**ROYAL COLLARD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Colorado Snowmobile Associations will be offering a scholarship to a graduating high school senior who has intentions to enroll in a secondary/high education institution or technical trade institution, a person currently enrolled in college or technical trade institution or a person accepted/currently enrolled in an advanced education program (e.g. Masters Programs or higher). This will be a $2,500 scholarship presented to the winner regardless of other scholarships that the student may also receive.

**Requirements are as follows:**

1. The applicant must be a member of the Colorado Snowmobile Association.
2. The applicant must submit the completed application form.
3. The applicant must submit a resume detailing his/her involvement in snowmobiling as well as extra-curricular activities.
4. The applicant must include an essay (subject will be on the application form). **The essay should be a minimum of 2 pages double-space and typed**. Keep in mind that a well-researched, comprehensive essay may be longer, and we certainly encourage you to be as thorough as possible
5. All tasks on this application must be completed or it will be rejected.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Applicant name, address, phone number and email address |  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| State Association / Local Club Member (Please list all Snowmobile Clubs the applicant has membership) |  |  |
|  |  |
| Graduated from what High School or GED equivalent? |  |  |
| Attending which college, technical or vocational institute? |  |  |
| If already enrolled in a program, what year are you in? Age? |  |  |
| High School or Equivalent GPA: |  |  |
| If applicable, College, Technical or Vocational GPA: |  |  |
| Please confirm the following attached to this application: |  | Have you attached a cover letter introducing yourself? |
|  | Have you attached a resume detailing your involvement in snowmobiling as well as extra-curricular school activities? |
|  | Have you attached an essay on the following subject (must be at least 2 pages, double-spaced and typed)? |

**Essay Topic:**

**BACKGROUND:**

In 1970 a group of avid snowmobilers sought a way to expand their riding pleasure and pool of fellow enthusiasts across the beautiful, rugged mountains of the great state of Colorado. In so doing they formed the Colorado Association of Snowmobile Clubs, Inc. This very forward-thinking crowd saw the advantage of banding together in number, not just to fellowship and ride, but to create a likeminded group of enthusiasts to speak up for their beloved sport. The group soon began to morph into the Colorado Snowmobile Association and become an outspoken group for the rights of winter motorized recreationists and protection of access on public lands. CSA became a 501(c)3 not for profit corporation in 2000. In short, this allows donations to CSA to be tax deductible. The non-profit purpose for CSA is to ensure safety and conservation in motorized winter recreation. CSA is passionate about its mission to

***“Advance, Protect, and Preserve the sport of snowmobiling in Colorado”***

The emphasis on the pleasure of riding was not lost as time progressed. Through a partnership with SnowGoer Magazine the Rocky Mountain Snowmobile Expo has grown better each year showcasing the best riding destinations in the Rocky Mountain West, the best sleds, accessories, clothing and trailers on the market.

CSA is currently comprised of 36 clubs, 27 of which groom their portion of nearly 3000 miles system of trails in Colorado. Each club is independent of the others and offers their own brand of fellowship and riding experiences. These clubs work diligently with public land agencies to ensure access and fabulous riding in their areas. The grooming clubs own and operate their own equipment to groom, mark and maintain miles of trails through central and western Colorado and hold special use permits from either the US Forest Service or BLM to operate on public lands. Many also have agreements with local municipalities and private landowners to operate on their lands. These trails are guaranteed multi-use trails encouraging winter recreationists of all kinds to use their system. Many systems support Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, dogsledding and winter hiking/camping activities as well as snowmobiling.

The grooming clubs of CSA work hand in hand with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to make certain these operations continue. In the late 70’s CSA and Colorado Parks and Wildlife pushed for legislation to create a registration program in Colorado to, in part, fund grooming operations throughout the state. Now every snowmobile that operates in the state of Colorado is required to pay a registration fee to the State Snowmobile Program that is administered by the Colorado State Trails Committee of Colorado Parks and Wildlife, including out of state machines, at last count there were nearly 32,000 sleds registered. Approximately 80% of this registration money is put back on the snow through the grooming program and education and regulation enforcement. Each year the 27 grooming programs apply for allocated funds to operate their individual grooming programs. The allocated funds reimburse expenses of the programs and are allocated based on a formula that includes intensity of use and miles of trail. The majority of the programs are run by volunteers who work for the sheer enjoyment of their sport.

Another piece of the funding from registration money enables the clubs to purchase and maintain their grooming equipment. This capital fund is subsidized by federal money through the Recreation Trails Program (RTP). Clubs, in need, apply to this fund for money to update their grooming equipment. The money is awarded based on need, benefit to the overall program and ability to match the request.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife and CSA also partner up each year with many clubs and safety training organizations to offer classes in avalanche awareness education, back-country survival education and rider safety education.

The Colorado Snowmobile Association works with other recreation groups to better everyone’s experiences. They have a seat on the Vail Pass Task Force which oversees the function and form of the Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area in the White River National Forest. CSA is a member of the United Snowmobile Association (USA) and the International Snowmobile Council (ISC). This membership allows a seat on the voting body of these national coalitions.

CSA is a founding member of Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition (COHVCO). We strive to communicate with and distribute communication to and from all of these organizations to better the efforts of all motorized recreationists in facing the challenges before us.

In addition, the administration of CSA works closely with the United State Forest Service and BLM on access issues. Meetings with local, state and regional managers are held throughout the year to assure a voice for snowmobiles on public lands. Each year, CSA participates in a DC Fly-In, an opportunity for Colorado to meet with their congressional legislation and speak about what is important in our state in regard to winter recreation.

To help facilitate CSA’s presence and effectiveness in access issues a Right To Ride Fund was established in the early 90’s. Donations to this fund are used exclusively to forward the cause of access to public lands. Although no one really wants to enter a legal battle, this fund will help ensure CSA’s ability to enter a legal fray when necessary to protect our sport.

In 2019, CSA created a new position, Executive Director. This position participates in efforts to return balance to the use of public lands and improve agency responsiveness to public input to provide sustainable multiple use opportunities on public lands. Moving into the future, public lands in the west are facing many new challenges such as declining agency budgets or poor overall forest health. We believe that proper engagement of the partners of the land management agencies will be critical in addressing these challenges moving forward and protecting resources while providing multiple use opportunities and the economic benefits from these opportunities that have become critical to local communities.

**CSA ROYAL COLLARD SCHOLARSHIP 2021 ESSAY QUESTION**

CSA is celebrating its 50th Year anniversary and due to the COVID pandemic – we were not able to celebrate as we had planned to kick off the 2020-2021 snowmobile season!  Every milestone year allows for the organization to celebrate its success and this year in particular – we find ourselves in an unusual situation.  We were unable to support two major fundraising CSA events: (1) a snowmobile raffle and (2) The Rocky Mountain Snowmobile Exhibition. In addition, the amazing “Spring Fling” was also cancelled which has been so generously supporting the clubs grooming insurance.    These fundraising events supports CSA’s ability to fight for land access and support the grooming clubs.  This year’s essay should focus on the following questions:

1. **Are there creative ways that CSA can raise funds in 2021 – with the continued unknowns of COVID restrictions.**
2. **Do you see the organization doing something different as a lasting effect to COVID and the changes it has required from us?**

**APPLICATION SUBMISSION DETAILS**

* Application form will be posted as of January 11th, 2021 and will be available on the Colorado Snowmobile Association website. <http://www.snowmobilecolo.com/>
* The application must be RECEIVED by CSA Award and Scholarship committee chair on or before March 15th, 2021. No late applications will be considered.
* Submissions to be sent to [mmechaleymarketing@gmail.com](mailto:mmechaleymarketing@gmail.com) or mailed to:
  + Michelle Jones

508 Ashford Drive

Longmont, CO 80504

* Applications to be reviewed and scholarship recipient will be chosen by the sitting past two CSA Presidents and the Awards / Scholarship Committee members.
* CSA Royal Collard Memorial ScholarshipAward to be announced at the 2nd quarterly CSA meeting in May of each year.
* The $2,500 will be paid to the order of the secondary/higher education institution, technical trade institution or advanced education program on the behalf of the award recipient. (August timeframe)
* An alternate will be picked if the winner should decide not to enroll into a secondary/high education institution, technical trade institution or advanced education program.

The funding for this scholarship comes from the sale of raffle tickets for the CSA 50/50 Raffle held each year.