

# BACKYARD TOURIST



Daily News file photos

Tylar Hedrick, 5, of Hubertus pulls his 2-year-old sister, Heidi, on a toy Ski-Doo Rotax 800R during last year's vintage snowmobile show on Friess Lake. **BOTTOM:** Lines of snowmobiles on display during last year's event.

## Oh what fun it is to ride

Snowmobile event celebrates 10th year

By GAY GRIESBACH  
For the Daily News

The Hill and Gully Snow Riders will celebrate the arrival of winter — real winter — at their 10th annual Vintage Snowmobile Show and Ride on Jan. 16.

The show starts at 9 a.m. and, snow permitting, a vintage ride begins at noon.

Traditionally held at Wally and Bees Last Stop Resort on the shore of Friess Lake, this is the first year the event will be held at the Richfield Nature and Historical parks.

"Last year the ice wasn't safe and we thought we should keep it on solid ground," trail coordinator Chris Marks said. The venue has a larger parking area and an enclosed shelter to serve as headquarters for food and beverages.

Marks said the show will include machines from the 1960s to mid-1980s and if there is at least three inches of snow, vintage sled demonstrations will be held.

In addition to snowmobiles, Marks said eight clubs located south of



Submitted photo

To celebrate its 10th annual Vintage Snowmobile Show on Jan. 16, the Hill and Gully Snow Riders have moved from Friess Lake to the Richfield Nature and Historical parks.

Highway 60 have vintage grooming machines that will be on display.

There will also be side raffles and door prizes. Club member Christopher "CJ" Lewandowski said other impromptu events have been known to evolve, like last year's lively rounds of snow bowling.

Hill and Gully Snow Riders' trails run west of Richfield, north of Hubertus, east of Erin and Monches and traverse Glacier Hills County and Richfield village parks, affording riders views of the post-glacial landscape as well as

the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary at Holy Hill.

The club started in 1970 with a group of friends that wanted to snowmobile in the Holy Hill area and promote safe snowmobiling and the future of the sport.

With two kids ages 2 months and 2 years, Lewandowski isn't taking 500-mile treks every weekend anymore. Instead, he gets his snow fix with occasional rides around the Mercer-Manitowish Waters area of northern Wisconsin and by taking care of a section of club trails.

"You get to know the families that live on those properties. It's nice to get to know the neighbors," Lewandowski said.

The park is located at 4399 Pleasant Hill Road in Richfield and the entrance is off Highway 164. The show is free to the public.

To fund trail grooming and other needs, the club also has an ongoing poker run. Winners of the run and other side raffles will be drawn starting at 1 p.m. Feb. 13 at Sheryl's Club 175 in Ackerville.

Participating pubs include Bilda's Friess Lake Pub, E.J.'s, Sloppy Joe's and Hairy Lemon in Hubertus, Erin Inn and Tally Ho in Erin, Fat Charlie's and Kenicky's Public House in Richfield, KJ's Bar and Grill in Meeker Hill, Madam Belles in Germantown, Ox and Cats in Monches and Sheryl's Club 175 in Ackerville.

The club's regular meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, October

March, at the Hairy Lemon in Richfield (at the corner of Highway 164 and Pleasant Hill Road). For more information on the show or other club activities, check

<http://www.hillandgullysnowriders.org/home.html>

