



## Fall 2009 NEWSLETTER

October 1, 2009

[www.rideausnowmobileclub.com](http://www.rideausnowmobileclub.com)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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As the RSC executive members commence preparation for the upcoming snowmobile season, we pause to reflect on last year's sledding experience. The season started off with great expectations as all our trails had been packed and groomed prior to Christmas. Then came the first meltdown on December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Conditions had improved by mid-January and we were able to hold a very successful Rideau Grand Snowmobile Rally on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 with 112 participants. Then came the season-crushing second thaw. Seeing families playing outdoor hockey and skating on our previously groomed trails in mid-February was an ominous sign and our grooming equipment remained parked for the rest of the 2008-2009 season.

While last season was shorter than anticipated, our volunteers devoted many hours in building and improving our trail system as reported by our trail boss below and we held successful social events including the Fall Freeze-up Dance featuring the music of the Talegators, the annual breakfast and the Rideau Grand Rally.

Our existence is very dependant on the generosity of the community- minded landowners. They permit us to use their property to accommodate our trail system and all they request in return is that ALL snowmobilers stay on the marked trails and treat their land with respect. If you meet a landowner in your travels please thank them for their kindness. The Club does hold a "Landowners Appreciation Banquet" each spring as our way of expressing our sincere gratitude for their continued contribution to the sport of snowmobiling.

Our Club also benefits from the kindness of the Club's outlets that donate their time to sell our permits. Please keep their task as simple as possible by ensuring you have the appropriate documentation available.

We are in good financial shape but certainly need your continued support to provide the best trails possible. Please remember to purchase your trail permit from Rideau Snowmobile Club.

The success of our club rests with a core group of volunteers who not only have a "built-in" passion for the sport but also donate their time, vehicles, equipment and knowledge in completing the many operational activities of the Club. Your club is saving thousands of dollars annually by not having to engage commercial entities to perform such tasks as annual brushing, bridge construction and repairs, groomer maintenance, and administrative services.

I know we are all starting the new season with hopes of a snowy winter in Eastern Ontario. I look forward to meeting you on the trails but in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact any member of our Executive should you have suggestions or concerns or if you wish to volunteer your time.

Thank you for your support.

**Wayne Avery, President**

### 2010 TRAIL PERMITS

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We thank you for purchasing your prior year trail permits from Rideau Snowmobile Club and hope that you purchase your trail pass from our club again this season. Permits are the lifeline of the club and we rely almost solely on the revenue they generate to operate.

Full season: \$250.00

**\$200 on or before December 1, 2009**

7 day permit \$140.

3 day permit \$100.

Classic \$125 (Model year **1995** or older)

**Please find additional permit information at the end of the newsletter.**

## MESSAGE FROM THE TRAIL BOSS

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If you sledged on our local trails last winter you undoubtedly observed most of the trail improvements completed during the fall of 2008. In the Burritt's Rapids area we reopened the trail into the village to accommodate an alternative land crossing of the Rideau River and also re-routed the trail leading to the ice crossing which eliminated most of the road ditch running. We also obtained a TSI grant for \$6,000 that enabled us to hire a contractor to make improvements to the road allowance near Gilroy Road on the Smiths Falls trail. We were also successful in opening a new trail on the north side of North Gower village. This required construction of a new bridge and relocation of a second bridge. Based on the numerous snowmobile tracks leading to the Marlborough Pub & Restaurant this was definitely a "winner".

We also installed a rebuilt Trump Hydraulic Mower as an attachment to the JD6410 groomer that allows us to complete brushing of small shrubs and trees and overhanging limbs while grooming. The long-term objective is to reduce our dependency on large brushing teams to keep our trails enjoyable.

While we didn't enjoy ideal snow conditions last winter, our dedicated groomer operators still managed to complete 348 hours of grooming. The JD6410 groomer had 3 separate breakdowns that kept our team of volunteer mechanics busy but repairs were made promptly and we never missed a grooming cycle.

Our emphasis for this fall is to continue the annual brushing and the refurbishing of bridges. Subject to final approval of government grants, we will also hire a contractor to rebuild the bridge on Burchill Road and repair the abutting road allowance. Additional volunteers are always welcome as we complete the fall projects. If you can help, please contact me at 613-489-0377 or Wayne Avery at 613-489-3265 for confirmation of dates.

**Dan Vandenhanenberg, Trail Boss**

## BE PART OF THE SKI-DOO MILLION DOLLAR CLUB SUPPORT PROGRAM

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Simply fill out the certificate available at [www.ski-doo.com](http://www.ski-doo.com) and in select snowmobile publications and bring it to your local Ski-Doo dealership before November 15, 2009. Your dealer and BRP will then donate \$10 cash to your snowmobile club, easy as that.

### Local Dealerships Drop off:

- **George's Marine and Sports** – Carp
- **Loiselle Sports** – Embrun
- **Carson's** – Perth
- **Jim's Performance Plus** – Iroquois

EVERY DOLLAR WE CAN RAISE HELPS MAINTAIN OUR QUALITY TRAIL SYSTEM.

For more details, visit [www.ski-doo.com](http://www.ski-doo.com).

## TRAIL PATROL

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You are reminded that snowmobiling is a user pay system. While our club will be diligent in performing surprise trail patrols during the 2009-2010 season we urge all members to encourage their friends and neighbours to purchase permits before using our trails. It is the law. Your continuing ability to sled on local trails or to gain access to the Provincial Trail System from "your own back yard" depends on our success in maintaining an adequate membership base to provide funds not only for covering operation expenses but also to set aside funds to replace our aging grooming equipment.

### **Snowmobilers should not be on the OFSC trails unless they have a valid:**

Trail Permit, Snowmobile Insurance, Current Registration, Valid drivers licence.

All these items in the proper designated places. Failure to have any of the above is a \$255.00 fine plus possible trespassing fine.

**Don't be surprised if you see patrollers out on the trail, days when you least expect them.**

## DRIVER TRAINING

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Rideau Snowmobile Club is pleased to offer a driver training course again this year. The course is available to all enthusiasts who are at least 12 years of age by the course date. The cost is \$30 and includes a minimum of 6 hours of instruction. Please contact our invaluable training volunteer.

**George Pratt for details at 489-1227**

## UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

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### **Annual Fall Freeze-Up Dance**

**Saturday, October 24, 2009.**

North Gower Community Center.

Featuring the Music of **The Talegators**

Admittance Restricted.

Minimum Age of 19 Required!!

8:30pm to 1:00am.

### **Jan 9/10 Annual Breakfast**

Pierce's Corners Hall

Great Family fun!

Enjoy a hearty breakfast from 8:30am to 10:00am

### **Feb 6/10 Rideau Grand Rally**

Approx. 100 miles, Registration: 9:30am to 12:30pm at North Gower Community Center.

### **AGM - Meeting**

Date to be announced.

## MONTHLY CLUB MEETINGS

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You are all invited to attend our general meetings taking place on the fourth Monday of every month. **Meetings are held at 7:30PM at the Pierce's Corners Hall, 3048 Malakoff Rd.**

If you ever wonder what projects and events the current executive are working on, you can see and hear the ongoing discussions. Who knows, you may be inspired to help or join in. Every year we have bridges to build or repair, trails to brush cut and events to plan such as Fall Freeze-Up Dance, Rideau Grand Rally.

For more info, please contact Wayne Avery at 613-489-3265 or our web site.

**RSC Meetings - All Welcome**

## RSC 2009-2010 EXECUTIVE

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Here are the names and numbers of your new executive formed at the AGM in April, 2009. Please don't hesitate to contact any of these people with questions or concerns you may have now or throughout the season. Trail permits, event tickets, and information can be obtained from any executive member.

### **President/Landowner Liaison:**

Wayne Avery 489-3265

### **Vice President/Risk Management:**

Andrew Mess 269-3715

### **Treasurer:**

Theo Ebbers 489-1745

### **Trail Permits Secretary:**

Jackie Baird 489-2891

### **Trail Boss:**

Dan Vandenhanenberg 880-3791

### **Secretary:**

Mark Sullivan 258-7762

### **Assistant Trail Boss:**

Jamie Reid 838-5716

### **Webmaster:**

Andre Poirier 489-0937

### **Events Coordinator:**

Eric Poulter 229-7494

**Director:** Todd O'Connor 489-2711

**Director:** Fred Seabrook 880-7845

**Director:** Richard Clarke 489-2966

**Director:** Arnold Hermer 283-6699

**Director:** John Wilson 258-4217

**Director:** Allan Seabrook 258-1974

**Director:** Ron Seabrook 489-1586

**Director:** Bryan Sullivan 489-3356

**Director:** Shane Poulter 258-4767

**Director:** Doug Seabrook 880-1020

**Director:** Dave Seabrook 258-1974

