

# SNO-DAK NEWS

## What's Inside

**SND Convention**  
**Club News**  
**Region Reports**

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# Board Messages



**Executive Director**

My Oh  
My, time  
flies by  
so fast.  
First  
hard  
freeze  
the other  
day, woke up to a couple inches of fresh snow at the lake on Saturday morning and we've had highways being closed in Montana mountain passes already in September. It's looking up to be a good snow year. I'm finding it difficult to contain my excitement for the upcoming snowmobile season. We are so ready!

Next time we visit, I will have travelled with North Dakota Parks and Recreation to the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council for their annual conference in Great Falls, MT. I am looking forward to meeting many of our colleges that manage the warm weather recreation for motorheads. I will also be participating in the Sask Snow Show in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan the first weekend in November. This is a very large snowmobile industry show with visitors from far and wide. I am anticipating networking with a large number of fellow snowmobilers, from Canada and the United States as well. We have been busy in the office preparing for the upcoming 2016-2017 snowmobile season. The State Convention in Bottineau December 2nd and 3rd is fast

approaching. There will be an avalanche class given by Brian Lundstadt with Tylor's Backcountry Awareness. Please try to attend the class, especially if you travel to the mountains to ride. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again and sharing stories and experiences. It sure would be nice to have enough snow to go for a ride!

As we go into the snow season, it is a great time to reach out to your friends and neighbors encouraging them to become involved in a club and also become a member of SND. The more members and participants we have the better our

organization can help our favorite pastime. Please get involved!

It is also time to get the signs up on the trail. As I have said in the past, remember that you may know your individual trail systems, but many people that visit your area may be new. Sign it like you've never been there before! A big thank again to all of the volunteers across the state that make this all possible. I look forward to seeing everyone out on the trails this winter!

*Todd Thronson*

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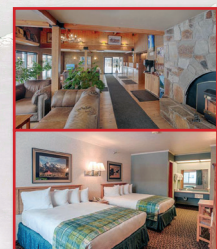
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# Board Messages



**President**

Hello All,  
We finally had our first frost of the year, just one step closer to opening the trails. I know in our club, one of the topics that is often brought up this time of year, is how can we get more members? Better yet, why join a club? Convincing someone to join a snowmobile club can sometimes be a challenge. I've heard "I don't use the trail, I just ride in the ditches" and "I only play in the tree claims." "If I join a club, they are going to expect me to help out." (While it is not expected, it is nice to have a helping hand) Supporting a trail system with membership funds is important to your local club,

and to the State snowmobile association.

Joining a club brings people with the same interests together to --

- share snowmobiling stories – we all have them
- find new riding buddies
- create a better club by making less work with more hands doing the work.
- bring new ideas for fundraising to help with grooming expenses
- learn how to make the sport safer for all riders through learning opportunities for youth and new riders and through legislation
- maintain safe trails especially for inexperienced riders to use and learn to love the sport

One of those times for snowmobilers to get together in camaraderie is to attend the ND State Convention at Cobblestone Inn in Bottineau on Friday, December 2nd and Saturday, December 3rd. This is a time to share the trail with others, get a glimpse of what the vendors have to offer, take some classes so you're trained to give a helping hand, learn what Snowmobile North Dakota has been doing to help keep the trails open and enjoy the companionship of other snowmobilers. Make it an annual vacation weekend and register now.

Remember, it's not about the miles.... It's about the smiles.

*Troy Klevgard*



**Office Manager**

As I am writing this article it is currently 35 degrees outside, I am hoping that this is a sign of a nice winter with plenty of snow this season!

Clubs are in the process of having their first meetings. One thing I would like to reiterate, like I do every year, is make sure you get your memberships in

the office so you don't lose your subscription to the Sno-Dak News. Also, please get your club officer list in so we send information to the correct people.

The Annual Snowmobile North Dakota convention is right around the corner. The Bottineau County Family Snowmobilers are hosting the convention this year up in Bottineau at the Cobblestone Inn. They have lots of fun activities planned this year including a guided snowmobile ride, vendor show and much

more! One thing that will be fun to see is Brian Lundstedt with Tyler's Backcountry Awareness. Brian will be teaching us about avalanche awareness. Hope to see you all at the state convention this year!

Thanks again to all the volunteers around the state! Snowmobile North Dakota wouldn't be where we are without your support and dedication!

*Tari*



# Board Messages



**Vice President**

F e l l o w  
Snowmobilers,  
Here we go again.  
On the edge of  
what they are  
saying could  
be a "normal"  
winter in terms  
of snow, cold,  
etc. It would be  
awesome, but  
we'll see come

April what happened.

Once again we are tasked with putting out signs and getting groomers and skids ready. In our area we are going to have some serious tree removal to do. Riding along the shelter belts has always been some of the best snow, however after 90 mile an hour winds this summer many

**Joanne Seifert -  
Secretary**

As a change of pace this year the secretary's article will recap the last meeting minutes for those of you that don't get a chance to read the board of director's meeting minutes. Here are some of the highlights.

Erik Dietrich from the NDPRD reported that snowmobile registrations are up this year so far which is good for us. He also reported they are working on legislation to keep OHVs off the snowmobile trails. In other news they are scheduling more safety classes so keep your eyes posted for some in your area for youth riders.

The equipment committee just built a new drag and it came in under budget which was good news for all of us. The trailer that SND had used to haul to events got totaled in the last hail storm

trees and branches are down. In some cases you can see the entire root ball was pulled up on huge trees. Be sure to ride by the belts carefully!

I have decided not to run for vice president again. I have been on the board for a number of years and feel it's time for someone else to step in. When I originally accepted the vice president position I made it clear I was not interested in running for president although that is the logical next step. My boys are involved in winter sports and I am plenty busy with that. I have put the call out many times for more people to step up and get involved, this is your chance! Get involved!

as I'm sure many of you know it was a bad one.

We still have the new groomer software we're working the bugs out of but with a low snow year we really haven't been able to test it out in full. Todd has tested it with his pickup but we're waiting for the first good snow to test it with the groomer and the groomer operators this winter.

State Convention is in Bottineau this December 2-3 and everyone is encouraged to attend. There will be lots of good information presented and good networking with other snowmobilers. There will be a silent auction, banquet, guided snowmobile rides (weather permitting), vendor show, snowmobile safety course, and groomer operator and signing classes to attend. This year's event is hosted by the Bottineau County Family Snowmobilers at the Cobblestone Inn right in Bottineau. The annual meeting will be held at the same time

Being on the board can be a real eye opener. You get to see how everything is funded, how funds are distributed and far SND can stretch a dollar. All it takes is some common sense and a little time commitment. I remember being at my first SND convention thinking there are a bunch of people who love snowmobiling and to have fun as much as me! Convention is a blast! Between convention, state ride, and a few conference calls, that's about it. You can do it!

Thanks for everything and have a great winter!

*Sheri Hoffmann*

this year, starting at 8:30am on Saturday morning with a band and speaker later in the day. Clubs are invited to bring items for the silent auction.

We will be creating a public service announcement regarding all the downed trees in the Grand Forks area to warn folks to ride only on the groomed trails for their safety. With all the storms this spring and summer there are many downed trees that once they get covered with snow will be real hazards for snowmobile riders if they don't know they're there. Trail riding is the safest riding.

As usual if you have any questions about anything in the minutes don't hesitate to contact Tari or Todd in the office and they can answer them for you.

*Joanne Seifert*





# CLUB \* NEWS



## Rough Riders Snowmobile Association

**Burleigh County Recognized as 2016 Individual and Community BISMARCK, ND—**The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced the winners of the 2016 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Awards, recognizing the outstanding efforts of individuals, programs, and organizations throughout the country working to prepare their communities for emergencies. Burleigh County received the “Outstanding Citizen Corps Partner Program Award” for the Snowmobile Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)—a collaborate effort among Burleigh County Emergency Management, Burleigh County Sheriff’s Department, and the Roughrider Snowmobile Association. The team was originally formed in 2012, and the participants are all volunteers—community members of varied ages and occupations that wanted to utilize their passion for snowmobiles to assist the community in emergencies.



“We are more prepared for disasters when everyone in the community works together,” said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. “FEMA is proud to honor individuals and organizations who are building communities that are more prepared for emergencies through creativity, innovation and collaboration.” This year’s award recipients developed innovative practices and programs that contributed to making communities safer, better prepared, and more resilient.

The 11 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Award recipients were recognized on September 13, 2016 in Washington, D.C. Tom Schroeder, Burleigh County Sheriff’s Department, received the award on behalf of Burleigh County.



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# CLUB NEWS



## Magic City Drift Busters

The club got together on Friday, Sept, 30th for the yearly pizza party and a meeting. Many club members were in attendance. During the meeting trail signing, the convention, and annual fun run were discussed. The next meeting and steak fry was set for October 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Mark Forbes let everyone know a group trip is in the works for Island Park, ID on Dec. 26 – 31st. The Vintage Drift Busters will begin meeting soon to plan their show at Wild Bill's in January and their annual ride in Deering for February. Wild Bill's also offered area riders an Avalanche Course on Thursday, October 13th.

Magic City Drift Busters meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. the first Friday of each month from September to March. The clubhouse is north of Minot just west of Hwy. 83 on 86th



avenue. A Steak Fry is held at 6:30 p.m. on the third Friday of the month. If there is snow and good weather, the third Friday of the month may be a ride night instead of the steak fry. If weather permits there are rides on Tuesday nights and on Sunday afternoons as well. Updates should also be posted

on our Facebook page: Magic City Drift Busters Snowmobile Club.

Jenn, Magic City Drift Busters Club  
Secretary

## Dakota Trailblazers

As I write this article we finally got our first frost of the season with a temperature of 31 degrees, so I guess fall is here.

The Dakota Trailblazers Snowmobile Club members are to begin signing the snowmobile trailer the later part of October and finish up after the deer hunting opener weekend.

The Dakota Trailblazers have set their annual fun run for

Saturday, December 10th. It will run through Surrey and Deering, and then will end at the White Buffalo in Granville. It will run from 11 am to 5 pm. Door prizes will also be given away.

The other clubs in the Sno-Trails system have also set their fun run dates; Magic City Driftbusters – January 7th ending in Lansford, Gasman Coulee Cruisers – January 21st

ending in Berthold.

The club members are planning on attending the Annual State Convention in Bottineau on December 2-3 at the Cobblestone Inn on the east side of town. Hope for lots of snow and see you on the trails this winter. Bye for now!

Dale Deibert





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Main Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliated Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Check box if \$31 is enclosed

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# 38th Annual SND convention

**December 2-3, 2016**

**Bottineau, ND**

Hosted by Snowmobile  
North Dakota &  
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**Cobblestone Inn**

**1109 11th St E • Bottineau, ND 58318**  
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## Online Registration

Register online at the Bottineau County  
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[www.snowmobilebottineau.com](http://www.snowmobilebottineau.com)

Cobblestone Inn  
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.1mi 701-228-2125  
.3mi 701-228-3737  
1mi 701-228-2296  
13mi 701-263-6500

## Schedule of Events

### Friday, December 2

1:00-5:00 Guided Snowmobile Ride  
4:00-9:00pm..... Registration  
Limited new registrations available  
4:00-9:00pm..... Vendor Show  
5:00-7:00pm..... SND Board Meeting  
7:00-10:00pm ..... Social  
w/Appetizers & Silent Auction

### Saturday, December 3

8:00-10:00am ..... Registration  
\*No new registrations accepted  
8:30-10:30am ..... SND Annual Meeting &  
Regional Breakouts  
9:00-12:00am ..... Vendor Show  
10:30-11:30am ..... Presentation  
11:45-1:00pm ..... Lunch  
1:00-3:00pm ..... Vendor Show  
1:00-5:00pm Youth Snowmobile Class  
\*Additional Fee of \$20.00. To preregister call  
701-328-5348 or email [ridesafe@nd.gov](mailto:ridesafe@nd.gov)  
\*Class will be held at the Norway  
House Motel which is .1 miles from the  
Cobblestone  
2:00-3:00pm..... Trail Signing Class  
3:00-4:00pm Beginning Grooming Class  
4:00-5:00pm Experienced Grooming Class  
5:00-6:00pm ..... Social in Vendor area  
6:00-8:30pm..... Banquet & Awards  
8:30-11:00pm ..... Band and Auctions



If you have any questions call or email SND:  
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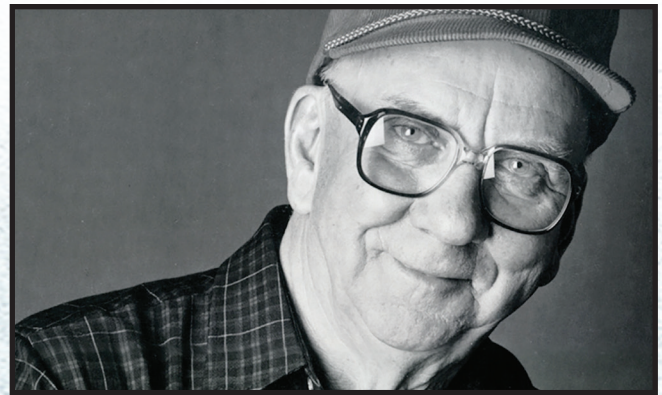
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## **Polaris Employees Celebrate the Life and Accomplishments of David Johnson, One of the Company's Three Co-Founders**



MEDINA, Minn. (Oct. 9) – Polaris employees and Polaris riders worldwide are celebrating the life and mourning the passing of one of the company's co-founders, David Johnson. He passed away yesterday in Roseau, Minn., after an extended illness. He was 93 years old.

Since he helped start Polaris in the early 1950s, David focused his career on product engineering and manufacturing, and developed a deep connection with Polaris employees during his four-plus decades with the company. In the years following his retirement in 1988, he remained one of the faces of Polaris as he enjoyed visiting the Roseau manufacturing facility and often gave tours at the Polaris Experience Center located near the plant.

"David Johnson embodied the Polaris culture and work ethic, and his positive impact on the company continues to inspire us today," said Polaris Chairman and CEO Scott Wine. "David valued hard work, passion for the riding experience, and an unwavering spirit of innovation. He set a tremendous example with his dedication and commitment to the company and employees. We are saddened by his passing and offer our sincere condolences to Eleanor and David's family and friends."

After working together for a few years, David and his two cousins, Edgar and Allan Hetteen, officially founded Polaris in 1954. Polaris produced a variety of products, including several agricultural products such as straw cutter attachments for combines. But David Johnson and several co-workers who were avid outdoorsmen envisioned a vehicle – a snow machine – they could use in winter to reach their remote hunting shacks. In late 1955, David and his cohorts created the first Polaris snowmobile, a machine that made its first run across a snowy Roseau field in January 1956.

Polaris began producing snowmobiles and helped create the global market for the versatile winter machines. David later said that while Polaris did not invent the snow machine, the company was the first to successfully market snowmobiles. With David in production roles such as Vice President of Manufacturing, Polaris became the snowmobile industry's long-time market share leader, the dominant brand in snowmobile racing, and the brand known for delivering the best ride and handling. By the time David retired in 1988, the company had begun to diversify and was also producing and marketing off-road vehicles.

David was inducted into the Snowmobile Hall of Fame in 1999, and he received numerous honors from snowmobile clubs and associations worldwide.

David Johnson is survived by his wife of 68 years, Eleanor, and their children, Rodney, Mary, Mitchell, and Aaron. Information about funeral services is forthcoming. All Polaris employees are honorary pallbearers for the service.

### **About Polaris**

Polaris Industries Inc. (NYSE:PII) is a global powersports leader with annual 2015 sales of \$4.7 billion. Polaris fuels the passion of riders, workers and outdoor enthusiasts with our RANGER®, RZR® and POLARIS GENERAL™ side-by-side off-road vehicles; our SPORTSMAN® and POLARIS ACE® all-terrain off-road vehicles; VICTORY® and INDIAN MOTORCYCLE® midsize and heavyweight motorcycles; SLINGSHOT® moto-roadsters; and Polaris RMK®, INDY®, SWITCHBACK® and RUSH® snowmobiles. Polaris enhances the riding experience with parts, garments and accessories sold under multiple recognizable brands, and has a growing presence in adjacent markets globally with products including military and commercial off-road vehicles, quadricycles, and electric vehicles. [www.polaris.com](http://www.polaris.com)



# Region Reports



## Joel Iverson Region 4

At the time of this writing most small grain harvest is complete, bean harvest is nearing completion and, well, the corn is getting drier. We also had some hard frosts, which hopefully has taken care of the remaining mosquitos and other nuisance insects. All part of the fall season. Kinda gets a person to start thinking of things to come.....like SNOW!

We also had some light flurries and measurable snow in some areas of the state! I've checked out a number of weather forecast sites to see if I could find some information that would give a glimmer of hope for this coming winter. What I've found was a forecast for a very cold first half of the season along with two options for snowfall, either normal snowfall or slightly above average.....I'll take the slightly above average (gotta think positive!)

On a more serious note, the past years of poor snow conditions have not had a good affect across the board as far as involvement in our sport. Declining interest leads to declining club memberships and volunteers. I know a number of clubs are struggling to find enough help to maintain their sections of trail systems. Region 4 has not been immune to this. There will be some hard decisions made regarding what sections of trails will remain open and those that won't. There's only so much you can do with the number of folks that have remained active, and we need to face the reality of what can or cannot be accomplished.

Aside from trail adjustments we are looking forward to getting a move on with trail signing as soon as crops are off and hopefully before the ground freezes.....what's the old saying..."work smarter not harder". I don't get much of a thrill out of driving sign posts into frozen ground.

Let's all hope that this is the winter that turns things around with copious amounts of snow and good sledding weather.

See you all at the convention in Dec.

Think Snow!

## Brent Haugen Region 5

Greetings from Snowy Harwood ND. I am new to the board this year from region 5. I live outside of Harwood ND with my wife and daughter. I have been involved in snowmobiling for years, and I am looking forward to serving on the board representing Region 5.

As I am writing this, we got snow this week, 13+" in one shot of soft powdery snow. Before we got this snow, my daughter was wishing for more snow so we could go snowmobiling. Well she got her wish, and today after school, I took her for a short ride to shake the cobwebs out of the sled. Not many miles were put on last year so we are looking forward to many miles of riding this year.

I hope to see you on the trail, and looking forward to the state ride being hosted by the Sheyenne Valley Trail association, and based out of Marion ND.

Congratulations to the Bison for winning 5 National titles in a row.





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# North Dakota Parks & Recreation



Snowmobile North Dakota is one such group of off-road recreational users that benefit from the RTP. Snowmobiling is a popular activity in North Dakota and SND works year round to ensure that everyone enjoys the snowmobile trails each winter. Over the last 10 years, SND has been awarded over \$1.5 million in RTP funds to help them accomplish their mission to be the leader in providing safe and effective snowmobile opportunities in North Dakota. From signage to trail groomers to promoting safety and education, RTP funds have been instrumental to the success of SND.

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