

Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club, Inc.

PO Box 507

Grand Lake CO 80447

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

Volume 15 Number 1

January 2016



Upcoming Events –

January 9 – Ladies Ride 10 am Contact Debbie Mason 970-531-3480 or mooseduds@yahoo.com

We will take a gentle loop ride with plenty of thumb breaks, some meadow play opportunities and riding tips. Bring your lunch. Guys: there's an excellent chance that Tom 970-531-5812

autowrench2002@yahoo.com will be doing some riding that day and would welcome company. He'll be riding harder than the ladies will.

January 16, 9am – Long Ride 9am Contact Tom Mason 970-531-5812 **RSVP REQUIRED**

Ride the 40+ miles (one way) to Gould for hamburger & chips lunch at Clark Peak Cabins, then back to Idleglen. We *must* have a head count, seating is limited, and so they'll know how many burgers to prepare for us. Non-ethanol premium gas available. Some meadow play along the way, depending on snow conditions. Each person responsible for cost of lunch.

January 22-24 – Yahoo Ride Contact Tom Mason 970-531-5812 autowrench2002@yahoo.com or Debbie Mason 970-531-3480

mooseduds@yahoo.com Meet 9am at Idleglen for the 50+ mile ride to the cabin at State Forest State Park near Gould. The cabin is rustic so everything but furniture needs to be hauled to the cabin. Debbie will cook dinner and breakfast, riders bring their own lunches. Debbie will haul bedding, kitchen, personal gear, etc. for the group. You must have a valid Colorado snowmobile registration.

RSVP REQUIRED – we are limited to 21 maximum in the cabin. If at full capacity some will have to share double beds.

Mark your calendar for **February 20, 2016** for the **Poker Run**. Toni Boettcher is chairing the event again this year. To sign up as a volunteer for the event go to the Signup Genius web site <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4ea8a723aa8-2016>

We're hoping for a bumper crop of donations for the Silent Auction, held in conjunction with the Poker Run. If you have a service or item you can donate, you can specify whether the proceeds from that donation go to Flight for Life or to the CSA Right to Ride Fund. Gently used items welcome, labeled and valued as used. We have donation forms for both charities. Donations in Grand County can be picked up by your board members. Front Range donations should be given to Toni Boettcher.

The Friday Happy Hour will be at the Gateway Inn, and the After Party will be at the Sagebrush Grill.

Look for more details in the next issue of the newsletter.

Let's Play Together

Expect to see Mile Hi Snowmobile Club members on some of our rides. We have exchanged ride schedules so members of both clubs can join each other's rides and events. If you'd like to ride with Mile Hi, contact the ride leader. Note: Mile Hi rides are classified by rider skill level.

Recently

New Year's Eve Ride All week the forecast was dire, predicting New Years Eve would be a degree or two lower with each passing day. The last version said our "zone" would be seeing -15 to -25



that night. I felt it was only prudent to warn folks to dress extra warmly; I may have scared off a few,

but 10 die hards showed up to enjoy the show. As it turned out, Eagles Perch was significantly warmer than dawn in town. The thermometer had dipped to a balmy -2 as we were leaving. Back at the house it was -16, and it went to -24 about sunrise. We had a



nice fire going by the time the group arrived. The fireworks were really good this year., and ran about 10-12 minutes. You could see the Christmas tree on Grand Av in some of my photos (zoom lens).

Hot Dog Ride We had a great turnout. By the time we were done we had a total of 35 Trail Blazers, Mile Hi members and potential members stop by for



a brat or hot dog. We used the turnout across from the south end of Whiskey Park. The chuck wagon is heavy and has steel skis, so we need to keep it on solid packed snow. Even so, it sometimes takes a

bit of help to get it moving again. It was a beautiful blue sky day with warm temperatures. We put out



our banner to alert folks as to why a crowd with a chuck wagon had gathered.. Than you, John Amerman for being the contact and cook for this event.

Membership - If you did not renew by December 31, your membership has expired and this will be your last newsletter. If you forgot, just renew and your newsletters and emails will resume. To all of you who did renew your memberships, thank you very much for continuing to support the club and the sport.

Time for nominations

We have three board positions coming up for election in April; President, Secretary and Board Member at large. Please consider running for one of these positions. If you know someone who would be a good candidate, please nominate them, or nominate yourself. ***Your President and Secretary are not running for re-election, so we need candidates.*** Your support is vital for the club's health.

Work Sled Wanted

We are still planning to repair the club sled, but we're also still on the lookout a fairly modern "work sled" (wide track or other sled with a low gear range and reverse) for free or very cheap, it would be a better candidate for pulling the Chuck Wagon. The Chuck Wagon is heavy and a low-gear sled would have an easier time of pulling it. If you know of one, contact any of our board members with the details. Note: after changing out the coolant tank the Thunder Cat seems to be working OK.

If you'd like to be part of a work party to help repair the club sled, contact Mike Ingle 970-531-5940 or Charles Stoyer 303-818-4213.

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 a potluck dinner along with the meeting at a location TBD. The August meeting is at the Greenridge Picnic Area 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 website. You get a listing on the CSA website as well. 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.

Black Bear Lodge

Robert Ricci
PO Box 609
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-3654
blackbeargrandlake@rkymtnhi.com

Classic Claim Services, Inc

Robert A Davis
5506 Sunset Falls
Apollo Beach FL 33572
813-671-1697
robertdavis5@verizon.net

Crown Trophy

John Movius
1500 W Littleton Blvd
Littleton CO 80120
303-730-1711
Crowntrophy24@yahoo.com

First Financial Equity Corp

Ken Himelright
5619 DTC Parkway, Ste 575
Greenwood Village CO 80111
303-643-5959
970-915-4948
khimelright@ffec.com

Grand Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

Samantha Miller
PO Box 429
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-3402
executivedirector@grandlakechamber.com

Grand Mountain Bank

PO Box 749
Grand Lake CO 80447
ldickinson@grandmountainbank.com

Grand Mountain Rentals

Calise Townsend
PO Box 808
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-1131
glrental@rkymtnhi.com

Kavan Propane & Oil, Inc

Randy Kavan
1984 County Road U
Cedar Bluffs NE 68015
402-628-8271
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

PO Box 38
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-3878

Lone Eagle Lodge

Janusz & Bobbie
712 Grand Av
PO Box 1783
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-3310
loneaglelodge@gmail.com

Moose Tracks Manor

Rod Archer
74 Co Rd 4920
Grand Lake CO 80447
303-335-0833
moosetracksmanor@gmail.com

Mountain Food Market

Jon Linton
PO Box 1397
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-3470

Mountain Lake Properties

Donna Ready
PO Box 1350
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-3103866-296-1949
donnaready@hotmail.com

Mountain Lakes Lodge & North Shore Resort

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

Off Road Body Shop

Keith Damrow
830 E Railroad Av
Akron CO 80720
970-345-6598
offroad@centurytel.net

Shadow Mountain Flooring

William Sauter
PO Box 1973
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-8315
carpet364@yahoo.com

Shovein LLC

4819 S Queen St
Littleton CO 80127
303-948-7720
303-709-8306
mshovein@yahoo.com

Sloopy's Grill LLC

Richard & Jennie Schliep
PO Box 842
Grand Lake CO 80447
970-627-8182
Schliep51@comcast.net

Sun Valley Ranch

Shawn Bruton
PO Box 470
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

2015-2016 Ride & Activity List

All rides & activities meet at Idleglen unless noted otherwise.

Board Meetings are held first Saturday of the month, except May, July and September. Meetings are at 5 pm at the Grand Lake Fire Station unless otherwise noted

October 3, 5 pm Board Meeting – Grand Lake Fire Station

October 17, 10 am Highway Cleanup Contact Mike Ingle 970-531-5940 or ingledavid@hotmail.com – meet at mile marker 9. Bring safety vest, gloves, morning beverage. Club provides bags & donuts.

November 7, 5 pm Board Meeting – Grand Lake Fire Station

November 28 9 am - Pancake Breakfast Contact Tom or Debbie Mason 970-531-5812 autowrench2002@yahoo.com or 970-531-3480 mooseduds@yahoo.com At Louis Heckert Pavilion in Town Park, as a **Fund Raiser** (new location for 2015)

December 5, 5 pm Board Meeting – Grand Lake Fire Station

December 12 & 13, 8 am – Snowmobile Safety Training Contact Tom or Debbie Mason 970-531-5812 autowrench2002@yahoo.com or 970-531-3480 mooseduds@yahoo.com – Saturday for classroom instruction, Sunday for testing. Meet at Grand Lake Fire Station

December 19, 11 am Hot Dog Ride contact John Amerman 970-627-5482 – ride to a picnic location, or stay at Idleglen, depending on snow conditions. We'll have brats, hot dogs and all the fixin's

December 31, 10:30 pm New Year's Eve Ride contact Tom Mason 970-531-5812 – watch the midnight fireworks from Eagles Perch. Mile Hi Snowmobile Club will be joining us for this ride.

January 2, 5 pm Board Meeting – Grand Lake Fire Station

January 9, 10 am Ladies Ride contact Debbie Mason 970-531-3480 mooseduds@yahoo.com –

this one is a gentle ride for the girls and ladies only. There could be a group of guys riding separately.

January 16 9 am Long Ride Contact TBD – a 50 mile or longer ride, if possible a lunch destination, otherwise bring your own lunch. This entry will be updated as details are finalized.

January 22-24 9 am Yahoo Ride Contact Tom or Debbie Mason 970-531-5812 autowrench2002@yahoo.com or 970-531-3480 mooseduds@yahoo.com – Ride from Idleglen to the Gould Area to stay in a rustic dormitory cabin for 2 nights, then ride back.

February 6, 5 pm Board Meeting – Grand Lake Fire Station

February 13, 11 am Steak Ride contact Dick Doucette 970-531-4148 CRDoucette@gmail.com – ride to where the steaks are to be cooked. Club provides the steaks, members bring the rest of the potluck meal

February 20, 2016 Poker Run contact Toni Boettcher toni_boettcher@hotmail.com – Jointly run by Mile Hi and Trail Blazers snowmobile clubs. This event raises funds for Flight for Life and the Right to Ride Fund with Poker Run and a Silent Auction.

February 27, 7 pm Moonlight Ride – Contact **David Zimmerman 303-908-6950 or zimmcon@gmail.com**. We may not see the moon, but we'll have a great time around the bonfire. The Groomer makes an appearance so you have an opportunity to see how they keep our trails in such good condition

March 4, 5 pm Board Meeting – 5 pm at Hahn's Peak Roadhouse (during the Overnight Ride)

March 4-6, Overnight Ride Contact: Sam & Judy Eberly : Sam 316-655-3818, Judy 316-259-2503 or eberlysnow970@sbcglobal.net – an opportunity to try out the riding in another area. A long weekend trip. Contact Hahn's Peak Roadhouse directly to make reservations. Make your reservation directly with Hahn's Peak Roadhouse at 970-879-4404. Tell them you're with the Trail Blazers for a 10% discount. (Note – there is a \$50 non refundable deposit for pets.) Their cancellation policy has changed – no refunds, but they'll hold a year's credit for you if you can't make it. Or you can let someone else use the reservation. Last year was a poor snow year, but we had a good

time. We're hoping for much better snow conditions this time.

April 2, 5 pm Board Meeting, Potluck & Election

– usually held at Columbine Lake clubhouse. In 2016 we need to elect a new President and Secretary. Board Member at large is also up for re-election. Dinner is potluck.

May 21, 10 am Highway Cleanup - Contact

Mike Ingle 970-531-5940 or ingledavid@hotmail.com – meet at mile marker 9. Bring safety vest, gloves, morning beverage. Club provides bags & donuts.

August 6, 10 am board meeting – Meet at Shadow Mountain Picnic Ground in the Greenridge area. This is when we set the ride and event schedule for the coming season.

August 6, noon Club Potluck at Shadow Mountain Picnic Ground in the Greenridge area. The club buys the fried chicken and the rest of the meal is potluck. Bring a dish to share, and your own table service & beverage.

If you'd like to share any news or photos, send them to gl_trailblazers@yahoo.com Photos from club events, local scenery, etc. are welcome.

Do you realize how special our club is? It is the oldest snowmobile club in Colorado, pre-dating even the Colorado Snowmobile Association. It is a coast-to-coast club. We have members from Washington on the west coast to Florida on the east coast. About half our members do not have a Grand County, Colorado address. It has been this way for most, if not all, the club's history. This is why we have rides instead of monthly meetings.

We have three board positions coming up for election in April; President, Secretary and Board Member at large. Please consider running for one of these positions. If you know someone who would be a good candidate for one of these positions, please nominate them. Your support is vital for the club's health.

This was provided from member Charles Martin, who belongs to both clubs. He sent it on to us as a

reminder that our sport, while tons of fun, is also an inherently dangerous sport.

From: **Cascade Drift Skippers Snowmobile Club**

Date: Fri, Jan 1, 2016 at 6:00 PM

Subject: Mike Nelson

It is with a heavy heart that I report the passing of club member, fellow snowmobiler and friend Michael Nelson.

Michael was riding steep terrain yesterday (12.31.2015) in the Thorp Lake area when his snowmobile left the trail over an embankment and hit a clump of trees. Michael was thrown from the machine and landed head first in a tree well. His lone riding partner was unable to revive him and went for help. Fellow club members Bob Seelye and Bill Yager both responded as part of the rescue and have done everything they can to help.

Friends and family have been posting notes on Mike's page: <https://www.facebook.com/mike.nelson.1829405>, and many take solace in knowing that Mike was doing what he loved.

As we learn of memorial plans, I will pass them along.

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> Our club is in District 3

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.
