

The Official Publication of the Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association

Keystone Snowmobiler

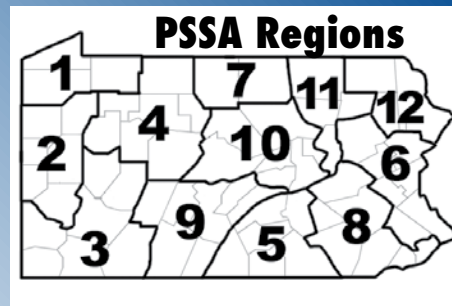
April 2017
Volume 28 Issue 4

www.pasnow.org

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SNOWMOBILE SAFETY CLASSES



County
Date
Time

PSSA Region
Location
Sponsor

Contact

Potter County
October 14
7:30am-4:30pm

Region 7
God's Country Black Forest SMC Clubhouse, Germania, PA
God's Country Black Forest SMC

Rick Yonkin 814-435-2389 or Bryan Junkins 717-418-5107

Lebanon County
October 28
8:00am-4:00pm

Region 8
PSSA Powersports Show- Lebanon, PA
Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association

PSSA - 1-888-411-PSSA or www.pasnow.org

York County
November 11
8:00am-4:00pm

Region 5
Conway-Runkle Annex of Dubs Church, Hanover, PA
F&S Yamaha, SMC of Adams County, Pigeon Hills SMC

F&S Yamaha 717-632-6382
Limited to 40 students

Clinton County
November 19
7:30am-4:00pm

Region 10
Hyner Mountain Snowmobile Club
Hyner Mountain Snowmobile Club

Dan Casey at 570-875-3006 or dcasey@ptd.net
Limited to 30 students

Lancaster County
December 2
8:00am-4:00pm

Region 8
Akron Fire Company, Akron, PA
Sports 'N Turf of Lancaster & Dutch Trail Cutters SMC

Janet Auker - 717-859-5455 or 1-866-791-6384
Limited to 40 students

Cambria County
Jan. 6, 2018
8:00am-4:30pm

Region 9
Chickaree Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club
Chickaree Ridge Runners SMC & Martin Marine Sales, Inc.

Clint Elias (724)-349-5369 or (814)-749-9931,
clintswitchback8@gmail.com Class Limited to 25 Students

SAFETY CLASS REMINDER

ATTENTION Clubs, Dealers, Safety Instructors–

Please schedule your Safety Class dates as soon as possible and send the information to the Keystone Snowmobiler for inclusion in our Master List of Snowmobile Safety Classes.

MOVING FORWARD



Happy Easter!

We cannot control Mother Nature! I hope everyone who was impacted by the recent storm is safe and unharmed.

Now that spring is officially here clubs are beginning their plans for improvements on the trails! Maintenance is a year round activity. **Join and Volunteer at a club near you or one where you ride.**

PSSA has recently lost three members who volunteered for many years in PSSA and PSSA club activities. They are:

- ❖ **Joseph "Don" Kellner** – organized PSSA Snowmobile Tours and displayed at the annual PowerSport Show.
- ❖ **James "Mac" McCarthy** - husband of Linda McCarthy (former PSSA Treasurer). Mac was the "trail boss" for many years at Presque Isle Club and was noted for distributing "Oreo" cookies to the members of the work crews.
- ❖ **Ed Fiedjaz** – Board Member of the Marienville Trail Riders and volunteered for many years on the Allegheny National Forest trails. He was also a faithful groomer operator.

They will be hard to replace. We need people to step up and volunteer in PSSA and the clubs.

The PSSA Annual Membership meeting is on Saturday, May 13, 2017. Information will be shared on the current status of the proposal to increase the registration fee.

Our first educational session will be hosted by Dale Vagts from V & V Insurance. This is the company that covers our umbrella liability insurance for clubs/trails. **Club representatives are asked to bring their current policy to the meeting.** Dale will discuss issues, concerns and answer questions.

Mike Grant from Snow Trails

TV will update the members concerning our Video Project. We are in need of sponsors from the PA Wilds – Benetette/Clearfield/St. Marys area and Region One in Erie. Contact Lorie Elliott, Grant Administrator for further information.

Register now on-line at www.pasnow.org (See page 4)

Thank you to those who submitted Award Nominations. They will be presented at the Luncheon. (Lunch will be similar to last year)

Information for Nominations for the three open Executive Board positions are on page 6 of this Keystone Snowmobiler. Thank you to those who accepted the challenge.

- ❖ **Annual Membership Conference – Registration deadline – April 25, 2017**
- ❖ **Hotel Reservations – Deadline April 12, 2017**

We again ask for auction items to help defray the cost of the Luncheon/Awards. Flower decorations are always welcome.

Reminder: Voucher Raffle drawing will be held at this meeting. Send your tickets to the Palmyra Office.

Think Snow!

Liz Krug, President

PS. Annual Membership Meeting
9am May 13, 2017
Ramada Golf & Conference Center
1450 South Atherton Street,
State College, PA 16801
1-814-238-3001
1-800- 2-RAMADA
www.ramadasc.com

A QUOTE TO NOTE

"The most important thing in any relationship is not what you get but what you give."

*Eleanor Roosevelt,
first lady, diplomat
and activist*

NEWS FROM PSSA'S GRANTS ADMINISTRATOR



Hello, PSSA members,

As I mentioned in my article last month Video Mike was able to take footage for year one of our "Snow Trails TV" program on PSSA and snowmobiling in Pennsylvania.

We have seen great drafts of this footage, which will be edited and refined to be aired this fall. We will keep you posted on when they will be scheduled.

Unfortunately, lack of snow prevented Video Mike from returning to take footage in the Poconos and Huntingdon County as planned. We plan to postpone those parts to year two of the project and will pursue other sponsorships and areas of the state to include. If nature cooperates, year two's program will be aired in the fall of 2018.

My attention now turns to applying for DCNR's Round 23 grant application that is due April 12. We will again apply for funds for mini-grants and hope our application will be successful. We should soon finalize the paperwork and gain approval to proceed for our

Round 22 grant, so we will issue a call for mini-grant applications this summer.

In regard to PSSA's other open grants:

Round III of DCNR Round 19 - Mini-grants ended April 1st and reports will be due April 15. This pertains to clubs whose projects have been extended. Due to lack of snow, some clubs needed an additional extension to December 1, 2017 in order to use funds for summer and fall maintenance. (I have provided pictures from Presque Isle Snowmobile Club's project that shows their drag before and after their mini-grant funds were used to improve and adapt the drag.)

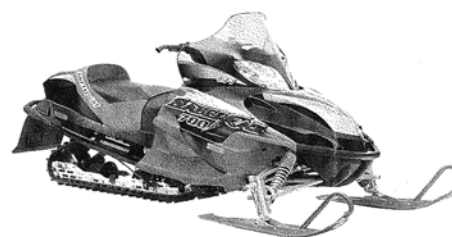
Round I of DCNR Round 20 - Mini-grants will end April 15 and reports will be due April 30th.

Navigational Signage Grant - Phase III - I sent documents to clubs for recording mileage and volunteer hours to be used when signs are taken down for the season. Please email or call me if you need these documents to be sent again and be sure to turn in these forms as soon as possible. We have funds in this grant for mileage reimbursement and we will need volunteer time to meet our match requirement.

That is all for now in regard to PSSA's grants program. As always, feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Lori Elliott

PSSA Grants Administrator



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“PSSA PARTNERS”
2017 PSSA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

LUNCHEON REGISTRATION

Saturday, May 13, 2017 – 9:00 am – 3:45pm- Meeting- Registration 8:15am
Ramada Conference and Golf Hotel, 1450 South Atherton Street, State College, PA 16801
814-238-3001 www.ramadasc.com

Room Reservation Code: CGSNOW - \$85 per night plus tax. Deadline April 12, 2017

Please Register on line for Conference: www.pasnow.org if no internet access complete the information below:
Deadline for Conference Registrations: April 25, 2017

Name _____ ()Mbr () Non-Mbr
Name _____ ()Mbr () Non-Mbr
Name _____ ()Mbr () Non-Mbr
Name _____ ()Mbr () Non-Mbr

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Conference Registration ()@ \$25.00 = Total _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Please make checks payable to “PSSA Annual Membership Meeting”

Mail to: PSSA 42 West Main St. Palmyra, PA 17078 Deadline for Conference Registrations: April 25, 2017

AGENDA FOR PSSA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CON-
FERENCE – MAY 13, 2017
“PSSA PARTNERS”

Ramada Conference and Golf Hotel
1450 South Atherton Street
State College, PA 16801
814-238-3001
www.ramadasc.com

- 8:15 Registration and Refreshments
- 9:00 Opening Remarks – Elizabeth Krug, President
- 9:15 General Membership Meeting
PSSA Updates by Region
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 General Membership Meeting
Elections
Budget
Member Forum
- 11:30 Luncheon and Awards Presentations
(Snowmobiler of the Year, Snowmobile Family of the Year, Snowmobile Dealer of the Year, Forester/Government Official of the Year, Teen Award, President’s Award)
- 1:00 Educational Session
- 1:45 Break
- 2:00 Educational Session
- 2:45 Break
- 3:00 Member Forum
- 3:30 Drawing for Auction (Tombola)
- 3:45 Conference Ends

CALENDAR OF
PSSA & CLUB EVENTS:

- * April 10–Deadline for the Keystone Snowmobiler May issue
- * May 10–Deadline for the Keystone Snowmobiler June issue
- * May 19–PSSA Annual Meeting, State College, PA
- * October 27-29–PSSA Powersports Show, Lebanon, PA



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SRX120 and RS Venture TF BAT models not eligible for Spring Power Surge offers. †Customer must take delivery of snowmobile by November 30, 2017. *Offer valid on all new 2018 Snowmobile models excluding SRX120, SnoScoot and RS Venture TF BAT. Eligible retail period of 2/27/17-4/15/17. Three year warranty based on one year limited warranty and two year Yamaha Extended Service (Y.E.S.). Commercial/Rental Use are not eligible for promotional two year Y.E.S. Dealer or Customer must warranty register unit within 10 days of purchase. **On approved credit. See dealer for details. \$500 customer deposit required before April 15, 2017 which will be applied to down payment. Some conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details or visit yamahamotorsports.com. All rights reserved. ‡May not be exactly as shown. SnoScoot customers receive alternative FXR backpack. See dealer for details. ©2017 Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A. All rights reserved. Product and specifications subject to change without notice. Professional rider on closed course under controlled conditions. Always wear an approved helmet, eye protection and protective clothing. Ride responsibly and always ride within your capabilities, allowing time and distance for maneuvering, and respect others around you. Know the conditions. Observe all state and local laws. Don't drink and ride.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS - PRESENTED BY CHARLES WALTER, SECRETARY

Arline LaTourette

792 Torrey Road

Honesdale, PA 18431

Occupation: Finance/Accounting Professional

PSSA Member for 9 years

Member of ACE Snowmobile Club, NEP SnoTrails, Ridge Riders of Whitney Point, NY

When I decided to move back in 2004 to Wayne County where I was born and raised, I had no idea that I would be getting involved in a sport that gives me so much joy! During that winter I was bemoaning the fact that I loved the three seasons that were NOT winter to the person who was to become my husband. I asked him, "What can you do in the wintertime around here?" He stated, "You need to get a hobby!" Little did I know that I had asked the right person! Clinton LaTourette ended up taking me out for a ride through the trails around Honesdale and I was hooked. It was not the nightmare sport I remembered as a teen in the late 60's when a person rode 50 feet, got stuck, wore jeans, and nearly froze to death in a short period of time. The technology has come a long way!

The ACE Snowmobile Club trails are some of my favorite riding. The Wellsboro and PA Grand Canyon area is another of my top riding places. I have been to West Yellowstone area twice and am looking forward to another trip there next year.

My finance and accounting background comes from more than 20 years in the computer industry working for several multinational corporations. My Bachelors degree is in Business Administration with a concentration on accounting. I am currently working in accounting for Marshall Machinery, Inc., which is an equipment dealer in Honesdale, PA. Another of my responsibilities is to lead the Beach Lake United Methodist Church Finance Committee as the chairperson in the second year of a three year term. I have been an elected Auditor for the Oregon Township for 7 years and am currently in my second term.

I believe that the most pressing issue for PSSA is the financial stability to be able to fulfill our charter in pursuit of the best options and legislation for the snowmobilers of Pennsylvania. My vision for the future of PSSA is that the organization continues to advocate for safe, funded trails for families and out of state tourists to enjoy our state and see it from the seat of a snowmobile.

Rich Hayes

Hi, my name is Rich Hayes from Allison Park PA, near Pittsburgh.

I have lived here 42 years and am a self-employed upholsterer.

Current

My family and I have been members of the PA Snowseekers Snowmobile Club and PSSA for 31 years.

I am currently on the Trails Committee for the Snowseekers and Regional Two Director for PSSA.

I have held the position of President in the past for six years and on the Board for the Snowseekers.

Riding Areas

Our family rode in Yellowstone, and the Allegheny National Forest. My wife Loretta and I have ridden in many parts of Canada and Colorado.

Issues and Vision for PSSA

I am interested in helping with state registration issues and promoting snowmobiling for all ages in PA. I would like to continue to build funding for trail maintenance in our state as well.

Our club has newly acquired a groomer to groom our 45 mile connector trail.

I am asking to be nominated for the Board of Directors.

James Wolfe

Married- wife Virginia

Three children Debra, Ron, Robin.

Retired construction field supt.

Current PSSA board member - Vice President

Highland twp. Supervisor

Trail volunteer for the Allegheny National Forest (ANF)

Volunteer at the Kane, PA Senior Center

Moderator for the meetings with the snowmobile clubs and the ANF personnel.

Past

Region 4 Director

2012 Snowmobiler of the Year for PSSA

I ride snowmobiles with my family in the ANF area and Gaylord, Michigan.

I belong to three snowmobile clubs in the ANF area

I have belonged to PSSA for many years and attend the annual meetings.

I would like to see a profitable PSSA with more members and more snow and smooth trails.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION



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CHICKAREE RIDGE RUNNERS SMC

Hello from The Chickaree Ridge Runners Recreation and Rescue Snowmobile Club. The club held its annual Benefit Poker Run on Feb. 12th, 2017, this years recipient was Ray Primel. Ray is a former club member and has been battling cancer for several years. Thank You to all the local businesses and individuals who donated to our Poker Run. With your help, the club was able to help Ray with his medical expenses. We raised over \$3100 in cash and gift cards for Ray and his family. We could not do this without the generous support of our community. We appreciate any and all support for this event.

Fifteen guys took a trip to The Forks, Maine from Feb. 17th thru the 25th. We rode 1230 miles with some super smooth trails and some not so smooth. They had lots of snow, but it was warm the week we were there and it was getting thin. Thanks to Dr. Don Leckey for planning our trips!

Our Safety Course was held on January 14, 2017, we had 4 children and 3 adults take the

course, thanks to Clint Elias, Jack Machuta and Derek Yerty for conducting the class. Thanks to Martin Marine for providing lunch.

We are also working with the DCNR to create and maintain trails on Chickaree and Rager Mountains. For more info or to join our club, it is open to the public, a single membership is \$10 per year and a family membership is \$15 per year. Call Martin Marine at (814) 749-9931 or visit our website at www.chickareeridgerunners.com (I try to keep it up to date). Like us on Facebook at Chickaree Ridge Runners Snowmobile Recreation and Rescue Club. Meetings are held the first and third Thursday of each month from Sept. thru April and the first Thursday from May thru Aug. They start at 8:00pm and are held at our clubhouse.

Be safe and as always, THINK SNOW,
Sincerely,

Chuck Baligush, Vice President

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Hello from the Laurel Highlands.

Its spring, and our trails are officially closed for the season. It seems as though the winter has skipped us again. If only we could line the trails with snowmakers, like our nearby ski resorts

do. We have made the most of it around here, and took advantage of the snow wherever it could be found. Several groups of our active members made trips to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan separately only to find each other there. The gas stations are apparently great meet up spots. In their pictures, it looks like a planned event. It is a small world on sleds. We hope you got out there too.

We would like to say thank you again to Bob Ainsley and Bob Nichols for continually plowing our lot open, and for keeping the equipment going. Thank you to Laurel Hill State Park Complex for inviting us to the annual Winter Weekend Festival, and continually working on improving the trails for us. Thank you to Forbes State Forestry for the new latrines at the warming hut, the parking lot expansion at Route 31, and the continued trail improvements. Thank you Rick Supanic for checking in with our trail committee on a regular basis. Thank you to all of the groomers along the local system from Rolling Ridge, to DCNR, to Maple Summit. We know you did not have much to work with, but still did a terrific job with what snow we did have!

On March 8, John Felice, George Sweigard, and Jim Wilkinson met for breakfast to discuss mowing at the clubhouse once again. It was agreed as soon as the grass starts to grow, we will take care of it. At this meeting, we also solved all the world's problems, and talked about all the women that got away. Alan Knupp also helps with the mowing, however, he has what is called a JOB so he couldn't meet with us.

LAUREL HIGHLANDS SMC



Above: Jim and Linda Wilkinson and Scott Buckles rode to the reopened Laurel Mountain Ski Resort.

Below: Jim Wilkinson and Jim Bower chatting on the trail.



Our next workday is scheduled for April 22. This is the Adopt A Highway project. We will meet at the clubhouse at 9:00 A.M., and divide into two groups. One group will work on Tunnel and Camp Run roads to help the townships. The other group will be working on Route 31. We usually get about a dozen volunteers to help with this project. In the past, we have gathered between 42-86 bags of garbage. What a bunch of trash! In a recent article, in the Tribune Review, dated March 5, 2017, PennDot had this to say: "PennDot seeks aid with cleanup. Volunteers needed to combat litter; free up more funds for fixes. In District 12, which includes the counties of Fayette, Westmoreland, and Washington there are 3,627 miles of state owned roadways of which 786 miles or 22% have been adopted." Therefore, they need help. PennDot will supply safety vests, trash bags, work gloves, and 'Litter Crew Ahead' signs. One nice thing we do on clean-up day is gather back at the club around noon and have pizza and pop. (Soda if you live in eastern Pennsylvania.)

Hope to see many of you at the Ramada Inn located in State College, Pa. for the annual spring meeting held on Saturday, May 13, from 9:00 A.M.--3:45 P.M. We have submitted our nominees for the Members of the year. Good Luck to this year's nominees. We know how deserving you all are!

Until next time---Enjoy Life---

Jim Wilkinson & Shelly Buckles

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Sat 9am-3pm

can-am

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HYNER MOUNTAIN SMC

Hello from Hyner Mountain Snowmobile Club. Just want to let everyone know what has been happening up on the mountain. Unfortunately, not a whole lot of anything is, or has been, happening either up on the mountain or at the lodge lately, or for that matter, most of this past winter. What a crazy mixed up winter we had, yet again, this year! I don't think (all total) we rode for much more than a week this year, which would include a few rides some of our members did in desperation with only three or four inches of snow with absolutely no base. However, you do have to give them credit for trying! Well, we just have to face it...this winter was a bust, and move on. Maybe better things are in store for next year!

A couple groups from our lodge did make some out-of-state trips to do some riding; a few of our members went back out to West Yellowstone. Although I haven't had a chance to talk much to them about their trip, I am sure that they had a great time. A smaller group of us went to Maine for a week of riding with the snowmobilers from the Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club. I can speak for this trip as we had plenty of snow, great trails, and great company. Also, for the Maine trip I/we would like to give a big thank you to Rich Ebersole who is a member of both Hyner Mountain and Blue Mountain Snowmobile Clubs. Rich

is instrumental in planning the Washburn trip each year.

Well, now that the season is pretty much in the books, it is time to get ready for springtime. Remember that there are many, many, things to do up in the North Central Counties in the spring. It will soon be time to get out and do some turkey hunting and trout fishing in some of the nicest creeks in Pennsylvania, as well as hiking or biking the many miles the Rails-to-Trails has to offer. In other words, the State Forests up in Tioga, Potter, Clinton, and Lycoming Counties have so much to offer the outdoors' people. All you have to do is take full advantage of them.

Our springtime agenda at the lodge will be getting together in May for one of our two yearly work-weekends.

I wasn't going to complain too much about the lackluster winter or riding we had this year, however when I started to write this it was sixty-one degrees outside. I guess if it is mid-March with no snow in the near future, it may as well just get nice out.

Well that's about all for now. Talk to ya next month.

Dan Casey

GOD'S COUNTRY BLACK FOREST SMC

Howdy, Howdy, from a rainy, muddy top of the mountain, Pigeon Hill Road, Germania, PA. Well here we are into the first week of March, no snow in the forecast, and 50 degree days ahead.

Looks like we might be done for this winter. Like we all know, you must take the bad days with the good days and move on. This winter had some good riding in our area, but it did not last long. So, I am going to look ahead to yard work, cutting wood and farming, no sense dwelling on the past. This winter was better than last year if you are looking for a positive thought. Also, Spring turkey season is right around the corner, along with trout season.

We are in the process of finishing up our Mini-grant projects for Grant #20. Completion date is April 15, 2017. Our groomer oil leak was repaired, we purchased a new electric fuel pump to fill our groomer with fuel. Also, we enclosed the north end of our groomer shed with 2 sliding doors. This will keep all rain, snow and dust off our groomer and give us an enclosed area if we must work on the groomer in the winter time. We still have work to do on the trail to Germania that goes by the church. This is the only project not completed for this mini-grant. This grant did fill our groomer fuel barrel with 300 gallons off road diesel fuel.

I would like to thank all members and local patrons for the support at each Sunday breakfast in January and February. Our average number of breakfasts served was between 80-90 per week. There is a lot of work that goes on in the kitchen to make this happen each week. I would like to take a minute to thank each person for their help. Crew #1:

Bill, Sharon & Lara Sowers, Wayne Prouty, Paul and Sue Miller, Buddy Sutton, and Kevin Garner. Crew #2: Bryan and Wanda Junkins, Butch and Sue Ruhl, Maggie Eastburn, Richard Burton, Tanner & Ashley, and Ann Irons. Also, a huge thank you to Rick Yonkin and Bradine Fisher on taking care of the front desk every week. Without help from these people, these breakfasts would not be possible. Thank you all very much and maybe we can do it again next year. Great Job!!

Calendar of Events:

Need crew to remove all signs, poles, and arrows from all trails in late March, early April-Please check Facebook for dates and times.

Next meeting is August 3, 2017 at 7:00 pm at the clubhouse. Petitions for positions on the Board of Directors, and officers must be presented for September election

Saturday, September 2, 2017 – 11:00 am - 5:00 pm is our summer picnic

More details will be available in next month's paper and on Facebook.

Saturday, September 2, 2017 – 12:00 – 1:00 is the election of new officers and Board of Directors.

As always, be safe, enjoy your spring and summer.

Bryan Junkins, President

PS: To all UTV and 4-wheeler owners, we have ample parking for your trucks and trailers, an unloading ramp, and clean men's/women's outside restrooms at the clubhouse. Remember all our trails on private land are closed. Our township roads are open to Quads.



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	SNOWCAM: https://sites.google.com/site/hynermountainsnowcam/	
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	www.tricountysnowblazers.com	
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GALETON PA 16922
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CORY PA 16407
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VINTAGE FLASHBACKS

by Henry Hartman

The advertisement included with this article was seen in the November 1972 issue of "Sno-mobile Times", which was claimed to be "The Magazine for the Fan of Snowmobiling". This ad was promoting the 1973 model Mercury snowmobiles.

Known for many decades as a builder of marine engines, Mercury first entered the snowmobile business in 1968. That year only about 400 sleds were produced, and they were rather unstable, difficult to maneuver, quite heavy, and did not start very well. Then for the 1969 model year, a number of improvements were introduced. Mercury was already using their "Thunderbolt" electronic ignition system on their outboard motors, and the snowmobiles came equipped with the same system. Most other snowmobile brands did not offer standard electronic ignition until the mid 70's.

A major innovation — Reverse — was unveiled for 1969. However, this reverse was not of the mechanical type that other manufacturers were using, this one involved the engine actually running in reverse rotation and causing the machine to back up. Roughly 30 years later, modern manufacturers revisited this concept and now several brands feature "electronic reverse". Mercury did not have the advantage of modern electronics, so they simply equipped the engine with two electric starters: one turned the engine the normal, or forward direction, the second one turned the engine backwards and started the powerplant in the opposite or reverse rotation. When the rider wanted to back up, the engine was shut off, a switch flipped to 'reverse', and

the engine was restarted in the other direction. Today, we simply press a button, the engine momentarily quits, and then fires in the opposite direction and we back up! Mercury offered their reverse arrangement on snowmobiles up through the 1973 model year.

In 1974, Merc released their new designs, the Sno-Twister and Trail Twister. These machines were a radical change from the earlier heavy, boxy, black snowmobiles that the public was familiar with. Twisters initially had Kohler free-air and later liquid-cooled engines. The '74 models also had a new feature on the front leaf-spring suspension — a torsion bar that helped the machine stay flat when cornering. This improvement was not seen on production sleds offered to the public again until the independent-front-suspension revolution that started with the 1980 models of other companies. The Sno-Twisters dominated racing circuits for several years, and are still today considered to be the fastest of the 70's era machines.

As we have stated so often with these vintage articles, the 'fuel crisis' of the 70's and general economic conditions spelled the end of Mercury producing snowmobiles. The 1976 models were the last of the Mercury's. The company remains today, still a major force in the marine business. The nine years of snowmobile models that were produced are considered quite collectible today. Sno-Twisters command a premium price, if you can find one! Mercury had several engineering firsts in the snowmobile industry that are often forgotten, only to be later "re-invented" and marketed by other companies.

THE MERCURY CHALLENGE:



For 14 winter mornings, we challenged our Merc to start on the first try.

13 out of 14 times, it fired instantly.

We wanted to see just how dependable the Mercury starting system really was. So we devised a cold-start test as tough as we could make it. We put our Merc Hurricane outside in the bitter Wisconsin February chill for 14 days. Temperatures dipped as low as 21 below. And each cold morning, we tested our Hurricane for instant starting.

On 13 out of 14 days, the Merc fired on the first pull. Even in temperatures down to 21 below, our sled started instantly. And that was unusual... because we tested other sleds as well. None of them could match Merc in cold-starting power. None of them even came close.

At Mercury, we think dependable starting is important. That's why all the bold new Hurricanes have breaker-less Thunderbolt ignition. It zaps up to 40,000 volts to the spark plugs in microseconds. Gives you quick fire sure starts. Even in the coldest winter temperatures.

Compare our sleds yourself. The Hurricane Mark II. The Hurricane Mark I. The 440 MAX. We challenge you to find any other snowmobile to match Merc... in starting power... in total toughness... in complete performance. And just try to beat our warranty. Anywhere. We cover everything on our new sleds against defects for one full year!

See your Mercury dealer today. Let him prove our new sleds over anything else in the snow country.

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For the nearest Mercury Dealer, see the Yellow Pages under "Snowmobiles." Mercury Marine Division of Brunswick Corporation, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin/Canada/Australia/Japan



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