

President's Pondering—Bryan Meador

Hello Fellow Sledders,

Wow! Another year has passed. I was trying to figure out what I wanted to write about this pondering. I always try to put in a joke or two. Thank those that need thanked and tell you a little about what is going on around our region. After all, I am just pondering.

I have my sleds ready to go, I was really hoping to get out and catch some of this fresh snow we are getting. But Covid had other plans for my family. We are sitting home together recovering. We both survived, my poor wife, Melanie made an awesome Christmas dinner and could not taste a bite of it. But I told her how awesome it tasted. If you are one that has survived 2021, welcome to 2022. I look forward to riding with you!

The club has a ride January 1st at West Mancos. I hope to have enough energy to make it. Be ready to ride at 9:30am. Call Curt if you are going to make this ride 970-946-8845. There are mid-week rides going on all the time. If you can make it they are great rides with less crowding.

PEOPLE, know before you go! There have been a few deaths already this season due to avalanches. With as much snow as we are getting with no base it is extremely dangerous on the slopes. Look at Colorado Avalanche Information Center, or avalanche.state.co.us. If you don't have internet call 303-499-9650. Be careful out there. I can't afford to lose any of you.

Memberships, tell your friends, relatives and people you see on the trail. Explain we do more than just groom. Curt, Dianne Travis and Brady went and cleared trails after the wind storm the 15th. We build parking lots, clear trails, get grants for groomers, trucks, parking areas. Spread the word.

CSA convention in Walden February 11, 12 & 13th. I reserved my room at North Park Inn. You have to call in because they blocked out the place for CSA. They have a shop to work on your sled if needed. Hopefully you won't need it, but how cool(warm) is that.

I want to thank Fun Center for hosting our December meeting, sure wish I could have been there. Next meeting is at the fairgrounds January 11th. 6pm, bring a new member/friend. Thank you all for everything you do for our club. Be safe, ride smart.

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

- A huge thanks to The Fun Center for hosting our December meeting! They generously provided us Megan's awesome home-made chili and sodas and a great environment to hold our meeting.
- Our members brought some pretty delicious cookies to the December meeting! Thanks for your participation and for fattening us up right before Christmas.
- Our January meeting will be at the La Plata Fairgrounds on Tuesday the 11th. Dinner at 6, meeting at 6:30. Hope we see you there.
- The Barlow Parking has not yet been signed off as completed yet. However, it is done enough to be used this winter. Will be plowed. And now the Barlow Parking is about doubled in size. Thanks to our great club for this project! Maybe there is a club ride out of Barlow later this season!
- Year 2021 End Finale!!! Several club members performed a sled rescue Dec. 31st up Middle Mountain Road. The rider had lost control the day before and was unable to get his sled out. Clyde & Brady Leonard, Kevin Walters, Curt & Dianne Larsen, and Evan, Dawn, and Katie Pederson retrieved the sled the morning of the 31st. Conditions were snowy and foggy!
- For those of you that haven't renewed your club membership, this will be your last newsletter and you will be removed from the email list. Remember that club membership numbers can help our right-to-ride and keep riding areas open to us!
- Thanks to our groomers!!! During the month of December Middle Mountain (Vallecito), Purg to Barlow, and West Mancos have been groomed. Be sure to check our website SanJuanSledders.com regularly to see where grooming has occurred.
- As always, please submit stories and pictures to a.dianne.larsen@gmail.com.



Club Rides

- 1/22 -Vallecito Middle Mountain—Details provided as the ride gets closer.
- Contact Landon at 505-327-0320 or jameslandontate@gmail.com to suggest a ride or to volunteer to lead a ride.
- Mid-week rides will continue now that we've been getting snow!



Barlow Parking Improvements over time

December Rides

December 16: The San Juan Sledders Club Brrraaaaaa Ride:

The 1st club ride this season was at Molas Pass 10:30am to 3:30pm on 12/16/2021. We had 7 riders total and all attending were excited to finally get their Sleds on some white stuff. We unloaded at the top of the pass by the restroom and started our ride going south toward Andrews Lake, we crossed 550 and headed to Little Molas Lake where the snow was a little deeper, we had a great time getting in the deeper snow on the drainages in the trees. It was a challenge avoiding the rocks and logs, but we had a great time playing on the mountain. Let's pray for more snow. Attendees: Scott McCloud, Ryan Hentz, Dave Sanders, Spencer Taylor, Curt and Dianne Larsen, Landon Tate.

December 29: The Powder over the Head Ride:

Wednesday the 29th was the minor break in the snow storms. And the sledders took advantage of it! As we arrived at the Echo Basin parking, there were already several large rigs parked and unloading. Our group including: Dave Sanders, Josh Stoudt, Landon Tate, Curt and Dianne Larsen squeezed in, unloaded, and headed out for a glorious day in the snow! We had absolutely awesome powder. We were snowed on most of the day and the visibility was not the best. However, this was a memorable day. We don't get that kind of snow here all that often! We were following what would normally be the groomed loop and turned back because of too much snow and too many tiring sticks! Looking forward to the next ride already.



Ryan Hentz, Molas



Landon Tate, Echo Basin



Dave Sanders, Echo Basin



Spencer Taylor snuggling with a rock, Molas



Scott McCloud, Molas

December 14th 2021 Meeting Minutes—Jennifer Hawn

Meeting was called to order at 6:36pm by Vice President Chris Hinds

Member & New guest introductions

MOTION: Minutes from November 11, 2021 meeting approved as presented - accepted by Dianne; 2nd Cory

Treasurer's Report – Dianne Larsen

- Balance: \$19,607
- Revenue: \$1635 - \$340 memberships, swag, radios, \$1295 raffle tickets, memberships
- Expenses: \$6110 - \$689 Officer's Liability Insurance, \$884 membership dues to CSA, \$2926 American Family groomer insurance, \$216 truck plates, \$8 USPS raffle ticket shipping,
- \$132 Basin Coop fuel, \$1255 raffle tickets
- **MOTION:** Accept Treasurer's report as presented – accepted by Curt; 2nd Travis

Committee Reports -

Club Rides – Landon Tate

- Landon is heading up to Steamboat and Buffalo Pass if anyone is interested in going he is leaving tomorrow through - Saturday
- Curt & Dianne are planning a mid week ride this Thursday (12/16) depending on snow fall
- A brief discussion was held regarding out-of-town rides. Will be discussed again at a future meeting
- First weekend club ride will be at Mancos on January 1, 2022 (depending on snow fall)

Grooming – Travis Leonard

- Middle Mountain was groomed on Saturday 12/11
- We will start with the people who were already grooming and Travis will train one on one
- Need to replace the items that were stolen off the truck while grooming
- Installing new radio on snow cat and waiting on additional information from Bryan and Ron (Search & Rescue)
- Kevin updates on CSA website based on snow conditions and who can volunteer

Membership – Dianne Larsen -116 Members, January 1, 2022 we will have a drop because of non-renewals, will be sending renewal postcards

Old/Unfinished Business –

Purgatory Parking Area

- Ken Hilfiker drafted a letter for Bryan regarding the Purgatory parking situation
- We need to get a deadline for parking lot before they have any additional expansion projects
- The next step would be to sue Purgatory but several members do not think we should pursue that action
- The Forest Service is not pushing Purgatory to build the parking lot

Barlow Parking Area

- Barlow parking area is complete and twice the size it use to be
- Kevin suggested that we give the CDOT crew SJS sweatshirts
- **MOTION:** SJS sweatshirts will be given to the CDOT crew that assisted with the Barlow Parking Area expansion – accepted Travis; 2nd Will
- Chris asked Casey to send a bill to Dianne for the gravel that was used for the parking area

Beaver Meadows

- Talked to Pagosa Club about grooming Beaver Meadows
- Sid did not groom last year
- You need a lot of snow to groom
- Sid has to contact Jeff Barnes that lives up the road when he is going to groom
- Sid has to give Jeff Barnes 2 day notice when he is going to groom
- Pagosa Club wanted it back to groom and the Forest Service gave it back to them
- There will be 7 more years of logging

New Business –

SJS Swag—Dianne will be sending an email out to membership of branded SJS items to see what members are interested in purchasing

Radios

- 1 Radio left
- Curt ordered 10 new radios
- Curt also has 2 headsets if anyone is interested

January 11, 2022 Meeting Will be held at the La Plata County Fairgrounds

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm – accepted by Dianne; 2nd Will

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Hawn, Club Secretary

Committee Chairs & Volunteers

- **Roger Pennington**, Safety Instructor
- **Landon Tate**, Rides Chairperson
- **Ron Corkish**, Search & Rescue Liaison
- **Dianne Larsen**, Newsletter Editor
- **Chris Hinds & Ken Hilfiker**, Website Administrator & Facebook Administrator

The January meeting will be at the La Plata Fairgrounds January 11th. Dinner at 6pm, meeting at 6:30pm.

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
 - Equipment/Grooming/Truck To Do List– Travis Leonard & Kevin Walters
 - Membership – Dianne Larsen
- VII. Unfinished Business
- VIII. New Business
 - Special Needs Planning
 - Officer selection
- IX. Motion to Adjourn



Brett Craig, West Mancos



Travis Leonard & Kevin Walters grooming Vallecito



Sled Rescue Group—Middle Mountain Rd



Travis & Brady Leonard, Curt & Dianne Larsen, West Mancos



Clyde Leonard—Sled Rescue—Middle Mountain Rd

Members

Rebecca Allen	505-270-5277	Rob Mackie	970-712-8621
Stuart Allen	713-574-0646	Adam & Shannon Malone	970-759-8100
Brian Anderson	970-799-4375	Dwayne Marable	505-486-8961
Jesse Bakken	512-268-6910	Justin McCarty	970-759-2804
Nadine Barber	970-759-1732	Scott McCloud	281-923-9557
Ben Beresford	970-819-9388	Doug McCormick	970-946-6857
Robert Bisinger	970-749-2194	Derek McCoy	970-749-9470
Lance Blair	970-946-0034	Nic McDonald	970-749-6841
Kelly Bleck	303-642-6448	Bryan & Melanie Meador	970-946-5775
Lyndsey Blouin	970-759-2179	Duane Meador	505-386-6707
E.L. Botkin	505-325-4173	Lance Meador	505-801-8613
Geoff Bourque	970-903-4417	Carl Moss	505-320-1965
John Bronson	970-749-0074	Shawn O'Reilly	970-759-2111
Mark Cancemi	214-808-1739	Dennis Overly	970-729-0575
Larry Chapman	970-560-1910	Lynn & Lee Parks	970-903-7340
Jeff Cillessen	505-320-3823	Gene Patton	970-739-3108
Robert Coln	970-247-8648	Glenn & Dianne Pauls	970-318-0113
Shaun Connolly	505-635-0995	Evan Pedersen	719-322-4313
Ron Corkish	970-946-4437	Don & Janice Pennington	970-946-7589
Brett Craig	970-749-9511	Roger & Debbie Pennington	970-884-2101
Jim Creek	970-232-6639	Robert Remley	505-326-4142
Ben Cross	970-903-7916	Todd Remley, Julie Love	505-320-3639
Dean Despalmes	970-744-9446	Robert Rodriguez	505-870-2761
Sonny & DuAunn Dodson	972-489-2544	Cory Roman	301-448-9001
Steve Dollens	918-841-0137	David Sanders	970-759-9784
Greg & Gretchen Dubit	970-259-0694	**Jeanne Scarborough	970-247-5753
Mark Earles	815-351-8020	Jim Schneider	970-799-0347
Randy Eitel	505-320-8931	Rick Schmidt	505-358-0948
Dan Elworthy	970-317-3004	Chuck Schultz	970-335-9311
Ryan Elworthy	970-759-1780	Michael Schumacher	480-797-0404
Joe Farmer	970-679-1472	Don Shellhammer	858-735-1873
Bob & Marg Fillman	928-242-5220	John Serwe	970-749-9013
Fred Fisher	970-749-0314	Kristy Sholly	970-570-5933
**Mike Francis	970-749-5082	Aaron & Tami Spellbring	505-325-5600
Parker Gent	505-330-1754	Hope & Jay Stroud	970-759-8047
Clay Goodwin	575-602-0084	Pete Tabor	970-259-1070
Jim Goodwin	575-921-2699	Landon Tate	505-327-0320
Jason Groen	505-330-0904	Spencer Taylor	703-915-3820
Tom Grover	970-769-8332	Eldon Vannest	970-258-2547
Marty & Ann Gunn	970-247-2707	Sarah Vogt	505-947-4246
Michael Gunn	970-799-0425	John Wallace	970-259-9549
William Hall	970-759-2466	Kevin Walters	970-884-4662
Lyndsey Hanna	970-759-9213	Joe Washburn	970-259-1070
Chris Hansen	480-580-2237	**John & Bonnie West	970-247-3744
Tom Hansen	623-703-1845	Ken West	720-348-0698
Wes Harriman	970-759-2327	Scott West	928-205-5031
Dorwin & Jennifer Hawn	801-971-4913	Dale Willbanks	970-247-5828
Tucker Heiner	408-429-0827	**Ed & Rochelle Williams	970-946-7702
Gaylan Hellyer	970-870-0121	John Williamson	918-845-4815
Curt & Barbara Henderson	970-533-7160	Jon Word	505-228-5829
Ryan Hentz	970-946-1667	Eric Wilson	505-228-5829
Ken Hilfiker	907-240-3788		
Chris Hinds	517-242-1878		
Erick Holm	719-271-3852		
Max Holmes	970-769-4723		
Richard Hott	970-759-8779		
Robert Hutson	847-272-6879		
John Jackson	970-749-8118		
Jeff Howard	970-403-6679		
Dan Jefferson	970-749-2556		
Tim Kendzlic	480-440-7567		
Kim Lanyon	970-739-4404		
Curt & Dianne Larsen	970-946-8845		
Clyde Leonard	970-759-3597		
Travis & Linda Leonard	970-884-2239		
John Lovell	970-903-9270		
Bill Luthy	970-749-0337		
John Lytle	303-519-2890		

**** Indicates legacy charter member since 1992**
 contact Dianne at 970.946.3107 or
 A.Dianne.Larsen@Gmail.com for corrections



Jayden Craig, West Mancos



Dianne & Curt Larsen, Echo Basin



Josh Stoudt, Echo Basin



425 Degrees Take & Bake Pizza
970-799-0425—Michael Gunn



Advantage Repair Service
970-903-7340—Lynn & Lee Parks



Blouin Brothers Construction
970-759-2179—Lyndsey Blouin

BOLETUS CREEK APPRAISALS

Boletus Creek Appraisals
Phone: 9709034416—Geoff Bourque



Built to Last Automotive
970-259-8777 Jeff Howard



Nic McDonald
970-565-7893



Dale R. Willbanks Agency
970-247-5828—Dale Willbanks



Durango Dog Ranch
970-259-0694—Greg & Gretchen Dubit



La Plata County Search & Rescue
970-946-4437—Ron Corkish



Fur Trappers Steakhouse
970-884-0596—Dwayne Marable



**** Handlebar Motorsports**
970-247-0845—Tom Grover



Leonard & Sons Excavation
970-884-2239
Travis & Linda Leonard



Phantastic Screens
970-247-7907
Marty & Ann Gunn



Justin McCarty Excavation & Construction
970-884-7103—Justin McCarty



McCormick Construction
970-946-6857—Doug McCormick



McDonalds
970-247-9391
John Bronson

i'm lovin' it®



Durango Adventure Rentals
970-335-9311—Chuck Schultz



Snowmobile Adventures
888-250-9864
Ben Cross



Spellbring Construction
505-325-5600
Aaron & Tami Spellbring



Twin Buttes
970-259-3883
Glen & Dianne Pauls



Fun Center, Inc
970-259-1070—Joe Washburn & Pete Tabor

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mailing Address:

San Juan Sledders Snowmobile Club

PO Box 591

Durango, CO 81302

New Member _____ Renew Member _____ Business Member _____

Single Membership \$35/Year _____

Family Membership \$40/Year _____

Business Membership \$60/Year _____

CSA Right to Ride Donation _____ (Optional)

CSA SEEDS Donation _____ (Optional, SEEDS—Support, Education, Events, Development, and Safety)

Total: _____

Please make check payable to the San Juan Sledders Snowmobile Club & mail to the address above.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

of Snowmobiles: _____ Sponsors' Name: _____

Dues to San Juan Sledders Snowmobile Club includes membership dues to the Colorado Snowmobile Association.

To join or renew online, go to www.snowmobilecolo.com.