

Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club, Inc.

PO Box 507

Grand Lake CO 80447

web site: www.gltrailblazers.com

email: gl_trailblazers@yahoo.com

Volume 12 Number 5



Upcoming Events – see full schedule later in this newsletter

August 3 Annual Picnic noon Greenridge Picnic Area – Tom Mason 970-531-5812

The club will bring the fried chicken, you all bring the rest of the pot luck meal. Bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share, along with your own table setting & beverage. The board will meet at 10 am to set the ride schedule for the coming season – come early if you'd like to help with deciding the rides to come. Lunch begins at noon. For more information contact Tom. A reminder will be sent out later this summer about this important annual August event. See you there. Be sure to bring or purchase a pass so you don't get a ticket. We hope to see you all there!

Member Survey

Along with this newsletter you're getting a member survey. In order to better serve you we need your input. We will use survey results at the August meeting to help set up next winter's ride schedule. Please take the time to give us your thoughts on rides & activities.

Recent Events

Highway Cleanup – The group met, had donuts and chatted awhile before getting down to business. We finished within an hour and a half. There were a number of potential treasures found: a



good left glove, a brass pipe nipple, an electric switch wall plate, a sock, a bungee, a car wash sponge. There were also car parts, a blown out right glove (not a match) ... no cash this time. All together we picked up 11 bags of trash. A big thank you to (left to right in photo) Tom Mason (with Max), Ron Brown, Ron Bowen, John & Marily Movius, George Wilcinski & Mike Ingle. Not pictured: Debbie Mason

We've reached that time of year when it's really hard to find snow to ride. Of course, sometimes, the snow is there but there's a lot of dirt or mud between the truck and the snow. If you've had a good "last last ride" send a picture or two and we'll put it in the newsletter to help the rest of us get through the "dry patch". Over Memorial Day we crossed Rabbit Ears and there was still snow, but it wasn't looking friendly

April 20 Last Last Ride - When we got a good storm in mid-April a few riders got together for a



last last ride. Left to right: Ronald Brown, David Zimmerman, Pat O'Brien, Eric & Lisa Anderson, Marshall Shovein & Troy Jaklich. Tom Mason took the photo. Early in the day the riding was good, but the snow started turning to "mashed potatoes" in the afternoon. When there got to be too many stucks, it was time to go home.

Membership Renewal

If you missed the December renewal deadline, you can still renew your membership. Please be sure to review & update your contact information. Renew online at the CSA web site

www.snowmobilecolo.com Yes, you can still send in paper renewal forms.

Web Master

For several years Marshall Shovein has been our web master. We appreciate his time and effort in keeping our web site up to date and presenting a good face to the world. His schedule has gotten busier over the years and it's time for him to hand it off to the next person. If you would be willing to take on this important job, please contact any of our board members. If you have any specific questions about the nuts & bolts of maintaining the site, you could ask Marshall mshovein@yahoo.com

Club Patches

The new logo patches are in. Each membership renewal will get a patch. Additional patches are available at \$4 each. If you haven't gotten yours yet email gl_trailblazers@yahoo.com or call 970-531-3480.

Keep an eye on our web site

www.gltrailblazers.com. Tell your friends & neighbors to check it out! It has a link to the club Facebook page, too, where you can post photos to show off your rides. The club email address is gl_trailblazers@yahoo.com it is checked daily for incoming messages.

Board of Directors

President – Tom Mason – 970-531-5812
autowrench2002@yahoo.com

Vice President – John Amerman – 970-627-5482
ja.grandlake07@comcast.net

Secretary – Debbie Mason – 970-531-3480
mooseduds@yahoo.com

Treasurer – Joe Kelley – 970-887-9337
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Board Member – Ronald Brown - 970-372-6201
brown.rond@gmail.com

District #3 CSA Rep

Dennis Lynton
Based out of Westminster, Co
Phone 303-253-7743
DennisLynton@gmail.com

Regular Board meetings are held the first Saturday of the month at 5 pm at the Grand Lake Fire Station. There are no meetings May, July, or September. *Note there are a few meetings that are moved to a different date to accommodate scheduling conflicts.*

Become a business member!

You can't find a better advertising value than a business membership. For \$52 (\$32 goes to the CSA for lobbying efforts to protect our sport) you get a monthly listing in the Trailblazers newsletter. You also get a listing in the Snowscoop magazine reaching thousands of snowmobile enthusiasts across the state and country. You are mentioned and supported on our new website that is generating close to 50 hits (and growing) each day. You get a listing on the new CSA website as well. Both websites are being promoted extensively this year, bringing hundreds of additional viewings. The Trailblazers also have a new Facebook page with your information being listed and promoted. This is target marketing at its best! You can't find a better return on investment. For only \$52 you support the sport, help to keep our trails open and reach out to thousands of like-minded individuals each month.

Please patronize our business members – be sure to tell them you saw them in the newsletter.

The Brown Group Personal Financial Services

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Mountain Lake Properties

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Mountain Lakes Lodge

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Sloopy's Grill LLC

Richard & Jennie Schliep
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970-627-8182
Schliep51@comcast.net

2012-2013 Ride & Activity Schedule

All rides & activities meet at Idleglen unless noted otherwise.

(remainder of year)

May 18, 10am Hwy Cleanup Leader – Mike Ingle
970-531-5940 or ingledavid@hotmail.com

June 8 Board Meeting 5pm Grand Lake Fire
Station (rescheduled from June 1)

August 3 Summer Picnic at NOON & Board Meeting 10am Meet at Greenridge Picnic Area.
Board meeting 10 am. This is the meeting that sets the ride schedule for the next season.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
For
TRAIL BLAZERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB, INC.

By joining the Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club, you are enabling us to support legislation which protects your snowmobile rights and areas. You will receive our newsletters, keeping you up-to-date on the latest snowmobiling news in this area, our meetings and our events, and also *Snow Scoop* publications containing information on statewide events and legislation affecting Colorado and neighboring states. *As an additional benefit of this membership, you, your spouse, and minor children receive Colorado Snowmobile Association liability insurance, provided you are on a sanctioned club ride. If you enjoy snowmobiling in the Grand Lake area, help keep it open by joining the Trail Blazers.

CSA strongly encourages members to renew online at <http://www.snowmobilecolo.com> if you prefer to renew directly with the Trail Blazers, fill out this form and send it in

***WE DO ENCOURAGE EACH OF YOU TO CARRY LIABILITY INSURANCE.**

(Please detach and mail with your payment)

DUES ARE PAYABLE ANNUALLY, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1

Individual or Family Membership--\$42.00 _____ Business Membership--\$52.00 _____
(Please print clearly)

Name _____ Spouse (Significant Other) _____

Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

E-mail Address _____

Number in Family: _____ Number of Sleds: _____ Names of children under 18 _____

Please make check payable to: **Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club, Inc.**
Mail check to: **P.O. Box 507**
Grand Lake, CO 80447-0507

Please circle: Renewal Membership First-time membership

If first time, how did you learn of us? _____

How would you like to receive your newsletter? US Postal _____ or E-mail _____

Are you a member of another Snowmobile Club? NO _____, YES _____ If YES Club name:

Are you available to ride during the week? No _____ Yes _____

May we include you in our member directory? (Published in late December) No _____ Yes _____

What kind of riding do you prefer? Family _____ Trail _____ Off-Trail _____

Over the history of our club the snowmobiles have changed, our members have changed, and times have changed. In order to better serve our membership we're seeking your input. Please take a few minutes to answer a survey that will help us serve you better.

In addition to survey, please send us any additional comments or suggestions that will help us improve the club.

Which of the scheduled rides do you like best? _____

Which of the scheduled rides do you like least? _____

Do you prefer to ride on Saturday or Sunday? _____

What weekends should we NOT schedule rides? _____

Are there rides we used to do that you'd like to bring back? _____

Would you like to see "split" rides – split to accommodate both the more advanced riders and those who prefer an easier ride?

Would you prefer to see the entire group ride together, at a pace that accommodates the slower riders?

Would you be willing to help lead any of the rides?

Do you like having the rides use the chuck wagon for group meals?

Rides we have had over the last few years (not all each year) are listed below – which would you attend?

Pancake Breakfast – Saturday after Thanksgiving, in the Idleglen parking area. Season kick-off. Weather dependent whether or not it's possible to ride that day.

Hot Dog Ride – Idleglen (if low snow) or out on the trails. Hot dogs & brats, held early in season due to unpredictable snow conditions

Steak Ride – steak provided by club, potluck for the rest of the meal, usually in a meadow off the trail system (recently has been at Odie Owl Meadow, off Pony Park)

Overnight Ride – has varied locations out of Grand County, starting as early as a Wednesday, returning Sunday; an opportunity to explore other riding areas.

Long Ride – 50 miles or more on area trails, starting from Idleglen. Destination varies. In years past, has gone to Gould (recent-year logging operations have caused closures of this route)

Poker Run – fund raiser event, jointly produced by Trail Blazers & Mile-Hi snowmobile clubs

Moonlight Ride – scheduled near a full moon, usually in January or February, meets 7pm, goes to Hatchet Park, groomer visits

New Years Ride – meet 11 pm ride to view point to watch Grand Lake's midnight fireworks

Family Picnic Ride – low-impact ride for families

Mystery Ride – destination & route to be determined when riders meet, based on abilities of riders

Trees & Trails – some trail riding, with some off-trail riding

Yahoo Ride – may or may not be possible (access to Gould is limited many winters due to logging) – barebones cabin at North Michigan Lake, riders ride across Illinois Pass on Friday, gear is carried to cabin for them, then they ride the area Saturday and return to Idleglen on Sunday. Currently, gas may not be available in the Gould area, but may be able to arrange for gas.

Potential New Rides:

Scavenger Hunt – ride from clue to clue, picnic lunch at the destination

Ladies Day – ride at a more casual pace, plenty of breaks

Beacon Search – ride to a meadow and locate (avalanche beacon(s) that were hidden – good practice for this survival tool