

❖ Snow Travelers ❖

Volume 2004-2005 Issue 2

November 2004



November Meeting
Wed, Nov 17, 7:00pm
Polaris Outpost

- FST Associate Members**
- Angel Creek Lodge
 - Arctic Man Ski/SnoGo Classic
 - Auto Trim Design
 - Backwoods Lodge
 - Beaver Point Lodge
 - Big John Inc (The Furnace Doctor)
 - Chatanika Lodge
 - Cleary Summit Bed & Breakfast
 - Compeau's Inc.
 - Cut N' Strut Grooming Co.
 - Darby's Performance Shop
 - Denali Manor B&B
 - Denali State Bank
 - Fairbanks Motor Sports
 - Fairbanks Realty, Inc.
 - Flying Dutchman Plowing
 - Gary L Sawdy, DDS
 - Helpful Handyman
 - Northern Power Sports
 - Northern Sled Works
 - Polaris Outpost
 - Regency Court Mall
 - Tangle Lakes Lodge
 - Tatonduk Outfitters
- Show your support for the businesses that support us!**
- Please review the membership expiration date on your newsletter. We want to keep your business's name on this list**

The Fairbanks Snow Travelers annual elections for board members is coming up in November. We postponed it from our usual October elections because of timing with other events. We have 7 seats to fill and could sure use some new blood on the board. If you have any interest in helping out the FST, please consider including your name on the election ballots.

Current Board Members are:

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Dean Allen, Pres | Gerald Goodman, VP | Crystal Goula, Sec |
| Kim Wood, Treasure | Tim Ristow | Allen Onderik |
| John Johnston | | |

Presently known names of nominees or returning board members:

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Dean Allen | John Johnston | Crystal Goula |
| Tim Ristow | Rick Webb | Christopher Haydon |
| Stephen or Sharri Sims | | |

Watch for ballots in the December newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We had a great turnout at the Winter Show—over 40 people either signed up for a new membership or renewed their current FST membership.

To all of our new members, a BIG HEARTY WELCOME!! For members that renewed, a BIG HEARTY THANK YOU for your continued support. We look forward to seeing all of you at the club meetings and events.

For old members that have not renewed, please don't let you membership expire. Look on the label on the back of this newsletter. If that expiration date is older than 09/01/2005, then you NEED to renew your membership.

Also, I will be reviewing the list of current associate memberships. If your associate membership has expired, your name will be removed from the list for the next newsletter. We would hate to see you go, so please renew. Remember, your associate membership gets you one free business card sized add in an upcoming newsletter. If you need an invoice to renew, please contact me (Crystal) at crystalg@gci.net or 458-8261.

Fairbanks Snow Travelers
Contact Numbers

| | |
|------------|----------------|
| President: | Dean Allen |
| Vice Pres: | Gerald Goodman |
| Secretary: | Crystal Goula |

SLED PHONE: 479-SLED
Editor: Crystal Goula 458-8261
Email: crystalg@gci.net
Snow Travelers Home Page:
www.snowtravelers.org

23 Good Ideas on Snowmachine Safety

[provided by George Catt, Honda Sport Touring Association member, and modified by Juan Goula. Original source unknown.]

1. Every outing is optional. Every return home is mandatory.
2. If you turn the bars right, the sled will (maybe) go right. If you push the bars left, the sled will (maybe) go left. Unless you are on the slope of a mountain, in which case the sled might roll on top of you, if you turn the bars too much or the wrong way.
3. Riding isn't dangerous, crashing is, especially if you do not have protective gear.
4. It is always better to be at the trailhead wishing you were riding, rather than to be riding wishing you were at the trailhead.
5. The ONLY time you have too much fuel is when your sled is on fire.
6. The track is just a big fan under the sled keeping both the sled and the rider cool and his/her butt relaxed. If the rider goes into a corner too fast, and slams on the brake causing the 'fan' to stop abruptly, you can actually see the rider start sweating and his/her butt become tense.
7. When in doubt, SLOW DOWN. No one has ever launched from a cornice by going too slow.
8. If all you can see in your rear view mirrors is sparks and/or all you can hear is your passenger screaming, things might not be as they should.
9. In the ongoing battle between objects made of metal, rubber and fiberglass going 60+ mph and the ground going at 0 mph, the ground has yet to lose. The same goes for trees, walls, trail groomers and glacier crevasses. Draws don't count.
10. A 'good' ride is one from which you can walk away. A GREAT ride is one after which you can use the sled again.
11. Learn from the mistakes of others. You won't live long enough to make all of them yourself.
12. You know that you've left the machine on the track stand when you punch it to 9000 rpms and you are going nowhere. If you do not own a track stand, then you forgot to break the track free and you will start smelling burnt belt very soon.
13. When traction is sparse, the probability of spinning out of control and/or suddenly (and violently) leaving the trail is directly proportional to your corner entry speed.
14. Never let your sled take you anywhere your brain did not get to at least three seconds earlier.
15. Stay out of whiteouts and someone else's snow dust. The taillights you are following might be a trail groomer parked in the middle of the trail. Reliable sources also report that moose and broken down sleds have been known to hide out behind falling snow.
16. Always keep the number of trip departures equal to the number of trip arrivals.
17. There are two rules for traveling safely across a slope ready to avalanche. Unfortunately, no one knows what they are.
18. You start with a saddlebag full of luck and an empty one of experience. The trick is to fill the saddlebag with experience before you empty the one of luck.
19. Good judgment comes from experience. Unfortunately, experience usually comes from bad judgment.
20. It is always a good idea to keep the headlight end going forward and the track below you as much as possible.
21. Keep looking around. There is always something you might have missed.
22. The two most useless things to a rider are the braking distance behind you and a tenth-of-a-second ago.
23. And finally, remember that gravity and momentum are not just good ideas; they are physical laws and are not subject to appeal.

ARTICLES NEEDED!!

We are on the lookout for new articles to use in the newsletter. If you go on a ride, and are so inclined to write a road trip, PLEASE do so. Other riders will find these road trip reports useful, informative, and sometimes humorous, if you have any of the USUAL FST member experiences. Please share, we all love to read and learn!

BACKWOODS LODGE REPORTS

11/11/04 From Beautiful Downtown Cantwell!

The snow has struck!! Yesterday we had about 12"-18" in various areas in Cantwell. We have had some wind before this last storm, so the configuration changed somewhat. Broad Pass doesn't have quite the amount that it did before, but still good riding. The areas south of the Hurricane area have quite a bit of wet snow we are told. The Igloo, Chulitna, mile 196 still should make for some pleasant riding with about 5-6 feet.

We have some flat light right now and flakes, temp is in the +20's. Hopefully (the favorite word) we will get some bright and sunny skies soon. Should (another favorite word) be a good weekend for trying out some of the areas. The Denali is reportedly a great ride...

Just received word from the caretaker of the Igloo. They have 7 feet there, pumps are open to credit cards only, and plug-ins are available for \$10 a day. Sounds pretty good to me!

Have fun, and remember the rivers and creeks may be open due to the temps...

Kathie White
Backwoods Lodge 907-768-2231



General Meeting at Polaris Outpost



Fun at Polaris Outpost

Come to the November General Meeting for fun, information on the upcoming rides, and club updates from your board.

Time: 7:00 pm

Wednesday, November 17.



Door Prize Drawing— must be current FST member to be entered in drawing.



FAIRBANKS SNOW TRAVELERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail application to: P.O. Box 80053
Fairbanks, AK 99708
(907) 479-SLED

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

New Renewal

Home Page: <http://www.snowtravelers.org>

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Home: _____ Email Address: _____

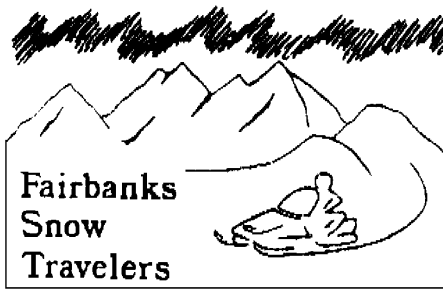
Family - \$25.00 _____ Other Family Member Names: _____

Associate - \$35.00 _____ List the name of the Association, Business, Incorporation, Organization, Group, etc. as you want it to appear on the front of the FST newsletter: _____

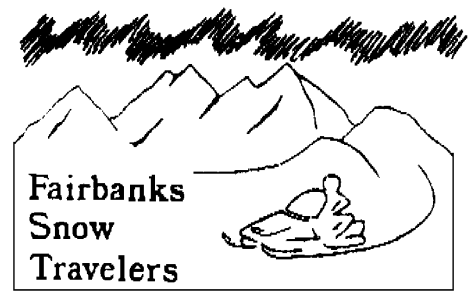
The member(s) signing below, with the full knowledge, assume(s) all risks and potential dangers of participation in activities and events of the Fairbanks Snow Travelers (FST). Therefore, I/we, hereby release and discharge FST, its agents and or officers from any and all claims, demands, actions, judgments and executions which the undersigned now have or may have in the future for themselves or for the undersigned heirs, executors, administrators or assigns against said FST, its successors or assigns for any and all personal injuries and property damage which may be caused by or may arise out of the participation of myself or family in the above-described Fairbanks Snow Travelers events, and understand that riding a snowmachine can be potentially dangerous including possible damage or injury to myself or property. I/we also understand that FST is not responsible for trail conditions, weather or other acts of nature. I/we the undersigned hereby acknowledge that we have read this release and understand all of its terms. I/we execute it voluntarily and with full knowledge of the significance.

Signature of applicant

Date



FAIRBANKS SNOW TRAVELERS NEWS



MEETING SCHEDULE

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| November 17, 2004 | Regular Membership Meeting | 7:00 pm, Polaris Outpost |
| Schedule for Upcoming Meetings: | | |
| December 1, 2004 | Board Meeting | 6:00 pm, TBA |
| December 15, 2004 | Regular Membership Meeting | 7:00 pm, Compeau's |
| January 5, 2005 | Board Meeting | 6:00 pm, TBA |
| January 19, 2005 | Regular Membership Meeting | 7:00 pm, TBA |

FAIRBANKS SNOW TRAVELERS
PO BOX 80053
FAIRBANKS, AK 99708

