



SASKATCHEWAN Snowmobiler

www.sasksnowmobiling.sk.ca



THE BEST SNOWARAMA YET

EASTER SEALS BENEFITS FROM A GREAT DAY OF RIDING

BY BARRY BRADSHAW, Chairman

We have just completed our 34th Snowarama for Easter Seals, topping all previous amounts with a record \$142,000 being raised for Camp Easter Seal at Watrous. This brings the grand total raised over 34 years to almost \$2 million. Here is where the pledge money goes: to Camp Easter Seal—the cost per child for a one-week session here is \$1,300. Summer Fun is an urban day camp where children and young adults with disabilities enjoy recreational programs offered in July and August. The cost of this program per child is \$500. Some of the pledge money also goes to Adaptive Technology Services—a program that applies advanced equipment and computers that can reduce the impact of a disability.

We had 270 riders register for the 200-kilometre ride and all who entered had a great time. The average pledge raised was approximately \$525 and the minimum pledge to enter and ride was \$150, so our overall average was way up. What they got for taking part was a tremendous day of snowmobiling with family and friends as well as raising money for a great cause.

All functions this year were run out of Gallagher Centre in Yorkton, which proved to be a great choice. Here we were able to do our registration, use it as a starting point for the ride, and end up with the banquet—all in the same location. The Yorkton Sno-Riders club has always been involved, and once again our groomer operators were able to get the trails groomed and in decent shape after Thursday's storm. We were also blessed with a bright sunny day and temperatures around -15°C with little wind for a change.

Here's a short itinerary of the Snowarama:

Friday evening: Pre-registration, Beer and Wing night; 165 registered and turned in \$72,000 in pledges. Great kickoff!

Saturday morning: Registration and McDonald's Egg McMuffin breakfast; also registration for Sno-Riders Club Derby (to raise a little money for trail grooming both before and after the ride).

Everyone got going between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. The trail was in excellent condition—it was just a great morning to go for a ride. We were off

to the town of Rhein, approximately 38 kilometres to the east of Yorkton, for coffee and doughnuts set up in the Rhein Hall courtesy of the Rhein Sno Cruzers.

After a brief stop and more food we were on our way for a 45-kilometre jaunt to the Good Spirit Golf and Family Resort for our lunch and fuel stop. The resort is a great snowmobile destination situated right on the Trans-Canadian Snowmobile Trail, approximately 50 kilometres north of Yorkton. Here we were treated to a smokie in a bun supplied by our long-time supporter, Harvest Meats, and food preparation and cooking was done by the Good Spirit Acres Community Association. Our sleds were filled with fuel donated by the Yorkton Co-op (another long-time supporter of Snowarama).

After all riders were fed and watered and the sleds fuelled, it was off on the next leg of the ride—20 kilometres to our Drobot warm-up shelter. Anyone wanting to stop for a break did, then we were off again on the Whitesand Reservoir Trail en route to connect with the Springside Trail. About 30 kilometres from Drobot on the Springside Trail is their Four Corners shelter. This part of the trail is smoother than most of our highways. From this shelter it was 25 kilometres back onto the Yorkton trails en route to Art Bilous's Super Trac's The Legends of Racing vintage snowmobile museum. This is a must-stop for anyone interested in vintage racing sleds. He has more than 70 sleds on display including original racers that belonged to the Dickers, Bobby Donahue and Jacques Villeneuve, to name a few.

From Art's museum it's a short ride back to Yorkton and back to the Gallagher Centre for the evening festivities, starting with a delicious full-course meal served by the Gallagher Centre caterer. After the meal and a few thank you's, there was a huge roar from the riders when the announcement of the record-breaking amount raised was given out. Next was the awarding of Top 10 club prizes for the most pledges raised. Our Easter Seal ambassador, seven-year-old Caitlyn Hasper, helped to give out the prizes. The

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>> EVENTS

Zone 1, 4 Meeting

April 9, 2011

Community Hall,
Shellbrook, SK

Zone 2 Meeting

April 10, 2011

Evergreen Centre, Nipawin, SK

Zone 3 Meeting

April 16, 2011

Sask Abilities, Yorkton, SK

AGM and Diamonds in the Snow Awards Banquet

June 25, 2011

Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon, SK

2011 Snowmobile Show

November 4 - 6, 2011

PrairieLand Exhibition Park,
Saskatoon, SK

>> CLUB NEWS

Randy Shiplak Safety Memorial Fund

In memory of Randy Shiplak, who tragically lost his life January 26, 2008, in a snowmobile accident and at the request of Randy's wife, Marla, a memorial fund was established and is directed towards snowmobile safety messages and television and radio ad funding. This fund has provided the following for snowmobile safety messages to date:

Season	Amount
2010/2011	\$1,645.65
2009/2010	\$3,500.00
2008/2009	\$1,240.00
Total to date:	\$6,385.65

A heartfelt thank you to Marla Shiplak, the Calling Lakes Cruisers and to all those who have supported this very worthy cause.





ATVs and sleds don't mix

SNOWMOBILE TRAILS ARE FOR SNOWMOBILES ONLY
BY CHRIS BREWER, President/CEO

One thing is for certain—ATVs and snowmobiles don't mix. You never see a snowmobiler riding an ATV trail in summer and you should never see an ATVer ride a snowmobile trail in winter. ATVs damage the surface of a snowmobile trail so it makes it rutted and unsafe for snowmobile travel. This is very costly for snowmobile clubs—they have to run the groomer over the trail to make it safe again for the snowmobile.

ATVs are not the only problem facing our trails; 4x4 trucks, trucks with tracks installed and ATVs with tracks installed do damage to the trail and the operators of these units think they are justified to use the snowmobile trails. Snowmobilers pay a fee on the registration of the snowmobile. These funds are utilized for safety initiatives, snowmobile trail signs, warm-up shelters, trail building and trail grooming. Snowmobilers are paying—not ATV users, 4x4 truck owners or any other users—snowmobilers are paying for snowmobile use.

The ATV community and users must get organized and develop an ATV trail system separate from the snowmobile trail system. One only needs to look at what the ATV has done to the snowmobile trail system in the spring, summer and fall seasons. For the past 15 years ATV users have and continue to use the snowmobile trail system in the warm season and this is causing great damage to the ground in the forest, and in locations where our snowmobile clubs have received permission for snowmobile use only. We have seen ATV use on private property where crops are planted, across pastures where fences

are cut and gates left open with malicious damage to property. What this is doing is hurting the snowmobile trails and the permission granted for snowmobile use. When asked why the ATV user is on private property where a snowmobile trail was in the winter they respond with, "Well, it's the snowmobile trail," and what part they don't understand is that they are on an ATV and not a snowmobile and it's not winter. ATV users must respect snowmobile trail use where permission is *granted for snowmobile use only*.

We need to see the development of ATV clubs, ATV registration, ATV safety programs, ATV trails (separate from snowmobile trails) and ATV users must learn to respect the snowmobile trails and keep off year round. ATVs take advantage of the trail signs and the shelters, and quite often they don't respect them. We find the signs shot at and the shelters left with loads of garbage for the snowmobile clubs to clean up. Snowmobilers are paying the way for ATV use and the damage they are doing to the snowmobile trails—this has to stop. The only way we see ATVer getting any respect from the snowmobile community is if they get organized, get their own trail system developed and pay their own way.

The province needs to get involved and assist where they can to organize ATV use. Saskatchewan is the only province in Canada that doesn't register ATVs. The time has come for ATV users to pay their own way and develop an ATV trail system. Please respect private property and keep your ATV off private property. Permission is granted for snowmobile use only.

Calling Lakes Cruisers

BY JOHN McNALLY

As the winter winds down, I am writing this article to say I'm proud to be involved with the Calling Lakes Cruisers. Numerous members spend countless hours signing, maintaining and grooming our 320-kilometre trail system. We have had enormous support from all eight communities that our trails go through, and our club continues to grow and get better.

We have four warm-up shelters that we maintain and update regularly. Spanco's Shack has a new treated deck and gas barbecue, a two-seater bathroom and many other great features.

We have groomed more than 2,700 kilometres this year; local and visiting riders see the differ-

ences and improvements we have made. The comments that we receive on our efforts is our reward as a snowmobile club.

Our third annual Randy Shiplack Memorial Derby was a huge success with 240 riders registering. Proceeds of the derby go towards funding children's safety courses; so far we have paid for eight children and one adult to attend the course.

We are a family-oriented club and, as much as we can, we encourage kids to come out with their parents.

With this in mind, let's get out and lay some tracks and enjoy the sport we all love.

Until next time, ride safe and enjoy the snow!

>> CLUB NEWS

► CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE *Continued from page 21*

three top pledge raisers were Ken Propp with a grand total of \$7,400; Bruce Peppler with \$6,400; and Larry Hillworth with \$5,400. After all the prizes were awarded, the live auction took place with many great items on the auction table and \$7,500 was raised after all items were sold. The silent auction and raffle table brought in another \$2,500.

It was then time to award the grand prize of a 2011 Arctic Cat F570. The way we have done the draw for years has been every rider raising the minimum pledge of \$150 gets one chance on the draw for the sled, and for every additional \$150 raised one more chance would be had by that rider. Caitlyn drew the winning ticket out of the drum and the lucky winner of the 2011 Arctic Cat was Dave Shumay of Yorkton; congratulations Dave.

We had very positive feedback from all participants involved with this year's Snowarama and many comments about it being the best Snowarama they have ridden in.

This is the last article for the season, so everyone have great end-of-the-season sledding. It looks like the season might be extended this year for most of the province with all the snow still left. Have a great summer.

Trail funding applications

When your club receives your application, please complete it and submit it to the SSA by the deadline date of May 31, 2011. Remember, all applications must include a grooming log sheet. If you hire a groomer to do your trails, ask your contractor to complete your grooming log. Thank you.

Esker Bear Trails

BY JEAN MILOWSKI

We have just enough snow and trails are groomed (not like Regina's snow).

We have a "new to us" warm-up shelter—Pine Junction. It's located where the ladies warm-up shelter was near Lower Fishing Lake.

The day we set for our Get Ready to Ride was very, very cold and only 12 riders got out to the new shelter for hotdogs.

By the time you read this we will have enjoyed our Tri Lake Rally, which was held on February 19th. Organizer Barb Clapson was in full gear and Les Russell and company groomed the trails.

Snowmobiling at Little Bear has been very slow this year with all the snow in the south of the province. Meals are available at Caribou Creek, East Trout Lake and Candle Lake. Phone ahead for gas.

There are some excellent areas for photography along the trails so take time to enjoy the sights.

Enjoy and don't destroy. Ride on the trails, especially in the parks. Swamp and hill riding close these areas for riders to enjoy. Also be sure to border farmland rather than crossing fields. Ride with courtesy and care.

Moose Mountain

BY TROY FOSTER

What a winter we had in the Moose Mountain area. The snow came early and we had some of the best trails the area has had in a while. Our groomer operators were out every week keeping things in top shape and provincial park workers kept the park in the best condition some of us have ever seen. One veteran rider in his late 60s said the area is the best and smoothest he had ever seen in his 40+ years of snowmobiling.

The shelters had many visitors and we had people signing the guest book from all over the province. We upgraded five shelters in the past few years and it looks like the Silver Bullet has outgrown the traffic volume it gets, so we are looking at building a bigger shelter at the Silver Bullet. The Blue Line Shelter, which sees a lot of

traffic from the Stoughton and Estevan areas, will be getting replaced in the 2011/12 season.

The club has been talking with the Bear Claw Casino to possibly get the trail going from Kenosee Lake to the casino again for next season. The Bear Claw Casino is also telling the club that it is looking at building a large convention centre and that would give us a large enough venue to possibly hold the provincial rally in the not too distant future.

Let's keep our fingers crossed for good snow conditions next season as things are sure starting to look good in our area of the province. Please check out our website for all the latest news at www.mmsnowmobileclub.com. See you next season.

Pasquia Snow Goers

BY KATHY LINDSAY

It was with regret that we organized a day to get together to take down the stakes we, months earlier, so carefully planted. But with the rising temperatures of spring, snowmobiling in early 2011 becomes but a wonderful memory and if that one last ride this winter meant picking up the stakes, so be it. This winter's temperatures bounced from -30°C to -5°C in a matter of days, so organizing rides was challenging but we were able to hit the trails more times than not. Even the late arrival of snow didn't slow down our sledding season.

We held a snowmobile safety course for the youth of the northeast that was very well attended. It's great to see youth participate from Arborfield, Carrot River, Zenon Park and even Tisdale.

We hope the kids will return to their home communities and become role models for our younger riders and encourage them to take the course sooner rather than later—it is the law for all children born after January 1, 1989, to take this course to legally drive a snowmobile.

The end of January saw our groomer and drag once again get loaded onto trailers for another road trip down to the National Risk Management course in Yorkton. Many clubs were able to see first-hand what our groomer with Soucy Tracks can do in Saskatchewan snow. There is nothing like test driving a unit to convince you that Soucy Tracks are the best and to take this information back to your club. It's all about efficiently

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Hudson Bay Trail Riders

—by Rick Dolezsar

Our club has been busy these last few weeks. We had the honour of the Prairie Women on Snowmobiles ending their mission in Hudson Bay. Cassandra and her crew put on a wonderful banquet for the girls when they arrived in town. Hats off to all the riders this year! Please come back and visit again.

Our club's poker rally and steak supper was also held on February 12th. The weather could not have been better. Everyone enjoyed the 100 Mile ride and the steak supper after a day on the trail. The food was awesome—a job well done everyone. Just a reminder to everyone—the Hudson Bay Trail Riders are hosting the 2012 Provincial Rally to be held from February 24 to 26, 2012, in Hudson Bay, SK. So plan ahead and we hope to see you there!

SSA zone meetings

This is your club's chance to address any concerns your club may have. A resolution form will be sent to your club with the zone meeting registration.

- Zones 1, 4 - April 9, 2011, Community Hall, Shellbrook, SK

- Zone 2 - April 10, 2011, Evergreen Centre, Nipawin, SK

- Zone 3 - April 16, 2011, Sask Abilities, Yorkton, SK

No resolutions will be accepted from the AGM floor regarding trail funding.

► **PASQUIA SNOW GOERS** *Cont'd. from pg. 23* grooming our trails for our snowmobilers to enjoy. There is nothing better than having a groomer that is a treat to operate.

We would like to thank Dwight Thesen (769-8673) and Darby Warner (768-3944) for going down to Yorkton and demo-ing our groomer. If you have remembered something you forgot to ask either of these fellows, don't hesitate to give them a call—they would be very pleased to assist you.

Congratulations to Border Explorers Snowmobile Club for hosting the 2011 Provincial Snowmobile Festival. It is a lot of work to get everything co-ordinated for the weekend.

As we are putting our snowmobiles away for another year, the thoughts of getting out the ATVs helps to replace the sense of what do we do now. There isn't the vast network of trails available for ATVs so we need to remember to thank the SSA for all their hard work over the years to enable Saskatchewan to have one of the finest networks of snowmobile trails around. The snowmobile trails, especially the Trans-Canadian Snowmobile Trail, bring tourists in from all over Canada and the U.S. to enjoy the scenic trails we have to offer along with the fresh air and bright sunshine.

Ok, so now I only have to wait another 10 or 11 months before the sled comes out again, right?

Whiteswan Snow Hawks

BY CHRIS JAMES

The shortage of snow really gave us a run at clearing our trails; we asked for help and got a super turnout. All in all 27 members came out and managed to do everything that was left to do in one day. A great effort and a huge thanks to all. This proves that our membership is strong and willing to help.

Back to the beavers, we tried to lower the water on one dam—what a match between us and them. They seemed to enjoy the challenge; we opened, they closed two or three times until the frost stopped the effort of both teams.

Our Ready to Ride on January 22nd was a success with 27 members braving the -21°C cold and wind. This seems to be the way the last couple of years have gone. Oh well, everyone enjoyed the day. We have received about four more inches of snow and the candle groomer will begin as soon as some repairs have been made. The first trip over our trails after repairs turned out better than expected considering we didn't

have a lot of snow.

On February 12th, our Northern Exposure Rally was held at Eagle Bay Resort at East Trout Lake. Our hosts were Greg and Roxy and we have to thank them for providing a place to keep warm, great food, displaying our prizes and selling our rider hands, and making all of our other great prizes available to be won by purchasing tickets to win on a draw or bid on other prizes. The rider prizes were won by the expert riders listed below:

- 1st Cindy Hansen
- 2nd Walter Halliday
- 3rd Ron Serada
- 50/50 Jody Hudamacka

My apologies if any of the names are spelled wrong. We wish to congratulate all the winners and all who tried hard and spent big.

We also thank the Lawrences at Rainbow Lodge Pipprell Lake for having fuel and confectionaries for those sledders who needed them.

Kelvington Trailblazers

BY RON HUGHES

Well sledders, we did it! For 25 years the Kelvington Trailblazers, in one form or another, have hosted our poker derby on the first weekend in February. We had an amazing 311 riders come out on a day that started off at -10°C and warmed up to around zero. It was a successful day and evening all around and, as always, everyone that was there, either helping to organize or there to be entertained, left happy. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and some of our winners even donated their prizes back to the club!

A special thank you this year went out to Dennis Szafron and Les Erixon who both have given

up 25 winters in a row to signing, grooming, fixing, breaking, grooming, signing and even swimming a couple of times. Les and his wife Brenda, and Dennis and his wife Janet, were on hand to receive a much deserved standing ovation for their efforts and to show that all the work year in and year out is much appreciated. Every successful club has many members but few key cogs. These are ours. Without Dennis's 365-days-a-year approach to snowmobiling in Kelvington, we wouldn't have a club. Les is our groomer guru. He is in charge of our fleet and has been

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>> CLUB NEWS

We're back in Saskatoon!

Bigger and better than ever, the 2011 SSA Snowmobile Show will be held in Saskatoon at the Prairieland Exhibition Park from November 4 to 6, 2011.

Weekend Pass: \$17

Adults: \$13

Children 6 to 12: \$6

Exhibitors BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW!

- 10 x 10 Booth - \$575
- Bulk Space (400 sq. ft. or more) - \$5/sq. ft.

Contact Jeannie Brewer at 1-800-499-SLED (SK only), 306-729-3500 or jbrewer@sasktel.net

Nomination time for Diamonds in the Snow Awards

Diamonds in the Snow nominations are now being accepted for the 2010/2011 banquet and awards ceremony. This is your chance to recognize an outstanding contributor in the following eight categories:

1. Outstanding Snowmobile Dealer of the Year
2. Outstanding Snowmobile Club of the Year
3. Outstanding Snowmobile Family of the Year
4. Outstanding Volunteer Snowmobiler of the Year
5. Outstanding Junior Achiever of the Year
6. Outstanding Business Contribution to Snowmobiling of the Year
7. Outstanding Promotion and Development of Snowmobiling for the Year
8. Outstanding Groomer Operator(s) of the Year

The Diamonds in the Snow Awards will be presented at the Diamonds in the Snow awards banquet following the AGM at the Saskatoon Inn, 2002 Airport Drive, Saska-

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► **KELVINGTON TRAILBLAZERS**

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since the days of feeder chains and tires behind Alpines. And as much as the comfort of operating the snowcat has improved, it still needs an hour of maintenance for every two hours on the trail.

On the lighter side, if you are a farmer in the northeast part of the province of Saskatchewan, sell your tractor and buy a sled! We had some-

where between 40 and 50 inches of rain last year, a wet fall and more snow this winter than I have seen in a long time. I don't care what the groundhog said in February, this spring is gonna be a long one. We could be snowmobiling well into April (possibly August if it doesn't quit snowing) and it's way easier to dig out even the heaviest sled than the lightest tractor. Just a thought.

Have a great summer and we will see you in Kelvington next winter!

Tisdale Snowmobile Club

BY TOM AND CINDY BECK

The Tisdale Snowmobile Club was once again busy with building, planning and getting ready for the hectic season ahead.

In our last article, we reported that our new, third warm-up shelter was complete and ready to be moved to its permanent site. That task was completed December 11th with the help of some dedicated club members; the shelter was moved to our south trail, complete with an outdoor toilet. Within hours of its placement it was being enjoyed by sledders passing by.

January saw our club very busy with grooming, staking, signing and holding our third annual fundraiser. Thanks to enough snow to allow us to get out and make trails, the groomer first went out January 7th. Due to open water issues and some crops still in fields, we had to change our north route ever so slightly. Our club banded together on the 8th and hit the trails to stake and sign while the groomer carried on to the south trail. It was signed and staked on the 9th and we were ready for sledders. Our new poly trapper

sleigh that we purchased earlier works so well for loading the signs and stakes in and being pulled behind the sled. We don't know what we ever did without it! January 15th saw us have yet another successful fundraiser dinner. This was our third annual and was enjoyed by all who attended. We are already looking ahead to next year's event.

The Prairie Women on Snowmobiles made a stop in Tisdale on a bitterly cold -27°C January 31st. A lot of our club members made it out to enjoy a hot chili and bun luncheon with the ladies. At the end of the luncheon, monies that had been collected for them as well as a donation from our club were presented to them, followed by an emotional pinning ceremony for breast cancer survivors who were in attendance. What a great group of ladies!

Grooming has been ongoing throughout January and February and with a little snow here and there, we will be able to continue for a few months to come, we hope. The trails are in great condition and ready for riding.

Scholarship winner announced

Congratulations to Cole Peters, the recipient of the 2010/11 Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association (SSA) Centennial Merit Scholarship for the SIAST Outdoor Power Equipment Technician (OPET) Motorcycle and Snowmobile Certificate program.

In the fall of 2010, the SSA funded a \$2,500 Centennial Merit Scholarship open to students enrolled in the OPET Motorcycle and Snowmobile Certificate program at SIAST Wascana Campus in Regina. The scholarship will also be available for the 2011/12 and the 2012/13 academic years.

"The support of organizations like the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association is so very important to the success of SIAST students. Scholarships allow students to focus on their studies, reduce a lot of stress related to finances

and, as importantly, recognize the hard work and determination of students. Without donor support, the Centennial Merit Scholarship program would not be possible," said Pam McLellan, director of donor and alumni relations for SIAST.

"The SSA chose to support SIAST students who enroll in the OPET program," says Chris Brewer, president/CEO of the SSA. "The program can support our dealer members when they are looking for qualified technicians to work in the snowmobile industry in Saskatchewan. Also, this program will assist students in furthering their education and skills training."

Cole Peters, winner of the 2010/11 scholarship, says, "I am very honoured to win this award. It will cover some of the cost of my education and it means a lot to me. All my hard work has paid

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► **NOMINATION TIME**

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toon, SK, on Saturday, June 25, 2011. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m. and awards at 8:30 p.m.

Check out our website at www.sasksnow.com for more info. Remember the deadline for your diamond nominations is May 31, 2011.

SSA annual general meeting

Clubs participating in our AGM will ensure that snowmobiling remains safe in Saskatchewan for many years to come.

- **Where:** Saskatoon Inn, 2002 Airport Drive, Saskatoon, SK
- **When:** Saturday, June 25, 2011
- **Time:** 1 to 5 p.m.

Join us afterwards for the Diamonds in the Snow awards banquet.

Upcoming vintage events

- **July 16, 2011**
Roll-O-Flex Reunion, Regina, SK
- **July 23, 2011**
Last Mountain Lake Drifters Show & Shine, Regina Beach, SK (SSA parking lot)
- **July 31, 2011**
Vintage Show, Radisson, SK

The Big Four Snowmobile Show

Check out the 2012 sleds from Arctic Cat, BRP, Polaris and Yamaha.

- Where:** Prairieland Park, Saskatoon, SK
- When:** April 13 & 14, 2011
- Time:** Wednesday, 5 to 9 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Don't drink & ride...
work to keep our trails safe!

► **SCHOLARSHIP WINNER ANNOUNCED**

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off. I hope to stay in this trade in this province for many years to come.”

For more information about the SSA Centennial Merit Scholarship, or the SIAST Student

Awards program, please contact:

Sandra Kush
Donor and Alumni Relations Co-ordinator
SIAST Wascana Campus
(306) 775-7718

►► **CLUB NEWS**

► **EDGAR HETTEEN**

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paigms and has made invaluable contributions to special events such as company anniversary celebrations.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the Itasca Hospice Foundation, P.O. Box 853, Grand Rapids, MN 55744. Phone 218-327-1270. Godspeed, Edgar.

Contact: Marlys Knutson, Polaris Industries, 2100 Highway 55, Medina, MN 55340. Phone 763-542-0533; fax 763-542-2317; or email marlys.knutson@polarisind.com.

Certified trail inspectors named

The trail inspection program was designed to have all snowmobile trails registered with the SSA inspected every season, ensuring that the trail system is safer and properly signed. This provides accountability to snowmobilers from the clubs that maintain trails.

Zone 1

- Glen Andrusyk (term to January 2013)
- Dion Eddy (term to January 2013)
- Bob Nicol (term to January 2013)
- John Popoff (term to January 2013)
- Jeff Sipes (term to January 2013)

- Bill Thibodeau (term to January 2013)

Zone 2

- Ross Berg (term to January 2013)
- Kim Bisschop (term to January 2013)
- Ted Comfort (term to January 2013)
- Stewart Irvine (term to January 2013)
- Dennis Szafron (term to January 2013)

Zone 3

- Chris Brewer (term to January 2013)
- Brent Moore (term to January 2013)

Each inspector will serve a two-year term from the date they are certified.

National Trails workshop a success

From January 28 to 30, 2011, the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association played host to a workshop on snowmobile trail signing and snowmobile trail grooming.

Attendees came from Alberta, Manitoba, Minnesota, South Dakota and Saskatchewan. Guest speaker and snowmobile trail specialist Kim Raap spoke and delivered a PowerPoint presentation on safety, trail signage guidelines and best practices of snowmobile trail development and maintenance. Ninety-two club representatives from Saskatchewan snowmobile clubs attended the three-day workshop.

Manufacturers of snow grooming equipment attended with their newest equipment for the club representatives to look over and take out onto the trail to test. A special thanks to the Yorkton Sno-Riders for offering their trails to be used for testing the equipment. Art Bilous opened his vintage snowmobile museum for a great location to host the test grounds, and he supplied doughnuts and coffee to everyone attending. The workshop was a huge success and plans are in the works for next season's event. Look for information coming to your club, watch the website or call the SSA office.

A tribute to Edgar Hetteen

It is with great sadness that we relay word of the passing of the legendary Edgar Hetteen, one of the co-founders of Polaris and such a long-time driving force in the snowmobile industry that he is commonly called The Godfather of Snowmobiling. Edgar died on Saturday, February 12. He was 90.

“Edgar was an icon, a snowmobile pioneer and visionary who helped grow a seed of a sport and industry into a thriving pursuit and business that people love worldwide,” said Polaris president and COO Bennett Morgan. “He was an inspiration to generations of Polaris employees who admired his desire for innovation, and the way he enjoyed interacting with the people involved in snowmobiling.”

Edgar was a 1990 inductee into the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame, and a 1999 inductee into the Minnesota Business Hall of Fame. In 2004, at Polaris's 50th anniversary, he was inducted into the Polaris Hall of Fame. He has been honoured by snowmobile groups from Alaska to Maine for spreading the gospel of snowmobiling, a sport he cherished not only for its mechanical appeal, but more for the wonderful people involved at every level.

Edgar's spirit and passion for people and snowmobiling never left our company, and over the past several decades he has been a wonderful ambassador for Polaris and for snowmobiling. He has been featured in Polaris advertising cam-

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Porcupine Trail Blasters

—by Kelly Dahroug

It has been an interesting year for trail cleaning and freeze-up, but we did manage to get all the trails cleaned and groomed. We have purchased a new groomer and it has been a very nice addition to the club. Our club would like to thank all the businesses as well as those who gave personal donations towards the purchase of the new groomer.

The snowmobile trails in the Porcupine Plain area offer a variety of scenic trails from forest trails to trails across country. We have some great places to stay whether it is in town or in the beautiful cabins built last year right along the trails. We offer approximately 230 kilometres of some of the most scenic groomed trails in the province. Our town offers everything you need for a weekend getaway. So you don't need to go to the mountains for beautiful scenery and great trail riding—it is all right here.

The town of Porcupine Plain would also like to thank the Weekes Bush Pushers for the donation of the snow ambulance and trailer.

Rolling out the red carpet

BY GEORGE BELCHAMBER

A job well done are the best words to use when talking about the provincial festival held March 4 to 6, 2011, in Creighton/Flin Flon and hosted by the Border Explorers. Dwayne and Debbie Wenger and John and Shelly Trumbley and the rest of the club did an outstanding job of rolling out the red carpet for close to 300 guests who were in town for the weekend.

The trails were in top shape by all reports and

were well used by all in attendance. There were people from all over Saskatchewan and northern Manitoba. It was great to see so many from Manitoba at our festival. Thank you for coming and supporting the event. Next year the festival will be hosted in Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan, on February 24 and 25, 2012. Book your rooms early and please pre-register for a good time with our host, the Hudson Bay Trail Riders.

Last Mountain Lake Drifters

The Last Mountain Lake Drifters are calling for volunteers from the surrounding communities of Bethune, Bulyea, Lumsden and Regina Beach to donate their time to help improve this club's trails and shelter. We are currently seeking a president, vice-president and treasurer. We also require help with signing and maintaining of the trails, and maintaining the shelter.

We have 230 kilometres of trail that needs to be maintained on a daily basis and needs to be signed and ready for snowmobilers by the beginning of the season every year. Many of the people in the community use these trails annually; however, the amount of people assisting in the maintenance has decreased. This could eventually lead to fewer trails in this area. A beautiful

scenic trail has been recently added—a new trail that goes to Bethune. This trail provides a place to stop and have lunch, but without help from volunteers, this trail may not last long.

We have also added a new shelter to the trail system, which took a lot of work to complete. The shelter still requires a deck to be built and will need to be maintained as the years go on. Without the help of volunteers, this shelter could disintegrate and become useless. And without a shelter on the trails there will be no place for snowmobilers and families to stop on their ride and have a break, maybe have a wiener roast or enjoy other activities.

Please contact Dave Barber for more information at 306-729-4542.

Lakeland Snowmobile Club

BY MARG CLAIR

Wow, what a fantastic year for snowmobiling. The snow was plentiful and came early so we were able to have groomed trails before Christmas. Of course, there was lots of riding before the snow was deep enough to groom. Keeping the trails smooth was a full-time job for our groomer guy who covered most trails weekly.

Our club has had a very successful year as well. We sponsored a snowmobile safety course with 16 participants, built and set up a new shelter, worked at the Prairie Women on Snowmobiles night, attended the seminar in Yorkton (despite very icy roads), had group rides but decided not to host a rally, and had a great time at Creighton for the provincial festival. When we reorganized in March, we were very fortunate to have four members volunteer to be new directors. Our membership stays about 40 families. We are working on our calendar of events for 2012 and our social committee will spend the summer

thinking up innovative ideas to keep things lively. We will resume regular meetings in October.

The business community in our area once again supported us fully. Twenty businesses believed in the benefits and signed on. We appreciate each of them and ask all snowmobilers to support them while in our area. Their signs are posted at the junction of Highways 263 and 953.

Just because the snow is gone doesn't mean our activities stop. Once again this year, we are holding a summer raffle with cash prizes. The tickets are available all summer from members and businesses in Lakeland. The draw will be made at the Halloween dance. Take a chance; you can't win without a ticket.

When the snow goes, our trails remain open. Most of our trails are year-round trails that are used for walking, biking or quadding. In Lakeland, there are always interesting things to do and people to meet, so . . . come and see for yourself!

>> CLUB NEWS

SK Snowmobile Festival winners

Below are the Co-op snowmobile award winners presented by Tom Therien, general manager of North of 53 Co-op in Flin Flon, MB.

1. Snowmobile club with the most members registered at festival: Yorkton Sno-Riders, Yorkton, SK - 20 members

2. Youngest snowmobile rider: Taylor Schell, 12, of Saskatoon, SK

3. Oldest snowmobile rider: Bill Larter, 72, of Broadview, SK

4. Largest snowmobile family in attendance: 6-way tie -

Dale, Tracy, Evan & Brady Richter, Broadview, SK

Kelly, Lynn, Brittany & Carter Palidwar, Nipawin, SK
Trevor, Tracy, Taylor & Lori Schell, Saskatoon, SK

Stewart, Hayley, Nicholas & Lucas Irvine, Melfort, SK

Rick, Rauni, Drew & Janessa Berezczky, Creighton, SK

Eric, Marcia, Jayde & Hannah Clendenning, Flin Flon, MB

5. Oldest vintage snowmobile ridden at festival: a 1993 Ski-Doo; rider was Jayde Clendenning, Flin Flon

6. Farthest distance travelled to festival via non-snowmobile: Paul Ficken & Cindy Balogh, Kipling, SK. Kipling to Flin Flon - 755 kilometres

7. Farthest distance travelled to festival via snowmobile by road map kilometres: Scott Ogilvie, Stoughton, SK. Stoughton to Flin Flon - 695 kilometres

8. SSA member club with most members travelling to festival via snowmobile: Yorkton Sno-Riders, Yorkton, SK - 14 members.

Our 4-Sled raffle winner is Daniel Odgens of Saskatoon, SK. Congratulations Daniel!

Don't drink & ride!

PLEASE

NO TRESPASSING

**NO ATVs ON SSA
SNOWMOBILE TRAILS**



www.sasksnow.com

ATVs are not allowed on SSA snowmobile trails on private land in any season.

Unfortunately, unauthorized use of SSA snowmobile trails often results in trail closure for everyone.

ATV riders can help keep snowmobile trails open by staying off private land trails at all times and by avoiding SSA public land trails during the snowmobile grooming season.