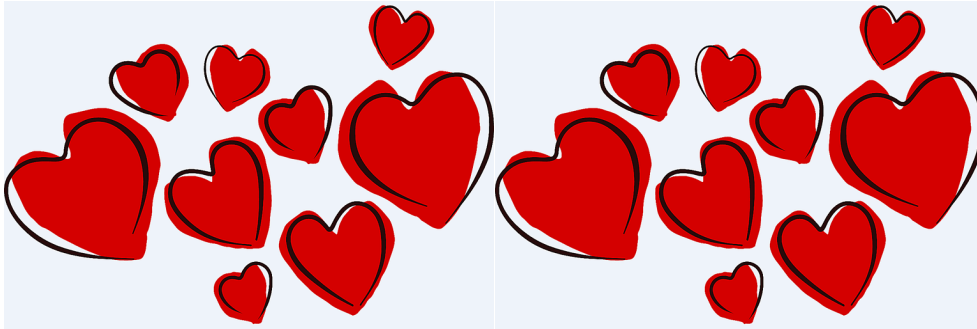


## President's Pondering—Bryan Meador



Hello fellow sledders,

It finally snowed, I really hope everyone has gotten out to enjoy the depth of the white fluffy stuff. I was really beginning to wonder if it was going to snow or if I should get the flip flops back out. Just kidding, I don't wear flip flops. Since it finally showed up and just flat dumped in the high country. Please be careful out there. The avalanche danger is extreme. Avalanches are running in places that don't normally run.

We had our CSA meeting via Zoom in January. It was decided to not to have any awards this year. But to double up next year. So remember come November to get online and vote. Ya right, I can't remember the stuff next week let alone in November. But let's bring some of them awards home to our awesome club. We also got a new District rep. Ken Hilfiker, congratulations Ken. Thank you to William Hall for many years of representation.

I received a thank you via the Forest Service for the grooming of Transfer Campground and the cross county skiers loved it. I also received a thank you from Tim Kelly the home owner at the old gate above Lemon for our work up there. So thank you once again to everyone that helped on the Lemon Parking area. The county approved for snow removal to the parking area also, although it is not priority, it should be plowed soon after the storm lifts.

If anyone would be interested in joining a "Dirt" club let Curt Larsen or myself know. There are a lot of people and projects that could benefit from a Durango area club. Trail maintenance to parking lots, and trail heads. The OHV trail grants have a ton more money to dish out than the snowmobile side. All motorized could benefit from this.

If anyone is interested, the club is in need of a ride coordinator. If you are interested please contact Dianne or myself.

As always be safe out there and I hope to see you on the mountain.

Thank you, Bryan Meador

### Inside this issue:

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| President's Pondering             | 1 |
| Editor's Note and Grooming Report | 2 |
| Ride Report                       | 3 |
| January Meeting Minutes           | 4 |
| Meeting Agenda and Pictures       | 5 |
| Members, CSA Meeting Report       | 6 |
| Business Members                  | 7 |

### 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

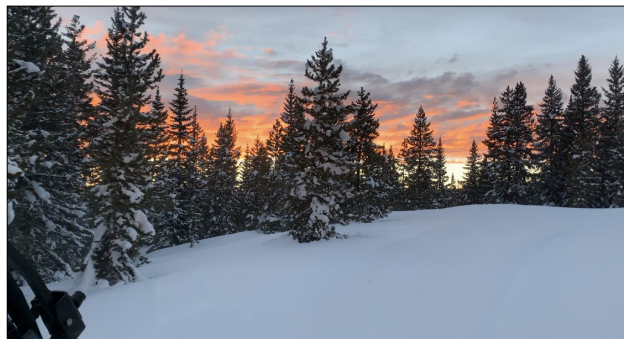


## Editor's Note—Dianne Larsen

- Our February meeting will be at the La Plata Fairgrounds February 9th. Dinner at 6, meeting at 6:30. Thank you Fun Center for hosting our January meeting!
- An article appeared in the Durango Herald mentioning the upgraded Lemon road and parking. San Juan Sledders were given a shout out: [Lemon Reservoir winter recreation parking area relocated and expanded \(durangoherald.com\)](http://durangoherald.com)
- Beanies and additional short and long sleeve t-shirts are on order with Half Price Tees. As soon as we have our new swag in stock, you will be notified of pricing and color selection so you can get the latest SJS SWAG!
- Echo Basin Ride Report from Joe Farmer (1/31): The logger is definitely still in there, and he is keeping up on plowing the road. The bottom gate was closed and the road was plowed all the way up to the where the loop begins, and then the south side of the loop on FS Road 566 was plowed all the way over to where it intersects FS Road 337. The north end of 566 was not plowed at all. From the parking lot up to the beginning of the loop there was only a few inches of snow on the road in most places, and by the time we rode out yesterday it was melting off quick and exposing bare road in spots. It looked like barely anyone has ridden up there this year, probably because it's impossible to access unless we just got a storm and you can beat the plow truck up the road. There was 4-5 feet of snow on the far east end of the loop where the big open meadow is located, and there was zero compaction to the snow.
- As always, please submit stories and pictures to [a.dianne.larsen@gmail.com](mailto:a.dianne.larsen@gmail.com).

## Our Groomers are Rockin' it!

- Our groomers have been doing an awesome job of getting our trails groomed! During the month of January, the following trails have been groomed at least once: West Mancos, Middle Mountain Rd, Lemon Rd, and Missionary Ridge. Awesome job guys! Travis Leonard, Kevin Walters, Roger Pennington, Marty Gunn, Jason Groen, Chris Hinds, Adam Malone.



Lemon: Who knew grooming could be so beautiful?



West Mancos



Middle Mountain Rd.



Missionary Ridge



## January Rides Report—Dianne Larsen

Towards the end of January we got some excellent snow! Followed by some excellent rides! January 20th we had a mid-week ride at Beaver Meadows. Attendees were Ethan Cook and his friend, Lance Blair, and Curt and Dianne Larsen! We had some pretty good snow that day! Good enough for some good stucks, not so good as we had a broken a-arm. The road was being plowed on our way out, but there was still plenty of snow to ride out on the road.

Saturday January 30th we had our first official club ride of the winter! Notice was a bit late since we were waiting to see what the weather would bring. And the snow gods were generous. We had about 12" of fresh snow on top of the freshly groomed road (thank you Roger and Chris). We started the day with 16 attendees: Bob Fillman, Kristy Sholly, Lance Blair, John & Deb Williamson, Ken & Patti Hilfiker, Stuart and Dawn Allen, Carl Moss, Jay Stroud, Dave Sanders, John Wallace and son in law Eric, and Curt & Dianne Larsen. 16! Wow! The parking lot was absolutely packed, both sides of the road all the way to the private property entrance. It took awhile to work thru the hectic parking, and we had a mechanical issue early on and were then down to 14 riders. We headed up the Aspen Loop Trail from the Transfer campground and took the first cutoff into the large meadows that intersects with the Windy Gap rd. There was much deeper and better powder than expected! After playing in the meadows we headed to the cutoff over to the Gold Run side of the loop. The snow along the cutoff road was a blast! Even the people at

the back of the back were able to enjoy the powder! We lunched at the intersection with the main loop and then headed up towards Gold Run. Some of us jumped off into the open areas and thinly-treed areas along the road! The fun really started here. Carl earned his new nickname in one of these meadows. The snow was deep. The hill was steep. Five of us dove down to play and had quite the stuck-fest. About 30 minutes in, Carl was at the bottom with Jay, Curt, and Dianne. After getting the sled upright, Carl was getting plenty of advice to get back up to the road; Curt "Pin it to win it!", Jay "Give her some on-ion!", Dianne "I never thought I wanted a Turbo until now!". So Carl hopped on his sled and throttled out and jumped from one side to the other hanging on bouncing thru the 3' track trenches and earned his new name "Cowboy Carl"! Carl, you really cowboied up on that wild ride!

We finished up the day riding down the Turkey Creek road and ended up back at the parking about 4. Everyone appeared to have a great day out and are looking forward to the next ride.



Ethan Cook at Beaver Meadows



Kristy Sholly at Mancos



Cowboy Carl at Mancos



Stuart & Dawn Allen at Mancos



Lance Blair at Beaver



Most of the Saturday group at Mancos on the Aspen Loop Trail

## January 12th 2021 Meeting Minutes—Jennifer Hawn

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

Member & New guest introductions

**MOTION:** Minutes from December 8, 2020 meeting approved as presented - accepted by Dianne; 2<sup>nd</sup> Curt

### Treasurer's Report – Dianne Larsen

- Balance: \$55,565
- Revenue: \$787 total, \$321 memberships/swag, \$203 memberships/swag, \$263 memberships/swag
- Expenses: \$10791 total, \$698 Officer/Volunteer Liability Insurance, \$2450 Truck Insurance, \$33.59 Office Depot – post cards, \$215 La Plata County truck registration, \$580 Bryan Meador – culvert, \$5974 C&J road base, \$250 Cohvco, \$244 Dianne Larsen (new SPOT, postage), \$347 CSA memberships, Memberships : \$68

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

### Club rides –

- Hope is not able to continue organizing club rides
- If you are interested in filling this position please contact Bryan

### Grooming – Cat ready to groom

**Membership** – Dianne Larsen—reported membership down to 68 from 107, Dianne will send out another reminder email

### Sponsored Events – No sponsored events at this time

### Old/Unfinished Business –

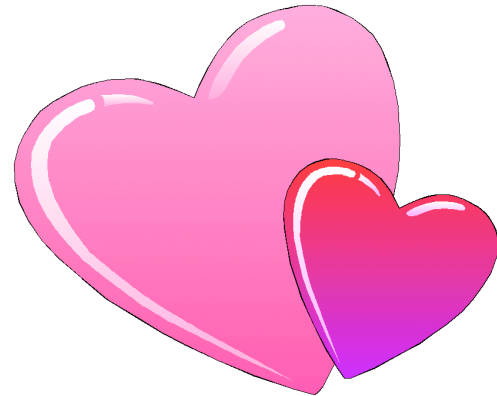
- **New SPOT for Cat**
  - Dianne reported that we have a new SPOT for the Cat that you can text from
  - Want to make sure new SPOT is working before old Spot is turned off
- **Club Radios**—Curt bought 10 radios for sale \$10 ea
- **Lemon parking area**
  - Bryan reported that the Lemon parking area project has been completed
  - Bryan had Thank You cards for club members to sign for all the people that volunteered time, equipment, and people etc.
  - After Jan 26 we will take out an ad in The Durango Herald to “Thank” all involved in the project
  - **MOTION:** Kevin suggested that we give club swag to everyone that was involved with the Lemon project up to \$500 – accepted by Kevin; 2<sup>nd</sup> Roger
  - **MOTION:** Bryan and Dianne will review the status of financials for the Lemon parking area project to determine additional allocations to be distributed – accepted by Curt; 2<sup>nd</sup> Kevin
- **Search & Rescue**
  - Curt sent a list of names to Corey that want to be on S&R list of volunteers
  - Curt told club members when they are called by S&R make the decision immediately if you want to go on search
  - Contact Curt if you want to be included on the S&R list
- **San Juan Sledders Website**—A BIG “Thank You” to Ken Hilfiker for all of the work he has done on the SJS web site

### New Business –

- **SJS club beanies**—Dianne asked if club members would be interested in SJS beanies
- **Grant Submissions**
  - Bryan wants to work on Purgatory parking lot due to lack of response from Purgatory Sr. Management
  - The parking lot is in the historical documents for the resort
  - Call it Purgatory trailhead instead of snowmobile lot because there is a lot more money on dirt side than on snow side
  - Bryan wants to hold off on pursuing grant money until he has talked with Purgatory to find out status of plans for parking lot
- Dianne wanted to give a “Shout Out” and “BIG Thanks” to Shannon Malone for handling the taxes for the club
- Next meeting to be announced

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31pm – accepted by Dianne; 2<sup>nd</sup> Curt

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Hawn, Club Secretary





## Committee Chairs & Volunteers

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

The February meeting will be at the La Plata Fairgrounds February 9th. 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
- IX. Motion to Adjourn



Jayden & Brett Craig at Molas



Wendy Craig at Molas



New Years Day trail clearing: Travis, Curt, and Doug



Todd Remley stuck with an awesome view!



**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



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



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



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



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



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



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

# FUN CENTER

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