

Glendale Lake Snowmobile Club member, Randy Green, out for his first ride of the season.

Week of January 4th.
Photo by John Patterson. See article on page 10.

ANNUAL PSSA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

April 23, 2016

Ramada Golf and Conference Center, State College, PA

More info inside!

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FAX: 1-814-824-5461 EMAIL: info@pasnow.org

www.pasnow.org

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Richard East (2015, Erie Co.) 2346 Bliley Road Erie, PA 16510 Phone: (814) 882-7473 richard.east1949@gmail.com

REGION 2 Richard Hayes (2018, Allegheny County) 2485 Parkview Lane Allison Park, PA 15101 Phone: (412) 735-6716 rahazey@yahoo.com REGION 3

David E. McCarty (2014, Westmoreland Co.) 2533 Harrison City Road Export, PA 15632 Phone: (412) 480-7068 Twintracker3@aol.com

1243 South Michael St. St. Marys, PA 15857 Phone (814) 594-7825 serodich@gmail.com Larry Martin (WEST) 1008 Orr Ave.

REGION 4

Kittanning, Pa. 16201 Phone: (724) 664-5492 Imartin130@yahoo.com

REGION 5 Travis Mathna (2014, Adams Co.)
1110 Upper Bermudian Rd.
Gardners, PA 17324
Phone: (717) 677-8089
gotsno@embarqmail.com REGION 6

REGION 6
Robert England (2014, Lehigh Co.)
10107 Tori Ln.
Breinigsville, PA 18031
Phone: (610) 216-1886 Nathan Eckhart, CPA (Ass't Director, Lehigh Co.)
4935 Abbey Road
Coplay, PA 18037
Phone: (610) 262-0281
Fax: (610) 262-0281

nsecpa@rcn.com

REGION 7 Bill Sowers (2018, Dauphin County) 51 Prospect Street Hummelstown PA 17031 717-439-2333 hondog3@verizon.net

REGION 8 Janet Auker (2016, Lancaster Co.) 112 Homestead Drive Stevens, PA 17578 Phone: (717) 336-1061 Fax: (717) 336-0362 jrauker@dejazzd.com

Doug Blauch (Ass't Director, Lebanon Co.) 40 Clover Lane Jonestown, PA 17038 Phone: 717-383-3559 blauch@comcast.net

REGION 9 Tim Holtz (2018, Cambria County) PO Box 174 Patton, PA 16668 814-330-2182 tim1holtz@gmail.com

REGION 10 VACANT

REGION 11 Dick Roloson (2017, Bradford Co.)
3067 Farmers Valley Rd.
Troy, Pa. 16947 Home: (570) 297-2598 Cell: (570) 529-0115 vntrclsx@ptd.net

REGION 12 Clinton LaTourette (2015, Wayne Co.) 792 Torrey Road Honesdale, PA 18431 Phone: (570) 729-7865

windyview@live.com Gary F. Bates (Ass't Director, Wayne Co.) 231 South Smith Road Waymart, PA 18472 Phone: (570) 488-5446 gbates@echoes.net SNOW ANGELS CHAIRPERSON:

> 811 State Route 288 Fombell, PA 16123 Phone: (724) 752-0509 Fax: (724) 752-8352

















Clint Elias Harrison Langley



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42 West Main Street Palmyra, PA 17078 1-717-461-7761

EMAIL: member@pasnow.org

Grants Administrator

Lori Elliott

908 North 2nd Street Harrisburg, PA 17102 1-717-236-2050

EMAIL: grants@pasnow.org







INFORMATION

PSSA Website:

www.pasnow.org

PSSA Facebook:

www.facebook.com/pasnow "Pennsylvania Snowmobiling"

EMAIL: member@pasnow.ora (717-461-7761)

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American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) www.snowmobilers.org

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www.snowmobile.org

THANK YOU

To all our members, clubs, volunteers, Directors (Past and Present), and all those who helped in any way with this Annual Membership Meeting! You are truly appreciated!



Nominations for Executive Board are being accepted until February 10th.

Annual Membership Meeting

Ramada Golf and Conference Center

Send your nomination to **Regional Directors Bill Sowers** or Larry Martin.

This issue mailed on or before January 28th.

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MOVING FORWARD



HAPPY SNOW! HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Finally snow has arrived with no rain in sight. Get out and ride. Don't forget your family and friends. Take a ride together. Enjoy nature. Pennsylvania has some of the most beautiful scenery in the country. Slow down and take a deep breath. Enjoy!

Check our website: www.pasnow.org for updates on snow conditions. We have several snowcams and connections to most club information. The Tab "Organizations" has the Regional Map. Click on a region and the club and regional director contacts will appear.

All PSSA members and clubs will receive Voucher Raffle tickets later in February. As stated in the last Moving Forward article the Board voted to continue with a Voucher Raffle with a first prize of a \$6000 voucher, second prize of a \$1000 voucher and a third prize of a \$500 voucher to be spent at a PSSA member business. Tickets are \$10 or 3 for \$20. Winners will be drawn at the summer Board meeting. Profits will be used to further the Pennsylvania State Snowmobile Association (PSSA) mission of supporting snowmobile recreation in the state.

Preparations are underway to organize the Annual Membership Meeting. It will be held again at the Ramada Inn in State College on April 23, 2016. Annual awards will be presented. Video Mike will be on hand to explain his proposal for a video of our trails. More Information will be provided on our website and in the March issue of the Keystone Snowmobiler. You may register on line after February

20th. We had a great turnout last year. Let's do it again!

Anyone who is interested in running for the Executive Board should contact Regional Directors Larry Martin or Bill Sowers by February 10th. You must complete a short biography and answer several questions concerning your interest in running for this position. This information will be posted in the April Keystone Snowmobiler. All three current Executive Board members- Don Mosier, James Wolfe and Liz Krug are running again.

Currently Charles Walter from the NorthEast PA Trails has been nominated to finish Glen Knisely's term on the Executive Board. The Board will vote on his nomination at the next Board meeting.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission continues to hold Focus group meetings in regard to their previous plan to impose a Fee for use of their land. Janie French, Executive Board Director will be my alternate PSSA at these meetings.

The PSSA request under the Right to Know Law (RTKL) was denied by DCNR and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Federal Law protects a person's registration information such as Driver's License and Snowmobile Registration information from being shared with third parties. We will continue to pursue this issue in other ways. If you have any ideas please call or e-mail me.

PSSA representatives will continue to meet with DCNR personnel to pursue a Public, Private Partnership. PSSA clubs groom and maintain approximately half the trails in Pennsylvania. They need consistent income to cover expenses to keep our trails safe for our riding enjoyment. The current grant system takes too much time and it is anyone's guess when and if the request will be approved. We need a system in which we can plan ahead and focus our attention on snowmobile recreation. paperwork.

"Clubs are encouraged to invite your local representatives - state, federal, and city/ township officers etc. to take a snowmobile ride. We need to be proactive to inform these people of who we are and what our agenda is. Many of these people will make decisions

NEWS FROM PSSA'S GRANTS ADMINISTRATOR



Hello, PSSA Members!

I hope you are enjoying snow in your area! I am writing this article on the day

"snowmageddon", as the storm has been called, is supposed to arrive. We are supposed to receive 14" here in the Harrisburg area, so we will see how long it lasts.

Below are a few items to report in regard to PSSA's grants program:

I am working on lining up grant and partnership support for a Video Mike's "SnowTrails TV" project showcasing PSSA and snowmobiling in Pennsylvania.

We have opened PSSA's Round I of the DCNR Round 20 grant. We will receive minigrant applications until February 26, 2016. PA snowmobile clubs should have received the application and accompanying information via email and mail. These documents can also be downloaded from the PSSA website.

that will affect the future of snowmobile trails which you ride."

As of this writing there is no news from the Research Committee concerning a possible location for a Power Sport Show. Check the website www.pasnow.org for any updates.

THINK SNOW!

LIZ KRUG, PRESIDENT

Note: next Board meeting – February 2, 2016 at 8 pm

The maximum cash award for each minigrant will be \$4500. As always, a 20% match will be required either in volunteer time or in cash for equipment, replacement parts or fuel. This would bring the total project cost to \$5625. There will only be one round in this grant.

We are waiting on award announcements for our Round 21 grant application that was submitted in April 2015. Announcements can't be made until the state budget is passed. Hopefully, a grant will be awarded to PSSA. We will keep you posted.

DCNR's Round 22 application cycle opened on January 20, so I have begun PSSA's application for another mini-grants program. It must be submitted by April 13th.

I want to mention that in order to provide this opportunity to assist clubs, PSSA invests around \$1,000 for the time spent on the DCNR application and about \$1300 for the time spent compiling the mini-grant applications and preparing documents for the mini-grant approval process. These costs are not covered by grants. The grants do help cover mini-grant administration and internal bookkeeping costs once the grant is awarded.

As a reminder to Round III mini-grant recipients (DCNR Round 19), the round ends on March 15, 2016 and reports will be due March 31, 2015. Please keep me posted if you run into difficulties with your project.

That's all for now. Feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Happy snowmobiling!

Lori Elliott, PSSA Grants Administrator



Phone: 814-435-2176



GOD'S COUNTRY BLACK FOREST SMC

Hello again from the top of the mountain, Pigeon Hill Road, Germania, PA. I guess everyone is as frustrated as I am about all of the rain we have been getting. Sure wish mother nature would treat us to a late January and February like we had last year. Everyone do a little snow dance please!

Our Sunday breakfasts have been going well. Hope to see all of you members on your sleds the first Sunday we have snow. Our groomer is all serviced and ready to make all of the trails as smooth as our roads (Don't go there).

Upcoming calendar of events.

Saturday, February 6th, 2016:

Vintage sled show, raffle, & ride

12:00 pm until 4:00 pm -

Lunch served all afternoon

Saturday, February 13th, 2016: Winter picnic

11:00 am until 5:00 pm

Lunch is at noon, free to all members, \$5.00 guest fee, Bingo, raffles, door prizes and new snowmobile raffle drawing is at 4:30

Please bring a dish to pass

We still have tickets for the 2016 snowmobile raffle, contact any officer or director.

See you at the Vintage show and or the winter picnic and hopefully on the trails.

As always, ride sober, ride safe.

Leave tracks, not trash

Thanks for your time, I'm out of here!!!

Bryan Junkins, Pres. G.C.B.F.SMC

4TH ANNUAL POTTER COUNTY VINTAGE SNOWFEST

January 15-17

(No snow date: February 18-20)

President, Scott Boucher, and the board of directors would like to invite you to attend the fourth annual Vintage Snow Fest in beautiful Potter County, PA. Last year the event brought over 800 visitors to the area, from all over the East Coast.

The weekend will feature all things vintage, (snowmobiles 1985 or earlier) including a Vintage Sled Display as well as a Sunday Vintage trail ride. For further information about the event please visit our website: www.pcscriders.com

Our club address is: 949 North Hollow Road, Coudersport, PA.

If you wish to be a sponsor, or donate to the event please call Scott, 570-971-3775.

We look forward to seeing you at the event, come enjoy the weekend!

PYMATUNING TRAIL BLAZERS SMC

The Pymatuning Trail Blazers are ready to go. All we need is for Mother Nature to get her act Together!! Over the fall a few dedicated members have replaced a track on the groomer and installed a new winch. These were purchased with help from the P.S.S.A. Mini Grants. Trails have been cleared and trail markers have been put out.

Our biggest complaint has been the lack of snow.

Our Poker Run is to be held on Jan 23rd. In the past years historically there has been snow on this weekend in Jan. Hopefully this holds true! No snow dates are: Feb. 6th. and 20th.

Feb 13th. Is the Date for our 40th. Winter Fun Day to be held at Shelter 4 at Pymatuning State Park in Jamestown. Events includes the 3rd annual Ice Fishing Contest, the 1st Relay for Life Polar Bear Plunge (info at relayforlife.org/pymatuning)

Frozen 5 k benefits students for charity, 1 pm start time.

Torch lite cross country ski and snowshoeing, 6pm start time.

We will also provide snowmobile rides for the public to enjoy. Horse drawn hay rides and kids activities. Our kitchen will be open serving hot food and beverages all day.

THINK SNOW!!

Denny Diodati, Pres.







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SAFE RIDERS! CAMPAIGN CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY!



Haslett. 14. December 2015: The Safe Riders! You Make Snowmobiling Safe© safety campaign was initiated 1995 through a partnership with the snowmobile

manufacturer members of ISMA — Arctic Cat. BRP. Polaris, and Yamaha and the state and provincial snowmobile associations and clubs located throughout the snow-belt of North America. The goal of the campaign is to keep safety a 'top of mind awareness' subject while snowmobiling. The content of the campaign was created with input from all corners of the snowmobile world and continues to live and grow in ideas and outreach.

The campaign features significant support material including:

• A 22 minute safe riders DVD created to serve as an adjunct support to snowmobile safety trainers around the world,

- highlights key safety awareness facts,
- A Snowmobiling Fact Book which contains great information about the snowmobiling community, industry, and helpful safety people who are new to the sport and to government officials,
- A snowmobile poster series highlighting key snowmobile safety issues,
- The safe riders! logo reflective decals and
- Many excellent print public service announcements, radio public service announcements, and some amazingly effective TV ready public service announcements.

All of the safety materials are available from the ISMA Office and can be obtained by filling out an order form and visiting the ISMA web site at www.snowmobile.org.

The key guidelines presented in the campaign are all highlighted on the posters:

- snowmobile safety training.
- 2. Snowmobiling and alcohol don't mix don't drink and ride.
- 3. Ride safe, stay on the trail and always respect private property.
- 4. When night riding slow down expect the unexpected.
- 5. Ride smart, ride right stay in control.
- 6. Know before you go always check local ice conditions.
- 7. One is the loneliest number never ride alone.
 - 8. Cross with care don't become roadkill.
 - 9. For riders in mountainous terrain: Always know the risks and be prepared — and follow the avalanche safety guidelines:
 - -Get the gear
 - -Get the training
 - -Get the forecast
 - -Get the picture
 - $\hbox{\rm Get out of harm's way}$

The campaign has been very effective and is used in support of safety training across North America. Hundreds of Thousands of information pieces have been sent to safety

• A Safe Riders! safety brochure that trainers and to snowmobile enthusiasts free of charge. In addition, the campaign highlights many positive aspects of the snowmobiling lifestyle which include posters highlighting 'snowmobilers care about the environment tips that is especially good to give to and improve the environment in their riding areas.' The campaign notes how snowmobiling is 'a large \$27 billion dollar business,' and 'snowmobile tourism works' wherever it is tried. There is a special recognition poster highlighting that snowmobiling is a fun family activity and another poster encouraging winter enthusiasts to join us today and go snowmobiling.

If possible, we encourage, individuals, clubs, and associations to participate in the upcoming Snowmobile Safety Week. Safety Week this season will be January 16-24, 2016. When conducting any snowmobile safety training, please consider posting photos and a brief update on our www.Facebook.com/ GoSnowmobiling page. Please visit us on Facebook and make sure to "Like" our page 1. Smart riders are safe riders — take so we can share our winter updates with you throughout the snowmobiling season.

Remember to always be a Safe Rider!









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Irwin's Pond in Honesdale, Pennsylvania was the location for our first annual (yes, ANNUAL) N.E.P. Pennsylvania Snowmobile Watercross Championships. Nearly 1,000 spectators came out to witness some exciting racing. The weather was beautiful for the weekend of September 26-27. The crowd enjoyed the show put on by Jay Tweedie, expert fly-boarder. Stay tuned for details of next year's event.





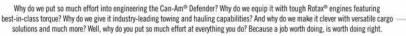








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GLENDALE LAKE SNOWMOBILE CLUB

Greetings from Glendale Lake Snowmobile the local bald eagles standing at the shoreline. A Club. We are located in western central PA and Blair Counties. We take our name from the beautiful Glendale Lake located in Prince Gallitzin State Park. The club has been very active over the summer, with meetings every month, trail clearings, trail building, and a fall kick off membership drive/pig roast. Club membership now stands at over 225 and we have been averaging about 30 members at our meetings over the last several months.

New officers were recently elected for 2016: President Ray Wendekier, Vice President Jim Davis, Secretary Bill Henry, and Treasurer Tracy Glass. Board members are Tim Holtz, Jesse Barley, Dick Youngkin, Eric Gabrielson, Don Conrad, Rob Housley and John Lechene. We are honored to have club board member Tim Holtz as our PSSA Regional representative.

The club was busy all summer and fall with several related trail projects. We cleaned up close to 25 miles of trails in Prince Gallitzin State Park. This included repairing one bridge and replacing another. DCNR was really great to work with on this project. Many days and hundreds of hours went into getting these trails ready for winter, and year round use. This was a lot of hard work, lot of fun and great

PSSA trail grant helped with this work and with with most club members being from Cambria a new trail to Black Moshanon State Park from our area. Again many hours of volunteer labor not only went into the trail work of the new trail but also in to aligning all the needs parties to get this trail thru. What a big project, several members from our club have worked tirelessly for several years to make this a reality. Parts of this trail should be open this winter.

> The Fall Membership Drive Pia Roast was a areat success. Many new and existing members attended and enjoyed the pig roast and chicken BBQ. Live music was provided as well as club gear was available for sale. Three local dealers provide a show of sleds and atv's. This was a great kick off to the season and provided a boost to the membership. The Pig Roast was free but you had to be a member to attend so many members joined or paid their 2016 dues. Our club membership application was recently updated in support of PSSA.

> In an effort to build awareness of the club, we've been very active recently with our Facebook page. Club meetings and activities are posted. We are also encouraging club members to post their riding activities this winter. The best way to contact the club is thru Facebook.

Speaking of riding, many members of the club camaraderie. One day at the lake we saw one of couldn't wait for winter to arrive in central PA

so they headed up to Tug Hill for some snow and early riding. Everyone reported they had a great time and that it was good to be back on the snow again. We are really looking forward to riding our local trails, particularly those that we put all the work into.

Upcoming plans include a Legislative Ride this year, a snowmobile safety course in the fall, and possibly a dealer Demo Days next winter. Plus more trail clearing and trail building this summer. Of course all that is after we have a great snowmobile season this winter. If you're from this area or ride this area, please consider ioinina our club.

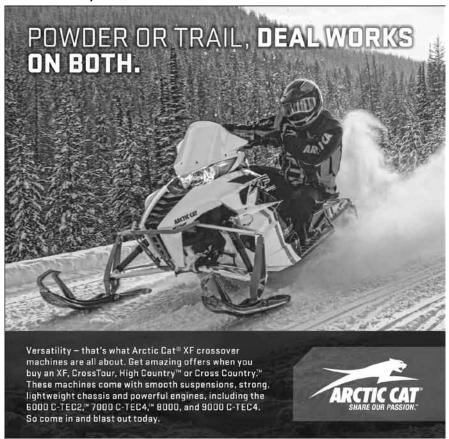
> Randy Green For Glendale Lake Snowmobile Club



Above: The State Park recognizing our efforts.



Above from left to Right: Tom, Marc, Rob, Beth, Joe, Jim, Jesse, Robin and Randy.



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ROLLING RIDGE SNOWMOBILE CLUB

Snow is falling on a new season of snowmobiling. We are pleased to announce that we have had several officer changes over the last few months. Barry Harcum decided to resign as president and Neil Diamond stepped into this role, leaving a vacancy in the Vice President position, which Tommy Trevorrow has filled. Eric King will be replacing Jeff Weister as treasurer for 2016. We would like to thank all previous board members and officers for their hard work and dedication. Without their efforts, our club wouldn't be where it is today.

We're excited to share with you news of changes to the trail system. We were able to secure a grant to purchase snow poles to mark our trails. The poles are a flexible plastic with reflective tape on the top. They have been placed along the joint use roadways and our trail system to show the plow operators a distinct separation between trail and road. (see photo top right)

Our large groomer is ready to go with new lighting, gauges, heated mirrors, quieter exhaust, and a new cab interior. This will allow for a safer, more comfortable experience when grooming trails.

The club's snowmobile is now up and running. We are excited to begin using it and the new snowmobile drag that was secured thru a grant and matching donation. Grooming of the secondary trail system will now be possible.

RRSC meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm. Members and nonmembers are welcome. February's meeting will be held at the Washington Furnace Inn on Route 30. This is a non-smoking family friendly restaurant.

As long as the weather cooperates, we are planning to host a trail side cookout this year. More information regarding time and location will be forthcoming.

Be sure to like our Facebook page, Rolling Ridge, to stay up to date on club events. Also, never hesitate to contact any club officer for more information.

We'd like to recognize and extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to the following sponsors who have graciously made donations to support RRSC for the 2016 and 2017 snowmobile seasons:



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Please support these businesses whenever possible to let them know how much we appreciate their generosity. Sponsors are still being accepted so if you know of a business that would be willing to support us, please let us know.

> We can't wait to see you all on the trails. Neil Diamond, President



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Our December meeting was the annual DCNR public meeting. As usual, it was great to hear firsthand how the State is working on the trails. It was highly informative, and we are fortunate that they were willing and able to take the time from their busy schedules to join us. Ranger Jeremy Peck spoke first on behalf of Laurel Hill State Park Complex. He mentioned they are having a Winter Weekend celebration on Feb. 20-21st. Tentative plans live music, curling, snowshoeing, and a variety of other winter sports to draw more people outside. Ranger Peck informed us that the trail maintenance and grooming schedule will remain the same, and our president. Brad. will continue on as their primary groomer operator. Their portion of the money from the snowmobile fund is going towards building a heated/flush restroom in the Laurel Hill cottage area. They will be breaking ground for it next year. This will be the only heated restroom on state property in our region. They did complete work on Ridge trail and fixed several drainage issues. He also told us that the rangers will be out, and working with forestry. They continue to appreciate all of our help.

Ed Callahan spoke next on behalf of Forbes State Forest. He introduced Don Stiffler. Rick Stupanic, Jim Broderick, and Ranger Chris Toaso. He thanked us for the help on the trails, and reminded us that the gates will remain

LAUREL HIGHLANDS SNOWMOBILE CLUB

closed until we have rideable snow conditions. hikers. They feel the suggestions will help Prior to the season, they have side mowed the trails, and fixed and added several culverts. From Seven Springs to Route 653 they replaced a bridge and removed some rock. They also removed a curve from part of the trail. At Mount Davis, they repaired North Rock Road. Their future plans include widening the Route 31 parking lot, and adding a new latrine to the warming hut area. The area around the turnpike bridge has undergone some more changes due to the added material from New Enterprise. He also provided us with a winter use trail plan in a brochure to help manage the diverse groups on the mountain. It is full of suggested routes for skiers, snowshoeing, mountain bikers, and

relieve some of the trail congestion. Forestry intends to follow the same groomer schedule as last year. In closing, he thanked us again for all of our help.

Here it is January 10, 2016, and there is sight.) no snow in sight in southwestern Pennsylvania. The question to Shelly and I is, what do you write about for a snowmobile club article to be placed in the Keystone Snowmobiler??????? Sometimes, this is a real challenge for the two of us. We have come up with a solution for this month. We are both snowmobile safety instructors for the Laurel Highlands Snowmobile Club along with my daughter, Cindy Gallick, Jim

Above: DCNR representatives that spoke at our last meeting from left to right Jim Broderick, Ranger Jeremy Peck, Ranger Chris Toaso, Don Stiffler, Rick Stupanic, and Ed Callahan

Tweardy, Tim McCune, and Tim Costello. In fact, this year we had a very successful class of 48 students. I read a lot, and check out articles about snowmobiles on line and have come up with the following. We need more safety training in our sport. I have checked on the internet, and have learned that when a snowmobiler from PA travels out of state, they often travel to New York or Michigan. We have been to both states, and have enjoyed their trails. Today we want to talk about Michigan. Here are some facts about

1. Since 2005 there have been 130 snowmobile related deaths

Michigan:

- 2. 2014-2015 snowmobile season had 15 deaths
- 3. As of 2015-2016 snowmobile (with very little snow as of 1-10-16) Michigan has already had 2 deaths). One of these deaths was with a 17 year old male from Lower Michigan riding around the house with no helmet on and hit a tree. Another accident took place in the U.P. with a 21 year old malehitting a tree.
- 4. Also, in Lower Michigan 4 snowmobilers were riding on ice in a swamp, and went through. All had to be rescued from their sleds

as they were found standing on the seats of their snowmobiles.

Facts and Figures have told us the following about the causes of these accidents:

- 1. Most occur between midnight and 4:00 A.M.(The typical bar closes at 2:00 A.M.)
 - 2. Riding in unfamiliar terrain
 - 3. Night riding (Over-driving your line of
- 4. Speed and alcohol both generally play a part in a death

HOW CAN WE STOP THESE DEATHS??? GOOD QUESTION///

How do you teach Common Sense???

I have come up with a theory. First, we teach in our safety class at one time there were 193 snowmobile manufactures. I have owned all 4 major brands of sleds and they are all good. The best sled is the one that starts and gets you from point A to B.

There is no longer a sled built with 250cc, 300cc, 340cc, 440cc, 485cc,500cc. I think you get my point. My first car only had 36 horsepower (VW) and my snowmobile today has 120 horsepower. The manufacturers make what the public wants. What is the solution to this problem?? I don't know.

Here are several great websites for more information about riding in Michigan.

- A. Sledheadsusa.com Lower Michigan between Grayling & Gaylord, updated everyday, just recently had 2,000,000 hits
- B. munisingsnow.com U.P.Munisina. Michiaan
 - C. iohndee.com entire state of Michigan

With any luck, the snow will begin to accumulate. Our first poker run is scheduled for Jan. 23, at 11:00 AM. Conditions are not looking favorable at the moment. The second Poker Run is scheduled for February 20, starting at 11:00 AM. We will meet at the clubhouse to provide maps and instructions. Stay tuned to the club website and Facebook page for updates. We can't wait to get out there with you.

The next general meeting will be held in the clubhouse on Feb. 11, at 8:00. Come on out for some information and refreshments. As always check out our website atwww.lhsc.net for the latest information about our club. We have four web cameras for you to check out when it does snow.

I will leave you with several thoughts. When it does snow and it will, have fun, be safe out there, and live each day to its fullest.

Jim Wilkinson & Shelly Buckles



Nominations for Executive Board are being accepted until February 10th.

Send your nomination to Regional Directors Bill Sowers or Larry Martin.

CALENDAR OF

PSSA & CLUB EVENTS:

- * February 10-Deadline for the Keystone Snowmobiler March issue
- * March 10-Deadline for the Keystone Snowmobiler April issue
- * April 10–Deadline for the Keystone Snowmobiler May issue
- * April 23–PSSA Annual Membership Meeting, State College, PA

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April 23, 2016
State College, PA
Register on line after February 20th
Deadline April 5, 2016



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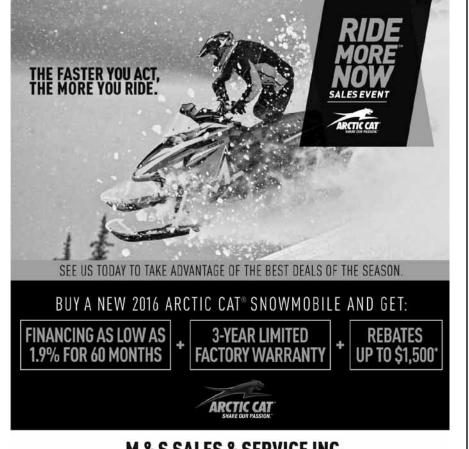
NEIMAN'S GARAGE & EQUIPMENT (R 5) (A) 704 EAST CANAL ROAD DOVER PA 17315 LAKE COUNTRY MOTORSPORTS INC. (P) (R 7)
56 N BULLOCK ROAD
MANSFIELD PA 16933 570/662-2215 717/292-2101 LARRY'S SPORT CENTER (Y) R 7) **NORTH-SOUTH CONNECTION TRAILER SALES** RT 6 GALETON PA 16922 814/435-6548 MAIN STREET OLD FORGE NY 13420 315/369-6334 OFF ROAD EXPRESS (Y) (R 1) LEISURE SPORTS 'N TURF (P, S, A) (R 8) 2568 SCHUYLKILL RD 10320 WATTSBURG ROAD SPRING CITY PA 19475 610/495-7122 ERIE PA 16509 814/825-2396 LEISURE TIME HONDA-SUZUKI (S) (R1)**0TT0C0** 8767 EAST AVE MENTOR OH 44060 440/744-4900 CORRY PA 16407 814/664-4606 M & S SALES & SERVICE (A) (R 8) PAT & SON SERVICE CENTER (A, P) 1500 N STATE RT 934 ANNVILLE PA 17003 717/867-4406 3385 DIVISION HWY NEW HOLLAND PA 17557 717/354-4726 MARTIN MARINE SALES (P) (R 9) PIT PRODUCTS MAKIN ...

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3979 COVE MOUNTAIN ROAD

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5560 PERKIOMEN AVENUE READING BOAT WORKS INC. (A) R 8)
1084 CEDAR HILL DRIVE
READING PA 19605
610/926-4739 2336 PIKES PEAK ROAD ALLENWOOD PA 17810 570/772-7062 MOSITES MOTORSPORTS (S) (R 3)
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412/376-2300 **REVNEEZ** 1412 BEECHWOOD LAKE ROAD WESTFIELD PA 16950 814/628-2227 SHERWOOD GROVES POWERSPORTS (S) (R 11)
454 GOLDEN MILE RD
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570/265-2107 R 5) (S) 2117 BALTIMORE PIKE HANOVER PA 17331 717-632-7093 MOTOSPORTS CYCLE SHOP INC. (R 5) MOUNTAIN EXTREME INC. (S, Y) (R 4)
6381 ROCKTON MOUNTAIN HWY SMITH MARINE (R 6) (S) 573 EAST BUTLER AVE. NEW BRITIAN PA 18901 215/345-1621 ROCKTON PA 15856 814/583-7030 YAMAHA MOTOR CORP. USA (R 6) 1730 WALTON RD. STE 112 MOYERS OUTDOOR POWER EQUIP. (R 6) (P, Ý) 403 MÁIN STREET HARLEYSVILLE PA 19438 BLUE BELL PA 19422 215/256-6163 610/941-9080



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VINTAGE FLASHBACKS



Everyone beautifully different

Skiroule gets it all together. Function and fashion. The greatest shape in snowmobiling with the greatest line of stylish accessories.

Every one boasting that beautiful difference.

Look first at function. The beautiful green machines. The beautiful dream machines. Skiroule's sweeping, low-slope profile sets you distinctively apart from the 'bathtub-look' brigade. And every Skiroule delivers all the performance its racy lines promise.

Skiroule performance comes in eleven beautiful variations. You can choose from four models in the high performance RTX series. Or six models in the spirited RT series and the new Wankle-Powered RTW. Any way you look at it, Skiroule puts you out front in the class of your choice.

Now cast your eyes on fashion. The only thing that Improves the great good looks of a Skiroule is you in a Skiroule action outfit. Color co-ordinated to complement your machine, these Skiroule originals each reflect the Skiroule spirit.

Snowmobiles are still pretty much the same.

The beautiful difference...





This month we take a look at another vintage snowmobile company from the past: Skiroule. The advertisement on this page is from the October 1972 issue of *Snow Goer*, when Skiroule fielded a total of eleven 1973 models. The suggested retail prices for these ranged from \$799.00 to \$1,399.00 (US), with engine sizes from 293cc to 437cc. One model featured a rotary Wankel engine, which was built by Sachs. In fact every Skiroule machine for '73 was powered by a Sachs powerplant.

Skiroule snowmobiles started production in Quebec in the mid 1960's, and were originally labeled Ski Houle, for the Houle Farm Equipment business. For 1966 the name changed to Skiroule and remained that way through the end of production in 1976. An American company, Coleman, purchased Skiroule in late 1970. Well known for camping equipment, Coleman had ideas to develop other motorized recreational products. During the early-mid 1970's, the US and other countries experienced the "energy crisis", which probably ruined all ambitions for those other machines, reportedly including a trail bike. Incidentially, Houle Farm Equipment remains a well-known name.

This writer has memories of a local Skiroule dealer showing the 1973 models and claiming they had "unbreakable" hoods. In the warmth of a showroom, he would open a hood, grab the rear corners and squeeze them close and spread them apart, all while telling the potential buyer "See, these hoods are unbreakable!". Of course, when out in the snow at subfreezing temperatures, you can imagine what happened when a tree branch, large chunk of snow, or anything else hit the now-brittle hood. It's mighty lucky to find a vintage Skiroule today that has only minor cracks in the hood. The plastic fuel tank in the nose of the chassis was also an item that didn't hold up for too many years. Most every example you'll see has the tank patched with some sort of glue or fiberglass concoction. Another not-so-desirable feature for riders was the tubular reinforcement on the side of the tunnel that was welded to the edge of the running boards. They were often refered to as "ankle-breakers".

On the positive side, the Skiroule machines shown in the ad were ahead of their time in the styling department. They had a slide rail suspension with outboard shocks, which no other sleds had at that time. The styling of the console and dash blended well with the seat, tunnel, and hood and was definitely well ahead of its time. For that time in snowmobile history, the Skiroule snowmobiles handled and rode as good as any and better than most of the competition.

Henry Hartman