Klondike **SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

New people, new ideas

KSA MEMBERSHIP. FINANCES ARE IN A HEALTHY STATE

Well, another year has come and gone. We held our annual general meeting on November 4 this year. It was very well attended and I was happy to see many new faces around the table as well as a couple of additions to the board for this season. New people bring new ideas and new energy.

Consistent with my practice over the past few years, I presented the State of the Union (or, in this case, Association) address at the AGM. We need to step back now and then and take stock of our accomplishments. I find the AGM a great venue to review the year and express thanks to everyone for their contributions. It's also a good way to recap the year for the members and that's why it's summarized here.

The KSA continues to hold a healthy financial position. Our business model is sound, our expenditures are tightly controlled, and we rely heavily upon the generosity of our volunteer forces and corporate supporters to get things done. Our office space and stor-



age compound are donated. We use our own capital and strong partnerships with other organizations to leverage funding for large projects. Speaking of partnerships: we just received a \$250 cheque from Polaris resulting from their corporate sponsorship program that funds

local associations affiliated with the CCSO based on regional sales volumes. I don't know exactly how it relates to sales but I do know that \$250 in fuel grooms a lot of trail.

Last season saw a couple of major issues with the equipment. The transmission on our Skandic packed it in after many years of service and the driveshaft on our Polaris snapped. Neither of these incidents were the result of neglect or recklessness-just plain old wear and tear from thousands of miles towing groomers. With a ton of support from the respective dealers, we were back in action in fairly short order. The dealers also helped with the minor repairs and modifications as well as regular servicing on the ma-

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U-Brew Yukon has experts on tap to help you meet vour beverage needs.

U-Brew Yukon is a welcome addition

by MARK DANIELS

U-Brew Yukon joined the KSA as a gold corporate sponsor this fall. While we would never condone consumption before or during a ride, a drink with friends is a great way to wrap up a day of riding once the sleds are put away and folks gather to share stories.

U-Brew may have just what you're looking for in the beverage department and we're not just talking beer.

They have wine, beer, port, sherry, wine coolers and sparkling wine so you should be able to find something to suit every-

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Caribou share their home with you. Be a respectful guest.

At the end of a great day of sledding in the backcountry, you get to return home. Caribou don't—the wilderness is their home. As a guest you should be on your best behaviour. Stay on designated trails when travelling through caribou country.

Before you head out into the backcountry, pick up your free MULTI-USE TRAIL GUIDE. It will help you see wildlife while minimizing disturbance. Available from the Klondike Snowmobile Association, Environment Yukon, and snowmobile service businesses.





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one's taste.

There are basically two ways that U-Brew can assist you in stocking your bar. The more labour-intensive method is to buy all the equipment and supplies and brew it yourself at home. U-Brew can help you out by providing everything you'll need by the piece or as a complete kit. This method is fairly straightforward and simple as long as you follow the instructions to a T.

The easier route is to let the experts at U-Brew help you build your batch at their

All you need to do is add the yeast to get things going, then return when they call to tell you it's ready and bottle it up. The mess stays at U-Brew and you take home the finished product. Either way, you end up with some fine beverages at an economical price.

U-Brew Yukon is the local supplier for Winexpert products, the world's largest manufacturer of premium, award-winning winemaking products (www.winex pert.com) and Barons Premium Beer Kits. This company makes about a dozen different flavours of beer and more types of wine than I can count.

U-Brew Yukon also stocks Black Rock beer kits from New Zealand (www.black rock.co.nz) and Brewer's Best products for those who like to craft their own brew (www.brewersbestkits.com).

Situated at #4-151 Industrial Road in the Calcite Business Centre and under the same ownership for the past 11 years, U-Brew Yukon is ready to serve you Tuesday through Saturday from 10 to 6. Stop by or give them a call at 668-3788.

MARK DANIELS Continued from page 1

chines. In the heyday of the Trans Canada Trail startup, the KSA bought or otherwise acquired a bunch of equipment, implements and materials that I have personally assisted to relocate entirely twice as our storage locations have changed over time. We've made a concentrated effort over the past year to reduce that inventory, both to reduce our storage needs and to reduce the number of assets we need to insure.

Membership topped out at about 820 last year. This is, again, a record high for the KSA. Membership continues to rise year upon year and outpaces the general rise in population for the Yukon. We're seeing members of other trail user groups buying KSA memberships in recognition of our role as stewards for all trail users. I'm proud to say when I attend meetings that I speak for over 800 individuals who share our interest in outdoor recreation and endorse a reasonable approach to shared access. Membership has its privileges. A KSA membership is not only an investment in snowmobiling, it's a passport to savings on food, lodging, fuel and more. Details on member benefits can be found on the KSA website at ksa.yk.ca/ membership/membership-benefits.

We undertook a number of projects this past year but none as grand as the large bridges in years prior. We partnered with the Friends of McIntyre Creek and others on a mapping and signage project in the McIntyre Creek valley; we advanced the Trans Canada Trail in Whitehorse and Dawson through trail connection initiatives; and we upgraded and maintained smaller sections of trail throughout the network, including the addition of signs and picnic tables in various locations. We continued trail net-



Moon over the Whitehorse hospital.

work planning with funding from the Trans Canada Trail and assistance from our consultant at Yucan Planning.

Events in this past year included our annual family ice-fishing day, a trip from Takhini Crossing to Braeburn on the Dawson Overland Trail and our annual charity poker run that benefited Big Brothers/Big Sisters Yukon.

We continue to foster relationships with various levels of government, local business, other user groups and our umbrella organizations such as the Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organizations and Trans Canada Trail. We hold a seat at the Whitehorse Trails and Greenways Committee, a committee that advises city council on matters related to trail development, designation and maintenance in Whitehorse. While we don't always get our way, rest assured that we advocate strongly for fair and equitable

As you can see from this summary, your 2012/13 board worked tirelessly for you. But all good things must come to an end. After my speech, I dissolved the board and turned the meeting over to Phil Perrin to administer the elections for the coming year. The resulting KSA board for 2013/14 consists of:





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President: Mark Daniels Vice-President: Jim Connor Secretary-Treasurer: Phil Perrin

Directors: Harris Cox, James Connor, Ron

Leblanc, Patrice Tremblay

After 14 years of membership in the KSA, including 13 years on the executive and many years as president, I find that a couple of things keep me going. Number 1 is the appreciation we receive from the members and other trail users for the work we do to promote snowmobiling, including development and maintenance of the trail system. The other thing that keeps me going is seeing the selfless commitment from board members and other volunteers to further the KSA mission to "protect, develop and enhance the sport and recreation of snowmobiling in the Yukon." I'm looking forward to addressing the challenges this year with the new board. I'm especially looking forward to seeing what our two new directors, Ron and Patrice, will bring to the table.

Yukon Avalanche Association update

by JENI RUDISILL

You heard correctly. The forecast is happening again this winter. It will be our third season of avalanche forecasting in the White Pass and Wheaton River valley. Thanks to funding from the National Search and Rescue Secretariat and local support, we are



It's time once more to load up the sleds.

able to operate through winter 2014. The Yukon Avalanche Association (YAA) continues to work on long-term funding and sustainability for future years. You can read the news release at www.yukonavalanche.ca/index.php/events/70-forecasting-to-continue-in-2014.

YAA collaborates closely with the Canadian Avalanche Centre (CAC). Together we have got an awesome field team assembled for this season. A Yukon-based field crew will consist of Justin Abbiss, returning to fill the role of lead field technician, joined this year by James Minifie and Matthew Holmes. The crew will cover some pre-season training in November and Justin will be mentoring with the forecast office in Revelstoke in December. We are shifting our field season forward by a month this year to reflect peak backcountry use. This year the Yukon forecast program will operate through the end of April 2014

The program is gaining momentum. The **Continued on page 4** ▶

Membership Form
Time to renew your KSA membership. Do you

know compone who chould become a me

know someone who should become a member:
Name

Phone _____

Membership dues for the 2013/2014 season:

☐ Single \$20 ☐ Family \$30 ☐ Corporate \$105 ☐ Gold Corporate \$315 including GST

Please make cheques payable to: Klondike Snowmobile Association, 4061 - 4th Ave., Whitehorse, YT Y1A 4H1

Membership Benefits

KSA membership card

Email

- KSA newsletters (four per year)
- KSA licence plate and decals
- Input into the development of KSA policy
- Assistance with problems, projects and trail development initiatives in your area
- A strong, unified voice with government and other agencies
- A guarantee that volunteers are working on your behalf to enhance and promote trails in the Yukon Territory
 Five free issues of SnoRiders magazine
- 5% discount on Airport Chalet rooms
- 6% off gas at Tags 4th Ave. Whitehorse (not valid during gas wars)
- 10% off at Mark's Work Wearhouse on regularly priced merchandise; separate card required, which is issued with membership
- 10% off at Mt. Lorne Bed and Breakfast www.klondike rv.com
- 10% off at Klondike RV Rentals www.klondikerv.com
- 10% discount at McDonald's restaurants Whitehorse (not valid with other offers)
- 20% off at Sandor's (Chilkoot Mall) on regularly priced gog-
- gles, gloves, toques, snowpants, jackets and snowboards
 Special rates at Choice Hotels see www.choicehotels.
 ca/ccso for details; only available for online bookings
- Special prices on Haber Vision sunglasses and goggles see www.habervision.com for details; member code is "CCSO"
 Corporate Members can link to our website
- Gold Corporate Members get two free single-issue 1/8-page ads per year in our newsletters.







If you have comments, photos or story ideas for the Klondike Report send them to:

Mark Daniels, Klondike Snowmobile Association 4061 - 4th Ave., Whitehorse, YT Y1A 4H1 Phone 867-667-7680 • Email: klonsnow@vknet.ca



Conquer snow...

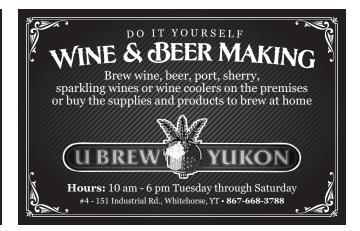
seize the Great White North

2014 Yamaha Vipers have arrived

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KSA corporate members

Alsek Valley Contracting - Whitehorse Atlin Inn - Altin. BC Bombardier Recreational Products -Sherbrooke, QC

Braeburn Lodge - Braeburn Brewery Bay Chalet - Atlin, BC Capital Helicopters - Whitehorse Centennial Motors - Whitehorse Checkered Flag Recreation - Whitehorse Choko Design - St. Leonard, Quebec City of Whitehorse Clear Communications - Whitehorse Fireweed Helicopters - Whitehorse Heritage North Funeral Home - Whitehorse Kanoe People - Whitehorse Keno Community Club - Keno Klondike Visitors Association - Dawson City Lister's Motor Sports - Whitehorse Locksmith Services - Whitehorse Nomad Air - Whitehorse Quality Bearing - Whitehorse SnoRiders Magazine - Cranbrook, BC Tourist Industry Association - Whitehorse Village of Mayo Wilderness Tourism Association - Whitehorse Yukon Alpine Association Yukon Avalanche Association Yukon Meat and Sausage - Whitehorse Yukon Motorcycle Centre - Whitehorse Yukon Trappers Association - Whitehorse

Corporate Gold:

Yukon Wide Adventures - Whitehorse

Yukon Quest

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Yukon region is easier to find on the CAC map and the Yukon forecast will come out in a standardized format with danger ratings and with icons to represent avalanche problems. Check out the CAC website: www. avalanche.ca/cac/bulletins/latest.

Trailhead signage for locations through White Pass and Haines Pass was installed over the summer with support from the Youth Achievement Centre and Yukon Highways. Brochures will be available around town at sled shops, gear stores and visitor centres. See our Online Terrain Resource: www.yukonavalanche.ca/index.php/ terrain-maps. Thanks to support from BC Parks, the Community Development Fund and private donations, we are launching all of these resources to start the winter.

Mark your calendars on January 18, 2014, for Avalanche Awareness Days. Let us know if you have an idea for an event we should attend in 2014. Even better, if you want to volunteer to represent YAA at a local event, we can set you up with swag and all the promo vou need!

The Yukon Avalanche Association is a member-driven non-profit society. Our annual membership only costs \$10. Our goal this year is 250 members. Join now, stay in the loop and support local avalanche safety initiatives. We need a core membership to sustain avalanche forecasting into the future. You can sign up and pay for your annual membership online at www.yukon avalanche.ca/index.php/about-us/member ship/individual-application-form.

If you are interested in event organization, fundraising or website management, let the YAA know—we are looking for your energy to sustain our work.



The KSA gets help smoothing the trails.

If you want to be a YAA sponsor, contact us right away. We have some high-profile placement opportunities for your business. We appreciate in-kind support. Right now we are looking for secure indoor storage for our events materials. Let us know if you can help in any way.

The Yukon Avalanche Association is a non-profit organization promoting avalanche safety and awareness and development of risk management tools for all backcountry users. Connect with the YAA on Facebook, Twitter or through our website: www.yukonavalanche.ca

Remember, the five key safety guidelines when riding in avalanche country are:

- GET THE GEAR: Ensure everyone has an avalanche transceiver, shovel and probe on their person and knows how to use them.
- GET THE TRAINING: Take an avalanche course.
- GET THE FORECAST: Make a riding plan based on the current avalanche and weather forecast.
- GET THE PICTURE: If you see recent avalanche activity, unstable snow exists. Riding on or underneath slopes is dangerous.
- GET OUT OF HARM'S WAY: One at a time on all avalanche slopes. Don't go to help your stuck friend. Don't group up in run-out zones.



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