

25th Anniversary



1970 - 1995

CLUB HISTORY

April 26, 1996

CELEBRATING OUR 25TH. ANNIVERSARY

THIS BOOKLET GIVES US A PERFECT

TIME TO LOOK BACK AT OUR

COLORFUL AND INSPIRING PAST,

TO TAKE STOCK OF THE PRESENT

AND TO

THINK ABOUT OUR COMMITMENT TO

THE NEXT GENERATION.

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This re-issue of the Sussex Sled Bugs Club History contains the same information as the original release. Some minor changes were made do to typographical errors found in the original, or formatting changes. The pictures used are the same from the original book. Some pictures may have been enhanced to make the contents more visible.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

In the Fall of 1970 a meeting was held at the Doug & Carol Hext residence to discuss the possibility of forming a snowmobile club. Attending that meeting were Doug & Carol Hext, Frank Westerdale, Reid Bierman, Dick & Ann Wegner, Tom Schepp, Vince Wierl and Jim Booth.

On December 16, 1970, another meeting was held at the Jolly Bar to further discuss forming a club. Thus to establish better relations with landowners by correcting violations, to prevent property damage, and make snowmobiling safer and more enjoyable for snowmobile owners and non-owners, alike. Also to have a voice in snowmobile legislation as a group in the community, county and state. In the future, to have a cooperative relationship between the community and the club. A motion was made by Frank Westerdale, seconded by Gordon Pfeil to organize a snowmobile club. Motion carried.

Several suggestions for a club name were: The Snofunners, Trail Blazers, Trail Hawks, Trail Bums and the Sled Bugs. Members present at the January 6, 1971 meeting voted, the name preferred was the "Sled Bugs" and the Club was officially formed and named.

Reid Bierman worked with a local artist and had numerous suggestions for a Club emblem with a "Sled Bug" as the basic idea. At the January 6, 1971 meeting, the membership voted on several suggestions, and the famous cricket was chosen as the emblem. The decal was 4" in diameter; the side vent and the word TNT was omitted from the Ski-Doo snowmobile used on the decal.

Also at the January 6, 1971 meeting a motion was made and seconded to incorporate the Sussex Sled Bugs Snowmobile Club as a non-profit organization. Motion carried. The proper paper work was done and the Sled Bugs rented Post Office Box Number 222 for a year for \$8.40. In 1996 the annual cost of Post Office Box Number 222 has risen to \$64.00.

Trail work started in January of 1971 and the first officers of the newly formed club were: President - Doug Hext; Vice President - Reid Bierman; Treasurer - Tom Schepp and Secretary - Carol Hext.

A motion was passed stating, "That for any reason the Sussex Sled Bugs Snowmobile Club disbanded, the balance of the Club Treasury is to be donated to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for snowmobile trails".

The First Board of Directors consisted of Lyle Luczak, Dick Wegner, Frank Westerdale, Harold Krueger, Russell & Kathy Albert, Randy Strelow, Ken Roberts, Carol Wegner, Carol Darrow and Maxine Bierman.

Club Polices:

- 1) Person must be 18 years of age or older to join the Club.
- 2) The Club would only accept 100 memberships.
- 3) The Club was to meet on the first Wednesday of the Month with the Board meeting on the third Wednesday of the Month.
- 4) Club dues were \$15.00.

Charter members that joined the Club in 1970 are: Jerry & Bernie Berdoll, Vince & Katie Wierl, Frank & Evelyn Westerdale, and Judy Kaisler.

Several others that joined the Club in the "History" making years and still belong to the Sled Bugs today:

1971 John & Sharon Mueller
Joel & Sue Ohman
1972 Delores Scharmer
Dennis & Sharon Schneeberg

The Sled Bugs started offering the Snowmobile Safety Course in 1971. Tom Schepp, Joel Ohman and John Mueller graduated from the DNR Snowmobile Safety Course as Instructors.

The Sussex Sled Bugs, Lisbon Sno-Knights, Pewaukee Club, Lake Five Club and the Lannon Club formed a 5 club Alliance for the purpose of having mutual exchange of trails, with uniform markers and to have uniform insurance coverage. Reid Bierman and Frank Westerdale were the representatives and by 1973 the Town & County Alliance had grown to 15 Clubs.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

In January of 1972 the Junior Club was formed for children 10 to 18 years of age. Parents of the Junior Club members needed to be Sled Bug members. The Junior Club meetings would coincide with the regular club meetings. The first officers of the Junior Club were: President - Rick Schepp, Vice President - Lauren Schepp, Secretary - Colleen Albert and Treasurer - Jeanne Kjos.

With the growing popularity in the community, regular membership was raised to 175 members, subject to Board Approval.

In March of 1972 Reid Bierman was officially appointed "Trail Master" and Dick Wegner took over the position of Vice President. Frank Westerdale was assistant trail master.



1973 Sussex Lions Daze

In September of 1973, a motion was made by Carol Hext, seconded by Ed Lemke to join the AWSC. Motion carried. By March of 1975 100% of the Club members belonged to AWSC.

Interest in the Club continued to grow and by the 1974 - 75 season, the Club had 257 members.

With the continued growth and development in and around the village, a Trail Committee was organized in 1975. Trail Section heads were set up, to be overseen by the trail master.

In the 1975 - 76 season the Club membership dropped to 183 families.

In August 1975 John Mueller sent a letter to the Sussex VFW asking that a sign be positioned outside to show that the Post was the Sled Bugs headquarters. Permission was granted for the sign and a trophy case.

In December 1975 the Club received permission to use an old milk shed [14' x 18'] on the Carl Trapp farm off of Pewaukee Road, free of charge for at least two years. We used the shed until January 1993 to store trail supplies, etc. The annual chili dump and bon fire were also held on the Trapp Farm.

Also in 1975 John Mueller starting working with the Village on the use of the Bug Line as part of our private trail system.

In October of 1976 a motion was passed to allow non-residents to join the Club for the first time. But 75% of the membership had to be Village residents.

In April 1977 John Mueller made a motion, seconded by Jim Scharmer to have a door raffle at 25 cents per ticket, with one winner receiving the money. Motion carried.

In the 1977 - 1978 season the first Fun Days were organized. The club had over 100 members and there were events for everyone. John Mueller was chairman of Fun Days and held team relay events for the men, women, and children.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995



Winter Fun Days

Winners of the first men's relay team were: Matt Nettesheim, Paul Schmitz, Fred Schildt and Gene Schmid. Winners on the women's team were R. Wardesky, Katie Wierl, Sharon Mueller and Karen Beckman.

In 1978 Jean Steinhilb represented the Sled Bugs at the Alliance Queen contest in Wausau.

In June 1979 Club dues were increased to \$20.00 and a \$5.00 late charge would be charged where appropriate. The club membership in AWSC was 100%.



AWCS 100% Participation Certificate of 1979

In September 1979 the Sussex Sled Bugs Junior Club was disbanded because a lack of interest and more family related events were to be planned.

In the Fall of 1981 Chris Cloutier represented the Sled Bugs at the Alliance Queen Contest in Fond du Lac.



Chris Cloutier

With many new subdivisions and the continued development in and around Sussex, the job of the Trail Master and his committee was getting to be a very big and time consuming job. At the May 19th, 1982 Board meeting it was decided to split up the job and have a trail master, an assistant trail master, a trail coordinator, and continue with section heads.

After many discussions, in January 1983, a new motion was passed that the door raffle winner receive \$25 and the remaining money, if any, go in the Club treasury.

Harold Butschke, representing the Waukesha County Snowmobile Association, attended the March 1983 Board Meeting and gave the Counties proposal of a new funded trail for public use, which would include sections of the Bug Line. After a lengthy discussion, a motion was passed stating that the Sled Bugs would participate in the proposed County Funded Trail. Larry Kaisler, John Dietrich, Vince Wierl, Jerry Fink, and John Mueller volunteered to contact all landowners involved.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995



1983 Sussex Lions Daze Float

In September 1983 the Club started looking into having a booth at Lions Daze, selling either chicken wings, baked potatoes or wine coolers. We were denied a booth for no apparent reason. But in April of 1984 the Lions' reconsidered and called to give the Sled Bugs permission to have a booth in 1984 Lions Daze, but we could not sell food or booze. Many suggestions were offered, the decision was made to sell T-shirts. A small booth was built and ready by July.



1984 Sussex Lions Daze T-Shirt Booth

That first year we sold 245 shirts with receipts of \$1,159.50. This was a very good profit on the items sold, BUT over 500 shirts were left in inventory and the total cost to the Club was \$2,332.50. Global Mfg. was paid in installments and we sold shirts again in 1985.

In April of 1984 John Dietrich and Harry Findler volunteered to come up with a Club Certificate Award to be presented to an outstanding member, family or Landowner that has contributed outstanding services to the Club. It was decided that a Club plaque listing all winners and an individual plaque be given for this Award.



John Mueller receiving his award

The first annual "Big Bug" award was presented to John Mueller at the December general meeting. John has been with the Club since 1971 and has been on the Board of Directors, a Club Officer, has conducted the Snowmobile Safety Course, has been Chairman of Fun Days, Chairman of Lions Daze booth, and worked on the Club insurance and membership. John also has donated many hours of time toward the County trail system.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

Use of the Bug Line was granted in March for use in the 1983-84 snow season, but use in the Village Limits was denied. In October the plan was dropped as it was a dead end battle trying to get permission through the Village. The Village did grant use of two segments of the Bug Line on a temporary 1 years basis. Highway J east to the creek, west of Grogan Drive and from the Chicago Northwestern overpass south to a dead end at Our Villa (Buzdum's) and the Clark Station. These parts are still used today.

At the August 15, 1984, Board meeting Harry Findler and John Mueller agreed to take responsibility and pursue the County Trail system.



Building the Bark River Bridge in 1984

In the fall of 1984 specifications to build the Bark River bridge were received from the County. Work needed to be completed and the bridge ready by December 1st. Members worked many hours, built the bridge and had it ready for inspection in December. On January 24, 1985, the County certified our new county trail and bridge. Re-construction was done to the ramps, etc., in February 1986, and the bridge is still a permanent structure today.

In 1985 stuffed animals, hats, beaded dresses, fringed T-shirts and logo transfers were added to the Lion Dazes Booth items to be sold. Total receipts for 1985 was \$714.25 and after the bills were paid, the total profit was only \$220.00. After that experience, the Club decided not to sell T-shirts again, as the profit was too small.

Even with 300 T-shirts remaining in inventory, in March of 1986 a letter was again written to the Lions Club asking permission for a food booth at Lions Daze. Permission was granted. President, Harry Findler called an "Emergency" Club Meeting on June 4, 1986 and after a lengthy discussion members accepted the Board of Directors recommendations to venture ahead and spend over \$500.00 and participate in Lion Daze 1986. A new and bigger booth was built, John Mueller volunteered to be chairman and the Club entered into the "Munchies" booth adventure. That makes a total of ten years of FUN!!!



Our Famous "Munchie Booth"

That first year the Club did accomplish the two goals that were set. One was to make money and the other was to let the Community know that the Sussex Sled Bugs Snowmobile Club was alive and well!!! Membership participation in the event was extremely good and a decision was made at the September meeting to do it again in 1987!!!

Paul Schmitz designed rain protection gear which was added when the booth was assembled for the 1987 Lions Daze.

In December 1985 the annual Outstanding Service Award was presented to Karen Jeras. Karen likes to be involved in the club. She has done the Newsletter, was the Pizza sale chairman, worked on Fun Days, Lions Daze float and booth, dance committee, Landowners Dinner, Christmas party, and helps with trail work. Karen is currently the Club Secretary, on the Board of Directors, on the Recruiting Committee and a member of the Search & Rescue team.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995



Karen Jeras

In 1986 the County extended the Bug Line east to Village Bowl in Menomonee Falls.

Kim Weinzatl represented the Sled Bugs in the 1986 Lions Daze parade and was a representative in the Alliance Queen Contest held at Boomers Pub in the Fall.



Kim Weinzatl

In December of 1986 the remaining 150 T-shirts were donated to needy organizations in Waukesha County.



Joel & Sue Ohman

In December 1986 the Outstanding Service Award was presented to a couple that contributed numerous hours of support to the club and have been "Outstanding Members" since 1971, Joel & Sue Ohman.

Sue & Joel both have been on the Board of Directors, both were officers of the Club, worked on Fun Days and the Summer Picnics. Joel worked on the County Alliance projects and was a Safety School Instructor and certified over 500 students by 1986 and received the "traditional" belt buckle from the DNR. Sue also did the Newsletter for the Club for several years and was very active in the Legislative aspects of snowmobiling.

In February of 1987 a motion was passed to purchase a fiberglass toboggan with a backboard, for \$441.45 (plus \$50 for shipping), for donation to the Sussex Fire Department, as a community project. The Lisbon Fire Department would also have full use of the board if needed. Donation of the backboard was done at the November Open House.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

In 1987 Club meetings were held in the basement Fox Hole of the Sussex VFW on Wednesday evening. Bingo started interfering with parking; so in May of 1987 the Board recommended to the membership to change its meeting night to Tuesday in order to meet upstairs. A motion was passed to have the September, October and November meeting on Tuesday, upstairs and then make a final decision on the future night.

In June of 1987 the question of a "inactive membership" was brought before the Board of Directors. Several members were relocating to the Northern part of the State and would like to remain on the mailing list. A club policy was set stating that: An inactive membership would be available to any member who had previously been a member in good standing, and had moved to an area not within reasonable traveling distance to meetings and events. Cost would be \$5.00 per year, plus AWSC membership fee if they do not belong to another club having membership in the AWSC. All applications must be approved by the Board of Directors. Those approved memberships would receive a copy of the Newsletter, and if they wish to attend any of the club activities, they would be assessed a guest fee. This would require a By-Law change and would be voted on.



Shelly Ohman

In September of 1987, Shelly Ohman represented the Sled Bugs in the Alliance Queen Contest and placed second. Shelly also represented the Club at Olympia in October.

At the October meeting a motion was passed to continue to hold monthly meetings on Tuesday for the balance of the 1987 - 1988 season and meet upstairs.



Alice and Harry Findler

In November 1987 the Outstanding Service Award was presented to Harry and Alice Findler. They both have served as officers of the Club, on the Board of Directors, been chairman of Fun Days, been on the dance committee, elections committee and did the audit of the books. They together have donated many, many, hours of time and materials to the Club and have always been there to help John Mueller with Lions Daze. Alice has done the Newsletter, made work schedule arrangements for Lions Daze and is always doing work for Harry. Harry has been the Club "Jester" for years!!!

Each year the Snowmobile Safety Course has been offered to the community and by 1987 John Mueller had certified 500 students and received his belt buckle from the DNR.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

In March of 1988 a 10 day snowmobile trip to Canada was organized by Jerry Fink. Phil Hohlweck, Michael Kolupar, Jerry Fink, Brianne & Karen Jeras, Bob & Jean Walther, Bud & Dorothy Weber, Terry & Ellen Prekop and Wally & Charlotte Feutz rode the "Snow Train" from Sault Saint Marie, through the Agawa Canyon on its 9 hour trip to Hearst Ontario.



Delores Scharmer

In December 1988 the Outstanding Service Award was presented to Delores Scharmer, whom has been a Sled Bug since 1972. Delores has been the clubs' social director, handles the insurance, has been chairman of the Landowners dinner, Christmas Party, and Brewer's outings. Delores is a member of the Board of directors and is currently President of the Club.

The 1988 - 89 season brought new ideas and suggestions for the County Trail. It was to have all intersections marked with corridor signs corresponding to the State Maps.

In 1988 there was 12,700 miles of State trails in Wisconsin, but the Southern part of the State does not have their share. Some funding may be spent in a different County than it was allotted, to help offset the Northern counties high bills.

In February of 1989 Bob & Jane Farkas arranged a club trip to Park Falls. The Snow Gypsies helped with the arrangements for a full weekend of activities. In the Spring of 1989 the Park Falls Snow Gypsies became the "Sister Club" of the Sled Bugs and do exchange Newsletters.



Sam Pritzel, President of the Park Falls Snow Gypsies on his new "horse" built by Harry and John.

As of March 1, 1989, driving while intoxicated would be strongly enforced. Road blocks would probably be set up on the trails and breath test given. The first offense is \$318.00 and doubles every time you are arrested. This is a Civil offense and would not be recorded on your driving record.

1989 was a fantastic year at Lions Daze, but the Club needs to get more members involved. Another freezer was purchased and by the end of 1989 we had over \$1600 in inventory.

On numerous occasions Bob Walther stated that he would like to be the Clubs' "Snow Priest" for the 1989 - 90 season. After Board approval it was recommended to the membership and they agreed to let Bob represent the Club for one season. But, if it didn't snow that season, he was to be tarred and feathered.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995



Snow Priest Bob Walther

The 1989 Outstanding Service Award was presented to former trail masters: Vince Wierl, Karl Swanson, Jerry Fink and Larry Klein. Vince is a Charter member of the Sled Bugs and has seen many changes in and around Sussex. Karl, Jerry and Larry also have worked numerous hours and have managed to keep the Sled Bugs on the map. They have served on numerous committees and have been members of the Board of Directors. Jerry is also the Club's travel agent and is presently the Trail Coordinator.



Vince Wierl, Karl Swanson



Larry Klein, Jerry Fink

As of January insurance coverage for Landowners was increased to 1 million dollars of coverage.

Ross Schmidt won \$26.00 in the trail open contest. Suggestion was made to start meetings at 7:30 to allow more time to visit when the business is done.

On February 21, 1990, 22 people left for Yellowstone National Park. Jerry Fink made all the arrangements and was the "tour guide" out west. Members attending were: Jan & Jerry Fink; Karen & Brianne Jeras; Gene Schmid; Dan Mueller; Michael Kolupar; Larry Klein; Bob & Jane Farkas; Phil & Kelly Hohlweck; Scott Clark; Paul Schmitz and Delores Scharmer. Sam & Mary Pritzel of the Park Falls Snow Gypsies also went along on the trip. Before returning home, Brianne Jeras did manage to break her right arm in two places on the last day of the trip.



1990 Yellowstone Trip

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

We received very little snow in the area during the 1989-90 season, so at the May general meeting, Bob Walther our "Snow Priest" was tarred and feathered, for not living up to his promise.

On May 10, 1990, Bob took revenge and we were blessed with a 8" snow storm.

The Sled Bugs donated the first Lions Daze booth, used for selling T-shirts, to Boy Scouts Troop #95 for their use at Lions Dazes.

On June 10, Manny & Kathy Swiekert had a boat trip to Port Washington and back for the club.

1990 was another good year at Lions Dazes in spite of the rain and mosquitoes. The Club realized another profitable year and did manage to get new members involved. Neon jewelry was available at the booth, but sales were very poor.

The Sled Bugs won the first place trophy in the Civic Division of the Lions Daze parade.



1990 Lions Daze Float

A portable storage shed [flag football wagon] was purchased from the Lions for \$175 and added to inventory for Lions Daze equipment storage.

In October 1990 Harry Findler and his "side kick" John Mueller were given a costume made by Sandy Hohlweck and were officially recognized as the Sled Bugs Club "Jesters".



John Mueller and crew appearing at the WCSA Dinner Dance as the "Snow Balls". Their version of the California Raisins.

At the November Open House (20 year celebration) a "Certificate of Appreciation and "Lifetime Membership" was presented to charter members: Frank & Evelyn Westerdale; Vince & Katie Wierl; Jerry & Bernie Berdoll; Larry & Judy Kaisler.



Charter Members Front: Larry Kaisler, Katie Wierl, Evelyn Westerdale, Bernie Berdoll. Back: Vince Wierl, Greg Wierl, Frank Westerdale, Jerry Berdoll.

Reid & Maxine Bierman were present at the meeting. Reid gave a short speech on how the **Sled Bugs** were started.

The outstanding service award was presented to Katie Wierl for all her years of service to the club. Katie never held a club officer position but served on almost every committee there has been.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995



Katie Wierl

Trails opened on December 3rd. - 6:00 PM - Gary Tennyson won \$17.80 on the "Trail Open Contest".

FOR BILL SCHEPP: Total loss to the club for the "Refreshment Can" from 1-1-1980 to 12-31-1990 was \$575.80. (That includes Open House costs).

On January 19, 1991, Jerry Fink, Michael Kolar, Scott Clark and Karen Jeras participated in the Grand Maries 500 mile endurance ride. Jerry and Karen accepted pledges and raised \$894 which was donated to the American Cancer Society on behalf of the Sled Bugs.

By March 1st. there were 17 reported snowmobile related deaths, of those 14 were intoxicated.

Club member Tom Wegner was selected as "Fireman of the Year" in Sussex.



Eddie Murphy, escorted by Karen Jeras, attended the 1991 WCSA Dinner Dance with the Sled Bugs

At the April general meeting Bill Schepp made a motion, seconded by Dave Reihle, that from here forth, the "Refreshment" can be passed only once at a meeting. Motion carried. Members were asked to contribute \$2.00 so the cost of the refreshments could be covered.

In May the membership decided to not become involved in the Wisconsin Adopt-A-Highway program.

Lions Daze—New soda machine worked great. Could have used more help on some shifts. But we had another successful year. Bob Farkas and Harry Fidler volunteered to paint the supply wagon.

AWSC, WCSA, etc. is working with DOT on the railroad crossing issue. Up dates will probably have to be made and each club will be required to do and pay for the work at crossings.

Valerie Teague represented the Sled Bugs in the WCSA Queen Contest.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995



Valerie Teague represented the Sled Bugs in the WCSA Queen Contest.

The first Ice Breaker dance was held in October - turn out was OK but a loss to the club was reported. Music was by The Rock Atomics.

President Michael Kolupar presented the Outstanding Service Award to Bob Farkas and Sharon Mueller for the numerous hours they have contributed to the club.



Sharon Mueller, Mike Kolupar, Bob Farkas

Sharon has taken care of club membership, served on the Board of Directors, works numerous hours at Lions Daze and helped keep "John" in line. Bob is currently the Vice President, on the Board of Directors, Safety School Instructor and former Trail Master. Bob also works numerous hours at Lions Daze, on the float and volunteers for all those jobs that no one else wants to do.

The trails never opened in the 1991 - 92 season so we will have a \$27.00 carry-over to next years trail open contest.

In January of 1992 the Sled Bugs purchased an adjustable backboard for the fiberglass toboggan for donation to the Sussex - Lisbon Fire Departments to be used with the Rescue Sled previously donated.

In February 23 people attended another well organized trip planned by Jerry Fink. Jerry was the "tour guide" from Virginia, Minnesota to International Falls, Grand Rapids and back.

A motion was reviewed and seconded by the Board of Directors to allow Safety School graduates to join the club for \$20.00. New members only.

Bill Schepp volunteered to be chairman of Ice Breaker II Dance, on October 17, 1992 with music by "Black Tie & Sneakers".

The Lions daze booth was a success again this summer. Curly fries were added to the menu. Next year the plan is to get T-shirts for all workers. John Mueller agreed to be chairman in 1993 — but NO beer or alcohol will be allowed in the booth.

Sheriff Arnold Moncada attended our October meeting and asked members to get involved!! Moncada said that his officers can not be everywhere, so we need to be the eyes and ears for his department.

Any accident in the excess of \$500 must be reported to the DNR. Michigan wants \$10 user fees.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

Bylaw changes included: Membership of appreciation; Committee chairman should be appointed by president if no one volunteers; and all committee chairpersons should attend regular and board meetings to keep president and board informed.

Extensive damaged of 182 bushes was done on Lieds Nursery Farm property. Part of the damages are on Sno-Birds trail. A reward was posted in the local papers offering \$500.00 for the arrest and conviction of the person or persons. Sheriff Department did receive an anonymous call but no arrest was made.

Club member, Sue Wilke won a \$100 gift certificate donated by Reinders at the Open House.

Lisbon Sno-Knights are thinking about disbanding and have been invited to attend the September Board meeting.

Santa made a surprise visit to the Christmas party.

At the January 1993 General Meeting we had a roast of "Nice-Guy" Harry Findler, followed by an ice cream social.

On January 9, 1993, the Sled Bugs held the last of our famous "chili dumps" at the Trapp Farm, complete with Christmas decorations, snowmobiling, roast marshmallows and our famous bon fire. The property has been sold and will be subdivided (Eagles Ridge). At trail clean-up supplies will be moved and stored at the Wierl Farm on Woodside Road.



Trapp Farm Storage Shed

Katie Wierl won \$63.00 in the trail open contest January 12, 1993.

Corn still standing on parts of the trail system was picked by members and delivered to the Farmer on January 23, in 10 degree weather.

On December 6, 1992 Bob & Betty Fryda lost their barn and crops in a fire. After some discussion a motion was made and seconded that the Sled Bugs donate \$500.00 to help rebuild. Motion carried. The Club also volunteered help with the clean up.

In February the Sled Bugs donated \$50.00 to the DARE program of Waukesha County.

At the February meeting, Bill Schepp officially filled the vacated "Snow Priest" position and became the club's official "Snow Wizard".



Snow Wizard Bill Schepp

Dressed in his official costume, Bill handed out copies of the poem found on the second panel of a Calvin and Hobbs cartoon and would like to have it chanted at all meetings.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995



Instead of the usual dinner with entertainment, on April 21st, the club held a "social hour" with drinks & Hors d'oeuvres, for the Landowners at Marchese's Danceland, from 5 to 8pm.

Several times the issue of whether to purchase or lease tools or equipment for the club, instead of using the members tools has come up. After a discussion it was decided that we could lease if necessary and always pay for replacement if a members tool is broken while working on the trails.

Lions Daze workers wore "bright pink T-shirts with black letters" and were a big hit in the Park for the weekend. Mini pepper poppers were added to the menu. The venture this year was once again successful and many thanks to Webb Commissary and Dave Stamm for storage facilities for the weekend. John Mueller and Harry Findler agreed to be chairpersons once again in 1994.

A Junior Club or Single Membership has been discussed numerous times as we have a lot of teenagers and young people in the club.

September 11th, a 25' extension to the Findler Memorial Bridge was added, with the help of Harold Butschke and the County groomer. Lunch was served on the bridge for the workers.



1993 Harry Findler Memorial Bridge

In October the Ice Breaker III Dance was held with "Black Tie and Sneakers" furnishing the music.

Elaine Kraut of Genesse Aggregate Corporation was our guest speaker at the November Open House. She gave a very informative presentation on the mining operation and future development of the load. Final result plan is a 270 acre lake with varied living style for the pit property.

The 1993 Outstanding Service Award was presented to Steve Haasch.



Steve Haasch

Steve held the office of Vice President, President, is currently on the Board of Directors, is a Safety School Instructor, does the newsletter, works numerous hours at Lions Daze and on the trail system.

Club Policies were reviewed: All checks for a club function are to be made out to the Sussex Sled Bugs Snowmobile Club and not the committee chairman. The club will issue a check for deposit and/or expense.

\$125.40 was collected from the members at the Christmas party and donated to the Food Pantry along with the Christmas Tree that Bill Schepp brought for the party.

The famous "chili dump" did continue!! On February 5, 1994, the outing was held at the Fink house as the former Trapp Farm is becoming a subdivision.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

Bill Burkard won \$28 in the trail open contest.

Deanna Scharmer and Bob Schiebe each had a team in the Twiddly Winks Tournament Feb, 12 & 13th.

15 club members left February 23 for Yellowstone National Park. Jerry Fink once again put together the arrangements.

Tom Porte, Bob Schiebe and Keith Clover organized a poker ride on February 24th. Winners were: Ed Wilbert - 1st. place; Dave Reihle - 2nd. place and Kris Glinieck 3rd. place.

\$50.00 was donated to Pack #95 Boy Scouts for their camping wagon.

Delores Scharmer and Karen Jeras took over the Lions Daze Booth. Curly fries were dropped and cauliflower put back the menu. Thanks to everyone for the tremendous amount of help and cooperation with the event. Especially Steve Haasch. John and Harry kept good records and with their knowledge and help we made it through another season and had a successful event. This year a reefer trailer was rented from Sysco and for the first time all products and ice were kept at the Park.

Won first place in the "Civic Division" with our float.

John Boivin participated in a bicycle ride to Door County to raise money for the Leukemia Society. The Sled Bugs donated \$50.00.

With continued development in and around Sussex, trail work gets harder every year. This next season we will have a new trail east of the tracks on Waukesha Avenue going north from the Bug Line, using Halquist Property. Thanks to Dean Havel for making 5 new stake pounders for trail work.



On October 21 & 22nd. Brianne Jeras represented the Sled Bugs in the AWSC Queen Contest in Stevens Point.

At the November general meeting, a motion was made and seconded to donate \$200.00 to Children's Hospital to purchase gifts for the Children. Donations were received from Avenue Lawn & Leisure, America Outdoors, Bachmann's, Yamaha Outlet, Gohr Power and Pannetti Yamaha. Also from the WCSA, Menomonee Falls Snow Falls; Dousman Sno Troopers; Merton Flake Chasers; Oconomowoc Throttle Jockeys; North Lake Nomads and Sinissippi Trailhawks. Toys, books, crayons, etc. were donated to the Children in the hospital on behalf of the Sled Bugs and aforementioned organizations.

With new management at the Sussex VFW we have been asked to remove the trophy case from the property. Case and trophies will remain in storage until we decide where to put it up.

As of November 16, 1994, the Sussex VFW is under new management and our present contract is no longer in effect with Hellas'.

Thanks to Guy Starr of Sussex Bowl - with last minutes notice, we were able to hold the December meeting/Christmas party at the Bowling Alley. Until future notice, all General and Board meetings will be held there.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

Capt. Vincent of the Waukesha Sheriff Department was at the January 1995 General meeting and said, "Snowmobilers should stick together, get through the bad press coverage and continue our recreation, as a lot of good comes from snowmobilers, BUT BE CAREFUL". Accidents are happening, and most of the time the only one responsible, is the person operating the machines.

Choose your friends - look out for them and each other! Be responsible - REMEMBER - "friends don't let friends drive drunk".

As of January membership in the AWSC was at 23,902.

Personnel Access bill AB 133 has passed. This allows the individual Town and/or Municipality to set up and mandate their rules and regulations to allow access trails to main system without being marked with green arrows.

Once again, extensive damage occurred in Lieds Nursery Farms. The Menomonee Falls Sno-Birds & the Sled Bugs offered a reward but no arrests were made.

On January 7th, Rick & Lisa Ross had the annual chili dump in their garage. Weather was in the 20's and Vince Wierl rode his bicycle over to the outing.

John Boivin reported that Stender's of Big Bend donated gift certificates in the amounts of \$150, \$100 and \$75 for the person that collects the most money for the Leukemia Society before the March general meeting. Dean Havel won first place, John Boivin second place and Lisa Ross third place.

Keith Clover won \$27.00 in the trail open contest.

Bob Schiebe and Donna Clover represented the Sled Bugs in the Tiddly Wink tournament.

In March the Sled Bugs donated \$25 to Bev Schepp for her participation in Waukesha Memorial Hospital bowling bash. All proceeds from the bowling bash will be donated toward the Hospitals' transportation of patients.

The Outstanding Service Award was presented to Phil & Sandy Hohlweck.



Sandy and Phil Hohlweck

Phil is a safety school instructor, someone whom is willing to lend a machine to a friend, always out working on bridges and/or trails and loves Lions Daze. Phil has been the chili dump chairman for years, assistant trail master and a member of the Board of Directors. Sandy is the club treasurer, bowling party chairman, works long hours at Lions Daze and is willing to help out whenever needed and doesn't even ride a snowmobile.

Instead of a Landowners dinner or social hour, the club decided to have commemorative coffee mugs with our "25th. Anniversary 1970 - 1995" logo. The mugs, filled with candy, coffee and hot chocolate were personally delivered to the Landowners by Dave Rowley, Delores Scharmer and Karen Jeras.

Marge Roach is serving as Treasurer of the AWSC. Membership in AWSC is now over 25,000 families.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

"The reward was worth it—1st place in the Civic Division and chosen as "Favorite of the Crowd" said Ed Wilbert, float chairman. Thanks to Bill Burkard and Johnny from TTI Transport for the tractor and trailer for the float. Also thanks to Pam & Dennis Condon and everyone for the many hours of work on the float. Sleds from 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990 and 1995 were on the float - "25 years of evolution". Pictured with the float is AWSC queen contestant Brianne Jeras.



1995 Lions Daze Float with Brianne Jeras

Our "munchies" booth did not do as well, as years past, but we did realize a profit. Thanks again to everyone for the cooperation and hard work in all the hot weather we experienced. Karen Jeras & Delores Scharmer have agreed to run the booth again in 1996.

At the October general meeting, AWSC Historian Jerry Wante and WCSA director Harold Butschke presented the **Sled Bugs** with a "Certificate of Recognition" for 25 years of dedication.



AWSC Certificate

Charter members: Vince & Katie Wierl, Jerry & Bernie Berdoll, were presented to accept the certificate. Each club membership also received two anniversary commemorative mugs.



Left to Right: Jerry Wante, Bernie Berdoll, Jerry Berdoll, Katie Wierl, Vince Wierl, Harold Butschke.

For the 1995—96 season the **Sled Bugs** and Menomonee Falls Sno-Birds have decided not to have a trail on Lieds Nursery Farms because of all the damage that has occurred in recent years.

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

Each spring we recognize our “**Landowners**”, the most important part of this Club. The entire membership is encouraged to attend this and all events that are held throughout the year. To name a few: Admirals Hockey game, Milwaukee Mustangs game, Milwaukee Brewers baseball game, enter Lions Daze with our “Munchies” booth, a float in the Lions Daze parade, chili dumps, Christmas Party, conduct Snowmobile Safety Course, bowling parties, picnics, dog track outing and many Club Sno-safaris. Civic projects include: sponsor of a team in the Sussex-Lisbon youth Baseball Association; belong to the Search and Rescue Team of Waukesha County; and donate food and money to the Sussex Food Pantry.

Presently the Sussex Sled Bug Snowmobile Club has 23 miles of trails and works with approximately 70 Landowners.

Current officers are:

- Delores Scharmer—President
- Bob Farkas—Vice President
- Sandy Hohlweck—Treasurer
- Karen Jeras—Secretary

- Scott Clark—Trail Master
- Dan Mueller—Assistant Trail Master
- John Boivin—Assistant Trail Master
- Jerry Fink—Trail Coordinator

- Steve Haasch—Newsletter
- Sharon Mueller—Membership

Members of the Board of Directors:

Delores Scharmer	Karen Jeras
Bob Farkas	Sandy Hohlweck
Jerry Fink	Scott Clark
Phil Hohlweck	Dan Mueller
John Boivin	Ricky Ross
Steve Haasch	Dave Rowley
Dwight Parkinson	Ed Wilbert

Members of the current Search and Rescue Team are:

Gregg Wierl	Richard Osterman
Steve Haasch	Dean Nagel
Jerry Fink	Dave Rowley
Karen Jeras	

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

Over the years the **Sled Bugs** have made numerous donations to Civic and Community projects:

Christmas Street Lights for Sussex
Food and money to the Sussex Food Pantry
Christmas trees for the needy
Rescue Sled (Toboggan & adjustable backboard) to Fire Department
Money to the VFW for remodeling of the Fox Hole
Money to the VFW's Children's Christmas Party
Donation of 150 T-shirts to the needy of Waukesha County
Multiple Sclerosis Association
Kidney Foundation
American Diabetes Association
American Cancer Society
Leukemia Society
Supply food for the Blind, at Lions Daze Luncheon
Sponsor at Tiddly Winks tournament
Sponsor of a team in Sussex Lisbon Youth Baseball Association
Donated equipment to the Sussex Lisbon Youth Baseball Association
Donated booth to Boy Scouts Troop #95
Donations to Land-o-Lakes Baseball Association
Donation to Sussex-Lisbon Lionesses Club
Work at Recycling Center
Donation to Fryda Farm Rebuilding
Donation to Children' Hospital
WCSA Dinner Dance
AWSC Hospitality Room
DARE Program of Waukesha County
TOYS for Tots
Donations at Hamilton High School:
Bob Klisch Scholarship Fund
Project Graduation
John Sutte Fund

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

It takes a lot of **volunteers** to support any organization. Over the years, many members have gone out of their way to try and save the Club time and money, with their special donations, and/or contributions. A special "thanks" to each and everyone. Belonging to and supporting the Club has kept the **Sled Bugs** alive and strong for over 25 years.

THANKS:

Landowners, past and present

Trail Masters, past and present

Section Heads, past and present

Trail Coordinators, past and present

Past Officers and Board Members

Templeton Middle School - Safety Course classes

Safety School Instructors

Search and Rescue Team members

Quality Heating & Sheet Metal (storage truck at Lions Daze)

Press - Weld Corporation (storage of Lions Dazes equipment)

George Webb Commissary (Lions Daze product storage)

Avenue Lawn and Leisure, Reinders and Stenders for numerous donations

Sussex Lions Club

Village of Sussex

Schmid Bros. Builders (trail stakes & generators for "Winter Fun Days")

Fryda family for numerous things

Trapp Family for the storage facilities and the many years of fun at the "Trapp Farm"

Wierl Family for the current storage facilities

Ross Schmidt for the brusher

Dennis Condon for his extra time (brushing and disking of trails)

Sam & Mary Pritzel of the Park Falls Sno Gypsies for putting up with "BOB" and the "Sled Bugs" on the annual club trip

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

MEMORABILIA

Door Raffle winners 1-1-1991 to 4-30-1996

1991

Jan.	\$24	Dennis Schneeberg
Feb.	\$25	Bernie Berdoll
March	\$25	Sharon Mueller
April	\$17	Dennis Condon
May	\$17	Manny Swiekert
Sept.	\$19	Karl Swanson
Oct.	\$21	Mary Nitchzke
Nov.	\$20	Bill Schepp
Dec.	\$25	Karen Jeras

1992

Jan.	\$21	Gene Schmid
Feb.	\$23	Gene Schmid
March	\$18.50	Gary Tenneyson
April	\$21	Dennis Condon
May	no raffle	
Sept.	\$21	R. Vittner
Oct.	\$20.50	Bill Schepp
Nov.	\$25	Liz Schutz
Dec.	\$25	Scott Farkas
	\$12	Lisa Ross

1993

Jan.	\$25	John Mueller
Feb.	\$16	Bob Schiebe
March	\$20	Sharon Mueller
April	\$25	Sharon Mueller
May	\$20.50	Bev Schepp
Sept.	\$23	Bev Schepp
Oct.	\$25	Bill Burkard
Nov.	\$25	Sue Wilke
Dec.	\$44	Donated to food pantry

1994

Jan.	\$20	Sue Wilke
Feb.	\$22	Tom Porte
March	\$25	Scott Farkas
April	\$25	John Boivin
May	\$25	Dave Riehle
Sept.	\$25	Sandy Hohlweck
Oct.	\$25	Sharon Mueller
Nov.	\$25	Stephanie Porte
Dec.	\$77	Donated to food pantry

1995

Jan.	\$25	Sandy Hohlweck
Feb.	\$25	Scott Clark
March	\$25	Bob Glinicki
April	\$20	Bryan Farkas
May	\$16	Andy Burkard
Sept.	no raffle	
Oct.	\$25	Greg Wierl
Nov.	\$25	Ricky Ross
Dec.	\$25	Julie Burkard

1996

Jan.	no raffle	
Feb.	\$14	Brian Gliniecki
March	\$25	Bob Gliniecki
April	\$23	Brian Burkard

SUSSEX SLED BUGS SNOWMOBILE CLUB - HISTORY 1970-1995

Snow Season Memberships:

1970 - 1971	100
1971 - 1972	175
1972 - 1973	189
1973 - 1974	220
1974 - 1975	257
1975 - 1976	183
1976 - 1977	131
1977 - 1978	106
1978 - 1978	102
1979 - 1980	98
1980 - 1981	85
1981 - 1982	75
1982 - 1983	64
1983 - 1984	63
1984 - 1985	66
1985 - 1986	61
1986 - 1987	67
1987 - 1988	68
1988 - 1989	70
1989 - 1990	65
1990 - 1991	60
1991 - 1992	54
1992 - 1993	50
1993 - 1994	53
1994 - 1995	62
1995 - 1996	56

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Doug Hext	1971 - 1973
Randy Strelow	1973 - 1975
Tom Medley	1975 - 1977
Judy Kaisler	1977 - 1980
Tom Teague	1980 - 1983
Bill Schepp	1983 - 1984
Bill Edwards	1984 - 1985
Harry Findler	1985 - 1988
Joel Ohman	1988
Michael Kolupar	1988 - 1992
Steve Haasch	1992 - 1993
John Mueller	1993
Steve Haasch	1993 - 1994
Delores Scharmer	1994 - current

A TYPICAL SNOWMOBILER

- A person who is too old for a sled, but young enough to remember the fun it used to be.

- A person who prays for snow and grumbles while shoveling the walk.

- A person who will completely overhaul his snowmobile out in the middle of nowhere, and can call AAA when his car won't start in a heated garage.

- A person who rides the bumps and rumps of a field with enjoyment and complains about the little chuck holes in the street.

- A person who says he bought the machine for his kids, but complains because he can't get a babysitter so he can ride more.

- A person who won't put the car in at night because there isn't room unless he slides the snowmobile over.

- A person who will drive his warm car one block for his favorite steak, and ride cold snowmobile ten miles for a burnt wiener.

- A person who will get caught out on the highway without a spare tire, but has enough spare parts for his snowmobile to build a new machine.

- A person who is glad to see June because it's only six more months till winter again.

Hint from Harry: Use lemon spray pledge on your snowmobile windshield for cleaning and it will be as good as new - without scratches!!!!

MYSTERIOUS GOINGS-ON AT THE: BLAISDALE LAKE LODGE

Reprinted from "The Winter, Wisconsin, Gazette"
January 16, 1984

As the story goes, 4 fellows came to this area to snowmobile. The first morning, the temperature was -20 and all the machines were hard starting. (A new one with very few miles was particularly hard and caused much inconvenience.) As usual, when the day progressed the group began to discuss the pros and cons of each machine and the ability of each to start better than the rest. The one fellow, a bold sort of leader, proclaimed that the next morning his NEW sled would start better and faster than the rest.

The bet was on! Each man in turn started his machine. 4 pulls—6 pulls—7 pulls—3 pulls. The new sled had proved a point that it would start faster, but would it run? NO!! As the other fellows warmed up their sleds and drove around, our poor leader pulled and pulled. The other fellows pondered the situation and gave help. One man pulled, one man worked the choke or throttle and one man opened the gas shut off while our leader's attention was drawn in another direction. The machine started and ran beautifully for the entire day. Certainly the New Sled would start quicker the next morning.

As we are told, early the next morning a mysterious figure appeared from the shadows of the

cabin, uncovered the New Sled, turned off the gas and disappeared. Again the machine started but, would it run? NO! The other fellows again came to the rescue, opened the gas valve and away they went. This being a new machine, it certainly should be checked over to correct the starting problem. The poor dealer would be subject to harsh words, distrust, and much anguish. He had to be informed. As the story goes, L & R was told and after the situation was explained felt better about the earlier telephone call explaining all the problems. The group proclaimed that the John Deere Snowmobile was indeed a good sled and the problems incurred were strictly the result of human beings. However, this reporter has it from a reliable source, that on a dark cold night you can still see a ghost-like figure appear at an imaginary snowmobile, fumble under the hood and disappear. He is followed by another ghostly leader sitting on the imaginary sled pulling his arm off.

Although this story has only been told for a short time, the local people feel that the legend of the "unstartable snowmobile" will live in the hearts of many for years and that the legendary leader will certainly plan for the day when he evens the score.



The Snowmobiler

There is a new kind of creature
Emerging on earth.
I'll describe him to you for
Whatever it's worth.
He comes out of hiding in winter
I'm told,
He rejoices in weather that's
Terribly cold.
He leaves the warm fireside,
His wife and kids,
Climbs onto a motor, a hilt and
Two skids,
The machine comes to life, he
Is ready to go,
But he can't 'cause as yet
There is no sign of snow,
For the past 18 days he's been
Wearing a suit,
That is covered in zippers from
Parka to boot,
And mittens, and helmet, and
Mask on his head,
"MY GOD," says his wife, "MUST
YOU WEAR THAT TO BED?"
Then finally it happens, the
Ground has turned white,
He's on his machine and he
Roars out of sight,
On the flat he'll crouch down,
On the corners he'll lean,
And they tell me his blood is
Now pure gasoline.

Over hill, over river, through
Marsh and round trees,
Over rockpile and sandpit, yet
Down on his knees,
He looks like he's praying as
Onward he flies,
Is it a monster or man? All we
See is his eyes,
He goes charging ahead when
It's 20 below,
Screaming into a blizzard of
Onrushing snow,
By what demon possessed is this
New breed of man,
Who finds joy in a snowstorm
like no human can?
But what happens in summer
When snows are not there?
Is he out on the porch in an
Old rocking chair?
No, he's inside the house for
The whole world to see,
Sitting there on his snowmobile,
Watching T.V.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

