



## MnUSA News for Clubs

### 2009 Legislative Session Wrap Up

Thousands of bills were introduced, many of which could have had a negative impact on our snowmobile trails. In the end, snowmobiling fared well in the 2009 legislation session.

- Funding for grant-in-aid trails and law enforcement agency grants remains the same for the next two years as in 2008-2009. In addition, the DNR will receive an additional \$400,000 for state trail maintenance (\$300,000) and grant-in-aid administration (\$100,000).
- Trails maintained on Devil Track and Hungry Jack Lakes in Cook County will be added to the grant-in-aid system.
- If your new snowmobile is registered twice, once by the dealer and once by you, and the second registration is not used or transferred, you now have only 60 days from the original registration to receive a refund on the second one.
- The Northshore Trail has been renamed to the C.J. Ramstad/Northshore Trail. The Commissioner of Natural Resources must be assured that sufficient funding for all costs of this name change, including design, erecting the signs and maintaining the signs, must be in place from non-state sources, before the change will occur.

May 2009

#### Newsletter Spotlight

- 2009 Legislative Wrap Up
- Win the "Mud Dog" Sled
- 2010 Calendar Photo Contest
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### Win a New Sled!

Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association (MnUSA) members have a chance to win a 2009 Polaris Shift snowmobile, complete with Mud Dogs/C.J. Ramstad graphics.

To help increase MnUSA membership, MSPN, the publisher of Minnesota Snowmobiling, has teamed up with Polaris to offer a unique opportunity for all MnUSA members. This opportunity is simple: Individuals and clubs are eligible. All current MnUSA members (as of February 28, 2010) will automatically get one entry to win and one chance for each member recruited.

The winner will be drawn at the MnUSA Winter Rendezvous in February 2010, giving you plenty of time to recruit new members and associates. For more information on the Mud Dogs, visit <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=487>



*A MnUSA member will win this sled!*

### 2010 Raffle Calendar Photo Contest



*Your photo can be included in the 2010 MnUSA Raffle Calendar*

#### Submission Deadline: July 1

Decision of the Fundraising Committee of MnUSA will be final. Photos may not be returned.

MnUSA's Fund Raising Committee is seeking photos of Minnesota trails and trail activities to use on the 2010 MnUSA Raffle Calendar. Promote your club and favorite trail by providing a photo and tell us about the location. Photos used on the calendar will identify the trail and club responsible for maintenance and may be used in promotion of the calendar. If you have a summer and winter photo of the same trail/area, submit both photos. A maximum of 10 photos will be accepted per person. Prize money will be awarded for photos used.

#### Photo Requirements:

- Horizontal photos preferred.
- Print format required.
- Please call with questions. 866-811-7669

**Mail your photos to:**  
MnUSA Calendar  
7040 Lakeland Ave. N. #212  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

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## MnUSA Summer Campout - July 10-12

Don't miss the fun and games at this year's MnUSA campout at Countryside Campground, Askvo, MN. Registration opens at noon on Friday with hospitality throughout the evening. MnUSA's



membership and directors will meet for updates on Saturday morning and the rest of the day is for fun. For campground and event registration information, go to <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=481>  
Deadline for early registration is June 15th.



Winning team - bean bag toss

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## Is Your Club Interested in Trail Information Signs?

Several years ago MnUSA applied for a grant to purchase information signs to assist snowmobilers on your trails in locating towns and amenities. Two different layouts were created. The funding for this project came from the Federal Recreational Trails Program and MnUSA's calendar raffle proceeds. At that time, 1111 signs were provided to MnUSA clubs for the price of shipping. MnUSA was able to negotiate a discounted price due to the number of signs purchased.

MnUSA has been contacted by a few clubs to see if a similar program can be put together. To do this, MnUSA needs to have an idea of the number of signs the clubs need. If your club is interested, please contact the MnUSA office by phone, email or mail, by **JUNE 24** and let us know approximately how many of each layout your club could use. The pricing and funding possibilities will be put together for presentation at the MnUSA meeting on July 11. Your club will then be contacted with the information and along with a request for your layouts for the signs.



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## Recreational Trails Program Action Request!

Many snowmobile clubs have benefited from grants from the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) administered by the Federal Highway Administration. Please remember that funds for these grants come from the federal gas tax paid by motorized recreationist for fuel in their recreation vehicle, similar to the state program. The federal transportation bill (SAFETEA-LU) expires in September of 2009. Congressman Oberstar is the Chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee which will be responsible for introducing a new transportation bill. In addition, Congressman Walz serves on this House committee and Senator Klobuchar serves on the Senate Environment & Public Works and Commerce, Science & Transportation Committees, either of which may be considering a transportation bill. Senator Klobuchar and some of the Congressmen, have been open to discussion on the benefits of the RTP to Minnesota and the trail enthusiasts' request for it to be continued in future legislation.

If we wish to continue to benefit from this type of program, it is necessary that our federal legislators know how important it is to us. From 1993-2008, 315 RTP grants totaling \$13,110,823 were funded for Minnesota trail projects. These grants provided funds for projects with a total cost exceeding \$60 million. Please make your request that the Recreational Trails Program be kept in consideration in any extension of SAFETEA-LU or any transportation bill for the future. Contact information for the Minnesota Congressional delegates can be found at <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=489>



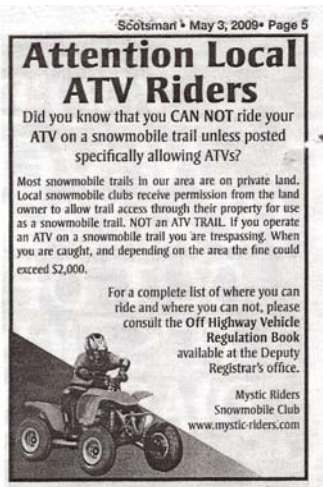
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## MnUSA Supports Funding for the Upper Mississippi Forest Project

At its Board of Directors meeting in April, MnUSA voted to go on record in support of funding for the Upper Mississippi Forest Project through the Outdoor Heritage Fund as proposed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Funding would come from the Minnesota Forests for the Future Program. This proposal is important for conservation and jobs and provides permanent access to more than 82 miles of snowmobile trails on the UPM/Blandin property. This is a beautiful area for snowmobiling with a wonderful trail system and if funded the easement will protect these trails for future snowmobilers. Snowmobilers enjoyed these trails at the 2009 MnUSA Veterans Appreciation Ride and Winter Rendezvous near Grand Rapids.

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## Club Ideas



The Mystic Riders Snowmobile Club has proactively addressed the concern of atv's using the snowmobile trails on private property with an ad in their local newspaper . The ad explains that operating on a snowmobile trail is trespassing and provides the atv'ers information on how to find legal riding areas. If you are interested in doing a similar program, in addition to the OHV Regulation Book, riding information for OHVs can be found at [www.findthetrails.com](http://www.findthetrails.com)

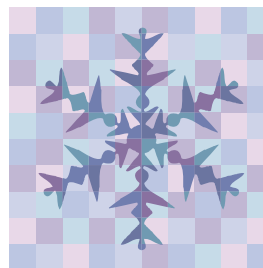
## MnUSA Merchandise BLOWOUT Sale!

A special thank you to Mary (Rupert) and Jerry Rahman for their efforts for many years to provide MnUSA members with special membership merchandise. At the MnUSA April meeting, Paul Friedrich of Wadena volunteered to chair the committee. As Chair, Paul's first effort is to provide some very nice merchandise to the clubs at very reasonable prices. These items will make great prizes at club events. Place your orders through Paul and pick them up at campout. For the flyer, go to <http://mnsnowmobiler.org/index.php?pageid=448>

A flyer for the MnUSA Merchandise Blowout Sale. It features a central graphic with the text "INVENTORY BLOWOUT" and a silhouette of a snowmobiler. Below the graphic, it lists various items and their prices. The items include Men's T-Shirts (\$5.00 each), Youth T-Shirts (\$1.00 each), Nylon Wallets (\$1.00 each), Compass Keychains (\$1.00 each), Adult Screen T-Shirts, First-Aid Kits, U Go Girl T-Shirts, and Laptop Bags. There are also sections for "Rendezvous" items like 2006 Denim Shirts (\$10), 2007 Maroon Mock Necks (\$15), 2008 Navy Turtle Necks (\$8.50), 2009 Green Long-sleeve Polo Shirts (\$27), and 2008 Navy Turtle Necks (\$6). Other items include All Caps and Visors, Flashlights, Denim Shirts, Tow Straps, and Gray and Navy Sweatpants. The flyer also mentions that MnUSA Sweatshirts are \$30 and Insulated Mitts are \$6. It states that great items for club events and landowner banquets are available and that orders should be picked up at the Summer Campout on July 10-12. Contact information for Paul Friedrich is provided: 218-631-1567. The flyer ends with the slogan "Protect Our Trails!" and the website [www.mnsnowmobiler.org](http://www.mnsnowmobiler.org).

## MnUSA to Accept Officer Nominations At Campout

If you are passionate about snowmobiling and have an interest in serving on the MnUSA Executive Board, nominations will be accepted at Campout. Election of officers takes place at the MnUSA Annual Meeting at Fall Workshop on October 24th. For more information concerning the duties of the officers, contact Pat Sable, the Elections Committee chairperson at [owtnpas@lakes.com](mailto:owtnpas@lakes.com)



## State Fair Workers Needed

Keep in mind that booth volunteers will be needed to spread the message: PROTECT YOUR TRAILS--- Join Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association.

This year's State Fair will take place August 27-Sept.7. If you or your club is interested in scheduling for a time slot at the Fair, please contact the MnUSA office. Shifts are from 9-1, 1-5 and 5-9 each day of the Fair. Don't miss this opportunity to recruit new members for additional chances to win the Mud Dog Sled!

## Club Rosters

**Reminder** - MnUSA memberships can be sent in on rosters throughout the year. If your club has received payments for MnUSA memberships but hasn't sent them to MnUSA, these members do not receive the MnUSA member benefits, including *Minnesota Snowmobiling* magazine and the accidental death insurance for their family members.

Club Rosters for next season and MRM Bucks will be sent late in August to the club contact on record for your club in the MnUSA office. If there is a change in your club officers over the Summer months, please let the MnUSA office know.

Thank you for all you do for snowmobiling and your support of MnUSA. Have a Great Summer!

To remove your name from our mailing list, please contact the MnUSA office. Questions or comments? E-mail us at [nancy@mnsnowmobiler.org](mailto:nancy@mnsnowmobiler.org) or call 763-577-0185

Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association, 7040 Lakeland Ave. N #212, Brooklyn Park MN 55428