



Waukesha County Snowmobile Association

www.WaukeshaSnow.org



September 9, 2015, Meeting Minutes

Hosting Club: North Lake at BoneYard

President Chuck Couden called the meeting to order at 7:35 & led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion was made by Barb Butschke, seconded by Dean Wandel, to accept August meeting minutes as distributed, with a minor correction on page 2. Motion carried.

Clubs not present tonight: Dousman, Eagle & Muskego.

Treasurer's report: Jen Miller jmiller.aud@gmail.com had emailed reports to the membership, prior to the meeting. Jen was not at the July meeting.

<u>July Balances are:</u>	
Checking	\$ 9,318.52
Savings	\$ 2,812.77
Scholarship	\$ 870.71
Total Assets	\$13,002.00

Dan Dewey made a motion, seconded by Barb Butschke to accept the July treasurers' report as presented, for audit. Motion carried.

<u>August Balances are:</u>	
Checking	\$ 9,142.56
Savings	2,813.13
Scholarship	944.16
Total Assets	\$12,899.85

Dan Dewey made a motion, seconded by Barb Butschke to accept the August treasurers' report as presented, for audit. Motion carried.

Groomer Corporation: Harold Butschke reported that the Waukesha County Groomer Corporation will file elections results by September 25th. Anyone interested should see Harold after the meeting.

Day for working on the Groomers is Friday, November 27th. at Brinkman's shop. Thanks to Dennis Pipkorn for greasing equipment last spring.

Plans to up-date the list of share holders and honor the founding members.

As stated in the July minutes: "On behalf of the Groomer Corporation Harold asked the Association for an additional \$1,000 per year. It should be noted that WCSA currently pays the insurance premium for the groomers in the amount of \$2,190.00 per year. After discussion it was decided that this needs to be brought back to the clubs and to table the request until the October meeting."

Funded Trail Committee: Chairman, Harold Butschke, hbarthur@att.net; cell 262-468-8473.

There will be bridge materials and stakes available. Special thanks to Dean Wandel for donating stakes.

The fall Trail Masters meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 11th. 2015 at Spinnakers, American Legion Club house, 128 W. Wisconsin Ave. Oconomowoc, WI 53066. The meeting will start at 6:30 pm.

The DNR requested bridge inventory in Waukesha County. The request stated that if the County did not respond, the County would lose their funding for the following season. On April 10th. Harold sent a letter to Cathy Burrow, DNR Council Liaison explaining that our bridges are constructed by our member Clubs without grants from the snowmobile program. The clubs use their own money along with funds from our trail program. We use leftover grooming money to purchase bridge materials. We have not applied for funds because Waukesha County Parks and Land Use will not allow funds to pass through them for bridge construction without an easement on the Landowner's property.

Due to the above reasons we will not need to supply an inventory of the snowmobile trail bridges in Waukesha County. Harold asked Cathy to get back to him about our decision.

In August, before the Snowmobile Recreation Council meeting, Harold called Cathy Burrow to ask if she had read his letter? Cathy called on August 21st. with Great news! We will be funded next season. She did read my letter and apologized for not getting back to me. The request for the bridge inventory was for the counties that had received bridge funding in the past. The Council wanted the inventory so they could be sure they were not refunding newer bridges that they had previously funded.

The DNR notified Holly that they were selling a property in the Sussex area and asked that she check to see if we had a snowmobile trail on the property. They would grant an easement for the trail if there was one on that said property. Harold checked and we did not have a trail on or near the property. It sure was nice of them to ask.

The DNR has reviewed our 2014/2015 request for trail maintenance funds and approved it with minor changes in DOT rates. Waukesha County Park and Land Use has received payment in full.

The North Lake Nomads are working on a trail reroute West of North Lake as a farm has been sold and the new owner does not want a trail on the property.

The Pewaukee Moonshiners are working on a permit to place a bridge over a ditch South of Highway 16 on their snowmobile trail.

Harold Butschke made a motion, seconded by Andy Slaby to purchase bridge deck lumber not to exceed \$2,500.00 with a check from the County that will be paid back the first week of February 2016. (2 x 8 x 12 & plywood). Purchasing large amount at the same time saves everyone money. Motion carried.

Scholarship: Wendi Pipkorn is looking for volunteers for the committee. Will be giving (2) two \$750.00 scholarships this year. Applications are due January 1, 2016. Complete information on web site www.waukeshasno.org .

Would like to see donations from any or all clubs, donations need to be in by December.

Blue Ribbon: Karen Jeras reported, on August 31, 2015, Yellowstone National Park announced that a public lottery will start on September 1, to determine the trip dates for Non-Commercially Guide Leaders wanting to visit Yellowstone this coming winter season (2015-2016). The lottery will remain open until September 30, 2015.

Highlights of Non-Commercially Guided Program that starts this winter season.

- ❖ Each day during the coming winter season, there will be up to five snowmobiles in each of four Non-commercially Guided Transportation Snowmobile Events/trips, one from each of the four Yellowstone Park Gates.
- ❖ You will be required to possess a non-commercial snowmobile access permit which would be awarded annually through an online lottery system set to begin on September 1st. for this season through www.recreation.gov .

- ❖ Each snowmobile operator will be required to have successfully completed the Yellowstone Snowmobile Safety Education Certification training course which is available online. The course was developed with the help and sponsorship of the Wyoming State Snowmobile Program. This "No Cost" course is now available at <http://provalenslearning.com/yellowstone-snowmobile-education-certificate>.
- ❖ You will be allowed to lead 2 non-commercially guided trips into the Park per season and the trips can last up to 3 days. Note starting this year, you will be charged \$40 for each day of your permit 1 day permit \$40; two day permit \$80; three day permit \$120.
- ❖ You will be required to use only current Best Available Technology (BAT) snowmobiles in your group.

After the lottery is finished, and the initial trips are awarded, you can still sign up to lead a trip at www.recreation.gov on a first-come-first-served basis for the dates still available. A total of only two trips allowed per season. For additional information on the Yellowstone Winter Use issue, visit our dedicated website www.saveyellowstonepark.com .

Remember one of our collective main efforts during the last SEIS Winter Planning process was to have a Non-commercially Guided access program for entry into Yellowstone. We accomplished that and now is your chance to plan a trip into the Park without a commercial guide. Please consider signing up during the lottery period at www.recreation.gov for an opportunity to lead a non-commercially guided trip into the park this season (2015-2016).

Map: Mark Sloggy milwsloggy@msn.com (262) 560-0956, reported that they have a good start on things for next season and have 49 ads' renewing (2-year ad). Mark & Barb Sloggy and Mark Grobarchik had meeting, and set October 14, as dead line on renewals. Art work needs to be in no later than October 30. Are checking on new printing options and will set up a meeting with field team in the near future. 33 renewed last year and are able to make changes if desired. Plan to use maps from last season at the snow show.

AWSC: Delores Scharmer reported: Clubs were reminded that **Membership** renewals are very important this year with the new trail pass system in effect. DNR still working on a vintage trail pass update.

Workshop is Oct. 30 to Nov. 1 at Paper Valley in Appleton. Complete details at www.awsc.org.

Would be great to have a representative from Waukesha County at the Queen Contest (16-21 years of age).

AWSC has chosen a new clothing vendor Embroider Me and working on getting information the web site.

Delores has a list of clothing items, etc., from previous clothing supplier for sale at a discounted price.

Dean Wandel talked about snowmobile deaths in Wisconsin; in 2005 there were 36, last season it was lowered to 12. Included is a link to the 2014-2015 Wisconsin Snowmobile Safety & Enforcement Annual Report. http://dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/le/LE0203_2015.pdf

Legislative Committee: Dave Groszcyk has volunteered to be chairman and reported: According to the information found on the American Council of Snowmobile Associations the funding for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is still included in the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) which is part of the highway funding bill. See attached document from the ACSA.

The lottery for the non-commercially guided snowmobile access program is now open. If interested in snowmobiling in Yellowstone National Park, please read the attached article regarding the terms and conditions to do so.

I'm keeping tabs on the request to open a snowmobile trail through Blue Mounds State Park. Review and public input closed the end of July. I'll provide information as soon as I learn about the DNR's decision on this matter.

I have attached a copy of a letter an environmental group has shared with its members and supporters as they work to close access to all over the snow vehicles. This is just an example of the type of groups us snowmobilers need to fight against to maintain our sport and access to land and trails throughout the U.S. If you hear of any Federal, State or local community hearings that our association's members should be made aware of, please forward your information on to me. Please email me at dgroszczyk@gmail.com . I'd be happy to research these issues further for you.

Intersections: Dennis Pipkorn has been in contact with Mr. Dittmer and the project is in progress.

Raffle: Chairman Andy Slaby has raffle tickets. Sell, sell, sell. andy.slaby@gmail.com (262) 424-5917. Harold Butschke is in charge of raffle trailer reservations. Trailer is currently being stored at Brinkman's'.

Door Raffle: Mark Grobarchik brought raffle items as Bruce Blodgett was out of town. Mark confirmed that Bruce is looking to step down from the committee. Thanks to John Brinkmann for running the raffle tonight.

Tech/Communications Committee: Mark Grobarchik (262) 781-0640 mgrob@milwpc.com "Join A Club Flyer" was passed around the meeting so everyone could confirm their information.

Sheet listing Snowmobile Safety Classes was also passed around for everyone to fill in for the season.

Mark Grobarchik has not had an opportunity to write the letter as requested from the Sno-Birds Board of Directors (Re. Gary Brickman) in their July 29th. email, regarding the web site domain transferred.

Dennis LaFave is doing a good job with the site. Dennis asked that clubs verify their information on the site. Send events, etc., for posting on the site. Is working on the mobile site and hopes to get it fixed soon.

Snow Show: Friday, October 16, through Sunday, October 18. Mark Grobarchik (262) 781-0640 and/or mgrob@milwpc.com. The drawing was held for work hours selling raffle tickets and working the coat room at the snow show & will send out the sheet indicating times. Friday 5 – 10 PM; Saturday 10 AM – 7 PM; Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM.

Swap Meet: Mark Grobarchik, Bruce Blodgett, Andy Slaby and Karen Jeras have agreed to run the swap meet as John Roberts does not have time with his demanding work schedule. Karen did review the draft contract that was received.

It should be noted that last year rental fee was \$1,750 and did include Friday night. All advertising is out, facebook, WSN, hot line ready, Mark feels that if we do not do the swap meet it could have an impact on the snow show booth. Item to remember is that a lot of raffle tickets are also sold at the swap meet and we need to keep our name out there.

After discussion, Mark Grobarchik made a motion, seconded by Barb Butschke to go forward with the swap meet and pay the \$1,750 rent amount, ONLY when the full contract is in hand. Motion Carried. Darryl Taylor opposed. Robb Brinkmann suggested that we take a close look at the event after the snow show to see if it is worth holding.

Andy Slaby passed a signup sheet asking for volunteers, the use of an AVT would come in handy.

Finance: Mark Grobarchik repeated the request for an official person to chair the committee. Mark Grobarchik and Mark Sloggy had a short meeting and discussed budget forms that have been returned. Mark Grobarchik plans to have proposed budget for 2015/2016 ready soon so it can be voted on in October. Books need to be reviewed, to get ready for taxes.

Entertainment/fund rising/Good Will: Sara Katzenberger is stepping away from the County Association and is off all committees, effective tonight. Too many issues, way too many barriers have been put up, does not get any support of new ideas, has better for her time.

Robb Brinkmann feels her frustration and stated that is partially why Marie decided not to be the Youth Rep for the County to AWSC. Robb does not see any improvements in the Association, nothing has changed

since he was secretary... it is the same old – same old, changes are not welcome. We have a budget that suggests spending procedures, that is not followed. Association (namely Jon Brand) is still waiting for an apology from Gary Breuckman and/or Sno-Birds for the remark that was on the Web Site regarding auto mechanics. Then in July “porn” links showed up on the site.

Robb Brinkmann made a motion, seconded by Andy Slaby to remove the Sno-Birds Club from the Association, because they are holding the old web site hostage, have not apologized and do not want to sell raffle tickets to promote the Association.

Meeting recessed for 15 minutes.

Meeting called back to order.

Discussion on Robb’s motion:

- Jen Miller reminded everyone that an email was sent to Gary Breuckman on July 10th. by Mark Grobarchik asking for the domain seeing the site was shut down.
- On July 13th. Mark Grobarchik checked the site, it contained porn links.
- On July 29th. Mark received an email from the Gary Breuckman asking the Association for a letter so the old domain could be transferred. To date, Mark Grobarchik has not had time to do this.

The purpose of the Association is to secure snowmobile trails and develop such trails over public, leased and privately owned lands. Promote trails and snowmobiling! Mark Sloggy hopes that all the new members the new Club Assistance Program (CAP) brings in will really work and be a benefit to all.

Harold Butschke reminded everyone that the organization was formed to provide trails. Look how far we have come over the years; we have nice equipment, signs, etc. The founding members, as well as himself and countless other volunteers, have worked very hard to keep WCSA and trails in Waukesha County. Sure there were times we all didn’t agree with one another, didn’t get our way, but we didn’t give up. Our trail system is what we stand! This web site issue needs to be done with. Something we should think about is the respect of others - United we trail – divided we fail!!!

Jen Miller reminded everyone that we need to go FORWARD, we as an organization need to get United. Childish behavior is not tolerated especially when the Associations’ web site was linked to porn.

Dave Rowley, secretary of the Sno-Birds Board of Directors, asked why Gary Breuckman or the President of the Sno-Birds was never contacted on July 13th. when the links to porn appeared on the old web site???

Dave Groszcyk knows we all have issues in our own clubs. It is hard to get others to attend WCSA meetings and a meeting such as tonight will not help the situation. WCSA should be more than snowmobiling – we need to give back to the community. The web site is important but we have more to work on. The committee should have handled the situation from the beginning. Our common goal - we need to move forward.

Delores Scharmer stated that this is a big mess because of the lack of communication! Most people in the Association did not know that Gary Breuckman, member of the Sno-Birds owned and paid for the web site for nine years. Why was this never mentioned or brought to the surface, over the many months the Association was looking for an administrator?? After months of asking for an administrator, Jon Brand of GLIDE made an offer for a new web site, that has gone out of control. This mess needs to be addressed with the Sno-Birds, suggest a letter listing all discrepancies, etc. Is this the actions of a person, a select few or what?? The Sno-Birds used to be a very active member of the Association.

The Association has better things to worry about than having a different club rep attend each county meeting. Sure it would be nice to have more attend, but the building needs to be at the club level. Having more people attend would maybe bring new ideas, but building strength within the association comes from working together.

Barb Butschke and others also feel we need to get back to having fun within the organization. Dinner dance, picnic, etc.

Karen Jeras, as Director of Waukesha County volunteered to contact the Sno-Birds and plans to attend their October 13th. meeting to address the web site issue. Delores Scharmer Waukesha County Rep will also attend. Several others also offered their assistance.

After discussion, Robb Brinkman said he feels an apology is still needed, but he has accomplished his motive and withdrew his motion. Andy Slaby withdrew his second.

New Business:

Harold Butschke, Andy Slaby and Dean Wandel will check on a Hospitality room for the 2017 convention.

Chuck stated that when he was elected, changes would be on the horizon. That has not happened, he is tired of all the old stuff and changes are not welcome. His time can be put to better use in his personal life. He offered to be removed tonight. After no comments, Chuck said that he will just show up and fulfill his term.

Club Announcements:

Sussex Sled Bugs are hosting brat fry & bake sale, Saturday, September 12 at Sussex Piggly Wiggly, 9 – 3.

September 26 (Sunday) swap meet at Pioneer Bowl Hwy 175 & Hwy. 60.

Robb's Performance Open House is scheduled for Oct. 24.

New Berlin Suburban Sno-Hawks will be holding their annual races January 31, 2016, at the New Berlin VFW.

March 24-26, 2017- AWSC Convention at Potawatomi Casino, Milwaukee.

Motion was made by, Dan Dewey seconded by Dean Wandel, to adjourn. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Jeras, Secretary

**NEXT MEETING:
October 14, 2015**

hosted by Sno Birds
Village Bowl
N86 W18330 Main Street
Menomonee Falls, WI