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Hello All,

As we all look forward to this year's riding season I thought I would bring you up to date from the conclusion of last year's annual meeting. The following members were elected to the board of directors; Joe Gauna, Malon Green, Ron Lurk, John Scudder and I. We had the first board meeting and for some reason I was voted in as the president, go figure and Joe is the VP. So I will tell you a little about myself.

I started out as a board member on the Anchorage Snowmobile Club and worked my way up to the President's position. Back then the ASSA was faltering as the voice of the snowmobiling community and the ASC assumed that role. When Kevin Hite became president of the ASSA, I decided to follow him, as most of what I wanted to accomplish was dealing with state matters and the ASSA was a better tool to accomplish that. I still hold a board seat on the ASSA, and will continue working on statewide issues.

As the president of the C.R.R. I will follow the mandate of the club with an emphasis on increasing our membership. Membership in a club is very important in these times, as there are still those that would like to see snowmobiles banned from all public lands. I know that closures don't mean that much too many of you. You just want to ride. That's OK, but you do need a person, or club to represent you. That is why I hope you will join the C.R.R.

Our membership fees are relatively low in comparison to what you get. We groom, sign, and maintain over a 100 miles of trails in the South Denali area. With the increase of membership we will have a greater voice in opening up new trails.

Our trail committee (Joe Gauna, Randy Crosby, and I) worked hand in hand with State Parks, the Borough, and other snowmobile clubs from the lower Su Valley to complete the new Susitna Valley Winter trail (SVWT), connecting South Denali to Big Lake. I hope you had an opportunity to ride it last winter.

There are more trails that we hope to develop, such as north to Cantwell, west to the Iditarod, and east to connect with the Wolf Pack at Lake Louise. I know it's a big bite to chew on, but when we talk with the bureaucrats the more we have in our membership the more they will listen.

One of the things I worked on with ASSA way back when Tony Knowles was governor was the point of sale registration legislation. The concept of a trail corridor system was launched way back then and now we are receiving that money through the Sno Trac board to groom trails in Alaska.

The C.R.R. is in a unique position to take advantage of any new money that might come from an increase in registration fees. I assure you we will put it to good use if it does materialize. Until then we will continue to work with what we have to maintain the best trail system in Alaska.

As we wait for the first snows of the season keep an eye on our web site www.curryridgeriders.com for any information or activities planned in the upcoming weeks. Remember, if you have not renewed your membership please do so, it really helps us with the first bills of the season before any of our grant moneys come in. If you have questions, comments or suggestions email us at curryridgeriders@hotmail.com.

I'll see you on the snow

Glenn Swan

President of the C.R.R.