



Executive Director: Todd Thronson

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR/EDITOR Tari Norby

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Editor Tari Norby
Graphic Designer: Denise Sanzo
Advertising Executive: Tari Norby
Contributing Writers: Todd Thronson

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Executive Director

Hello everyone! What an exciting season we have had already. The central part of the state was covered in snow before the state convention and cold temps have kept in on the ground.

In the middle of a blizzard on December 6th, the Burleigh **County Sheriff's Department** called the Roughrider Snowmobile Club asking assistance to rescue a stranded motorist. The parties had been stranded for over 14 hours and plows were unable to reach their location in rural Burleigh County. The Missouri Valley Tucker driven by Don Schmidt was dispatched for the rescue. Deputy sheriff Jim Hulm and Don drove some 25 miles with zero visibility at times to locate the two motorists. They were safely transported to Wilton where they were picked up and taken to safety. What a great story for Snowmobile North Dakota and North Dakota Parks and Recreation to have to tell. It is truly great that we have the equipment for the grooming of trails, but also to save

lives. It was a great day!

As we go into this season with snow, it seems we always have some hurdles to cross before we open the trails. Most parts of the state that have snow do not have sufficient ice thickness on lakes and sloughs to safely

cross. Other have areas massive drifts with buried g n s s i and huge blowouts. We are now getting the cold temps we need so hopefully gets better. The signing that has been inspected to this point has again very good. It is great to see all the effort goes into signing the trails. Thank you!

Iwas actually asked by some of the Parks people to stop the snow

dance already! Not going to happen... Hope to see you all on the trails!

Todd Thronson





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EBEGICH BEPOTIS

Dale Deibert reporting from Snowmobile North Dakota from Region 1 in Surrey.

Well the snow dance must have worked because the Minot area has received up to 30 inches of snowfall as of December 10th. We had two snow storms, one the end of November and the 2nd on December 4th through the 7th.

The Bottineau County Family Snowmobilers hosted the Annual Snowmobile Convention in Bottineau on December 2nd-3rd at the Cobblestones Inn. It was attended by more than 140 participants. The convention held the annual meeting and safety class and education classes for groomer operators and signing classes. The food and entertainment was excellent.

The Sno-Trails system around the Minot area have started their Fun Runs with the Dakota Trailblazers having their Ride December 10th ending at Big Reds in Deering. There were also stops at the Big Dog in Surrey and the White Buffalo and Brandin Iron in Granville. Despite the below zero temperature there were about 25 snowmobile riders on the trails. There were 295 cards sold for the run.

The next Fun Runs will be January 7th ending in Lansford, January 21st ending in Berthold and the Sno-Trails Fun Run and vintage show on February 26th ending in Deering.

The Bottineau County Family Snowmobilers and Roaring 20's clubs are working on the Peace Garden Trail system to find a couple of routes that don't have high water problems, because ice is not forming because of all the snow cover.

See you on the trails.







Hey Guys – are you ready to ride some of the best snow in all of North Dakota? Mark your calendars now so you don't miss Metigoshe Ministries' 12th annual Men's Snowmobile Retreat. Join the fun January 27-29 in North Dakota's Turtle Mountains, with your accommodations provided for in Metigoshe Ministries' incredible retreat center.

Brett Kallius came from Fargo for the 2016 retreat. "This is my first time here – but I will definitely be back again. It was incredible!" Longtime attendee Matt Hagen from Bismarck echoed the excitement, "I've been coming to Metigoshe my whole life. I love it up here! My family and kids will continue to enjoy."

Not only will you be able to snowmobile the tremendous trails throughout the Turtle Mountains, but our local snowmobiling guides will also take you out into some of the back country areas full of fresh powder!

If you have never snowmobiled the Turtle Mountains, you've been missing out and now is your chance. SnowGoer has listed Bottineau and the Turtle Mountain area in the "honorable mention" categories for 'Best Overall Snowmobiling Area' and 'Area Most Likely to Visit in the Future' as well as 'Best Area Catering to Families.'

In addition to riding the trails all weekend, you will be welcomed by Metigoshe Ministries' famous hospitality. Delicious and hearty meals (and an always-full cookie jar!); spacious and comfortable bedrooms; and a peaceful setting on the shores of Lake Metigoshe.

Come and get away from your everyday grind for the weekend. You'll find yourself renewed by the crisp winter air, Chrsitian fellowship with opportunities for worship and devotions. After a great day on your snowmobile, you'll even have the chance to relax in the authentic wood-fired sauna each evening.

The cost is \$120/person or \$180 per father/son pair (\$60 for each additional youth) and is an "all inclusive" price including accommodations, Friday evening snacks, three meals Saturday, and Sunday brunch. It even includes the cost of your guides for the weekend!

Reserve your space now by registering online at www.metigosheministries.com or calling our office at 701-263-4788.

GLUB INEWS



Bottineau County Family Snowmobilers

Thanks everyone to attended the **SND** State Convention in Bottineau and to those who donated auction items. Hosting the convention was a learning experience for our club and when the dust settled we all agreed that it was a lot of work and also a lot of fun. We hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we did. We also want to thank the businesses in Bottineau that helped us financially - we were amazed by their generosity.

While we wait for safe ice our club is going to try and sign and groom the small portions of the trail that do not have ice issues. There is snow and a lot of water and slush. It looks like we will have to wait for slough and lake edges to firm up before the trails can be officially opened.

Most of you know our club is new and this is our second year in operation. With little money but a lot of enthusiasm we have spent most of our time fund raising, seeking new members and planning the convention. Hosting the convention has given us a financial boost so now we can focus on things that snowmobilers want - great trails to ride on, good maps to keep them on the trails and a nice place on the trail to warm up! One more thing our club plans to do is a little less work and more fun. Maybe this year we will actually get our first club ride! We hope everyone has a fun safe year on the trails and thanks again for your support at

Paula Berg, President

the convention.









GLUB INEWS



Rough Riders Snowmobile Association

Well what a difference a few weeks can make in North Dakota. We went from above average warm weather in Bismarck to a real arctic snow blast that netted 26.5 inches for Bismarck. We have some drifts along Hwy. 83 on our north bound trail that are so high the groomer is not able to cross over them. Now that's unusual to say the least. Wheat and corn fields have snow level with the stubble. The only problem with the current situation is the temperature has been very cold. Another interesting development is we're receiving phone calls from Minnesota snowmobilers who are inquiring about riding here since they do not

have adequate snow in our neighboring state to the east. Our Raffle has turned out to be another success and our drawing will be held Dec. 12 at the AMVETS Club in Bismarck. We have a great group of members that take their selling seriously and produce great results.

We are working on the second round of members who want to take the FEMA Emergency Response Training that 33 of our members completed a few years ago. This training is certainly valuable to everyone who takes the training since no one knows when an emergency may arise and the first aid training will help someone

whom you may be with or come across. Snowmobiling has its own hazardous potential but so does farming and just driving down the highway. You just can't predict when the training can be used to help yourself or someone else.

It sure looks like we will have snow in the Bismarck area for some time into the future. If you have not rode our trails along Hwy. 83 or Hwy 10 east and then south give it some thought and consider coming to Rough Rider Country for some new sights.

Bob Gregoire, Secretary

Dakota Trailblazers

The Dakota Trailblazers were putting the final touches on the trail signing. We had our November meeting on the 11th to finalize plans for the Trailblazers Fun Run and other activities for the winter. The first snow storm of the year came the last days of November and we received around 20 inches of snow.

Some club members attended the Annual Snowmobile Convention at the Cobblestone Inn in Bottineau on December 2nd-3rd. It was a very good convention which had over 140 people attend.

The second snow storm of the winter was December 4th through the 7th. We received about 10 inches of snow and sloe strong winds. Some grooming of the trails have been done.

The Dakota Trailblazers had their Fun Run on December 10th ending at Big Reds in Deering. It was a very cold day with temperatures about -10 degrees. There was still about 28 snowmobile riders. There were 295 cards sold for the ride, plus door prizes were given away.

The next meeting will be at the Big Dog Saloon in Surrey on January 6th at 7:30 pm.

The Magic City Driftbusters will have a Fun Run on January 7th and will end at the Homstead in Lansford.

The annual Dakota Trailblazers club trips to Lake Metigoshe will be February 10th-11th at the Metigoshe State Parks cabins. See you on the trails.

Dale Deibert

2016-2017

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-Fun Night @ the Warming House

- -Registration @ 9AM 6:30PM (No Later)
- -Fun Run

- *Headquarters @ Rugby Eagles
- -DJ Dance and Supper to follow

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