



**WONDERLAND'S LEADERS** -- Directors for 1972 of the Wonderland Center Merchants' Assn. are (from left seated) Ed Taub of Feder-

al's Department Store; President Chuck Bassin, Land of Hi-Fi; Vice President Al Dezell, Woolworth's; and Charles Burrell, Montgomery Ward. Standing Joe Arcel, Livonia National Bank; Treasurer Louis Segel, management; Secretary Sara Weinstein, Children's Fashion Shops; and Les Greenberg, filling in for Nate Leib of Leib Brothers. (Observer photo)



**FRENCHY TOUTANT**, a snowmobile dealer at Pierre's Outpost, demonstrates the mechanical operation of snowmobiles to students enrolled in the first snowmobile safety training program by the Western Wayne County Conservation Assn.

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**16 Pass Course In Snowmobiling**

Sixteen students have received State of Michigan certificates enabling them to operate a snowmobile. They completed a snowmobile safety training program Feb. 12 at the club grounds of the Western Wayne County Conservation Assn. on Napier Rd. in Plymouth Township.

The three-hour classroom session was followed by a one-hour private session in which each student rode his snowmobile around the club grounds. The students were judged on their safe driving skills. Conservationist for the club, Vic Cuppetilli, together with "Frenchy" Toutant, snowmobile dealer at Piers Outpost, put the program together.

Beginning Jan. 1, 1972, a person who is at least 12 but less than 16 years of age may operate a snowmobile, if he is under direct supervision of an adult or if he has snowmobile safety certificate issued pursuant to section 4-B.

Also speaking during the class room session were Rex A. Schmeler, area supervisor of Wayne County from the State Dept. of Natural Resources explaining the law for snowmobiling on state land; Lieut. Robert Robertson, commanding officer of the Detroit post, Michigan State Police, who explained enforcement of laws throughout the state; and James R. Harrington, of Consumers Power Co., a qualified first-aid instructor, explaining basic first aid.

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**Gas Facilities To Be Expanded**

An investment of \$2.1 million for expansion and improvement of natural gas facilities in Consumers Power Co.'s West Wayne division is planned for 1972.

James P. Thomas, West Wayne division manager, said a major portion of the funds will be used to extend and upgrade the division's gas distribution system.

More than 17 miles of gas mains will be installed to provide service for new customers, said Thomas. He added that 3.2 miles of system improvements are planned.

Thomas said Consumers Power has sufficient quantities of gas to supply 475,000 customers in the West Wayne division and the 2,600 customers it expects to add this year.

The company expects to complete the conversion of its Northville gas field into a storage facility. The project consists of reworking 11 wells into storage sites and injecting 10.7 billion cubic feet of cushion gas. Thomas said nearly \$200,000 will be spent on the work this year.

The division expenditures are part of a statewide expansion program by Consumers Power which will cost \$383 million in 1972. More than \$57 million will be used to develop natural gas facilities in the southeastern portion of Michigan's Thumb.

At Marysville, near Port Huron, the utility is building North America's first natural gas reforming plant to produce pipeline quality natural gas from Canadian natural gas liquids. Scheduled for initial operation in 1973, the plant will produce 100 million cubic feet of gas daily. By 1974 production will double.

Consumers Power is spending \$5.3 million this year to build a 29-mile pipeline from the Marysville plant to the company's Ray compressor station, near New Baltimore.

The company is also expanding gas storage areas in St. Clair and Macomb counties. Two gas fields will be converted to storage at a cost of \$250,000, and an additional \$1.5 million has been allocated for further development of storage facilities.

Thomas said the company is continuing its efforts to provide adequate gas supplies. A subsidiary of the utility is actively engaged in exploration and participated in three major natural gas finds in 1971. The company recently completed a 50-mile pipeline which will transmit gas from recently discovered fields in the Kalkaska area of Michigan.

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