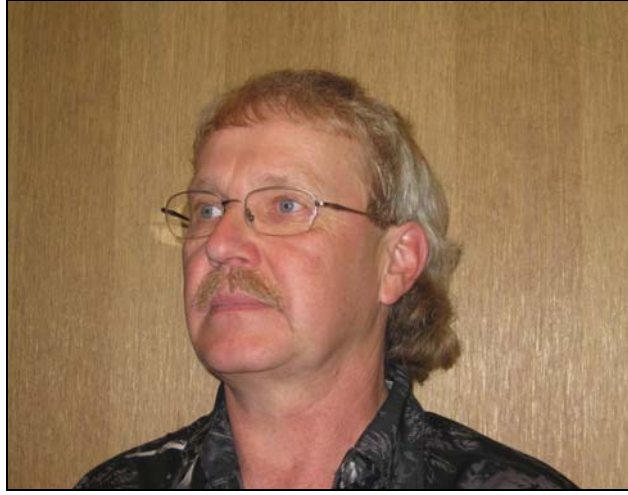


Personal Biography of
Paul Ficken



Snowmobiling started for me when I was six years old. We didn't have one, but I would run to the window hoping to catch a glimpse of one as it would pass our house going out to the snowy fields at our end of town.

When I was nine, my uncle bought a Snow Cruiser to assist him in fixing phone lines near Warmley tower. From that point on, we visited every Sunday through the winter when we could, so I could ride the big Mammoth. A couple years later, my parents bought me a 1968 Hussler. I think they thought it was cheaper than driving to my uncle's every weekend. Wow! A 15 HP JLD single with a wire recoil started rope. That was it, I was hooked.

Here I am, a couple Snow Jets, a Kawasaki, and several Arctic Cats later, still riding, and still loving it as much as the first ride on the old 69 Snow Cruiser. Since that first ride, things have got even better. We started traveling to ride on groomed trails, which we didn't have out our back door. Moose Mountain Provincial Park was only fifty minutes away by trailer, so we frequented it quite often.

In 1996 our surrounding communities banded together with the original Moose Mountain Snowmobile Club and decided to buy a groomer to have trails out our back doors. After a lot of work and a lot of fundraisers, we organized a trail system which is still going and giving riders a lot of safe and enjoyable riding. Our trails connect ten communities and the Park together and has a variance of open riding and scenic touring.

We hope to be able to carry on with our passion of groomed trails and riding in our short winter seasons, knowing other snowmobilers are riding safer and enjoying the sport as much as our club does.