

# ***Snoflyer***

*The official publication of the  
Washington State Snowmobile Association*

*July 2020  
Volume 42*



## ***Is it snowmobile season yet?***

***Inside:** ISHOF 2020 Inductees  
WSSA & ISMC Scholarship winners  
Annual ISMC Update  
And more!*



*Riding/skiing/floating Bear Paw, June 20th, 2020.  
Photos provided by Jon Ferrian.*



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Photo credit: Gary Smith



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## Table of Contents

Meetings & Events .....	3	Safety With Jon .....	17
Membership Application .....	3	ISHOF - Class of 2020 .....	19
Leadership Articles .....	4	WSSA Scholarship Winner .....	22
District Reports .....	5	ISMC Scholarship Winner .....	22
Associate Members .....	8	Snowmobile Registration Numbers ...	22
Club News .....	10	ACSA E-News .....	23
WSSA Contacts .....	12	ISMA Update .....	25
Snowmobile Clubs .....	15	2020 WSSA Expo & Swap Meet .....	28
Re-Discover WA Trail App .....	16	Matt's Misc .....	29

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Priest Lake Chamber of Commerce .....	2	Premier Polaris .....	13
Brandin' Iron Inn .....	5	Three Fingered Jack's Saloon.....	18
SK Northwest .....	11	Jet Chevrolet .....	29

## WSSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership valid until August 31, 2021

Annual Dues (circle one): Individual/Family or Club - \$25 Associate - \$50

### FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL: (\$25)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Registered Sleds: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Riders: \_\_\_\_\_

Legislative District \_\_\_\_\_ Congressional District \_\_\_\_\_

### ASSOCIATE- Business or Dealer (\$50) and CLUBS (\$25)

Name of Business or Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner/Business Contact or Club Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

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Membership Dues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Legal Action Fund (not tax deductible): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Application and Payment to: WSSA Membership  
2130 Lower Peoh Point Rd.  
Cle Elum, WA 98922

Questions about your membership? Contact Wayne or Florence at [membership@wssa.us](mailto:membership@wssa.us) or (509) 674-4401

Questions about WSSA? Contact: Dean Meakin, President  
2928 N. Nevada  
Spokane, WA 99207  
E-mail: [dean.meakin@wssa.us](mailto:dean.meakin@wssa.us)  
(800) 783-WSSA or (509) 220-1001

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR SPORT

## WSSA MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT EVENTS 2020/2021

### WSSA Summer Meeting & Campout Blu-Shastin RV Park, Peshastin (Blewett Pass) August 14th-16th, 2020

(At least this is the plan... COVID concerns may change things. Watch the WSSA Facebook page and your e-mail for any changes.) A fun family campout with meals provided Friday night through Sunday morning (for \$20 per person). Meeting starts at 9am on Saturday.

### WSSA Meeting Leavenworth Fire Station, Leavenworth October 3rd, 2020

(At least this is the plan... COVID concerns may change things. Watch the WSSA Facebook page and your e-mail for any changes.) Come to Leavenworth for the weekend and enjoy Oktoberfest! WSSA season kick-off meeting - all members welcome. Lunch available on site. Meeting starts at 9am.

### WSSA Snowmobile & Power Sports Expo & Swap Meet

#### Fairgrounds in Puyallup October 17th & 18th, 2020

(At least this is the plan... COVID concerns may change things. Watch the WSSA Facebook page and your e-mail for any changes.) The official kick-off for winter! All your friends will be there checking out the latest sleds, gear and anything related, plus power sport toys including side by sides. Check full-page flyer in this Snoflyer and/or visit [www.wssaexpo.com](http://www.wssaexpo.com).

### WSSA Leadership Meeting Location TBD in District 5 North November 7th, 2020

(At least this is the plan... COVID concerns may change things. Watch the WSSA Facebook page and your e-mail for any changes.) Meeting tailored to club leadership, but all members are welcome. Watch future Snoflyers and the WSSA website for location details. Meeting starts at 9am.

### WSSA Meeting Will be conducted electronically; more info to follow January 9th, 2021

A mid-season update. More details to follow.

### All Trails to Olympia Day Capitol in Olympia In January, date TBD

Visit with your State Legislators and educate them on snowmobiling. Appointments will be pre-arranged and if you would like a seasoned Olympia Day veteran to join you, that is not a problem! Details to follow; watch upcoming Snoflyers and the WSSA website.

### WSSA Winter Rendezvous February 12th-15th, 2021

We are still hammering out the location details, but join us for a holiday weekend of riding. Guides provided for extreme rides as well as family-friendly, and also for a trail/off-trail combo. Evening entertainment and great food included! Details posted in upcoming Snoflyers and on the WSSA website as information becomes available.

### WSSA Budget Meeting March 6th, 2021 Location TBD in District 5 South

Season wrap up and setting the budget for the 2021/2022 season. Location will be in District 5 South, either at the Naches Forest Service building in Naches or at Gold Creek Station on Chinook Pass. Meeting starts at 9am.

### DC Fly-In April - Date TBD

A trip to Washington D.C. to educate our Federal Legislators. Contact the WSSA President for details.

## Leadership

**Dean Meakin, President**  
**dean.meakin@wssa.us • (509) 220-1001**



Well, I never imagined we would still be in 'Stay at Home' here in Spokane. COVID-19 is still strong and not letting up. I will do my best to start this article where I left off in April.

The WSSA Board had an electronic meeting on April 7th with the help of Christine Jourdain of the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA). Thank You Christine! It was a great success! We passed a budget that should work for 2020-2021. We only conducted the necessary business to close out the year and begin the new one. Our thought was to play catch-up at the summer meeting at Blu-Shastin. Hold that thought for now.

As you know by now, the International Snowmobile Congress (ISC) was cancelled for June 2020. I think Saskatchewan has petitioned to now host it in 2023. More to follow on that.

The ACSA Board was in the same predicament as they meet at ISC to conduct year-end and start-up business as well as elections. ACSA had an electronic meeting on June 11th. We were successful in passing a budget for 2020-2021. We also had our elections thanks to the help of Wayne and Florence Mohler. Thank You Wayne and Florence. The meeting was a great success!

### **Now let's talk about what is on our horizon:**

The Summer Meeting is still a GO at Blu-Shastin unless something happens that may cause us to cancel. We will have to practice social distancing of a type for sure. We are not sure what that will look like at this time so I ask for patience as we move forward. We will keep in touch with everyone as more answers come in. Worst case scenario is an electronic meeting. Best case is a great meeting.

Our next meeting on October 3rd in Leavenworth is still a GO until it is not. Matt Kensrud is checking to see if our location will allow this to take place with compliance to social distancing. More to follow on this.

Now the big one, the WSSA Snowmobile and Power Sports Expo and Swap Meet. For now, the Puyallup Fairgrounds has NOT cancelled our event. So, we are still a GO until we are not. Hopefully things will move forward, however we need to be ready for either outcome. This is a list of my concerns and the roadblocks we are facing as we move forward starting with:

1. Our Governor could stop it. (No show during Phases 1-3.)
2. The Puyallup Fairgrounds.
3. Our insurance company.
4. **WSSA's liability.**
5. Our volunteers, especially our 65 and over crowd.
6. The cost to implement social distancing requirements at Phase 4.
7. Our exhibitors and attendees.

As the event draws closer, we may have to make decisions without much notice. More will follow this article and we will keep everyone in the loop.

**Please remember my challenge to you this year: 'Building Bridges and Not Walls'.** The bridges we should be building right now are those that will help our dealers and associates members however we can so they will survive this pandemic. This is a bridge to them!

**Delia Alred, Vice President**  
**delia.alred@wssa.us • (509) 965-8305**



What a crazy year we are having! I'm hoping we will be able to have our summer meeting as planned. The Blu-Shastin RV park is open and looking forward to having us there. We will have to keep 'social distancing', but that shouldn't be an issue. We will just take up more space. Please e-mail me if you are not going to attend as we have reserved our normal spaces. The meeting is scheduled for August 15th. Our reservations are for the 14th-16th. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone as we haven't been out much. I hope everyone is safe and healthy. See you in August.



# District Reports



## District 1 South

**By Glenn Markovits**  
[glenn.markovits@wssa.us](mailto:glenn.markovits@wssa.us)  
 (253) 297-1774

Hello everyone! I hope you are enjoying your summer. Though most of the snow is gone, we found a lot of deep snow still up near Quartz Mountain in our Jeeps on a recent June weekend and had to turn around. At the same time Jon Ferrian was still snowmobiling up at Bear Paw! Wow! That is committed.

The last weekend in May, the Cascade Drift Skippers helped with a litter cleanup at the Salmon La Sac Sno-Park and surrounding areas near The Last Resort, while still social distancing. In addition to their great efforts at keeping things clean near Salmon La Sac, some members of the Cascade Drift Skippers also helped the Snomads Snowmobile Club with a litter cleanup June 6th at the Lake Kachess Sno-Park. And that same day, Jon and Edythe Ferrian also went over to the Crystal Springs Sno-Park and picked up litter there. Wow! A huge thank you to all of those who volunteered their time and resources to clean up all these sno-parks.

It is officially summer now and the snow is pretty much gone, however the good news is the days are now getting shorter and we are on the downhill countdown to next year's snowmobile season. Summer is a good time to spend some time exercising and staying in shape for the winter months ahead of us. Even a daily brisk walk or run will keep your cardio up. Hiking is a great activity to see some amazing backcountry and keeps you healthy. Also you want to keep your sled

healthy by putting fuel stabilizer in your gas tank, and fogging your engines. Don't forget to remove the batteries from you avalanche beacons. Order those parts needed for your sleds now, so you aren't fighting the rush next winter. Take advantage of the down-time to change your carbides and hyfax and do any other maintenance on your sled that is needed and you will be all ready to go next winter.

The Cascade Drift Skip- (Continued on page 6)



Jon & Edythe Ferrian took on the Crystal Springs Sno-Park by themselves.



Bill Yager picking up trash at Salmon La Sac.

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# District Reports

(Continued from page 5)

pers regular meeting location is now at the Kryptonite Bar and Grill on the north side of I-90 in Sammamish. Monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month starting this September and everyone is welcome to attend.



## District 2 South

**By Matt Kensrud**  
[matt.kensrud@wssa.us](mailto:matt.kensrud@wssa.us)  
 (509) 433-2100

Well, not much to report on, so I'm going to write a thank you report to all the folks, clubs, vendors and dealerships who have spent countless hours supporting our sport! I'll start with club officers for the hard work on keeping the club's business in order and organizing club events. Club members for their passion of the sport and devotion to the clubs. Thanks to all of the folks in WSSA for staying on top of everything political in snowmobiling. Thanks to all the dealers and vendors who keep us in gear and sleds. Thanks to the rental places; without you we wouldn't be able to hook new riders. Thanks to State Parks Winter Rec for working to keep sno-parks and funding going, along with the Snowmobile Advisory Committee (SMAC). To our groomers for keeping the trails open and smooth. And last but far from least, our law enforcement for keeping us safe along with search and rescue!

Enjoy your summer and I'll see you on the mountain!



## District 3

**By Greg Figg**

[greg.figg@wssa.us](mailto:greg.figg@wssa.us)  
 (509) 534-3417

Well it has been an interesting time for snowmobilers in Northeast Washington with the COVID-19 virus. When the COVID virus first hit, we were not sure exactly what to do; then came the shutdowns with some of our riding areas being closed and the order to stay home. The Winter Knights, like many other clubs, cancelled the rest of their ride schedule for the spring of 2020. I have seen two schools of thoughts on this with some people not changing what they do and others hunkering down. Being a club, they certainly



A 'trail ride'! Kings Lake in early March on the 'groomed' trail after a major storm.

did not want to contribute to the spread of the disease or put people at risk, hence the cancelling of the rides. I personally was around a person who got sick very early on so I was in quarantine and that ended my riding season. It also made me look at this differently, not wanting to get the virus seeing what they went through. Thankfully I do not believe I contracted it!

With it now being summer, some of my favorite things have been cancelled, like the snowmobile water cross in Lone in July. I am also noticing the Spokane Interstate Fair is cancelled in the middle of September. With the latest resurgence of the COVID-19 virus, our snow shows also may be at risk as we will need to get to Phase 4 or open for the snow shows to move forward. Obtaining the necessary insurance for the shows may also be elusive this year as well. A telling sign will be to see what happens at Hay Days in Minnesota this September. I have my plane ticket already bought and am now just waiting to see what happens.

I have enjoyed getting out this spring with a small group of folks on a couple ATV trips to some of our favorite snowmobile areas, (yes

with social distancing). While this cannot replace sledding, it is a welcome break from the Monday through Friday work grind. I would urge you to make some time to enjoy activities that give you a healthy work life balance.



## District 5 South

**By Jim Kingman**  
[jim.kingman@wssa.us](mailto:jim.kingman@wssa.us)  
 (509) 961-1122

Hi all! I hope this finds everyone doing well and coping with this COVID-19. It sure is turning everyone's lives upside down. Of course you all know that here in the Yakima area we just can't seem to turn the corner at this time to move into the next phase of recovery. Hopefully soon so we can find a little relief from being stuck in a rut and not so limited to what we should and/or can't do.

It's really hard to even think about snowmobiling right now with all events in the area cancelled or at least put on hold. I do know the Ski-Benders postponed their clean up date along with the Drift-A-Way club's Tieton Airstrip bi-annual clean up. Fred Pitzer and I did get up to the Soup Creek Sno-Park and mowed and sprayed some weeds. We will be doing this again in the near future along with cleaning up the remains of a burned up snowmobile at the Tieton Airstrip as per the request of Department of Transportation Aviation Department. If anyone knows about what happened with this snowmobile, please let me know as I am curious why we had not heard about this before aircraft started using the airport again.

I do believe the Drift-A-Way club will have a summer campout fairly soon as we are small enough and can easily social distance when camping out.

I also know that Chinook Fest is also cancelled too for this summer.

Some of you know I had an issue with a torn meniscus in my knee last winter that really limited my season. It took over a month to get a MRI and then another month

(Continued on page 7)





# District Reports

(Continued from page 6)

to get surgery scheduled. Then it got canceled and rescheduled again for June 1st. I am doing great after three weeks and things are looking good for next year.

Not part of my district report but just a quick note about the WSSA Grant Committee. We did get things done on time this year. We had eight clubs with grant applications and money was spread out really well by the committee where all clubs got a little piece of the pie to help with all the projects. I hope all the clubs can find a way to safely get out and get those projects done with COVID-19 still in the future.

I also just wanted to say WSSA lost a good friend this spring in Jerry Burr. Jerry and Elaine were very involved in WSSA for many years until Jerry's health started to go down hill a few years back. We love you guys and Jerry you are missed.



## District 6

By Chris Shires

chris.shires@wssa.us  
(509) 521-5511

The days are now getting shorter and the snow will soon fly.

Dayton's club will have their woodcutting and warming hut repair/clean-up on Saturday, June 27th.

The Pomeroy club has canceled their 2020 Powersports Swap. A wood cutting party is still scheduled for 9:30am on July 4th at Mt. Misery.



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LLUMIN8 Lighting	18715 95 <sup>th</sup> St E	Bonney Lake	WA	98391	www.llumin8.com	253-233-7547
Jay's Snowmobile Service	1325 Hanson Loop	Burbank	WA	99323		509-845-2089
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North Cascade Sled Decks, LLC	3923 88 <sup>th</sup> St NE, Unit P	Marysville	WA	98270	www.northcascadesleddecks.com	425-280-6017
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Elk Ridge Campground	13880 SR 410	Naches	WA	98397	<a href="http://www.elkridgecampground.com">www.elkridgecampground.com</a>	509-658-2093
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J & B Enterprises	PO Box 440	Roslyn	WA	98941		206-484-0204
Repin Construction LLC	PO Box 541	Roslyn	WA	98941		509-649-3323
Dianes Tank Removal Services LLC	PO Box 77738	Seattle	WA	98177	<a href="http://www.dianestankremoval.com">www.dianestankremoval.com</a>	206-510-9497
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Empire Cycle & Powersports	7807 E Sprague Ave	Spokane Valley	WA	98212	<a href="http://www.empire-cycle.com">www.empire-cycle.com</a>	509-892-6368
509-Kart-O-Rama Inc	13701 24 <sup>th</sup> St E Unit A4	Sumner	WA	98390	<a href="http://www.kartoramainc.com">www.kartoramainc.com</a>	253-891-3490
Complete Repair Services	7242 Littlerock Rd SW	Tumwater	WA	98512	<a href="http://www.completerepairservicesllc.com">www.completerepairservicesllc.com</a>	360-570-2210
Hank's Harvest Foods	412 E Methow Hwy	Twisp	WA	98856		509-997-7711
Twisp NAPA Auto Parts	214 S Methow Valley Hwy	Twisp	WA	98856	<a href="http://www.napaonline.com">www.napaonline.com</a>	509-997-2461
Independent Trailer & Equip Co	1602 Rudkin Rd	Union Gap	WA	98901	<a href="http://www.itec-inc.com">www.itec-inc.com</a>	509-452-3672
Cowlitz Motorsports	196 Dunivan Rd	Vader	WA	98593		360-520-3911
Procaliber Motorsports	PO Box 1679	Vancouver	WA	98668	<a href="http://www.procaliberbend.com">www.procaliberbend.com</a>	
G & G Automotive Machine	34 S Palouse	Walla Walla	WA	99362		509-525-2890
Wenatchee Power Sports	3031 G S Center Rd	Wenatchee	WA	98801	<a href="http://www.wenpow.com">www.wenpow.com</a>	509-665-6686
Radcomp Technologies	136 N Main St	White Salmon	WA	98672	<a href="http://www.gorad.com">www.gorad.com</a>	509-493-2221
Three Fingered Jacks	176 Riverside Ave	Winthrop	WA	98862	<a href="http://www.3fingeredjacks.com">www.3fingeredjacks.com</a>	509-996-2411
Ride Motorsports	19035 Woodinville-Snohomish Rd	Woodinville	WA	98072	<a href="http://www.ridemotorsports.com">www.ridemotorsports.com</a>	425-487-3881
Nob Hill Auto Wrecking	2609 West Birchfield Rd	Yakima	WA	98901	<a href="http://www.nobhillautowrecking.com">www.nobhillautowrecking.com</a>	509-452-2803
Owen's Yamaha-Suzuki Polaris	1707 N 1st St	Yakima	WA	98901		509-575-1916
Premier Power Sports	1504 Fruitvale Blvd	Yakima	WA	98902	<a href="http://www.premierpowersportswa.com">www.premierpowersportswa.com</a>	509-965-9889
VanAmburg Enterprises Inc	2920 River Rd Ste 1	Yakima	WA	98902	<a href="http://www.vanamburgent.com">www.vanamburgent.com</a>	509-225-6681

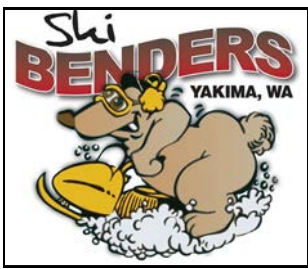
### Out of State Supporting Businesses

Kastle West Dist	55 Matmor Rd	Woodland	CA	95776	<a href="http://www.kastlewest.com">www.kastlewest.com</a>	530-662-8879
Elkins on Priest Lake	404 Elkins Rd	Nordman	ID	83848	<a href="http://www.elkinsresort.com">www.elkinsresort.com</a>	208-443-2432
Hill's Resort	4777 W Lakeshore Rd	Priest Lake	ID	83856	<a href="http://www.hillsresort.com">www.hillsresort.com</a>	208-443-2551
Mountain Village Resort	Jct Hwy 21 & 75	Stanley	ID	83278	<a href="http://www.mountainvillage.com">www.mountainvillage.com</a>	800-843-5475
SK Northwest/Polaris of Portland	250 SE Division Pl	Portland	OR	97292	<a href="http://www.sknorthwest.com">www.sknorthwest.com</a>	503-238-2510

Please thank these highlighted businesses for advertising in our Snoflyer!



# Club News



## Yakima Ski-Benders

By Liz Van Amburg,  
President

Greetings from your Yakima Ski-Benders Snowmobile Club. Congratulations to the Class of 2020; you did it! It was great to see all of the creative ways across the country the class of 2020 celebrated! Job well done!

The official start to summer is a week away as I'm writing this and it looks like the hot weather is on its way! It has been a wet spring and I have noticed snowmobilers are still sneaking in a ride or two!

The Ski-Benders wrapped up last season with our annual Kids Ride! We had 70 kids and at least twice that many adults! I now like to refer to this event as one-week pre-COVID-19 or back in the good old days! Yakima County so far is the only county in the state not to move out of Phase 1. With this brings the cancellation of just about all summer activities. We had felt blessed in the beginning of COVID as we were just finishing all our club events. Here we are four months COVID and the cancellations start for the Yakima Ski-Benders. Our largest fund raiser, Chinook Fest, has officially been canceled. However, on a positive note, I live on Chinook Pass and have never seen so many families camping, fishing, side-by-siding, motorcycle riding, Jeeping, mushroom hunting, shed hunting, etc... in all my years of living there! There have been people everywhere. (I still wish they would pick up their trash and leave it better than they found it! One can only hope!)

The Yakima Ski-Bender board will meet on July 15th to come up with some creative ways to move forward during these challenging times. I will be eagerly waiting for snow and coordinating all of our great events we have planned this winter!



## Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club

By Kevin Hancock,  
Webmaster

Like the rest of the clubs, the coronavirus pandemic has affected our events. We had to cancel our June plan to participate at the Cool Desert Nights car show in Richland after the event was canceled. We continue to plan for a show at the Central Washington Agricultural Museum in Union Gap, joining their Power Show and Swap Meet, scheduled during the weekend of August 15th-16th. But that depends if the museum reopens and at last check the museum was still closed.

We are busy with what club events we can do. There was still snow in the mountains when Stephen and Kevin spent a couple weekends picking up the directional signs that mark the route from Taneum Sno-Park by Cle Elum to Whistlin' Jack Lodge. Our club sets out the signs to mark a trail to the lodge, and back. Then we run the same route on our vintage sleds during a two-day,

140-mile round trip ride. We know some of the signs will be stolen or vandalized each year. Unfortunately this year the loss was worse, but they will be replaced. Then again the signs will be ready for us to mark the route again next season.



Putting them away for the summer.

And of course we get to do some end-of-the-year playing with our old friends as we put them away, and get them ready for the show, and 2020-2021 snowmobile season. And there are always restoration projects going on. We keep finding new treasures that are on our sleds bucket list to fix up and ride.

(Continued on page 12)



Annual sign retrieval performed by members of the PNWVSC.



Boatel Ski-Bird Restoration has started!

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**can-am**



## Club News

(Continued from page 10)



### Lake Wenatchee Rec Club

By Marilyn Mylius, Vice President

The Lake Wenatchee Rec Club (LWRC), just like every other club and organization, has had to cancel all our summer fundraisers. What a year 2020 has been so far!

Let's all hope for a better fall and winter!

Our groomer took some very cool pictures this past winter. He definitely has the best view from his 'office'!

The LWRC sends wishes for everyone's safe and healthy summer and hope to see all of you on the mountain this coming winter!



Sunrise on Sugarloaf Mountain, between Lake Wenatchee and Entiat.



### Tollgate Trail Finders

By Brandon Christensen, President

Hi Snowmobile friends!

At this moment, the mercury in the thermometer is on the opposite end as it was three months ago. The snow at Tollgate is nearly gone, the forest is very beautiful in a different way. Very green

and full of wildlife, wildflowers, morels and folks that enjoy the mountains. What a wonder to see the beauty that Mother Nature provides us to experience. Just a couple weeks ago Tollgate experienced brief snowstorms bringing a few short-lived inches of whiteness. This gave us a sense that Old Man Winter hadn't given up quite yet. With temperatures predicted in the 80s for the foreseeable future, there is not much chance of snow for awhile now. That just means we have time to get things done. This is good news since there are trails to be brushed, gates to be fixed, signs to be replaced, wood to be stocked and a new coat of sealer on the logs of our warming shelters.

(Continued on page 13)

## WSSA Contacts

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- -VACANT- -

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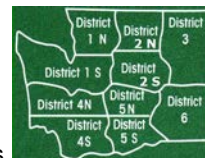
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#### District 5 South Rep

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**Trail Grooming** • Wayne Mohler  
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**Winter Rendezvous** • Greg Figg  
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### WSSA Ad Hoc Committees

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**Tracked ATV/UTV** • Matt Mead  
(509) 424-1575 • matt.mead@wssa.us



(Continued from page 12)

**Ropes and poles removed – Mud Flats.** On June 6th, we had a work party to remove the ropes and poles at Mud Flats. Mud Flats is private property in the lower country north of Hwy 204. We are blessed so many landowners allow our snowmobile trails to cross their property. About a dozen members volunteered their



time to remove the ropes and poles. Afterwards, work was done on a gate in need of repair on another trail on the south side of Hwy 204 which was also in the lower country. We sincerely

wish to thank all of you who volunteered your time for this work.

**Upcoming firewood work party – July 18th.** Another opportunity to help the club is coming up on July 18th at 9am. We plan to stock firewood at both shelters.

Depending on the number of folks who RSVP, we will either have a group at each shelter or start at the Ruckel Shelter and finish the day at the Chapman Bone Springs Shelter. We plan to have lunch provided for all who come. Keep an

eye on our website and our Facebook page for more info. Please let us know if you can attend by e-mailing me at [brandon@christensenusa.com](mailto:brandon@christensenusa.com) or simply use the following Facebook link: [www.facebook.com/events/723252088435849](https://www.facebook.com/events/723252088435849) and indicate if you are able to attend. We need chainsaws, log splitters, side by sides as well as folks willing to lend a hand. We can use everyone's help. Come join the fun!



(Continued on page 14)

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# Club News

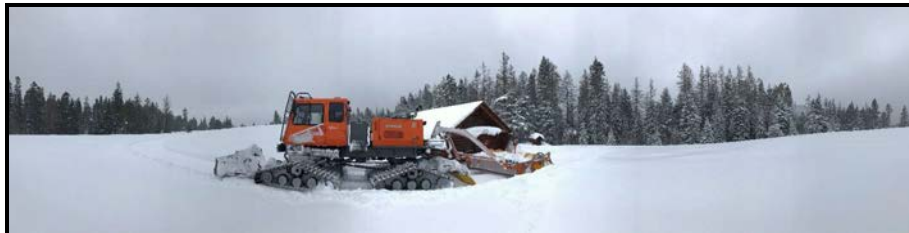
(Continued from page 13)

**New District Ranger – Walla Walla Ranger District – U.S. Forest Service.** Recently, Mike Rassbach, District Ranger of the Walla Walla Ranger District, retired. He has been replaced by Aaron Gagnon. We look forward to meeting him in person and working with his administration.

**Summer access for side-by-sides and ATVs.** Our summer access committee has been very active working with the U.S. Forest Service to ensure greater access for the Tollgate area during the warmer months. Communication has also occurred with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Although the goal is greater access for all vehicles, safety and sustainability of natural resources and wildlife is also a priority. Let us know if you would like to get involved. More to come.



**Grooming update and stats.** Our grooming team worked through adversity during the 2019-2020 season. Warm temps then

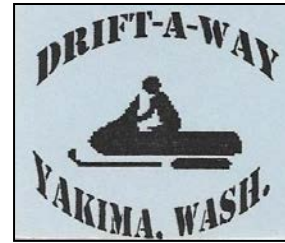


huge snowfalls and crazy swings in temps. The team many times worked all hours of the night to set the trails up to make things the best with the conditions we had. Here is a list of stats for the 2019-2020 grooming season:

- Miles groomed: 1,244
- Hours groomed: 252
- Diesel fuel used: 1,363
- Hours of equipment maintenance: 48
- Miles driving to/from Tollgate: 2,460
- Hours Driving to/from Tollgate: 55

Our sincere thanks to our all-volunteer grooming team for all their hard work and being flexible with schedules to ensure our trails are the best they can be.

**Get out there – Be safe.** The world is certainly a different place since the end of the snowmobile season. With COVID-19 and Black Lives Matter protests around the country, we encourage all of you to be safe and spread love instead of hatred. Be a beacon of hope, enjoy spending time with your family and loved ones. We wish nothing but health and safety to each of you.



## Drift-A-Way Snowmobile Club

By Matt Mead

While we had no official club rides during the later part of the season, several members got together regularly for our traditional 'Thursday Misfits' rides. (But like the misfits they are, the rides were rarely on Thursday, just a random weekday.) With the COVID crisis going on, our weekday ridership grew as some suddenly found themselves without employment commitments and a couple of college students were able to join in. Most of our 'social distancing' rides were held on White Pass south of Rimrock Lake, with the final rides on Chino Pass in the Boulder Cave area.

The club so far has been unable to perform our twice-yearly Tieton Airstrip Cleanup and a summer campout has also been on hold. President Jim Kingman and Treasurer Fred Pitzer did put in some time removing signs in the White Pass area and maintaining the Soup Creek Sno-Park.

Assuming the COVID virus takes a break, our membership meetings will resume in the fall. If you are looking for a family-oriented club and/or opportunity to ride mid-week with a group of 'misfits', contact our President or any club member to find out our secret meeting location (Round Table Pizza, Yakima) on the classified meeting date (first Monday of the month). Hope you can join us!



'Thursday Misfits', second-to-last ride of the season at Boulder Cave.



## Bavarian Boondockers

By Matt Kensrud, President

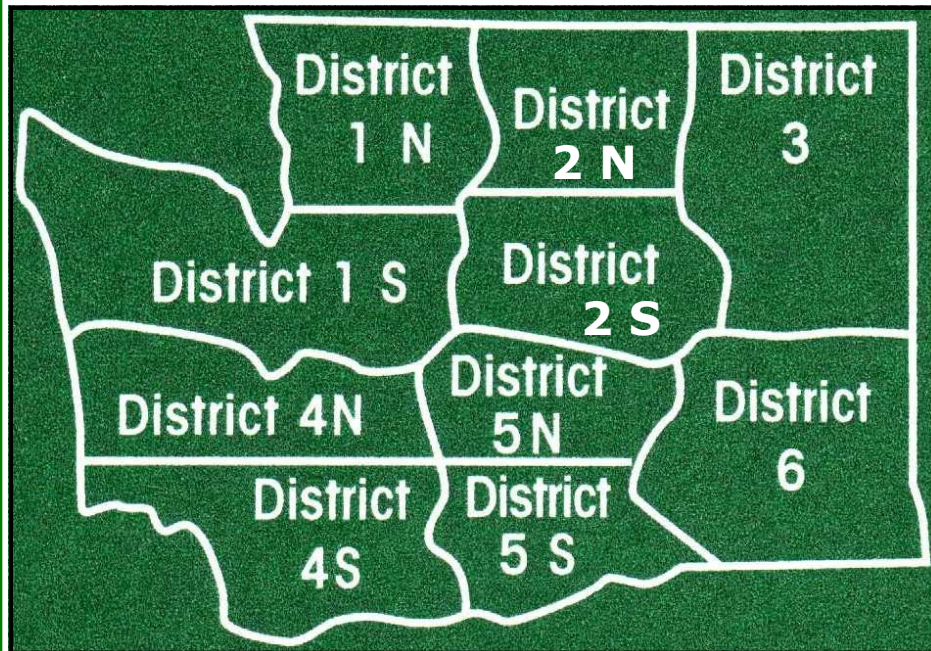
As the season is over, the Bavarian Boondockers are still in gear.

We moved the hut down off of our leased property on Sugarloaf Mountain down to the bottom of Eagle creek. The warming hut committee has plans to do some updates to the hut. We will also be doing some land maintenance on our leased property over the summer.

As for Snowfest, 'the biggest little snow show in the world', we have a date of November 21st on the books but still not sure if it's going to happen or not. We will keep you all posted. (Continued on page 16)



# Snowmobile Clubs



**Note:** Facebook addresses in blue

## District 1 North

(Clallam/Jefferson/Kitsap/Skagit/Snohomish/Whatcom Counties)

### Northwest Glacier Cruisers

Tom Shields  
(360) 661-0003  
northwestglaciercruisers@gmail.com  
www.northwestglaciercruisers.com  
[Northwest Glacier Cruisers](#)

### Whatcom County Snowmobile Club

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whatcomsnowmobileclub@gmail.com  
[Whatcom County Snowmobile Club](#)

## District 1 South

(King County)

### Cascade Drift Skippers

Tony Keys  
(208) 880-1096  
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[Cascade Drift Skippers](#)

## District 2 North

(Okanogan/Ferry Counties)

### Assoc. of Okanogan County Snowmobile Clubs

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### Bonaparte Snowmobile/ATV Club

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bonaparte.snowmobile.atv.club@gmail.com  
[Bonaparte Snowmobile/ATV Club](#)

### Butte Busters Snowmobile Club

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[Butte Busters Snowmobile Club](#)

### Crawfish Lake Snowmobile Club

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### Methow Valley Snowmobile Assoc.

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www.mvsnwmobile.blogspot.com  
[Methow Valley Snowmobile Association](#)

### Mountain Trails Grooming Assoc.

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### North Central ATV Club of WA

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### Republic Tree Benders

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[Republic Tree Benders Snowmobile/ATV Club](#)

### Tri-River Snowmobile Club

Donna Windsor  
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[Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club](#)

## District 2 South

(Chelan/Douglas Counties)

### Apple Country Snowmobile Club

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### Bavarian Boondockers

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www.bavarianboondockers.com  
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### Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club

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### Lake Wenatchee Recreation Club

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www.lakewenatcheerecclub.com  
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## District 3

(Grant/Lincoln/Pend Oreille/Spokane/Stevens Counties)

### Chewelah Sno Posse

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### Colville Driftriders

Steve Fogle  
(509) 684-3601

### Spokane Winter Knights

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www.winterknights.com  
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## District 4 North

(Grays Harbor/Lewis/Mason/Pacific/Pierce/Thurston Counties)

### Junco Snowmobile Club

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tombimm@gmail.com  
[Junco Snowmobile Club](#)



### Lewis County Drift Skippers

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### Northwest Boondockers

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### Sno-Jammers Snowmobile Club

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www.snojammers.org  
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## District 4 South

(Clark/Cowlitz/Skamania/Wahkiakum Counties)

### Mt Adams Snowmobile Club

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### Mt St Helens Trac Riders

Doug Wick  
(360) 751-8250  
dwick@entekhrac.com  
[Mt. St. Helens Trac Riders](#)

## District 5 North

(Kittitas County)

### Barnyard Racing

Erik Clark  
fj55@comcast.net

### Hi Country Beelers

Dan Johnson  
(253) 838-7600  
jetjohnso@aol.com



### Reecer Creek Riders

Bill Miller  
(509) 899-0243  
reecercreekriders@gmail.com  
www.reecercreekriders.org  
[Reecer Creek Riders](#)



### Snomads

BJ Oswald  
(206) 227-2912  
bjoswald21@gmail.com  
[Snomads of Easton](#)



### Stampede Summit Seekers

Jim Sternod  
(206) 948-2946  
stampedesummitseekers@gmail.com  
[Stampede Summit Seekers](#)

### Teanaway Snowmobile Club

Charles Johnson  
(509) 674-6803 • ochasjohn1@mac.com

## District 5 South

(Benton/Klickitat/Yakima Counties)

### Cascade Snow Drifters

Nina Gottschalk  
(509) 697-6586 • maxx321@q.com

### Chinook Pass Snowmobile Club

Bob Jump  
(509) 966-5074

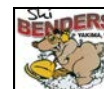
### Drift-A-Way Snowmobile Club

Jim Kingman  
(509) 698-3658 •  
mtnmax777@yahoo.com



### Yakima Ski-Benders

Liz Van Amburg  
(509) 759-5179  
yakimaskibenders@hotmail.com  
www.yakimaskibenders.net  
[Yakima SkiBenders](#)



## District 6

(Adams/Asotin/Columbia/Franklin/Garfield/Walla Walla/Whitman Counties)

### Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club

Jake McNeil  
(509) 521-5511  
verticalescape03@hotmail.com  
[Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club](#)

### Mt. Misery Snow Drifters

Kent Flynn  
(509) 566-7012 • klflynn@msn.com  
[Mt Misery Snowdrifters](#)

### Tollgate Trail-Finders

Brandon Christensen  
(509) 830-3706  
tollgatetrailfinders@gmail.com  
www.tollgatetrailfinders.org  
[Tollgate Trail Finders Snowmobile Club](#)



## Pacific Northwest

### Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club

Ray Bergstresser  
(509) 466-6249 • pnwvsc@gmail.com  
pacificnorthwestvintagesnowmobileclub.org  
[Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club](#)



### Vintage Snowmobiles of the Inland N.W.

Dave Brummer  
(208) 755-8334 • dbrummer@stimsonlumber.com  
www.wsvsa.com/VSTOTINW.html



# Club News

(Continued from page 14)



## Sno-Jammers Snowmobile Club

By Chris Sutton,  
President

We were extremely disappointed that our annual Fun Run had to be canceled at the last minute due to the COVID-19 restrictions. We really missed seeing and meeting all of you there and we hope this Snoflyer finds you in good health! We are determined more than ever to have our Fun Run this coming season and we are taking this as an opportunity to make it even BIGGER and better than before!

A HUGE thank you from the Sno-Jammers goes to all our Fun Run sponsors and prize donors for their generosity over the years. There are far too many of you to mention

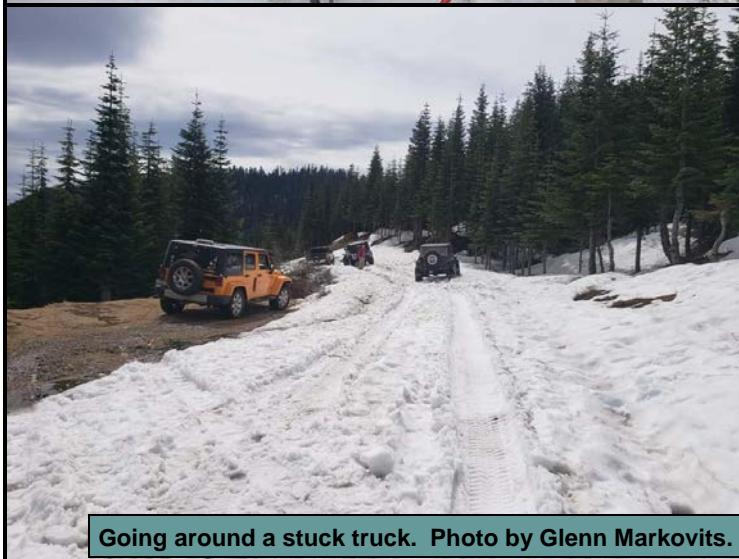
and I do not want to forget anyone!

We would like to congratulate Glenn Markovits for being named the WSSA Grooming Coordinator of the Year and for being elected as the new WSSA District 1 South Representative! Glenn has been a HUGE asset to our



Glenn and Dan fixing a pole while Chris supervises.  
Photo by Tom Imm

Chris and Tom digging out a sign. Photo by Glenn Markovits.



Going around a stuck truck. Photo by Glenn Markovits.

club over the years and I look forward to working with him!

On June 5th, Glenn Markovits, Dan Johnson, Tom Imm and myself went up and finished collecting the signs from the Greenwater area. We made it over Pyramid Pass and stopped for lunch at Gold Creek Station; it was a perfect day for Jeepin'!

The Sno-Jammers will be having their annual River Float Trip on August 13th-16th, and we are also looking forward to our first club meeting of the season scheduled for September 2nd. These meetings are always held on the first Wednesday of each month from 6pm to 8pm during the season. The locations will be announced on our website and Facebook once reservations can be made!

We are still making plans for our road clean-up and wood cutting parties; we will post more information once we work out the details.

### Don't forget to follow us on

Facebook at [www.facebook.com/groups/1302044879815501](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1302044879815501) or our website at [www.snojammers.org](http://www.snojammers.org) for announcements and updates on upcoming events!

We hope you all have a great summer!

# Notes

## Introducing you to Re-Discover WA A Washington Hometown Project

Contact: Jennifer Hackett,  
[jennifer@washingtonhometown.com](mailto:jennifer@washingtonhometown.com)

Changing COVID-19/coronavirus restrictions create need for new recreation web maps and apps.

The anticipation of changes in restrictions indicates the need for easy to use web maps and mobile apps. They would provide up-to-date information on access to recreational facilities and resources.

Washington State is beginning the slow process of easing coronavirus/COVID-19 restrictions. The Washington Hometown (WHT) Project will be providing easy accessible, updated information on this process in our communities, and the recreation and hospitality industry through the use of online recreation web maps and apps. These web maps and apps help people find information on available recreation resources and connect them to open businesses.

The re-opening of recreational facilities and businesses will be done in stages as the rules change over time. Since they will vary by region, agency, area, or sport; access to complete and current information is critically essential and yet hard to find. WHT data taken from over 15,000 recreation resources has been uniquely organized to report on these dynamic and changing conditions. Government orders are analyzed as they are issued and inserted into specific areas and facilities.

WHT's current project, Re-Discover WA, consist of a web map and apps for Apple and Android which are now available. Re-Discover WA will have all the information recreation users need to find where they can enjoy their favorite activities. Whether they are looking for places close to home or want to take a trip around the state, Re-Discover WA will help with planning and navigation.

Web maps currently available:

- Off Highway Vehicles (OHV)
- Water Sports
- Camping
- Hiking
- Biking
- Horse Riding
- Food Tourism
- Dog Owners
- Parents & Kids
- Snow Sports

Visit:

[www.washingtonhometown.com/rediscover-wa](http://www.washingtonhometown.com/rediscover-wa)



## Safety with Jon

# Next year will be a HUGE GROWTH year for the backcountry community including snowmobilers!

By Jon Ferrian — [wssasafety101@gmail.com](mailto:wssasafety101@gmail.com)

Hello Washington sledders!

Greetings from all of us here at WSSA at just over the halfway point of 2020. This year must be one of the most interesting years most of us have ever experienced in our lives. There is a HUGE pent up demand for people who want to get out and enjoy life and like other aspects of their lives are impacted by COVID-19, they will continue to invest in the things that bring them happiness and the ability to feel like the world is still a little bit 'normal'

How could this spike in backcountry use put our safety at risk?

- COVID-19 cut our season short this past winter and this impacted our snowmobile registrations in a negative way reducing the available snowmobile funds for this next season.
- Having less budget for next year could very likely have a direct impact on the amount of grooming and sno-park upkeep that will be available next year.
- Less grooming and less upkeep could lead to less than ideal riding conditions with more people.
- An explosion of people in the backcountry will drive many new concerns.

o Pure numbers of growth mean we have more people on the trails.



o Many of the new people joining will likely not have any safety or avalanche training.

What can be done to get ahead of this imminent risk to back-country safety?

- You can get trained – get signed up for an avalanche training course.
  - o [avtraining.org](http://avtraining.org)
  - o [nwac.us](http://nwac.us)
- You can help encourage and inspire others to get the training that they need to safely access the backcountry.
  - o Youth Safety Classes available at the annual WSSA Snow Show and around the state.
  - o When you're taking new riders out into the back-country with you, insist on them having the basic safety equipment including:
    - Avalanche Transceiver
    - Avalanche Shovel
    - Avalanche Probe

(Continued on page 18)



Coquihalla, British Columbia



## Safety with Jon

(Continued from page 17)

- Basic Awareness Course
- Two Way Radio for safe communication
- First Aid Kits

- What else can be done?

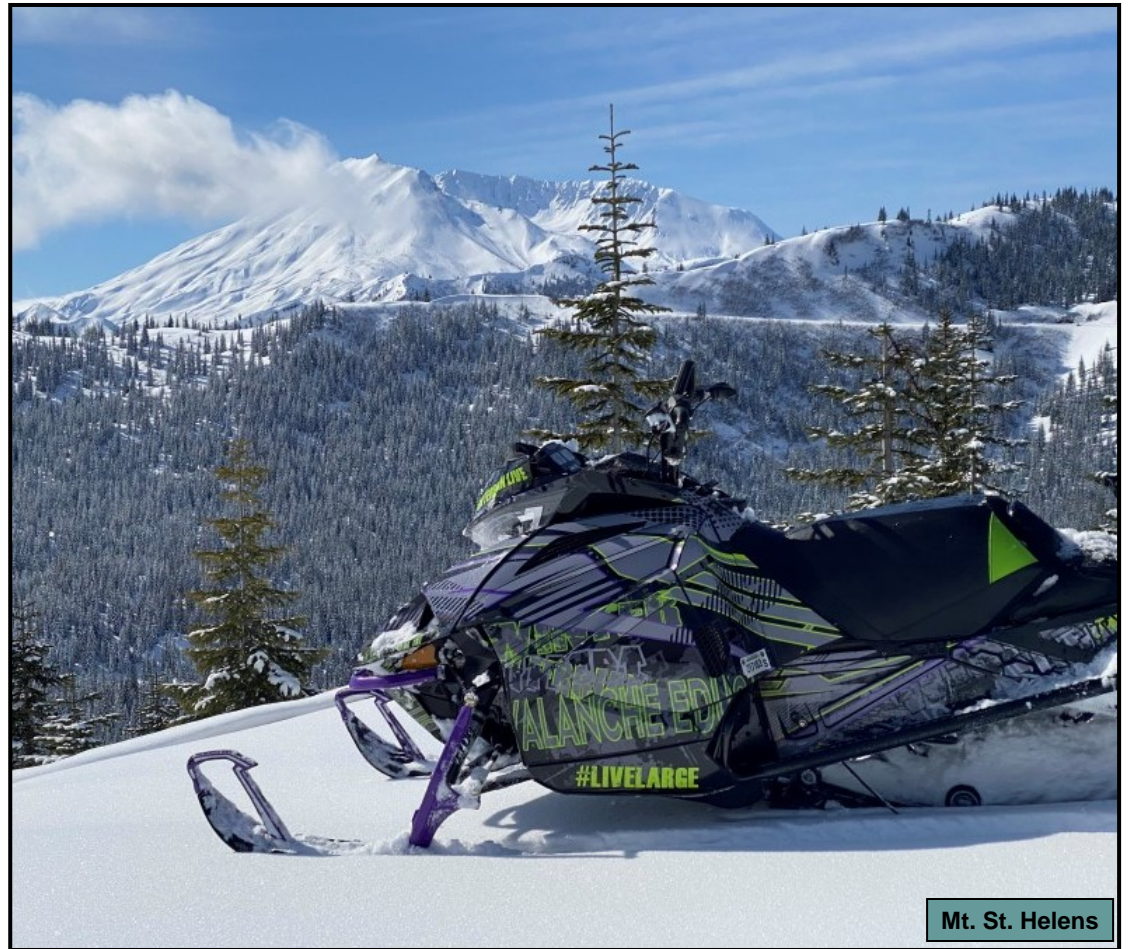
o Register your snowmobiles so we can ensure the funding needed for safe trails and sno-parks are fully maintained in the upcoming seasons to ensure the backcountry is ready for the new growth that is sure to be coming in the next few years.

In a nutshell, getting trained and supporting the overall infrastructure for snowmobiling allows you to have a fun and safe backcountry experience!

For additional information around backcountry snowmobile safety and education, feel free to follow the 'Jon Ferrian Live' Facebook Page for over 120 videos that have been produced over the last two years with interviews with many great people across the industry.

Have a great summer and get ready to ride again this fall!

#LiveLARGE



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# News

## International Snowmobile Hall of Fame - Class of 2020

**Contact: Sarah Anderson, Creative Director, World Snowmobile Headquarters, (715) 479-2186**

We are honored to officially announce the annual inductees to the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame (ISHOF) as part of the new Class of 2020.

For 31 years, this prestigious Hall of Fame honor is bestowed upon the incoming class of annual recipients in recognition for their achievements for the sport of snowmobiling, as awarded each year from select categories that include:

- Inventors, Designers & Manufacturers
- Explorers & Adventurers
- Trail & Program Developers
- Volunteers & Club Organizers
- Publishers & Journalists

Let's meet the ISHOF Class of 2020 Inductees:

### **Terry Hutchinson** **Prior Lake, Minnesota**

#### **Volunteer and Club Organizer**

In his nearly 50 years of organized snowmobiling, Terry Hutchinson has been involved in all levels of the sport. It all started with the creation of the Prior Lake Snowmobile Association in 1972. He served as their President for over 10 years and Trail Coordinator for the past 45 years. In 1984, **Scott County's three snowmobile clubs created an alliance called Sno-Trails, Inc.** Terry held the office of President and served as their Trail Coordinator for 40 plus years as well. **It didn't take long and Terry found himself very involved at the state level, serving the Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association (MnUSA).** Terry became a Region 8 Director. Terry eventually became Vice-President and then President of MnUSA, where he also took on the role as chair of the Trails/DNR (Department of Natural Resources) Committee. It was then that Terry was instrumental in the implementation of a statewide corridor trail system across Minnesota's 22,000 miles of snowmobile trails. In 2008, during his presidency of MnUSA and as chairperson of the Minnesota Snowmobile Advisory Council (MSAC), he played a lead role in implementing funding changes when the club payment



system went from a reimbursement program to a performance based funding program. Some other significant legislation **passed under Terry's leadership included the change in statute regarding the use of studs on state asphalt trails and Minnesota Snowmobile registration fees to include a state trail pass.** Presently, Terry is leading discussions with MnUSA and the state's ATV Association regarding joint snowmobile and winter ATV trails.

Terry also represents snowmobiling on the Minnesota Motorized Trail Coalition and the Coalition of the Recreational Trail Users where he served on their Board since its inception in 2007. Not surprisingly, Terry got involved on a national level as the MnUSA delegate to the Midwest Chapter, American Council of Snowmobile Associations, and has attended Washington D.C. Fly-Ins and several International Snowmobile Congresses. With all that, Terry still remains actively involved in his local snowmobile club and is responsible for marking his own section of trail. **Terry's passion for the sport of snowmobiling knows no bounds.** He lives it every day of his life and it reflects in his actions and involvement, which is why Terry Hutchinson is an obvious choice for induction in the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame, Class of 2020.

### **John Prusak** **New Hope, Minnesota**

#### **Publisher & Journalist**

John has fond memories of riding relatives' and friends' sleds, even though his parents had gotten rid of their snowmobiles when he was young, causing him to miss out on the **'golden era' of snowmobiling.** John's background in snowmobiling is fairly recent compared to some of the other ISHOF inductees. Make no mistake when motorsports is **in your blood and you're from the Midwest,** snowmobiles will become a big part of your life. Putting his journalist skills to work, John plays a major role in keeping all facets of snowmobiling alive and well.



In 1993, John started at what was then Ehlert Publishing as an Associate Editor for Snowmobile Magazine, Snow Goer, Snow Week and Snowmobile Business. He was promoted quickly through the ranks. By 1995 he was Managing Editor and then went on to be the lead Editor of all four publications in 1996. **John's enthusiasm and journalist talents were needed and couldn't be contained to only snow-related motorsports.** In 2002, he was promoted outside of the Snowmobile group as Associate Publisher of other magazines such as Powersports Business, Boating Industry and more. Ultimately everybody who knows John knows snowmobiling is his passion. So in 2003 he was promoted once again to Publisher of the Snowmobile Group, and concurrently also served for periods of time as Editor/Publisher of ATV Magazine, ATV Sport, UTV Magazine, Trailer Life and other publications.

**To date, in John's 27 year career, he has participated in 27 Rode Reports/Snow Shoot testing events, 27 consecutive Hay Days events, 25 Eagle River Derby events, 24 of the last 26 Big East Powersports Shows, more than a dozen International Snowmobile Congresses and many other major snowmobile events.** You name it, wherever people gather at a major snowmobile venue, John will be there covering the story. In addition, John has personally ridden snowmobiles in 23 states and provinces, and has attended events in an additional seven **states and provinces where he hasn't snowmobiled (yet).**

John learned early on from his predecessors, John Ehlert and Dick Hendricks, that he always felt it was his responsibility to cover ALL facets of snowmobiling in Snow Goer including snowmobile clubs and organizations, which John does with every single issue.

It is with this high level of dedication and professionalism to the snowmobiling community that John Prusak is appropriately inducted into the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame, Class of 2020.

(Continued on page 20)





# News

## International Snowmobile Hall of Fame - Class of 2020 (cont)

(Continued from page 19)

**Linda Rockwood**  
**Utica, New York**

### **Inventor & Designer**

An innovator, a savvy business person and most importantly someone who cared deeply about snowmobiling, Linda was a pioneer in the Snowmobile Trail Webmap and Smart Phone App design business. She founded Mohawk Valley GIS (MVGIS) back in 2003, which first helped the local snowmobile clubs in New York state, and then started working with other states as well. Linda knew there was a need for the snowmobilers and snowmobile clubs to have a webmap, to be able to locate parking, trails, gas, food and lodging. Her visions for maps being contained within one's own cell phone while out riding the trails and not being tied to a paper map brought us to where we are today with the technology to safely allow snowmobile riders to utilize their smart phones to navigate snowmobile trail systems.

Linda began soliciting the input of several snowmobile clubs to help improve her app and refine it so it could be used to assist with volunteer snowmobile club operations and also aid in raising funds. Later versions included functions such as automatic trail conditions which allowed for refined groomer scheduling and groomer tracking, which kept riders informed of grooming activities. She was also able to incorporate on the app a profit sharing system which gave participating clubs a simple fundraising platform. Linda understood the importance of and genuinely wanted the clubs and the sport to progress and succeed like never before. Dozens of riders wrote and shared how helpful the app was in hazardous situations, especially white-out conditions. The GIS (geographic information systems) technology helped riders confidently explore new trails.

Linda Rockwood's New York state snowmobile app was way ahead of its time. Soon her app was adopted in other states such as Massachusetts, Vermont and Wyoming. She set the bar high. It paved the way for other snowmobile apps and remains unchallenged to this day.

Linda had to shut down her MVGIS business due to serious illness, to which she



succumbed in January, 2020. We lost a true entrepreneur and pioneer who worked and succeeded in making snowmobiling better for many snowmobilers and clubs that were fortunate to employ her technology. Her loss leaves an enormous hole in snowmobile navigation development.

It is with heavy heart and great honor we present this award to her family and acknowledge Linda (posthumously) as an inductee to the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame, Class of 2020.

**Peggy Spieger**  
**LaPine, Oregon**

### **Trail Program Developer and Volunteer**

Starting to ride snowmobiles over four decades ago with her husband John and family, they all became involved with their local snowmobile club and the Oregon State Snowmobile Association (OSSA). Peggy has worked tirelessly to represent Oregon's snowmobilers as well as snowmobilers throughout the Western Snowbelt. During forty years of distinguished service to the sport of snowmobiling, Peggy has made contributions as a trail and program developer and volunteer leader at the club, state, national and international levels.

For the past 32 consecutive years, Peggy has provided unprecedented service for the Oregon State Snowmobile Association where she served as their Secretary, Administrative Coordinator and Executive Director. She has also been active with the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA), the International Association of Snowmobile Administrators (IASA), and the Western Chapter of Snowmobile Associations, as well as being a long-time, very active member of the Iron Dog Brigade and her local snowmobile club.

As OSSA's Executive Director, Peggy has played a leading role in efforts to keep snowmobiling access open across Oregon. She has worked diligently with the U.S. Forest Service to maintain the rights of snowmobilers to access National Parks such as Crater Lake National Park, the Newberry National Volcanic Monument and development



of the Kapka Butte Sno-Park. Peggy works with the Oregon Department of Transportation to administer and operate Oregon's 6,410 miles of snowmobile trails. She has played a key role in overseeing OSSA's daily association business, along with coordinating annual snowmobile trail operations. In conjunction with her oversight of the trail administrations, Peggy has served as Oregon's representative to IASA and has played a key role in every annual International Snowmobile Congress (ISC) since 1988. She has also regularly participated in ACSA meetings and functions since it was created in 1995. She has been a voice for snowmobiling in Washington D.C. by attending ACSA Fly-In meetings every year to work toward protecting the rights of people who use public lands respectfully.

Peggy has represented OSSA with a very high level of honesty and integrity, always keeping a focus on doing what is best for the sport of snowmobiling. It is Peggy's unrelenting drive that so deservingly places her into the 2020 Class of the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame inductees.

Other ISHOF Special Award Recipients of 2020:

**International Snowmobile Club of the Year - sponsored By Woody's:**

**Sno-Trails Snowmobile Club, Hayward, Wisconsin**



The Sno-Trails Club began in 1969 and is very active in the Sawyer County Snowmobile/ATV Alliance and Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs. They maintain 175 miles of trail and have logged 850 volunteer grooming hours in a single season. They utilize over 1,000 wooden stakes to mark safe passage across eight lakes and are always researching new easements for new and improved trail relocations. Sno-Trails consistently rosters 200+ family memberships annually, 40% being local residents and the remainder of members simply choose to ride their trails and support the club. Sno-Trails holds three major fundraising events every year with proceeds going

(Continued on page 21)



## International Snowmobile Hall of Fame - Class of 2020

(Continued from page 20)

to county-wide trail maintenance. They are the Vintage Ride for American Cancer Society, Poker Run and Spring Bash. Sno-Trails also publishes a monthly newsletter with safety tips, trail updates and calendar of events. They utilize social media as well as local newspaper and radio to promote the club, their trails and snowmobile safety. Sno-Trails Snowmobile Club adopted their youth program called YETIS (Youth Excited and Interested in Snowmobiles) in 2015. Sno-Trails headline on their website is... 'It's All About the Trails' and for 2020, Sno-Trails of Hayward, WI earns the coveted International Snowmobile Club of the Year.

### 2020 International Snowmobile Dealer of the Year - sponsored by Snow Goer:

**Day's Powersports,  
Bloomer, Wisconsin**

For a younger dealership, just 11 years old, Day's Powersports has built a very distinguished reputation. A family-owned business that believes in treating customers the way they like to be treated – like friends. The staff is top notch, very knowledgeable and treats every customer like an old friend. Business owner Jamison Day has been with the Bloomer Sno-Hawks Snowmobile Club for over two decades and has always been active in supporting and growing the sport of snowmobiling in Chippewa County. Since starting the dealership, they have been avid advertisers on local snowmobile maps and sponsor signage on all the snow drags in Chippewa County. They provide a snowmobile for classroom studies during DNR Snowmobile Safety Courses. They open their shop space for club members to work on trail signs. Their shop and mechanics are readily available to help with repairs to groomers when needed and they provide storage for the grooming equipment. **Because of their knowledge of Wisconsin's snowmobile program and their passion for snowmobiling, Day's Powersports is an excellent choice for the 2020 International Snowmobile Dealer of the Year.**



### 2020 International Groomer of the Year - sponsored by Arrowhead Groomers, Track Inc. and Pisten Bully:

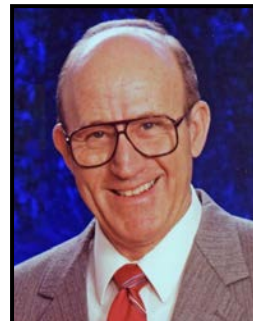
**Don Wild,  
Antigo, Wisconsin**



Don Wild started grooming snowmobile trails in 1968 when the Antigo Sno-Drifters club was formed. Back then he did it with only a snowmobile and built a homemade drag with parts and pieces of old farm machinery. Today Don still grooms at least three days a week on some of the most modern commercially made grooming units you will find anywhere. Don is an excellent mechanic on heavy equipment and keeps the club's groomers and drags in top condition. Don has been Trail Boss for the Antigo Sno-Drifters for 40+ years and running. He coordinates with the groomer operators as to when and where to groom as snow conditions warrant. Don has developed several grooming techniques, one his club calls 'Snow Management', a unique way for holding snow in open areas which helps establish a solid deep base in the 'flats' where grooming is often difficult. Don puts in countless hours so snowmobilers can have a fun, safe and memorable ride. Over 50 volunteer years of grooming snowmobile trails makes Don Wild a very worthy choice for International Groomer of the Year.

### 2020 Edgar Hetteen Memorial Award of Merit:

**James Lewis,  
Springfield, Missouri**



Jim graduated in 1958 from the engineering program at LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas. In 1962, he took a job with Dayco Corporation in Springfield as an applications engineer. In his career with Dayco, Jim shared the honor of having six U.S. patents, including an asymmetric belt transmission, which he helped Dayco patent. Then he was granted patents on design applications built for snowmobile testing and patents for the de-

sign of several types of snowmobile belts. By 1964, during his time with Dayco, Jim worked with Polaris Industries testing and evaluating variable speed drive belts on their snowmobiles and eventually in 1991 did the same with Bombardier. Jim was the first engineer to design 'Top Cog' belts for snowmobiles which are today's standard on all snowmobiles. Jim retired from Dayco in 1992.

Throughout his 30 years at Dayco, Jim worked with iconic snowmobile legends from Polaris and Arctic Cat such as Edgar Hetteen, Allen Hetteen, Bob Eastman, Leroy Lindblad, Larry Rugland, Roger Skime and Charlie Lofton. It is because of these distinguished accomplishments we are awarding the 2020 Edgar Hetteen Memorial Award of Merit to James Lewis.

Join us for the ISHOF Induction Weekend in Eagle River, Wisconsin, on Friday and Saturday, September 25th-26th.

We invite YOU to honor the new class of 2020 and special award recipients with a special banquet and induction ceremony in their honor. The ISHOF induction ceremony weekend celebrates and honors those involved in the sport of snowmobiling; recognizing a NEW class inducted into the Hall. Join the celebration: We invite all industry representatives, dealership personnel, club members, motorsports enthusiasts, friends, fans and supporters alike to attend this ISHOF annual special event. Join us for a formal sit down prime rib or chicken dinner (your choice) to officially honor the Class of 2020 as they're inducted into the Hall on Saturday, September 26th, at Eagle Waters Resort, 3958 Eagle Waters Rd, Eagle River, Wisconsin. This is a semi-formal affair so please dress accordingly for the event. Show your support for the newly inducted Hall of Fame Class of 2020 and all special award recipients by registering online [www.ishof.com](http://www.ishof.com) to attend. ALL major credit cards and PayPal are accepted for secure online payment with immediate receipt and event info provided to you via e-mail with your paid registration.

**NOTE: Registration is REQUIRED for ALL guests and supporters to attend. Registrations closes on September 15th, 2020. Thank you for your support. See YOU in September!**





## Notes

### Hailey Gallatin wins WSSA's 2020 Scholarship!



I would like to thank everyone who applied for the 2020 WSSA scholarship. I thoroughly enjoyed reading everyone's essay. Each and every one of you are well on your way to becoming truly amazing adults. I know each of you will continue to be snowmobile enthusiasts and will continue the snowmobile tradition for years to come. We are fortunate to have your voices and passion as the next generation of riders.

**I would like to announce that Hailey Gallatin will be receiving the \$2,000 scholarship.**

All the entries were very well done, and very good. Luckily, I was guided by a point system which allowed me to be impartial. I wish everyone the best of luck in your life endeavors, and always keep snowmobiling close to your heart.

Sincerely,

Shami Ruggles,  
WSSA Scholarship Chair



### Western Chapter Snowmobile Associations' Scholarship

Wondering who won the 2020 Western Chapter Scholarship? The judging has been completed, but as this Snoflyer went to press, the winner had not been formally announced. We'll bring you that info in an upcoming edition as soon as we know!



### Wisconsin snowmobiler wins C.J. Ramstad Scholarship offered by ISMC

**Contact: Mary Anne Grabow, ISMC Chair, (605) 272-5900**

The International Snowmobile Media Council Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the winner of the CJ Ramstad Scholarship for 2020. The CJ Ramstad Memorial Scholarship has been awarded each year since 2009 in honor of our friend and fellow media member, CJ Ramstad of Minnesota. CJ was an innovator and a true talent who left this world much too early.

Brice Henry from Wisconsin is the winner of this year's scholarship. Brice is a member of the Winfield Wildcats Snowmobile Club and will be attending the University of Wisconsin – River Falls studying Agricultural Engineering. She is the daughter of Marc & Jody Henry of Wisconsin Dells. Congratulations, Brice!

Brice edged out three other applicants for the award this year. All of the applicants did an admirable job of composing an essay for the competition. Theme of the essay this year was: In your opinion, what do snowmobile clubs and associations need to do in order to engage Millennials and Gen Zs, and encourage them to become active participants in the organization's activities?

The International Snowmobile Media Council (ISMC) is dedicated to promoting snowmobiling as a safe and exciting family recreation. The Council consists of editors and publishers of snowmobile related media and others interested in snowmobiling. Donations to the scholarship fund are always welcome. 100% of the donations are used for funding scholarship.

### Snowmobile registrations through May 2020.

*While we don't yet have the numbers for June, based on the past several years, it is likely we'll be down 1,300+ registrations as compared to FY 2019 and 5,000 registrations off of the FY 2017 high. It is likely some tough decisions will have to be made at this summer's funding meeting and a reduction in services on the snow next season may occur.*

*(Remember, every sled not registered costs the program almost \$100, nearly double the actual registration cost.)*

### Snowmobile Registrations

	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY 19-20 Difference
July	166	149	145	134	148	166	18
August	1,142	531	676	782	2,307	222	(2,085)
September	3,546	2,968	3,145	2,946	1,682	2,974	1,292
October	2,544	1,662	2,139	2,489	1,882	3,357	1,475
November	2,870	3,129	3,362	4,360	2,960	2,372	(588)
December	6,656	11,575	13,170	6,973	8,320	6,726	(1,594)
January	2,741	3,528	3,196	3,358	3,433	4,514	1,081
February	381	1,164	1,513	1,166	1,602	1,293	(309)
March	68	298	686	674	958	355	(603)
April	42	82	181	175	258	89	(169)
May	22	32	93	93	90	135	45
June	23	30	84	71	83		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>20,201</b>	<b>25,148</b>	<b>28,390</b>	<b>23,221</b>	<b>23,723</b>	<b>22,203</b>	<b>(1,437)</b>

24%

11%



# ACSA E-News

**Contact: Christine Jourdain, Executive Director,  
ACSA, (517) 351-4362**



## Thank You!

Thanks to the many snowmobilers who have been working through this COVID-19 period! We appreciate each and every one of you and your efforts!!

We probably don't say thanks enough - please know you are appreciated each and every day!

## CRT Seeking Award Nominations

The Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT) has once again issued a call for nominations for outstanding projects that utilized funds from the Recreational Trails Program (RTP).

The CRT not only recognizes great projects, it also raises the profile of RTP on Capitol Hill, which will help keep the program funded and secure. Nominations are due by July 31st, 2020.

Unlike previous years, there will not be an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. but, there will be an online 'virtual' ceremony later this summer. However, all award winners will be invited to participate in the next 'live' event on Capitol Hill in June 2021.

For more information on CRT, visit [www.americantrails.org/crt](http://www.americantrails.org/crt).

Projects must be completed in order to receive an award. In addition, projects completed before 2011 are ineligible.

Project award categories include: construction and design; maintenance and rehabilitation; public-private partnerships and access to public lands; community linkage; education and communication; accessibility enhancement; multiple-use management and 'corridor sharing'; use of youth conservation/service corps and community outreach; engaging public-sector partners; and enhancement of Federal lands.

Please consider all projects that were completed with RTP funding. This year's nominations process can be completed in entirety via this form: <https://form.jotform.com/200656868091159>.

## Forest Service Timber Production is Up!

"Under this administration, the Forest Service has sold more timber than we have in the last 22 years and made significant increases in our hazardous fuels treatments and active management of our National Forests. "While I am proud of our progress to promote active management, reduce hazardous fuels, work across boundaries and increase the resiliency of our Nation's forests and grasslands, I believe more can be done," said Secretary Perdue.

Secretary Perdue went on to say, "Today, 12 June, I am announcing a blueprint for reforms to provide further relief from burdensome regulations, improve customer service, and boost the pro-

THANK YOU GROCERY STORE CLERKS

THANK YOU MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

THANK YOU RESTAURANT WORKERS

THANK YOU TRANSIT WORKERS

THANK YOU TRUCK DRIVERS

THANK YOU WAREHOUSE WORKERS

THANK YOU SANITATION WORKERS

THANK YOU FARMERS

ductivity of our National Forest system."

## Understanding the Great Outdoors Act

U.S. Senators Cory Gardner, R-CO, and Joe Manchin, D-WV, say federal legislation to improve public lands will help restart the country's economy. The Great American Outdoors Act, was introduced in March and has bipartisan support.

The bill does a few things, including making \$900 million each year - into perpetuity - for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) mandatory spending, rather than discretionary. In other words, Congress would no longer consider LWCF priorities and spending through the annual appropriations process. It would now give federal agencies an annual \$900 million check with no strings attached. If enacted, the agencies will have millions of dollars available to purchase vast swaths of land - and no one can tell them "no".

A National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund would be created which would mitigate deferred maintenance costs to Federal public lands. Federal public lands have \$20 billion in existing deferred maintenance costs, while the National Parks Service itself has a \$12 billion backlog.

Half of all revenue from energy development on public lands - or up to \$1.9 billion annually - would be allocated to the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund. That fund would distribute the money to the National Park Service, the Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Indian Education to cover costs of backlogged maintenance.

The maintenance backlog is due to a combination of a lack of money being appropriated by Congress due to budget constraints, new land acquisitions, and an increase in visitors.

It is thought by some that the acquisition of lands was outpacing the maintenance budget in recent years.

Recently the Senate passed the Great American Outdoors Act, 73-25. This will now move to the House for debate and discussion.

## New Transportation Bill Passed Subcommittee

The House Transportation Committee recently voted to advance a 5-year, \$494 billion surface transportation reauthorization.

The bill will form part of a broader \$1.5 trillion infrastructure package for everything from roads to education, housing, clean water and broadband. The House Democrats announced the plan during an interruption in the two-day markup.

Under the Democrat-led bill, rail and bus networks would get priority over road and highway repairs. Charging stations for electric vehicles would be built along U.S. highways, putting the United States on a "path toward zero emissions from the transportation sector".

"Instead of following the Senate's lead, House Democrats cut Republicans out of the process and wrote a partisan bill," said Sen. John Barrasso, R-WY, chairman of the committee.

In the Senate, Republicans and Democrats have coalesced around a more modest \$287 billion transportation bill, with funding aimed squarely at roads and bridges. That bill passed the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee unanimously last year.

The current bill expires in September, 2020.

(Continued on page 24)



## ACSA E-News

(Continued from page 23)

### HAY DAYS IS ON!

What a great message we recently heard!

"After much discussion we've decided to proceed with preparations for Hay Days 2020 as scheduled."

Preparations for Hay Days 2020 will proceed as scheduled. While no one can predict what COVID-related challenges may still exist three months from now, we are hopeful the situation will continue to improve. Our efforts over the months leading to Hay Days will be focused on the changes necessary to safely conduct Hay Days recognizing a new reality where physical distancing, robust sanitation practices, and self-awareness must be front and center.

### Polaris To Build U.S. Special Operations Vehicles

Polaris was just awarded a government contract with U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) which awarded Polaris a contract for the Polaris MRZR Alpha, a new light tactical vehicle. The 7-year contract has a value of up to \$109 million.

Polaris is the largest ultralight tactical vehicle provider for the U.S. military, with the MRZR Alpha being Polaris' 11th military vehicle produced in 12 years.

"Polaris has had the privilege of providing vehicles to USSOCOM since 2005 and we take a great deal of pride in delivering and supporting the current LTATV," said Jed Leonard, vice president, Polaris Government and Defense.

### Tekrider Making Healthcare PPE

Tekrider of Ontario, Canada, was in the business of making personal protective equipment (PPE) before they launched PPE for healthcare workers with the onset of COVID.

When COVID struck the U.S., Tekrider switched from making TekVests to manufacturing the healthcare PPE. It was a decision of both empathy and business sense - and an idea that came to mind while on a late-season snowmobiling trip.

According to Steve Brand, "It was easy for us to do because we were already in the cut-and-sew business. We just had to come up with some prototypes. We worked really hard to get the needed fabrics, and changed our floor spacing to add about a half dozen new specialized machines to handle this type of work."

Of the 20 staff members employed at the time of shutdown, 15

have since returned, in addition to a network of 30 home-based sewers.

"We've been making PPE for almost 24 years... We just switched from making PPE for dirt bikes and sleds, to PPE for medical use," said Brand.

Thank you Tekrider! Keep up the good work!

### President Gives Agencies Power to Fast-Track Big Infrastructure Projects

Recently President Donald Trump signed an Executive Order that gives the Federal agencies emergency powers to fast-track major energy and other infrastructure projects by overriding environmental permitting requirements.

The White House said the Order was a way to help the economy rebound from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and improve infrastructure.

It calls for public works and highway projects as well as energy projects like pipelines and terminals to be expedited. It instructs the Interior, Agriculture and Defense Departments to accelerate projects on Federal lands.

### NEPA Overhaul Moves Toward Final Release

The Trump administration's controversial rewrite of regulations surrounding the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is closer to being complete.

Recently the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) sent the rule to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. The push to retool NEPA rules is part of the Administration's attempt to fundamentally change environmental policy for the long haul.

The plan, the White House says, would 'modernize' and speed up environmental review for major projects like bridges, highways and pipelines. But critics say proposed changes would also downplay climate considerations, allowing agencies to only consider environmental impacts directly tied to a project.

A spokesperson for the CEQ confirmed this week the NEPA rule has moved on to final review. "It is a priority for the Administration to promote a more efficient, effective, and timely environmental review and permitting process."

### Wild Fire Season

Wild fire season is upon us. Dramatic changes will need to be made due to COVID-19.

When a wildfire explodes out of control and threatens property and lives, thousands of firefighters and support crews rush to the scene from around the country. Almost overnight a small city sprouts up, with firefighters camped in dense rows of tents in fields and eating in crowded mess halls. There are the caterers, the contractors, the crew bosses huddled around laptops at the command post. Fire camps are akin to cruise ships on land, says Melissa Baumann, who heads the union representing U.S. Forest Service employees.

It will be interesting to see what type of changes will occur.

### Are You Following Us?

[www.facebook.com/AmericanCouncilofSnowmobileAssociations](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanCouncilofSnowmobileAssociations)

**(Information pulled from weekly e-mail blasts and edited for publication in the Snoflyer.)**



**Visit [www.snowmobile.org](http://www.snowmobile.org) for Safe Riders! material. Please use to promote club membership and snowmobile safety!**





# ISMA Update

## ISMA

International  
Snowmobile  
Manufacturers  
Association

Every summer at the International Snowmobile Congress, ISMA's president, Ed Klim, updates attendees on the information his organization is tracking. Although there was no Congress this year, Ed provided the informational PowerPoint to the state and provincial snowmobile associations.

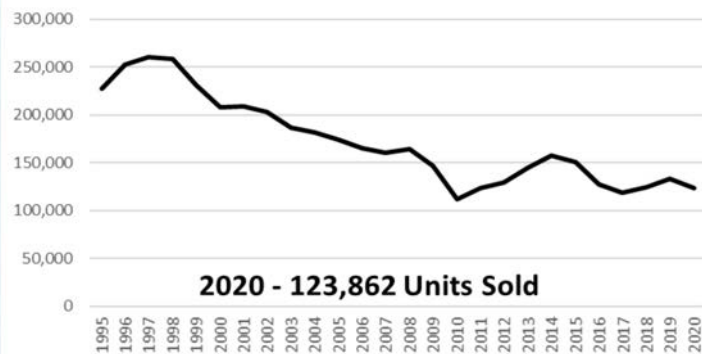
### ISMA UPDATE 2020

Manufacturer's Update

### NEW SNOWMOBILE SALES

	2020	2019	2018
<b>Worldwide:</b>	123,862 Units	133,081 Units	124,786 Units
<b>United States:</b>	51,036 Units	55,025 Units	53,179 Units
<b>Canada:</b>	43,535 Units	46,784 Units	47,024 Units
<b>Sweden:</b>	8,326 Units	11,956 Units	10,159 Units
<b>Norway:</b>	4,768 Units	5,862 Units	5,071 Units
<b>Finland:</b>	5,094 Units	4,581 Units	3,627 Units
<b>Russia:</b>	7,191 Units	6,411 Units	3,404 Units
<b>Other:</b>	3,912 Units	2,462 Units	2,322 Units

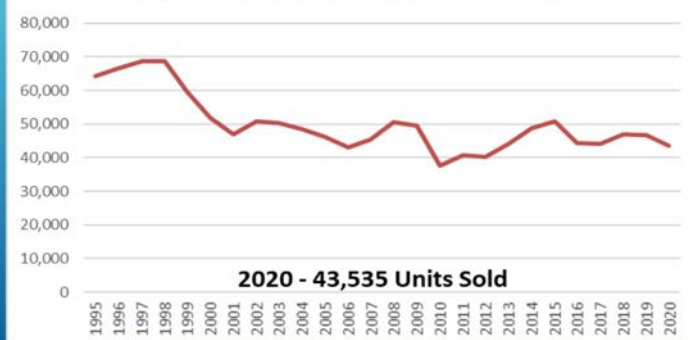
Worldwide New Snowmobile Sales - History



United States New Snowmobile Sales History



Canadian New Snowmobile Sales - History



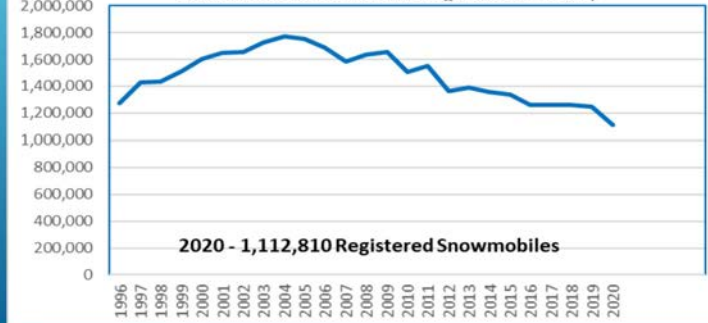
Scandinavian New Snowmobile Sales - History



Russian Sales History



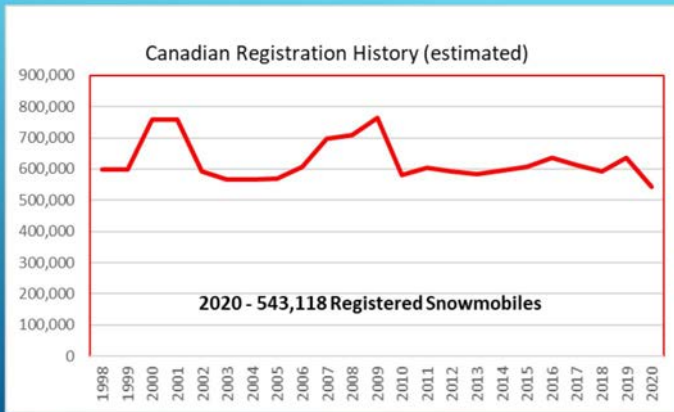
United States Snowmobile Registration History





# ISMA Update

(Continued from page 25)



## 2019-2020 Survey Results:

Average age – old	45 years
1 <sup>st</sup> snowmobile purchased was used:	63%
new:	37%
Do you belong to a Club or Association	91% yes
Miles/Kilometers ridden this year:	1111 Mi/1788 Km

**50% Trailer their snowmobiles to ride**  
**50% Ride from their cabin or home**

**16% of snowmobilers are Female**  
**84% of snowmobilers are Male**

**Average spent annually on Snowmobiling:**  
**\$3,420.00**

## Snowmobilers OTHER recreational pursuits:

• ATV riding	55%
• Boating	46%
• Camping/RVing	53%
• Down-hill skiing	9%
• Fishing	45%
• Golfing	27%
• Hiking	29%
• Hunting	29%
• Motorcycle riding	26%
• Personal watercraft riding	11%
• Dirt bike riding	5%
• Horseback riding	3%
• Other (please specify)	14%

## The Outdoor Recreation Economy Generates:

- \$766 Billion in consumer spending annually
- 5 Million American Jobs
- \$72 Billion in Federal Tax Revenue
- \$63 Billion in State and Local Tax Revenue

## Websites:

- [www.snowmobile.org](http://www.snowmobile.org) 1,927,069 hits in 2020
- [www.gosnowmobiling.org](http://www.gosnowmobiling.org) 1,657,661 hits in 2020
- [www.facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling](https://www.facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling) 11,201 followers and growing

## Safe Riders! material available:

Fact Book\*  
 Brochure  
 Decals  
 Safe Riders! Video chapters\* online  
 Radio and TV PSAs\*  
 Print PSAs\*  
 \* Found on the web: [www.snowmobile.org](http://www.snowmobile.org)

International Snowmobile  
 Safety Week:  
**January 16-24, 2021**

\*\*\*\*\*

Take a Friend Snowmobiling Week:  
**February 6-15, 2021**

(Continued on page 27)



(Continued from page 26)

**Snowmobile Safety.....**  
Avalanche Awareness and safety training has expanded.

- **GET THE GEAR:**
- **GET THE TRAINING:**
- **GET THE FORECAST:**
- **GET THE PICTURE:**
- **GET OUT OF HARMS WAY:**

## ISMA Grant Project Objectives

- Support state and provincial government rides
- Safe Rider Support efforts
- Increasing or maintaining land access and support
- Precedent setting lawsuits regarding land access issues
- Economic Impact studies



**SAE Snowmobile Challenge**

March 9-14, 2020  
March 8-15, 2021 – next year

## Washington DC Issues:

- RTP Review - ongoing
- Outdoor Recreation Roundtable – promoting Recreation to US Congress for support

## Canadian Update:



1. New Economic impact shows \$9.3 Billion from snowmobiling
2. Canadian Outdoor Recreation Roundtable – promoting outdoor recreation in Canada
3. Species at Risk – Caribou Management study in British Columbia and Alberta is continuing

## E.U. Update:

- ❖ Emissions – (PEMS) Portable Emissions Measurement Systems work continues
- ❖ Define riding areas in Sweden

Friends of Snowmobiling Political Action Committee

**FOSPAC supports Federal Candidates for Election in the U.S. who are**

**“Friends of Snowmobiling”**



NEW PHOTOS AVAILABLE FROM:

HIGH RES DOWNLOAD: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/18R141KHU963AACT1/GCEX08Q05XG?dl=1> OR  
LOW RES DOWNLOAD: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/18R141KHU963AACT1/GCEX08Q05XG?dl=1> OR  
VIEW ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AT: [www.facebook.com/washingtonsnowmobiling](https://www.facebook.com/washingtonsnowmobiling)

(Continued on page 28)





29th  
Annual

# 2020 WASHINGTON SNOWMOBILE & POWER SPORTS EXPO AND SWAP MEET

[WWW.WSSAEXPO.COM](http://WWW.WSSAEXPO.COM)



Saturday 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Sunday 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

**Washington State Fair Events Center, Puyallup, Washington**

Admission \$10.00 • Children 12 and Under Free

Safe Rider Snowmobile Seminar for 12-16 year olds to earn a Snowmobile Safety Certificate  
Call WA State Parks at 1-360-902-8684 to register or send e-mail to: [winter@parks.wa.gov](mailto:winter@parks.wa.gov)

Free Seminars on Saturday Noon to 5 P.M.

Expo: 1-866-999-EXPO (3976) Swap Meet: 1-888-457-SWAP (7927)





# Matt's Misc.

By Matt Mead, Publicity Secretary



**R.I.P. Jerry Burr.** I first got to know Jerry and Elaine Burr after a snowmobile accident that occurred up in the Little Naches area; we met up with a reporter from a local TV station who was reporting on it and who wanted a quote from WSSA at the accident scene. I had never ridden the area and after the reporter left, they took me on a whirlwind ride up to Raven's Roost to check out the view. It wasn't long after that when WSSA tasked me to host our annual Military Ride and Jerry and Elaine were quick to volunteer to help. They loved the event and helped every year until they moved out of Central Washington to be closer to family over in the Vancouver area. Jerry recently passed away and I wanted to note how much I appreciated his support and friendship and extend my condolences to Elaine and their family. Here's hoping Jerry has perfect snow and breathtaking views in eternity.

**YOWZA!** As snowmobile season wound down and COVID wound up, I never would have imagined, five months later, we'd still be living this hell today! Regardless of where you sit, businesses have been destroyed and personal freedoms have been restricted. Even though it is our 'off' season, snowmobiling has been impacted; cancellation of the International Snowmobile Congress has occurred and now WSSA is fretting the status of our summer and October meetings, and more importantly, the WSSA Expo and Swap Meet. I sure hope things improve by the time the snow flies in November!

**Where'd everybody go?** The mountains is my guess! I've never seen so many people camping and exploring in the local Cascades! Even before the State lifted restrictions on public lands, the Federal lands were populated. Sadly, this wasn't all good as the amount of trash people have been leaving is incredible. It seems many of these people lack manners and common sense. With that, please consider packing a handful of large garbage bags when you go out and clean up after these pigs. We shouldn't have to, but it beats being locked out of our favorite areas when the landowners (Federal, State or other) decide they have had enough.

**If you can't beat 'em...** I went over to the dark side. I bought a side by side. Our family has had a couple of ATVs for years, but a UTV seemed like a nice addition, giving an option to take the dog along. While I'm a strong advocate in legalizing tracked ATVs/UTVs on our trails, I'm not sure I'll buy tracks for ours. (The price of tracks is staggering.) Now that I've spent some time in one, I can see the draw and it confirms my belief tracked ATVs/UTVs are a legitimate way to

grow our sport and bring in both an older crowd and more young families. Me, I'm just going to enjoy another three-season vehicle, tackling Jeep trails I wouldn't actually want to drive a Jeep on.

**Powersports businesses booming?** Funny thing, I thought buying a UTV now would bring me a killer deal. I (Continued on page 30)




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**2020 Marlon Pro II Sled Decks**  
NEW!  
SALE  
~~\$5,299~~  
**Now \$4,199!**




**Marlon UTV Side x Side Decks**  
NEW!  
SALE  
~~\$2,999~~  
**Now \$2,799!**




**ALL TRADES WELCOME!**




**ELITE 5'X12' TILT TRAILER**  
\$2,099



**AUT853 UTILITY TRAILER**  
\$2,199




**KAYAK/CANOE TRAILER**  
STARTING AT \$1,499



**TC 128 ENCLOSED**  
Now \$5,999!



**LT-WCI SINGLE WATERCRAFT TRAILER**  
\$1,499




**TILT 1282 UTV TRAILER**  
\$3,899




**ELITE WCII 2-PLACE WATERCRAFT TRAILER**  
\$2,599



**XT 4.5 10'X53" W TRAILER**  
\$1,899



**2019 Triton TR 1482**  
SR # 3374  
Was \$4,499  
SAVE \$800  
Sale Price \$3,899



**2019 Triton AUT853 Bi-Fold**  
SR # 3375  
Was \$2,999  
SAVE \$800  
Sale Price \$2,499




**2019 Triton AUT1483-1**  
SR # 3376  
Was \$4,799  
SAVE \$800  
Sale Price \$3,999



**2019 Triton XT12VR-101-QP**  
SR # 3347  
Was \$3,999  
SAVE \$800  
Sale Price \$3,199

LARGEST TRITON DEALER IN THE WEST!







# Matt's Misc.

(Continued from page 29) figured dealers and manufacturers would be trying to give them away during this COVID plague. After talking to my local dealer, I learned they had in fact had a couple of bad months when they were forced to close their doors, but ever since they have been able to start selling again, **they can't keep anything in inventory.** My salesman said May was on track for being the biggest sales month since he had worked there and since I bought my ATVs from him many years back, he has some history behind him. So, why the strong sales? Guess for the same reason the mountains are full of people! There are so many things we **can't do right now... no movie theaters open in my area for one... it appears people are scrambling to find ways to have fun in the outdoors.** Guess that isn't so bad (beyond the trash mentioned). While my theory of 'fire sale' prices might have been wrong, I'm happy for the local dealers as we need them to survive and thrive so they can sell us snowmobiles, parts and service!

**4.8% sales increase! But not all good news...** Bombardier Recreational Products (BRP) saw a 4.8% sales increase in the U.S. during first quarter, despite global pandemic. They did report a \$226-million loss back in May when dealers were forced to close their doors during the initial lockdown temporarily eroded product demand. But BRP claims sales across all products and geographies are up about 35 per cent compared to this time last year as people look for activities to do closer to home. Despite optimism that COVID-19 could actually be good for business, BRP estimates revenue will fall 40 per cent in the second quarter compared to the same period last year and drop between 10 and 20 percent in the second half of the year. Disposable income for expensive products historically take a hit and millions of people have lost jobs across North America. **BRP stock was likely a 'buy' back at the end of March;** it fell from an all-time high of near \$75 in January to just under \$20 and has **since rebounded into the \$40s.** Wished I'd bought some!

**BRP Drops Evinrude E-TEC Injected Outboard Motors.** That was the headline back in June. Stunning! Did you know Ski-Doo's E-TEC's roots go back to OMC (Outboard Marine Corporation) and was being developed for Evinrude outboard motors? OMC went bankrupt and BRP picked up Evinrude. Hard to say what Ski-Doo would be using if they hadn't acquired this technology. BRP reported the COVID crisis pushed them

over the edge and forced the end of production of Evinrude motors. Reading between the **lines, I'd guess the company had been struggling with that market for awhile;** strange since there are several boat brands under the BRP umbrella that need power-trains. (BRP has signed a deal with Mercury to fulfill their obligations.)

**Shovel or hoe?** A few winters ago I saw somebody with a snow/avalanche shovel that could be mounted two ways, one for shoveling and one for 'hoe-ing' It was being used to dig out a sled and I was amazed how fast it could move snow. So two seasons ago I bought one and I love it. Very versatile. This spring, BCA (Backcountry Access) released an article on their website talking about best practices for using this type of shovel. Good reading; check it out here: [www.backcountryaccess.com/traditional-vs-hoe-mode-shoveling-avalanche-shovel](http://www.backcountryaccess.com/traditional-vs-hoe-mode-shoveling-avalanche-shovel).

**COVID spread at snowmobile rally.** A snowmobile rally at Christopher Lake in Saskatchewan back in March resulted in 24 confirmed cases by the beginning of April. The rally had 130 snowmobilers at a dinner with two infected people in attendance. Saskatchewan has had few (785) cases and only **13 deaths as of the end of June.** (I can't find any reference to anyone at this rally dying from COVID.)

**Did you know there was a question as to whether a snowmobile was considered a 'motor vehicle' in Washington?**

Me neither. Turns out this question ended up before the State Supreme Court and it took a ruling of 5-4 to determine snowmobiles are in fact motor vehicles. Blame Julia Tucker, a crook who broke into a cabin back in 2016 and stole a snowmobile. She was found guilty of criminal trespass and motor vehicle theft, but the law was written poorly enough to where a Court of Appeals overturned the theft conviction when Tucker **complained a snowmobile wasn't a motor vehicle.** Why was the ruling even close at 5-4? Apparently a previous case involving a lawnmower was involved and some believe lawnmowers and snowmobiles are in a similar category. How's that?... The Court is hoping the Legislature will strengthen the **law so something silly like this doesn't appear before the Court in the future;** legislators agree and promise to work on it.



**David Lesh in the news again...** What a loser. The owner of Virtika, an outdoor retail shop, has now been caught in Hanging Lake, in the Glenwood Springs area of Colorado. Lesh is truly an idiot as he posted an incriminating photo to social media where he **is in a 'sensitive area' where the Forest Service prohibits swimming or other contact with the lake.** You may recall Lesh was caught riding a snowmobile in a (snow-less) Wilderness area on Independence Pass in Colorado last year and then a few months later crashed a plane in the Pacific Ocean. More recently, in April, he was accused of trespassing at the Keystone Resort after he posted a picture of himself snowmobiling there. **You can't fix stupid.**

**Ever hear of the Vincent Aeronautical Aero Sled?** I've seen variations of propeller-driven sleds, but this one is pretty cool and was in production in the 50s and maybe into the early 60s. **Rare, as the owner isn't aware of another one in use.** Check out the video here: [www.inforum.com/entertainment/television/6460063-A-part-airplane-part-snowmobile-on-this-weeks-Rides-with-Jay-Thomas](http://www.inforum.com/entertainment/television/6460063-A-part-airplane-part-snowmobile-on-this-weeks-Rides-with-Jay-Thomas).



**Is your registration sticker placed in the right spot?** On my sleds, the location varies. I put them on the cowl where they are supposed to be, but previous owners have had them on the tunnel, so it depends **if I'm the first to put a sticker on them.** Enforcement of the location in Washington has been pretty lax. But can you imagine a \$500 fine and/or up to 90 days in jail for a misdemeanor? That is Michigan! It popped up on my Google search as a Representative is trying to get it changed to a civil infraction with a max fine of \$150.

**Polaris Donates More Than \$110,000 to off-road organizations with T.R.A.I.L.S. Grants.** Not for snowmobilers, but interesting nonetheless. In June, Polaris announced it donated more than \$110,000 to off-road and ATV organizations across the

(Continued on page 31)



(Continued from page 30) U.S. as part of its ongoing T.R.A.I.L.S. Grant Program. Twelve received awards ranging from \$3,500 to \$10,000. The grants will support the development, improvement and expansion of trails, and help educate riders on safe and responsible riding practices. 2020 recipients are:

- Exeter Explorers ATV Club (Exeter, Maine).
- Garland Trail Hawks ATV Club (Garland, Maine).
- Roxbury ATV Riders Club (Roxbury, Maine).
- Upper Peninsula Recreational Off-Road ATV Riders (Kingsford, Michigan).
- Trail Prospectors Alliance (Ely, Minnesota).
- Range Trail Committee (Virginia, Minnesota).
- Ephratah ATV Trail Monitors (Johnstown, New York).
- Pennsylvania ATV Trail Development Corporation (Wampum, Pennsylvania).
- Vermont ATV Sportsman's Association Inc. (Barre, Vermont).
- Southwest Recreation Regional Authority (SRRA) DBA Spearhead Trails (Coeburn, Virginia).
- Baraboo Bluffs ATV/UTV Club Inc. (Baraboo, Wisconsin).
- Nokomis ATV Club (Heafford Junction, Wisconsin).

Notice anything about this list?...

#### Since its inception in 2006, Polaris'

T.R.A.I.L.S. Grants program has provided funding to national, state and local organizations in the U.S. supporting 305 organizations with more than \$2.6million in grants.

**What does T.R.A.I.L.S. stand for? 'Trail Development', 'Responsible Riding', 'Access', 'Initiatives', 'Lobbying' and 'Safety'.**

**Ruined day...** Back in March, in Brownville, New York, a family suffered a heart-breaking loss. Their barn burned and destroyed 40+ vintage snowmobiles. Argh!

#### Study finds snowmobiling injects \$30M yearly into Revelstoke economy.

That ought to get your attention! The report came from data obtained in 2018. In addition, the industry supported about 600 jobs. The study was part of a larger one which found the sport generated about \$300 million across British Columbia. 815 snowmobilers participated in the survey, and surprisingly, 47% were from Alberta. 61% reported income of \$100K per year and the average snowmobiler spent about \$258 per

day during their visit to Revelstoke.

**Snowmobiles move cabin in Northwest Territory.** When I first read the headline, I assumed it was snowmobiles dragging an ice shanty off the lake before the snow melted, a common sight in the upper Midwest and Northeast. Turned out it was actually a cabin the owner needed moved as the lake was encroaching. The cabin was built 30 feet from the shore of Husky Lake 20 years ago. But with thawing permafrost and shoreline erosion, the lake had moved closer and closer. With the help of a few friends and a handful of snowmobiles, the cabin was placed on skids and dragged approximately 50 feet. It was estimated the cabin weighed 10,000+ pounds and was fully furnished inside. You can see the video here:

[www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/n-w-t-man-rescues-cabin-ski-doo-flood-1.5609413](http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/n-w-t-man-rescues-cabin-ski-doo-flood-1.5609413).

**Saskatchewan vintage snowmobile drag race donated to Hospice.** Back in March, 130 snowmobile racers battled a blizzard to participate in the first annual Prince Albert Vintage Snowmobile Drag Race. Organizers were hoping to raise \$5,000 but ended up with \$9,704.30, which was matched with a \$10,000 by Canadian Tire owner Malcolm Jenkins. Although some of the volunteers sustained minor frostbite, the final \$19,000+ donation made it all worthwhile!

**Treasure fever!** That is the best way to explain the two snowmobilers who became stranded, resulting in the death of one, near Dinosaur National Monument along the Utah-Colorado border. They were in search of **Forest Fenn's treasure chest; a chest hidden** by Fenn and rumored to contain gold and gems worth about \$2M. Thousands of people have searched for the treasure since 2010; Fenn offered clues in a book titled 'The Thrill of the Chase'. The 'snowmobilers', and I use that loosely as I suspect they weren't really as the machines they were riding were rentals, were not prepared for the adventure. They carried candy bars and a couple of bottles of water and were not dressed for the conditions. They actually weren't even on sleds at the time of the emergency; they had run out of snow and continued on foot. The irony is the two men were found within five miles of a site they were previously rescued back at the end of February, not even a month earlier. **And what of Fenn's treasure? It was just** found this June! The person who found the treasurer was from 'Back East' and has remained anonymous, but he sent Fenn a pic

with his new-found riches as proof.

**Snowmobilers save moose in Newfoundland.** And there is video too! A group of riders witnessed a moose fall into a tree well and cautiously approached. They determined there was no way the animal could get out on its own, so they used their shovels to make a path for it to climb out. They left one little area blocking until the very end and then one guy broke it out and hustled out of the way. Check out the video here: [www.rumble.com/v91rvd-rescuing-a-moose-stuck-in-deep-snow.html](http://www.rumble.com/v91rvd-rescuing-a-moose-stuck-in-deep-snow.html)

**Harley snowbike.** How about a Sportster-based machine? Great conversation starter on the mountain I'm sure!



**Taiga Motors** - A couple of more Taiga electric snowmobile videos worth checking out. First one: [https://www.vice.com/en\\_ca/article/9397m8/the-first-electric-snowmobile-in-the-market-is-a-remarkably-quiet-ride](https://www.vice.com/en_ca/article/9397m8/the-first-electric-snowmobile-in-the-market-is-a-remarkably-quiet-ride).

A more action-filled one is here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-QhKmr\\_xoM&feature=youtu.be&utm\\_source=Taiga+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=efeedd8c82-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_03\\_04\\_04\\_03&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_5fbd3b5fab-efeedd8c82-77406963](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-QhKmr_xoM&feature=youtu.be&utm_source=Taiga+Newsletter&utm_campaign=efeedd8c82-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_03_04_04_03&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5fbd3b5fab-efeedd8c82-77406963).

**BLM.** Remember when BLM stood for Bureau of Land Management? I miss the good old days!

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