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Hazzards in the UP

- Foundation of Northwest Illinois
- Belvidere Prairie Riders Grass Drags & Power Sports Swap Meet

November 2026

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

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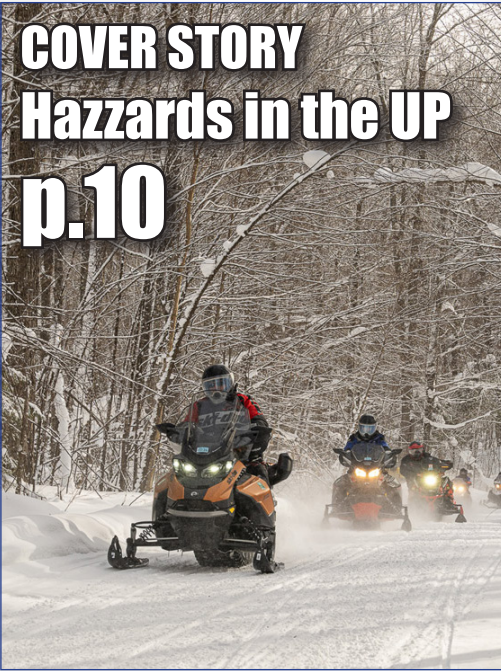
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COVER STORY

Hazzards in the UP

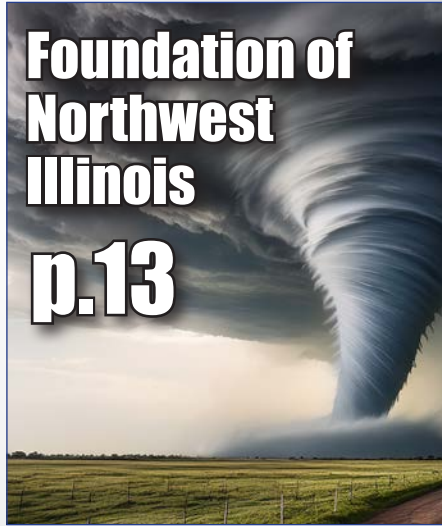
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PRESIDENT'S DESK



Kai Steward

Here we are at the beginning of another season, and I'm excited about everything the next few months will bring. Clubs will soon be meeting again, and we'll see a full calendar of events, from fundraisers and swap meets to our annual IASC Convention just around the corner.

If you haven't already done so, please sign up for convention. Our convention committee has been hard at work putting together an outstanding event with interesting seminars and engaging speakers. This year's convention will be held on November 7 at Chestnut Mountain Resort in Galena.

As a reminder, our annual award nominations are due in early October. These awards are presented at convention, so please take the time to recognize the outstanding snowmobilers and volunteers in your club or region. Over the last few years, we've seen fewer nominations submitted, and that's unfortunate. Illinois is fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly for our sport, and they deserve to be recognized for all they do.

As we head into convention season, I realize I have just one more article to write before passing the torch to our next president. With Don Schaeffer heading north for new adventures, the board is also looking for at least two new members to join our team. If you've ever considered becoming more involved, I encourage you to step forward and help shape the future of snowmobiling in Illinois.

I usually end my articles by thanking an individual or group. This time, I'd like to recognize our dealers for their continued support of our convention and the sport of snowmobiling throughout Illinois. We truly appreciate everything you do for our scholarship recipients, local clubs, regional organizations, and the state association.

As we look ahead to the season, I hope Mother Nature delivers plenty of snow and cold weather for all of us to enjoy.

31st Annual Belvidere Prairie Riders Snowmobile Club's Grass Drags & Power Sports Swap Meet



By Dwain "Duey" Stadie

On a pleasant fall day, Sunday, October 4, the Belvidere Prairie Riders Snowmobile Club held its 31st annual Grass Drags & Power Sports Swap Meet at the Boone County Fair Grounds on Illinois Route 76 in Belvidere, Illinois. The event was sponsored by Hammertime Time, EJR Powersports Repair and Hard Decks. It marked the official start of Illinois' snowmobile season.



This local event has it all: dealers offering new machines and gear, swappers selling used snowmobiles, ATVs, side-by-sides, dirt bikes, parts, accessories, clothing, and more. It is a swapper's dream, and with some skillful bargaining, you could take home plenty of finds. Plus there's an array of food trucks on site to feed you lunch.

Several racers have described this event's 4-lane, 500-foot racetrack, with 1,100 feet of shutdown space, as one of the Midwest's best. The event also offers a state-of-the-

art timing system and the world-famous mini sled race, a crowd favorite.

Each year, more than 3,000 people attend to browse offerings from over 200 swappers, watch 100 racers, in 24 classes, with more than 70 heat races, plus the finals. It is a fantastic afternoon at an affordable admission price.

Gates open at 7 a.m., race registration runs from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., and racing begins at 11 a.m. Admission is just \$10, with free entry for children 11 and under. Racers must be at least 16 years old. It's a reasonable cost for vendor sites, pit entry, and the children's mini sled race is free (200cc maximum). The 50/50 raffle helps fund the Belvidere Prairie Riders Snowmobile Club. Join us for Illinois' biggest show on the first Sunday in October. For more information, visit www.prairieriders.com or find the club on Facebook. We look forward to seeing you next year.



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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: **Jennifer Baumgartner**
815-509-9373 snowdiva18@yahoo.com
Second Wednesday of the Month - 7:00pm
August - May
Coach's Corner, Belvidere, IL

Region 6

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

Region 7

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

Region 8

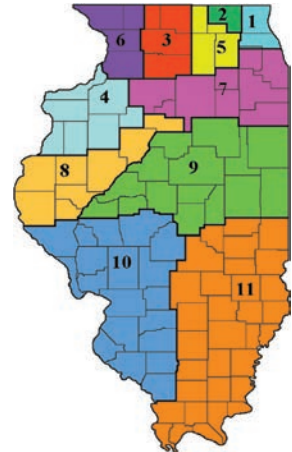
Director: **Chad Wissen**
815-674-5072 cwissen82@hotmail.com
Call or Email for Information

Region 9

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

Director: **Bob Steele**
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EVENTS

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November 7th:
54th Annual IASC Convention
Come join us as we celebrate during our annual convention. Chestnut Mountain Resort 8700 W. Chestnut Mountain Rd. Galena, IL 61036
To make your reservation, call 1-800-397-1320 and mention IASC Group CODE SNO

DECEMBER

December 5th:
2026 KnightRiders Clearwater Classic Vintage Snowmobile Show Swap Meet
Registration from 9:00-11:00
Trophy Presentation at 1:00
Cleveland Bar and Grill
295 SW Cleveland Ave.
McIntosh, MN 56556
Call Paul Nelson at (218)280-0133 for more information

FEBRUARY

February 21st:
Bay City Bluff Busters
Vintage Show
Starts at 9am
Annual vintage show and ride event weather permitting
The Bluffs Bar@Grill
N1833 785th St.
Hager City, WI 54014
For more information, contact Roger 715 495 8836 or Will 651 380 6329

JUNE

June 9th-12th:
59th Annual International Snowmobile Congress
Little America Hotel
500 South Main Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
Call 801-596-5700 and mention ISC2027
Room block Utah Snowmobile Association. Book online at <https://reservations.travelclick.com/4650?groupID=5325336>

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A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER



Carol Bly-Julian

On November 7, 2026, we will hold our 54th annual convention. This event has changed throughout the years, but the purpose has remained the same. Although we conduct business, this is the one time a year we can get together with club members from other areas and connect.

Members are given the opportunity to be heard and learn from other members. We also recognize members' accomplishments during our awards ceremony. If you have someone you feel has been a part of your club or region's success, there is still time to nominate them. The nomination forms can be found on our website.

On Saturday morning, we hold informational seminars that cover topics of interest to the snowmobiling community. In the afternoon, we hold the annual meeting where we elect board members. Each member of the board is elected to a one-year term. This year we have two open seats. The annual meeting lays out our direction for the coming year and allows members to take part in deciding that. Saturday evening, we have our banquet and some fundraising events. The evening events include lots of time to catch up with old friends and make new ones!

If you haven't attended the convention in the past, consider joining us! The Galena area has many things to do and see if you decide to extend your stay.





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Hazzards in the UP

By Mark & Ellen Hazzard

This past winter, we attended two events being held at the Northern Waters Casino in Watersmeet, MI. The first event was the Iron Dog Brigades winter ride, held on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 27-28, 2026. Tuesday morning started out cold, with the high being projected to be 5 degrees, with a wind chill of -20 degrees. At least it was mostly sunny.

Our group of 25 sleds left the Casino and headed east on Trail 2 towards Iron River, MI. We got to Iron River and made our way to the Iron Range Snowmobile Clubs groomer/clubhouse which is located in the middle of town. We spent time checking out their two Tuckers and one New Holland groomers. Club members described their grooming operations, and how they kept the trails in great shape, as this is a high traffic area. The clubhouse was nice, with plenty of seating in the meeting area. Surprisingly, not many restaurants in town were open on a Tuesday. We found that the Alien Inn was open, so we walked a couple of blocks for lunch.

After lunch we headed back west on Trail 2. With plenty of daylight remaining, we headed to Bond Falls. Many in our group had never seen this beautiful waterfall, which is easily accessible by snowmobile. After many photos, we headed back to the Casino with 80 miles under our belt. The evening gathering was an informal event in the bar/restaurant with the usual review of the day's ride and getting together with old friends and new acquaintances.

Wednesday starts cold again; we rode west on Trail 2 towards the Cisco Chain and to Bents Camp for lunch. The riders enjoyed the lake riding and the large homes situated along the lakes. Bents Camp was expecting us for lunch, and everyone enjoyed the rustic atmosphere and delicious food. With all 25 sleds ready to go, we headed towards Sayner, WI, home of the Eliason snowmobile. Up to this point, we had ridden mostly railroad grades, lakes and wide forest roads. Now we got to experience the tighter and twistier trails that northern Wisconsin is known for. We hoped that traffic would be light, especially with such a large group. Luckily that was the case. Before long we made it to Sayner. Some stopped for gas, some headed to the Sayner Pub, and others headed to the Eliason Lumberyard to see the Eliason snowmobile exhibit. If you have been to Sayner, you know all these places are across the street from each other, so it's easy to check out all three. After everyone had taken in all that Sayner had to offer, it was time to head back to the Casino. We got back a little later than we wanted to, as the goal was to be back each day before darkness set in. The day ended with 105 miles. Everyone gathered in the bar/restaurant for the evening.

As if 25 sleds weren't enough, more riders showed up to participate in the ACSA Trails Riding Area winter ride on



Thursday. We were now up to 40 sleds. That day was a special day, as Wayne Davis, photographer extraordinaire, was at the scene doing a snowmobile "lifestyle shoot" on the trail, with all of us being his subject matter. You have all seen the new model photos, all done in the mountains. It was suggested that trail photos with regular riders is something that should be tried. Newer and older sleds all together on the trails, not just the latest and greatest. Riders wore brand gear that didn't match their sled. In other words, real life riding.

First stop of the day was the UP-Thunder Riders groomer barn/clubhouse just a couple of miles south of the Casino in Watersmeet. A nice visit was had with club members who are very proud of their equipment and trails. In fact, every day that we were on our rides, we rode on the UP-Thunder Riders trails for a portion of the day.



It was now time to hit the trail and let Wayne Davis get some photos. The plan was to head east on Trail 2 and then turn north on Trail 107 towards Kenton. This is a very scenic trail which would provide many opportunities for good photos. Wayne and I went ahead of the group to find a good place to setup per Wayne's keen eye for good photos. Once Wayne was set up, the remainder of the group came along at a moderate pace for photo opportunities. This process was done several additional times during the day. We made it to Kenton for lunch. During lunch, two local Forest Service representatives met with ACSA leadership to discuss local forest issues. This is one of the purposes of the ACSA Trails ride, to meet with local clubs and Forest Service representatives.

After lunch we headed west on Trail 8 which took us to the Agate Falls Bridges, another scenic area for great photos. We then headed south towards Bond Falls, with

several new riders who had not visited this must-see stop in the UP. This was another great spot for Wayne to take photos. After everyone had gotten through marveling at the spectacular Bond Falls scenery, it was time to head back to the Casino for the evening. We logged 85 miles for the day, which wasn't too bad for so many stops during the ride. The evening activities included pizza, bingo and fundraising activities for the ACSA Next Gen and Scholarship programs.

Friday's plan was to take the 40 riders west to Lake Gogebic, and specifically the Root Cellar for lunch. Once again, the trails were in great shape for our ride. After lunch, a dozen riders wanted to do some additional exploring of the area. The remainder of the group headed back to the Casino for a planned meet and greet with Congressman Jack Bergman who represents the UP in the US House of Representatives. ACSA does a great job setting up these meetings with public officials and snowmobilers. Rep Bergman lives near Watersmeet and is a snowmobiler. Definitely a guy we need to stay in contact with!

Saturday morning was the ACSA Trails Roundtable meeting which was from 9-12. Many topics were discussed. After the meeting, some attendees headed for home, while others saddled up and headed to Bents Camp for a late lunch.

Come Sunday, everyone went their own way back to their homes with memories from a week of great riding and fun. Riders came from Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan, Nebraska, South Dakota, New York and Ontario. One interesting fact was that over 10,000 miles were covered this past week by the group with no breakdowns or incidents.



Cedarville Snow Travelers



Foundation of Northwest Illinois

By Georgia Herman

One of the objectives of the Foundation of Northwest Illinois is to help nonprofits carry out their work by awarding grants that most align with their charitable interests. They are not allowed to give money directly to individuals.



On April 17th, Lena, IL, experienced an EF-2 tornado. The Foundation offered a \$100,000 matching grant to assist the area. Our club saw this as an opportunity to help the community recover, and donated \$1000.

The Cedarville Snow Travelers have a core of dedicated families who assist with our fundraiser in the spring that offer meat and basket raffles, a 50/50, a \$5 for \$100 wheel, and a live auction. Everything is donated so our only cost is the county raffle license.

In addition, this summer we held our first golf outing in Orangeville at The Ville. We were pleased at the amount of profit we obtained, and the complimentary comments of the participants.

We also raised funds by selling IASC raffle tickets and calendars for the Tri-County Alliance.

Here's an idea you could try. We put donation containers by the gambling machines in all the businesses on our trail. Since the fall of 2022, we have collected \$795. It states, "Cash out too little?" We will take it."

We also had a sign holder welded to the top of our drag that holds 5 signs. So, we sell advertising to 10 businesses. Initially, they pay for their ad to be placed on the board and we charge them \$50 a season. So far, we have raised \$2300 with those ads.

These money raisers have allowed us the opportunity to purchase 2 sign trailers, a sign separator, a mower for our New Holland tractor and one for a side by side. The cultmulcher we bought helps us maintain smooth trails through the fields.

These efforts also allow us to support charities. We have donated to the Cedarville Lions Leader Dog Program, the Cedarville Fire District, Jane Addams Park Foundation, Voices, Salvation Army and the IASC programs. This fall we will vote on other charities to help.



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mikefoye@hotmail.com
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Call for location
Lake County, IL

Riverbend Benders Snowmobile Club

Erik Urban
847-894-3812
riverbendbenders@gmail.com
1st & 3rd Monday @ 7:30 PM
Sideouts Sports Tavern
4018 Roberts Rd., Island Lake, IL

Sno-Kommanders of Lake County

Skip Schaefer
224-627-1406
snokommanders@gmail.com
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EL Puerto Mexican Restaurant
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Harvard Snow Gophers

Brian Camp
815-790-4237
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Lakers / Sno-Bugs Snowmobile Club

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Marengo Snow Goers

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Polar Bares of Northern IL
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Richmond Trailblazers

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Spring Grove Sno-Groovers

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Woodstock Snowmobile Club

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Blackhawk Snowblazers of Oregon

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1310 W. Washington St., Oregon, IL

Byron Sno-Blasters

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Midway Sno-Busters

Alex Turman
815-541-9872
alex@jdturman.com
2nd Wednesday @ 7:00 PM
PJ's Corner
504 N. Stanton St., Davis, IL
Cimino's
119 E. 4th St., Pecatonica, IL

Neboshone Trail Riders

Mike Johnson
815-985-5589
mdj_55@yahoo.com
1st Monday @ 7:00 PM
Fritz's Wooden Nickel
208 Walnut St., Stillman Valley, IL

Oaks Ridge Riders

Shane Hatfield
815-985-8834
shane@ame.com
3rd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
Roscoe VFW Post 2955
11385 2nd St., Roscoe, IL

Polo Snow Rangers

Curt Nelson
815-238-0665
curtnelson603@yahoo.com
2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
The Polo Room
712 N. Division Ave., Polo, IL

Rochelle Rail Riders

Stuart White
815-716-0843
slwhite61068@gmail.com
3rd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
Moose Knuckle Bar & Grill
341 E. IL 38, Creston, IL

Rockford Moonriders

Royal Taylor
815-874-4502
rltsnow@comcast.net
2nd Thursday @ 7:00 PM
Rock A Baggo
4303 W. State St., Rockford, IL

Tri-County Alliance

Jeremy Garas
815-209-7019
jeepster0817@gmail.com
2nd Monday @ 7:00 PM
Uptown Lanes / Back Alley Bar
106 W 2nd St., Byron, IL

Winnebago Sno-Gliders

Dave DeRosso
815-985-4807
detailingbydavid@gmail.com
3rd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
Lynx Golf Course
3820 Westlake Village Dr.
Winnebago, IL

CLUBS 2026-2027

Region 4 Director
PAT PENDERGAST
309-335-4095
ppenderg@knox.edu

Corn Belt Driftbusters
Grant Barnard
 563-343-8150
 gbarnard2012@gmail.com
 1st Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
 The O Kitchen & Tap
 306 10th Ave., Orion, IL

Prairie Drifters
Kevin Schwartzkopf
 309-299-4347
 clayhillfarm@divcominc.net
 1st Monday @ 7:00 PM
 Genio's
 249 N. Division St., Woodhull, IL

Region 5 Director
Jennifer Baumgartner
815-509-9373
snowdiva18@yahoo.com

DeKane Sno-Trackers
Matt Linden
 815-739-4225
 dekanesnotrakersclub@gmail.com
 1st Wednesday @ 7:00 PM
 H D Rockers
 203 Main St., Maple Park, IL

Elgin Cold Ducks
Karl Schmidt
 847-370-4169
 3rd Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
 The Dutch Inn West
 2288 Foothill Rd., Elgin, IL

G.K. Trailblazers
Jay Schaack
 224-339-4266
 jschaack@yahoo.com
 2nd Thursday @ 7:00 PM
 5 Points Pub
 105 Main St., Kingston, IL

Hampshire White Riders
Dwain Stadie
 847-683-0140
 duey683@msn.com
 1st Wednesday @ 7:30 PM
 Niko's Tavern
 2401 US-20, Pingree Grove, IL

Huntley Penguins
Henry Regard
 847-910-0142
 hank56@comcast.net
 1st Tuesday @ 7:30 PM
 Huntley American Legion
 11712 Coral St., Huntley, IL

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

R5 Association of Snowmobile Clubs
Jennifer Baumgartner
 815-509-9373
 snowdiva18@yahoo.com
 2nd Wednesday @ 7:00 PM
 Red Ox Restaurant & Bar
 129 E Oak Knoll Dr., Hampshire, IL

Region 6 Director
KIRK POLHILL
815-275-3371
kdpwire@yahoo.com

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

Elkhorn Creek Runners
Tom Plog
 815-631-6270
 kingcub@jcwifi.com
 3rd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
 The Other Bar
 436 N Main St., Milledgeville, IL

Lena Blackhawk Trailblazers
Kory Polhill
 815-275-1299
 korypolhill@gmail.com
 3rd Thursday @ 7:00 PM
 Coach's Sport Bar & Grill
 621 W. Lena St., Lena, IL

NW IL SNOWMOBILE ALLIANCE
Alan Bracken
 815-631-6270
 108puller53@gmail.com
 2nd Thursday @ 7:30 PM
 JJ & Freddie's
 211 W. North Ave., Stockton, IL

Pearl City Sno-Pearls
Jered Nesemeyer
 815-291-7050
 nesemeyerfarms@gmail.com
 1st Thursday @ 7:30 PM
 Sandy's Slurp n Burp
 4319 S. Loran Road, Pearl City, IL

Thomson F.A.S.T. Trax
Marvin Green
 815-821-5341
 mc_green4@hotmail.com
 3rd Thursday @ 6:30 PM
 The Riverview Lodge
 5403 Riverview Rd., Thomson, IL

Whiteside County Snowbirds
Tim Geiger
 815-499-3720
 chevymudder@hotmail.com
 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00 PM
 Tampico Men's Club
 203 S. Benton St., Tampico, IL

Warren Winter Warriors
Brian Saunders
 815-541-1031
 bjsaunders61@gmail.com
 2nd Monday @ 7:30 PM
 Call for Location

Region 7 Director
DALE FRITZ
815-791-6375
dalefritz2@comcast.net

Evergreen Snowmobile Club
Rick Lesniak
 815-791-6016
 sledhead521@gmail.com
 1st Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
 Beggars Pizza
 15600 S. Cicero Ave., Oak Forest, IL

I&M Trailblazers
Dale Fritz
 815-467-2836
 dalefritz2@comcast.net
 2nd Thursday @ 7:00 PM
 Channahon Lanes
 25306 W. Eames St., Channahon, IL

IL Valley Winter Sports Club
Anthony Caselli
 815-712-1552
 8snowmobile@gmail.com
 1st Thursday @ 7:30 PM
 October, November, December,
 and March
 Marseilles Lions Club
 511 Commercial St., Marseilles, IL

R7 Assoc of Snowmobile Clubs
Dale Fritz
 815-791-6375
 dalefritz2@comcast.net
 2nd Thursday @ 7:00 PM
 Call for Location

Rusty Runners
Paul Killa
 630-391-3645
 paulki@sbcglobal.net
 3rd Wednesday @ 6:30 PM
 Beggars Pizza
 300 Veterans Pkwy., Bolingbrook, IL

Region 8 Director
Chad Wissen
815-674-5072
cwissen82@hotmail.com

Winona Yellow Streakers
Kevin Connell
 815-257-6772
 kjctrucking@gmail.com
 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
 Steve's Boardwalk Tap
 124 N. Chestnut St., Wenona, IL

Region 9 Director
BOB ATKINS
309-397-6922
atkinscrew@gmail.com

Woodford County Snowmobile Club
Larry Griffith
 309-360-8582
 ogriff42@yahoo.com
 1st Monday @ 7:30 PM
 Resident
 1102 S. Main St., Washington, IL

Region 10 & 11 Director
BOB STEELE
217-691-4701
bsteale300@yahoo.com

Central IL Ditch Riders
Drew Bartolozzi
 217-306-4751
 bartolozzi5@aol.com
 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00 PM
 Bunkers Bar
 715 Old Route 36, Illiopolis, IL

Heartland Polar Riders
Kyle Timmermann
 618-973-4331
 tmann1987@gmail.com
 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00 PM
 Call for Location

Midwest Trail Blazers
Robin Wall
 217-433-4503
 rbarw@live.com
 2nd Thursday @ 6:30 PM
 Gusto's Family Pizzeria
 10230 Old Route 36, Dawson, IL

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS 2026-2027

REGION 1

EL Puerto Mexican Restaurant
200 N Forest Ave
Fox Lake, IL 60020
(847) 973-1370
facebook.com/100063647347466
elpuertorestaurant.net
mayo.saul@yahoo.com

Nielsen Enterprises, Inc
130 S Milwaukee Ave
Lake Villa, IL 60046
(847) 356-3000
facebook.com/NielsenEnterprises
nielsens.com
info@nielsens.com

Ray Chevrolet
39 N US Route 12
Fox Lake, IL 60020
(847) 587-3300
facebook.com/raychevroletfoxlake
raychevrolet.com
info@raychevrolet.com

REGION 2

To List Your BUSINESS
Contact the IASC Office
815-210-0587
iasc.illinois@gmail.com

REGION 3

Legacy Bar & Gaming
116 E Main St.
Stillman Valley, IL 61084
815-645-7018
legacybarsv2020@gmail.com

MC Tap Bar & Grill
303 Pacific St.
Monroe Center, IL 61052
815-393-3503
mctap303@gmail.com

Skinner's Auto Body
320 Reed St.
Pecatonica, IL 61063
815-239-1853
skinner'sautobody@yahoo.com

REGION 4

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
tripleesales.com

REGION 5

Hammertime Sports
Polaris, Yamaha
2252 Anderson Dr.
Belvidere, IL 61008
815-544-5800
hammertimesports.com
spencer@hammertimesports.net

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

REGION 6

Full Throttle Powersports
11003 US Route 20 W
Lena, IL 61048
815-369-2153
fullthrottlepowersports@frontier.com
full-throttle-powersports.com

Pilot Construction Co., Inc.
Concrete, Construction and
Excavating
PO Box 707
Herscher, IL 60941
815-674-2046
pilotccinc@gmail.com

REGION 7

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

Leone's Polaris
3061 E 103rd Rd.
Peru, IL 61364
815-220-1780
leonespolaris@hotmail.com
leonespolaris.com/

REGION 8

To List Your BUSINESS
Contact the IASC Office
815-210-0587
iasc.illinois@gmail.com

REGION 9

Hendren's Sport Center
304 Gridley Rd.
Gridley, IL 61744
309-747-2596
hendren@gridcom.net
hendrensportcenter.com

INDIANA

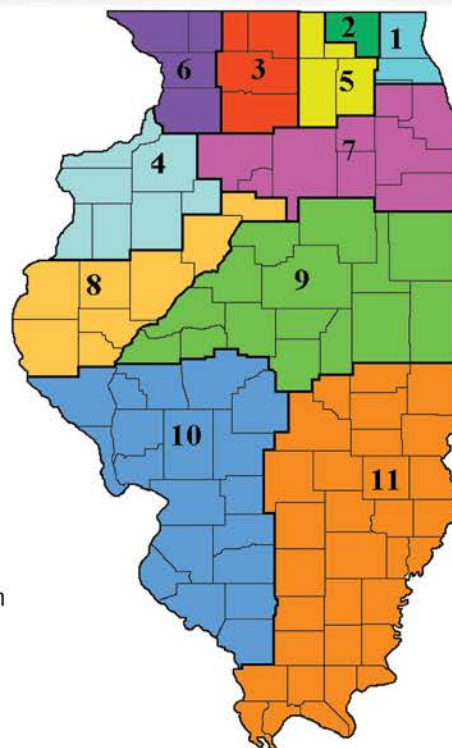
To List Your BUSINESS
Contact the IASC Office
815-210-0587
iasc.illinois@gmail.com

IOWA

V&V Insurance Agency
PO Box 159
Creston, IA 52136
563-547-2161
insurance@vandvins.com
vandvins.com

WISCONSIN

Arrowhead Groomers/
Hamblen Equipment
6351 State Hwy. 70 E
St. Germain, WI 54558
715-479-4200
info@arrowheadgroomers.com
arrowheadgroomers.com



By Dan Dampitz

The 2027 ACSA Scholarship Essay topic, Snowmobiling: A Privilege, Not a Right, has been published and is now open for applications!

Applications must be submitted by February 1, 2027. Visit <https://www.snowmobilers.org/acsa-scholarships.aspx> for additional information and the application.

Polaris is introducing a new military snowmobile, to join its military over snow lineup, called the Military 850 Voyageur 155 Crossover that will be included with the Military 850 Titan 155, and Military 850 pro RMK 155?

The USDA is repealing a 2001 "Roadless Rule" that prohibited road (re)construction and timber harvesting, on listed roadless areas, which may include some forest snowmobile trails in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan? The rule change is meant to return decision-making to local officials in conjunction with forest level land management planning, which intern could affect snowmobile trail management with clubs who maintain a working relationship with local authorities.

Dear Snowmobiler...

By Dwain "Duey" Stadie

Your local snowmobile club is essential to keeping the sport alive. Its volunteers who spend countless hours creating and maintaining trails, including placing the orange trail markers you see each fall, a task that many riders may take for granted. Every snowmobiler should join a club and contribute some time to help sustain the sport. Even a few hours of volunteering here and there can make a tremendous difference.

Across North America, local club volunteers, not government agencies, create, mark, and maintain snowmobile trails. Grant programs may help fund signs, stakes, bridge lumber, but volunteers provide all the labor. You could ride from most states into Canada entirely on trails built and maintained by these volunteers, a truly remarkable achievement.

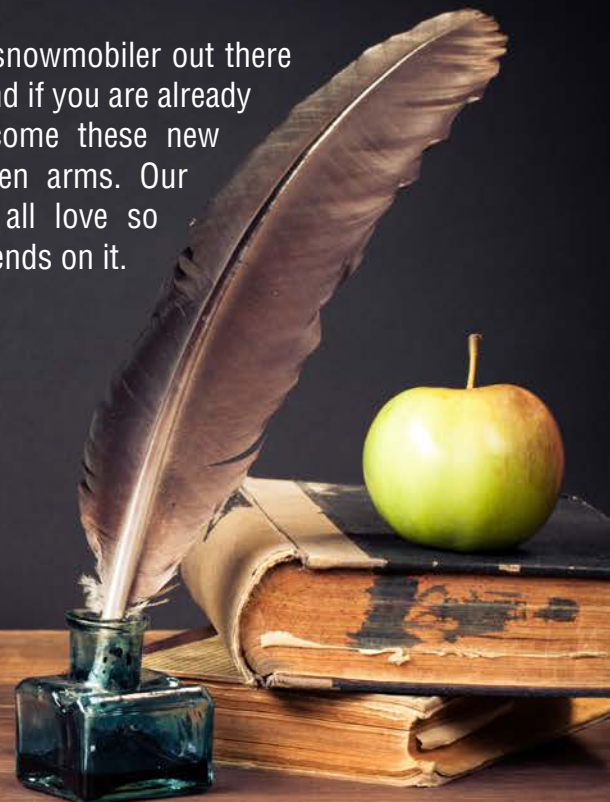
Snowmobiling depends on local clubs, which create, maintain, and groom neighborhood trails. Volunteers from these clubs form regional or county organizations to connect trails and address regional issues. Volunteers from clubs, regions, and counties also form state associations to work on laws, grants, and other statewide matters. Volunteers from these groups work with the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA), which addresses snowmobiling issues with the federal government. Each June, volunteers from the United States, Canada, and Europe gather at the International Snowmobile Congress to discuss national issues. At every level, volunteers work together for a common cause. Without clubs and their members, the sport we love would not exist.

Even more amazing is how small their numbers really are. Look at the number of registered sleds in each state. Then look at the number of club members in the same area. You would be lucky to find 15%, maybe 20% at the

most, belonging to a club. We all need to get together and promote membership in our clubs if we want to survive. If you are reading this magazine and belong to a club, pat yourself on the back. If you do not belong to a club, it's time to join one. The club membership is cheap compared to the cost of your sled and all the gear that goes with it. You will belong to a group of people who share your same passion, and you will have plenty of new people to ride with. Plus, it is fun on a beautiful fall day to be outside marking a trail, even more fun to ride down that trail in January knowing you marked that section.

I bet you could find a local club in your area, and I am sure they will get you the necessary info to join that club and be part of organized snowmobiling. Club membership is affordable, just plain cheap, and the benefit is you will meet a lot of people who share the same love of snowmobiling as you do. You will learn where all the trails are in your area, and snowmobile clubs have activities all year long. Think of all the fun and camaraderie, and once you join, you will never ride alone.

Let's get every snowmobiler out there to join a club, and if you are already in a club, welcome these new people with open arms. Our sport, that we all love so very much, depends on it.



ARCTIC CAT WELCOMES ARGO XTV TO THE FAMILY

Arctic Cat Press Release

Late last week, Arctic Cat, a world-renowned manufacturer of high performance snowmobiles, ATVs and side-by-sides, announced that ARGO Xtreme Terrain Vehicles (XTVs), a global leader in amphibious off-road vehicles, will officially join the Arctic Cat family.

The announcement builds on the April 24, 2025, acquisition of Arctic Cat by an investor group led by Brad Darling, President and CEO of ARGO. Since then, the Arctic Cat and ARGO teams have worked together to evaluate the best long-term strategy for both brands, their dealers and their customers.

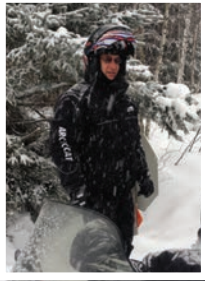
The alignment comes as the powersports industry continues to navigate shifting economic conditions, global supply challenges and evolving trade policies. After 18 months of collaboration, the path forward is clear: Arctic Cat and ARGO will align operations to strengthen product availability, enhance dealer support and create new opportunities across North American and international markets.

“Arctic Cat is ready and excited to welcome the ARGO XTV lineup of amphibious vehicles to the family,” said Brad Darling, President and CEO of Arctic Cat. “This unique line of off-road products complements Arctic Cat’s strong lineup of snowmobiles, ATVs and side-by-sides, while expanding the solutions we can offer to dealers and customers who rely on capable vehicles for work, recreation and adventure.”

For additional information, visit arcticcat.com.



+ Safety & Education +



Pat Pendergast

Hard to believe it will already be November when you are reading this. November is normally when harvest wraps up, clubs are able to access fields to brush and mark trails, and we can't forget that Thanksgiving is right around the corner. As you're marking trails this year, please stay safe. Just like snowmobiling, do not go by yourself. There are so many things that could go wrong in an instant that you just can't take the chance of injury. Especially with the riding season just around the corner! You don't want to be laid up with an injury. Also make sure your signage is adequate. Are you giving enough notice to a rider of an upcoming intersection so that they will be able to stop safely in the distance to stop safely? What about ravines, culverts, and rough areas? All of those should be marked to the best of our ability. It's easy for us who live in an area where we always ride to take for granted that the trails are marked well enough, while ignoring the fact that there are many who could be visiting the area for the first time and have no clue where they're headed.

Sled registration is another good thing to check into this time of year. Checking that sticker earlier is definitely indefinitely better,

but just make sure your registration is up to date. Sending in your registration really helps the state and clubs, using a portion of these monies to benefit the local trail system by awarding clubs grants for improvements, equipment purchases, etc. Your registration dollars matter! Remember that even if you do not ride in Illinois, if you reside in this state and own a sled, you are required to get your sled(s) registered in Illinois. Registration prices really don't amount to much, given the price of a new sled these days.

I veered off of the safety theme here, but I feel it was a worthwhile trip. In closing, stay safe, register your sled and have a blessed Thanksgiving.



Safety Class Schedule



Class Date	Location	Address	Time	Registration
11/14/26	Pingree Grove & Countryside Fire Station	10N255 Dittman Rd., Plato Center	Starting at 7:30am	Joe Kurelo 815-370-4301 Sue Metz 847-217-2431
11/28/26	Leone's Polaris	3061 E. 103rd Rd., Peru	8:00am-4:30pm	815-220-1780
12/12/26	Triple E Sales	1301 Division St., Orion	8:00am-4:00pm	Bob 309-368-0620 Pat 309-335-4095
12/12/26	Lena Community Center	497 Lions Dr. Lena	8:00am-4:00pm	815-990-2652



Pre-registration is required. Call the number listed by the date and location of the class you wish to attend. Please note that most class sizes are limited. Instructors are volunteers and are not paid. Please remember to cancel your reservation if you find you cannot attend the class so that your spot can be filled by another student. For additional classes scheduled after the magazine deadline, please visit the IASC website or call the IDNR office at 800-832-2599 or 216-557-9206, the IASC office at 815-210-0587, Pat Pendergast at 309-344-2554. If you have lost your Snowmobile Safety Certificate verifying that you have passed the required safety class, visit the IDNR website at www.dnr.state.il.us/safety/safety.htm.

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

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

Test Your Snowmobiling Knowledge

Visit 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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