

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 7



Upcoming Events – *see full schedule later in this newsletter*

Snowmobile Expo October 12-13. Not a club event, but of interest to many of us. New snowmobile models, accessories, toys, etc. Full details at <http://www.cosnowmobileexpo.com/>

October 19 Fall Highway Cleanup – Mike Ingle 970-531-5940 Meet at 10am at mile marker 9 on Hwy 34. The club will bring the bags & donuts. You bring your safety vest, gloves & morning beverage. We're usually done by noon. The more who help, the shorter the stretch each pair or group needs to cover. We also sometimes find "treasures" alongside the road. Who knows, you might be the lucky finder this time.

Pancake Breakfast November 30, 9 am Debbie Mason 970-531-3480 Meet at Idleglen for breakfast in the open air, with or without snow. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, juice & coffee. The public is welcome to this season kick-off. If you'd like to help with cooking or serving, give Debbie an email or a call. Once again, we'll invite the local Chamber members; it's good to share this event with the local businesses & could lead to some new memberships.

See full calendar of events at the end of this newsletter

With a bit of snow on the higher peaks around the area, it's time to think about the coming season. Make sure your machines are ready to go when the real snow starts falling. We're hoping the late summer rains are an indicator of the snows to follow. Think snow!

Membership Renewal

Membership renewal officially begins October 1 and your membership needs to be renewed by December 1. Please be sure to review & update your contact information so you continue to get newsletters, updates, reminders, etc. Renew online

at the CSA web site www.snowmobilecolo.com
Yes, you can still send in paper renewal forms (we put one at the end of every newsletter). We will then process it on the web site for you.

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

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
jkelly@powerworldsports.com

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

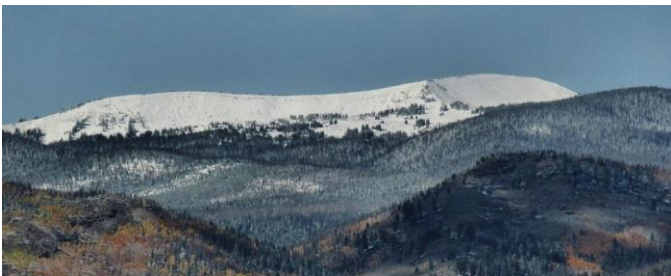
Regular Board meetings are held the first Saturday of the month at 5 pm at the Grand Lake Fire Station. There are no meetings May, July, or September.

Note there are a few meetings that are moved to a different date to accommodate scheduling conflicts. If you want to attend a meeting, contact one of your board members to make sure of date, time & location.

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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BRP, Inc US

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Crown Trophy

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First Financial Equity Corp

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Mountain Lake Properties

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Mountain Lakes Lodge

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Shovein LLC

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Sloopy's Grill LLC

Richard & Jennie Schliep
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Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-8182

Schliep51@comcast.net

2013-2014 Ride & Activity Schedule

All rides & activities meet at Idleglen unless noted otherwise.

Talk to your ride leader when you arrive – let them know your skill level & comfort zone. The ride will be geared to the abilities of the riders who attend. We want to be sure we all have fun.

October 5, 5pm Board Meeting, Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

(October 12-13 – Snowmobile Expo, Western National Complex, Denver – not a club ride, but of interest to many of us)

October 19, 10 am Highway Cleanup Leader

Mike Ingle 970-531-5940 or ingledavid@hotmail.com Meet at mile marker 9 with your morning beverage; we'll bring the donuts. After a bit of socializing, we break into teams to clean our mile. Bring your safety vest and gloves. We're usually done by about noon.

November 2, 5pm Board Meeting, Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

November 30, 9am Pancake Breakfast Leader

Tom & Debbie Mason 970-531-5812 or autowrench2002@yahoo.com & 970-531-3480 mooseduds@yahoo.com Meet at Idleglen for a full pancake breakfast with sausage, eggs, orange juice, coffee. Invite your friend, neighbors & potential members.

December 7, 11am Hot Dog Ride Leader John

Amerman 970-627-5482 ja.grandlake07@comcast.net Meet at Idleglen. If there's enough snow, we'll ride to the meadow at the start of the After Burn Trail (across from Whiskey Park); if not, we'll have out dogs & brats at Idleglen

December 14-15 Snowmobile Safety Training

Leaders Tom & Debbie Mason 970-531-5812 or autowrench2002@yahoo.com & 970-531-3480 mooseduds@yahoo.com This is a 2-morning class. Saturday morning is classroom training. Sunday morning is the written & driving tests.

Recommended for all riders. Kids between 10-16 must have the training to ride solo on public lands in Colorado.

December 28, 8:30am Long Ride Leader Tom

Mason 970-531-5812 or autowrench2002@yahoo.com This ride covers 50

miles or so. Exact route to be determined closer to ride date.

January 4, 5pm Board Meeting, Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

January 11, 10am Ladies Ride Leader Debbie Mason 970-531-3480 mooseduds@yahoo.com

This one is for the ladies only. We'll keep it as easy or fast as is comfortable for all of us. Bring a lunch.

January 18, 11am Steak Ride Leader Mike Ingle 970-531-5940 or ingledavid@hotmail.com Meet at Idleglen. Ride the trails, then head to the meadow at the head of the After Burn Trail (across from Whiskey Park) for steaks and potluck. The club buys the steaks; the rest is potluck, so bring a dish to share and your beverage.

January 22-26 Overnight Ride Leader Mike Ingle 970-531-5940 or ingledavid@hotmail.com Destination to be determined. Details will be published in newsletter when arranged. This is an opportunity to ride in a different area.

February 1, 5pm Board Meeting, Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

February 8 Flight for Life Poker Run Chair Toni Boettcher toni_boettcher@hotmail.com Jointly run by Trail Blazers and Mile Hi snowmobile clubs. Proceeds benefit Flight for Life. Poker Run, Silent Auction, Happy Hour, After Party.

February 15, 7pm Moonlight Ride Leader David Zimmerman 303-908-6950 or zimmcon@gmail.com Munch on brats & fixins while the moon comes up. The groomer makes an appearance at this ride & you can check out what our groomers do all night throughout the season.

February 22, 10am Trees n Trails Ride Leader Tom Mason 970-531-5812 or autowrench2002@yahoo.com Get off the main trail to explore side trails and meadows. The route will be determined based on abilities of the attendees.

March 1, 5pm Board Meeting, Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

(March 7-8 Pink Ribbon Ride, not a club event, but we can provide volunteers, ride leaders and participants for this breast cancer fund raiser)

April 5, 5pm Board Meeting, Potluck & Elections Share a meal with your fellow snowmobilers and determine officers for the coming

year. This year President & Secretary are up for election.

May 17, 10 am Highway Cleanup Leader Mike Ingle 970-531-5940 or ingledavid@hotmail.com Meet at mile marker 9 with your morning beverage; we'll bring the donuts. After a bit of socializing, we break into teams to clean our mile. Bring your safety vest and gloves. We're usually done by about noon.

We hope to see you at many of the rides & events. Your participation is how we know we were successful in setting up the schedule.

If you have an avalanche beacon and would be interested in practicing locating beacons, please let us know so we can set up some practice sessions in conjunction with some of our events.

If you'd like to help our leaders on one or more of our rides, let that person know. You might help as a co-leader or "sweep" (ride at the end of the group to make sure we don't lose anyone).

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