



# MOVING FORWARD

January 2020

Happy New Year! May you have a year filled with peace, joy and happiness.

Congratulations to Presque Isle Snowmobile Club, Inc. and Stateline Sno-Trackers who will celebrate the Anniversaries of their clubs beginnings this year. Clubs are usually started by one or two people who want to organize snowmobilers in their area. Some have started in a barn or garage and over time have built a clubhouse. Over the years their memberships have grown. We look forward to receiving pictures and a write-up of their celebrations in the near future.

I can "hear" the complaints concerning a lack of snow all the way to Erie. We cannot control the weather but we can be ready when conditions are right to ride. Remember to ride on the right and ride in a safe manner.

Everyone should be concerned about the future of our state parks. As has been mentioned in previous articles and listed on the Home page of our website: www.panow.org the state/DCNR has conducted face-to-face surveys of users of the state parks. None of these surveys have included winter month users. If you care about how the parks use your tax dollars you need to contact your local park or place where your ride. Ask when they will schedule a public input meeting. Put your comments/concerns in writing. Take time to do it now – complaining later won't help. Check out the DCNR website for parks.

Mini-grant charts which list all the grants awarded in the last several years are being given to clubs. Advertise your club and PSSA by having a chart placed in local businesses. The information on the chart is useful to demonstrate what clubs do to maintain trails and it also shows what PSSA members do to support the clubs. Club volunteer hours are also listed. We need more members to join clubs and PSSA.

## **MOVING FORWARD (cont.)**

ACSA calendars are available now. Send a check for \$20 to the Palmyra office and a calendar will be sent to you. There are many chances throughout the year to win various prizes. This is also a fund-raiser for PSSA.

PSSA just received the contract for the new grant. Clubs will be contacted with grant information as soon as we receive both the check for the grant amount and permission to proceed with work. Plan now.

Think Snow! Liz Krug, President

Note: Membership Meeting, April 18, 2020 Ramada Golf and Conference Center, University Park (same as last year)



FROM ALL OF US AT PSSA!











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## HYNER MOUNTAIN SMC

#### ANNUAL HYNER MOUNTAIN SNOWMOBILE CLUB SAFETY COURSE

The Hyner Mountain Snowmobile Club (HMSC) sponsored and conducted its 17th annual youth Pennsylvania snowmobile safety course on Sunday, November 17, 2019 at the HMSC lodge in Clinton County.

Four (4) students, ages 10-15 years of age, successfully completed the course. In addition, the four (4) adults in attendance were awarded Certificates of Completion.

Youth students that completed the course included: Colt Bish of Shelocta, PA; Asa Fox of Montoursville, PA; and Aaron and Aleecia Seeley of Canton, PA.

Instructors included HMSC members Harrison Langley of Palmyra, PA and Rich Ebersole of Cornwall, PA.

Lunch was graciously provided by HMSC members Dan Casey and Brenda Hering while Ken Hering supplied the snowmobile that was used during the course.

Watch this space for details about the upcoming 2020 HMSC youth snowmobile safety course!





## LAUREL HIGHLANDS SMC

Hello from the Laurel Highlands.

The Snowmobile Safety Class was held at the clubhouse on Saturday, November 23, 2019, from 8:30 A.M.---4:30 P.M. We had a total of 21 individuals take the class of which 8 were under the age of 16. It has always been our philosophy to accept adults with students. DCNR has accepted this idea and in 2018 they agreed to educate the adults. Our instructors are educated, motivated, and have their background clearances to be with students. Thanks to all involved for being with the kids. They students were given a variety of information about the history, laws, mechanics, and safety tips for snowmobiles.

November 23, was also our annual club trail workday with DCNR. The crews went out to clear sections of the trail throughout the system. They brushed back and cut away trees blocking the trails. Thank you to each of the volunteers for braving the elements and improving our conditions for us.

Our annual banquet held at Oakhurst Tearoom was another great success. A large crowd turned out and the food was a delicious buffet. There were several winners of the cash door prizes, and fun stories shared all around. Congratulations to this year's Snowmobiler of the Year, Brad Hoover. We appreciate all that you have done for the club.



#### LAUREL HIGHLANDS (CONT.)

The annual DCNR meeting was held on December 12, 2019. Don Stiffler, Rick Stupanyck, and Ranger Steindorf represented Forbes State Forest. Nate Hardic, Ranger Peck and Brad Hoover represented Laurel Hill State Park Complex. Each group wanted to thank our volunteers for their help in clearing the trails and completing projects on their workdays over the years. They discussed the funding changes as a result of snowmobile/ATV split at the state level. They intend to plow out the parking lots and groom as much as possible with the funding that was allotted to the task for the winter season. Unfortunately, however, there is not much money for groomer fuel or extra help in the budget. There are a few culverts that are scheduled to be fixed in the near future. Both groups were informative and willing to answer questions from everyone present at the public meeting. We appreciate that they take the time from their busy schedules to be so open with us at the regular December meeting.

Membership renewals have gone out and the hang tags for your car have been sent to the current members. If you have not received your renewal form, please send a copy of the form from the LHSC.net website along with your check to the club mailbox, PO Box 91, Jones Mills, PA 15646. Feel free to ask people to display their proof of membership when you see them at the club without a hangtag. You have paid for the right to park there.

Weather permitting this winter we plan to have poker runs and radar runs. January 11 and February 22 are the dates set aside for these activities. If you want to see how fast your new snowmobile goes, this would be a good time to find out!

As always, check out our website at www.lhsc.net or the Laurel Highlands Snowmobile Club Facebook page to see the latest happenings.

Until next time, Stay Safe!
Jim Wilkinson & Shelly Buckles



#### news

# PENNSYLVANIA STATE PARKS WELCOME WINTER VISITORS WITH TRAILS, ACTIVITIES

With the official arrival of winter, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn is reminding outdoors enthusiasts that Pennsylvania's state forest and park systems again are rolling out the welcome mat for winter visitors intent on enjoying cold-weather, outdoor fun.

"As the temperatures turn seasonable and snow and ice accumulate in some areas, we extend an invitation to head to woodlands, lakes, and trails and enter a new world of outdoor excitement and adventure," Dunn said. "We invite visitors to try sledding at a nearby state park or stroll on a forest trail and enjoy the beauty and peace winter landscapes offer. For others, snowmobile and ATV trails have opened, and hunters and anglers will be heading to our state forests and parks for late-season hunting and ice fishing."

Following the Dec. 14, close of Pennsylvania's regular deer hunting season, snowmobiling began Dec. 15 and will close April 1 in state forests and parks where conditions permit.

This season, snowmobile riders in Pennsylvania's state forests and parks have access to 3,000 miles of marked joint-use state forest roads, closed roads, and trails in 18 of the state's 20 state forest districts and in 32 state parks. Winter ATV trails stretching more than 170 miles in seven state forest districts also opened Dec. 14.

When winter weather cooperates, state parks and forests are the scene of coordinated winter festivals with games, dog-sled races, sleigh rides, and fun competitions for families.

For the cross-country skiing enthusiast, more than 330 miles of marked cross-country ski trails are offered on Pennsylvania's more than 2.3 million acres of state forestland. Also available are nearly 400 miles of groomed and ungroomed cross-country ski trails in 73 state parks..

Continue reading this Morning Call article HERE!

#### PREMIUM MEMBER RECOGNITION

PSSA would like to recognize and thank our members who have invested at the Premium Membership level

#### Blizzard

Todd Amsdell, Amsdell Family Larry Bendal, Bendal Family Arlin Benner, Benner Family Mike Brower Richard Brown, Brown Family Albert Clause, Clause Family Bruce F. Cox Brian DeJesus, DeJesus Family Troy Drohan, Drohan Family Nathan & Ingrid Eckhart Steven C. Gowman Terry Kline Timothy Krise, Krise Family Arline LaTourette Clinton C. LaTourette Larry Martin, Martin Family Carl H. Mindler, Mindler Family Charles Paige

Michael Petronchak, Jr., Petronchak Family

Drew Pierce

Robert Rohrbaugh
B. Scott Rohrer, Rohrer Family
Will Saks, Saks Family
Andy Sell, Sell Family
Robert Sell, Sell Family
Joseph Siska., Siska. Family
Frederick A. Specht, Specht Family
Julie Weiss, Weiss Family
Joe M Willard, Willard Family

Terry Wood, Wood Family

Gene D. Zartman, Zartman Family

Storm

Paul Barndt, Barndt Family Kevin Bissinger, Bissinger Family Douglas Clark, Clark Family Michael Clementoni, Clementoni Family Charlie Cowgill, Cowgill Family Thomas Gnegy Ken Godshall, Godshall Family Mark Hackenburg, Hackenburg Family John Hites Kenneth & Tabatha Keiter, Keiter Family Lester Lucas Daniel Malec, Malec Family Timothy J. McKenney, McKenney Family Richard McMinn, McMinn Family Mr & Mrs Michael Miller, Miller Family Barry Nolt Scott Rodich Brandon Steffy, Steffy Family M. Eugene Stoltzfus, Stoltzfus Family Matthew Swierzewski, Swierzewski Family David Thomas, Thomas Family Keith Zimmerman, Zimmerman Family

# Thank you!

#### **Snow Burst**

Larry Bean, Bean Family Ken Beinhower, Beinhower Family Gerald Brussell, Brussell Family James Clayton Billy Culnane, Culnane Family Linford Donmoyer Clark Eckhart Richard Eichelberger, Eichelberger Family Gay Gamble, Gamble Family Kent Heisler Dennis & Tricia Hoffa, Hoffa Family Randy Kilmer Harald Kofler Randy Landis, Landis Family Joseph W. Lanzetta Paul Littleford Jacob S. Marinkov Earl R Martin, Martin Family Bryan Miller, Miller Family Joseph Orengia, Orengia Family Ron Sadd, Sadd Family Troy Salen, Salen Family John Sarginger John Sklar, Sklar Family

Ron Stroble, Stroble Family

Frank E. Thomas, Thomas Family

Mr Don Tigar jr, Tigar Family

Micki Weaver, Weaver Family

Christopher Weisheit, Weisheit Family

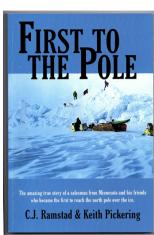
Doug Wolf, Wolf Family

Wayd Wolgemuth, Wolgemuth Family Kristy Yohey, Yohey Family

# book review

# First To The Pole A Book Review by Henry Hartman

Who were the first persons to reach the North Pole by surface travel? For decades, history gave the credit to Robert Peary in 1909. That claim has proven to be "fake news", and a 2011 book written mostly by the late C.J. Ramstad and completed by Keith Pickering, tells the true story of Ralph Plaisted and his 1968 North Pole Expedition. This group of hearty men used snowmobiles in their attempt and success of reaching the real North 'Pole', proven by a US Air Force C-135 aircraft when overflying the party.



One of my Christmas presents this past December was a copy of the book entitled "First To The Pole". I'm honored to say that author C.J. Ramstad was a personal friend of mine, and I was privileged to know him for more than 20 years before his tragic death from a traffic accident in 2007. I had the pleasure of traveling with 'CJ' on several occasions; we roomed together during a Snowmobile Media Council ride at Laramie, Wyoming and enjoyed many International Snowmobile Congresses together. CJ graciously photographed my proposal to Peggy in 1987 at the Eagle River World's Championship Derby Track!

Following CJ's untimely death, historian Keith Pickering sorted through dozens of files, paper and electronic, that CJ had accumulated and had the finished project copyrighted and released in 2011. Keith has done a superb job of completing "the amazing true story of a salesman from Minnesota and his friends who became the first to reach the north pole over the ice."

# book review (cont.)

While I encourage you to get a copy of this exciting book and read it for yourself, imagine using 1968 Ski-Doo single cylinder two-stroke powered snowmobiles to travel roughly 500 miles from land over the arctic ice pack, which is constantly, slowly, moving and cracking, heaving into ridges, and leaving open water between its flows. The machines had primitive bogie-wheel suspensions and each towed a large supply sled. Insulated tents, food, fuel, heaters, and other necessities had to be taken along. Weather presented a considerable challenge, much of the trip had temperatures in the 40-to-65 degree BELOW zero range. When it did warm up to a balmy 20-below, a storm moved in that trapped the explorers in their tents for a week!

Add to this the support logistics of replenishing fuel, food, and providing communications equipment. And all of this taking place well before modern GPS navigation was available. Problems with weather and mechanical breakdowns made for even more challenges for the twinengine Otter aircraft that was the lifeline for the party. For everyone involved, clothing to endure the arctic temperatures was nothing like we have today. These men were REAL snowmobilers!

To get your copy of this intensely interesting and captivating book, do a search for ISBN: 978-0-87839-446-3. The title is "First To The Pole", by C. J. Ramstad and Keith Pickering.

# INTERNATIONAL SNOWMOBILE SAFETY WEEK

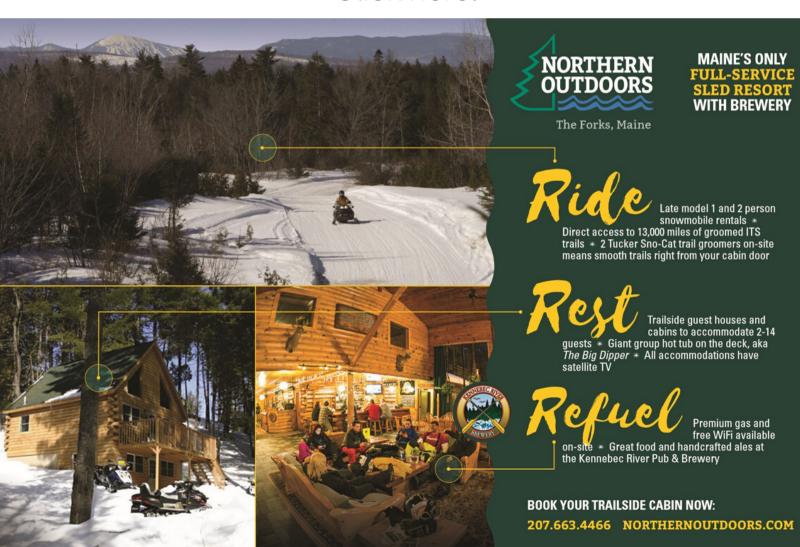
January 18-26, 2020



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#### **REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

#### What do Regional Directors do?

Board Member and participate in Board meetings
Represent clubs in their Region.
Liaison with the Board
Help promote snowmobile recreation.
Ambassadors for snowmobile recreation state-wide
Help with projects- Power Sport Show, rides
Contact elected officials as needed

REGION 1 Chuck Thompson (2021, Erie Co.) 12800 Rt. 6 Corry, PA 16407

Phone: (814) 462-5613 chuckthompson@hotmail.com

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THE KEYSTONE SNOWMOBILER
published monthly by PSSA
MATERIALS DEADLINE
15th of month
preceding issue

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Membership information:: member@pasnow.org (717-461-7761)

Grant information: Lisa Vallimont lv051066@gmail.com

General information: (717-236-2050 ext. 127) info@pasnow.org (Toll Free – 1-888-411-PSSA (7772))

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

International Snowmobile

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www.snowmobile.org

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Maura Donley

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EMAIL: member@pasnow.org

GRANTS
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For a full list of PSSA
Member Snowmobile Clubs,
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& Accessory Dealer
Members please visit
www.pasnow.org

**PSSA Board Committees** 

Elizabeth Krug, President, Ex-Officio of all Standing Committees

STANDING COMMITTEES: Executive, Finance, Trails, Public Affairs, Fund Raising, Safety, Website

Executive Committee
Elected Directors of the Board of Directors
Elizabeth Krug, President (2019), Chair

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Kathy Woolever - website administrator
Larry Martin (2021), Chair

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## Keystone Snowmobiler

Advertising Rates 2019

BASE RATE PER MONTH SEVEN DIGITAL ISSUES AUGUST - FEBRUARY

Full Page - \$500

1/2 Page - \$300

1/4 Page - \$200

**AD SIZES** 

Full Page 10" wide x 13" high

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1/2 Page Horizontal 10" wide x 6.5" high

1/4 Page Vertical 5" wide x 6.5" high

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Advertise in all seven digital issues and receive a 10% discount if paid in full.

#### **PREMIUM ADDITIONS**

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# 1/2 PAGE PAGE ADVERTISER RECEIVES:

Website Recognition Facebook Thank you

# 1/4 PAGE ADVERTISER RECEIVES:

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#### **AUDIENCE SIZE**

Monthly Digital Magazine and E-Newsletter distribution: 3100

Website Monthly Traffic August to February: 35,500 Sessions/20,500 Users

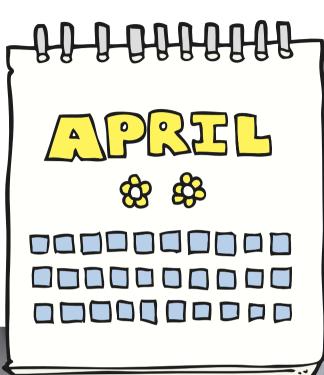
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I ONLY wish to receive the "Keystone Snowmobiler" by email. (You must supply your email address.)					
Membership Category: (PM = Premium Membership)    Individual Standard (\$25)					
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☐ Snow Angel Friend - \$10.00					
<ul><li>□ Snow Angel Supporter - \$15.00</li><li>□ Snow Angel Guardian - \$20.00</li><li>□ Other: \$</li></ul>		Amount: \$			
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MasterCard ( ) VISA ( ) Acc't No			Billing Zip Code:		
Exp. Date:Signature:			CVV:		
Dues and donations to PSSA are not deductible as a charitable expense on your Federal Income Tax Return.  They may be deductible as trade or business expenses if ordinary and necessary in the conduct of your business.					

# Save the Date!



PSSA Annual Membership Meeting April 18, 2020

Ramada Golf and Conference Center
University Park, PA

