

Benton County Snowmobile Club



GREETINGS AND SALUTATIONS FELLOW SNOWMOBILING ENTHUSIASTS!

Well, our season is winding up nicely. The groomers are coming together with the wider drag and that should help out our volunteering folks quite a bit. There's still the matter of building and installing the new bridge, but even that shouldn't be the end of the world either. Heads up: our December meeting will be held at Coyote Moon and you don't want to miss that. We will also be having an election of officers that evening. November 30th is the Landowners' Appreciation dinner held at Henry's Supper Club In Foley. Show up around 4:30-5:00 p.m. to help out. It's a lot of work setting up, but it really isn't too bad if we have a lot of volunteers. You don't want to miss out on a great meal either. Just a friendly reminder that your snowmobile(s) misses (miss) you and wants (want) you to be ready for Winter. Start looking it over now. Always put in high octane gas without ethanol unless your sled specifically doesn't need it, and add the recommended amount of gas stabilizer too. Your sled may sit for a week, or a month, or a couple of months depending on how the Winter pans out. Gas stabilizer is very important, because they don't stick any preservative in the gas, as we Americans use it too quickly to bother with. Gas starts turning to varnish in as little as 30 days! Inspect that belt too and have a spare as you'll put on so many miles that you'll need it !!

I hope everyone that's attending the MnUSA's Winter Rendezvous got a room; I told you they fill up fast!!



AL'S CORNER:

How are you all doing? Just a short while and you'll here BRAAAP!! As we blast down that trail lickety-split. (observing all local speed laws of course) I thought I would touch on the subject of riding etiquette and safety to get you thinking about the upcoming winter riding season. Obviously don't drink and drive. The penalty is just as severe on a garden tractor, snowmobile, or automobile if you get busted driving under the influence. Keep right on trails especially when coming up to a hill. I've encountered people coming the wrong way down a one way trail, and that really isn't fun, that's just scary. There's a difference between "fun scary" and "scary scary", and that was definitely "scary scary." Keep an adequate following distance. You just don't know what someone ahead of you is going to encounter. They may hit a bump and fly off, laying in the trail. They may have catastrophic mechanical failure and their track just locks up. I know someone who hit a deer on a snowmobile! If you are worried about the person ahead of you, YOU are following too close. If you are worried about the person behind you, THEY are following too close. No one is going to get left behind folks. Plus, you don't want to follow so close, that you're sucking up snow from the air that the sleds ahead of you kicked up. It's called "snow ingestion" and it can wreck your motor. (go ahead, ask me how I know it can wreck a motor.) lol And that's not "funny funny" it's "expensive funny". But Al, I've been riding this way for 30 years! True, but that doesn't mean you've been doing it right. Don't drive beyond your capabilities or your machine's capabilities. If you start to feel scared on a snowmobile, you're doing it wrong. Yes, you should feel cautious and aware but not afraid. Hitting a tree or hitting another person won't make you happy. Better safe than sorry as the saying goes. Until next time...

Thanks for reading folks!