

## Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club, Inc.

PO Box 507

Grand Lake CO 80447

web site: [www.gltrailblazers.com](http://www.gltrailblazers.com) email: [gl\\_trailblazers@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:autowrench2002@yahoo.com) or Debbie Mason 970-531-3480

[mooseduds@yahoo.com](mailto: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-geared 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](mailto:autowrench2002@yahoo.com)

Vice President – John Amerman – 970-627-5482  
[ja.grandlake07@comcast.net](mailto:ja.grandlake07@comcast.net)

Secretary – Debbie Mason – 970-531-3480  
[mooseduds@yahoo.com](mailto:mooseduds@yahoo.com)

Treasurer – Dick Doucette – 970-531-4148  
[CRDoucette@gmail.com](mailto:CRDoucette@gmail.com)

Board Member – Charles Stoyer – 303-818-4213  
[cstoyer@interpex.com](mailto:cstoyer@interpex.com)

### **District #3 CSA Rep**

Dennis Lynton  
Based out of Westminster, Co  
Phone 303-253-7743  
[DennisLynton@gmail.com](mailto: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. .

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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](mailto:blackbeargrandlake@rkymtnhi.com)

### **Classic Claim Services, Inc**

Robert A Davis  
5506 Sunset Falls  
Apollo Beach FL 33572  
813-671-1697  
[robertdavis5@verizon.net](mailto:robertdavis5@verizon.net)

### **Crown Trophy**

John Movius  
1500 W Littleton Blvd  
Littleton CO 80120  
303-730-1711  
[Crowntrophy24@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:khimelright@ffec.com)

### **Grand Lake Area Chamber of Commerce**

Samantha Miller  
PO Box 429  
Grand Lake CO 80447  
970-627-3402  
[executivedirector@grandlakechamber.com](mailto:executivedirector@grandlakechamber.com)

### **Grand Mountain Bank**

PO Box 749  
Grand Lake CO 80447  
[ldickinson@grandmountainbank.com](mailto:ldickinson@grandmountainbank.com)

**Grand Mountain Rentals**

Calise Townsend  
PO Box 808  
Grand Lake CO 80447  
970-627-1131  
[glrental@rkymtnhi.com](mailto: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](mailto:ediekavan@futuretk.com)

**Keller Williams DTC**

Renee & Paul Valentine  
2356 Ridgetrail Dr  
Castle Rock CO 80104  
303-903-9256  
[reneevalentine@kio.com](mailto: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](mailto:loneaglelodge@gmail.com)

**Moose Tracks Manor**

Rod Archer  
74 Co Rd 4920  
Grand Lake CO 80447  
303-335-0833  
[moosetracksmanor@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:offroad@centurytel.net)

**Shadow Mountain Flooring**

William Sauter  
PO Box 1973  
Grand Lake CO 80447  
970-627-8315  
[carpet364@yahoo.com](mailto:carpet364@yahoo.com)

**Shovein LLC**

4819 S Queen St  
Littleton CO 80127  
303-948-7720  
303-709-8306  
[mshovein@yahoo.com](mailto:mshovein@yahoo.com)

**Sloopy's Grill LLC**

Richard & Jennie Schliep  
PO Box 842  
Grand Lake CO 80447  
970-627-8182  
[Schliep51@comcast.net](mailto:Schliep51@comcast.net)

**Sun Valley Ranch**

Shawn Bruton  
PO Box 470  
Grand Lake CO 80447  
970-627-3670  
[shawn@sunvalleyranch.com](mailto:shawn@sunvalleyranch.com)

**The Gateway Inn**

Lisa Jenkins  
PO 1169  
Grand Lake CO 80447  
970-627-2400  
715-651-8724  
[info@gatewayinn.com](mailto:info@gatewayinn.com)

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto:autowrench2002@yahoo.com) or 970-531-3480 [mooseduds@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:autowrench2002@yahoo.com) or 970-531-3480 [mooseduds@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:autowrench2002@yahoo.com) or 970-531-3480 [mooseduds@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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