

This year has been unique.

The MISORVA Board has stayed on track and continued to push forward for the safety and advancement of motorized recreation. It has not been an easy year for the directors involved as things seemed to be in flux at times. I wish to commend those that were able to make it work and continue to keep the organization on course. Keep in mind many of those that have worked to keep things going are the ones that are out there working now winter and summer. They work in the clubs to help bring better trails for everyone involved in motorized recreation. This year with the changing meeting schedules it meant extra sacrifice of personal time to attend these meetings. The dedication and true love for motorized recreation and the desire to share it with others is what drives this Association. Nobody on the Board gets paid or reimbursed for time they put into it.

MISORVA had a great turnout for snow groomer workshop. The successfulness of this has led to a spin-off into a Dirt grooming workshop. The first one was recently held in West Branch at the Ogemaw Hills Snowmobile Club. Many clubs are now becoming a dual club. To those on the outside that refer to either the "snow" side or "dirt" side of MISORVA you would have been surprised as you sat there and listened to the "snow" side push the DNR for answers on issues for the "dirt" side. Those pushing for answers don't see it as one side or the other. They want to present their trails to the public as the best they can be. Be it snow or dirt. They desire to present not only the trail network they maintain in the best possible way but their community as well. They do take pride in your ride.

I know many members in MISORVA are busy or do not live close enough to help frequently in the areas you ride. Please, don't let this stop you from joining a club. Your membership dues help afford the many things the DNR does not pay for, think of it a way to thank those that help give you the best trail a trail.

The Legislative Committee has been busy, they presented four proposals to The Michigan House of Representatives for consideration. All four have been picked up and are now House Bills.

We recently saw the passing of past President Rick Brown. Rick presided over the then MSA in 2006-07 and again in 2016. Rick remained on the Board of Directors as a helpful historian, served with Snow Country Trails and Michigan Snowmobile Education & Advancement Fund.

Rick Brown, Bill Manson, Jim Duke as well as other individuals played a crucial role in creating the permanent snowmobile trail system in Michigan. Many snowmobilers now take for granted how you can ride from one point in Michigan and wait at the Mackinac Bridge to be taken across and then continue on to a distant town or village. Before the creation, many trails just let you ride around a limited area. To many people Rick may have been unknown. As a snowmobile rider myself I can't help but thank the families that had to make sacrifices as Rick and these others gave their time and resources to the Association.

MISORVA continues to go forwards and be your voice in Lansing. The contacts made over the years as well as working with local clubs can only do so much. Legislation needs introduction to "create" ways to help fund grooming, trail maintenance and expansion. MISORVA wants Michigan Motorized Trails to be the safest and top ranked in the country. Thank You for being a member and giving us a chance to realize this.

November will be here in short order. I want to encourage you to visit MISORVA at the Snowmobile USA show in Novi. Snow permits will be available as well as memberships if you want to renew while you are there. I know, I usually do not renew there as I tend to spend way too much at Snow Show as it is.

Many of you that know me also know after a written announcement I ask one thing.

Please Ride Right and Return to Ride.

Todd Maschke - President Pro Tem

