

Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club, Inc.

PO Box 507
Grand Lake CO 80447
Volume 14 Number 1
January 2015

web site: www.gltrailblazers.com email: gl_trailblazers@yahoo.com



IMPORTANT – Grand Lake Trail System Maps have major changes – please use ONLY the new 2014 -2015 maps

With a change in a couple of trail sections, and needing to add new junction letters to the map, the Trail Groomers took the opportunity to rearrange the letters. Now all the junction letters for the trails on the east side of the trail system run A – N and the west side of the system O – Y. If you think of it as two big loops, it should be less confusing. Please make sure to pick up one or more of the new maps. They're available from many locations around town, and in the rack at the bottom of the big maps at Idleglen. Even if you don't pay much attention to the junction letters it would not be fun if people were trying to meet up and had different versions of the map – they could be at the same letter, but at different junctions.

Titling of Snowmobiles & other OHVs

Effective July 1, 2014 Snowmobiles need to be titled. Currently, you can take your current Parks & Wildlife Snowmobile Registration card (the card that comes with your stickers) and driver's license to your motor vehicle office and request a title, with a \$7.20 fee. Be prepared – they'll ask for original MSRP, date of purchase and dry weight. Please consider getting your sled titled. **Currently** if you sell to a dealer you need a title; if you sell to a private party you don't need a title.

Upcoming Events –

January 10, 10am Ladies Ride – Contact – Debbie Mason 970-531-3480. This one is for the ladies & girls only. We'll keep it as easy or fast as is comfortable for all of us. Bring a lunch. While we're out taking it easy, Tom will be out riding meadows or through the trees, so if you guys want to ride give Tom a call 970-531-5812

January 24, 9am Long Ride – RSVP – Tom Mason 970-531-5812 We will ride over Illinois Pass to Gould's Clark Peak Cabins. We will be their guests for the day and they will fix either chili or burgers for the group. They need to know which

meal and how many people *at least a week in advance* so they can make sure they have needed items on hand. This is a very long ride, 80-100 miles round trip, depending on how much meadow play there is along the way. Clark Peak Cabins does have non-ethanol gas available for \$5/gallon. We start early because it's a long way over and back and the days are short.

January 31, 7pm Moonlight Ride – Contact – David Zimmerman 303-908-6950 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 by taking a short ride in Hatchet Park.

February 21 Flight for Life Poker Run Jointly run by Trail Blazers and Mile Hi snowmobile clubs.

NOTE: Significant change to 2015

Poker Run date – Because the Grand

February 2015						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	X
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Lake Winter Carnival traditionally falls on the first Saturday in February and the way the calendar falls in 2015, the Poker Run has had to be pushed to February 21. Mark your calendars now. We've touched base with the town and Chamber to make sure there are no other events planned for that weekend. Once again, volunteer sign-ups will be handled via *sign-up genius*. There are plenty of volunteers still needed. Go to:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f49a9a62ba7fc1-grand>

President's Challenge – your president has donated \$50 toward the Poker Run prize money. We welcome your donations to the prize money – will you match this donation? Your club secretary is matching that amount to a total of \$100.

Watch the newsletter for updates as we get more information from Mile Hi Snowmobile Club about the details of the 2015 Poker Run. We have a supply of Poker Run flyers. If you can help get

them posted around Grand County or other areas, contact Debbie at 970-531-3480 or Tom at 970-531-5812.

February 25 – March 1 Overnight Ride – Still need an Organizer - TBD A multi-night trip to another area, stay in lodging & ride daily. This is an opportunity to ride & explore in a different area. Location will depend on where the good snow is. If you've ideas about where to go, contact your board. The organizer decides the destination, then people make their own reservations and meet up there.

See our full schedule at end of newsletter. We hope you'll be able to come to many events. If all goes well, we're bringing back the Yahoo Ride, but the cabins were already reserved by 8 am when I tried.

Recently

December 13 & 14 – Snowmobile Safety

Training We consider the class a success. We had a class of 15, and everyone tested safely the above the minimum passing score on the written test. We had about half adults and half kids. We made sure everyone got one of the brand new trail maps, asking them to spread the word about the changes.

We did have a near miss and will be looking to see what we can do to make sure that kind of thing doesn't happen again. The crash left the rider shaken, but unharmed. The sled is being repaired. We've had parts donated by PowerWorld, Lone Eagle, and purchased on eBay, keeping the cost down.

December 27 Trees & Trails – The group of 10 explored a number of areas including the Bull Mountain loop, Pony Park, Odie Owl Meadow, Blue Ridge. They had a good 4 hours of exploring off the main trails. The riders had a good range of experience levels and now know a few new places to ride.

December 31 New Year's Eve Ride – 13 hardy

Trail Blazers and Mile Hi members met at Eagles Perch to watch Grand Lake ring in the New Year in style. The fireworks were great, and there



were a few extra for the ride home. The Grand Lake Trail Hosts took the coffee wagon up to Eagles Perch to provide hot chocolate & coffee for the group. It was a nippy night; -7 dropping to -14 by the end of the ride. Only one of the riders saw the coyote using the trail between Jct. A and the little side spur below there.

January 3, Steak Ride – The Steak Ride brought out 16 riders, including 2 kids.

We enjoyed steaks, baked potatoes, macaroni & potato salads, chips & dips, cookies. Too bad nobody took a piece of the pecan pie ...

Maybe next year? The temperature was double-digits above zero and snowing, but the heavy snow held off until we were headed home.

Alternative to Yahoo Ride* March 12 – 15 Frank Stehkik will be heading to Alexander Lake Lodge, on the Grand Mesa, for a long weekend of riding. If you'd like to join him, check out their web site <http://www.alexanderlakeridge.com>, make your reservations, and head on down. Alexander Lake Lodge is under new ownership. The restaurant offers all 3 meals, and all but one of the cabins have fully stocked kitchens. They also have a bar. You can check out the cabins & menus on their web site. The largest cabin could be shared by quite a few people (1 king, 2 queens, 1 twin & 1 futon).

**The Yahoo Ride is looking like it's not going to happen this year. The 2 large cabins were reserved before I got online that morning. The remaining cabins are about 1/4 mile from where we'd be parking ... we'll try again next year.*

Member Directory

Watch your mail (postal) for the member directory that will be ready soon. It's a way to contact each other and find riding partners on those days we don't have a club ride scheduled, or just keep in touch with each other. You will also find a club patch in the envelope. You can purchase additional patches if you wish, for \$4 each.



Web Master

For several years now 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. One of our new members, Joshua Couch, is learning what Marshall has been doing and the hand-off is in progress. Keep an eye on our web site – Josh has ideas for some changes. Our site address is 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 often for incoming messages. During the summer it is not checked every day; during the riding season it's checked almost every day.

Trail Hosts

Do you know the local trails? Do you like helping people? That's what the Trail Hosts do. Hosts ride where they would ride anyway, wearing a bright yellow vest to identify them as Hosts. Hosts carry their cell phones, a supply of maps, and keep an eye out for people who might be lost or stuck. Hosts provide only the level of help they're trained for and comfortable with. The cell phone is to call for more serious help. Many of a Hosts' contacts are simply a quick "thumbs up" to make sure riders stopped along the trail are taking a break or looking for some help. If you'd like to become one of the Grand Lake Trail Hosts, contact Debbie Mason, coordinator, at grandlaketrailhost@yahoo.com or 970-531-3480.

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 – Dick Doucette – 970-531-4148
CRDoucette@gmail.com

Board Member – Charles Stoyer – 303-818-4213
cstoyer@interpex.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. The April Meeting is held where we can have a potluck dinner along with the meeting, and the August meeting is held where we can have a picnic right after the meeting. *If you want to attend a meeting, contact one of your board members to make sure of date, time & location, or just show up – we will update this schedule, if possible, if any changes are made.*

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 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.

Beacon Landing Marina

Jim Debevec
PO Box 590

Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-3671

beaconlandingmarina@gmail.com

BRP, Inc US
Chris Ruske
PO Box 913
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-1680
chris.ruske@brp.com

Classic Claim Services, Inc
Robert A Davis
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Crown Trophy
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303-730-1711
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First Financial Equity Corp
Ken Himelright
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Greenwood Village CO 80111
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970-915-4948
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970-627-3402
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Grand Mountain Bank
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ldickinson@grandmountainbank.com

Grand Mountain Rentals
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970-627-1131
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402-699-9600
ediekavan@futuretk.com

Keller Williams DTC
Renee & Paul Valentine
2356 Ridgetrail Dr
Castle Rock CO 80104
303-903-9256
reneevalentine@kio.com

Lakeview General Store
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Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-3878

Lone Eagle Lodge
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loneaglelodge@gmail.com

Moose Tracks Manor
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Mountain Food Market
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970-627-3470

Mountain Lake Properties
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970-627-3103866-296-1949
donnaready@hotmail.com

Mountain Lakes Lodge & North Shore Resort

Doug Defoe
10480 US Highway 34
Grand Lake Co 80447
970-627-8448

Off Road Body Shop

Keith Damrow
830 E Railroad Av
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970-345-6598
offroad@centurytel.net

Shovein LLC

4819 S Queen St
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303-948-7720
303-709-8306
mshovein@yahoo.com

Sloopy's Grill LLC

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

Spirit Lake Polaris

Matt Woody
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970-627-9288 970-531-1920
mattwoody@wildblue.net

Sun Valley Ranch

Shawn Bruton
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Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-3670
shawn@sunvalleyranch.com

The Gateway Inn

Lisa Jenkins
PO 1169
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-2400
715-651-8724
info@gatewayinn.com

The Water Limousine

325 E Washington St
Sequim, WA 98382
360-775-2288
charles@thewaterlimousine.com

2014-2015 Ride & Activity List

There are a couple of events that may change as we get closer – see individual listings

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 4, 5 pm Board Meeting Meet at Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room.

October 18, 10 am Highway Cleanup – Contact Mike Ingle 970-531-5940 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 1, 5 pm Board Meeting Meet at Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

November 29, 9am Pancake Breakfast Contacts – Tom & Debbie Mason 970-531-5812 & 531-3480 Meet at Idleglen for a full pancake breakfast with sausage, eggs, orange juice, coffee. Invite your friend, neighbors & potential members.

December 6, 5 pm Board Meeting Meet at Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

December 6, 11am Hot Dog Ride – Contact – John Amerman 970-627-5482 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 13 & 14, 8am Snowmobile Safety Training at Grand Lake Fire Station – Contacts Tom & Debbie Mason 970-531-5812, 531-3480. This is a 2-morning class. Saturday morning is classroom training. Sunday morning is the written & driving tests. Recommended for all riders. Kids 10-16 years old must have the training to ride solo on public lands in Colorado. No charge for class. Please pre-register.

December 27, 10am Trees & Trails – Contact – Joe Kelley 970-887-9337 Get off the main trail to explore side trails and meadows. The route will be

determined based on abilities of the attendees. May break into groups by skill level if enough riders.

December 31, 10pm New Years Eve Ride – Contact Tom Mason 970-531-5812. Ride to Eagles Perch to enjoy a bonfire and watch the midnight fireworks. This year it will be a joint ride with the Mile Hi Club.

January 3, 5 pm Board Meeting Meet at Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

January 3, 11am Steak Ride – Contact TBD Meet at Idleglen. The club buys the steaks; the rest is potluck, so bring a dish to share and your beverage. *RSVP so we buy enough steaks.*

January 10, 10am Ladies Ride – Contact – Debbie Mason 970-531-3480 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. We'll take "thumb breaks", too. *Guys -Tom will be riding, so if you guys want to ride give Tom a call 970-531-5812*

January 24, 9am Long Ride – Contact - TBD This ride covers 50 miles or more. Exact route to be determined closer to ride date.

January 31, 7pm Moonlight Ride – Contact – David Zimmerman 303-908-6950 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 7, 5 pm Board Meeting Meet at Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

February 21 Flight for Life Poker Run Jointly run by Trail Blazers and Mile Hi snowmobile clubs. Proceeds benefit Flight for Life. Poker Run, Silent Auction, Happy Hour, After Party. Look for announcements of changes & new ideas as we get closer. This year the proceeds will go to Flight for Life and the CSA Right to Ride fund – you choose either or both when you register.

February 25 – March 1 Overnight Ride – Organizer - TBD A multi-night trip to another area, stay in lodging & ride daily. This is an opportunity to ride & explore in a different area. Location will depend on where the good snow is. If you've ideas about where to go, contact your board. The organizer decides the destination, then people make their own reservations and meet up there.

March 7, 5 pm Board Meeting Meet at Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

March 13 – 15 Yahoo Ride – Contact Tom Mason 970-531-5812 Snow & accommodations permitting, we're bringing back the Yahoo Ride. Riders spend the day riding from Idleglen to a cabin at North Michigan Lake. *If the lodging issue doesn't get resolved, we'll try again next year to make this ride happen.* You might want to join Frank Stehlik on his trip to Grand Mesa.

April 4, 5pm Board Meeting, Potluck & Elections Share a meal with your fellow snowmobilers and determine officers for the coming year. Offices are for 2 years; elections alternate offices.

May 16, 10am Highway Cleanup – Contact Mike Ingle 970-531-5940 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.

June 6, 5 pm Board Meeting Meet at Grand Lake Fire Station Board Room

August 1, noon Greenridge Picnic Area – subject to change - Summer Picnic and Board Meeting. Board and *any* interested parties meet at 10 am to work out the coming season's ride & event schedule. Then at noon, we have our summer picnic for everyone who can make it up to the mountains to cool off. The club provides the fried chicken and the rest of the meal is potluck. Bring table service, beverage and a dish to share.

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:
Why do we ask this? If you are already a member of CSA you do not pay the CSA \$22/32 again, only the \$20 for the Trail Blazers.
