

HASTINGS

Hastings Minnesota

SnowMas

Monthly Meetings: October – March 1st Wednesday, Eagles Club, 7:30 pm

2012 Vintage Ride & Show

Mother Nature didn't help much in the Ride portion of this annual event but nevertheless, the show went on as planned with many bringing out their vintage sleds for the competition. There was a great turnout with many people coming out to see the sleds and enjoy the great time. With all of the raffles, the bonfire, the great food and customary engine blowing, there was something for everyone. A big thank you to the Frandrup's for hosting this great event.

2012 Annual Club Trip

It wasn't what was planned but some of the club members decided not to let the weather cancel their annual trip and headed to Wisconsin in search of snow. Unfortunately the lack of snow in the McGregor area forced the club to cancel the planned trip. Those that ventured to Birchwood, WI found some snow and were able to do some riding. For the rest of us, there's always next winter and the 2013 Club Trip.

Election of Officers

Elections we're held last month and with the exception of Secretary, there were no other changes to the board. Terry Stoudt remains president for another year as does Tim Weber remains our VP, John Ferguson as Secretary, Chris Hogan as Treasurer and I myself, will continue bringing you the Newsletter. There were no board member positions open this year.



Snowmobile Trivia

Did Sears and Roebuck sell snowmobiles?

From the Editor:

This definitely is NOT the season for Hastings snowmobilers. Even with the biggest storm of the season to hit the state and Hastings gets most of the precipitation in liquid form leaving on ly a small amount of snow. Even with the lack of snow we've had some great events this year. The Vintage show was a great time as was the Bowling outage and Christmas party. The Youth training class was a huge success with nearly 75 students all successfully passing the course. We even sponsored our first swap meet in many years. It is unfortunate when we have years like this with little snow but it's also nice to see that this club is about so much more than just riding. It is an asset to the local community and a great group of people.. Another snowmobile season is just about over and before you know it the sleds will be going back into storage to wait for another season. Have a great summer and we'll see you all again in the fall. Bryan

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March Regular Meeting

March 7, 2012 - 7:30 PM

President

Terry Stoudt 507-263-2270

Vice President

Tim Weber 651-437-4418

Secretary

Dan Truhler 651-437-1238

Treasurer

Chris Hogan 651-438-3593

Newsletter/Website

Bryan Alpaugh 651-442-2860

Board of Directors

Randy Brockman 651-437-7233

Gregg Donatell 651-437-6408

Scott Dohmen 651-463-4946

Mark Peine 651-437-5712

John Seeger 651-480-3774

Trail Coordinator

Jay Frandrup 651-437-1155

Adopt-A-Highway

Pam Niebur 651-437-1382

MnUSA

Open

"200 Club"

Mark Peine 651-437-5712

Snow Patrol

Tim Weber 651-437-4418

John Fergusson 651-438-3182

Club Trip

Scott Dohmen 651-463-4946

Trivia Answer

You bet. Starting in the mid 60's, Sears sold sleds manufactured by Scorpion, AMF, OMC, & Polaris under their own name. Not to be outdone, JCPenney and Wards also offered sleds. 1972 was the last year sleds were sold by the catalog retailers.

REMINDER

All requests for Charitable Donations/Sponsorship must be made to the board prior to their being presented at the club meeting. These requests must be made (or recommended) by a member in good standing (paid) of our club.

Youth Safety Training

Thank you to all of those of you who came out and assisted with another successful class. A special thank you to Pam Niebur and Chris Hogan for all of your planning and preparation and to Mark Peine for making sure we had sleds for the test.

Pot-O-Gold

At each membership meeting, a paid member's name is drawn for the Pot-O-Gold. If the member is present at the meeting, they win the Pot-O-Gold! If that member is absent, the money stays in the pot and increases \$25 each month until the pot is won. At the March meeting, names will be drawn until someone present wins! Make sure to be at the meeting so you are eligible for the drawing.

Northland 300 Ride

Two Harbors kicked off the 24th annual event. Special Olympics athletes from the Two Harbors area ran in the "Flame of Hope" for the first time in 2012.

Announced at Saturday's evening banquet, 2012 Northland 300 snowmobilers raised \$182,456 (\$146,022 Cash + \$36,434 In-Kind) for Special Olympics Minnesota.

Trails

Trails are currently in very poor conditions due to the lack of snow.

www.HastingsSnoMos.org

There is a special page for members only; the password is "snomos67". This page is for club members to post items that we don't want the world to see. For example: birthdays, anniversaries, new babies, or info on an ill member.

Got something to sell, trade or swap? Looking for that missing part? You can also post a "classified" ad for free!

Would you like your SnoMos dues PAID for one year?

Would you like a FREE one year TRAIL PASS?

YOU COULD HAVE BOTH!!

Here's how:

Bring in one NEW paid member and your \$10.00 SnoMos dues will be paid for one year.
Bring in two NEW paid members and you will get one year of SnoMos dues paid PLUS you will receive \$16.00 when you present your receipt for a Minnesota Trail Pass!!

We need your help—have any ideas on how to bring in new members? Let us know and you may also be eligible for similar rewards.

Other Events

3/17/12 11th Annual Crow River Sno Pros Vintage Sled Show & Swap Meet Hutchinson, MN

3/24 - 3/25/12 Arctic Cat, Polaris, & Yamaha 2013 Models "Sneak Peek" Brooklyn Center, MN

3/31 - 4/1/12 Ski-Doo Spring Show Mall of America, Bloomington MN

More details for these and other events at:
<http://www.mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=91>

Newsletter

Have something you'd like to see in the new sletter? Something changed? Send me an email at newsletter@HastingsSnoMos.org
I'm always looking for new ideas or suggestions.

2012 Legislative Reception

MnUSA to Host Legislative Reception Feb. 28th

Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association has invited the State legislators and friends to join its members at its annual reception on February 28, 2012, from 4-7 p.m. at the Best Western Kelly Inn, 161 St. Anthony Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103. All legislators and members are invited to attend.



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THINK SNOW!!

Trails are open but be aware of conditions.
Check the website for updated status and conditions.

If you have any information or news that you would like included in the newsletter, call or e-mail me. Also, please send your e-mail address if it is possible for you to receive your newsletter via e-mail in a Word or PDF format to:

newsletter@HastingsSnoMos.org

Why Join A Club

Top 10 Reasons to Join A Club

This list is meant to be serious, and from the heart. At various times in this space, we intermix references to snowmobile clubs. We do this because we strongly believe in the value of snowmobile clubs and the need to support this grassroots level of the sport. Without our clubs, there would probably no snowmobiling infrastructure, and the trails that might exist would be ungroomed, unfunded and basically unrideable.

Therefore, if you are not a member of a snowmobile club, it is time to accept the fact that you are a freeloader. That may sound harsh, but it is the cold, hard truth. To those people, we offer this list. In no particular order, here are the Top 10 Reasons You Should Join A Snowmobile Club. Drum roll please:

10. Snowmobile clubs gain land access to create snowmobile trails. Without the clubs securing land leases and paying insurance costs, no trails would cross private property, and that means the sport as we know it would not exist. All this takes time, effort and money.

9. Snowmobile clubs clear and create trails. After the land access is received, somebody has to go out and clear away the brush, cut down interfering limbs, haul out trash and smooth the base of the trail. They also must build bridges over creeks, rivers and low spots, and that takes a lot of work and a lot of money. This is all done by volunteers who truly love the sport. Without these hidden heroes, either the trails would not get cleared, bridges would not get built and most trails would close, or some entity (say, the state) would have to pay a team of workers to do the grunt work. And if that happened, you could expect to pay several hundred dollars, maybe even a thousand, to register your snowmobile each year.

8. In most areas, members of the snowmobile clubs groom the trails. Sometimes these groomer operators get a token fee for their hard work, but the dollar-per-hour rate is menial at best, and that's when a groomer operator actually gets paid. Again, these are more of the hidden heroes who spend their time in a slow-moving groomer, tending to the trails and making them as smooth as they are. Remember, if you are not a club member you have no right to complain about trail conditions.

7. While we're talking trails, who do you think puts up all the stop signs, the directional arrows and the signs that tell you the distance to the next gas station or restaurant? If you said "the snowmobile clubs," give yourself 10 points and keep reading, because we've only just begun.

6. When funding is needed to pay for groomers, insurance or trails development, do you know where that money comes from? Sure, the \$15 or \$20 people spend to join a snowmobile club helps, but in most states the money comes from snowmobile registrations and gas tax rebates. Why does our sport get this money from the state? Because our sport is organized. If the state snowmobiling association can talk about its 25,000 members, for example, and those members call their local lawmakers and ask for support, the bill has a much better chance of getting funded. Furthermore, it is the snowmobile clubs and state associations that fight the battles to open public lands to snowmobilers, and there is strength in numbers. Become one of those numbers.

5. With some clubs and associations, membership brings financial benefits. I know I get a couple grand worth of accidental insurance, I get discounts at sponsoring businesses and I get the state publication. All this and more for a mere \$20 a year.

4. Belonging to a club makes for better, safer snowmobiling. That's right, surveys and accident statistics have shown that snowmobile club members have a much lower accident rate than non-club members. Why? Because club members tend to be conscientious, they tend to stress safety and they are aware of safe-riding issues.

3. Belonging to a snowmobile club gives you a great social outlet for your favorite hobby. You can attend club rides, go to club meetings, take part in club fundraisers or take a club trip to a faraway snowmobiling destination. Belonging to a club gives you a good opportunity to ride with different people, experience different areas and hang out with people who have similar interests.

2. Belonging to a snowmobile club makes you a part of the solution instead of a part of the problem. If you think the snowmobile trails should be groomed more often, that a certain trail should move to the opposite side of the road or if you consider some corners on the trail dangerous or poorly marked, get involved. Most snowmobile clubs seek fresh opinions and want more feedback from users.

1. And the No. 1 reason to join a snowmobile club: It's just the right thing to do. For all the reasons listed above and many more you should belong to a snowmobile club. The costs are minimal, the benefits are nice and it is your responsibility to support the sport. It's cheap, it's simple and it's right.