La Crosse County, located along the Mississippi River on Wisconsin's western border, is within the fabled "Driftless Area" untouched by Ice Age glaciation. Riding here is a real treat with scenic vistas galore and lots of hills, valleys, rolling farmland and coulees to keep it interesting and fun. The Great River and La Crosse River State Trails connect at Onalaska and offer miles of smooth cruising to the northwest and to the east, providing easy access to other routes. La Crosse County is bisected by Interstate 90, making it eminently accessible from east or west.



**Trail Towns:** None

**Highlights:** Sublime views of the lake from the North rim overlook

**Info:** [www.traveloregon.com](http://www.traveloregon.com)

## CRATER LAKE, OREGON

Crater Lake is one of the greatest geologic marvels in North America, as well as the most spectacular sight in the Cascade Mountain Range, which runs the length of Oregon from the Columbia River to the California border. The deep blue lake – which is 5 miles across and 1,900' deep (deepest in the U.S.) – is within the caldera of a collapsed volcano and even includes an island! Although Crater Lake National Park is closed in winter and otherwise off limits to snowmobilers, sledgers can reach the lake after an eight mile ride over the groomed North Access Road, which leads to an overlook point on the caldera rim.

# 2023 International

By Dwain "Duey" Stadie

The 55th Annual International Snowmobile Congress was held June 6th-10th at the Vibrant Arena on the shores of the Mississippi River in Moline, Illinois. Snowmobile enthusiasts, manufacturers, suppliers, the media, reps from states, provincial and national snowmobile groups from all over the snowbelt of the United States, Canada, Europe, and Russia meet once a year to work on the business of snowmobiling. Meetings and seminars are held, a trade show, and ceremonies honoring the achievements of volunteers from every part of our sport.

The Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs was the host this year, what an honor. The International Congress has been held all over in the past including New York, Minnesota, Maine, Quebec, Michigan, Wisconsin, Virginia, Ontario, Manitoba, Colorado, Indiana, Illinois, New Brunswick, South Dakota, Alberta, Vermont, British Columbia, Wyoming, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire, Utah, Idaho, Massachusetts, and Nebraska. This was the third time in Illinois, and you know the third time is the charm.

I have attended three of these events in the past and was extremely excited to attend one put on by my home state association. I was not disappointed. I did not arrive on site until Wednesday afternoon, so I missed the all-day road trip held on Tuesday. They went by motorcycle, car, and truck for a pleasant cruise through the majestic, rural countryside arriving in Hopedale, Illinois where they stopped at the Willis Antique Snowmobile Museum. They were met by the family of, Russell "Huck" Willis, who showed them around the 106-year-old, three story building which houses a collection of 450 snowmobiles and memorabilia. It was an awesome idea to have a road trip at the International Snowmobile Congress to a snowmobile museum. I understand the museum was very cool to see and explore. You can get more information on this museum at the Willis Snowmobile Museum's Facebook page.



*The future of snowmobiling looks to be in good hands.*

Luckily, I did arrive in time for the Wednesday evening welcome reception and meet and greet held on the upper level of the Arena in the Tiki Bar Area. Great food was served, fun games were played, and adult refreshments were served all while enjoying the great sounds of an impressive live band. It was a wonderful way to meet old friends and make new ones before the business of ISC started the next morning.

There were plenty of meetings to attend on Thursday: International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association, International Snowmobile Media Council, International Snowmobile Tourism Council, Canada Council of Snowmobile Organizations, and American Council of Snowmobile Associations. There were the Groomer and Trade shows as well, and in the middle of the day there was a lunch with opening ceremonies and guest speaker, Sean Considine. Now I must tell you, during the opening ceremonies I was quite impressed with the United States and Canadian National Anthem singer. It was beautifully sung, and a job very well done by Illinois's very own IASC President, George Thompson.



*IASC President & ISC Master of Ceremonies, George Thompson*

Thursday's lunch guest speaker, Sean Considine, was an Iowa football walk on, Big Ten Safety, Academic All American, NFL Veteran, a Super Bowl Champion, and he started a foundation to raise money to help children fight cancer. He is a snowmobiler, member of Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs, member of the Byron Sno-Blasters, and a Landowner for the club. With a very impressive past resume, he also now volunteers his time with the Byron High School football team as a defensive coordinator and is a financial planner with Byron Wealth Management. He was an impressive speaker with some cool college and NFL stories to tell, and a guy with unbelievable determination. Anyone who starts as a college football walk on and ends up a Super Bowl champion is truly motivated. I really enjoyed listening to him.

Thursday evening there is usually some kind of off-site event or trip, and Illinois did themselves with this year's. Buses lined up in front of the hotel around 5pm to start shuttling everyone down to the dock of Celebration River Cruises for our dinner cruise on the Celebration Belle. It was a sunset dinner cruise on the Mississippi River aboard a 3-story, 750 passenger paddlewheel boat. We had cocktails with a piano playing in the background before our prime rib and chicken breast dinner. We finished the evening on the upper deck enjoying the view and watching the sunset. When we returned to the dock the shuttle buses returned us to the hotel. It was a fantastic evening, so much fun, cool, and just outstanding. You can get more information on their dinner cruises at [www.celebrationbelle.com](http://www.celebrationbelle.com).

There were plenty of seminars to attend on Friday. Seminars included Economic Impact Studies, Snowmobiling Backpacking, Publishing & Communications, Volunteer Recruitment Development and Retention,

# Snowmobile Congress

Avalanche Awareness, Groomer Roundtable Discussion, Grant Application Process, Trespassing Roundtable Discussion, Traction Safety Presentation, and the Iron Dog Brigade Meeting. The Groomer and Trade show continued, and in the middle of the day lunch was served with guest speaker, Ed Klim.

Friday's guest speaker, Ed Klim, is president of the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association. Ed is the industry's lobbyist and in today's screwed up world of crazy politics, that is not an easy job. Ed served his country in the US Army and Army Reserve for 23 years, retiring as a Major. He spent ten years as a regional property manager, followed by ten years as a recreational vehicle association business owner. He has an undergraduate and master's degree from Western Michigan University, is a member of the Snowmobile International Hall of Fame and is a stats man.

Ed has been presenting his "State of Snowmobiling" presentation for many years now, which is always quite interesting to listen to. Ed will bring everyone up to date on sales and registration numbers throughout the states and the world. He will also share other fun recreational facts and funnies to make for a highly informative and amusing presentation.

Also, on Friday afternoon, there was a Quad cities Scavenger Hunt on the "Chanel Cat" water taxi. You are all saying, "what?!", I am sure. Here is the very cool idea: picture a scavenger hunt in the Quad cities area (the four cities on the river; two on the Illinois side, and two on the Iowa side). You receive a list of pictures that needed to be taken in the four different cities, and you get to the four cities by a water taxi (The Chanel Cat) that arrives and departs from each city every 20 minutes or so. You received points for each correct picture taken. Once the hunt was finished, there was a land party in the hotel courtyard with more games, refreshments, and prizes. It was a pleasant way to spend the afternoon, cruising on the river and stopping for pictures.

Friday evening there was a Groomer Reception put on by the Groomer and Drag manufacturers. There was dinner, refreshments, and time to look over all the new grooming equipment and ask the factory representatives questions. It was followed by the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs 2024 International Snowmobile Congress reception. There was more food, snacks, refreshments, and the good people of Wisconsin inviting you to next year's Congress in Green Bay Wisconsin. I cannot wait, I am sure it will be fun.

There were plenty of meetings on Saturday to attend including the International Snowmobile Congress Planning Committee meeting, International Snowmobile Media Council meeting, International Tourism Council meeting, Canada Council of Snowmobile Organizations meeting, Northeast Chapter Meeting American Council of Snowmobile Association meeting, International Snowmobile manufacturers meeting, and the International Snowmobile Congress General meeting. The Groomer and Trade show still continued and in the middle of the day there was lunch with guest speaker, Mike Caplan.

Mike Caplan is a TV meteorologist for Chicago's Fox channel's morning news, an Emmy award winner with 40 years of experience of weather predicting, a professional photographer, and a snowmobiler. He explained predicting weather 30 years ago compared to today with Doppler radar and computer models. He also explained weather patterns that affect us like El Niño and El Niño, gave us some thoughts on this upcoming winter, major storms that he predicted, and some misses. He was remarkably interesting to listen to and to see what goes into a daily weather forecast, and a 10-day forecast. He shared pictures of his recent snowmobile trip to West Yellowstone, but I found his story about how his career started years ago at Marriotts Great America in Gurnee Illinois (Now Six Flags) guessing people's weight, very hilarious, especially how he explained that this guessing prepared him for his current job.



*Saturday's lunch guest speaker Fox 32 Meteorologist, Mike Caplan, explaining weather patterns.*

Saturday evening was the banquet, awards, and closing ceremonies. After a delicious meal it was amazing to watch all the awards given out. The incredible work these volunteers have done to earn these awards is unbelievable. I am so grateful for the time that these people have put into our sport. I must extend a thank you to everyone for what they have done and accomplished. I thought it was so cool to finish the International Snowmobile Congress hosted by Illinois by announcing Mark Hazzard of Illinois as International Snowmobiler of the year. Congratulations Mark, you have done a lot for snowmobiling. It was great to see you win, and awesome to see you receive the award at the Illinois hosted congress. The evening finished with a gathering of the Thirsty Dogs.

To sum it all up an A+, it was an impressive congress. The hotel was great, the arena next door which held the congress, and all its activities was fantastic, the offsite event was super cool, the meals were great, The John Deere Museum across the street was neat, George Thompson was an excellent Master of Ceremonies, and the Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs did a phenomenal job hosting this congress. Thanks to everyone on the committee: Don Schaefer, Carol Bly-Julian, Barb & Mike Decker, George Thompson, Ellen & Mark Hazzard, Barb & Dan Long, Cathy & Dan Dampitz, Helen Cline, Jessica Dicker, Ron Julian, Skip Schaefer, and Larry Griffin. Also, a big, big thanks to the co-chairs Jane Austin and Sue Giese. Everyone pat yourself on the back. You put in tons of hours to make this event happen and it certainly showed, job well done.

P.S. Who knew George could sing?

## CLUBS & DIRECTORS

### ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SNOWMOBILE CLUBS

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Marseilles, IL 61341-0265  
Phone: 815-210-0587  
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:

Mon.-Fri. 9am-1pm

#### OFFICERS:

##### President

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

##### 1st Vice President

**Kai Steward**  
815-509-0472  
[Kastew91@gmail.com](mailto:Kastew91@gmail.com)

##### 2nd Vice President

**Kaite Polhill**  
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##### 3rd Vice President

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847-612-8830  
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##### Treasurer

**Carol Bly-Julian**  
630-546-8059  
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##### Secretary

**Jennifer Baumgartner**  
815-509-9373  
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##### Trail Advisors

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

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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

**Erik Urban**  
847-894-3812  
[riverbendbenders@gmail.com](mailto:riverbendbenders@gmail.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](mailto:skipschaefer5804@gmail.com)  
Meets 7pm 2nd Monday  
El Puerto Restaurant  
200 N Forest Ave, Fox Lake

#### Windy City Sledheads

**Paul Gris**  
773-545-7222  
[sledhead1584@comcast.net](mailto:sledhead1584@comcast.net)  
Email or call for information

#### Region 2 Director

**Craig Adams**  
815-687-2844  
[craigmadams@yahoo.com](mailto:craigmadams@yahoo.com)

#### Harvard Snow Gophers

**Doug Frenk**  
847-899-5463  
[dcfrenk@outlook.com](mailto:dcfrenk@outlook.com)  
Meets 7:00pm 3rd Wednesday  
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 2023-2024

#### Polar Bares

**Mike Flaherty**  
847-848-1204  
[flaherty3107@sbcglobal.net](mailto:flaherty3107@sbcglobal.net)  
Meets 7pm 2nd Tuesday  
Sides Out Eatery,  
4018 Roberts Rd, Island Lake

#### Richmond Trailblazers

**Chris Stevens**  
815-216-5669  
[richmond.trailblazers@gmail.com](mailto:richmond.trailblazers@gmail.com)  
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](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  
Napolì Pizza  
135 Washington St., Woodstock

#### Region 3 Director

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

#### Blackhawk Snowblazers of Oregon

**Keith Stranberg**  
815-508-9129  
[kstranberg@gmail.com](mailto:kstranberg@gmail.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)  
Meeting location rotates,  
call for location  
45 Church St, German Valley

#### Midway Sno-Busters

**Nick Kuhlmeier**  
815-703-3830  
[nkuhl22@hotmail.com](mailto:nkuhl22@hotmail.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  
[bjack@lovesparkmotorsports.com](mailto:bjack@lovesparkmotorsports.com)  
Meets 7pm 3rd Tuesday  
Roscoe VFW  
11385 2nd St, Roscoe IL

#### Polo Snow Rangers

**Contact Ashley Nelson**  
815-590-2595  
[ashleynhouck@yahoo.com](mailto:ashleynhouck@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 3rd Tuesday  
Moose Knuckle Bar & Grill  
341 E IL 38, Creston

#### Rockford Moonriders

**Royal Taylor**  
815-874-4502  
[rllsnow@comcast.net](mailto:rllsnow@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 2023-2024

**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 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 7:00pm 1st Wednesday  
 HD Rockers, Maple Park

**Elgin Cold Ducks**  
**Dale Marting**  
 224-209-3777  
 dmmail101@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 3rd Tuesday  
 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  
 bpfile@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

**Pearl City 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  
 Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday, Oct thru  
 March at Beggars Pizza  
 15600 S. Cicero, Oak Forest, IL  
 Call or email with questions.

**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  
 antcaselli@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@scglobal.net  
 Meets 6:30pm 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**  
**815-210-4762**  
**iasc@mtco.com**

**Winona 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**  
**atkinscrew@gmail.com**

**Woodford County Snowmobile Club**  
**Shawn McGinnis**  
 309-508-7189  
 sbmscm72101@yahoo.com  
 Meets 7:30pm 1st Monday  
 Kouri's Grill  
 Route 116, Germantown Hills

**Region 10 & 11 Director**  
**Carson Hanner**  
**217-948-5579**  
**channerfarms@yahoo.com**

**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

# BUSINESS & ASSOCIATION MEMBERS 2023-2024

## 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**  
1320 East Rand Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
847-818-8849  
www.route12arcticcat.com  
info@route12arcticcat.com

## REGION 2

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

## REGION 3

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

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

**Rockford Tech Systems, Inc.**  
3549 Merchandise Drive  
Rockford IL 61109  
815-874-7786

**Skinner's Auto Body**  
320 Reed St., PO Box 261  
Pecatonica, IL 61063  
815-239-1853  
skinner'sautobody@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

**Triple E Sales**  
1301 Division St.  
Orion, IL 61273  
309-526-3443  
www.tripleesales.com

## REGION 5

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

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

**Huntley American Legion  
Post 673**  
11712 Coral St.  
Huntley, IL 60142  
847-669-8485  
www.huntleylegion.org

**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

**Winners Circle Bar & Grill**  
50w226 Old State Rd.  
Maple Park, IL 60151  
815-895-2676

## 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

**Stockton Travel Center**  
600 E North Ave.  
Stockton, IL 61085  
815-947-2314  
saundersoilcitgo@gmail.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

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

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

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815-667-4000  
littlebenny78@sbcglobal.net

**Mid-States Industrial, Inc.**  
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815-357-1663  
info@midstatesindustrial.com  
www.midstatesindustrial.com

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Yamaha  
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Lockport, IL 60441  
815-838-8130  
www.richsyamaha.com  
richsyamaha@gmail.com

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

## REGION 8

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## INDIANA

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## IOWA

**V&V Insurance Agency**  
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www.vandvins.com  
insurance@vandvins.com

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## WISCONSIN

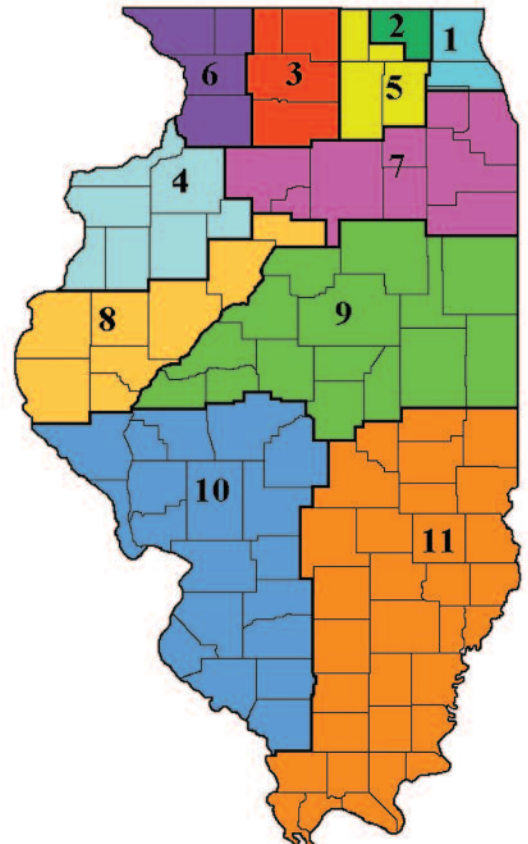
**Arrowhead Groomers/  
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St. Germain, WI 54558  
715-479-4200  
www.arrowheadgroomers.com  
info@arrowheadgroomers.com

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

**Monroe Powersports**  
2820 County Hwy DR.  
Monroe, WI 53566  
608-325-5056  
www.mpspolaris.com  
mpssales@tds.net

## CANADA

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your business iasc@mtco.com.





# 2023 Suds & Fun Car Show

By Dwain "Duey" Stadie



The Early Times Street Rods Car Club of Hampshire puts on the Suds and Fun Car Show every August in Ralph Seyller Park (Eastside Park) in Hampshire. Any and every type of vehicle is allowed, not any one kind of vehicle. All are allowed. This year, there were 644 hot rods, muscle cars, early model vehicles, trucks, and race cars. You name it and it was there. The variety gives something for everybody to see, and the majestic park filled with big, shady oak trees makes for an awesome setting.

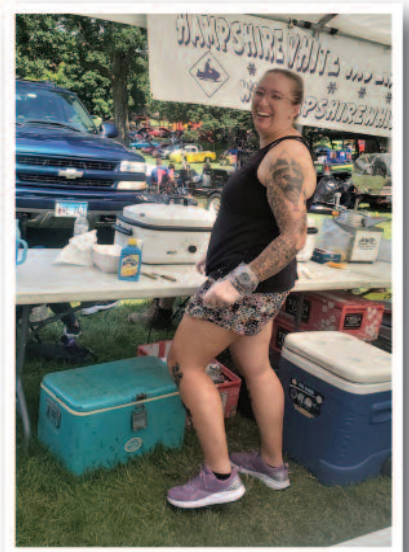
The church had a food tent selling pork sandwiches with the meat provided by a local Hampshire hog farm, a taco truck, and a pizza truck. The Hampshire White Riders Snowmobile Club sold loaded baked potatoes and sweet corn provided by Dan & Cheryl Linnemann of Prairie View Garden & Farm Market of Hampshire, along with nachos,



pop, and water. A DJ played tunes over the PA system which could be heard all over the park. The car club was selling Blizzards from the local Dairy Queen, there was a beer tent, and Keith and Brandy Paddock with KB Crane of Hampshire had a giant American flag flying over the event. Doesn't matter if you like cars or not, so much was going on in the park. You just got to have fun!

The Hampshire White Riders Snowmobile Club helps the car club with fencing in the park on Saturday, taking the fencing down on Sunday after the show ends, and running one of the entrance gates, along with our food tent. It's a nice fundraiser for us. The Early Times Street Rods Car club donates most of the money they raise to charities, and this year the money raised is going to St Jude's Childrens' Research Hospital [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org), the American Cancer Society [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) and Shriners Childrens Hospital [www.shrinerschildrens.org](http://www.shrinerschildrens.org). All great groups.

Thank You to all the club members who volunteered to make this possible: Ed Hagendorn, Jeff Meindl, Kathy Meindl, Scott Haseman, Becky Haseman, Austin Haseman, Bill Edwards, Pete fields, Jody Fields, Keith Lima, Kent Nussbaum, Mike Bensko, Ed Brettschneider, John Carmack, Kim Carmack, Steve Gustafson, Linda Gustafson, Gerry Kolb, Chuck Smith, Dan Linnemann, Cheryl Linnemann, Dan Eikler, Melissa Eikler, Dave Wright, Nicole Stadie, Matt Stadie, Laura Stadie and Dwain Stadie.



Hopefully, I'll see you next August 18th at the car show in Hampshire. Mark your calendar so you don't miss this fun event that supports some great causes.

# Coon Creek Country Days

By Dwain "Duey" Stadie

In the Village of Hampshire, a group called the Coon Creek Country Days Committee puts on a 4-day event known as Hampshire's Coon Creek Country Days. The festival has a carnival, craft vendors, food vendors, a music stage with several bands performing every day, a beer tent, a petting zoo, touch a truck, a kid's workshop, K9 demonstrations, silent auctions, raffles, FIREWORKS, a 2K and 10K run, a corn boil and of course the big parade.

The big parade is where the Hampshire White Riders come in. As we have done in the past, we entered our groomer and drag into the parade and gave out 500 suckers to the kids. The reason I called this a little summertime public relations is because as you drive along in the parade, you can hear the people asking, "What is that?" Then you can hear the other half explaining to them, "That's the snowmobile club's groomer for making their trails flat and smooth." I personally love the fact that we're educating people about who and what we are about.

When the parade comes down State Street (Main Street) through downtown, the announcer talks about every group that goes by over the big PA system for all to hear, and as we passed he said "The Hampshire White Riders Snowmobile Club is a family organization that supports safety education and snowmobile trails in the area, and they are part of the Illinois Association of Clubs that support snowmobiling in the entire state. They also have a snowmobile rescue squad. You probably

remember that group and what they did several years ago in the big blizzard. As you can see a groomer for maintaining the trails. They meet the first Wednesday of the month at the Red Ox Restaurant and Bar 7:30pm August through April. Check them out on their web page or on Facebook, and remember, only 130 days till winter." You can tell the people as you pass saying things like "that's cool" and "oh, I remember them in the blizzard," and of course the "ugh" when they heard the last line.



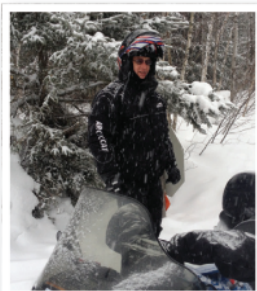
You know how it goes. Usually the only stories you hear in the press are when something bad happens that involves a snowmobile. Just like the old saying goes, a few bad apples spoil the whole bunch, or something like that. Well, that's the reason I think a little summertime PR like this goes a long way, and it was fun to do.

Thanks to everyone who helped: Scott and Becky Haseman, Steve Leffler, Dan Eikler, Ed Hagedorn, and Dwain Stadie. Thanks to Ed for the power washer and to Dan for the use of his shop for decorating the groomer. You can check out Coon Creek Country Days on their web page [www.hcccd.com](http://www.hcccd.com) or on Facebook. Also check out the Hampshire White Riders Snowmobile Club at [www.hampshirewhiteriders.com](http://www.hampshirewhiteriders.com) or on Facebook.

If you're reading this and your club did some PR work to promote your club and the sport of snowmobiling, write a little something let's hear about what you did.



# + Safety & Education +



Pat Pendergast

Well, here we are at the end of another summer getting ready for our favorite season. As I am writing this, we are just getting out of an unbelievable stretch of hot and humid weather. That makes me think about cold weather and snow

that much more. I see some leaves are already starting to turn, so that is a good sign that fall is right around the corner. Drier air, cooler daytime temps and those beautiful crisp, clear mornings really make you think about winter's arrival.

If you are a snowmobile safety instructor, you are probably already making plans for this year's safety class(es). That includes getting a location reserved, materials lined up, and flyers made up, etc. While the online numbers keep creeping up, I still feel that we, as experienced riders, are still the best option for educating our snowmobiling youth. We have that real world experience we can share that just can't be replicated by a student sitting at a computer reading some text on a screen. I keep hoping instructor-taught classes will make the turn and catch up to the

online classes one day. If we could only get Illinois to make instructor-taught classes mandatory for those under 16, I think it would be beneficial for all. I haven't given up on that dream yet.

Please keep in mind that these classes are not only for kids. Wisconsin requires anyone born after 1985 to be in possession of a snowmobile safety certification. That is a 38-39 year old individual! So, if you know someone who is just entering the sport, make sure they are aware of these requirements. Neighboring states do honor Illinois' safety certifications; if you have taken the class in Illinois, you are good to go in Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, and others. Wisconsin's pre-'85 deal is still a requirement, regardless of what state you are from. And remember to keep that pink certificate handy. Failure to provide proof of certification is a ticketable offense. The classes are also required to operate a snowmobile if you have lost your automotive driver's license for whatever reason, so there's that.

As a parent, you should also be aware that you are most welcome to stay at the class location and take the course with your son or daughter. In fact, most instructors prefer that you do take the class. I can almost guarantee you will pick up something new that you weren't aware of before no matter how long you have been riding. There's one last item I want to cover since I am referring

to parents taking the class. Over the years since I have become an instructor, I've always taken the time to read DNR snowmobile incident reports from Illinois and surrounding states. The majority of folks involved in accidents are not the kids, but us adults. And what are some of the most common reasons for accidents in our age group, you ask? Driving too fast for conditions and alcohol/impaired operation. Think about it folks, we're supposed to be setting the example for these students. So with fall just around the corner and us thinking about sledding, think about snowmobile safety as well. We all have a lot of reasons to make it back from the ride in one piece. Ride safe, folks.

?

## QUESTION

**Safety question: From the Illinois Safety Digest**  
**Which of the following items is NOT required by law to be on a snowmobile?**

a) Headlight

b) Red tail light

c) Brake system

d) Reflective material

e) Snow flap

f) Muffler/exhaust system

Answer: e) snow flap



## Safety Class Schedule



Class Date	Location	Address	Time	Registration
11/11/23	Hampshire White Riders SEP Class	TBD - Call for details	7:30am-4:30pm	Genice: 847-987-3986
11/11/23	Cold Ducks SEP Class	Pingree Grove & Countryside Fire Station # 1	7:30am-4:30pm	Larry at 847-695-5914 Info@elgincoldducks.com
11/18/23	Brewster Creek Forest Preserve	6N921 IL Route 25, St. Charles	8:00am-4:00pm	Ron: 630-546-8058
12/9/23	Lena Community Center	497 Lions Dr., Lena	8:00am-4:30pm	815-990-2652
1/6/24	Kane County Forest Preserve Headquarters	1996 Kirk Rd., Geneva	8:00am-4:00pm	Ron: 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 815-210-0587, or email Pat Pendergast at [ppenderg@knox.edu](mailto:ppenderg@knox.edu). 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).



### Test Your Snowmobiling Knowledge

Visit [www.saferiderssafetyawareness.org](http://www.saferiderssafetyawareness.org) to test your knowledge about safe 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**

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