



## Douglas Area Trails Association Snowmobile News

March 2024

### **MnUSA Scholarship Program Applications Due March 31, 2024**

MnUSA Charity & Awards Committee is accepting applications for the 2024 Scholarship Program (up to \$3,000) to graduating high school seniors pursuing education in an accredited 2-year or 4-year institution of higher learning or vocational school and/or individuals currently enrolled in such a program.

Applicant requirements can be found on the MnUSA website at

<https://mnsnowmobiler.org/discover/programs/scholarship-program>

### **Douglas Area Trails Association donates to non-profits throughout Douglas County**

Over the past year, Douglas Area Trails Association has donated to many youth and adult organizations throughout Douglas County. Included are Someplace Safe, Voyager School, Alexandria Youth Trap League, Brandon Trap Shooters, Runestone Museum, Alexandria Senior Center, Car Care Program, Ending Child Abuse, and the Douglas County 4H program, just to name a few. Support your community by joining DATA or participate in charitable gambling at the Depot Smokehouse & Tavern.

### **A Word From The President**

Randy Dertinger

Well not saying that we couldn't get a foot or more of snow yet, but just wouldn't stay around long. Kind of a bummer a snow season this year!

On the upside, just a short time ago the Spectacular Ride for Charities ride raised over \$21,000.00. Seems to be a growing number each year. It ended up being an ATV ride rather than the usual snowmobile cruise. Everyone seemed to enjoy the day, with lots of friendly conversation.

Another fun thing still going on is our Find Little Big Ole. We have a few more fun weeks to go. Get out and walk a bit to find Little Big Ole in the County Parks and along the walking trails.

The snowmobile season will be closing officially April 1. That is also the date that our Find Little Big Ole comes to a close and the winner of the season ending Snowball prize will be announced. Watch our website and Facebook pages for weekly winners and the Snowball prize winner

Until next month, enjoy what cool weather we have left while you can.

## DATA & MnUSA Memberships

Even though we haven't been able to enjoy a snowmobile riding season, DATA still needs your help and support. We encourage you to be a member of DATA and MnUSA. DATA builds and maintains 368 miles of trails in Douglas County and maintains relationships with 700 landowners. MnUSA was created 40 years ago so snowmobilers would have a voice at the state level.

Do you know someone who would like to become a member of DATA? Visit our website at [douglasareatrails.com](http://douglasareatrails.com) and click on the Membership link.

## Find Little Big Ole Continues for Another Three Weeks



Take some time, enjoy the outdoors, and Find Little Big Ole. Check our website at [douglasareatrails.com](http://douglasareatrails.com) and [Facebook](#) page for clues. The contest runs from Wednesday through Sunday, starting February 21, with the winner for the week announced on Mondays. We plan to run the program through the end of March with the Snowball winner announced the first week in April.

## DATA Trails Flashback Moment

DATA has organized many rides throughout the years. Here is one from the 1970's. Look at the vintage of machines. Some of you can probably remember or still have these machines. Let's hope we can organize some rides next season and get back on the trails.



## A Message from The Depot Smokehouse & Tavern

Support the Douglas Area Trails Association by purchasing charitable gambling pull tabs when you stop at The Depot Smokehouse & Tavern. There is plenty of parking and The Depot is located right on the Central Lakes Trail in beautiful downtown Alexandria.

