

WYOMING SNOWMOBILE

WRANGLER



OCTOBER 2022



WSSA President

BRENDA MILLER

Welcome everyone to the 2022-2023 snowmobile season! It is hard to believe that the summer has come and gone already. I am not sure why it is that the older I get the faster the time goes. I am hoping that predictions for a good winter come true. Lord knows we are due, or at least give us an above average season. I have heard that (and seen) snow is starting to fall in the mountains. I have seen many social media posts about all the work that the clubs are doing to prepare for the season like cutting firewood for the shelters, cleaning the shelters, and trail work just to name a few. Congratulations everyone, great work.

The Iowa State Snowmobile Association hosted the International Snowmobile Congress in June, and they did a great job. They had great speakers and there were many good breakout sessions as well as meetings. Lots of information to absorb in four days. It seemed that some of the most talked about subjects were trespassing, avalanche education, and how do we get the younger generation(s) involved. While there are many meetings to attend, we still have time for social gatherings in the evenings. There are many great people in leadership roles across the snowbelt, but we certainly could not do what we do without the support of our clubs. So, to all the clubs in the state of Wyoming, THANK YOU for your support and THANK YOU for all you do for the sport of snowmobiling.

Winter Travel Management with the Shoshone Forest Service is still not completed, we are only in year eight of this process. I sure hope we do not have to start over. The plans for Greenrock parking in the Snowy Range is also stalled.

We had a good fall meeting and I want to thank everyone that was able to attend. We set a budget for this season, and we had lots of good discussions on multiple things. We determined that the plate for our secretary/treasurer Sunny was way too full, and it is time to get more people involved at the state association. So, if you are interested in helping at the state association level let us know. There are a few open positions for committee chairs. Again, there are great people at the state level and it always good to spend time with them and get to know them better.

Remember Fun Days is always the first full weekend of March, the Top of the Rockies and the Rev It Up Girls are co-hosting the event and I am sure that they will have lots planned. If they don't already have information up on their website keep an eye out for it so that you can be sure to get registered. Should be a great time!

Remember that there are lots of things out on <https://snowmobileinfo.org> that is available for you to use. There is also lots of information out there that you can share with your club members. Again, we are still keeping our eyes and ears open for any minimum snow depth verbiage in the winter travel planning documents.

On a final note, be sure to keep your ears to the ground for any issue that may cause us concern for our snowmobile riding areas.

Until next time, happy fall.

WSSA Vice President

JUSTIN MADDEN

It was good to see everyone that made it out to the fall meeting. The Snowy Range Club just did their first of two wood cuttings on the range this weekend. They had a decent turnout, and it even snowed on us while we were cutting!

I discussed at the fall meeting the fact that I will not be seeking re-election for Vice President. Unfortunately, life has changed for our family quite a bit in the last year so I cannot give the WSSA the time and effort it deserves from its elected officials. So, if you know someone that is passionate about our sport, and that has some time to give, I encourage you to get a hold of me or Brenda.

Cory (District 1 Rep.) and I will be attending the Rocky Mountain Snowmobile Expo in the WSSA booth Oct. 7-8 in Denver. It is normally a fairly productive weekend. Hope if you made it down you had a good time, and got excited about the upcoming season.

WSSA Secretary/ Treasurer

SUNNY MADDEN

Hello snow lovers! The snow will be here before we know it and we will be riding in no time at all! The fall meeting in Riverton on Sept. 17 was well attended and we discussed a lot of great topics. At the meeting, I made the announcement that I will slowly be stepping down from the Secretary/Treasurer position over the next year to year and a half. I plan to spend more time with my family, focusing on my career, and actually getting out and riding again!

Thank you and congratulations to Holly Sinclair for taking over the duties of the Social Media/PR chairperson. Holly has a lot of great ideas to expand WSSA's reach and she is very passionate about snowmobiling. She has already made a ton of great posts and is getting a lot more people involved with the WSSA pages! Also, thank you to Shannon for taking over as Parliamentarian!

With that being said, we are looking for someone to take over the WSSA Secretary/Treasurer job. It is a paid position and is a lot of fun! Some of the duties include monthly bank reconciliations, tracking membership, answering questions and emails, writing checks, filing federal and state annual reports, preparing financial statements, arranging meetings and working with all of you amazing snowmobilers! If you have any questions about the job, please let myself and Brenda Miller know. The Secretary/Treasurer position is appointed by the President and then ratified by the Board of Directors.

DUES REMINDER! The new WSSA dues structure for this season is as follows: Single – \$20; Family – \$30; Associate – \$25; Business – \$50; Member at Large – \$25. Please use the above amounts when submitting dues!

I will be sending out email reminders in the next couple of weeks for new officer information and membership info. Reminder, the sooner I get your club's membership information, the sooner your members will receive the Wrangler!

My email is wssasunny@gmail.com. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Happy fall!

On The Cover



Photo courtesy Wayne Davis, ISMA

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District 9

GEORGE PRYCH

Since Fun Days in March, the Snowpokes met every month to discuss the upcoming dues increases proposed by the WSSA, prepare for events during the summer, and be aware of news regarding access on public land or in the checkerboard land pattern in Sweetwater County. Our members are aware of the time and effort involved in getting permits from the land owners or managers for our fun runs and our involvement with other organizations. Thanks to all for the good meeting in Riverton. Good luck to Justin and Sunny. Now, the weather has turned cooler. The aspens are golden. Can snow be far behind? Remember to be prepared for the weather! See you on the trails!

Directory



www.snowmobilewyoming.org

Officers

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Safety Chairman: Lou Grunewald, Sr. - (307) 234-9000, rec-vee@hotmail.com

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Lander Snowdrifters – landersnowdrifters@gmail.com, PO Box 281, Lander WY 82520

Powder River Sno-Buffs – powderriversnobuffs@yahoo.com, PO Box 754, Buffalo WY 82834

Rev It Up Girls – info@revitupgirls.com

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Snow Explorers Altitude Offroad – pse1271965@gmail.com, PO Box 2509, Pinedale WY 82941

Star Valley Sno-Skippers – suttonswillride@gmail.com, 16 Tee Mont Dr, Afton WY 83110

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

Sour Doughs

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Top of the Rockies – toralpine@gmail.com, PO Box 3172, Alpine WY 83128

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125 Sunflower St., P.O. Box 1429, Lander, WY 82520

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

Barrett Building, 4th Floor,
2301 Central Avenue,
Cheyenne, WY 82002

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

Sweetwater Snowpokes

ANGELINA PRYICH

The June Fun Run started at Point of Rocks on a beautiful morning with lots of people coming out to play. The route took everyone to Superior; everyone had a good time. Thanks to all who supported the club by volunteering and participating. Hope to see you next year.

The safety shelter at Strawberry continues to be visited often and respected by all visitors. Good news – a satellite phone has been installed for emergency use.

Annual maintenance at the Blind Bull safety shelter was done on Aug. 13. Through coordination with the Forest Service for access and planning around weather conditions, we stocked the wood sheds in preparation for SNOW and cleaned the exterior and interior of the

cabin, and cut down the grass around the cabin. Thanks to all the volunteers that day: Pete, Danny, Vivian, George, Bert, Brian, Korey, Todd, Taylor, Robert, Angelina, Sprocket and Max. Thank you to Tim Haberberger from the Box Y for cutting and splitting the firewood. We loaded the dump trailer and filled the wood boxes to overflowing! Good thing Bert was supervising!

On Aug. 20, the club held a Fun Run starting at Kendall Valley Lodge in the Upper Green. Thank you to Sandy and Justin and Katie for use of the Lodge as the starting and ending point of the Fun Run. We had an extraordinary turnout! See you next year!

Upcoming Events: Lighted Winter Parade in Rock Springs on Dec. 3; Avalanche Awareness Class Dec. 9-10; Fun Run Feb. 18, 2023.



Dubois Sno-Katters

JAY SLAGOWSKI
DISTRICT 12 REPRESENTATIVE

Hello again everyone from the Dubois Sno-Katters!

The Dubois Sno-Katters started 2023 with our first meeting on Oct. 4.

We had elections for president and vice president last March where Trent Slagowski was elected as our new president, and John Lee elected to the vice president position. Janet Lee will remain as club secretary and Callie Slagowski will continue as our treasurer.

October-December we will focus on our annual membership drive, and we will be loading firewood in the safety shelters in early November.

We are very excited to have been selected to host the WSSA Fun Days event in 2024 so we will begin to plan and prepare for that throughout the year. Our meetings will continue to be on the first Tuesday of the month (Oct.-March) at the Forest Service Work Center/Fire Cache in Dubois. We welcome anyone with a passion for snowmobiling to join us there if they can.

The first autumn snow has arrived in the upper Wind Rivers, and I don't know about you folks, but after this past summer, I am ready for a good old fashioned "snow up to the window seal" winter. Though it's a couple months early to be worrying about powder turns and side hilling to our favorite riding zones, we can still start getting a few things ready to go for the upcoming season.

Because we count on them so much to get us safely up the mountain and back, I like to start with my trailer while it's still warm enough to work outside. Attention to tires and wheel bearings are my first priority. A little fresh grease in the wheel bearings a couple times a year can save me from having a catastrophic hub and axle failure on some late-night drive home or having to leave our most prized possessions on the shoulder of the road. If my tires have excessive sun rot and cracks in them or look like racing slicks, I try to replace them before they fail me too.



As most people in this day and age, I'm pulling trailers with brakes, so I like to insure they are in good working order as well as the brake controllers in all of the vehicles I tow with. It's easy to ignore them malfunctioning or not working until the one time you really need them on some super long steep grade. A good rule of thumb I use is that the larger and heavier the trailer, the higher the likelihood of wear and tear on items like the brake shoes or hubs is occurring and those may need replaced annually.

I make sure our hitch components are in solid working order and confirm the size ball the trailer requires. Believe it or not, the most common cause of trailers coming unhooked is still from folks putting the wrong tongue on the wrong sized ball.

I like to lubricate all the hitch and jack components with a silicone-based lubricant. They tend to hold up better in cold and wet conditions and don't seem to gather as much dirt and grime as petroleum-based products.

Next I check for any door or loading ramp repairs that the trailer may need, as these items tend to receive the most abuse over the long season. A new box of ski glides may be in order for the deck as well as some door spring replacements or adjustments. Many ramp doors have serviceable hinges you can give a fresh shot of waterproof grease. Always be careful if you choose to work on door springs yourself as they can be pretty dangerous. If you need some help, start by contacting your trailer manufacturer or a local door installation company for all the do's and don'ts of door springs.

Finally, I like to hook up to the trailer and check all of the electrical amenities and lights inside and out. I personally have converted everything I tow to waterproof LED lights and bulbs. They might be a little more expensive up front, but unless you break one, they last much longer and will pay for themselves in the years to come. Then I head down to the car wash for a pre-season trailer wash inside and out as it won't get a lot of TLC once we start riding.

Man, I'm ready for some snow, and also looking forward to seeing everyone on the mountain.

Lander Snowdrifters

PRICE PURDUM

Hello everyone,

Looks like summer is winding down finally. We are still getting 89-degree days, but it is cooling off at night. I'm dusting off my to-do lists and starting to get things in order for our 1st club meeting on Oct. 13. We had a lazy summer with only one activity to mention. Our club had a hamburger feed up in Sinks Canyon in early June. It was good to see our members, their spouses, their kids and grandkids together in one spot. Plus, great hamburgers, salads and desserts. Time to think about doing a highway clean-up again. It is good to see so little trash being left along our section of road these days. Just a reminder, now is a good time to check those trailer lights and tires before it gets cold. Have a good fall, enjoy the nice weather and get out to see the leaves changing color.

Snowmads

DOUG NELSON

Happy fall everyone! Hard to believe it's that time of year already. Where did the year go? This will be kind of short and sweet as for I haven't heard much from anyone in the crew and live in North Dakota.

I do know we are having the annual woodcutting Oct. 8 to refill the warming hut at Woodchuck. But I'm sure by the time this article is printed that will be over!

Also, there will be a meet and greet for the new owners of Bear Lodge as Rick and Roberta have sold! Congratulations Rick and Roberta! Enjoy your retirement!

For the latest updates on our schedule, it is best to look on our Facebook page under the Snowmads. Which has not been released yet but I am sure there will be a Halloween party on Oct. 30. Then the big event for November will be the annual Bad Boys fundraiser the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Again, this will be a huge event and raises a big amount of money for search and rescue! This is always a great event with lots of fun and food and a huge amount of cash prizes!

Well, I'm going to cut it short this time I don't have a lot of news. But it is time to start doing the snow dance and saying your prayers and hopefully we'll have a little better snow conditions than last year!

Everyone stay safe and we will see you on the hill!

**Deadline
for the next
Wrangler
will be
Nov. 7**

Associates

Support those who support our efforts!

BIG HORN MTN

SNOMADS

REC-VEE SERVICE & SUPPLY
REEDS AUTOMOTIVE & CUSTOM
EXHAUST
REED'S WRAPS & CUSTOM
GRAPHICS

CASPER SNOW

GYPSIES

REC-VEE SERVICE & SUPPLY
REEDS AUTOMOTIVE & CUSTOM
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GRAPHICS

CODY COUNTRY

SNOWMOBILE ASSN.

ANYTIME FITNESS
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GRIFFIN AUTO
IIAMS LANDSCAPING
JIM SPRIGGS CONSTRUCTION
NAPA AUTO PARTS OF LANDER
O'REILLY AUTO PARTS
SPECIALTY MARINE & RV REPAIR
TRAP TRUCKING LLC
VALLEY LUMBER & SUPPLY, INC
ZANDER'S ONE STOP
BRIAN & MANDY FABEL

DUBOIS SNO-

KATTERS

ANYTIME FITNESS
CITY PLUMBING & HEATING, INC
GRIFFIN AUTO
IIAMS LANDSCAPING
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POWDER RIVER

SNOWBUFFS

RAMSEY ENTERPRISES

LANDER

SNOWDRIFTERS

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BRIAN & MANDY FABEL

RIVERTON

SNO-GOERS

H&R BOCK
KAREN POWELL
NAPA AUTO PARTS LANDER
SPECIALTY MARIE & RV REPAIR
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SNOWY RANGE

SNOWMOBILE CLUB

MADDEN CONTRACT PUMPING
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SWEETWATER

SNOWPOKES

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STATE FARM INSURANCE
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X-PERT AUTO

SWEETWATER

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STATE FARM INSURANCE
THE GOOD PLACE
UNION PASS RENTALS
WYOMING WOOD PRODUCTS LLC
X-PERT AUTO

TOP OF THE ROCKIES

AUTO MEDIC, LLC
FREMONT TOYOTA
JAY'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR
MEYER'S GAMBLES
PERFECT POWER ELECTRIC INC
SCHURG FINANCIAL
STATE FARM INSURANCE
THE GOOD PLACE
UNION PASS RENTALS
WYOMING WOOD PRODUCTS LLC
X-PERT AUTO

Any additions or corrections to the Associate Membership list should be directed to: Sunny Madden, WSSA Secretary, P.O. Box 2204, Laramie, WY 82073, (307) 360-7609, e-mail: wssasunny@gmail.com

District 5

BERT MILLER

Hello all,
 Up here in the Cody area the club has been busy over the summer. We have launched a new club logo and an all-new website. We are very excited about all this new technology this new site will bring to our club. One thing we are hoping it will help is the online membership enrollment, this should allow our members to pay online with using their Credit Cards, and they will get a yearly reminder that it is time to renew our memberships. We have also started our own online store within the new website, and we are adding T shirts, sweatshirts and more to come. How exciting is that? Check the new website out at www.codycountrysnowmobile-association.com,

I am sure that you have heard or read about Yellowstone Park up here in our area and by the time you read this Wrangler, we hope the Northeast Entrance to Yellowstone Park will be open for the winter driving. I have kept in contact with Yellowstone Park Superintendent Cam Sholly, and he feels confident that they will be able to hit the opening target date of Oct. 15 with some final touches throughout the next couple of months. I just want to say Cam has been a wonderful man to work with. He and his team, including all the contractors are literally moving mountains to repair access to Mammoth, Gardner, Silvergate and Cooke City.

With hitting the October date of the 15th there will be no need to plow Hwy 212 on Trial A to Cooke City. Now with that said there are still a few that are pushing for the road to be plowed year around. We are staying steadfast in our support of snowmobiling not to have the road plowed. It would be horrible to lose this connection to these two wonderful trail systems that connect our two states. There is also a new committee for folks and business that want their town of Cooke City to remain "The Coolest Little Town in America". They are called Protect Our Plug (POP), check out their website at www.protectourplug.org and read some interesting information, you can even make a donation if you would

like. The Cody club is very supportive of these wonderful folks.

On Sun., Oct. 2 the Cody club did repairs on the Safety Shelter, cut firewood, and moved the shelter on the mountain all in one day. Thank you to all those who were able to help. We would also like to thank G&L Water for trucking of the Shelter and the use of there trackhoe, the Miller family for the use of their dump

trailer and wood splitter, Ed and Carol Higbie for the use of their Skid steer- AND putting on a special steak lunch at their cabin for the workers. Also, a very special thank you to the Bill Neilson Family who allows us to cut wood on their property. Our club could not be so successful without these wonderful, dedicated members.

Until next time let's all do the snow dance boot scootin boogie.



PRESORTED STANDARD US POSTAGE PAID SPEARFISH SD PERMIT #77

Top of the Rockies

ANDREA BUCHARD

As usual, once the snow melted our club was busy with a variety of activities. We kicked off spring with our annual Grey's River Cleanup. We had a great turnout this year and covered a lot of ground. The last few years we've been pleasantly surprised by the lack of trash we're finding to pick up.

On Memorial Day we honored our new partnership with the local American Legion Post and treated them to lunch after they completed their Memorial Day ceremonies. They travel the valley, rain or shine, stopping at each cemetery to remember the fallen heroes.

In late June we setup our cook tent at Alpine Mountain Days and flipped burgers for the weekend. It's one of our best fundraisers and a great team building opportunity for the club members.

We also sponsored a Corn Hole Tournament at Mountain Days, it was a huge success and we're looking forward to doing it again next year!

We couldn't miss out on the Alpine 4th of July Parade, a club family decorated their side by side and threw some candy - always a fun time and a great way to promote the club!

The Squaw Creek Trail opens to motorized use in July, so that's when we take down the tipi we're using as a safety shelter. We brought the canvas and tipi poles down the mountain for maintenance and storage.

We topped off summer with our annual Car Show in August, we had approx. 45 entries and beautiful weather. The club set up the food tent again and fed the crowd. All proceeds earned at this event go straight back into the community and hence we refer to it as the Car(e) Show.

Pretty soon the snow will fly and we'll get back out there doing what we love!

