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The Official Publication of
Illinois Association
of Snowmobile Clubs, Inc.

November 2023



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OFFICE NOTES



Jane Austin

Well, how do I start this article as it will be the last one! By now a lot of the IASC members know that I made the decision to retire as IASC Office Manager after 37 years, as of November 30, 2023. I've been thinking about this for some time, just didn't put a date on the retirement until now.

In making my decision, I decided that the time had come to think about what I want and need to do with my life. Since the time that my husband passed, the IASC has been there and showed so much love and support, I will never be able to express my appreciation to everyone. The IASC was also there when the dreaded flood hit Marseilles and I lost almost everything I owned, they were there for me. Thank you! The IASC is not just an employer, but truly one big family.

Since the flood, a lot has changed for me. I threw myself into making sure the IASC had my full attention. Big mistake! I realize now I need time for myself and be able to do what I want when I want. Things I wouldn't be able to do if I continued to be the IASC Office Manager.

I'm sure the IASC will find someone to take my place. I will answer questions if needed.

I have enjoyed working with all the past IASC Presidents and the current President, George Thompson (he is still the Prez at the time of writing this) club presidents, trail Advisors, committee chairs and others. Time has gone by quickly, it still does not seem like 37 years ago Ron Hambly brought me a desktop computer, mounds of paper that contained the data that needed to be typed into the computer, using dBase.

Enough is enough, a new page is turning over and I am looking forward to new and exciting things coming my way.

Thank you once again to a great group of people, the Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs, Inc.

Will see some of you at IASC Meetings and events.

Until then safe riding and think SNOW*****
Jane Austin



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A tribute written by Carl Hunnell. Article reprinted with permission from www.richlandsource.com.

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The Official Publication of the Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs

Illinois Snowmobiler is published six times per year - October, November, December, January, February, and March - by KDR Productions, 1700 East Golf Rd., Suite 550 D, Schaumburg, Illinois 60173. It is the official publication of the Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs.

Subscriptions: Yearly subscriptions are a benefit of IASC membership - Individual Associate \$25; Business Associate \$35; Clubs \$35, plus \$11 per family club member. To join, contact the IASC office at 815-210-0587 or send check to:

IASC Office
 PO Box 265
 Marseilles, IL 61341

Illinois Snowmobiler is published by:

KDR Productions

1700 East Golf Rd., Suite 550 D
 Schaumburg, Illinois 60173
 Send Copy To production@ilsnowmobiler.com
 Sales Dino Thanos 630-894-0934 ext. 229
dino@ilsnowmobiler.com

Publisher Dino Thanos
Managing Editor Danielle Christoffel
Art Directors Danielle Christoffel & Ray Toppel
Advertising Sales Dino Thanos & Meghan Naylor

Contributions: We welcome unsolicited materials and letters for possible publication. Letters, manuscripts, stories, materials, and photographs cannot be returned unless sender provides a self-addressed stamped envelope. Illinois Snowmobiler and KDR Productions accept no responsibility for returns, losses, or damage of unsolicited materials. Letters to the editor must be signed with address and telephone number of the sender. Submission of articles and letters implies the right to edit and publish in all or part.

Illinois Snowmobiler Magazine is the official publication of the Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs (IASC). The opinions and attitudes expressed by the publisher do not necessarily reflect the opinions and attitudes of the IASC and are not intended as a statement from IASC, but rather as a statement from the publisher.

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EVENTS

JANUARY

January 9th
IASC Meeting
General Meeting
7:30pm – VFW Hall
Rochelle, IL

NOVEMBER

November 4th:
51st Annual IASC Convention
Rooms are \$129 per night +tax
Rooms available under IASC
block until October 4th
Call hotel directly to make
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www.ilsnowmobile.com/
convention

JUNE

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Center Green Bay
2040 Airport Dr.
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www.snowmobilers.org/isc/

DECEMBER

December 12th
IASC Meeting
Officers/Directors Meeting
6:00pm – Moose Knuckle
Rochelle, IL

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

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

This month I want to take a moment to talk about your club and region reporting responsibilities.

As a not-for-profit organization, you have specific tax reporting responsibilities. It is crucial that you adhere to these obligations to maintain your tax-exempt status. Many of you may operate using a fiscal year meaning the beginning and end of your accounting period is not January 1st to December 31st. The deadline for filing your federal 990 form is the 15th day of the 5th month after the end of your organization's accounting period. For example, if your fiscal year ends in April your deadline is September 15th. The type of 990 form you file depends on your annual income.

You also have a responsibility to stay up to date with the Illinois Secretary of State's annual report filing. The due date for that report will vary. The annual report is mailed to the address your organization has on file with the Secretary of State's office and can be changed as needed. If you have any questions regarding the status of your organization, you can search the Illinois Secretary of State's website business services section at <https://www.ilsos.gov> for the details.

There are many reasons for staying up to date with these filings. The one that I want to make you aware of is grant reimbursement. If you are not current with your filings, you are not able to receive grant funds. At this point you should have submitted your insurance premium payment. The reimbursement for those premiums is through grant funding. Insurance is one of the largest expenses for most clubs, making loss of reimbursement important to financial success for your organization.

Although keeping your paperwork in order seems like a lot of work, once you have everything on track it does not take that much to keep it going. So, take the time to check the status of your organization's filings.

I have said it before, but it bears repeating, your work is the reason we have snowmobile trails available in Illinois! Thank you!

Best regards,
Carol Bly-Julian, Treasurer

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PRESIDENT'S DESK



George Thompson

Well, the day has come! It is time to sit down and write my final article as President of the Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs. Where has the time gone! I was trying to think how long I have been on the executive board. I know at least three years as president and three or four more years as one of the vice president positions. We all know the older we get the faster time gets! That's what we want to believe, though we all know the older we are, the slower

we are, and time stays the same. That is how I talked Joanne into letting me get a faster sled! He He!!!

For the people who know me, they know I don't like change. Though, I would have to say, a lot has changed since I became president. With the help of the great people around me, we tried our best to move things in a positive, forward, direction. I feel most people are happy with the changes made. With all organizations, you must keep modernizing with technology and watching your bottom line financially, to stay viable in today's world or cease to exist.

If you are reading this article, you are participating in one of our toughest changes. Putting the Illinois Snowmobiler online, a digital version. The association members get to read it first, then it's opened to the public a month later. A few of our long-time members, me included, liked the paper publication. It was a good read with a morning cup of coffee or a substitute for the TV in the easy chair after dinner before you start to snore! Okay, okay, I'm going to bed dear! This is one change that helped, both in the tech future and financially. I would like to thank Chris, Duey and our publication company for all the hard work they did in making this happen.

Another change for the good is our communication with the DNR. It seems they respond and our working with us is a little easier than before. I would like to think it was from some of my friendly persuasion that we achieved this. But we know it is with all the hard work from our DNR contact, Ann, along with the countless hours Mason, Mark and Jane put in on our end. This work is the main source of our financial existence. Thank you so much for your efforts!

The topic of Insurance we thought would not be a change, did change. Two years ago, we were notified by V&V, the agency that handles the association and club policies, that the company that handled our insurance was pulling out of the snowmobile club insurance market. This was worrisome because at that time they were the only company writing in Illinois. No Insurance, No TRAILS! I would like to thank Dale, Sandy and Kelly at the V&V agency for their due diligence in finding another company to put another insurance program in place.

A very good undertaking for the association this past year was the hosting of the International Snowmobile Congress. Jane informed me that the last time Illinois hosted it was in 2001. This is where state association members from all over the country, including Canada, meet once a year at a chosen location to have a massive convention relating to everything snowmobiling. Because of covid the ISC board were behind on getting locations set up, which is usually two years out. So, we were prompted to put in a bid and were fortunate enough to get 2023's location. So, I got a quick education on what it took to run Congress. The work to put it together along with the financial risk the association is put under. You could lose money, or you can make money. Very nerve racking when your yearly budget cannot afford any losses. Coming in late to the game, along with a change we wanted to put in with the meal schedules, we had some ISC members thinking we weren't going to be able to pull it off! Well like I said in my last article, this was my fourth congress and by far the best! From the offsite location, the main stadium, the meeting rooms, to the awesome delicious unrushed meals, sponsorship collecting, a fantastic job! Our team was very smart. The only thing they let me do was be the MC, thank God, right! I probably would have done okay if I only had pronounced those names correctly! On the financial side of things, we finished up being on the plus side by a very comfortable margin. Wisconsin, it is your turn! I know Lori and her team will do an awesome job! I would like to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart, starting off with our co-chairs Sue Giese and Jane Austin, along with Don Schaefer, Mike and Barb Dicker, Dan and Barb Long, Mark and Ellen Hazard, Carol Bly-Julian and Ron Julian, Cathy and Dan Dampitz', Jessica Dicker, Helen Kline, Skip Schaefer, Larry Griffith and my wife Joanne. I am sure I forgot somebody please don't feel left out, I thank you too.

Another financial change was the massive undertaking of closing the association's office in Marseilles Illinois. This is where our office manager, Jane, took care of things for approximately 35 years. Give or take a few. So, you can use a little imagination on how much stuff, files and such had built up over the years. So, the plan was to move the office to an at home site. So, Jane lives close by and that is where we ended up. I knew the best person for the job was my close friends Mike and Barb Dicker. They along with Carol and Ron Julian and Jane were successful with the move. I thank you all very much!

Now for the last change under my watch. Our dear and close friend Jane Austin has decided to say enough is enough and call it an end to a thirty-seven-year run at the end of November. I don't really know where to start or to end with how much you meant to the association. So, I will say it this way. You were always there to pick up the pieces and put out the fires for this association! In my opinion the ISAC would not be here today if it wasn't for you! Thank you so very much!

In closing, it has been an honor serving as the president of the IASC. I hope we were able to make it an enjoyable experience for everyone. I believe we left things in good shape for our successor. The future looks bright for the IASC! Joanne....It's time for me to drop the microphone! LOL!

Thank you all so very much!
George

P.S. Remember Our Lord Jesus Christ will always be there for you!

Region Meeting Schedule:

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

Region 1

Director: **Don Schaefer**
847-917-4202 dssschaefer@msn.com
Call or Email for Information & Location.

Region 2

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

Region 3

Director: **Dan Dampitz**
815-985-6071 dandampitz@gmail.com
Second Monday of the Month - 7:00pm
July - April
Uptown Lanes / Back Alley Bar Byron, IL

Region 4

Director: **Pat Pendergast**
309-335-4095 ppenderg@knox.edu
September, November & March - 7:00pm
Third Monday of the Month
Call or Email for Information & Location

Region 5

Director: **Rodney Kampfranz**
815-236-4028 rkampfranz@yahoo.com
Second Wednesday of the Month - 7:00pm
August - May
Red Ox Bar and Grill Hampshire, IL

Region 6

Director: **Kirk Polhill**
815-275-3371 kdpwire@yahoo.com
Second Thursday of the Month - 7:30pm
September - April
Bottle Shed Stockton, IL

Region 7

Director: **Dale Fritz**
815-791-6375 dalefritz2@comcast.net
Call or Email for Information & Location

Region 8

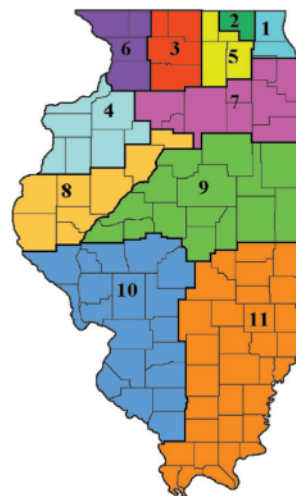
Director: **Position Vacant**
815-210-0587 iasc@mtco.com
Contact **IASC**
Call or Email for Information

Region 9

Director: **Bob Atkins**
309-397-6922 atkinscrew@gmail.com
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Region 10 & 11

Director: **Carson Hanner**
217-948-5579 channerfarms@yahoo.com
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2023 Belvidere Prairie Riders Grass Drags & Power Sports Swap Meet

By Dwain "Duey" Stadie

Sunday October 1st, sunny clear sky and temps in the upper 80's. You may not think this was snowmobile weather or a snowmobile kind of day but it most certainly was. The official start of snowmobile season has arrived in Illinois. Today is the 28th Annual Belvidere Prairie Riders Grass Drags and Power Sports Swap Meet at the Boone County Fair Grounds in Belvidere, Illinois, sponsored by Hammertime Sports of Belvidere, IL and Loves Park Motorsports in Loves Park, IL.



Customers in line at Region 5 food tent

This is an awesome event. The biggest swap meet around here next to Haydays. About 2000 people attended the event to see over 220 swappers and vendors. Plus, great racing right in your backyard, not a couple hundred miles away. You also can't get much more affordable, it's only five bucks to get in, twenty-dollar race fee, fifty-dollars for vendors and twenty-five for a swap space. That's a nice deal.

Like most swap meets there are several dealers on site with both new and used snowmobiles, ATVs and UTVs, clothing, helmets, and accessories. There are also swappers with every hard to locate item for your older sleds. The event is a motorsports swap meet so you'll find every kind of gadget with a motor on it and possibly a bird house or lawn mower too. All the things you need and shouldn't be without.

I have never grass drag raced but I'm told by some of the best grass drag racers in the Midwest that this is a super track. One that they look forward to coming to every year. Four lanes, 500 feet long with 1100 feet for shut down and state of the art timing system. 103 snowmobiles and 15 SXS's registered for racing today. That resulted in 55 heats of snowmobiles and 14 heats of SxS racing. The top speed

of the day was just over 115mph in 500 feet, WOW! The famous kid's mini sled race is always a big draw for the future generation. That's a great day of racing to see.

The Belvidere Prairie Riders Snowmobile Club is part of Region 5 of The Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs and is kind enough to let the other clubs in Region 5 (Marengo SnowGoers, Huntley Penguins, Hampshire White Riders, De-Kane Snow Trackers, and the G.K. Trail Blazers) have a food tent at the event. This food tent is the major fund raiser for Region 5 every year. The day starts with biscuits and gravy, donuts, coffee, and hot chocolate, the breakfast of champions. Followed up by brats, hot dogs, chili dogs, burgers, cheeseburgers, pulled pork, nachos with cheese, chips, candy, pop, bottled water, and Monster energy drinks. A great lunch menu for sure.

A lot of time and planning goes into an event like this for both the Prairie Riders and Region 5. The volunteers from both organizations deserve a big round of applause, Thank You sooooo much for all the people who make this event possible. Countless hours go in to putting on a show of this magnitude and your efforts are greatly appreciated. I'd love to list every volunteer here who helped but I don't know all the names and I'd hate to forget someone but Thank You to everybody.



Region 5 members hard at work in the food tent.

I've said it before and I'll say it again, great swap meet, great racing, great food, just an all-around great show, and so close to home! Mark your calendar for the first Sunday in October, you've got to check this show out. I'll see you there so stop by the food tent and say hi, I'm usually cooking. For more info on this show go to www.prairieriders.com.

The International Snowmobile

By Don Schaefer, Sec., 2023 ISC Steering Committee

A group of IASC members were sitting at a table in Omaha, Nebraska at the 2021 International Snowmobile Congress (ISC) when they were approached by members of the ISC Planning Committee and asked if Illinois was interested in hosting the ISC in 2023. Yes, 2 years away and remember, the COVID restrictions were just being lifted. The last time the IASC hosted the ISC was in 2001, and it was a successful event that was held in Itasca, IL. Two ladies, Jane Austin and Sue Giese, took the thought to heart and started the process. Having only 2 months to research locations and venues, the ladies prepared a proposal for IASC members to review. After much discussion, the members voted to submit the proposal and the ISC planning committee agreed to have the IASC as the host association for the 55th Annual ISC in June of 2023. The work started and after 2 years, the 55th Annual ISC held at the Vibrant Arena at the Mark on June 6-10, 2023, in Moline, IL is now history.



The ISC is an annual meeting of representatives from organizations that form the International Snowmobile Council. The ISC provides a communication forum and a means of addressing issues that are common from an international perspective. For the past 55 years, snowmobile enthusiasts, manufacturers, suppliers and representatives from state, provincial and national snowmobile organizations from around the world have met to celebrate the sport and to do business of snowmobiling. There are many organization meetings along with the annual meeting of the council. There is a vendor trade show highlighting their newest products to improve snowmobiling. The groomer exhibit allows companies to display their equipment. General sessions are held to allow attendees to hear speakers and, of course, many social events to meet new friends and to catch up with old friends. Individual participants include representatives from snowmobile and groomer manufacturers; state and federal administration; national, regional, and state snowmobile associations; state snowmobile clubs; recreational motorized enforcement agencies; tourism and media. Leaders meet at this conference for education, collaboration, networking, and fun!

On Tuesday, June 6, the first event of the 55th annual ISC was a motorcycle /car ride from Moline, IL to Hopedale, IL to have lunch and visit the Willis Snowmobile Museum. The weather was great for a ride on the backroads of Illinois through some of the rural towns of Illinois. The event was well attended with about 40 participants and a variety of vehicles. The participants were greeted at the

museum by the family of Russell "Huck" Willis who started the museum as a hobby, but the collection grew to over 160 models and other related snowmobile memorabilia. Sadly, Huck passed away in May of 2023 and was unable to greet the attendees. We thank the Willis family for opening the museum to allow people from the conference to visit.



Wednesday, June 7, started out by working to set up the venue and registration booth. Vendors and groomer companies were setting up their displays. Activity was very busy at the Vibrant Arena as you had the trade show area in the foyer with over 19 displays/booths and the groomer exhibitors on the main floor with 11 displays. In the afternoon, FOSPAC (Friends of Snowmobilers Political Action Committee) held a fundraising event at the Pour Brothers Craft Taproom. The attendees were treated to an afternoon of many different games and a variety of food options. This was a great way to get involved with the political process as FOSPAC helps by donating to Federal candidates/congress/senators that show support for snowmobilers. Check out the ACSA website for more information about how to support FOSPAC.

After the FOSPAC, the 55th Annual ISC unofficially started with a welcome reception hosted by the Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs Wednesday night. This was held at one of the Vibrant Arena's reception areas with outside seating. It was well attended and a beautiful night outside. The band, Radio Flyer Pilots, which included a member from the Corn Belt Drift Busters, Craig Shehorn, entertained the attendees. Attendees played games as they met up with old friends and talked about the past snowmobile season as well as meeting a few new people.

Thursday started off with meetings of the many organizations that are members of the International Snowmobile Council that will continue throughout the ISC. These groups include the ACSA (American Council of Snowmobile Associations), CCSO (Canada Council of Snowmobile Organizations), ISMA (International Snowmobile Manufacture Association), IASA (International Association of Snowmobile Administrators), ISMC (International Snowmobile Media Council), ISTC (International Snowmobile Tourism Council), Iron Dog Brigade, ISC Northeast Chapter as well as the ACSA Trail and Mountain Groups. The main purpose of the ISC is to discuss the pressing issues facing snowmobilers at the

Congress Comes to Illinois

many different levels/groups that interact with snowmobilers. At lunch on Thursday was the opening ceremony and the 1st general session. The master of ceremony was our very own, George Thompson, President of the IASC, who did a great job! After the presentations of the flags that included a local unit of the US Army, George treated the attendees with an a-cappella presentation of the US National Anthem as well as the Canadian National Anthem. Next, there was a speaker from the All-American Heroes Foundation letting the attendees know about their mission to provide education for veterans and first responders through outdoor recreational therapy via safety and awareness. The main speaker on Thursday was Sean Considine, an 8-year NFL veteran and Super Bowl 47 Champion with the Baltimore Ravens. Sean discussed the importance of teamwork, respect and involving families and young adults to help grow your organizations. Sean along with his wife and 5 children live in Byron, IL. He is a member of the Byron Sno-Blasters, as well as a landowner that allow snowmobile trails on their property.

The big social event of the ISC is the off-site dinner that is held on Thursday night. This year, the attendees were treated to a river boat dinner cruise on the Mississippi River aboard the Celebration Belle. Again, the weather was great and there was a beautiful sunset that was a joy to see!

On Friday, the ISC goal of providing education is met as the day is made up of many education seminars and breakout sessions. This year, there were 8 different seminars that were available as follows: Volunteer Recruitment, Development and Retention by Yvonne Rideout, President of ISAS and Executive Director of SnoMan; Avalanche Awareness Round Table that included Jeff Hambelton of AIARE and Northwest Avalanche Center; Mark Staples of Utah Avalanche Center; Brent Strand of Avalanche Canada and Frank Carus of Teton Avalanche Center; Snowmobile Traction Safety by Snow Studs team members; Publishing Communication Open Forum by Midwest Sports Publishing Network team, Karen Middendrop of MISORVA and Christine Jourdain, ACSA EX Dir; Snowmobile Backpacking 101 by Hank Armbrecht; Economic Impact Studies Panel by Ed Klim, president ISMA and Robin Hanna, Project Mgr., Illinois Institute of Rural Affairs; Groomer Round Table by groomer exhibitors; SAE Snowmobile Challenge Team Presentation by the members of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville team; Trespassing Round Table by ACSA Trespassing Committee and Grant Application Process, by Steve Cowing of BRP and Christine Jourdain, ACSA Ex. Dir. The seminars were well attended the attendees learned a lot. Members of the IASC delegation attended these seminars and hopefully it will help them as they lead the IASC and help with the many issues that confront the IASC.

During the Friday General Session, Ed Klim, President of ISMA was the speaker and presented his annual state of snowmobile address. Although sales were down due to the embargo of sales to Russia, the snowmobile industry is staying afloat. Please note that the announcement of Yamaha leaving the snowmobile industry was announced after the ISC. Also, throughout the day, there was a "photo" scavenger Hunt that utilized the Channel Cat water

taxi service on the Mississippi River. Friday night ended with the groomer reception in the exhibitor area. This allowed the attendees to mingle with representatives of the groomer and drag companies.

Saturday is the wrap up day and cleanup day of the ISC. Saturday morning all the organizations meet to wrap up their business. Then in the afternoon, the annual meeting of the International Snowmobile Council Meets and hears the reports from all the organizations and officers. A big theme of this year's ISC was the importance of including young adults with your organization to allow them to actively participate and be part of the process. All we need to think about is the average age of today's snowmobile club member to realize how true this is. The general session on Saturday included Mike Caplan as the speaker. Mike, who is an Emmy award-winning meteorologist for Fox Chicago, provided a scientific and humorous presentation about predicting weather and the fact that we may or may not have a snowy winter.



Saturday night is the annual ISC banquet and awards presentation followed by the annual Thirsty Dog Gathering. It was a night of awards presented by ACSA, CCSO, and the Iron Dogs recognizing the people that go above and beyond for the sport as leaders, workers, groomer operators and businesses. It was a great privilege and honor to be at the dinner to see Mark Hazzard of the IASC be awarded the ACSA snowmobiler of the year. Congratulations, Mark. Between Dan Long, now past president of the ACSA, Mark Hazzard, ACSA Trails Group Facilitator and Dan Dampitz, Trespass Committee member, the IASC is well represented with the ACSA. The night ended as we cleaned up the venue and participated in the Thirsty Dog Gathering that was held at the Pour Brothers Craft Taproom.

As you just read, the ISC is a major undertaking and involves a lot of planning. Attending the ISC opens up your eyes to the stuff that goes on behind the scenes to help make the sport of snowmobiling so great and organized. There were 68 people that attended from the state of Illinois, which was second in attendance behind Wisconsin's 74. Overall, there were 384 that registered for the ISC. For those that attended, I hope you had fun while you were also learning that the sport of snowmobiling is a big international passion that involves a lot of different organizations and many different issues providing challenges to overcome to improve our sport. You will have a chance to attend next year's ISC as it is being hosted by the AWSC in Green Bay, WI.



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- ☐ 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.

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Marseilles, IL 61341-0265

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gthompson@thompson
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Kastew91@gmail.com

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Kaite Polhill

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Polhill11@gmail.com

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chrispalmer513@gmail.com

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bly.carol@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Jennifer Baumgartner

815-509-9373
snowdiva18@yahoo.com

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815-405-6065
rieke7603@frontier.com

• REGIONS 3 6

Mark Hazzard

815-985-5952
mrhazzard@gmail.com

• REGIONS 4 7 8 9 10 11

Bill Brown

815-993-4002
littlebenny78@sbcglobal.net

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Helen Cline

309-534-8322
ninr63@hotmail.com

• SEP

Pat Pendergast

309-335-4095
ppendergast@knox.edu

• SCHOLARSHIP

Stephanie Steward

262-745-6002
iascscholarshipfund@gmail.com

Region 1 Director

DON SCHAEFER

847-917-4202

dssschaefer@msn.com

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

Erik Urban

847-894-3812
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
Meets 7pm 2nd Monday
El Puerto Restaurant
200 N Forest Ave, Fox Lake

Windy City Sledheads

Paul Gris

773-545-7222
sledhead1584@comcast.net
Email or call for information

Region 2 Director

CRAIG ADAMS

815-687-2844

craigmadams@yahoo.com

Harvard Snow Gophers

Doug Frenk

847-899-5463
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
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

Polar Bares

Mike Flaherty

847-848-1204
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
Meets 7:30pm 1st & 3rd Thursday
Rusty Nail Saloon
4520 Ringwood Rd, Ringwood

Spring Grove Sno-Groves

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 Pizzeria
135 Washington St., Woodstock

Region 3 Director

DAN DAMPTZ

815-985-6071

dandampzt@gmail.com

Blackhawk Snowblazers of Oregon

Keith Stranberg

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

Byron Sno-Blasters

Andy Politsch

815-712-5619
andypol911@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
ashleynhouck@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
Uptown Lanes /
Back Alley Bar & Grill
106 W. 2nd St., Byron

Winnebago Sno-Gliders

Alex Hazzard

815-985-0661
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

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
RODNEY KAMPFRANZ
815-236-4028
rkampfranz@yahoo.com

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
 stangslayers@aol.com
 Meets 6:30pm 1st Thursday
 Wild Cherries
 413 Southtowne Dr., 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
POSITION VACANT
815-210-0587
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 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

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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

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

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

REGION 4

Genisio's
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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
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iptcrete@att.net
www.independencecept.com

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Peru, IL 61354
815-220-1780
www.leonepolaris.com
leonespolaris@hotmail.com

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

Mid-States Industrial, Inc.
519 Shipyard Road
Seneca, IL 61360
815-357-1663
info@midstatesindustrial.com
www.midstatesindustrial.com

Rich's Yamaha
Yamaha
14354 S. Archer Ave.
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

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

INDIANA

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

IOWA

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

MICHIGAN

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your business iasc@mtco.com.

MINNESOTA

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your business iasc@mtco.com.

WISCONSIN

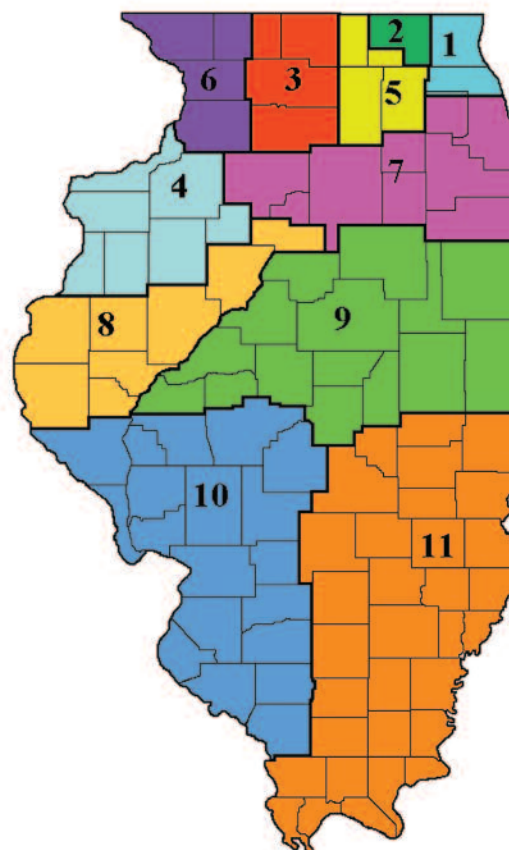
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St. Germain, WI 54558
715-479-4200
www.arrowheadgroomers.com
info@arrowheadgroomers.com

**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

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





Trailblazing legacy: Entrepreneur, speed enthusiast Mickey Rupp dies at 87

By Carl Hunnell - Reprinted courtesy of www.richlandsource.com

MANSFIELD — Mickey Rupp packed several lifetimes of living into his 87 years on earth.

Born Herbert Edward Rupp II on Jan. 17, 1936, in Mansfield, the business owner, entrepreneur and sportsman died Aug. 20 at his home in the city where he was born.

The son of Anna Belle (Cox) Rupp and Herbert Rupp, founding partner of Gorman-Rupp Pumps, Mickey Rupp packaged his business instincts, engineering skills and work ethic with a love for engines and speed to craft a life like none other.

- Rupp built and raced cars at the highest levels of the motorsports industry.
- Rupp founded and grew Rupp Industries, producing mini-bikes, snowmobiles and off-road vehicles, creating recreational vehicles sold and known around the world.
- Later in life, the sportsman took his skills to the water, launching Rupp Marine and designing fishing outriggers still being sold globally.

In an interview with the Mansfield News Journal, Rupp credited his dad, who joined J.C. Gorman to form the Gorman-Rupp Co. in Mansfield in 1933.

"Everything I've ever accomplished, I owe to my dad," Rupp said of the legendary inventor and engineer. "Boy, was he a hard-nosed German. You did it right or you didn't do it at all."

A lifetime of engineering, learning and trying new things

His career trajectory was never certain, but Rupp never stopped moving, learning and trying new things.

The Mansfield Senior graduate played college football at Miami University and also attended Ashland University and Purdue University. He spent three years in the U.S. Marine Corps.

In 1958, Rupp found himself unemployed and looking around for the next opportunity. Go-karts were becoming the rage in California and the 22-year-old Rupp saw a chance to marry his love for speed and design with a business opportunity.

He started building kart kits in his basement and then began manufacturing his designs that included innovations such as step frames, improved braking systems and eventually four-wheel independent suspensions.

Known his Dart Karts, the vehicles sold like crazy, still in production through the late 1960s. His brother-in-law — legendary Indianapolis 500 chassis designer A.J. Watson — appeared in a magazine ad for the 1959 Dart Kart, according to a story at WISHTV.com.

He founded Rupp Industries and created thousands of jobs for local citizens throughout the 1960s and 1970s. He and his team never stopped changing and innovating with all of the company's products, always looking to improve speed, performance, safety and durability.

In 2021, the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame honored Rupp with the Edgar Hetten Memorial Award of Merit. According to the citation, Rupp built a Mansfield company with eight employees in 1959 into a firm in 1970 that had more than 400 employees and more than \$30 million in sales.

"Mickey Rupp rode and tested all his own products along with his employees," the Hall of Fame said. "He was always innovating and engineering new prototypes... His performance-driven sleds pushed the other larger snowmobile manufactures to build a more sporty, recreational type snowmobile."

He sold the company in 1973.

'The Greatest Spectacle in Motorsports'

Rupp's racing career was relatively brief, but again showed his desire to succeed.

Rupp made only five Indy Car series starts, in 1964 and 1965, but he finished in the top 10 in three of those races. He finished fifth at Milwaukee just a week after his sixth-place finish in the Indy 500 in 1965, a race dubbed "The Greatest Spectacle in Motorsports."

Rupp could have been the Indy 500 "Rookie of the Year" in 1965, racing in a car owned by fellow racer A.J. Foyt. But the rookie class that year included future Hall of Famers Mario Andretti, who finished third, and Gordon Johncock, who was fifth. Rupp beat a couple of other rookies that year who went on to have great racing careers — Al Unser and Joe Leonard.

In addition, Rupp set a standard perhaps no one else has in ground and air racing.

"He is certainly the only person to have both driven in the Indy 500 and raced his P-51 Mustang in the unlimited class at the Reno Air Races," said Jim Hackman, of Tempe, Arizona. "That record will undoubtedly never be equaled."

His commitment and responsibilities to his growing recreational vehicle empire pulled Rupp from the driver's seat.

Seven years after selling Rupp Industries, his love for fishing led him to found Rupp Marine in Stuart, Fla., a company that specialized in the production of high-quality sport fishing gear and accessories.

Just as he did with vehicles, Rupp never stopped trying to innovate his fishing products. One of the company's most notable achievements was the development of the first T-top mounted outrigger for center console fishing boats.

The innovative system allowed fishermen to deploy and retract their outriggers without standing on the boat's gunwale, making it easier and safer to fish in rough waters.

The company is still family owned and operated, though Rupp retired after more than 20 years at the helm and returned home to Mansfield.

Celebration of Life planned Sept. 9

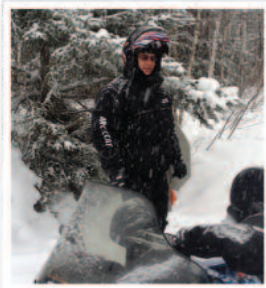
Rupp is survived by four children, Kimberly (Greg) Engh, Scott (Jackie) Rupp, Karla Rupp, and Kelly (Ron) Karpanty; 13 grandchildren, Michael, Sarah and Mary Rupp, Stephen Engh, Eric, Alex and Ryan Rupp, Andy, Matt, and Tommy Barkett and Max, Owen and Elise Karpanty; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, H.E. "Mike" Rupp III; grandson, Clynt Tope; brother, Carl Rupp; twin brothers, Wayne and Warren Rupp; and two sisters, Virginia Rupp Hawkins and Jeannie Rupp Chaddock.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Sept. 9, from 3 to 6 p.m. at Westbrook Country Club, 1098 Springmill St., according to Rupp's obituary at Wappner Funeral Directors-Ontario.



Safety & Education



Pat Pendergast

Here we are into November (late September as I write this). We are well into fall. Hopefully harvest is completed or near completion, sleds are ready to roll and Thanksgiving plans are in the works.

Sleds are ready to roll...dang, I had better get on that one. Early November also means the IASC Convention is near. I hope you have your reservations made and are planning to attend. It is always a good time and great place to network with folks who are as passionate about snowmobiling as you are. Anyway, back to pre-season prepping. Remember that sleds are not the only thing that needs to be prepped for the upcoming season. There is the trailer, tow vehicles, gear and really anything snowmobile related. Also check the sled registration. Reminders have not been a thing these past few years and it is easy to forget while that sled is sitting in the trailer or shed just waiting for snow. How about your trailer plate, is the sticker up to date on that?

Does your son or daughter have their safety certification completed? He or she took the class in person, right? Please say yes, just to humor me if nothing else. Another reminder about Wisconsin; anyone born after 1985 must have proof that they have taken a snowmobile safety course. That includes a large portion of the snowmobile population.

Do you have trip plans made yet? Going somewhere new this year? Look ahead and figure out where to find some contact information for accurate trail updates. Local clubs are great resources for that sort of thing and probably have a hotline or website that is updated regularly regarding trail conditions, club events, etc. If it is a family trip, you are probably scheduling it during school breaks. That can be a busy time but there are always riding options that allow you to break from the crowd from time to time. Or maybe you enjoy running into larger groups to ride with, hang out at the local watering hole or hit the pool/hot tub with. Just keep in mind, during these busy times, there are lots of families riding and they may have a newer, inexperienced rider in their group. Keep your eyes peeled for anything out of the ordinary, such as someone riding slow and alone who may have gotten separated from their group, a

small kid driving a large snowmobile, multiple riders on one sled, etc. Any of these scenarios presents its own challenges or possibility of an accident. You always need to pay attention and ride defensively, no matter the group you are about to encounter.

I hope your fall has gone well, your local trails are ready to go or will be soon, the sleds and the truck and trailer are all set in the event you need to travel to find snow. Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving. Think snowmobile safety and have a safe season.

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QUESTION

You take all of the following steps when you start your snowmobile. Which is the first step?

- a) Cold engines should be choked and primed.
- b) Place the key in the ignition.
- c) Set the parking brake.
- d) Point your machine in a safe direction.

Answer: d) Point your machine in a safe direction.



Safety Class Schedule



Class Date	Location	Address	Time	Registration
11/11/23	Hampshire Park District	390 South Ave., Hampshire	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
11/18/23	McHenry County Sheriffs Office	2200 N Seminary Ave., Woodstock	8:00am-4:00pm	Sue 815-385-1947 Suzygiese8484@att.net
11/25/23	Leone's Polaris	3061 E 103rd Rd, Peru	8:00am-4:30pm	815-220-1780
12/9/23	Lena Community Center	497 Lions Dr., Lena	8:00am-4:30pm	815-990-2652
12/16/23	McHenry County Sheriffs Office	2200 N Seminary Ave., Woodstock	8:00am-4:00pm	Sue 815-385-1947 Suzygiese8484@att.net
1/6/24	Kane County Forest Preserve Headquarters	1996 Kirk Rd., Geneva	8:00am-4:00pm	Ron 630-546-8058
1/20/24	McHenry County Sheriffs Office	2200 N Seminary Ave., Woodstock	8:00am-4:00pm	Sue 815-385-1947 Suzygiese8484@att.net



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.

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