

SEAWAY VALLEY



Snowmobile
Association

SNOW TIMES

SEAWAY VALLEY SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION
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A Member of the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs

32 Years of
Growth 1973
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2005

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SVSA Mission Statement

The Seaway Valley Snowmobile Association is dedicated, through committed volunteers, to promote a positive image of the snowmobiling industry, to support and respect our Landowners rights and wishes, and to continue to provide snowmobilers in the Seaway Valley a safe and rewarding experience.

January is fast upon us and the weather has been unpredictable at best. Some early snow was washed away with unseasonable heat accompanied by rain. Hopefully by the time you are reading this newsletter, the weather has stabilized and all trail systems are operational.

Next General Meeting – Everyone Welcome!
Tuesday, February 8th, 2005 7:30 pm
Lions Club, Bonville Ontario

The 2004 Landowner Appreciation Dinner and Silent Auction was held on November 20th in Maxville. Once again, this evening was a tremendous success and the SVSA Executive Committee would like to thank all the volunteers, the generous businesses and individuals who donated prizes and auction items, and the landowners who attended.

Over 300 people attended the event including over 150 landowners. OFSC District Governor Bruce Robinson was a special guest and commented that this was a “first class event”. Special thanks to the folks at Bobby’s Place for another successful catering job!

Trail System Update

The 2004/05 SVSA trail map is now available. The map also contains SVSA executive information, local businesses, and a map of the surrounding region. The map is available at many local retailers where OFSC trail permits are sold.

The scenic pipeline trail from St. Andrews to Martintown has been re-opened thanks to landowner Campbell Murray. This trail was temporarily closed due to logging and landfill from a summer highway project. The trail is no longer accessible from the Cornwall / Martintown junction on trail 43 south-east of

St. Andrews. This section has been re-routed and access is available to trail 43 to Martintown from the Island Road bridge crossing the South Raisin river east of St. Andrews on County Road 18. New signs will take you east on County Road 18 and then south to the pipeline.

The trail south of the pipeline in St. Andrews and just west of the 138 turns west into the bush for approximately 1000 ft. There you will come across a stop sign (both directions going east or west). These stop signs appear to be for no reason but were installed due to a new bike path that will run north and south. The township will be working on this area in the near future.

The SVSA groomers have been busy grooming the trails working with the limited snow that we have so far. We have 2 groomer operators that groom the OFSC Top Trails daily and secondary trails 2-3 times per week or as conditions merit.

The OFSC Top Trails on the SVSA trail system are:
E104—runs East/West from Long Sault to Alexandria passing just south of Monkland.
E213Q—runs North/South from just south of Monkland to Casselman passing through Moose Creek.

Feedback

This newsletter is for you, the member. Any comments and/or suggestions are welcome and appreciated. If there is a topic that you would like to see covered in the Snow Times please contact Jody.

In the next issue...

- The Monkland Millennium Covered Snowmobile Bridge
- Season wrap-up

A Message From Our Trail Coordinator

It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain and open new trails, as property owners do not want the hassle of property damage, the possibility of lawsuits, the noise, etc. Therefore, the trail that the SVSA currently maintains must be protected in order for this association to continue.

Noise has become a common complaint from property owners and neighbors of the trail system. Many parts of our trails venture through towns and are often directly adjacent to homes. If you or someone you know has a modified exhaust system, please remove them and discourage other snowmobilers from using or purchasing these systems. Please obey the signs on the trails concerning noise and respect the wishes of our property owners.

Please stay between the marked stakes on landowners property, this is the only area that we have permission to use. DO NOT CUT CORNERS AND STAY WITHIN THE MARKED TRAIL. The SVSA volunteers spend many hours working with the landowners and installing these markers in the areas that are agreed upon. Due to some snowmobilers leaving the trail last season, it has cost YOUR club over \$2200.00 and 57 hours of volunteer work to revamp a section of trail on OFSC Top Trail E104 west of Apple Hill due to a trail closure.

“To ride an OFSC trail is not a right, it’s a privilege”



Do Your Part: For more than 30 years, snowmobilers have been riding with nature and doing are part to keep it beautiful. Today, responsible riding is more important than ever, so please continue to:

- **Leave Tracks Not Trash**
- **Maintain Your Sled**
 - **Protect Wildlife**
 - **Keep It Quiet**
 - **Stay On The Trail**
- **Respect Sensitive Areas**
- **Embrace New Technologies**

SVSA Events

Unfortunately, there was some confusion with dates for the *Blessing of the Snowmobiles* event, as it was listed as January 9th on the SVSA website and January 30th in the previous newsletter. We are still planning on having this event scheduled for Sunday, January 30th. Please come out and join us for breakfast and fun! The SVSA apologizes to anyone who may have attended on January 9th.

The *OFSC District 1 Sno-Ride 2005* will be hosted by Leeds & Grenville S.A., Athens & District S.C., Grenville S.C., Elizabethtown S.C., Kemptville S.C. and Rideau Ridge Riders S.C. The objective of this ride is to promote local club trails and camaraderie among the clubs with the aim of sharing ideas. This year the ride will be start from Brockville and be approximately 200km.

Registration for this event is initially limited to 4 people per club (to attend the meal), however, additional space may be available as the event nears, due to cancellations and availability. Contact an SVSA volunteer to put your name on the waiting list. If space is unavailable, everyone is still welcome to take part in the ride and experience new trails and meet fellow snowmobilers.

SVSA 2004/2005 Calendar of Events

Sunday January 30th, 2005

Blessing of the Snowmobiles & Breakfast

- Lions Club, Bonville
- 12pm
- Breakfast is available from 8am.

February 19th, 2005

OFSC District 1 Sno-Ride 2005

- Limited availability
- Location: Best Western White House, Brockville
- Registration fee (for meal only)
- Start time between 9am and Noon

Driver Training

The first two driver training courses have been fully booked and one course has been completed. The second course should be held soon. A third and final course will be held sometime in February. If you or someone you know are interested in attending this course, please contact Mike Poirier or Angus Hope.

Driver Training

Reservations now being accepted!!

Ages 12 and older

Contact Mike Poirier (613)937-0670 or

Angus Hope (613)932-3387

for information and registration.

Training Fee (including lunch) \$30.00

Trail Permits

The SVSA sold 319 permits prior to the December 1st deadline and now have sold a total of 360 at time of this printing. We believe we will hit or surpass our target of 385 permits for this season.

The fee schedule for the 2004/2005 OFSC/MTO Trail Permit is as follows:

- **\$180.00** if purchased on/before December 1st, 2004
- **\$230.00** if purchased after December 1st, 2004
- **\$35.00** – One day permit
- **\$100.00** – Seven day permit
- **\$10.00** – Replacement Permit

Thanks to all of our great volunteers and generous businesses, we are able to offer the sale of the 2004/2005 OFSC/MTO Trail Permit at the following retail outlets:

- Casselman Motor Sports - Casselman
- Ron's Service Shop – Moose Creek
- Mike's Service Shop – Chrysler
- Monkland Mini Market – Monkland
- KCEE's Convenience & Postal Outlet – Martintown
- Annie's Scottish Pub – Maxville
- King Edward Hotel – Apple Hill
- Autoparts Extra – Cornwall
- D L MacDonald Construction - Cornwall
- Robertson's Lawn and Garden Equipment – Cornwall
- Claude's Small Engines – Cornwall
- Irwin Supply – Cornwall
- Brookshell Pontiac Buick Ltd. - Cornwall

It is the law in the Province of Ontario for each snowmobile using an OFSC trail to display a valid snowmobile Trail Permit. This requirement applies to OFSC trails on both private and Crown land.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the above businesses for selling trail permits for the SVSA. In future years, we intend to assist you in dealing with trail permit sales on the final day prior to the rate increase. We understand that this day has caused several retailers some inconvenience dealing with permits sales and their primary business. If requested, an SVSA volunteer will be available to help these businesses with trail permit sales to alleviate their staff and to expedite the service to both the retailer client and the trail permit buyer.

The SVSA would like to also thank Cornwall City Press for providing us with great support in preparing this year's newsletters.

Again, the SVSA Executive Committee expresses their thanks to all members, volunteers and landowners that make this association possible. We wish this season to be a safe and enjoyable one for all snowmobilers and their families.

SVSA 2004/2005 Executive Committee

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Director	Pat Barker	(613)346-2301	



Do your part to show appreciation to landowners who volunteer the use of their land for snowmobile trails.

1. Stay on the trail.
2. Leave the stakes intact.
3. Leave the gates and fences alone.
4. Respect equipment and property.
5. Avoid farm animals and pets.
6. Please respect that the trail is for snowmobile use only.
7. Permission has been given only for winter use.
8. Use only when the trail is open.
9. Respect the Landowner.

Landowners do not get compensated for allowing their land to be used for a snowmobile trail. In this sense, they too, are an integral part of the voluntary system that makes organized snowmobiling work in Ontario.

Like anyone, landowners who volunteer the use of their land appreciate even the smallest recognition for their contribution. Often, club members and snowmobilers who simply say "thanks" when they meet a landowner accomplish this. It is certainly achieved when landowners see snowmobilers respecting their land. But increasingly there are also organized programs for landowner appreciation.

Many snowmobile clubs host "Landowner Appreciation" events or present their landowners with "Thank You" gifts. The OFSC recognizes the irreplaceable contribution of private landowners to organized snowmobiling provincially too. This winter, the OFSC Landowner Appreciation Program will once again provide prizes for a landowner draw in each OFSC district.

But all of this important effort, good will and positive reinforcement can be easily undermined by careless riders. So why not be a part of the OFSC Landowner Appreciation Program this winter?

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