SNO-EAGLES, INC. SNOWMOBILE CLUB
Eagle River, WI

NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2024

Website: www.snoeagles.org Also on Facebook: Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Club

SNOWMOBILE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD ®

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WOW!!! That's all I can say to the wonderful, fantastic, diligent and dedicated group of people that volunteer untold number of hours to the planning, prepping, and execution of trail readiness here in the Northwoods of Wisconsin.

I'm sure many of you reading this article cannot imagine what takes place to prepare our trails so that when the snow arrives, and everyone shows up to ride, there are well-groomed and safe trails for all to enjoy.

As mentioned in November, the brushing and turnover of the trail from UTV club has been completed!

The final inspection between the county and our club has taken place and any open items are being corrected.

Also, hunting season is well underway during this time, and many of the trails cannot have traffic on them during the day to cut down on noise in the woods. If it's cold enough at this point, we will be out trying to break up the marsh waters in the evening (after hunting hours) so that the freeze reaches deep into the ground making the base thick and capable of being groomed across these areas.

All this is done with some days that are bitterly cold (that's a good thing) and warmer days (when mother nature likes to toy with our emotions) and plays into creating the base we need to have a great trail system.

As we approach the 'official' opening date for snowmobiling, there are added factors that may affect whether we can open or not. One, has the snow arrived? Two, is there enough snow to be able to provide a safe, groomed trail? Three, do the other areas of the county have the same, more, or less snow than we do? Decisions on opening the trails are dependent on the entire area. What good would one trail system be without the other adjoining trails?

I look around the groomer shed and notice the investment the club has made over the years. Hanging on the walls are not just one, but multiples of, chain saws, lopping shears, powered pole saws, a full battery of tools to keep the machinery in good working order, support vehicles to be used on the trails, and oh yes, nearly a **million dollars** in groomer and drags.

We have one single door shed that is heated and all the maintenance must be completed in this shed (x3 groomers). We have another shed that is not heated, has no floor, no heat, no insulation, and no bathroom. We are forced to park at least two of our groomers at the end of the grooming shift in this building with no chance of thawing. This means that possible potential damage goes unnoticed because we can't see through the packed snow and ice on either the groomer and/or the drag. *I'm putting a new building on my Christmas list to Santa!*

Along with the dedication of the people on the front lines, there are those dedicated personnel 'behind the scenes' as well, keeping our website up and running, handling membership applications, running our apparel on-line store, the treasurer keeping our books in order, taking in and yes, sending out monies for various expenses, organizing and finding

volunteers for the fund-raising we must do to meet our obligations, secretarial duties, Constant Contact, our monthly newsletter and much, much more.

I am but a small cog in this big wheel we call the Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Club. My hat goes off to each of you!

'Magic' has nothing to do with the snowmobile trails we all enjoy!

To sum up my already too long newsletter, I'm thanking all the members of this club for the wonderful donations and time you have provided in the past; the Eagle River area businesses that have donated to our various campaigns; the vendors that have donated gifts to our fund-raising activities; and the services that have given their time, talent and equipment. And finally, a big THANK YOU to all our landowners that have allowed access to their property which allows us to connect all of our trail system.

PLEASE STAY ON THE TRAIL! PLEASE STAY ON THE TRAIL! PLEASE STAY ON THE TRAIL!

I wish you and your family a joyous and safe Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Roger

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **January 7, 2025 - BOD meeting 6 pm @ World snowmobile HQ**
- **January 9 - 12, 2025 - 24th Vintage World Championship Snowmobile Races @ WCDC**
- **January 16 - 19, 2025 - 62nd World Championship Snowmobile Derby @ WCDC**
- **January 23, 2025 - General Meeting 7 pm @ LP Pizza & Pasta (Buckshots Downtown)**
- **January 31, 2025 - February 2, 2025 - Weekend Away - Mercer WI**
- **February 7, 2025 - February 9, 2025 - USA Hockey Pond Hockey National Championships**
- **February 13, 2025 - 3rd Legend Laps @ WCDC**
- **February 21, 2025 - February 23, 2025 - World Series of Snowmobile Racing @ WCDC**
- **February 20, 2025 - General Meeting 7 pm @ Chanticleer Inn**
- **March 4, 2025 - BOD meeting 6 pm @ World snowmobile HQ**
- **March 14, 2025 - March 15, 2025 - AMSOIL National Sno-Cross @ WCDC**
- **March 15, 2025 - Groom to Ride @ Trackside - Drawing at 5pm**

VOLUNTEER OPORTUNITIES

Upcoming activities will be announced in our electronic News of the Week. We use an electronic sign-up service called TimeToSignUp. Just click on the link and it will take you to the sign-up form where you will see all the shifts, we need help for. It also shows who volunteered for a shift. Once you sign up, you'll receive a confirmation email. Prior to the event, you'll be notified of pertinent information. TimeToSignUp is very easy to use.

If you have never volunteered for an event, we encourage you to lend a hand. It's a fun opportunity to get involved, meet new people, and help the Sno-Eagles. If you are someone who has volunteered before, we hope you'll sign up again. We can't do it without you!

We will need MANY VOLUNTEERS for our events.

Thank you all in advance...

Sandy Lathrop – Volunteer Coordinator

Upcoming events that the Sno-Eagles will be working.

Time to Sign Up is now available!

Please note there are separate signup sheet for GTR Tickets sales and concession for each of the 4 events listed below.

January 9, 2025 - January 12, 2025
24th Vintage World Championship Snowmobile Races
GTR Ticket Sales - Concessions

January 16, 2025 - January 19, 2025
62nd World Championship Snowmobile Derby / 5th World Championship Pro-Enduro
GTR Ticket Sales - Concessions

February 21, 2025 - February 23, 2025
World Series of Snowmobile Racing
GTR Ticket Sales - Concessions

March 14, 2025 - March 15, 2025
AMSOIL National Sno-Cross
GTR Ticket Sales - Concessions

Time to SignUp Web Page

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

If you are on Facebook, check out the Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Club page. If you haven't looked at it lately, please do so. Dan Dumas oversees this important source of club information and is doing a terrific job. The club Facebook page can be viewed by anyone and has attracted lots of folks looking for information about our club and its activities. Our livestream membership meetings are also posted on our Facebook page. Thanks, Dan, for your hard work and creativity.

The Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Club is committed to promoting safety on the trails. Here's your chance to help make a difference and sponsor a brand-new sign that will be placed directly on the trail system this season to enhance safety and remind riders to **Ride Right**!

Not only does that mean staying to the right on the trail but riding safely and respectfully. Your sponsorship of $15 per sign covers manufacturing, delivery, and placement of the sign on the trails.

Sponsor as many as you would like. Our goal is to cover the trail system with these new safety reminders while raising funds to support the proud groomers of the Snowmobile Capital of the World!

Visit our Club Store and sponsor some signs and join the safety campaign today!

Please Note: These signs are NOT shipped as you are sponsoring the placement of the signs on the Sno-Eagles trail system. Signs will be placed on your behalf.

It's that time again!!

Our annual Groom-to-Ride raffle is now underway. Sponsored by Track-Side and co-sponsored by the Sno-Eagles along with the Conover, Phelps and Three Lakes clubs, this fundraiser is one of our most profitable raffles.

Plan now to attend the drawing party at Track-Side from 1-5 pm on Saturday, March 15th.

List of local establishments with tickets to follow shortly.

MORE NEW MEMBERS

We have more new members to our Sno-Eagles family this month. **Welcome to all of you!**

Tom & Mindy Bergman	Eagle River, WI
David & Sarah Fornear	Cary, IL
Dan & Kelly Kenny	Mokena, IL
Ben Lauer	Fox Lake, WI
David & Matilda Meroni Jr.	Elkhorn, WI
Grant & Lori Steinmann	Eagle River, WI
Brian & Kathryn Stonski	Glen Ellyn, IL
Matthew & Jennifer Thoreson	Lake Nebagomon, WI
Jeffrey & Deborah Zor	Eagle River, WI

REMINDER ABOUT WISCONSIN TRAIL PASSES

All snowmobiles operating in Wisconsin are required to display a Wisconsin Trail Pass (purchased separately from your snowmobile registration). Members of the AWSC and a local club (like Sno-Eagles) will be able to purchase these annual passes for $10 instead of $30 for each of their personal sleds registered in Wisconsin. We have been told that no warnings will be given this year – ALL NON-COMPLIANT RIDERS WILL BE TICKETED. The fine for riding without a trail pass is $295. Don't take a chance by not spending the $10 for a trail pass.

If your membership is current, you are all set to buy your discounted trail passes. Do it now – the trails will open soon! Contact the AWSC at www.awsc.org to purchase trail passes. Don't go to the DNR or a local gas station to purchase these discounted trail passes. They will only sell you the regular $30 stickers. You must purchase the discounted passes through the AWSC.

It's not too late to purchase your stickers but DO IT NOW! You can ride with your emailed sales receipt if you don't get your stickers before the trails open.

General Membership Meeting Minutes
November 21 – The Last Cast

1. Open Meeting at 7:05 pm with Welcome & Announcements - President Roger Rosenthal
2. Pledge Of Allegiance
3. Welcome New Members, Introduce Officers & Directors - President Roger Rosenthal
4. Opening Comments: Virtual Broadcast Announcements - President Roger Rosenthal

a. 50/50 raffle for Weekend Backpack Program

b. Meeting sponsorship: Special thanks to Last Cast Bar & Grill for hosting this meeting. Thank you to all of our meeting sponsors that make our Facebook livestream possible. From Eagle River: Offgridderz (Generac), World Snowmobile Headquarters and Museum, Erica Dumas of Redman Realty Group; From Three Lakes: DuWayne Kreager Ins.; From Antioch IL: Body Craft Inc.; From Rockford, IL: A-1 Lapping & Machine; From Bristol, WI: Illini Hardware, Corp. (IHC).

5. Secretary's Report – Secretary Cindy Fruhwirth
a. Approve October 17, 2024 minutes
Rusty Wolf motioned to approve; Dan Dumas seconded; Motion carried.
6. Treasurer's Report –Treasurer Dave Cyrtmus
- Income is below budget, but so are expenses. Membership and groomer donations are down, which is no surprise after the disappointing season last year. Overall, we are $10,000 above budget to date.
7. Miss Sno-Eagle – President Roger Rosenthal
a. Scholarship Presentation to Olivia Hunter. Thank you for doing a fantastic job of serving 3 years as Miss Sno-Eagle! The scholarship is $1000; $500 each from Boat Sport and Eagle River Inn.
b. Crowning 2024 – 2025 Miss Sno-Eagle, Taya Bolte. Congratulations! We look forward to your participation in Sno-Eagles activities. Scholarship sponsors will be Boat Sport, Redman Realty, Nutty Squirrel, and Chain of Lakes Lodge/Bayside Rentals. Huge thanks to all of the scholarship sponsors! Please support them and all the donors listed under the Partners tab on our website: snoeagles.org
8. Trail Report – President Roger Rosenthal
a. Trail reroute near Manske Swamp: Trail 3 north now goes along the highway in the right of way. The trail is cleared and will be ready to go before the trails open.
b. Trail turnover from Landover UTV club: They have been grooming and getting trails ready to turnover to us. Should be inspected and turned over after Thanksgiving.
c. Groomer Training update – Director Dan Dumas
Currently have 16 groomer operators. First formal training on Nov. 11 went well with 4 new guys included.
9. Fundraising Report – President Roger Rosenthal
a. Groom to Ride tickets
Out at all the local establishments so buy yours from Eagle River locations to benefit our club.
10. Volunteer Report – Sandy Lathrop
a. Upcoming events: Vintage Races, Jan. 9 – 12; Championship Derby, Jan. 16 – 19; potentially Pond Hockey, Feb. 6 - 9; World Series, Feb. 21 – 23; SnoCross, March 14 – 15
- Roger and Sandy met with staff at the Derby Track to make some changes so serving the food will go more smoothly. We have approval to get a warming oven to improve efficiency, too.
- Time to Sign Up will be available soon to sign up for some of the events. This year shifts overlap so turnover will not happen all at once.
11. Activities Report – Director Carole Linn
a. Saturday Night Out Coordinator needed: Pam Hupf volunteered to take this over. Thank you, Pam!
b. Snowmobile Safety School update: Held Oct. 25 – 26 with 19 kids that all passed their certification. Need one or more snowmobile instructors. DNR requires two instructors per class. Can be certified on-line for 3 years. These are fun classes to teach.
c. Christmas Party, December 5 – Chris Westfall and Pam Hupf: Have about 50 signed up and would like to reach 100, so sign up on our website soon with your friends and relatives!
d. Weekend Away, January 31 – February 2 – from John Favorite: There are still 15 rooms available with 15 already reserved. Contact John at ujfaves@gmail.com or (608) 212-5233 if you are attending so he will have an accurate count for food.
12. Membership Report – Director Carole Linn
- 364 members to date including 25 new members (with 11 being map advertisers), 12 associate members, 6 complimentary/honorary members, and 40 map advertisers. We received 81 donations to Champion Campaign ($7,850) and 30 Donations to the Groomer Replacement Fund ($3,565).
- Added a new Corporate Sponsorship this week which will give advertising through AWSC, Sno-Eagles and AWSC membership with discounted trail passes, and other benefits as noted on our website: https://snoeagles.org/partners/commercial-sponsor-application
Will have decals created to put in their windows to show their support. We will also update the

Community Partners decal.
13. Social Media Update – Director Dan Dumas
Things are ramping up; anticipating more activity as snow arrives.
14. VCSA Update – President Roger Rosenthal and Vice President Doug Miller
- Todd Bierman is ready to roll with trail inspections so we could open trails when deer season closes if there is snow. Bridge inspections are mandatory in Vilas County, and will become mandatory statewide next year.
- Looking at increasing the cost for trail passes as that income is well below inflation on costs.
- Can buy a raffle calendar for $20 with a chance to win cash every day. Randy Remblake from Conover Sno-Buddies has several if you want one.
- Maps are printed and will be distributed soon.
- Fundraisers are happening around the county. Doug will get that information to Carole to include on our website.
- Todd has completed the AWSC County Friendly application for Vilas County.
15. Member Comments – President Roger Rosenthal
- The trail from Eagle River to Three Lakes is still closed. Roger is working with some landowners to try to find a way to open that route. Even if we get approval, we will need to build a bridge there.
- The Sno-Eagles shirt that Sandy Lathrop was wearing tonight is available through the Store on our website along with many options for swag with our logo.
- Ride with the Cup is happening the Thursday and Friday of the Derby weekend. Contact Rusty Wolf at hwolf48@me.com or (262) 442-4876 if you want to be a sponsor and/or to participate.
- Black Oaks Exterior LLC replaced the roof on the smaller groomer building which was leaking and had other issues. This led to an issue with the electrical box that Offgridderz will be fixing this week. Doug continues to work on potential upgrades to the larger building.
- Rusty Wolf has A Frozen Journey books to sell for $25 which is donated to the club, and they are available on our website in the Store.
16. 50/50 raffle drawing – Debbie Cyrtmus
- Gary Jacobs won and donated his $85 winnings to the backpack program.
17. Adjourned at 7:48 pm – Keith Nettesheim motioned to adjourn, Rusty Wolf seconded.
Submitted by Cindy Fruhwirth, Secretary