



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

NEWSLETTER - March 2023



Website: [www.snoeagles.org](http://www.snoeagles.org)

Facebook: Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Club

Snowmobile Capital of the World ®

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This morning I woke to 3" of fresh wet snow! I love this stuff! Our season is still going, and can go until the end of March if trails are safe and snow conditions hold up. Very unusual weather patterns this year as it warms up and then Mother Nature gives us another dumping of snow. It has been a bit of a roller coaster ride as trails get mushy in the day and then everything freezes up at night, giving us some good morning riding. We always try to do our best to give you the most accurate updates on trail conditions, but this year that was a bit challenging as storms pass through and the next day the sun shines, changing conditions within 24 hrs...

Well, the Pond Hockey event was a great success for the Club. Special thanks to Scott Fruhwirth, Chris Westfall, Jacob Meyer, Charlie Check, Sandra and Jerry Lathrop, and Dean Vossekul for their leadership coordinating this event.

Also a **Sincere Thank You** to the 47 volunteers that helped with cooking, concessions, beer sales and trash clean up. What an amazing group of fun, hardworking volunteers that made this event an absolute success for our club. Together, we can do so much and be proud of what we accomplish. Again, thanks to all who helped!

While I'm not really thinking summer yet, I recently purchased a new sled from Track Side and I still want to make a few runs with it. However, we are starting to plan for fundraising events for this summer and will be seeking your help. We will post these events on our website calendar and in our weekly News of the Week. Please visit the calendar often and sign up to volunteer. Volunteering is a great way to meet other club members and help support our club. These are fun and rewarding events for our club, and we are always looking for volunteers!

**On Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, our membership annual meeting will be at Eagle Waters. It's election month and we'll be electing the Vice President, Treasurer and three Directors. I am also pleased to announce that Eagle Waters is hosting a St. Patrick's Day dinner for the benefit of the SnoEagles that evening starting at 4:30 pm. The cost is \$25.00 per person. Eagle Waters will donate \$10.00 per person to the Sno Eagles. We hope to see you there!**

Lastly, Groom to Ride Drawing will be held at Track Side on April 1st at 1pm. The Sno-Eagles, Conover Sno Buddies and Northern Lights Snowmobile Club will be present and the winners will be drawn at 1pm. Please join us if you can!

*Keith Nettesheim*, President

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **March 7, 2023** - Board Meeting 6 pm @ World Snowmobile HQ
- **March 16, 2023** - Membership meeting @ Eagle Waters 7pm. Election Vice-President, Treasurer, (3) Directors. Meeting will be preceded with a St.Pats Buffet at 4:30 for those who wish to attend. \$25 per person. (\$10 per person will be donated to Sno-Eagles)
- **March 25** – SNO at Honey Bear Cocktails at 5, Dinner at 6
- **April 1, 2023** - Groom to Ride Drawing 1 pm @ Trackside
- **April 4, 2023** - Board Meeting 6 pm @ World Snowmobile HQ
- **April 20, 2023** - Membership meeting 7 pm @ Blue Heron
- **April 29, 2023** – SNO at Mike & Brandi's Cocktails at 5, Dinner at 6

## SNO-EAGLES ANNUAL MEETING – MARCH 16 AT EAGLE WATERS

### 2023 SNO-EAGLE BOARD ELECTION

The election of officers will take place at our annual meeting held

March 16, 2023 at Eagle Waters

This year, we will be voting for vice-president, treasurer, and three directors. The candidates are as follows:

Vice-president: Roger Rosenthal

Treasurer: Fred Rockafellow

Directors: Dan Dumas, Ron Engels, Carole Linn, Doug Miller

(The three director candidates receiving the most votes will be elected.)



Absentee ballots are available for those members unable to attend the meeting. To request an absentee ballot, e-mail the club secretary.

Cindy Fruhwirth [cindy@snoeagles.org](mailto:cindy@snoeagles.org)

Please let her know where you want them mailed to. She will send you the ballot(s)—one for a single paid membership and two for a family paid membership.

Mail your completed ballot(s) to:

**Judy Pacanowski, Teller Committee**  
**6724 County Road G**  
**Eagle River, WI 54521**

They need to be received by **March 16th** the date of the election.

In order to be eligible to vote, membership in the SnoEagles must be completed by noon on Tuesday, **March 14th** to allow time to process the memberships through the AWSC.

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## Statements from the candidates:

### Vice-president:

Roger Rosenthal

Hello, my name is Roger Rosenthal. I have lived in Eagle River since June 2020 after running a successful commercial door/frame/hardware distribution company in the Northern Illinois and Southeastern Wisconsin areas. Jody, my wife of 47 years, and I decided to move further north from Kenosha, WI after nearly 50 years in this industry to enjoy the beauty of the north woods, meeting new friends, enjoy outdoors activities like snowmobiling, ATVing, fishing, motorcycling, bicycling, golfing, traveling and boating.

'They say we're not getting any younger so Jody and I decided to make the best of the rest of our lives!' After the last couple of years I have found that besides the numerous activities we enjoy, I have a new found desire to help where I can to make the local community a better place to live and enjoy. I currently serve as co-captain for Watersmeet Lake and Eagle River with the Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association, am currently co-chairman of the 2023 Eagle River Car and Truck show, and volunteer bartender at various places in Eagle River.

I feel that I can offer my sense of business and organizational acumen where necessary, support the Directors and to work at keeping the Sno-Eagles Club a vibrant, fun, and progressive club that will continue to achieve the goals that makes our trail system envious of many. I want to help carry the weight of responsibilities for years to come, passing on my knowledge to the future generations of leaders.

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### Treasurer:

Fred Rockafellow

I have been the Sno-Eagles Treasurer for the past twelve years and am seeking another two-year term. During my tenure, the club has experienced significant growth and now finds the Sno-Eagles in the best financial position in the club's history. Many individuals have contributed to this success. If re-elected I will continue to be a strong advocate of fiscal responsibility as the Sno-Eagles continue to grow.

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## Directors:

Dan Dumas

I moved to Eagle River full time in 2016. I work full time as a photographer/videographer and video producer. I began volunteering media services to the SNO-Eagles in 2017, before ever being a member. I donated photography/video and assistance with social media to the Trail Boss at the time to help promote the Club.

I am currently the Vice President of the Eagle River Revitalization Program Board of Directors. I have also served on the Eagle River Chamber Board of Directors, as well as other programs.

I currently provide social media management services to the club maintaining the largest audience and engagement we've ever had. Over the past year, I've worked very hard to remove the negativity and project a very positive energy for the SNO-Eagles members and audience. From producing club-branded videos to a significant amount of donated photography, I spend a great deal of time in this role. I also produce the monthly Membership meeting Livestream separately for a small stipend.

I began grooming for the Club in 2021 and have logged a significant amount of hours to the grooming operation. I am also actively involved in trail brushing and off-season preparation.

On behalf of the Club, I developed the Ride Right! Safety Campaign which is still currently an active project under way. It's hard to go more than a mile on our trail system without seeing the new safety signage as a reminder to all snowmobilers visiting Eagle River. I am also currently producing/donating a safety video as part of the campaign that has been awarded a grant from the Vilas County Snowmobile Alliance for distribution.

I am very passionate about snowmobiling and our Club. I hope to be able to help our unified leadership continue to develop new ideas and ways to promote them. I believe the very powerful safety message that we are currently developing through the Ride Right! Campaign is setting a strong precedent and will only continue to grow.

Thank you for your consideration in electing me as a Director.

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Ron Engels

I have been a Sno-Eagle for 20 years, I have worked on the Brushing crew, done sign work, and installed gates.

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Carole Linn

My name is Carole Linn and I've been a resident of Eagle River since 1978. Initially as a summer resident until 2004 when we moved full-time to our home on Cranberry Lake. I've been snowmobiling since the late 1960's!

My educational background includes holding a degree in Nursing from Loyola University in Chicago, and a degree in Education from Northern Illinois University. My nursing career was focused on critical care and emergency nursing, and I taught middle school science.

After making Eagle River our full-time home I became active in multiple community volunteer

organizations.

For the past six years I've served as a supervisor for the Town of Washington and am seeking reelection this April.

I was elected to the Sno-Eagles Board of Directors in 2017. Some activities that kept me busy during my tenure include:

- Implemented the weekly electronic newsletter and produced it from 2016 through 2022
- Revamped the Sno-Eagles website to its current version, and perform all routine website maintenance and updates
- Worked with the Treasurer in obtaining 501(C)(3) non-profit status for the Sno-Eagles
- Served on the Bylaws Committee which produced the current Sno-Eagles Bylaws
- Instituted the electronic sign-up format currently used to recruit volunteers
- Implemented the Sno-Eagles Champion Program
- Wrote news releases for all Sno-Eagles activities and events and provided them to the Vilas County News Review and other media outlets
- Worked on all fundraising committees producing graphics and promoting the events
- Teaching at the annual Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Safety Course as a WDNR certified snowmobile instructor
- Posting the daily trail condition report to the Sno-Eagles website and the Eagle River Chamber of Commerce website
- Serving as Membership Chairperson processing all Sno-Eagle memberships and maintaining the membership database

I have thoroughly enjoyed volunteering my time to the Sno-Eagles, and if re-elected look forward to working hard to make the Sno-Eagles an even better club than it is today!

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Doug Miller

Hello, my name is Doug Miller, a Sno-Eagle member for 2+ years and am running for a director position in the club. During my time as a member, I have volunteered for several events and serve as the Equipment Manager having implemented a maintenance program for the grooming assets. My wife Kathy and I relocated to the Eagle River area 18 months ago allowing me to spend a significant amount of time on club activities.

I have an extensive business background in engineering, supply chain and manufacturing recently retiring as the Director of Manufacturing responsible for several injection molding operations in the US and Canada. We continue to operate our personal business in leasing grain farms and storage facilities. I hold a technical degree as well as a BA and MBA.

Its the many friends I have made in the club that inspire me to be an active member joining the many others who strive to make the Sno-Eagles a world class organization. My family and I are avid riders and were active club members in our previous community. I look forward to supporting the organization for years to come.



## **SATURDAY NIGHT OUT (SNO) REPORT**

The February SNO was held at the Braywood Inn. The event had never been held there, but the restaurant added a new dining room – which we filled up with the 25 Sno-Eagles who attended. The food and service were great. We'd encourage you to patronize this business.



The March SNO will be another first. Honey Bear had a map ad for the first time this year, so we will be holding our next SNO there on March 25. Honey Bear is famous for their Friday night fish fry but you can also enjoy the fish on Saturday night along with their other great food. Please RSVP to Cheryl Storms at 715-479-5599 or [snoeagles@gmail.com](mailto:snoeagles@gmail.com). Please RSVP by 10 AM on Friday, March 24.

The April 29<sup>th</sup> SNO will also be another first. We will be going to Mike & Brandi's in Sugar Camp. Another new map ad location. More details later.

## **SLED COUNTERS INSTALLED**

Doug Miller recently installed 4 sled counters at various locations on our trails to give us a better idea of how many sleds are using our trails. On the 2 days of Pond Hockey, a total of 4222 sleds were counted. On February 25 - after the last big snowfall - 4182 sleds passed the counters. Pretty impressive.

## **POND HOCKEY (AT THE DERBY TRACK)**

Sno-Eagles took care of food and beer sales at this year's event. The final report is that the club netted over \$10,000 for their efforts. Forty-seven volunteers spent over 400 hours at the event making this possible. Way to go Sno-Eagles.

## **HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE VALENTINES RIDE 2023**

With some hesitation and last-minute planning (due to deteriorating trails), 12 members rode snowmobiles, 4 members trailered to Mercer, two people came by car, and we had one driver/luggage hauler/back up trailer. Total of 19 participants.

Lunch on the way was at the Granary in Boulder Junction. Then on to the Great Northern Motel in Mercer. Pizza party on Monday night was enjoyed by all.

Tuesday ride was to Hurley with lunch at the Iron Horse. A steak dinner was enjoyed by those that wished at the Wolf's Den at the Motel.

Wednesday return to Eagle was a challenge with some icy and snirty trails but overall doable.

A good time was had by all. - Marv and Carol Radloff – Event Chairpersons



### **MINUTES OF THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT SWEETWATER ON FEBRUARY 16**

1. Open Meeting at 7:02 p.m., Welcome & Announcements - President Keith Nettesheim
2. Pledge Of Allegiance
3. Welcome New Members, Introduce Officers & Directors - President Keith Nettesheim  
4 new members and/or first time Membership Meeting attendees were welcomed.
4. Opening Comments: Virtual Broadcast Announcements - President Keith Nettesheim
  - a. 50/50 Raffle for the Weekend Backpack Program
  - b. Meeting Sponsorship - Thank you to all of our sponsors! Please support their businesses. Corporate Sponsor: *Pinno Buildings*; From Eagle River: *Wild Eagle Lodge, Wild Eagle Corner Store, Blue Heron Restaurant, American Family Ins. Dave Mroczynski, Offgridderz, Generac, World Snowmobile Headquarters and Museum*; From Three Lakes: *DuWayne Kreager Ins.*; From Antioch IL: *Body Craft Inc.*; and to Sweetwater for providing accommodations and light appetizers today. Also, remember to support our Trail Map Ad and Map Board sponsors!
5. Secretary Report – Secretary Cindy Fruhwirth
  - a. Approve January 19, 2023 Minutes  
Rusty motioned to approve, Fred seconded; Motion carried.
6. Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer Fred Rockafellow
  - Our Groom to Ride ticket sales YTD \$9,416 (last year at this time we were at \$7,626)
  - Community Partners Campaign = \$15,100 YTD – last year was \$13,195
  - Great volunteers for fundraising efforts have put us in good financial position today!
7. Women on Snow – Jacki Hildebrandt  
37<sup>th</sup> year with proceeds from raffle during the Women’s weekend ride event goes to all the clubs whose trails they used. \$750 donation was presented to our club this year.
8. A Frozen Journey - Sno-Eagles 1975 – 77 years - Past President Rusty Wolf  
Book covers the history of Sno-Eagles and Derby Track events. Available for purchase on the Sno-Eagles website Store with all proceeds going to support the club. Check out the Fashion Show fundraiser pictures from these years!
9. Trail Report – President Keith Nettesheim
  - a. Trail update - stay off the trails until conditions improve as they are dangerous right now.
  - b. Ride Right Signs  
Mark and Lori Heeren responsible for trails and signs – doing a great job! 56 installed from 187 sold. In addition to riding on the right side of the trail, Ride Right signs also mean respect the land owners by staying on the trail, ride sober, stop at the Stop Signs, and ride safely! Sheriffs Dept. YTD update: 71

citations, 56 written warnings, 40 accidents, and 5 fatalities in Vilas County. Local clubs will also be promoting safe riding with extra funds from Vilas County Forestry Committee.

10. Fundraising Report – Vice President Charlie Check
  - Members, please help the club sell tickets by encouraging your family and friends to buy tickets!
  - a. Groom to Ride (GTR) - Available at many local establishments (see list and details in *News of the Week* emails). You and your friends can also purchase tickets by sending a check (indicate GTR Tickets in the memo field) to: Sno-Eagles, PO Box 866, Eagle River, WI 54521. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20. Drawing will be April 1 at the World Championship Derby Complex (WCDC) rather than at Track Side.
  - b. Cash Raffle – same format as last year. Will be getting the tickets printed now so can begin selling early. Saturday of Labor Day Weekend will be the drawing event at Buckshots.
11. Volunteer Report – Director Sandy Lathrop
  - a. Pond Hockey update
    - Thank you to everyone who helped with our first year of providing and serving all the food – it went really well with phenomenal volunteers! Grills were ready early and never ran out of food. Lines were managed quickly and customers complimented the efficiency of the service. 442 volunteer hours logged with grilling, serving, picking up trash, etc. Sales at \$14,400 from concessions (this is not the net amount; that is yet to be determined). Sold over 1800 sandwiches. The club made over \$1300 in tips! Special thanks to Dean Vossekul from the Blue Heron who provided food on Thursday, let us use a warming rack and other things from his restaurant, and helped at the track every day!
    - Feb. 25 and 26 World Series of Snowmobile Racing concessions volunteers needed at WCDC
12. Junior Sno-Eagles – Director Brian Hunter
  - a. Youth Program update
    - Kids have been helping with concessions and selling GTR tickets at WCDC events; looking for more GTR ticket sales help before April 1, probably at Trigs.
13. Activities Report – Director Carole Linn
  - a. Saturday Night Out – Feb. 25 at Braywood. RSVP to Cheryl Storms by Friday, Feb. 24 at noon at (715) 479-5599 or [snoeagles@gmail.com](mailto:snoeagles@gmail.com)
14. Membership Report - Director Carole Linn
  - 490 members to date with 72 new (15%) and 17 Associate members. 62 (13%) gave online donations for the Groomer Replacement fund and 126 (26% of membership) participated in the Champion Donation Campaign which generated over \$7,100 profit.
15. Annual Elections – Tellers Committee Chair, Judy Pacanowski
  - a. Candidates for open positions: Vice President – Roger Rosenthal, Treasurer- Fred Rockafellow, and 3 directors from Dan Dumas, Ron Engels, Carole Linn, and Doug Miller
  - Absentee ballots can be requested and will be sent by the Secretary (per our By-Laws). One will be sent for single memberships and two for family memberships. Ballots need to be returned to Judy Pacanowski, Chair of Tellers Committee. Membership applications must be submitted by noon on Tuesday, March 14 to be eligible to vote.
  - Elections will be held at our annual meeting on March 16 at Eagle Waters
16. Member Comments - President Keith Nettlesheim
  - Marv Radloff asked about our grooming hours YTD – Rusty reported that as of yesterday, we logged \$1155/mile and our cap is \$900. 6 of 11 clubs in Vilas County are at cap today. Keith did a great job keeping our club on track to meet the cap. Keith said goal was to have safe, smooth trails. Three crews at night and 2 crews in the morning which gave us 5 shifts total per day to give us well groomed conditions. Many groomers also rode the routes during the day to see what trails needed attention. Doug Miller heads the maintenance program with a team of 5 that keeps the equipment in great shape so the groomers were always ready for action! Carole complimented the Excel spreadsheet that Keith put together and updates every day with the groomer schedule and completed work allowing everyone to have the most recent, accurate information.
17. 50/50 Raffle - Kathy Rockafellow – Dave Devall with the 1972 Ski-Doo hat won today!
18. Adjourn at 8:00 pm., Charlie motioned, Rusty seconded.

Submitted by *Cindy Fruhwirth*, Secretary