

St. Helen Snowpackers

February Newsletter

2019



Calendar of Events:

2/2 – Social Night – Pizza Night – Snow Run Meeting

2/8 – Snow Run Mystery Ride – 6:00 pm

2/9 – 17th Annual Snow Run – 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

2/16 – Regular Meeting – 10:00 am

2/16 – Trail Ride following the meeting (weather permitting)

Milestones: It is with great sadness that we tell you of the passing of our dear friend, Gary Lund. We are forever grateful to have had the opportunity to know Gary and for all of his contributions to the Club, its members, and the community. His generosity and humor will long be remembered by all who knew him. Gary and his wife Evelyn have been members of the Snowpackers since its beginning, and we are truly blessed by knowing them. Our thoughts and prayers are with Evelyn and the entire Lund family.

Memberships: We currently have 100 paid memberships in our 2018/2019 year. Welcome New Members Johnathan and Maureen Fudge of Saint Helen, and Clyde's Frame & Wheel, Inc. (Robert & Tamara Spurgeon) of Holly – we're glad to have you in our group!

Trails & Groomers: The 2018-2019 grooming season started off poorly, with no grooming done at all in 2018. Most of January was the same, with only one groom done before the snowfall in the fourth week of the month. The trails were pretty badly torn up by wheeled traffic, which we have no control over. The section of trail east of the Clubhouse has a severe hole in it that is causing concern - the DNR has been alerted and we're hoping that it will be repaired soon. All this aside, the snowfall at the end of the month has us feeling optimistic that there is hope for the season. If the temps stay favorable and snow continues as forecast, we should have good cover for our Snow Run. So, keep your fingers crossed and don't forget to do your Snow Dance.

Activities: The New Years Eve celebration was canceled due to weather – not that we're complaining about getting snow! We are getting together February 2nd at 6:00 pm at the Clubhouse for pizza and a final Snow Run Meeting. All are welcome so be sure to stop in and join us if you're in the area. If you think you'll be by, give one of the Board members a call so we can make sure to have enough pizza for everyone.

SNOW RUN COUNTDOWN: We're almost there... Our 17th Annual Snow Run is Saturday, February 9, 2019, and the weather has finally started to cooperate. If it continues, we'll have the Mystery Ride on Friday night starting at about 6:00 pm. We have an incredible bunch of sponsors this year, starting with *Jim & Sheryl Lyttle of St. Helen Power Sports* who will once again be on hand Friday night with cider and donuts, and then again on Saturday manning Pit Stop #1. Other Pit Stops include *Joe Spurgeon of S&S Power Sports*; *Justin Plunkett and his Dirty Smoke of The 222 BBQ & Pizza* who will be hosting our Lunch Wagon on the trail; *Melissa Sullivan and the group from the ORV Jam*; and of course the final pit stop at the Snowpackers' Clubhouse, hosted by *Brian Beltz for the Snowpackers*. Scott Nestle has been busy working out the route and, dependent on weather, he has about 71 miles planned which comes to about 4 hours of ride time plus breaks and lunch. All pit stops are accessible by car. Our volunteers have been busy hitting businesses in several counties getting some great donations for door prizes and our Silent Auction. We've got three 50-50 raffles planned, and of course, the drawing for our U.P. Get-Away Raffle #3. In addition to Lunch on the Trail, we'll have snacks and light eats at the Clubhouse, and of course coffee, cocoa, pop and water. Snow Run tickets are on sale now at *Sheffield's Automotive, St. Helen Power Sports, Mr. B's Bistro, BS Liquor Store, and the Hen House Restaurant*. Tickets at the Clubhouse will go on sale 3:00 pm on Friday, February 8th, and will continue until Noon on Saturday, February 9th. The tickets are \$20, and only ticket holders will be eligible for prizes. Donations will be accepted for lunches for additional riders.

U.P. Get-Away Raffle #3: The winning Get-Away ticket will be drawn at our 17th Annual Snow Run on February 9, 2019, right around 6:00 pm Saturday evening. The prize package includes 3-nights stay at *White Pine Lodge* in Christmas, \$50 gift certificate to *Foggy's Steak House* in Christmas, \$50 gift certificate to *Brownstone Inn* in AuTrain and \$500 travelin' cash. Prize redeemable any time between February 2019 and February 2020. Tickets are \$10 each, and only 500 will be sold. **Tickets will be sold right up until the drawing, so get yours soon!**

Online Trail Reports: We're now posting our trail reports online at several different sites, including the Club's website and Facebook pages, the MSA website at http://trails.msasnow.org/trail_conditions/traildetail.asp@Key=2661, and also on the Fishweb site at <http://www.fishweb.com/recreation/snowmobile/reports/snow-sainthelen.html>.

Remember to visit our website and Facebook pages to keep up to date on our activities.

www.sainthelensnowpackers.com

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Saint-Helen-Snowpackers-Club/169025559777692>

Photo credits: Snowpackers Archives – September 10, 2012 Trail Brushing – Don't Get in Gary's Way!





Happy Birthday!!!
 1-Pat Kelly; 4-Karen Beltz;
 7-Jan Waltz; 14-Ray Wlosinski;
 24-Chris Lorenzon; and 28-Robert Preston



Happy Anniversary!!!
 20-Rob & Melissa Preston

We wish you many, many more.

St. Helen Snowpackers

President: Scott Nestle – 989 621-3124
 Vice President: Chuck Parris – 248 766-9454 2nd Vice President: Sheila Parris – 248 766-9454
 Secretary: Cathy Simpson – 989 389-7235 Treasurer: Carolyn Nestle – 989 621-3124
 Trustees: Rob Preston, Kevin Simpson, Ray Wlosinski & Steve Karch
 Meetings are the 3rd Saturday at 10am

www.sainthelensnowpackers.com

Business Members 2018-2019

Please frequent our members

St. Helen Area:		St. Helen Area:		Roscommon:	
BS Liquor Store	989 359-2757	St. Helen Lake Association	No phone	Northern Lakes Realty – Connie Barton	989 281-1700
Becker Real Estate LLC, David C.	989 942-1928	St. Helen Power Sports	989 389-4961	Rosco-Higgins Trail Cruisers	989 273-1052
Benjamin Realty – Mary Rosner	989 389-2121	The Peach Pit Restaurant	989 389-1600	Roscommon County Voice	866 364-8099
Chuck's Tires	989 389-3960				
Fultz Insurance Agency	989 389-4948	Other Areas:			
Great Lakes Fireworks	586 779-8062	Bay Area Sledgers	No phone	West Branch:	
Hen House Restaurant	989 389-3731	Cadillac Winter Warriors	231 768-4969	Ogemaw Hills Snow Club	989 473-3062
Kizzy's Donut Shop	989 632-3623	Clyde's Frame & Wheel, Holly	248 369-1490	Ogemaw County Voice	989 745-8355
No Limits Pizzq	989 389-7500	Houghton Lake Trailblazers	989 387-5437		
Sheffield Automotive Inc.	989 389-2200	Missaukee Trail Blazers	231 328-4351		
St. Helen Chamber of Commerce	989 389-3725	Northbound 222 Inc., Union Lake	248 497-9839		

St. Helen Snowpackers
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