



Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association

7040 Lakeland Avenue North • Suite 212 • Brooklyn Park, Minnesota 55428-5616

Telephone: 763-577-0185 • Fax: 763-577-0186

Website: www.mnsnowmobiler.org

MEMO

TO: Club Contacts
Club Presidents

FROM: Nancy Hanson, Business Coordinator

DATE: April 3, 2017

RE: Updates

MnUSA's Rendezvous – Nearly 300 snowmobilers attended the MnUSA Winter Rendezvous in Grand Rapids the weekend of February 9-12. The trails were exceptional and the local clubs put on a great event. Worthy snowmobilers were recipients of awards at the Saturday evening banquet <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=839>. Make plans to attend the 2018 Rendezvous at Izaty's Resort on Lake Mille Lacs hosted by the local clubs. Minutes of the February 12th membership meeting can be found at <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=525>

Calendar Photo Contest - The 2018 MnUSA Raffle Calendar will again have trail photos supplied by members. If you have photos of your trail both in the summer and winter, submit both of them for a special effect on the calendar. **Photos must be submitted in print format to the MnUSA office by April 24.** Horizontal photos are preferred. Additional information can be found at <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=838>

Legislation – MnUSA's legislative reception was held on February 27th with good attendance by legislators and MnUSA members. MnUSA thanks those legislators that were able to attend. MnUSA's legislative priorities can be found at <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=832>.

The Governor's budget included various fee increases including a \$10 per year increase in the snowmobile registration fee. Clubs' grants for trail maintenance and grooming have been cut due to lower than anticipated registration income and, with the fluctuation in annual registrations due per year over the 3 year registration cycle, next year grants will be cut as well. DNR's funding analysis presented to the legislature can be found at http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/assistance/grants/recreation/gia_snowmobile/snowmobile_program_funding_update.pdf. MnUSA's board of directors unanimously passed a resolution to support the DNR's fee increase. Without the increase it is anticipated the grants will be cut 20% or more. The fee increases are not presently in either the House or Senate Bills. The most recent State Capital Report from MnUSA's lobbyist Doug Franzen is enclosed along with a call to action from MnUSA President Kavanaugh.

This is a very difficult issue as the majority of legislators do not support any fee increases this year with the large surplus. To address this, MnUSA's directors also approved an early registration discount option where registration purchased before November 1st would stay at the current rate but registrations purchased November 1st or later would be subject to the increase. This will not solve the total shortage but could gain support of some legislators and bring necessary additional funds to the snowmobile account.

Please still take time to contact your legislators, thank them for their support of snowmobile issues, let them know how important snowmobiling is to you and your family and let them know the need for the

fee increase to fund the clubs' grants. The importance of direct contacts from constituents to legislators to explain snowmobile issues cannot be overstated.

MnUSA introduced a bill to exempt trail maintenance materials – signs, bridge materials, etc. – from sales tax. As the House and Senate bills differ, the tax bill will be going to conference committee. Additional information will be provided as legislation progresses and Doug Franzen will give a full update at the MnUSA Spring meeting at Arrowwood Lodge at Brainerd Lakes.

MnUSA Spring Meeting -- On April 28-30 MnUSA members and board of directors will meet at Arrowwood Lodge at Brainerd Lakes for this annual “work” weekend. MnUSA’s committees will meet over the weekend to set programs for next season. MnUSA’s general membership meeting will take place on Saturday morning with a DNR report and legislative update. Committee meetings will take place on Friday and throughout the day on Saturday as well. You are welcome to become a part of the planning process. The Lodge has promised some fun too!

Spring Meeting

April 28-30, 2017

Lunch will be available on Saturday for those that pre-register (\$10 donation)
Please register through the MnUSA Office by **April 17** to be included in lunch.
763-577-0185 or 866-811-SNOW or mnusaoffice@popp.net

Lodging Room Rate is \$114/night under MN United Snowmobilers Association. Block will be released **April 7**. After that date reservations will be accepted on a space at rate available basis only. The weekend schedule will be available on the MnUSA website at <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=836>

MnUSA Summer Campout will be held July 7-9, 2017 at Quadna Mountain Resort, Hill City, hosted by MnUSA Region 2. Registration is attached. Updates and additional information will be available on the MnUSA website.

SnowGoer Club Promotion -- SnowGoer magazine is again partnering with the snowmobile clubs across the country to promote club membership. For \$49 your club can be included in the club listing in 2 issues of SnowGoer and on the magazine’s website. Additional “perks” are being discussed and will be available soon. Deadline to participate in the program is August 10, 2017. Forms to participate and information from last year’s program are enclosed and can be found on the club info page on MnUSA’s website at <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=525> .

Information Amenity Signs – There are funds remaining in the grant MSEAF has for the blue amenity signs and the grant expires soon. If your club is interested in these signs, order the forms can be found on the club info page on MnUSA's website - second item on page 525 (<http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=525>). An order will be placed on May 12th so forms need to be to MnUSA by that date.

With an annual estimated budget of \$14 million annually, snowmobiling is big business. MnUSA’s top priority is to protect the snowmobile funds for snowmobile use! Thanks for your support.

If you have questions on any of the above, please contact the MnUSA office.

cc: MnUSA Executive Board
MnUSA Board of Directors

STATE CAPITOL REPORT

March 28, 2017

The snowmobile registration fee increase was not included in the environmental finance bills in either the House and the Senate. Reports from legislative leaders indicate that they received mixed messages from MnUSA members. Some of our people contacted their legislator in support and some connected their legislator in opposition. In the House of Representatives, Chair Fabian replied to a committee member statement that MnUSA supported the increase with the retort: "I'm not so sure about that." I later met with Chair Fabian (House) and Chair Ingebrigtsen (Senate) to discuss the possibility of a fee structure whereby there would be no increase in fees for registrations prior to November 1st and the increased fee thereafter in each registration cycle. Chair Fabian did not consider this idea as a part of his bill. Chair Ingebrigtsen was more open to the idea. The Environmental finance bills will be voted on by both the House and the Senate and then sent to the Governor. It is expected that the Governor will veto the bill so MnUSA will have another chance to insert the fee increase. If we have any hope of success, we need to speak with one voice.

I will be testifying before the Senate Tax Committee tomorrow in support of MnUSA's proposal to exempt trail building equipment (lumber, metal, etc.) from the sale tax. Despite being our chief House author, Chair Greg Davids failed to include the provision in the House Tax bill. He apologized explaining that it was an inadvertent omission. He will continue to work to make our provision a part of the Tax bill.

The deputy registrar's fee increase is included in the Environmental Finance bills that will go to the Governor.

Finally, there is a trail provision in the legacy bill which requires forest land acquired with legacy money to be open to all forms of recreation; both motorized and non-motorized.

The Legislature will take an Passover/Easter break for 10 days beginning on April 7th. This will be a great time to talk to your legislators in your home district.

Doug Franzen

MnUSA SUMMER EVENT (Formerly – Summer Campout)



Region 2 – Welcomes You

July 7 - 9, 2017

400 Quadna Rd., Hill City, MN 55748 • (218) 697-2880

Area attractions include Forest History Center, Judy Garland Museum, Mississippi Showboat, Antique Shops, Iron World, Itasca State Park (Headwaters of the Mississippi), Hill Annex Mine, and the Port of Duluth

Event registration is separate from lodging/camping and includes Friday evening food, Saturday evening dinner, beverages. Quadna activities - golf, tennis, fishing, miles of bike, quad and side-by-side trails. Bring your toys! Registrations are transferrable, but non-refundable. Walk-ins will not be guaranteed food. Make your lodging and camping reservations directly. Call Quadna Mountain Resort 218-697-2880 on Thur., Fri. or Sat. Quadna townhomes available for rent. Other lodging listed pg. 2.

SUMMER EVENT REGISTRATION (Early registration deadline 6/20/17)

After 6/20/17 add \$10 to registration

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Adults_(#) _____ @ \$50 \$ _____

Youth (11-15) (#) _____ @ \$20 \$ _____

Children (10 & under) (#) _____ @ \$10 \$ _____ TOTAL Enclosed _____ \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: MnUSA Region 2 Campout 2017

Mail Registrations:

MnUSA Region 2, c/o Jerry Kujula, 4951 Spirit Lake Rd., Mt. Iron, MN 55768.

Questions: Ask a Region 2 Director, listed in Minnesota Snowmobiling magazine and on MnUSA website – www.mnsnowmobiler.org – About MnUSA.

MnUSA SUMMER EVENT (Formerly – Summer Campout)



OTHER LODGING& OTHER AREA AMMENITIES:

Hill Lake is located in Aitkin County, Minnesota. This lake is 907 acres in size. It is approximately 48 feet deep at its deepest point. Anglers can expect to catch a variety of fish including Black Bullhead, Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Walleye, White Sucker, Yellow Bullhead and Yellow Perch.

Hill City Park Campground
400 Park Avenue
Hill City, MN 55748
Phone: (218) 697-2301

On beautiful Hill Lake. Has bathhouse with showers. New playground equipment. Nice beach. Tent sites and RV/trailer sites with water and electric. Make reservations early to confirm your site. ATV trail access to Quadna.

Whitetail Inn Motel
PO Box 95
Hill City, MN 55748
Phone: (218) 697-2470 (answered by Hill City Realty)

Fun is right out your front door. Many trails for walking, biking, snowmobiling & 4-wheeling. Walking distance to all business. In room TV with 40 channels, Parking room for trailers. ATV trail access to Quadna.

Blue Moon Resort & Motel
68584 US Hwy 169
Hill City, MN 55748
Phone: (218) 697-5500
Web: www.bluemoonresort.com

Units are extremely clean and well furnished. Cabins are right down on the lake and each have private deck, barbeque grill, linens/dishes. No TV's or phones in cabins. Satellite TV in motel units, but no phones. Quiet, relaxing, friendly. Excellent beach and great fishing. Fire rings on beach with free firewood for guests.

Also available for camping and recreation: **Savanna Portage State Park**, 218-426-3271, has 15,818 acres of rolling hills, lakes, and bogs. The Continental Divide marks the great division of water, flowing to the Mississippi River or to Lake Superior. About an hour highway drive east of Hill City.

Spread the Good Word About Snowmobile Clubs Campaign

Participant Information Form

Name of person submitting information (not for print): _____

Your contact information, in case we need clarification (not for print):

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Your \$49 listing in SnowGoer magazine can include the following information. Not all blanks need be completed. PLEASE NOTE: Either your website OR your Facebook page will be listed.

Full name of snowmobile club: _____

Location of club: _____ (city) _____ (state)

Phone number of club (only 1): _____

Club Email address (only 1): _____

Club website OR Club Facebook page: _____

Send completed form and your check for \$49 payable to MnUSA to:

Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association

Attention: Membership Committee

7040 Lakeland Ave. N. #212

Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

mnusaoffice@popp.net

Contact Information:

Jerry Hanson, Membership Committee Chair

hansonjn@centurylink.net

612-868-7477

DEADLINE TO PARTICIPATE: On or before AUGUST 10, 2017

NOTE: Last year's flyer is attached. Updates for the promotion are coming soon and will be on MnUSA's website at <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=525>

JUST \$49

INCREASE YOUR MEMBERSHIPS!

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN TO

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT SNOWMOBILE CLUBS!



Schedule your club's listing for the **DECEMBER 2016** (Mails Oct. 5) issue of *Snow Goer* magazine

CIRCULATION: More than 55,000 snowmobile-owning households

- ▶ Package includes a full-page editorial, proclaiming and reinforcing the benefits of belonging to a snowmobile club.
- ▶ Opposite that page will be a promotional opportunity, where clubs and associations can post their contact information for a very affordable price.

PACKAGE DETAILS

- ▶ **\$49** gets a club or association a listing showing the organization's name, address, phone number, website or other appropriate contact information.
- ▶ Clubs will be organized under state titles, with state association logos where appropriate.
- ▶ If more than 60 clubs sign up, club listing pages will be repeated in the January or February issue of *Snow Goer*, at no additional charge.
- ▶ **PLUS:** Editorial and club listing information, with live links, will be posted at **SnowGoer.com**, with social media used to spread the message about the program.

FIND NEW MEMBERS FOR YOUR CLUB!



PROGRAM CHAIRMAN:

Jerry Hanson
of MnUSA

Sample of page 61 from SnowGoer December 2015.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

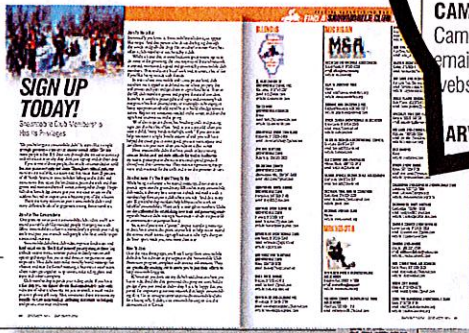
contact Jerry at **612/868-7477** or hansonjn@centurylink.net

- All reservations and payments are due to Jerry Hanson by Aug. 11, 2016.
- Issue mails to subscribers on Oct. 6, with copies placed on newsstands on Oct. 18.



2015 CAMPAIGN RESULTS

122 Clubs/State Associations participated from Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wisconsin.



byrons.com

BYRON SNOW BEARS
 Byron, 507/289-5758
 email: mnusarep@byronsnowbears.com
 website: byronsnowbears.com

CALEDONIA SNO-GOPHERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB
 Caledonia, 507/725-7669
 email: calsnow@acegroup.cc
 website: mnsnowmobiler.org/clubs

CAMBRIDGE DRIFT DUSTERS
 Cambridge, 763/691-8280
 email: randyfox66@gmail.com
 website: cambridgedriftdusters.com

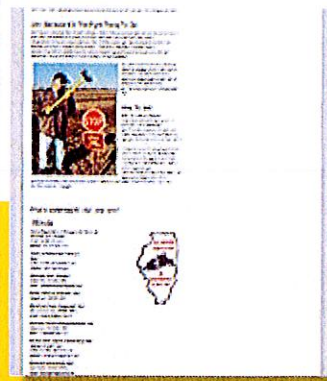
CARVER COUNTY SNOWRUNNERS
 Carver, 507/492-5600

IN PRINT

- ▶ 4 pages in the December 2015 issue of *Snow Goer* magazine; editorial plus three full pages of snowmobile club listings.
- ▶ 3 pages of snowmobile club listings re-run in the January 2016 issue of *Snow Goer* magazine to reinforce the message and broaden the audience.



ONLINE



▶ **Oct. 21, 2015**— Complete article and full listings with live website links posted on **SnowGoer.com** under the headline: “Join A Snowmobile Club Today, Because Membership Has Privileges.” Also promoted as the lead story in the October 22, 2015 *Snow Goer* E-newsletter and on social media.

▶ **Between Oct. 21 and June 1**— “Join A Snowmobile Club Today” was the 10th most viewed story on **SnowGoer.com** – behind only new sled releases, the Arctic Cat Snow Bike story and two how-to articles.

FIND NEW MEMBERS FOR YOUR CLUB!