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Late Breaking News!

Annual Spring Meeting Correction

The date for the annual spring meeting is April 18, 2004 not April 17, 2004 as previously posted

For more information visit www.ganaraskasnow.ca



Presidents Report

It is the end of another season of snowmobiling. I wonder what another year will bring? I am asking every snowmobiler to do at least one thing this year. Fill in the SOS card found in your Ontario Snowmobiler magazine and mail it to the minister of tourism. Let your member of parliament know your concerns about the escalating insurance cost that is threatening organized snowmobiling.

Many people think that once the snow goes away in the spring snowmobile clubs forget about the sport until the fall, nothing could be further from the truth. The GSC is committed to serving our membership, yes you the rider and permit buyer. This organization continues to work on all aspects of snowmobiling throughout the summer. Our volunteers put their sleds away in the spring and the summer work begins.

I would like to thank all the people that volunteered their time to run the club this year. A thank you to our landowners, permit vendors, grooming staff, signage crew and a special thanks to the people who I had to call at the last minute to get a job done in an emergency. You are all special people and without your help we wouldn't have a club.

Bill Stapleton
Club President

Trail Report



The season was slow starting, and the bitter cold that followed made it difficult to pack a good base but the grooming staff worked 7 days a week to quickly build a solid base and keep the trails in excellent condition for the remainder of the season. We had quite a few compliments on the quality of our trails. The only complaint we had was from a snowmobiler that wanted us to install signs indicating smooth trails ahead Please watch your speed.

Trail Signage & Mapping

A big thank you to Mike Miller and his signage crew. The new slow signs and arrows made a big difference to dangerous corners. So when you see a slow sign on the trail it means something ahead requires you to slow down. If we all obey the signs we wouldn't be reading about snowmobilers deaths in the papers.

Mike has also done an excellent job of putting location numbers on all intersections. These numbers indicate where you are on our trail system and if an emergency arises this number will help medical or police personnel arrive on the scene faster. These numbers are also found on our new map available for download online at www.ganaraskasnow.ca.

For more information about the Club Tracks newsletter visit our website:
www.ganaraskasnow.ca

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Everyone that volunteered for the Ganaraska Snowmobile Club has had his or her name entered into a draw for a new Polaris 500 Classic snowmobile.

What's this you say if I volunteer for the club I could win a free snowmobile? That's right the Volunteers in Action of the OFSC conduct a draw each year with the help of corporate sponsors to recognize all the many valued volunteers across Ontario. This year the prize happens to be a Polaris snowmobile sponsored by Polaris and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

If your not currently a volunteer but would like to be contact anyone of the club executives or visit our website at www.ganaraskasnow.ca or email info@ganaraskasnow.ca for more information.

Landowner & Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Yet another season of snowmobiling is quickly coming to an end and with it brings the annual Landowner & Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and this year was no exception. Our annual dinner was held on March 20th at the Bewdley arena with our first ever dance following the dinner. Every year that I attend this function it seems to be getting bigger and I think we managed to fill every seat in the house this year and the music by the Mike Pollard band kept everyone dancing till the show was over at midnight. I think I speak for everyone when I send out a big thank you to the organizers of this event Greg & Jill Williams and Barry & Kim Parker. You did a fantastic job, I can't wait to see what's in store for next year.

The club also recognizes the achievements of it's volunteers at this event. Congratulations to Randy Cunningham for winning the volunteer of the year award for the Ganaraska Snowmobile Club from the OFSC's Volunteers in Action committee.

Also recognized are volunteers Gary Woodbeck, Kevin Malley, Chris Perron and Craig Nichols. A very special thank you from the executive went out to our Club president Bill Stapleton and his wife Shirley. The members of the Ganaraska Snowmobile Club and OFSC members alike owe you a big thank you for your hard work and dedication to the sport of snowmobiling. Without your help this club would not be what it is today.

THANKS TO OUR

LANDOWNERS

A special thank you to all our valued landowners. Without your continued support there would not be a trail system. We do apologize for the inconsiderate snowmobilers that run off the trail and forget to stop at driveway crossings. We have asked the Police to Patrol these areas and all Trail Wardens are instructed to warden on your properties. In time maybe we can educate these people that Stop means STOP.



Thank you from
**All the
OFSC Clubs and
Volunteers in Ontario**



2003-2004 Executive

President:

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Vice President:

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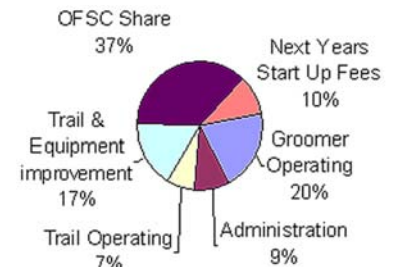
Kevin Malley 519-584-7163

Trail Permits – Your Money at Work

Thank you to everyone who bought their trail permit from the Ganaraska Snowmobile Club. The majority of the money from each permit stays with the club whom you purchased your permit from. In the case of the Ganaraska Snowmobile Club this amounts to 63% with just 37% going back to the OFSC to cover insurance, program admin costs etc. The amount that stays within a club is different for each club depending on the number of kilometers of trails, grooming hours, etc.

The 63% that the Ganaraska Snowmobile Club retains gets split up as follows. 20% annually is spent on operating the groomers, this includes fuel for the groomers, maintenance and wages. 7% each year is devoted to maintaining the trails, this includes such things as bulldozing, trail signage, fixing fences, gates, etc. 9% is spent on administration, these are such things as postage, printing expenses for newsletters, telephone, annual OFSC convention, insurance, financial statement preparations and financial audits if required. 17% is devoted to trail and equipment improvement. This money is used to purchase new grooming equipment, tools, and major updates to the trail system such as bridges. As mentioned in an earlier newsletter the club built a new equipment storage shed last summer. The money for this building came out of the Trail & Equipment improvement budget. Of course it took a few years to save up the money to build a brand new building. And finally 10% is retained for the next years start up fees. There are a lot of expenses prior to the trails opening the following winter and even before money starts coming in from early permit sales. This is why it's so important to buy your permits early and why there is such a cash incentive to buy early. The clubs need this money to prepare the trails and equipment for the winter season.

Hopefully this gives you an idea of how the Ganaraska Snowmobile Club spends your money and with your continued support will continue to give you good smooth trails. All club members have a say in how the club is run, come out to any one of our annual general meetings (AGM's) and become involved. Our spring AGM is on April 18, 2004 at 7 pm at the Campbellcroft hall.



VIP Hours

Just a reminder to turn your volunteer hours into Stan King before April 18, 2004. Stan needs these hours so they can be recognized on our financial records

Coming Events

Annual Spring Meeting: April 18, 2004 7pm at the Campbellcroft hall. This is the meeting where we elect next years officers and where we will be making some big decisions about equipment upgrades. Of interest is a new drag and possibly a new groomer.

Please plan to attend this important meeting. It's your opportunity to voice your opinion on the operation of the club. Remember to mark your calendars for April 18th not April 17th as previously posted.



Shop & Swap

FOR SALE: 2002 Skidoo Legend, 500 c.c., fan cooled, electronic reverse, precision skis, about 800 km, black, immaculate condition. Original price \$6700. Sale price negotiable. Please phone 905-725-9812 (Oshawa).

FOR SALE: Seat and gas tank from a 1990 Skidoo Safari. Seat was removed about 6 years ago and replaced with a 2 up seat. Seat and tank have been stored in a dry basement ever since and are both in excellent condition. Best offer. Please phone 519-584-7163 .

Snowarama Ride

Simply put I don't think there could have been a better day for this event. Riders from three local clubs The Long Sault Ridge Runners, The Cartwright Dynos and The Ganaraska Snowmobile Club came together with more than \$6,000 in pledge money for the Easter Seals Society.

Riders registered at the Long Sault club house and from there were lead on a beautiful ride through the Ganaraska forest and when they returned to the club house a lasagna dinner was served followed by a silent auction.

To all those involved in organizing this event, thank you. And to those who participated in the ride and went out and got pledges a very special thank you goes out to you. Your pledge money goes to help some very special children.

Fund Raising Events

Thanks to Chris Perron and that new pancake flipper Stan King for putting on a fantastic pancake breakfast. We had a good turn out and everyone enjoyed the day. Word has it that Stan wants to take an apprenticeship in Flap Jack flipping. Way to go guys looking forward to next years pancake breakfast all ready. Say you don't make house calls do you?

Thanks to Marie Toon and Ken Hill for another successful Poker Ride. Registration was a breeze, the root was spectacular, well marked and a pleasure to ride. The cards on the other hand, well lets just say we have some serious competition at the poker table from two young brothers. Congratulations to Brian Dillon who walked away with a cool \$345.00 prize and his younger brother Troy for collecting \$15 for the under 12 childrens pot.

Member Feedback Corner

Do you have something you would like to share with the membership, a great snowmobiling story, a funny event, trail suggestions. If so send them to news@ganaraskasnow.ca and we will publish your story here in the next Club Tracks.

Got a photo you would like to share with us. Send it to info@ganaraskasnow.ca and we will add it to our online photo gallery and we just might publish it here in the next Club Tracks.



Want to stay up to date with club events, press releases and special announcements, join our online mailing list at www.ganaraskasnow.ca or send an email with the subject subscribe to news@ganaraskasnow.ca.