



Finally, some area trails opened last weekend, and hopefully, some of you were able to take advantage of it. Now, we're faced with a bit of a warm-up this week, and a snowstorm south of us that won't reach us. Mother Nature isn't cooperating very well for our region, and if you're desperate to ride, head to Illinois! Otherwise, we still have 2 months, so stay positive.

**February 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting:** The February meeting will be held at Lakeside Bar & Grill (W10960 Corning Street, Poynette) starting at 7:00 pm. Come early and enjoy dinner or appetizers prior to the meeting.

**Yellow Thunder Scholarships – Final Reminder:** Applications are due by February 15, 2022. The scholarships will be awarded in the spring. Applications can be downloaded from the YT website, or contact Jenny Rake at 608-698-4953 to send you a copy.

**Board of Directors** – Yellow Thunder is actively looking for three new Board of Directors to be elected at the annual meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in bringing new ideas to Yellow Thunder, please contact any of the existing Board of Directors or give me a call at 608-592-3395. Thank you to Ben Larrabee, Eric Scott, and Jarett Schoepp for their 3 years of service to Yellow Thunder!

**2022 AWSC Spring Convention** will be held March 25-27, 2022 at the Radisson Hotel & Convention Center in Green Bay. Wisconsin snowmobile clubs from across the state will gather for this annual meeting to elect officers, discuss the snowmobile industry, trail maintenance, safety & legislative activity. It's a good time to also meet your AWSC officers, directors, & county representatives. At the January meeting, Yellow Thunder unanimously voted Mike & Alex Ballweg and Gary & Ruth Tupper to attend as delegates on behalf of Yellow Thunder. As of this newsletter, rooms are still available at the AWSC rate of \$119 (for king or queen), so call 920-494-7300 to make a reservation for anyone else interested in attending.

**Winter Raffle: Tickets are now on sale!** Yellow Thunder's winter raffle will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Waddle Inn in Lodi. Tickets are \$100 each and include two dinners, four drink tickets, and one entry into the cash raffle. A dinner with all the fixings will be catered by Torrey Latham. The event will also include side raffles and DJ, and will run from 5:00 pm until midnight. If you'd like to attend and need a ticket, please call or text Chad Wipperfurth at 608-770-7189.

**Safety Alert** – Once the trails are open, please be careful if you are riding on Lake Wisconsin. It can be challenging for a number of reasons. There could be areas of thin ice due to the river's current. The lake also is known for ice heaves, which can create dangerous ice shifting that can stop a snowmobile in its tracks. Finally, there may be areas where the snow on the lake has been plowed by businesses or ice fisherman, leaving snow banks that can create a hazard for snowmobilers, so please be careful!

**Groomer Fuel** – We'd like to thank Midway Oil in Sauk City and Corey Oil of Beaver Dam for donating the fuel for our groomers again this year. Please support these local businesses who are vested in our communities and for their generosity to Yellow Thunder!

**Trails:** We've said it twice now and we'll say it again for a third time, as we get closer to opening the trails...due to some snowmobilers who failed to stay on the marked trail last year and chose to cut across the field to get to trail #19 from Okee to County Road J, that trail is now closed. It is so important for riders to understand that 95% of our trail system is farmland. Going off trail can result in crop damage and affects our farmers' livelihood. If you need trail access, please contact the landowner. If you don't know who the landowner is, contact the club; we're here to help. Failure to contact the landowner increases the risk to lose more trails, and this impacts everyone who rides. Remember, riding is a privilege; not a right.

**Miscellaneous:** • Paul & Tina Miller were drawn for attendance at the January meeting. They were not present, so the money carried over.

### Upcoming Events

Feb 8..... Monthly Meeting, Lakeside Bar & Grill, Poynette, 7:00 pm  
Mar 8..... Annual Meeting, Dan & Chris Shoepf residence, 6:30 pm  
Mar 25-27.... Spring Convention, Radisson Hotel/Conv. Ctr., Green Bay  
April 2..... Winter Raffle, Waddle Inn, 5:00 pm to Midnight  
April TBD..... Landowners' Banquet  
April 12..... Monthly Meeting, Lucky's on the Lake, Okee, 7:00 pm

### To Check Trail Conditions

WEATHER INFO., CAMS, SNOWCOVER,  
TRAIL OPEN/CLOSED STATUS, etc.:  
Columbia Co: 227-7433; Dane Co: 242-4576  
[www.yellowthundersnowmobile.clubhosting](http://www.yellowthundersnowmobile.clubhosting)  
[www.danecountycouncilsnowmobileclubs.com](http://www.danecountycouncilsnowmobileclubs.com)  
[www.travelwisconsin.com](http://www.travelwisconsin.com)

Please also note that surrounding County trails may be closed, even if Columbia and/or Dane County trails are open, so plan accordingly.