

WYOMING SNOWMOBILE

WRANGLER



JFEBRUARY 2022



WSSA President

BRENDA MILLER

Just when I thought that mother nature was going to bless Wyoming with snow, she decides to send snow to locations of the US that never get snow. She sure is being fickle this year. While I know that it is supposedly still wintertime it is hard to remember that when the temperatures are in the middle 50s. Maybe we will get in some good springtime riding. We could only hope right?

I hope that you all got letters of support sent into your legislators on SF0005 – Legislation that would allow State Parks to purchase the field office and shop in Lander. As well as HB0008 which is legislation for Scratch Tickets for outdoor recreation funding. As you all know it is important to stay engaged with our club members as well as legislation that could affect us around the state.

Let's not forget to keep our eyes on Federal Legislation that is coming down the pike. First there is the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act, HR1755. This legislation targets the lands in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming. It would prohibit any new road construction or reconstruction or timber harvest without an act of Congress. Oil or gas leasing, mining, or other development which impairs the natural and roadless qualities of the land is also prohibited. This legislation would take all inventoried roadless systems and make them part of the Wilderness System. That is about 23 million acres which is where we recreate!

Then there is the Biden Administration 30x30 Program also called the "American the Beautiful" program which aims to set aside 30% of the nation's lands and waters in a natural state by 2030. A group of Senate Democrats are urging the administration to accelerate progress on its conservation pledge by granting provisional wilderness designations to public lands. They now want the Bureau of Land Management to update its inventories of public lands to find and set aside areas with "wilderness characteristics". Remember that only Congress can release lands from a WSA, opening them to other purposes like mining, or they can permanently restrict the WSA as wilderness.

So much happening legislatively in Wyoming and at the Federal level it is hard to keep up.

Last month I wrote about the American Council of Snowmobile Associations and how important they are for all of the states across the snowbelt. They are our watchdog for happenings in Washington D.C. and other

Did you also know that there is a ton of information that we can use and share from the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association? Their website is <https://snowmobile.org>. They have a sections on News and Events, Stats and Facts, Safety, a Resource page (<https://snowmobile.org/resources-for-snowmobilers.html>) with social media resources, photos, activities for kids, posters, Industry logos, FAQs and so much more! Go check them out!

There is so much reliable information out there for all of us to learn from and to share. Let's all do our part.

See you on the trail.

WSSA Vice President

JUSTIN MADDEN

Greetings everyone! The snow has finally arrived and the season is off to a decent start. Hopefully everyone has hit the mountain and clocked some riding time. With the early season snow conditions being what they were, hopefully everyone had avalanche safety foremost on their minds.

I assisted the Snowy Range club in putting a new stove in the Quealy safety shelter and in revamping a couple of the avalanche beacon stands to make them easier to transport to their spots on the mountain.

I hope everyone has had a chance to talk to their state representatives to show support for SF0005, so that the State Trails program can purchase their shop. If not, please take time to do so. This is very important for the program.

Hope everyone is signed up and excited about Fun Days. I'm sure the Snowpokes have a wonderful time planned for all. Hope to see you there.

WSSA Secretary/ Treasurer

SUNNY MADDEN

Hello, here is my February article. Thanks!

Hello everyone! I can't believe it's almost time for Fun Days! I am really looking forward to all that the Snowpokes have in store for us. With that in mind, please remember to bring all your club's raffle tickets and money to Fun Days. Don't forget your club banners and charity reports as well! If you have any youth members, they can also make snowmobile safety posters that also count for Club of the Year points. If you have any questions on the points structure, please let me know. Last but not least, please bring your checkbooks to help support the Scholarship program and our Access fund.

I look forward to seeing you all soon! Please don't hesitate to shoot me an email if you need anything!

On The Cover



Photo courtesy Cody Country
Snowmobile Association

In This Issue

Board Reports...2

Directory...4

Club Reports...2-8

Associates...7

Sweetwater Snowpokes

ANGELINA PRYICH

Thanks to Jim Mitchell and Richard Kaumo for attending the club's meeting to share the Be 307 Aware program.

The Snowpokes annual February Fun Run begins and ends at Kendall Valley Lodge outside of Pinedale. We hope there's new snow by then!



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Casper Snow Gypsies

BECKY THORNE

Hello from Casper! Where's the snow? Not here in Casper. The club had planned



on new Years Eve night ride but was canceled due to lack of snow. However, we met at our club presidents house for a night of games and fun. Thank you, George and Diane! Due to lack of snow, it is making it hard to host any poker runs or our Annual Take a Friend, Snowmobiling. Things might get packed into a short time if it ever snows. LOL

Last Wrangler we let you know about Phil Santistevan. He was a long-time member of the Casper Snow Gypsies and a past club president. He was also a past groomer for Casper Mountain. Sadly, Phil passed away. If anyone would like to send cards please mail to club at P.O. Box 3301 Casper, WY 82602. We will get it to Phil's family. RIP our dear friend, you will be greatly missed.

Be safe and enjoy the snow wherever you might ride. Happy New Years and support your sport.

District 9

GEORGE PRYICH

Where is the snow?? Come to Rock Springs for Fun Days 2022! The Snowpokes look forward to seeing all of you at Fun Days 2022 in Rock Springs. Bring your UTV and warm clothing to ride the Killpecker Sand Dunes! We have a good agenda with open time for exploring Western Wyoming Community College, the Rock Springs Historical Museum, downtown Rock Springs, and finding the art surprises throughout town. Look for murals and snowmen in the downtown area, art-wrapped utility boxes and other surprising pops of art. The silent auction promises to be entertaining and don't forget the live auctions that raise funds for Scholarships, Access Wyoming, and for maintaining the safety shelters at Strawberry Meadow in the upper Green and Blind Bull in the Wyoming Range.

The following weekend (March 11-13) we will be in the Upper Green working The Drift (<https://www.thedrift100.com/100-mile-course/>). We help get their supplies to the check stations and provide transportation for anyone needing evacuation from the 100-mile course. If you're in the area, there are two other events that are spectator friendly (see <https://www.thedrift100.com> for more information).

Big Horn Mtn. Snowmads

DOUG NELSON

Happy February everyone!! I sure hope Jeff can still get this in; I realize I'm a day or two late, but I know he will!

January was kind of a hectic month Is for both the mountains and yours truly! On Jan. 15 we had enough snow to ride out to the woodchuck warming hut and do our annual Burger fry it was a great success! The day was absolutely gorgeous and we fed about 60 people And I think everyone enjoyed! This is always a fun little event for the club and a great opportunity for new members to join!! Thank you to all who helped and participated and a huge thank you too to Roberta from Bear Lodge for aiding and supplying the burgers and fixin's! We also had our monthly club meeting that morning. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend because I was out setting up to cook burgers!

The annual polka ride is actually Feb. 12 and I will post the winners of that next month!! Also, we'll be having a back country ride In February and for any details get on our Facebook website!

The snow is finally getting quite good in the Big Horns so come on up and give it a whirl! The WSSA will be putting on their annual Fun days the first weekend of March and it will be in Rock Springs this year. Unfortunately, I will not be able to make it, but we will have people there!

I gotta go get ready to watch the Bengals win! Happy winter everyone. Keep doing that snowdance!



Did you know ...

Your privilege to snowmobile is being threatened?

Do you know who's representing your snowmobile interests in Washington DC?

It's the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA).

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Directory



www.snowmobilewyoming.org

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Riverton Sno-Goers – rivertonsnogoers@gmail.com, PO Box 2115, Riverton WY 82501

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Snowy Range Snowmobile Club – membership@srscwy.com, PO Box 1930, Laramie WY 82073

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Regional Supervisor: Josh Milek - Office: (307) 335-8229 ext 221, Cell: (307) 349-4778

Regional Supervisor: Jordan Weller - Office: (307) 335-8229 ext 225



On the web at: wyotrails.state.wy.us

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2301 Central Avenue,
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Permits and general information: (307) 777-7477, Fax: (307) 777-6472

Rev It Up Girls



PATRICIA N.

January Skills Day and Ladies Ride

Our January skills day and Saturday's ladies ride was attended by 16 amazing ladies! Our goal was to get up high and away from all that frozen fog that had rolled into the valley. These ladies including myself made it up some gnarly mountainous terrain to get above the clouds where we found amazing blue skies! A big shout out to President, Susan Johnston and VP, Eva Kirchlechner for their awesome encouragement and creating that single track to get us up and over those mountains. Woot! Woot! We broke off into three levels with our instructors. Lead by Eva our Polaris riders and lead by Tana our Skidoo beginners broke into two groups while the more advanced riders went with Susan to work on side hilling. Time in the seat was our mission and we definitely accomplished this

on these two days! What an epic two days full of fun and adventure!

Did you know all our ladies' rides are FREE? All ages are welcome and don't worry about holding anyone back, this doesn't exist on a lady's ride! "All for one, One for all"! Checkout our website or Facebook Club page for our upcoming skills day.

2022 "Let's Rip It" Stewardship Team

We're off to an amazing start with our brand new 2022 "Let's Rip It" Stewardship Team!

At Rev It Up Girls Club, our mission is to PROMOTE WOMEN AND YOUNG LADIES to explore and thrive in the backcountry, with emphasis on year-round safety and awareness while providing an atmosphere of FRIENDSHIP and FUN! But we also strive to give back to our local communities and our members anywhere in the United States.

Participants must apply and select one of the 4 levels and commit to completing the required objectives within their chosen level. In return, each participant will receive awards for their achievements at the completion of 2022.

Let's get to it and introduce you to our THREE 2022 "Let's Rip It" Stewardship Team!

Janice Enos is from Montana and is an experienced rider who has chosen Level 4. Here's what she has to say about Rev It Up Girls...

"Through my experiences with RevItUpGirls I have found that I love teaching, passing on the skills I have learned, and helping women succeed in this sport. We have taken it upon ourselves to help those new riders so that they have some little victories and wins and not just want to sell their sled by the time they get back to the trail head. I also have taken over moderating our Facebook page as well as our Website for GVSA and now know that we aren't just a club but a family and will go above and beyond to help each other if we can. Rev It Up



Girls gives me that same feeling and when riding with these ladies I feel like we can go anywhere, and the sky is the limit."

Level 4 Completion

She will receive a FREE 4-year Club Membership for the 2025-26, 2026-27, 2026-27, 2027-28 seasons and can choose 1 other reward outlined in our program!

AJ Perk from Alpine, Wyoming and she selected Level 2.

Shelby Lou – Not pictured selected Level one!

Stay tuned to learn more about these amazing Stewards!

W.O.W Program

Our 2022 January W.O.W. (women offroad wish) rider was awarded to Kaydence who is 12 years old, spunky and almost a teenager who suffers from cystic fibrosis. She is the daughter of member Caristal Johnson.

She road hard for two days with us, her snowmobile, her gear and

one night stay at Deer Run Lodge and Retreat was free for this amazing young lady. We want to thank everyone who donated to bring such joy and give Kandence the time of her life!

A special THANK YOU to Mountainist in Alpine, Wyoming for providing her with all who fashionable gear from head to toe. Another special THANK YOU to Meeridee Matson for providing a cozy home away from home at Deer Lodge and Retreat in Thayne, Wyoming.

Winter Events

Skills Day – Feb. 18 (Montana)

Evening mechanics class on steroids

Club Ride – Feb. 19 (Gallatin National Forest, 45 minutes north of West Yellowstone)

WSSA Fun Days – Mar. 4-6 (Rock Springs)

March 11 -Skills Day and Club Meeting

March 12- Club Ride – "Coed Ride" (Star Valley)

Stay tuned for our upcoming Navigation and Compass class!



Cody Country Snowmobile Association

BERT MILLER
DISTRICT 5 REP.

Hello all,

Well, it still seems like mother nature is playing games with all of us regarding snow! She does not realize we are all very serious and it is time LOL. Let's hope February is snowy and we have great spring snowstorms. We finally were able to get all our trail system marked, and the junction signs put in at the end of January. Wow we need to get creative at times (check out the pictures) but the system is all marked and signed.



In the middle of January, the Cody Club hosted two different filming crews contracted by our own Park County Travel Council. The crews are funded by Cares Act funding. Brenda Miller was our organizer for the two separate days and our club members helped and even had a few starring roles. These two different filming days were 10 hours days and we really did not know how much footage needs to be

gathered for a 60 second film spot. We had still shots, drone footage, cell phone videos, camera videos, and one of the film crew rode in the in the snow tub that was being pulled for action shots as we went down the road footage. The film crews had folks from Canada, Florida, Colorado and a few from Wyoming. These folks have traveled all over the world and we had one person who worked for Sport Illustrated magazine and one from filming Monster Energy motocross racing series. Here is the real interesting point none of them had been on snowmobiles before either. It was handy that most had ridden motorcycles and jet skis though.

These films will be used to showcase Cody's winter sports like skiing, ice climbing and snowmobiling at its best mountain riding. I will have to admit we had to do a few extra takes 2-3-4 and maybe 8 retakes just like in the movies. All in all, we had a great time and made eight new friends who we introduced to snowmobiling. I could tell these folks will be back with the smiles on their faces. I have attached a few photo outtakes.

We sure look forward to seeing you all at FUN DAYS, Let's rock Rock Springs!



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Any additions or corrections to the Associate Membership list should be directed to: Sunny Madden, WSSA Secretary,
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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT WRANGLER IS MARCH 9!

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Dubois Sno-Katters

JAY SLAGOWSKI

I think I've become a snow snob!

For those of us living less than a half an hour away from the continental divide, we become accustomed to fresh snow in our riding zones on a weekly basis, if not daily. Finding untracked powder is usually never hard and if you avoid the weekends its even easier. On most years, our break in period on a new sled is usually complete in a couple rides, and you can expect seven hundred to a thousand miles on the odometer at the end of a good season.

The other day a friend mine who lives down below, was changing a blown belt close to the end of our day. This got me thinking of how many miles mine might have on it. I did some quick math and was stunned that I had only put on a couple hundred miles on it, and we were near the end of January! When I mentioned it to my buddy as part of the casual conversation, he looked up at me and said, "that's because you've "turned into a snow snob" At first I was somewhat offended by the comment and was quick to reply with OH NO I AM NOT! I'm good with riding any time in any conditions with almost anyone. My buddy stood up, snapped his side panel back in place, and began to remind me of all of the rain checks I had taken on his invitations alone, and that my normal reply was "I think I'm going to wait for some more snow" or, "I'm waiting on my new sled to get here" then he followed up with the monster slam dunk of me being the one poopooing most of our normal road trips to other riding areas and that he had been in my back yard zone more than I had this season, and he travels a hundred sixty miles to do it! I had to concede as for the most part he was right. But I couldn't get it out of my head that I HAD BECOME A SNOW SNOB!

I mulled that whole conversation around for about a week, and after some deep soul searching and self-reflection, I made a silent promise to myself that I was going to remove that label from my family name. I was reborn and was turning over a new leaf. I will now ride for the love of riding and never miss another opportunity to get out on the snow with friends and family. A total snowmobile ambassador! I'm going to be that guy that everyone wants to ride with!

Now I just wish it would keep snowing.

PS: Looking forward to See you all at Fun Days Next Month

