

Klondike SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Doing it for the kids

DIRECT CHARITY INVOLVEMENT WAS A DEFINITE BONUS



Mark Daniels
KSA President

For years now, we've been hosting the KSA Annual Charity Poker Run. Each year, we choose one worthy local charity to support. We've always encouraged the charity to get involved in the event. Some have taken a hands-off approach while others have become involved to a greater extent. Ideally, the charity would do the bulk of the work related to fundraising and the KSA would provide the event as the vehicle to make it happen.

Things really came together this year with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Yukon. Normally, we canvas the KSA board to nominate a charity for the coming event and the board votes if there's more than one nominee. This year's charity came as a result of last year's event. We had just cleaned up the venue, dropped off the borrowed tables and chairs, and returned to my place for a wrap-up toddy. I jumped out of my truck and ran into my neighbour, Murd Nicholson. Murd and I got into one of our driveway socials and he asked what I was up to since I was

gone all day. I bragged about the poker run we just had and all the money we raised for the Boys and Girls Club. I also told Murd how much I appreciated that, of all the charities we have supported over the years, the Boys and Girls Club was the most involved. Unbeknownst to

me, Murd was on the board of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Yukon. He pitched the organization and I was sold. I asked the KSA board at the very next meeting and they were all in support.

Having the charity in place early on gave us a lot of time to co-ordinate with Big Brothers/Big Sisters (BBBS) of Yukon. Harold Sher, the executive director, is a consummate professional and a huge supporter of the BBBS program. He's also an accomplished fundraiser with years of experience with charities. He took the time to understand our organization and the event, then he gave us some pointers on how to tweak things to make it better. We added a silent

Continued on page 2 ►



Mark Daniels' new RMK is parked for the moment as the Daniels family toboggans the hill.

Nita Daniels photo

Trail signage talks have been fruitful

by MARK DANIELS

There were resounding cries from all corners during the recent bylaw and trail designation consultations for improved and increased signage on the trail system. Just about everyone asked for more signs: directional, informational, interpretive and regulatory. People want to know where they can go, where they must stop and how fast they're allowed to get there. They also want to know the difficulty of the trail and where it leads. To make the trip more interesting, they want to know about the unique flora, fauna and historical relics found along the way. The City is keen to increase the amount of signs on

Continued on page 2 ►



YG photo

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.



SNORIDERS

SPECIAL KLONDIKE SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION REPORT

► TRAIL SIGNAGE *Continued from page 1*

the trail system starting this summer, and the KSA, as the stewards of the multi-use trail system, will be partnering with them.

While the City and KSA will work together city-wide, there's opportunity for other community and special interest groups to get involved. First out of the gate is a proposal by the Friends of McIntyre Creek (FOMC) and Yukon Conservation Society to enhance signage and educational resources for middle McIntyre Creek. The recent announcement by the City to delay subdivision planning for Porter Creek D suggests that the spider-web of recreational trails in the area will remain accessible for the foreseeable future. FOMC plans to work with a host of stakeholders to plant dozens of signs and produce informational brochures about the area. The KSA welcomes this type of partnership where other user groups get directly involved in trail work and help to maintain the system that we all enjoy. The KSA wishes them well in their funding campaign for this worthwhile project.

KSA will be kept busy replacing a bunch of Trans Canada Trail (TCT) signs across the Yukon. For the third time in recent memory, TCT has changed its logo. First, it was square and boldly coloured. Then it was swept and pastel. Obviously, TCT headquarters didn't check with the trail users—pastel doesn't show up very good on the trail. Fortunately for us, we didn't get around to swapping out a lot of signs after the last logo change. Because of this, most Yukoners probably haven't seen the swept design. You can get the gist by squinting at one of our sun-faded TCT signs and tipping your head to one side. ►

► The new logo is swept with bold colours. TCT sent us a boatload of these signs so we'll be replacing the old ones over the course of the next couple of years since we'll be out putting up signs with the city anyway. Give us a shout if you're willing to volunteer a couple of hours this summer putting up signs. ■

► FOR THE KIDS *Continued from page 1*

auction and a 50/50 draw to the event based on his advice.

Harold and his staff and volunteers threw themselves into the event. For the first time ever, the charity got involved soliciting donations. This was welcome as Joe Wall, our go-to guy for the prize drive, recently had a slip and broke a couple of ribs. Joe's no quitter. He couldn't bend over far enough to get into his car so he conned Roch Fraser into driving him around in his truck. With the combined efforts of BBBS, Joe and Roch, we had plenty of prizes from our generous Whitehorse merchants.

This year, we wanted the run to cross our latest and greatest public works project—the Rodney Cox Memorial Bridge over Sima Creek. Harris Cox found a great loop trail south of Wolf Creek that went east around Mary Lake and Murray Lake, then cut back onto the Trans Canada Trail at Swamp Lake. Harris and Rheo Bedard groomed the trail on Saturday while Phil Perrin, Ron Leblanc and I staked and marked it. This gave a much larger loop south of Wolf Creek than last year. I got to ride on some trails that I've never been on with a snowmobile and hadn't been on for years with an ATV. It was a great route with a variety of slow to medium speed winding trails and the higher

speed Copper Haul Road to clean out the carbon. At close to 80 kilometres, the run was longer than usual but the good trail and warm weather made it easy for everyone.

We used Keith Plumbing and Heating's shop again this year. It's a great venue with plenty of parking outside and space inside for everyone to relax before and after the run. BBBS was set up with coffee, hot chocolate, treats and a barbecue. They produced an army of volunteers to operate the concession, auction and 50/50 draw. As usual, I was playing extreme sledding videos to demonstrate what mortals should not be doing in the backcountry. Chris May of Mid Arctic Technology Services provided a Wii game console to entertain the young and young-at-heart.

Sounds pretty good, right? Then we opened the doors. Where the parking lot used to start filling up at 10:30, you could have pulled a U-turn with a tractor-trailer at noon. There were a total of nine sleds registered when I gave my pre-run safety speech. We usually run between 30 and 50 sleds. Where we normally have a couple of grand in the cash box, we had a couple of hundred. Regardless, the participants had a great ride. They pretty much stuck together throughout the run so Roch, Ron, Phil and his wife, Janice, had an easy time running the checkpoints.

When they were out on the trail we packed up 30 of the chairs we had laid out expecting a crowd and set out the loot for the top hands, silent auction and door prizes. With such a low turnout, we had more than enough prizes and everyone went home with at least two door prizes.

The top hand was Trevor Sinclair with three queens. Bradley Johnson placed second with three eights. Jan Klippert got ►



**We've Got
You Covered
in men's & women's
outdoor armour**

**New Yamaha Clothing
Has Arrived**

YUKON YAMAHA

8:30 - 5:30 Monday to Friday, 10 - 4 Saturday
867-668-2101 or 1-800-661-0430
Alaska Hwy., Whitehorse, YT



YAMAHA

like **sledding?**
so do we.

More of what you love online. For snowmobilers in Western Canada. Sign up for a free email newsletter today. Log on and enjoy the ride.

www.snoriderswest.com



Don't forget to check out the digital edition of your favourite snowmobiling magazine at **www.snoriderswest.com/emagazine**



SNORIDERS

SPECIAL KLONDIKE SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION REPORT

► FOR THE KIDS

Continued from page 2

third with a pair of kings over a pair of nines and Marsh Bedard came fourth with a pair of nines. We gave out prize packages for the top four hands and handed out gift cards for youngest and oldest participants. Despite the low turnout, the 50/50 draw, the barbecue and the auction bolstered the bottom line. When all was said and done, we mustered just about \$1,400 for charity, everyone made it back safely and the barbecued smokies were great.

I asked around before, during and after the poker run about attendance. Almost universally, I heard that people avoided the event because they didn't want to risk a run-in with Bylaw Services. People who rarely ride in town don't want to comply with all the requirements of the city just to attend the charity poker run. Others said that they had all the requirements in place but still avoided the event thinking Bylaw Services would be there and would harass them. It's unfortunate that the enforcement regime has had such a negative effect on our ability to raise funds for charity. We have a couple of options looking forward: we could try to negotiate a special event permit with the City allowing temporary use of the poker run route without meeting all the usual conditions; we could move the event just outside city limits; or we could try to run it the same again next year and see if more people show up. Please drop us a line at klnsnow@yknnet.ca and tell us what you think.



Janice Perrin photo

Madison Perrin, in Grandpa Phil's hut, was all smiles at the recent Family Ice Fishing Day.

We really want to keep running this annual event. People have told us in the past that they really like the poker run and it brings in much needed cash for charity.

It takes about the same amount of effort to put on this event whether five or 500 show up for the run. A round of applause goes out to Harris Cox for pioneering, then grooming, the trail and running sweep for the run. Rheo Bedard helped Harris groom on Saturday while Phil Perrin and Ron Leblanc marked the trail with me. Phil, Ron and Janice Perrin ran a checkpoint during the event. Joe Wall and Roch Fraser beat the streets for prizes. On Sunday, they both helped out with setup and tear-down. Joe manned the registration table and scored the hands while Roch single-handedly ran two checkpoints on the route. Nita Daniels helped Joe at the registration table and helped with setup and tear-down. I had the easy job—I

Continued on page 4 ►

Membership Form

Time to renew your KSA membership. Do you know someone who should become a member?

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Membership dues for the 2012/2013 season:

☐ Single \$20 ☐ Family \$30

☐ Corporate \$100 ☐ Gold Corporate \$300

Please make cheques payable to:

**Klondike Snowmobile Association,
4061 - 4th Ave., Whitehorse, YT Y1A 4H1**

Membership Benefits

- KSA membership card
- 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.klondikerv.com
- 10% off at Klondike RV Rentals - www.klondikerv.com
- 20% discount at McDonald's restaurants - Whitehorse (not valid with other offers)
- 20% off at Sandor's (Chilkoot Mall) on regularly priced goggles, gloves, toques, snowpants, jackets and snowboards
- NEW special rates at Choice Hotels - see www.choicehotels.ca/ccso for details; only available for online bookings
- NEW 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: klnsnow@yknnet.ca



SNOWMOBILE OPERATOR COURSES AND ATV & UTV RIDER COURSES

- 3 certified instructors
- Nationally recognized by the Canada Safety Council
- All courses WCB approved

MAIN STREET DRIVING SCHOOL

7213 - 7th Ave., Whitehorse, YT
867-633-2355 • ravens@klondiker.com

KSA Members receive
20% OFF
YOUR MEAL
when you present your membership card



i'm lovin' it™



4227 4th Ave., Whitehorse • 867-668-3502

This offer is only valid at participating McDonald's Restaurants in Whitehorse and subject to change at any time.

SNORIDERS

SPECIAL KLONDIKE SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION REPORT

KSA corporate members

Alsek Valley Contracting - Whitehorse
 Atlin Inn - Atlin, 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
 Kanoë People - Whitehorse
 Keno Community Club - Keno
 Klondike Visitors Association - Dawson City
 Lister's Motor Sports - Whitehorse
 Locksmith Services - Whitehorse
 Nomad Air - Whitehorse
 Philmar RV Services - Whitehorse
 Quality Bearing - Whitehorse
 SnoRiders Magazine - Cranbrook, BC
 Tourist Industry Association - Whitehorse
 U-Brew Yukon - Whitehorse
 Village of Mayo
 Wilderness Tourism Association - Whitehorse
 Yukon Alpine Association
 Yukon Avalanche Association
 Yukon Honda - Whitehorse
 Yukon Meat and Sausage - Whitehorse
 Yukon Motorcycle Centre - Whitehorse
 Yukon Trappers Association - Whitehorse
 Yukon Quest
 Yukon Wide Adventures - Whitehorse
Corporate Gold:
 Canada Flooring - Whitehorse
 Main Street Driving School - Whitehorse
 McDonald's - Whitehorse
 Polaris Industries - Winnipeg, Manitoba
 Safe Trails North Training Services - Whitehorse
 Yukon Yamaha - Whitehorse

► FOR THE KIDS Continued from page 3

got to talk. Harold Sher and the others at BBBS Yukon helped tremendously and proved that our model of having the charity directly involved in the event makes sense and works well.

Dawson City will soon be connected

by MARK DANIELS

We just got some great news from our friends at the Community Development Fund (CDF) of the Yukon Government. They have agreed to fund the bulk of the cost for the connector trail between Dawson City and the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) at the Dempster Corner. I really appreciate the flexibility that CDF shows towards our organization. Just as with the Wolf Creek and Sima Creek bridge projects, we requested enough money from CDF to make sure the project happens during our short construction season, regardless of getting money from other funding sources. In the case of the Wolf Creek Bridge, we subsequently got half the project funding from TCT so we only needed half our grant from CDF. Similarly, we have an application into TCT for half the project cost of the Dawson connector and we hope to get a positive response soon.

With or without those additional TCT funds, we'll be able to get the project completed this year and Dawson will be officially connected to the rest of Canada via the TCT by fall. As mentioned previously, the route takes advantage of existing roads and trails in the goldfield region southeast of Dawson. TCT and KSA are already funding the project management and administration costs so, with the project funding announcement

from CDF, we've begun drafting the tender and contract documents and we'll be ready to go when the ground thaws.

Spring promotions: such a good deal

by MARK DANIELS

It's the end of the season and I could write an article about how to summarize your sled for storage. Proper off-season storage is important for vehicle longevity and early season rideability. Everyone should perform this vital maintenance procedure or have a qualified technician do it for them. So, I could write it but you can read that type of article just about anywhere. And, though it's vital, it's not nearly as exciting as shopping for a spring-order sled.

Whether it's called Spring Fever, Snow Check Select, the Pledge or Spring Power Surge, the big four manufacturers pull out the stops to get consumers to pre-order snowmobiles for the coming season. They offer new models, extended warranties, custom features, cool accessories and hot deals that include cash back and cheap financing.

Spring orders may be risky for sledheads who live where snowfall is unreliable. My counterpart from Prince Edward Island is president of a snowmobile association that may or may not have a snowmobile season from year to year due to lack of snow. It would be unbearably painful to have a brand new sled and no snow to ride it on. In Yukon we're basically guaranteed four months of good riding and a few more if you're willing to trailer in the shoulder seasons. That pretty much takes the risk out of spring orders so why don't you stop by the local dealers and see what kind of deal you can cut on a brand new ride.

LIGHTEST. STRONGEST. MOST FLICKABLE.

THE NIMBLE PERFORMANCE OF THE PERFECTLY BALANCED POLARIS PRO-RMK[®] HAS ALLOWED RIDERS TO ELEVATE THEIR GAME AND GO PLACES OTHERS THOUGHT IMPOSSIBLE AND SEE THE MOUNTAIN LIKE NEVER BEFORE. IT'S WHERE THE WORD FLICKABILITY WAS INVENTED.



2014 MODEL

800 PRO-RMK



Rider pictured is a professional on a closed course. Polaris recommends that all snowmobile riders take a training course. Do not attempt maneuvers beyond your capability. Always wear a helmet and other safety apparel. Never drink and ride. ©2013 Polaris Industries Inc.

Proud Sponsor of the KSA



CF CANADA FLOORING ENTERPRISES LIMITED
 9049 Quartz Road, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 4Z5
 Ph: 867-667-7290 or 867-667-7291 • Fax: 867-667-4619