

President's Pondering—Bryan Meador



Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!

I hope everyone found something to be thankful for. Even amidst all this mess going on around us. I know I am thankful for a lot of things. My wife, grandkids, kids, family, life, freedom, I could go on and on!

We enjoyed Thanksgiving at my mother in laws house just out side Rodeo New Mexico. Isolation, yup that was it. There was not a lot around there, coyotes, road runners and I did see a covey of quail one morning. But the best part was family, we kidnapped 2 of our grandkids to take with us. So if you are counting, that made 5 of us. HAHHAHA.

Looking through my news feeds this morning, Wolf Creek was reporting 24 inch's of new snow. It is 75 degrees here today. Be thankful for the snow. Be thankful for everyone you love. Enjoy the moments when you can. Don't take life for granted.

With this pandemic going on , the numbers on the rise, I would venture to guess that our December meeting will be an officers meeting, with everyone else being call in on virtual. If can join us, please do. Dianne will send out an email with the call in number for it. The number will be from all over the country, that's ok, zoom will figure it out when you enter the meeting ID number. Please call in and join us.

WOW, Christmas is right around the corner. I am not going to lie, I am not ready, but none the less it is here. Have a Very Merry Christmas! Be Safe!

See you on the Mountain. Bryan Meador

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Club Officers

- President—Bryan Meador
- Vice President—Chris Hinds
- Treasurer—Dianne Larsen
- Secretary—Jennifer Hawn
- CSA Representative—Curt Larsen
- Grooming Foreman—Travis Leonard
- Club Reporter—Ken Hilfiker



Editor's Note—Dianne Larsen

- The December meeting will be a Zoom meeting on December 8th at 6:30pm. Instructions will be sent prior to the meeting on how to connect.
- There has been a lot of work by our great volunteers trying to improve our trailhead parking and bypass trails. Information will be communicated as progress is made.
- The photo below shows the revised parking lot enlargement for the Barlow Parking based on the environmental assessments.



Legend:

Red outline, opaque blue = Existing Parking Area (0.44 AC)

White outline, blue fill = Existing Wetlands (0.22 AC)

Yellow fill = Wetland buffer area (0.10 AC)

Semi-transparent light blue = Proposed Parking Area Expansion (0.71 AC expansion; 1.15 AC total)

Proposed Barlow Parking Lot

- If you have not yet renewed your SJS membership, please do so now! Your membership will expire on January 1st.
- As always, please submit stories and pictures to a.dianne.larsen@gmail.com.

- There have been some fun names submitted for my new sled, the best being "Pete the Powder Pony". However, I have just ordered a wrap for my sled that should encourage more responses. Right now I am thinking of "Grapeinator". If something better comes along though a free SJS t-shirt from me is still available!

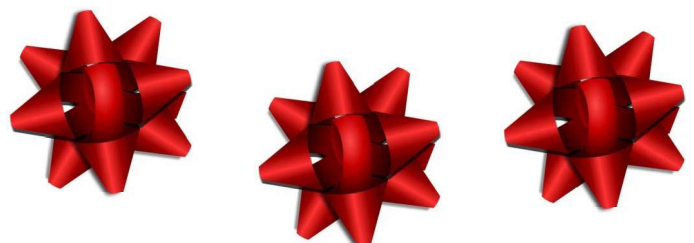


Dianne's new sled wrap. It's important to look good!

- Have some warm thoughts for our fellow sledders that have lost snowmobiling range and personal property due to Colorado's wildfires this year. No doubt many CSA members will feel this loss including our SJS member Julie Love pictured below in a cabin that burnt this year near Grand Lake in the East Troublesome Fire.



Julie Love, pictured left, at childhood cabin near Grand Lake





SJS Search & Rescue Report—Cory Roman

On Sunday afternoon November 8th, La Plata County Search & Rescue (LPCSAR) got a call for a patient having some issues. They were in Wallace Park and stated there was a foot of snow on the ground. Ron Corkish and I (Cory Roman) discussed the best way to access them. Considering there was a foot of new snow and a storm on its way we decided that snowmobiles were the best option.

Ben Beresford and I drove up to the junction of Missionary Ridge Road and Burnt Timber Road and unload the sleds in about 4-6in of snow. In about a mile we had a foot of snow. We made contact with the Reporting Party (RP) and discussed evacuation options. They were in a truck that was very stuck. In talking to the RP they mentioned some other hunters near the end of Horse Thief road that were concerned about leaving the night before when it was just starting to snow. Thinking we might get a mission involving them later this week we decided to head that way to make contact and check on them.

The ride to Horse Thief was.....GREAT! There was consistently a foot of snow with local drifted amounts well above that.

We made contact with the other hunters and advised them on the coming weather, if they had enough gear, what the road out looked like now and how it would look by the end of the week after more storms and cold temps when their hunting tag was done. They had ample supplies and wanted to stay.

We rode back to the initial RP and they had gotten out!!! They damaged their truck pretty good in doing so but with chains on their tires and a whole lot of ramming speed they were able to get back to a packed down road.

That same afternoon and that night there were 2 missions getting hunters in San Juan county and then the next day (Monday) Curt and Dianne Larsen accessed some hunters out Elbert Creek road behind Purgatory Ski Resort for LPCSAR. We greatly appreciate them being able to step in when we could not! LPCSAR really values our relationship with San Juan Sledders for situations just like that. This storm put a lot of hunters in compromising situations and we think there is a high chance we will be recovering more hunters later this week when their tags are over and they are socked in by 3 feet of snow.



Cory Roman and Ben Beresford rescue up Missionary Ridge



Curt and Dianne Larsen up Elbert Creek

November 10th 2020 Meeting Minutes—Jennifer Hawn

Meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by President Bryan Meador

MOTION: Minutes from October 13, 2020 meeting approved as presented - accepted by Dianne; 2nd Travis

Treasure's Report – Dianne Larsen

- Balance: \$66,973
- Revenue: \$27,202 - \$26865 - partial grant, \$337 Membership + SWAG
- Expenses: \$6465 - \$41 check order, \$402 Horizon Environmental, \$309 Travis Leonard (battery), \$8 USPS (swag shipping), \$13 USPS (swag shipping), \$5692 Century Equipment

MOTION: Accept Treasure's report as presented – accepted by Curt; 2nd Chris

Club rides –

- Laughing Coyote wants to host a ride for the club. Hope will get additional details and report back
- Curt & Dianne will lead a ride as soon as we get some snow
- Chris & Stephanie volunteered to lead a ride
- Fur Trappers would also like to host another ride (Vallecito)

Grooming –

- Travis reported that the Cat is ready to go
- Discussion was held that Curt will re-write a letter to Dolores Forest Service to do brushing at least 15ft on each side of the road where it is possible so we can groom. **MOTION:** Curt will re-write a letter to Delores Forest Service requesting permission to clear brushing at least 15ft on each side of the road where possible so that it is easier to groom – accepted Dianne; 2nd Travis
- Grooming Grant – to date we have not received permit to groom

Membership – Dianne Larsen reported 100 members. Dianne will send out membership reminder postcards the first week of December

Old/Unfinished Business -

- Lemon parking area -
 - Bryan is working on the road expansion with the Forest Service
 - The process has been slowed down and waiting for response from Jed's boss
 - C&J quoted \$10,000 to haul gravel/Cesar is working with C&J to see if we can get a discounted rate
 - Club voted to set aside \$12,000 for road improvements at Lemon. **MOTION:** Set aside \$12,000 for road improvements at Lemon – accepted Curt; 2nd Dianne
 - Waiting for Engineering to approve and work can move forward
- Barlow parking area -
 - Kevin reported that the process has started on the expansion of the Barlow parking area
 - Kevin recommends that we focus on the expansion of the parking lot and not mitigating the wetlands
 - Grant includes adding additional gravel but not sure that will be started this year
- Purgatory parking area –
 - Travis attended a meeting and the subject of the snowmobile parking lot at Purgatory has conflicting information
 - Dianne is going to do some research and look for the original documents for Purgatory
 - Roger will write a Freedom of Information Act request but we will wait until Lemon project is completed

New Business -

- Blue Ribbon donation—Dianne recommends that we donate \$250 or \$500 to Blue Ribbon, Roger recommended that we donate \$250 to Blue Ribbon and \$250 to CovCo. **MOTION:** Club will donate \$250 to Blue Ribbon & \$250 to and \$250 to CovCo – accepted Roger; 2nd Ken
- American Family Insurance – policy for club officer's and volunteers of the club. Discussion was held and it was decided that the club will purchase a \$1 million indemnification policy cost \$698 a yr. **MOTION:** Club will purchase a \$1 million dollar indemnification policy through American Family Insurance for \$698yr – accepted William; 2nd Roger
- Search & Rescue has some type of insurance policy and Dianne has reached out to Ron Corkish(Search & Rescue) but hadn't heard back from him
- Club will also look into some sort of additional insurance for Groomers
- Dianne will contact V&V that is the group that CSA has insurance through
- *Curt suggested that the club consider getting an additional groomer. Chris is going to start to work on a Grant for next year for a second groomer for the club
- *CSA Rep – Discussion was held regarding replacing William as the CSA District Rep as he is term limited. Dianne would like to nominate Ken Hilfiker for the CSA District Rep position to replace William. **MOTION:** Dianne nominates Ken Hilfiker to replace William as the CSA District Rep – accepted Dianne; 2nd Roger

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm – accepted by Dianne, 2nd Curt. Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Hawn, Club Secretary



Committee Chairs & Volunteers

- Roger Pennington, Safety Instructor
- Hope Stroud, Rides Chairperson
- Ron Corkish, Search & Rescue Liaison
- Dianne Larsen, Newsletter Editor
- Chris Hinds, Website Administrator
- Chris Hinds, Facebook Administrator

Meeting Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call / Introduction of Guests
- III. Reading of Minutes
- IV. Treasurers Report – Dianne Larsen
- V. Committee Reports
 - Club Rides – Hope Geer
 - Equipment/Grooming/Truck To Do List– Travis Leonard & Kevin Walters
 - Membership – Dianne Larsen
- VII. Unfinished Business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Motion to Adjourn

The December meeting will be Tuesday December 8th and will held via Zoom. Meeting at 6:30pm. Look for an email for Zoom instructions.

Want Ads

FOR SALE: 2009 Wells Cargo Snowmobile Enclosed Trailer. Extra tall option, 7'2" inside height! Sleds not included, only showed the sleds so you can see it fit 3 sleds since it's 19 feet long. Has almost brand new tires and spare. \$7800. Contact Brett at 970.749.9511.

FOR SALE: 2014 Triton XT 12 VR-101 aluminum v-nose trailer with drive-on/drive-off ramp for 2 snowmobiles. \$3,500 new and used only a couple of times as previous owners left state. Snowmobiles not included! Asking \$2,400. On consignment at Fun Center.

