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IOWA SNOWMOBILER

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150 snowmobilers turn out for 39th Annual ISSA Convention in November

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- Calendar of Events
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- Directory Listings

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COVER: Todd Krukow of Spencer teaches proper riding techniques to Eric Chinn, 12, of Spencer at the Youth Snowmobile Safety Course during convention weekend at Okoboji Nov. 18. Chinn is the son of Justin and Teri Chinn of Spencer, members of the Clay County Sno Broncs.

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Special Event Permits Required for Clubs this Winter

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is reminding Iowa snowmobile clubs which are planning to host snowmobile events this winter to apply for and secure a Special Event Permit 30 days prior to the date of the event.

To determine if your club's event requires such a permit, IDNR Snowmobile Program Manager David Downing said you should ask yourself this: "Is the public interest manifested in it? If you've advertised it and are giving away prizes, for example, it is a special event," he explained.

Permit applications are available online through the IDNR's website at www.iowadnr.gov. A permit costs \$25 and can cover up to 10 days so it may be used for two weekend events. Anything longer than that, and the club will need to apply for additional permits.

Downing said clubs also need to be mindful if other jurisdictions are involved in the event, and this permit system allows for that notification. For example, if a club is hosting drag races at an airport, the Federal Aviation Administration should be aware.

"You may have other jurisdictions involved, and they want to know about what's going on out there," he said. "When you sign up for a Special Event Permit, it does two things: It ships it off to the local jurisdiction and it comes to me. I wait for comments and then either sign off, deny or add stipulations to it."

Clubs are allowed to list "no snow" dates on their event applications, and Downing said the department will work with a club if Mother Nature doesn't cooperate. He also clarified that off-season events, such as swap meets, do not require a permit but grass drags would.

If you are unsure if an event requires a permit, contact Downing at (515) 281-3449. Failure to secure one carries with it severe consequences.



Eleven northwest Iowa youths earned their snowmobile safety certificate at the 2012 ISSA Annual Convention in Okoboji Nov. 18. Todd Krukow (kneeling), Jenni Rohlfesen and Dan Delperdang taught the morning-long course.

"Liability is a huge risk for not getting a permit," Downing explained. "You could be barred from getting another one. Make sure you follow the stipulations that are in there. They are very important."

IDNR Revising Youth Safety Courses, Shifting Toward Online Offering

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources will no longer be offering home study packets for youths ages 12-17 years old who are interested in earning their Youth Snowmobile Safety Certificate on their own.

Online courses via www.snowmobilecourse.com will still be offered, but the department will no longer be distributing packets for the home study course. The decision was based on postage and paper savings as well as the nationwide trend to move the training online.

"Online is the obvious shift this is heading for just about everything we have," IDNR Snowmobile Program Manager David Downing said. "It's going to be hard to let go of how we all learned, but the online, interactive courses are very good."

Downing said the department will still maintain the instructor-led classes and is in the process of updating those course materials. There are currently 26 active youth safety instructors in the state, and the department will be monitoring the effectiveness of both course offerings.

"We are going to track the online students," Downing said. "As more and more of our programs go online, we want to make sure just how effective those courses are compared to the instructor-led courses. Where will the students be in five years in terms of accidents, violations, etc.?"

Last year, 209 students earned their certificate online. Another 285 participated in instructor-led classes, and 124 received theirs through the now-obsolete home study course. You can find a link to the online course via the ISSA's home page at www.iowasnowmobiler.com.



This is what your windshield should look like this winter. The purple tag is the annual registration decal and the yellow tag is the new IDNR User Permit. The fine for a user permit violation and a registration violation is \$127.50 each. Registrations can be obtained at your local County Recorder office this year, while the \$15 user permit can be purchased from your recorder or from any retailer selling Iowa hunting and fishing licenses. No vehicle information is required for the user permit, and you can purchase as many permits as you like.



Committees a Great Way to Get Involved

It has been said that a camel is a horse put together by a committee. While I understand working in a committee that is not functioning can lead to this kind of sentiment, the truth is that committees have their place. So it is with the ISSA.

One of the first responsibilities of becoming president is to appoint committees for the coming year. I have been putting a lot of thought and effort into doing this well. Selecting committees for a long-standing organization like the ISSA has many pitfalls. There are paradigms and traditions that I do not even know about. Committee “owners” whom I should not cross, and newbies who may not be able to get the job done.

I am one who thinks that sometimes you have to shake things up a bit to curtail complacency and the “that’s the way we have always done it” syndromes; yet I am not a believer in change just for the sake of change. I want to take advantage of the experience and dedication of long-time committee chairpersons, but I want some new blood in there to ask “why?” and to learn the ropes, just in case that person who has always done it get hit by the proverbial bus.

A tough challenge indeed. To complicate this even further, I want all of you—the ISSA membership who would like to—to be involved on an ISSA committee.

What I am planning to do, wherever practical and possible, is ask chairpersons and vice chairpersons to serve who will be selected from the 2013 ISSA Board, the region directors, officers and past presidents. In most cases, experienced committee people will serve as the Vice Chair, to be a mentor to the newbie being assigned the responsibility of chair, to make sure that the newbie learns the functions and responsibility of the committee, benefiting from the experience of the mentor.

I would like to have the rest of the committee, an additional two to three people, be volunteers from the membership of the ISSA. YOU. The inset below lists the standing committees of the



Jim Willey
ISSA President

ISSA. Please review the list, and email or write to me with your name, address, phone, email and club name and indicate what first and second choice ISSA committee that you would like to serve on.

Wherever is possible, I will try to put you on the committee you asked to participate with. Committees will be expected to meet, function and produce the results they are created to administer. Meetings will be in person or conference calls, depending on timing, proximity and need. Committee reporting will be done at the regularly scheduled ISSA meetings, and committee members are encouraged to attend as many ISSA meetings and events as possible.

Thayne Lowman, our new ISSA Vice President, will be responsible for monitoring and facilitating the work of the committees, participating in their meetings and following their progress as much as possible.

Another change for 2013-14 will be bringing the ISSA Board of Director Meetings to each Region to encourage club participation and input. However, just as your region directors are required to drive to the meetings away from your area, and not just attend the close meetings, we hope that ISSA mem-

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Get involved!
Volunteer for an ISSA Committee...

Awards	Budget / Finance
By-Laws and SOPs	Campout 2013
Charity	Club of the Year
Communications	Convention Advisory
Early Membership Renewal	EFC & Legislative
Grants	Groomer Training
IA Rec Trails Advisory	Trail Break
Membership	Nominations
Promotion & Fundraising	Raffle
Scholarship Foundation	Eastern Iowa Tourism
Western Iowa Tourism	Trail Signage & Development
Youth & Young Adult Prog.	40th Anniversary Committee

Email your preferred committee request to:
james.willey@camoplast.com

October 2012

DNR IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SNOWMOBILE REFERENCE GUIDE

This booklet contains rules and regulations most likely needed for motorized recreational use in Iowa. However, it is not a complete list of all regulations or laws, nor is it a legal document. For more information, please reference Iowa Code Chapters 321 and 321G and Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 571.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources' new Snowmobile Reference Guide is out and available online at www.iowasnowmobiler.com/idnr/SnowmobileGuide2012.pdf.



Continued from Page 5

bers will come to meetings and be a part of what is happening in the ISSA. The schedule of meeting dates and locations will be out soon and will be sent out to all of the email addresses we have in our database. If you are not getting emails from the ISSA, please send us your email address. Region directors will be asked to host the meeting in their region, and clubs could be a host for the meeting also. If you would like to help host the ISSA meeting in your area, talk to your region director about helping to make the meeting arrangements.

Still another good reason to be excited for the coming year is that the ISSA is 40 years old in 2013! We will be celebrating this awesome anniversary throughout the year, climaxing at the 2013 ISSA Annual Convention with special events, displays and guests at the convention. 1973 to 2013. Just think of the possibilities!

As I announced in October, I am planning to visit every club while I am president of the ISSA. With more than 60 clubs across the state, it will be quite an endeavor, but I cannot think of a better way to keep in tune with Iowa snowmobilers. I am asking each club president to send me the dates for their meetings for the coming year, and I will confirm back to each club when I am planning to come to their meeting.

Ensuring good communication

My primary goal (while temporarily given the responsibility of guiding the ISSA) is to ensure good communication. I want the ISSA to know what the clubs and members are thinking, and I want the clubs and Iowa snowmobilers to know and understand

what the ISSA and Iowa DNR snowmobile program people are thinking. The ISSA is working for all snowmobilers with local, state and national impact. I am very proud of the work that those who have gone before me have accomplished, and I am looking forward to meeting the expectations of those who have asked me to lead.

Even so, I know that not everyone is always happy with the ISSA and the DNR. There are complaints showing up on blogs and posts, expressing criticism and blame for the new fees, fines and that there was no snow last year. Another old saying my Dad used to say is that some people would complain if you hung them with a new rope. Okay, I do not understand that one either, but I think he meant that you are just not going to be able to please some people. They just do not want to be happy and will find something to complain about. The facts remain that we are working together to provide great recreational opportunities and improving the economy while we are doing it.

Ed Klim, president of the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association, tells us that recreational spending and outdoor activities are much bigger economic drivers than most people realize. A recent study found that consumer spending on outdoor recreational activities generated \$646 billion in national sales and services last year in the United States alone.

Economic impact analysts report that snowmobilers in North America have generated more than \$30 billion on economic activity directly related to snowmobiling each year. These expenditures include equipment, clothing, accessories, vacations and more. The economic benefits of snowmobiling in North America generate jobs for approximately 100,000 individuals, mostly in rural parts of North America.

The snowmobiling community generates significant income tax revenues and state tax revenues as well as reducing unemployment and welfare payments. Millions of dollars in tax revenues are derived from snowmobile-related businesses such as hotels, restaurants, manufacturers, service stations, insurance agencies, hardware stores, banks, credit unions and more.

In addition to the positive economic impact, snowmobilers also pay millions of dollars in gas tax which helps build our trails, trail heads, and roadways to snowmobiling destinations.

An example of an economic impact study showing the growth of snowmobiling activity and the importance of snowmobiling can be seen in reviewing recent studies, indicating growth from a 1998 level of \$476 million to a 2012 level calculated to be \$875 million...an 84 percent increase in 14 years.

And just to show that creating positive economic impact can be fun, snowmobilers rated their overall satisfaction of the sport at over 90 percent.

Snowmobiling is a very important part of the economic engine in Europe also, generating over \$3 billion worth of economic activity. \$81 million dollars is generated in Iowa from snowmobiling, and the average snowmobiler consumes 60 gallons of fuel per year in Iowa. This is \$350,000 in the state gas tax alone. We will be working on getting that back to help fund the Iowa snowmobile program.

We have made a lot of progress over the last two years. Gary Burger and the ISSA Region Directors, officers and past presidents have done well. As I pick up the gavel that Gary has cared for so well, I look forward to working with all of you to keep Snowmobiling in Iowa ON THE RIGHT TRACK!!!

See you on the trail!

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Say Hello to Your New Vice President

Hi, my name is Thayne Lowman, and I live in North Liberty. I am the newly-elected vice president of the ISSA following the 2012 ISSA Annual Convention in Okoboji. I want to introduce myself to all of you whom I have not already met.

I was born in Laurens, Iowa, on a farm and graduated there in 1961. I am sure that was before snowmobiles. The closest thing to snowmobiling we did was tie an old car hood to a tractor or pickup and pull us boys around the yard or down the road with the hood riding in the ditch. Yes, I am well-seasoned!

I married my wife Karen 50 years ago. We moved out of the state when I went to serve the United States Air Force. We lived in Mississippi and Montana, where we cooked in Mississippi and froze in Montana. We moved back to Iowa in 1965, and I went to work with the Iowa State Highway Commission—now know as the DOT—as a radio technician. We lived in Osceola, Iowa, until 1968. Then I took a job with Natural Gas Pipeline as a District Communications Technician working on two-way radio and microwave transmission equipment. Karen and I along with our two sons moved to New Mexico in 1969, where we lived for seven years. That is where I was first introduced to snowmobiling. A friend of ours had two “snow-machines,” as he called them. They were called Whips. While I never rode them, I thought that it would be fun.

Karen and I moved back to Iowa in 1976 to open a TV and



Thayne Lowman
ISSA Vice President

appliance shop in August of that year. We bought our first snowmobile in 1978...just in time for the 63” of snow. We rode it and the two boys—now ages 12 and 7—almost every day that winter. I realized that one sled was not enough, so in early 1979, we owned three. We have owned and ridden sleds ever since. We have lived in Havelock Iowa, West Bend, Iowa, and Iowa City Iowa, where I retired from the University of Iowa after 20 years working as the Supervisor of Telecommunications.

I have served as the vice president of the New Mexico Wildlife Federation (moved back to Iowa before advancing to President), helped organize the Snociables snowmobile club in Havelock, Iowa, elected to the City Council in West Bend and served as vice president and president of the NEC User Group (a national organization consisting of several hundred University and Hospital owner and users of the NEC telephone switch).

My family and I have had many years of snowmobiling and have taken our sleds to Wyoming, Colorado, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. We really love to sled and I am looking forward to working these next years trying to better the sport and further the enjoyment of snowmobiling in Iowa for all snowmobilers.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

- ISSA Board of Directors meeting to be determined.
- Frozen Few Snocross Races Saturday, Jan. 12, at Hawkeye Downs, Cedar Rapids.
- ISSA Spina Bifida Charity Ride Sunday, Jan. 13, on the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail at Huxley. Meet at the fire department at 11 a.m. Lunch provided.
- International Snowmobile Safety Week Jan. 13-19. For more information and suggestions, download www.snowmobile.org/docs/Safety-Week-Manual-2013.pdf.
- The Jack Helgren Memorial Race Jan. 18-20 at Clear Lake. For more information, visit www.thejackrace.com.
- Trails Unlimited Fun Run Jan. 19 at The Zipper in Festina.
- Driftrunners 42nd Annual Snow Fest Jan. 24-27 at Cresco.
- Frozen Few Snocross Races Saturday, Jan. 26, at Hawkeye Downs, Cedar Rapids.
- University of Okoboji Winter Games Jan. 25-27 at the Iowa Great Lakes. Visit www.uofowintergames.com for event information.

February

- ISSA Board of Directors meeting to be determined.
- Central Iowa Snowmobilers vintage show and ride Feb. 2. For more information, visit www.centraliowasnowmobilers.com.
- Trails Unlimited Fun Run snow date and Chili Feed Feb. 2 at the Big Oak Elk Ranch near Auburn.
- Take a Friend Snowmobiling campaign Feb. 9-18. For more information or suggestions, download www.snowmobile.org/docs/Take-a-Friend-Campaign-Manual%20and-Forms-2013.pdf.
- Driftrunners annual Charlie's Chili Feed Saturday, Feb. 16, starting at 11 a.m. on the trail to Cresco just south of Granger. Food, fellowship and games.

March

- ISSA Board of Directors meeting to be determined.

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Snowmobile Safety Week Set for Jan. 13-19

The ISSA is joining the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association (ISMA) in observance of Jan. 13-19 as International Snowmobile Safety Awareness Week. A safety proclamation has been requested from Iowa Governor Terry Branstad, and club-related activities and safety classes are being encouraged at the local level.

“The purpose of International Snowmobile Safety Week is to expose people to safe snowmobiling practices and to demonstrate how operating safely can prevent mishaps,” explained ISMA President Ed Klim. “Snowmobiling is a fun and exciting family activity enjoyed by over four million people across the United States and Canada. The sport is a safe and enjoyable form of recreation if done properly and with respect.”

In Iowa, snowmobiles are operated by men, women and children of all ages. Depending on weather conditions, approximately 5,000 miles of snow-covered trails are maintained and groomed by snowmobile club volunteers across the state and enjoyed by a variety of winter recreationists.

Activities and events held during Snowmobile Safety Awareness Week will promote responsible attitudes and actions that will foster the safe, family image of snowmobiling.

“Safe Snowmobiling means riding within your own capabilities, operating at safe and appropriate speeds for the terrain and never drinking alcoholic beverages before or while driving,” explained ISSA President Jim Willey. “Always wear a helmet and adequate clothing, stay within desig-



nated riding areas and always snowmobile with another person, never alone.”

Occasionally problems occur, and snowmobilers should be prepared for all possibilities.

“Take along a spare belt, spark plugs and tools to do basic repairs. You also should carry emergency supplies, such as a basic first aid and overnight survival provisions such as food, matches, flashlight and extra batteries and shelter building materials,” Willey recommended. “Most importantly, always use common sense and keep a clear head. Learn all you can about responsible snowmobiling and keep safety as your top priority.”

Willey said the ISSA is encouraging its member-clubs to sponsor youth snowmobile safety courses and to host other safety-

related activities. Ideas and suggestions are available online through ISMA’s Campaign Action Manual at www.snowmobile.org. Also posted there is information on ISMA’s Safe Riders! program.

Materials that are available from both programs include the following: posters, fact books, a safety video, public service announcements, a website and decals that highlight safety messages and enhance safety education efforts.

“We hope that you will find this web-based information useful in your organization’s snowmobile safety campaign,” Klim said. “The suggested activities contained there can be modified to meet your club’s needs. Any suggestions or ways to improve this manual are welcome. Have a great snowmobile season!”

Safe Snowmobiling Tips to Share ...



You Make Snowmobiling Safe
snowmobile.org

Download SafeRiders! Campaign Action Manual at www.snowmobile.org.

1. Never consume alcohol or drugs.
2. Become familiar with the snowmobile you ride.
3. Operate at safe and reasonable speeds.
4. Stay on trails and areas where snowmobiling is permitted.
5. Avoid travel on unfamiliar frozen bodies of water.
6. Use extra caution at night.
7. Keep your snowmobile properly maintained.
8. Become familiar with the terrain you will travel on.
9. Listen to the weather forecast before you leave.
10. Always wear a helmet and proper clothing.
11. Never ride alone and let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return.
12. Carry emergency supplies and learn survival skills.

Snowmobilers Continue to Support Spina Bifida

by Cameron Hanson

Sixteen clubs donated \$16,594.90 to the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa (SBAI) in 2012, and another \$4,500 was collected at the ISSA Convention in November to give the 2013 fundraising campaign a pretty good jumpstart.

The Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club of Region 7 was once again recognized as the Top Fundraising Club last year by donating \$2,500 to Spina Bifida. Each fall, the club earmarks the proceeds from its annual grass drags to charity.

For 2013, the Saylorville club will have its work cut out for it to maintain its position at the top, as the Hancock County Snowmobile Association of Region 3 turned in a check for \$2,000 to the SBAI at convention. Seven other clubs were recognized for their donations at the Okoboji gathering as well. See listing on page 11.

The 2012 total fell about \$1,000 short of the 2011 mark, but it is still a significant amount over previous years. Regardless of the total, SBAI Chair Sherri TeKippe said her organization is very appreciative of the money snowmobilers donate each year.

"Thank you so much for everything you do for our organization," TeKippe told ISSA board members in October. "We could not be doing for our members what we do without your support."

Since 1987, the SBAI has served as the official charity of the ISSA. Spina bifida



The Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club of Region 7 received the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa's Top Fundraiser Award for 2012 at the ISSA Annual Convention in Okoboji in November. Accepting the award from ISSA Awards Committee Chair Dave Carmichael (far right) are club members Gary Burger, Bruno Andreini, Marilyn Andreini, Kathy Burger and Steve Klinkefus.

is a birth defect in which the spinal chord of the fetus does not close properly during pregnancy. The condition occurs in two of every 1,000 pregnancies and results in muscle weakness in the lower part of the child's body. As a result, these children often require the use of a wheelchair for mo-

bility, and many suffer from incontinence.

The Spina Bifida organization relies on the donations from snowmobilers to offset expenses related to hospital visits; mobility aides such as leg braces, crutches and wheelchairs; education programs; and general administration.

"We offer reimbursement to our families for things that insurance does not pay for...items that other families do not have to worry about. They are every-day extra expenses for us, and we appreciate that you help us with that," TeKippe said.

Past ISSA President Bruno Andreini serves on the SBAI board and said the ISSA funding is also becoming more critical as the organization looks to improve its presence in Iowa, beginning with new office space in Urbandale.

"They have a new home now, and they are going to need a lot more money to operate," he said. "And, of course, the need for more money for the kids is ongoing."

This past October, the SBAI fundraising efforts received a huge boost when 350 participants raised \$22,738 during the organization's inaugural Walk-N-Roll for Spina Bifida in downtown Des Moines.

Similar to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, the mile-long walk

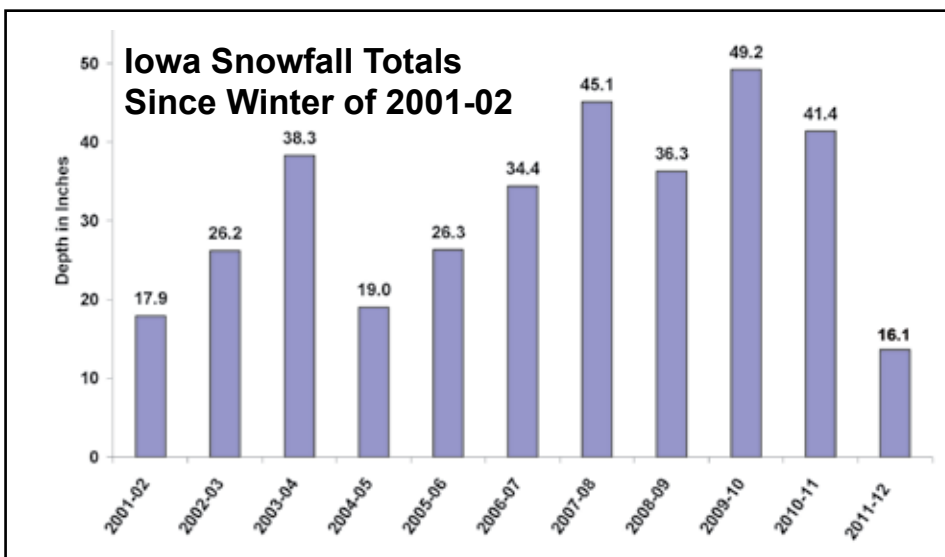
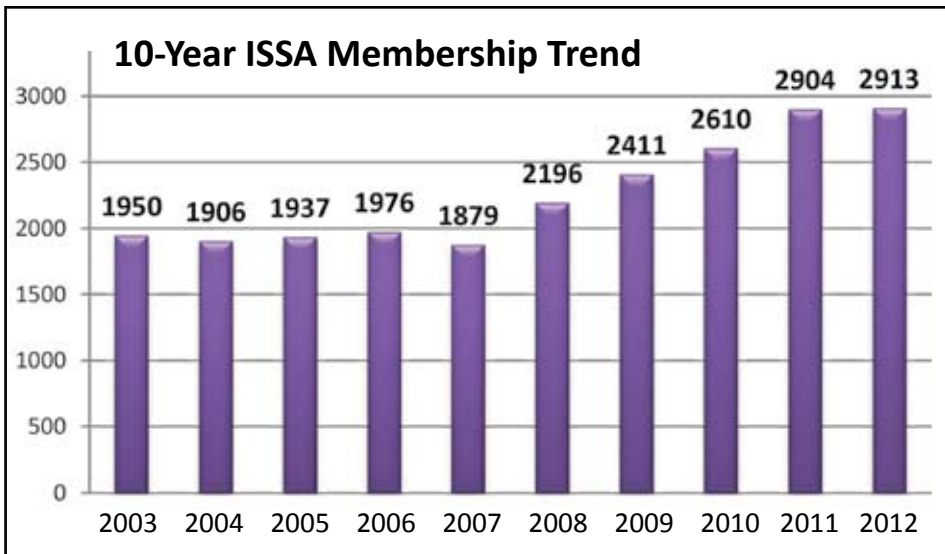
Turn to page 11



ISSA officials participated in the Spina Bifida Association of Iowa's inaugural Walk-N-Roll for Spina Bifida fundraiser in Des Moines Oct. 20. Pictured above with the SBAI's Rod Tressel and son Andrew are ISSA members, from left, Bruno and Marilyn Andreini, Gary Burger and Sally and Dave Carmichael.

Membership

Continued from Page 10



can safely say our state has been the best at growing membership.”

Estimating three snowmobiles per household, Burger said the ISSA represents about a third of the snowmobilers in Iowa, and incoming ISSA Vice President Thayne Lowman wants to improve on that statistic.

“My biggest goal over the next four years is to gain new membership,” Lowman said. “We maybe have at maximum 30 percent of the registered snowmobilers in Iowa belonging to the ISSA. We have to be able to do better than that.”

For the first half of the last decade, membership numbers hovered below the 2,000-member mark. See chart on page 11. The roster of families began to improve in 2008, not coincidentally at the same time favorable winters began to return to Iowa.

The winter of 2006-07 began a five-year stretch where snowfall totals averaged 41.2 inches, nearly 10 points higher than the statewide average. Membership numbers over that same time frame grew consistently to the point the ISSA is at now.

Past ISSA President Dick Melick, resident ISSA historian, said the organization is in a much better position now than it was when he assumed leadership in November of 1988. Actual paid members for that year was 865 “so we’ve come a long ways from that low, and I think we’ve done real well to this point.”

Charity

Continued from Page 9

featured teams which had collected pledges and donations from the community. The ISSA Promotional Trailer was on display for the event, and ISSA officials participated in the walk.

“This was such a big success for the first year,” Andreini said. “They have been trying to come up with numerous activities recently to support their efforts so I was pleased and just flabbergasted at the number of people who participated in it. They had community support and from others who are near and dear to Spina

Bifida. We are going to participate in it next year, and we feel it will get bigger and better.”

“This was a separate program endorsed by the national Spina Bifida association,” TeKippe explained. “Local

chapters were strongly encouraged to take part in it.”

The Walk-N-Roll was yet another opportunity for member-families to get together and network. Similar events throughout the year include an education day in March and a family picnic in July.

“These events are great ways for us to get know each other,” TeKippe said. “This past summer, we picked up seven new members, and their kids had never been around other kids with Spina



2013 Spina Bifida Donations

Hancock County Snowmobile Association	\$2,000
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks	\$600
Bremer County Sno-Knights	\$500
Trails Unlimited	\$500
Central Iowa Snowmobilers	\$300
Allamakee Sno-Blazers	\$250
Cedar County Winter Warriors	\$250
Winneshiek Trail Twisters	\$100

Bifida before. They got to learn from families like mine, and it was great for us as we got to give back and help others.”

Up next for the SBAI and ISSA is the annual snowmobile charity ride at Huxley. The event is planned for the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail on Sunday, Jan. 13.

According to Andreini, participants should plan on meeting at the fire department in Huxley at 11 a.m. with rides to follow. Lunch will be provided, and the local Shriner clowns will also be on hand for entertainment.

“We always love the snowmobile rides in January and while there was no snow last year, we still enjoyed the hay ride we had instead,” TeKippe said.



Snowmobile Tax Push at

by **Cameron Hanson**

First of two stories

By a show of hands Saturday morning, snowmobilers at the 39th Annual ISSA Convention in Okoboji Nov. 16-18 unanimously endorsed an initiative to pursue snowmobile fuel tax reimbursement legislation from the Iowa Legislature in 2013.

The scene was quite similar to the last time the convention was held in northwest Iowa, when snowmobilers in 2010 voted for a snowmobile registration increase. That effort ultimately resulted in a \$15 Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) User Permit that begins this winter.

“You know what this means, don’t you?,” then-ISSA President Gary Burger asked members at the General Membership Assembly at this year’s event at the Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center. “It



Then-ISSA President Gary Burger (standing) meets with IDNR Deputy Director Bruce Trautman at the Saturday evening banquet during convention weekend.

means we will be once again sending out emails asking for your support and for you to contact your legislators.”

ISSA leaders were concerned members would have been “burned out” by the last two-year campaign for the user permit (otherwise known as a trail pass); but the foreshadowing by Burger did not affect their response at convention, and thus, the ISSA legislative agenda for 2013 was set.

Not a new endeavor

The ISSA has been pursuing a fuel tax reimbursement off and on for the past 10 years, but the measure has rarely gained any traction. 2013 poses a unique opportunity to make some headway as many political observers believe the Iowa Legislature will consider raising the state fuel tax next year.

If that happens, ISSA leaders hope to find support from legislators to incorporate language that will guarantee a small fraction of the tax to the state snowmobile program, representing the fuel consumed by snowmobilers in their off-road machines.

The ISSA Legislative Committee believes such a measure could add approximately \$396,000 to the state snowmobile program annually and subsequently boost the amount of funds available to maintain the 5,000-mile snowmobile trail system in Iowa.

According to Burger’s PowerPoint presentation, Iowa drastically lags behind its Snow Belt neighbors in the amount of money available to care for its snowmobile trails. Currently, the state snowmobile program only spends approximately \$150 per mile of trail. That compares to \$442 in Wisconsin, \$651 in Minnesota and \$1,153

in Michigan.

All three of those states receive fuel tax reimbursements, and if Iowa is fortunate enough to join them next year, their annual cost-per-mile-of-trail ratio could increase to \$230.

Bolstering the case for the reimbursement in Iowa is the Iowa Marine Fuel Tax Fund which has already been on the books for more than a decade. “If the boaters already get it, then why can’t we?” Burger said.

Stiff opposition to the proposed reimbursement is expected by the Iowa Roadbuilders Trust, but as Burger has pointed out in the past, the amount of money snowmobilers are seeking only equates to about a half-mile of roadway.

“If the gas tax goes up, which is probably going to happen, we may as well try and get as much reimbursement as we can,” Burger said.

Lobbyist contract renewed

Representing Iowa snowmobilers since 2002, ISSA lobbyists Paula Feltner and Mike Heller have long supported a push for the fuel tax reimbursement and believe snowmobilers should strike while the iron is hot.

Coming off its two-year campaign to raise funds for the state snowmobile program coffers, snowmobilers in Iowa have gained new friends at the Statehouse in Des Moines. Hopefully they will come through again next year.

At convention, the ISSA Board of Directors agreed to retain Heller and Feltner for another year to assist in this push. Their annual fee increased to \$22,500 for 2013 and the ISSA is once again relying on its Club



Members Endorse Fuel Tax at Okobojo Gathering

Challenge to offset that expense.

"We have enjoyed representing the ISSA in the Iowa Legislature," Heller and Feltner said. "Thank you for the opportunity to work with your group."

Last season, 22 ISSA-member clubs donated more than \$6,500 to support the organization's lobbying efforts. Collected convention weekend for the 2013 campaign was \$2,651 from seven clubs. See the donor list on page 14.

"We thank you for your support," Burger said.

Changing of the guard

This year's convention marked the end of Burger's tenure as the president of the ISSA. His two-year term began in Storm Lake in 2010 after a two-year apprenticeship as ISSA vice president. He said he is proud of the ISSA's accomplishments during his time at the top.

"I would like to thank everyone for putting up with my shortcomings," Burger said, individually thanking his wife Kathy. "It's been an action-packed couple of years, especially with all of the activity in the Iowa Legislature. I appreciate everyone's assistance and support in that regard."

During a gavel-passing ceremony Saturday evening, Burger said he likes to believe he left the ISSA in better shape than when he found it. Any good leader would like to think that when their time is up, he said.

"I like to keep moving forward," Burger said. "There a lot of people whom I could thank and name, but it takes all of us to make it work. It's all of you getting the job done. That's what it should be about. It shouldn't be about one individual. It should

be about what we accomplish jointly."

Succeeding Burger as ISSA president is vice president Jim Willey. While not disappearing any time soon, Burger said he is leaving the organization in good hands.

"Jim is a workhouse," Burger said of his successor. "He's always coming up with ideas and pushes them ahead faster than some of us can keep up with. I know he is going to want the same kind of support you all gave me. I look forward to his leadership."

Willey said he is looking forward to the challenges ahead, including the effort to recapture the fuel taxes. He has also vowed to maintain and improve the levels of communication between the ISSA and the membership.

"I would like to thank all of you for the honor to serve as your president for the next two years," Willey said. "It is kind of an indimitating position and you really don't get the just of it until you get involved as vice president.

"It's been very rewarding to serve as your vice president for the past two years and I look forward to working with all of you in the coming two years," he continued. "We have a lot of fun together, which is great, but we get a lot done, and that's even better."

Election results

Elected by the membership to replace Willey as vice president was Thayne Lowman, a director-at-large on the board who was instrumental in renewing interest in the ISSA in southwest Iowa. Lowman feels he brings leadership experience to his new position.

"I have quite a bit experience as president of national organizations and state organizations," he said. "I'm used to working with a lot of different people but with common goals, I feel I listen well. One of the greatest assets of a good leader is good listening ability."

Other changes on the board are reflected in the ISSA Directory on page 19. Andrea Willey was re-elected ISSA secretary and Kim Herman retained her position as ISSA treasurer and membership chair. New directors appear in Regions 2, 4 and 12, while vacancies remain in Regions 9 and 10.

During the Awards Ceremony Saturday evening, retiring Region 12 Director Bob Scott was recognized with the Past Presidents Award as well as the Sly Dog Ski Traveling Director Award.

Turn to page 14



ISSA President Gary Burger passes the gavel to ISSA Vice President Jim Willey.

Convention

Continued from Page 13

“This recognition has been totally unexpected,” said Scott, who agreed to remain as an assistant director for Region 12. “I’ve had a tremendous group of people behind me who helped to get things done. I am stepping down as director, but I am not going away.”

Trautman thanks snowmobilers

Besides the elections, meetings and awards banquet, convention weekend also featured several seminars, club and vendor displays and a ‘Show-N-Shine’ snowmobile competition.

Several IDNR officials were on hand to visit with snowmobilers as well, including Snowmobile Program Director David Downing and Deputy Director Bruce Trautman.

The 2012 convention was the first time in recent memory that anyone of Trautman’s stature had attended the annual snowmobile conference, and he felt it was time to thank snowmobilers for their volunteer efforts.

“The partnership we have with snowmobilers is very interesting,” Trautman said. “We couldn’t do what we do without you. We couldn’t get permission to go onto private land, couldn’t put out signs and run the groomer. We just don’t have the resources, the staff nor the local connections that each of these clubs have.

“That’s the beauty of this partnership,” he said. “So on behalf of the IDNR, here’s a big ‘Thank You’ to the local clubs for what they are doing. Partnerships are supposed to be 50-50, but I think you do way more than that for us.”

IDNR Director Chuck Gipp had intended on attending the con-

Congratulations to Al Zuehlke of Council Bluffs, Winner of the ISSA’s \$10,000 ‘Sled of Your Dreams’ Grand Raffle.

Drawn Nov. 17 at the ISSA Annual Convention in Okoboji.

vention as well, but scheduling conflicts prevented his appearance. Both Gipp and Trautman plan to participate in at least one snowmobile event this winter and show their support to the organized snowmobile community.

“For most of my life, I have been involved in and enjoyed outdoor activities, having grown up on a farm in northeast Iowa,” Gipp said in late October. “While I have never owned a snowmobile, I did own and ride a motorcycle.

“As far as my position on snowmobiles and OHVs, I fully support and encourage the development of trails and parks so more Iowans can enjoy this outdoor activity,” Gipp said. “If we are to achieve the Governor’s goal of improving Iowans’ health, we need to encourage and provide opportunities to get outdoors and off the couch and away from the television set.”

Both Gipp and Trautman have been on the job for less than a year, and while stopping short of calling it a culture shift, Downing admitted his relationship with the director and his staff is very “open.”

“Motorized recreation is a program we take seriously within our department,” Downing said. “It provides recreation and is also resource protection. When you have designated snowmobile trails or OHV parks, it provides a sustainable, recreational interest instead of having areas that are unsafe and where people are going to cause harm to the environment.”

Downing met with snowmobilers for more than hour at convention and addressed everything from vintage sled registration to groomer maintenance to the new user permit. Expected to generate an additional \$150,000 annually, Downing said the user permit will help with groomer maintenance and purchases and offset rising fuel costs.

“We are trying to balance everything out,” Downing said. “We have more equipment out there than we have ever had and if we have a good winter, we’ll have increased operational expenses, not just in fuel either. Repairs are a huge concern as well. It’s a doubled-edge sword and a difficult thing to balance.”

Ahead in the January/February issue: More on convention weekend, including year-end award winners.

ISSA Club Challenge

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Sac County Snow Lovers.....		\$601
Asbury Snow Hawks.....	\$600	
Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club.....	\$503	
Mitchell County E-Z Riders.....	\$500	
Iowa River Riders.....	\$500	
Cedar Falls Sno Hawks.....	\$400	
Central Iowa Snowmobilers.....	\$350.....	\$350
Dickinson County Snohawks.....	\$350	
Tri-County Snowmobile Association.....	\$301	
Floyd County Groomers.....	\$300.....	\$300
Eastern Iowa Sledheads.....	\$300.....	\$300
North Iowa Sno-Jammers.....		\$300
Snowmobilers of Jackson County.....	\$275	
Lyon County Sno Lyons.....	\$250	
Snowdrifters, Inc.....	\$250	
Dewar Snow Chasers.....	\$250	
Snow Pioneers.....	\$250.....	\$300
Bremer County Sno-Knights.....	\$250.....	\$250
Jones County Snow Chasers.....	\$201	
Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers.....	\$200	
Sno-Pak.....	\$200	
Palo Alto Rough Riders.....	\$150.....	\$150
Winneshiek Trail Twisters.....	\$100.....	\$100
Worth County Fencestretchers.....	\$100	

All donations benefit the ISSA’s lobbying efforts at the State Capitol in Des Moines. Send your contribution to: ISSA, c/o Dave Carmichael, 2212 190th Street, Tripoli, IA 50676.



IDNR Snowmobile Program Manager David Downing (right) visits with Jamie Colsch of the Allamakee Sno-Blazers at convention.

Iowa Grass Drag Scenes

Raccoon Valley Club Honors Legacy of Late Member

The Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers (RVSC) in Region 7 renamed their annual grass drags Nov. 18 in memory of a club member who had contributed greatly to the sport locally but died unexpectedly in late September.

Curt Flack was 52 years old when he passed away. His family's farm west of Jefferson had hosted the grass drags every autumn, and club members felt it befitting to rename the event the Curt Flack Memorial Snowmobile Grass Drag Races.

"Curt and the Flack family were snowmobiling pioneers in Greene County, dating back to the 1960s," explained club reporter Jim Wyckoff. "For over 40 years, the Raccoon River valley had seen yellow Ski-Doos whizzing by with Curt and the rest of his family on the throttle."

Flack graduated from Jefferson High School in 1978. Shortly thereafter, he went to work for Wolterman Construction, where he quickly became foreman. In recent years, he farmed with his dad, Tom, and brother, Craig, who currently serves as the club's safety director.

In his spare time, Flack enjoyed gardening and following NASCAR. According to Wyckoff, Flack was also a motor-



The Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers renamed their fall grass drags to the Curt Flack Memorial Snowmobile Grass Drag Races in November.

cycle enthusiast and a very popular and successful stock car racer in central Iowa back in the 1980s and early 1990s. During his racing career, he won seven track championships and had at least 100 feature race wins.

Wyckoff said, "Curt will be remembered for his contagious smile, his big heart and his willingness to help others."

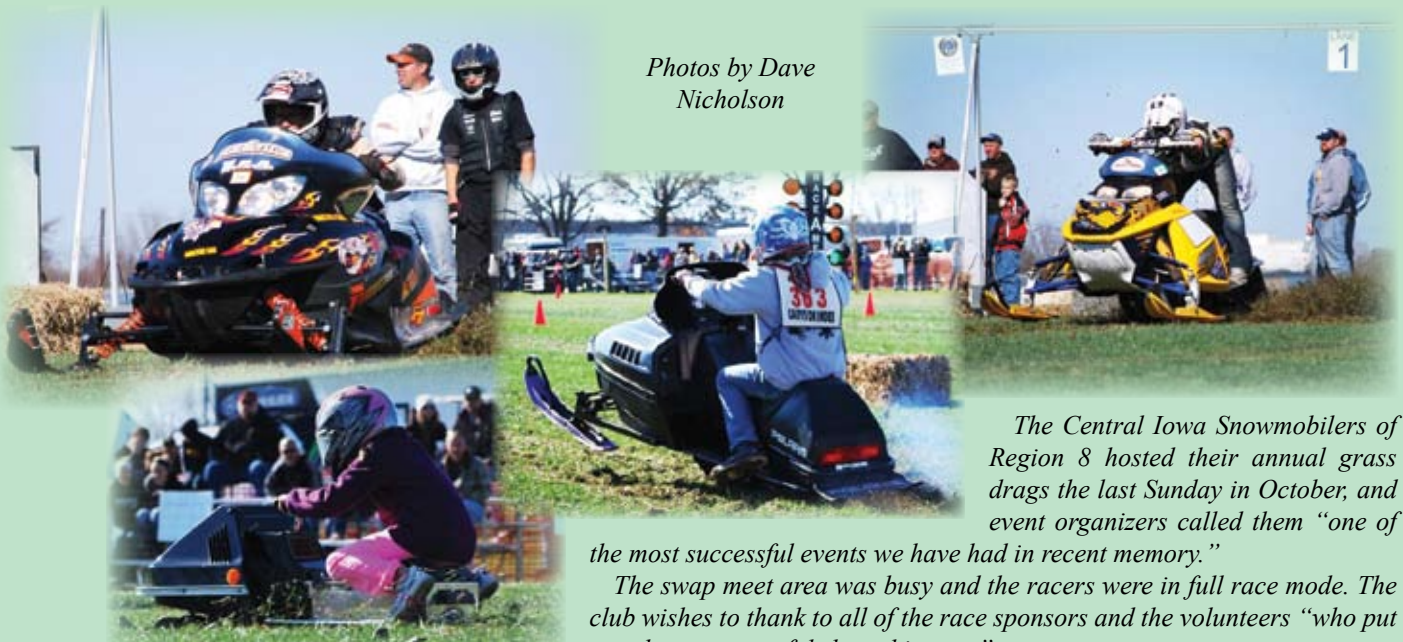
On race day, mild weather and a good

turnout made for a successful RVSC grass drags. The racetrack was 500 feet in length, and the competition followed a double-elimination race format.

Trophies were handed out in the following classes of snowmobiles: studded: trail stock, trail performance, stock, improved and modified. There was also a non-studded class.

~ Submitted story

Grass Drags Return to Marshalltown in October



Photos by Dave Nicholson

The Central Iowa Snowmobilers of Region 8 hosted their annual grass drags the last Sunday in October, and event organizers called them "one of the most successful events we have had in recent memory."

The swap meet area was busy and the racers were in full race mode. The club wishes to thank to all of the race sponsors and the volunteers "who put together a successful show this year."

**O'Brien County Snowtrackers***by Zelda Buse Christensen*

Although the club has done little so far to prepare for the coming snow season, things are about to come to life. We meet at the Primghar Country Club for our annual membership supper and meeting tomorrow night (Nov. 10). This is a new place to meet, but advance testimony is that the place is roomy and the food is good!

The fact that new members eat free should entice some new people to join. A mystery raffle for three prizes usually draws curious interest, earns a little income for the club and makes the winners happy. Lots of door prizes are waiting for lucky names to be drawn. Election should get capable people to help keep the club active. And maybe a snow dance would help produce snow for riding this winter!

The following weekend, several Snowtrackers will be at the ISSA Convention at the Lakes—helping, learning and participating in some of the classes offered on Sunday.

Taking advantage of an occasional warm day (warm enough to use a four-wheeler and trailer for signing in ditches), I have gotten a good start on that job. Miles don't add up real fast though, since I have been working alone and have picked up 200-250 cans and bottles along the way.

Think snow—not blizzards and storms—but just good, fun snow!

Region 4**Cedar Falls Sno Hawks***by Dick Melick, Reporter*

Greetings from Cedar Falls. The application for the trail crossing permit which is submitted to the Iowa Department of Transportation has been signed by the DOT. At this time, it appears that we will have to cross the four-lane US 218 "at grade" at Gresham Road approximately 1.5 miles south of Janesville and make a slight revision closer to town to reach the Kwik Star station in Janesville. Still working on this.

We had election of officers at our November meeting with all officers returning to office. Sale of coupon booklets at the Cedar Falls Younker's store during their Community Day Event for the benefit of the ISSA Scholarship Foundation was successful.

Our December meeting will be the annual Christmas Party. As always, all interested snowmobilers and ISSA officers and directors are invited to attend any of our meetings. Our meetings are normally held at 7 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, September through April. For more information about the trail, club and/or meetings, contact Club President Michael Maney at (319) 464-2442 or Secretary Dick Melick at (319) 231-0819.

Guess that is all for now. THINK SNOW!!!

Floyd County Groomers Association*by Mike Paulus, Reporter*

Hello from Floyd County! There's not a whole lot of new information this month as we've just been continuing to work on events that were decided on in previous months.

It's good to be getting back into the routine of regular monthly meetings. Many of our members are now out and about encouraging others to join the club, and encouraging current members to renew their memberships again for next year. We're hoping for

great membership numbers again this coming year.

It's about that time again when our members will be out putting up trail signs and getting the trails ready for winter. Some of our members are also preparing to attend the ISSA Convention in Okoboji. Hope to see you there!

Region 5**Trails Unlimited***by Bud Winter, Vice President*

Greetings from Trails Unlimited!

At the time of this writing, it's been lightly snowing all day so hopefully that is a sign of a great winter to come!

Friday night, our club held its first annual Chicken Dinner and Membership Drive. We had a great group of members work the event, and an even better group of community members showed up to support us. We served roughly 250 dinners throughout the night and saw the faces of numerous members from surrounding snowmobile clubs. Between food, raffle tickets, a 50/50 drawing and free will donations, our club was able to generate over \$1,000 in profits! Thanks again to everyone who was involved.

Allamakee Sno-Blazers*by Brandon Fahey*

It's early November and the Allamakee Sno-Blazers have already seen a few days of flurries. I think we can all agree that any moisture is a positive with the dry spell we have had over the past 12 months.

Our trail bosses are busy marking their trails and getting ready for a busy snowmobile season. We held our annual Landowner Dinner and Raffle Drawing in September with another successful fundraiser. Thank you to all who helped support our club during the off-season.

We are planning our club rides and events for January/February and would like to invite riders from all clubs to come enjoy our scenic trails in Northeast Iowa. You can visit our website at <http://snoblazers.lrtwebservice.com/> to check event dates and trail conditions and request a trail map by emailing me at snoblazers@yahoo.com Here's to a safe and enjoyable snowmobiling season!

Winneshiek Trail Twisters*by Steve Larson, Board Member*

Hello fellow snowmobilers from the Winneshiek Trail Twisters.

Last month, we had our annual Snow Show/Swap Meet/Membership Drive, and it was a great success! We signed up 105 members and, so far, are 100 percent ISSA! We would like to thank the ISSA for participating in our Snow Show. Our club crowned a new Snow Princess, Paige Kirchner, for the 2012-13 year, and Katie Gress is our alternate princess. A big Thank You to KVIK/KNEI and Les Askelson for advertising and promoting the Snow Show.

Thanks to all of the vendors who participated in the Snow Show. We couldn't do it without you.

The rest of the month of November, we have been working hard doing trail prep and signing. So far we have most of our trails done and are getting pumped and primed for snowmobiling.

WTT next event is our Chili Feed at the Fox and Coon Club in



*Winneshiek Trail Twisters Snow Princess
Paige Kirchner and family.*

Decorah on Jan. 12. We hope to see you all there; this is a ride to event so pray for snow!

Driftrunners Inc.

by Bob Martinek, Board Member

Hi to everyone from Cresco. The Driftrunners have just wrapped up a very busy November. Our trails are all marked and ready for action. Keep in mind though that our trails do not open until after second season deer hunting is over. Please follow the landowner's wishes or we could lose our privileges to ride on their land.

Coming up on Saturday, Dec. 22, Bubba's in Schley is hosting a Groomer Fundraiser Dance. He's planning music with food and going to donate all of the door admission monies to the groomer fund. Details of this are still being worked out as I write this but a party in Schley right before Christmas = great time! Plus we are raising money for our groomer.

The board has also been busy putting the final touches on the plans for our 42nd Annual Snow Fest on Jan. 24-27. Fun runs, raffles, food, club trail rides, bean bag tournament, torchlight parade, bonfire, snowball dance and more. For the Snowball Dance on Jan. 26, we have again booked the "Back Home Boys" band. Next month, I will go into detail about all the Snow Fest events we have planned.

Also for the third time, I am going to try to get this right. Charlie's Chili Feed will be on Saturday, Feb. 16, at the warming bin on the trail to Cresco just south of Granger. Please note this is a different date than I had been saying all along. Feb. 16 is correct.

Remember to check on Facebook for any updates on our events.

Well, that's it for now. Happy trails, think snow and Merry Christmas!

Snow Pioneers

by Steve Vorwald, President

Hello from Delaware County.

The weather is turning colder, and trail work has begun. Our members are mowing trails, putting in signs and repairing trails. A new creek crossing was created by installing concrete culverts and covering with fill allowing groomer operators to cross instead of turning around and backtracking. Two new trails are being developed to further link our trail system together, adding choices when riding.

Final plans are being made for our Landowners Appreciation Breakfast/Club Fundraiser on Nov. 11. During the event we will be updating our landowners list and asking landowners to re-sign leases. Our goal is to have a complete and updated list with current information.

Upcoming Snow Pioneers events are a Snowmobile Safety Class on Nov. 24 and fun runs on Jan. 12 and Feb. 9. A club trip is also being planned to Black River Falls on Jan. 18-20. Visit www.snowpioneers.com for more information on these and upcoming events.

As the holiday season begins, take time to enjoy your family.

Region 7

Webster County Ice Breakers

By Nancy Lundgren

Another month has gone by and the Ice Breakers couldn't be more excited about winter! We have scheduled the annual Marlin Benson Fun Run for Feb. 9. We are excitedly making preparations!

Our Trail Committee has been working hard to get signs up. They spent a Sunday afternoon at Lee Benson Motors making new posts and meanwhile two members were able to sign 13 miles. We are slowly signing more and hope to have it all completed by the time the snow flies!

As the snowmobile season starts, please stay safe! Also remember to watch www.webstercountyicebreakers.com and our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Webster.County.Icebreakers for more information about upcoming events!



WCIB members Jason Nelson and Jim Suchan at the sign workday.



Region 9

Eastern Iowa Snow Riders

by Tim and Lauren Heilig

EISR members have been busy making plans for a great year of riding and club activities. The club has grown in recent years to 110 paid members and 250-plus miles of signed trails.

We were fortunate to add a groomer and drag to our fleet last year, thanks to the great dedication of a few of our club officers and members.

Recent projects have included: inventory and replacement of signage, building and renovation of several bridges and completion of color trail maps, thanks to member and sponsor donations.

Events planned for 2013 include:

- Saturday, Jan. 5: EISR Fun Run
- Saturday, Jan. 27: EISR Radar Run 10 a.m. at Folletts
- Saturday, Feb. 2: EISR Fun Run
- Saturday, Feb. 16: EISR Fun Run

For more details or information about any of our club activities or trails, check out our website www.easterniowasnowriders.com or our Facebook page.

Region 12

Snowdrifters, Inc.

by Ron Roe

We are moving right into fall quickly here. I keep thinking of mowing a trail, but that is as close as I have gotten. Next week for sure, it will be mowed and marked all at one time.

In October, we had a good swap meet. A lot of vendors, plenty of people walking around looking, maybe more tire kicking than buying. Everyone seemed in good spirits as they were looking and visiting. The weather was good to us. A little rain early in the week kept the farmers out of the fields on Sunday and then nice and sunny on Sunday. A lot of members got their annual membership dues paid. That makes for a good start with the memberships.

We still have some major bridge work to get done in the next few weeks. Everyone is working on the mowing and marking of the trails now. We are printing new maps this year, and we have been having good results getting map sponsors.

By the time you read this, Turkey Day will be behind us, and we'll be thinking about Christmas and getting some snow trips planned. I want to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

Now, Ready, Set, Go for the Snow.

Eastern Iowa Sledheads

by Mike Parizek

Hello from the Eastern Iowa Sledheads. I hope everyone is having a great fall and working towards a super winter.

Club meeting attendance is starting to pick back up as we get closer to the snowmobile season. Of course, this means a huge amount of trail prep work is being planned and completed. I am continually amazed at all the hard work club members commit to working on our trail system.

A new president, Greg Martin, and new secretary, Stephanie Martin, were elected in October. Huge thanks goes out to outgoing president, Mindy Scott, and secretary, Kyle Campbell, for their service.

The annual swap meet was held on Oct. 7 at a new location. The Riverside location was chosen in an attempt to make this event more visible and increase attendance. This will be the location next year, and lots of new ideas are being discussed to add to this event.

The group has been meeting on weekends to build some new bridges and repair others on our trail system. Trail work and mowing has begun and hopefully we will see some significant snow to ride on by the time this is being read. It is nice to be able to enjoy all of the hard work done by our members.

I hope everyone has a great riding season. Be safe and have fun.

Floyd County Groomers Named 2012 ISSA Club of the Year

The Floyd County Groomers Association of Region 4 was named the 2012 ISSA Snowmobile Club of the Year at the 2012 ISSA Convention in Okoboji Nov. 16-18. The club received the same honor 10 years ago at the 2002 ISSA Convention in Waterloo.

Consisting of 113 ISSA members, the Floyd County Groomers have been serving snowmobilers in north central Iowa since 1981. The club is a 100 percent supporter of the ISSA and maintains 160 miles of cross-country trails.

The club's trail system connects with five neighboring clubs at eight different locations on their trail map. At convention, the club learned they will be receiving a new groomer as well this winter.

The ISSA's Club of the Year Award is a points-based award. Categories are available online at www.iowasnowmobiler.com/issa/awards.



Representing 113 ISSA members in Region 4, the following members of the Floyd County Groomers Association were on hand to accept the 2012 ISSA Snowmobile Club of the Year Award at the ISSA Annual Convention in Okoboji in November: from left, Cameron Hanson, Dennis and Carol Nauman, Steve King, Brittany Schrage, Mike Paulus, Joe and Sue Paulus, Brent Nauman and Scott Nauman. In July, the club will be hosting the 2013 ISSA Summer Campout and invites their fellow ISSA members to the R Campground in Charles City for a weekend of fun July 12-14.



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REGION SIX

Gene Gerdes (Anne), Director
P.O. Box 826, Lake View, IA 51450
(712) 665-8541
gaskg@netins.net

REGION SEVEN

Eric Chrystal, Director
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(515) 201-8604
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635 Greene St
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REGION EIGHT

Ron Sienknecht, Director
1307 Lilac Lane
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
ron.sienknecht@gmail.com
(319) 404-0054

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(641) 844-1095
ba@centraliowamachine.com

Brian Sienknecht, Assistant
2805 130th St.
Buckingham, IA 50612
(319) 478-8099
samm0000@traer.net

REGION NINE

Director position is open. If you are interested in serving, please contact ISSA President Jim Willey.

Rodney Rocarek, Assistant
1718 O'Connor Rd
Mt. Vernon, IA 52314
(319) 533-1115

modteam11@hotmail.com

REGION TEN

Director position is open. If you are interested in serving, please contact ISSA President Jim Willey.

REGION ELEVEN

Tom Kracht, Director
21840 461st St.
Centerville, IA 52544
(641) 680-1396
thomask@honeycreekresort.com

Gene Paris (Brenda), Assistant
21845 458th Street
Centerville, IA 52544
(641) 895-0259
gbpar@sirisonline.com

REGION TWELVE

Bob Scott (Mindy) Director
204 W. Dougherty Dr.P.O. Box 435
Lone Tree, IA 52755
(319) 629-4630
scott4@iowatelecom.net

James Pickle (Ann), Assistant
1007 E. Madison St.
Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641-1822
(319) 385-3503
dillpick@iowatelecom.net

Mel Rinehart (Diane), Assistant
P.O.Box 92, 345 N. George St.
North Liberty, IA 52317
(319) 626-2995
twopos@mchsi.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Gary Burger
7255 NW 54th Court
Johnston, IA, 50131
(515) 334-0360,
gary@burgersofiowa.com

GOLDEN CLUB

Larry Huntley
401 East 1st St., Alta, IA 51002

Richard Grosse
7543 Ford Rd.
Janesville, IA 50647
(319) 987-2155

Gary Bruns
102 Honeysuckle,
Baytown, TX 77520

Bill Nordstrom
1518 Garst Ave.,
Boone, IA 50036
(515) 432-5695

Gary Fairchild
933 170th St.
Ogden, IA 50212
(515) 275-4133

Rich Moench
2155 Iowa Ave.,
Humboldt, IA 50548
(515) 332-3587

Chuck Colegrove
5606 6th Ave.

Armstrong, IA 50514
(712) 864-3170

Marv Heikens (deceased)

Dan Martin
4712 Candlelight Dr.
Davenport, IA 52806
(563) 386-3769

Larry Childs
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Manchester, IA 52057-1456
(563) 927-5934

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Garner, IA 50438
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(319) 266-0445

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Cresco, IA 52136

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Ellsworth, MN 56129
(507) 283-2533

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(515) 240-3858
awbrunoa@excite.com

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Fostoria, IA 51340-0153,
(712) 262-3309

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Rudd, IA 50471
(641) 395-2933

Jerry Kramer
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Humboldt, IA 50548
(515) 890-1099

Terry Durby
42792 160th Ave.
Leland, IA 50453
(641) 903-9294

Merv Hoermann
P.O. Box 22
Sutherland, IA 51058
(712) 260-4810

Gary McVicker
1120 110th Street
Hampton, IA 50441
(641) 425-1375
gmvcvic@yahoo.com

Gary Burger
7255 NW 54th Court
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(515) 334-0360,
gary@burgersofiowa.com



IOWA SNOWMOBILE CLUBS

REGION ONE Buena Vista Blizzard Busters

President: Jeffrey Sassman
709 Hudson St., Storm Lake, IA
50588, (712) 732-6500

Clay County Sno Broncs

President: Klair Greenfield
1615 1st. Ave E, Spencer, IA
51301, (515) 570-5225
klair@emcfd.com

Dickinson County SnowHawks

www.dickinsoncountysnowhawks.com
P.O. Box 504, Spirit Lake, IA 51360
President: Stephanie Duncan
2281 165th St., Spirit Lake, IA 51360
(712) 330-6162, ssd@mchsi.com

Lyon County Sno-Lyons

P.O. Box 576, Rock Rapids, IA 51246
President: Eric Borman
405 N. 4th Ave., Rock Rapids, IA
51246, (712) 470-0190
ebconst@yahoo.com

O'Brien County Snowtrackers

President: Merv Hoermann
P.O. Box 22, Sutherland, IA 51058
(712) 260-4810
mebeefeater@hotmail.com

Osceola County High Point Riders

www.highpointriders.com
President: Brian Monier
1990 Hwy 59 Sibley, IA 51249
(712) 461-0421
bmooner@hotmail.com

Powder Players Inc.

P.O. Box 154, Remsen, IA 51050
President: D.J. Kellen
23657 Marble Ave., LeMars, IA
(712) 540-5723
president@powder-players.com

Sioux County Snowmobile Club

www.siouxcountysnowmobileclub.com
or search Sioux County Snowmobile Club on Facebook under club info in Iowa Snowmobiler
President: Dave Taylor
1520 North Main Ave.
Sioux Center, IA 51250
Dave.Taylor@interstates.com
(712) 449-5556

REGION TWO

Emmet County Driftbusters

President: Jason Perkins
821 North 12th Street
Estherville, IA 51334
(712) 260-9371

Humboldt Sno-Skimmers

President: Brian Ricklefs
209 4th St.S., Dakota City, IA 50529
(515) 604-6128

Kossuth County Drift Skippers

President: Jeremy Walker
1402 170th St., LuVerne, IA
50560-8552 (515) 295-8721

Palo Alto Rough Riders

President: Kurt Bonnsetter
111 Iowa St., P.O. Box 62
Cylinder, IA 50528, (712) 424-3011
kbonnste@iowatelecom.net

Sno-Pak

P.O. Box 164, Pocahontas, IA
50574, snopak@hotmail.com,
www.snopak.net
President: Kolby Wagner
749 South Street, Rockwell City, IA
50579, (712) 830-3821
kjwagner@iowatelecom.net

REGION THREE

Hancock County Snowmobile Assn.

President: Ben Diekhuis
2115 Nash Ave., Britt, IA 50423
(515) 291-2329
diekhuis@gmail.com

Iowa River Riders

President: Al Muhlenbruch
206 Highway 3, Alexander, IA
50420, (641) 425-2790

North Iowa Sno-Jammers

P.O. Box 103, Lake Mills, IA 50450
www.northiowasnojammers.com
President: Valere Holtan
38320 210th Ave.
Forest City, IA 50436
(641) 567-3674

North Iowa Snow Seekers

President: Brad Johnson
3800 4th St SE Mason City IA 50401
(641) 210-0550
baj1956@live.com

Team Iowa Snowmobilers

P.O. Box 515, Wester City, IA 50595
www.teamiowasnowmobilers.com
Contact@TeamIowaSnowmobilers.com
President: Mike Hassebrock
328 N. Main, Madrid IA 50156
MikieO1@Live.com

Worth County Fencestretchers

P.O. Box 27, Northwood, IA 50459
President: Al Fredricks
107 Seventh St., Northwood, IA 50459

REGION FOUR

Bremer County Sno-Knights

President: Dennis Koehler
805 9th St. NW, Waverly, IA 50677
(319) 240-5756

Cedar Falls Sno Hawks

President: Michael Maney
3637 Hammond Ave.
Waterloo, IA 50702-5519
(319) 464-2442 (Cell)
maney@uwalumni.com

Chickasaw Sno-Riders

President: Benny Brincks
101 West Prairie Street Ionia, IA
50645, (641) 394-5561 (h)
(641) 990-3628 (c)

Dewar Snow Chasers

President: Cory Allspach
4016 Round Street
Cedar Falls, IA, 50613 (319) 404-2878

Floyd County Groomers Assn.

President: Philip Schrage
P.O. Box 7, Marble Rock, IA 50653
(641) 397-2775
Schrage@iowatelecom.net

Howard County Stump Jumpers

President: Nathan Hale
4145 Hillcrest Dr., Riceville, IA
50466, (641) 985-2699.

Mitchell County E-Z Riders, Inc.,

President: Keith Popp
1408 Pleasant St.
Osage, IA 50461
(641) 732-3625

Snow Snoops Snowmobile Club

President: Dave Fisher
121 Cedar Hill Ave., Nashua IA 50658
(319) 269-3703, (319) 240-8531
lorifisher@q.com

REGION FIVE

Allamakee Sno-Blazers

Allamakee Sno-Blazers
PO Box 94 Waukon, IA 52172
President: Mary Dehli
1830 Hwy 76 N, Waukon, IA 52172
(563) 568-6111, rmdehli@live.com

Asbury Snowhawks

President: Tom Spalla
3309 Brook Hollow Dr., Asbury, IA
52002, (563) 582-8893
tspalla@hotmail.com

Clayton County Snowbirds

12469 Hwy. 18, Postville, IA 52162
President: Mark Bries
21352 Highway 18, Monona, IA
52159, (563) 539-4555

Driftrunners, Inc.

126 Fourth Street East,
Cresco, IA, 52136
driftrunnersia@yahoo.com
Join Us on Facebook under 'Groups'
President: Matt Miner
17879 State Hwy 9
Lime Springs, IA 52155

(563) 380-7142
mmmffarms@hotmail.com

Snow Pioneers

President: Steve Vorwald
1582 210th St., Manchester, IA
52057, (563) 927-5362

Trail Blaz-zers Inc.

President: Trail Blaz-zers Inc
President: Randy Kaune Sr.
11419 90th St., Fayette, IA 52142
(563) 920-8491
randysr05@hotmail.com

Trails Unlimited

105 Dessel St., Ossian, IA 52161
President: Chad Humpal
1116 St Hwy 150
Ft. Atkinson, IA 52144

Wapsipinicon Snowmobile Assn.

P.O. Box 802, Independence, IA
50644, www.wsaiowa.com
President: Joe Goblirsch
13134 Fox Road
Jesup, IA 50648, (319) 827-3381
jgoblirsch@martinsnet.com

Winneshiek Trail Twisters Inc.

P.O. Box 154, Decorah, IA 52101
President: Jake Ludeking
2005 Centennial Road, Decorah, IA
52101, (563) 382-2027
ludeking@neitel.net

REGION SIX

Sac County Snow Lovers

P.O. Box 464, Lakeview, IA 51450
President: Bradley Garrels
307 Adams St., Lake View, IA 51450
(712) 210-4262
garrelsbrad@hotmail.com

REGION SEVEN

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club

Saylorville Dam Snowmobile Club
P.O. Box 3133, Des Moines, IA 50316
www.saylorvilledamsnowmobileclub.org
President: Alex VanDerKamp
(641) 521-5488
advanderkamp@gmail.com

Raccoon Valley Snow Chasers

President: Eric Chrystal
705 West Sunset Road
Jefferson, IA 50129, (515) 201-8604
chrystal@netins.net

Webster County Ice Breakers

President: Jim Suchan
3374 Garfield Ave., Gowrie, IA 50543
(515) 352-3039, jsmgr@lvcta.com

REGION EIGHT

Central Iowa Snowmobilers

P.O. Box 1751, Marshalltown, IA
50158, President: Kevin Weese
(641) 485-0123

Jasper County Ditch Bangers

President: David Huffaker
P/O/ Box 311, Baxter, IA 50028
(641) 751-0622
huffaker-dave@hotmail.com

Tri-County Snowmobile Assn., Inc.

P.O. Box 231, Traer, IA 50675
President: Brian Sienknecht
2805 130th St., Buckingham, IA 50612

(319) 478-8099, samm0000@traer.net

REGION NINE

Cascade Snow Punchers

Eastern Iowa Sno-Riders

President: Ron Benhart
1772 140th St., Lowden, IA 52255
(563) 529-5703
famous@netins.net

Frozen Few

P.O. Box 184, Coggon, IA 52218
President: Jamie Prull, 1101 First St
Palo, IA 52324, (319) 851-2522
jprull@aol.com

Jones County Snow Chasers

P.O. Box 492
Anamosa, IA 52205
President: Raven Ricketts
(563) 485-4209 (h),
(563) 570-6922 (c)
ravenricketts@aol.com

Snowmobilers of Jackson County

REGION TEN

Southwest Iowa Snow Scooters

President: Cory Leick
51237 230th Street, Glenwood, IA
51534, (712) 526-2172

REGION ELEVEN

Rathbun Snow Riders

www.rathbunsnowriders.com
President: Gene Paris
21845 458th St., Centerville, IA
52544, (641) 895-0259

REGION TWELVE

Cedar County Winter Warriors

ccwwarriors@yahoo.com
President: Jerry Meier
1241 Jackson Ave., Tipton, IA 52772
jmeier@hupp-electric.com
(319) 325-6021

Eastern Iowa Sledheads

P.O. Box 519, Lone Tree, IA 52755
easterniowasledheads@aol.com
President: Greg Martin
1714 Davis Ave., Nichols, IA 52766
(319) 723-4365

Snowdrifters, Inc.

P.O. Box 5135, Coralville, IA, 52241
President: Thayne Lowman
820 Club House Rd
North Liberty, IA 52317
thayne_lowman@msn.com

Scott County Sno-Seekers

www.snoseekers.org
P.O. Box 2332
Davenport, IA 52809-2332
President: Joshua Voss
(563) 505-7044
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Southeast Iowa Ridgeblasters

President: Fred Strothman
2278 Quaker Ave
New London, IA 52645
319-367-2316
fmstrothman@iowatelecom.net

Outdated Information? Drop Us A Line

Please send your new president listing to issa1257@yahoo.com and editor@iowasnowmobiler.com. We want to maintain the most updated information possible.

Also note that if a club listed above does not have a president included, our records show the club has paid members but the president's dues were not current.

Also, please let us know if your club's by-laws include 100 percent membership in the ISSA. We want to recognize those clubs for their support.

— Thank you

ISSA Membership Committee





REGION 1
Glen's Sport Center, Inc.
 208 16th St., Sheldon, IA 51201
 glens1@qwestoffice.net

REGION 2
Rasmussen Electric
 2781 Valley Ave., Rockwell City, IA
 50579, (515) 467-5748

Trea's Tree Service
 709 Court St., Rockwell City, IA
 50579, 712-297-7199
 Traestreeservice@gmail.com

Vinny's BBQ
 P.O. Box 118, Dakota City, IA 50529
 (515) 332-2046

Wagner Truck & Auto
 402 Broad St., Rolfe, IA, 50581
 (712) 848-3443
 www.wagnertrucks.com

Ramthun Trucking, Inc
 2271 Upland Ave., Mansona, IA
 50563, (515) 480-3970

Southern Calhoun Ag Services, Inc.
 3598 Ogden Ave.
 Lohrville, IA 51453
 tom.mcclue@plantpioneer.com

REGION 3
Allen Seed and Grain
 2059 Olive Ave, Sheffield, IA 50475
 (641) 892-4058

Americinn
 702 Central Ave W/PO Box 637
 Hampton, IA 50441, (641) 456-5559
 hampton.ia@americinn.com

Auto Parts Wholesale
 621 4th St SE, Hampton IA, 50441
 (641) 456-2594
 apwhampton@yahoo.com

Chappy's on Main
 122 S Main St, Clarion, IA 50525
 (515) 532-2727, ragingcy@yahoo.com

Christiansen Farms/Trucking
 1096 Grouse Ave, Hampton, IA
 50441, (641) 866-6951
 dnb@iowaconnect.com

Crystal Lake Bar
 130 State Ave, Crystal Lake, IA 50432,
 (641) 565-3030

Countryside Turf & Timber
 11328 Hwy 65, Iowa Falls, IA,
 50126, (641) 648-2382
 trysidett@prairieinet.net

Dave's Auto Service
 101 W Main St, Lake Mills, IA 50450
 (641) 592-9951
 Non-ethenol premium fuel

DK Arndt, PC
 116 East I, Forest City, IA 50436
 (641) 585-4631

Dohrmann Powerwashing
 927 120th St, Hampton, IA 50441
 (641) 866-6848

Don's Motor Mart
 401 W Main St., Lake Mills, IA 50450
 (641) 592-9966

Donna's Lounge
 427 1st St, Meservey, IA 50457-1004
 (641) 592-9966

DT's Roadhouse
 507 Main St., Dumont, IA 50625
 (641) 857-3440
 dougpralle376@yahoo.com

Duck's Bar & Grill
 112 E Main/PO Box 4, Aredale, IA
 50605, (641) 894-3312
 ducks@netins.net

Dudley's Corner
 648 Highway 3, Latimer, IA 50452
 (641) 866-6999

Dura Clean by Doug
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 Lake Mills, IA 50450
 (641) 592-5772

Ernie Williams, LTD
 715 1st Ave NE
 Buffalo Center, IA 50424
 (641) 562-2228

Farm & City Insurance
 PO Box 248, Forest City, IA 50436

(641) 585-2925, www.rvadvantage.com
Farmers Trust & Savings
 105 N Lake St, Lake Mills, IA 50450
 (641) 592-2660

Forest City Ford-Mercury, Inc.
 P.O. Box 448, Forest City, IA 50436
 (641) 585-5555

Goody's Welding & Metal Art
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 50450, (641) 909-4660

Hair Designs
 236 E J St, Forest City, IA 50436
 (641) 585-2405
 smbenson1@wctatel.net

Happy Time Resort
 526 470th St, Lake Mills IA 50450
 (641) 592-9412

Hippie Chicks' Bar & Lounge
 120 Main St., Scarville, IA 50473
 (641) 568-3049
 www.facebook.com/hippiechicksbar

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 www.hiexpress.com/northwood-iowa
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 www.hollandcontracting.com

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 103 Main St, Coulter, IA 50431
 (641) 866-6771

House of Sports
 Hwy 122 W, Mason City, IA 50401
 (641) 424-2861
 hos@myclearwave.net

Howie Equipment
 Trailer & Tire Sales
 1273 Mallard Ave, Hampton, IA
 50441 (641) 456-5651

Jed's Jalopy Joint
 2059 Olive Ave, Sheffield, IA 50475
 (641) 892-4058

J-T Machine & Tool Co.
 602 S Federal St/PO Box 304
 Hampton, IA 50441, (641) 456-4513
 jtmachinetool@iowaconnect.com

Kirschbaum Heating & Cooling
 609 S Winnebago, Lake Mills, IA 50450,
 (641) 592-8831

Lake Mills Lumber Co.
 313 N Washington, Lake Mills, IA
 50450, (641) 592-2721

Lake Mills Motel
 402 N Lake St, Lake Mills, IA
 50450 (641) 592-3711
 barb_james69@yahoo.com

Lake Mills Motor Sports
 Polaris
 45563 C Hwy 69, Lake Mills, IA
 50450, (641) 592-2145
 www.lakemillsmotorsports.com

Little Willie's Bar & DJ
 114 S Main St, Clarion, IA 50525
 (515) 532-9781

Manufacturers Bank & Trust Co.
 106 W Main St, Lake Mills, IA 50450
 (641) 592-0041, www.mbtbank.com
 www.mbtbank.com/email

Mother's Place
 115 N Akir, Latimer, IA 50452
 (641) 579-6401
 nlparks@frontiernet.net

Muhlenbruch Insurance
 PO Box 426, Dows, IA 50071
 (515) 290-2968, buck@trvnet.net

Mulford Concrete Inc.
 1312 Hwy 3 West, Hampton, IA
 50441, (641) 456-5200

Overtime DJ Service
 208 S Lake St, Lake Mills, IA
 50450 (641) 592-2089

Pakoda's Steakhouse
 719 Central Ave West, Hampton, IA
 50441, (641) 456-2462
 lrsliter@gmail.com

Pralle's Wash City
 PO Box 126, Coulter, IA 50431
 (641) 866-6889

dyanne@iowaconnect.com
Principal Builders Inc.
 1312 Hwy 3 West, Hampton, IA
 50441, (641) 456-5200

Ridgestone Golf Club
 7 Brickyard Road, Sheffield, IA
 50475, (641) 892-8040

Ron's LP, LLC
 43437 225th Ave, Lake Mills, IA 50450,
 (641) 592-4206

Sheffield Lanes
 Sheffield, IA 50475

Sheri's Southside Store
 125 State Ave. S., Crystal Lake, IA
 50432, (641) 565-3100

Silverado's
 110 N Mill St, Lake Mills, IA 50450
 (641) 592-5400

Smith Crop Insurance Agency
 2285 Taylor Ave, Rowan, IA 50470
 (515) 689-3986, smithins@wmtel.net

Snow Trails North
 739 Apricot Ave, Dows, IA 50071
 (515) 851-0080

Squid Willy's Bar & Grill
 387 3rd Ave W, Thompson, IA
 50478, (641) 584-2820
 squid-willy@wctatel.net

State Farm Insurance
 88 8th St, Northwood, IA 50459
 (641) 324-2141
 www.jeremyrogstad.com

The Branding Iron
 135 Jackson St, Thompson, IA 50478
 (641) 584-2912

Trendz Boutique
 236 E J St, Forest City, IA 50436
 (641) 585-2405
 smbenson1@wctatel.net

Uptown Liquor
 306 Hwy 69 S, Forest City, IA 50436
 641-585-5137
 squidwilly@wctatel.net

Vinje Pub
 15960 490th St, Scarville, IA 50473
 (641) 568-3150

Wagner Tire
 515 1/2 W Main, Lake Mills, IA 50450
 (641) 592-5810

Wilson Dental
 145 N Clark, Forest City, IA 50436
 (641) 585-5431
 www.wilsondentalclinic.com

REGION 4
Leer's Cycle Center
 101 Fletcher Ave, Waterloo, IA 50701
 (319) 235-6453
 sales@leerscyclecenter.com
 www.leerscyclecenter.com

Nate's Outdoor Recreation, Inc.
 Polaris/Yamaha
 110 Oak St., Riceville, IA 50466
 (641) 985-2619
 nates@omnitelcom.com
 www.natesoutdoorrec.com

REGION 5
A Perfect House Reality
 104 E. Water St., Decorah, IA 52101
 (563) 380-5634
 aperfecthouse@gmail.com
 www.aperfecthouse.com

Barney's Bar and Grill
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 New Hampton, IA 50659
 (319) 240-2518
 harlan-taylor@croell.com
 www.croell.com

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 Complete Auto Body
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 (563) 382-9837
 decorahautobody@mhcsi.com

Decorah Auto Center
 1817 State Hwy 9, Decorah, IA 52101
 (563) 382-3919
 imoehl@peoplepc.com
 www.decorahchev.com

Decorah Chiropractic Center
 405 College Dr., Decorah, IA 52101
 (563) 382-0700
 davidgehling@yahoo.com
 www.decorahchiropractic.com

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