

## President's Pondering—Bryan Meador

Hello fellow sledders,

It finally put down some great powder. Our grandson came to stay with us for a while. He used to ride with me when he was little. He turned 13 in January, so this year he got to ride his own snowmobile. After some safety lessons we were off. He about gave grandpa a heart attack, great grandpa encouraged him to go faster over the cornice until he could get air born. Needless to say I lost a few more hairs and got a little grayer. By the end of the day, he was kicking butt. But he still doesn't need to follow his cousin Rich.

Did you see the front page of the Durango Herald on February 10th? That was Gilbert Meador, me, my grandson Ethan Meador and Amy Lokey. Great pictures but the article? Well we contacted Scott Jones, Ken Hilfiker, and a lot of other people got involved. Scott wrote a letter to the clubs who signed it and put their logos on it. The letter was sent to Kara Chadwick, the San Juan National Forest supervisor. There will be a written response to CSA and the clubs. Ken wrote an awesome letter to the editor. Thank you Ken for supporting our club. I just love all the pictures.

Groomer, at our last meeting our groomer was broke down. As I write this pondering, Travis Leonard is grooming the backside of Bolam pass, the closest place to groom to Grand Junction. He's out testing to see if there are any more issues with the groomer. Travis, Kevin, Chris and myself have all been in contact with Prinoth, Piston Bully and other clubs to see what we can do or need to do. First thought we might get another used groomer and have two groomers. Second thought buy a new groomer and trade in the current groomer or sell it outright. The guys will present to the club at the next meeting what they recommend and let you give them feedback. The Club will vote on what the next step will be. Please come help make a very important decision that will affect your club for years to come.

Let's hope the snow keeps coming the powder stays deep and be safe out there.

See you on the mountain. Bryan Meador



Ethan Meador at Molas



Rich Hott at Molas

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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

- Our March meeting will be at the La Plata Fairgrounds March 9th. Dinner at 6, meeting at 6:30.
- We’ve had requests for more radios. Curt and I have ordered 2 “new model” radios that we will attempt to program and test. The radios we’ve been buying for years are having more issues out-of-box with reliability and we want to test the new model for improved quality. The old radios that have been developing issues cost around \$10 and the new radios cost about \$18. We will keep you posted with our recommendation once the new radios are received and tested.
- Josh Stoudt from CPW and Curt Larsen are exploring putting on an “Intro to Avalanche” class. If you have interest in a one day class, call Curt at 970.946.8845 and he will work with Josh to make that class happen.
- The beanies were a huge hit! We have a few left. If you’re interested let me know and I can get them to you or you can pick them up at the March meeting.



- Our club members have been logging MANY volunteer hours this month! With the groomer out of commission, much time and effort has been extended getting our groomer fixed, as well as researching options for groomer upgrade! Be sure to thank our groomers and our club officers when you see them for their time and effort that make our club successful!
- As always, please submit stories and pictures to [a.dianne.larsen@gmail.com](mailto:a.dianne.larsen@gmail.com). Also, if you have ride suggestions please contact me.



Wendy Craig at 2nd creek crossing from Mancos to Echo



Brady Leonard at Vallecito



Jeff & Dylan Howard at Vallecito



Skyler Schmidt at Beaver

## February Rides Report—Dianne Larsen

There has been some great riding this month! Early in February there was a mid week ride at Molas. We had great attendance: Mark Earles, Dave Sanders, Lance Blair, John Lytle, Jason and Shannon Groen, Curt and Dianne Larsen. After parking at the overlook at the top of Molas, we headed to the West side of the highway and enjoyed the great terrain up there. We did have some strong winds to contend with! John led us through the woods on our way back which resulted in a bit of a stuck-fest, but there was plenty of help to get everyone unstuck and safely back to our vehicles!

A second mid week ride was let by Rick and Skyler Schmidt mid February at West Mancos. Attendees were Stuart Allen, Lance Blair, Dave Sanders, John Wallace, Brett Swearingen, Rick and Skyler Schmidt. The snow was great! There was a mechanical on one of the sleds in that the pull rope broke. From there the sled had to be started wrapping a rope around the clutch to pull.

Lots of additional riding has occurred among club members in a non-club ride capacity as well! One of the best things about our club is being able to befriend members that we can ride with at our favorite areas!



Kristy Sholly, the Schmidts and Larsens at Beaver



Jason Groen at Molas



Brett Swearingen at Mancos



John Lytle at Molas



Shannon Groen at Molas



Mark Earles at Molas

## February 9th 2021 Meeting Minutes—Jennifer Hawn

La Plata County Fairground Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by President Bryan Meador

Member & New guest introductions

**MOTION:** Minutes from January 12, 2021 meeting approved as presented - accepted by Dianne; 2<sup>nd</sup> Travis

### Treasurer's Report – Dianne Larsen

Balance: \$53,376

Revenue: \$1,016 total, \$175 from CSA member, rest is member dues and swag

Expenses: \$3,205 total, \$1,500 Lemon project, \$418 Roger Pennington grooming, \$765 Travis Leonard grooming, \$522 Basin Coop

**MOTION:** Accept Treasurer's report as presented – accepted by Curt; 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave

### Club rides –

We need to fill the position for Club Ride coordinator

If you are interested in filling this position please contact Bryan

Had a great club ride at Mancos with 16 sledders attending

### Grooming –

Travis reported that the Snow Cat is in the shop

Mechanics are working to trouble shoot and find out what is wrong

Dealership in Grand Junction is not being helpful

An auxiliary fan is being shipped from Salt Lake



**Membership** – Dianne Larsen—90 members plus 1 renewal at tonight's meeting

### Old/Unfinished Business –

#### **Purchasing a new/used groomer**

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the purchasing of a new/used groomer

It was decided that we would wait and see what is wrong with our current CAT and cost of repairs

President Bryan suggested that we table discussion until next month's meeting and at that time decide how the club will proceed

#### **New SPOT for Cat**

Groomers reported that the new SPOT did not work when snowing/cloudy

The old SPOT worked all the time

Groomers requested that the old SPOT not be cancelled

**Barlow parking area** - Kevin reported this project is on hold until Spring 2021. We need to spend Grant money by June 2021 or we lose it

**Search & Rescue**—Ron Corkish sent an email to Dianne thanking the club for participating in the Search & Rescue

### New Business –

#### **Reintroduction of Wolves back into Colorado**

President Bryan encouraged members to go onto the CSA website and post comments regarding the reintroduction of wolves to CO per our CSA Attorney Scott Jones

Bryan said that where ever a wolf is spotted you will not be able to ride

#### **Beacon sign at Purgatory** –

Curt reported that the Beacon sign at Purgatory was damaged

CAIC wants to put up a sign right next to our sign

Discussion was held and it was decided to take the sign down

**MOTION:** Pull the Beacon sign at Purgatory – accepted by Travis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stuart

President Bryan reported that Jed is leaving the Columbine District and we will be getting a new rep. Bryan will be the contact at this time.

Ben Cross (rental at Purgatory) would like to have a flier to hand out with the SJS club info on it. Dianne suggested using membership postcard and adding some additional information to that.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm – accepted by Dianne; 2<sup>nd</sup> Dorwin. Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Hawn, Club Secretary

### Committee Chairs & Volunteers

- Roger Pennington, Safety Instructor
- Unfilled, Rides Chairperson
- Ron Corkish, Search & Rescue Liaison
- Dianne Larsen, Newsletter Editor
- Chris Hinds & Ken Hilfiker, Website Administrator & 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
  - Equipment/Grooming/Truck To Do List– Travis Leonard & Kevin Walters
  - Membership – Dianne Larsen
- VII. Unfinished Business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Motion to Adjourn

The March meeting will be at the La Plata Fairgrounds March 9th. Dinner at 6pm, meeting at 6:30pm.



Dianne Larsen @ Grand Mesa



Kristy Sholly at Beaver



Hope & Hannah Stroud @ Mancos



Rick Schmidt @ Beaver



Jay Stroud, Brett & Jayden Craig, Curt Larsen Mancos



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



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



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



**Phantastic Screens**  
970-247-7907  
Marty & Ann Gunn



**Blouin Brothers Construction**  
970-759-2179—Lyndsey Blouin



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

**BOLETUS CREEK APPRAISALS**

**Boletus Creek Appraisals**  
Phone: 9709034416—Geoff Bourque



**McCormick Construction**  
970-946-6857—Doug McCormick



**Built to Last Automotive**  
970-259-8777 Jeff Howard



**Nic McDonald**  
970-565-7893



**McDonalds**  
970-247-9391  
John Bronson

**i'm lovin' it**



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



**Durango Adventure Rentals**  
970-335-9311—Chuck Schultz



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



**Snowmobile Adventures**  
888-250-9864  
Ben Cross



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



**Spellbring Construction**  
505-325-5600  
Aaron & Tami Spellbring



**Fur Trappers Steakhouse**  
970-884-0596—Dwayne Marable



**Twin Buttes**  
970-259-3883  
Glen & Dianne Pauls



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



**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 \$32/Year \_\_\_\_\_

Family Membership \$37/Year \_\_\_\_\_

Business Membership \$57/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](http://www.snowmobilecolo.com).