

## Saskatoon Snowmobile Club Newsletter February 2009

Greetings!!!! Aren't you excited to see all this new snow???? If you are a snowmobiler you definitely should be!!!! The SSC has had a terrific season so far and by the looks of this snow fall it is far from over. Yippee!!!

Throughout the last few months the SSC has hosted numerous club rides. These rides varied in destination from Rosthern, Duck Lake, the Nesbit Forrest, and even a field trip in the Clavet and Colonsay area. All of these rides have been well attended, which is great to see. A thank-you must be extended to all those Directors who were able to lead these various rides for the membership's enjoyment.

Marcel Voyer had a very busy season with his Safety Courses. He had a record number of enrolments this season but has now wrapped up for another year. Please remember that this is a mandatory course for anyone that was born after January 1, 1989 in order for them to lawfully ride on public lands (you must be at least 12 years of age to take the class). If you have a child of this age please keep this course in mind and register for next year's classes. We would hate to see a youngster in trouble with the law for not completing this class.

To date, the SSC can boast a membership of 105 strong. This is an excellent showing for this year, and the most we have had for a few years. Of this number 36 are brand new this year - phenomenal!!!

We found a tidbit in a local paper that we wanted to share with you: "There are about 18,000 snowmobiles registered each year in Saskatchewan. These machines are operated by men, women, and children of all ages. Depending on weather conditions, approximately 10,000 kilometres of snow-covered trails are maintained and groomed by snowmobile club *VOLUNTEERS* across the province." Interesting facts!!! The article goes on to quote Chris Brewer, president of the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Association: "Safe snowmobiling means riding within your own capabilities, operating at safe and appropriate speeds for the terrain, and never drinking alcoholic beverages before or while driving. Always wear a helmet and adequate clothing, stay within designated riding areas and always snowmobile with another person, never alone, also do not forget when night riding - slow down and expect the unexpected. Take along a spare belt, spark plugs and tools to do basic repairs. You also should carry emergency supplies, such as basic first aid and overnight survival provisions such as food, matches, flashlight and extra batteries, and shelter building materials. Most importantly, always use common sense and keep a clear head. Learn all you can about responsible snowmobiling and keep safety as your top priority." Good advice!!!

The SSC held their annual Poker Rally on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. The weather was perfect: warm and bright, and the trails were freshly groomed - what more could you ask for?? The turnout was fabulous and a great ride was had by all that participated. There was a total of 120 riders. A **HUGE** thank-you must be extended to all those members who worked at the Clubhouse that day - without you the day would not have been the success it was!!!! Also, thanks must be extended to all those that donated door prizes, of which there were lots. Here is an overview of the days results:

1<sup>st</sup> place (\$570) - Joy Ann Scott  
2<sup>nd</sup> place (\$340) - Ed Fehr  
3<sup>rd</sup> place (\$220) - Randy Unique

50/50 winners (\$50 each) - Tania Lockhart and Ryan Hagel

Raffle Prizes - Jim Taman (jacket), Rick Irvine (helmet), and Chelsey Storzuk (oil).

There are still some excellent club rides scheduled for March, and if the weather holds out we will have to add a few more to the itinerary. Enjoy the snow and ride hard, but be safe!! Until next time...

Cley and Gerri Sametts