



Member in Good Standing

Fall 2017

BEAUTIFUL EASTERN ASSOCIATION OF SNOWMOBILE TRAILS



For the most up to date information, please visit us at [www.thebeast.ca](http://www.thebeast.ca)

### Inside this issue:

By the Numbers	2
Club Rides	2
OVRT	3
Number and Excuses	4
NE & SE Reports	5
Our Sponsors	6
NW & SW Reports	6
Poker Rally	7
Trail Patrol	7
Beauties of the BEAST	8
Workdays	8
Driver Training	9
Volunteers in Action	9
Groomers	10
OFSC's 50th	10
Dates and Volunteers	11
Contact Us	12

### Permit Prices

- **Seasonal Permit:**  
\$190 on or before Nov 1st  
\$220 on or before Dec 1st  
\$270 after Dec 1st
- **Classic Snowmobile (>15 yrs old):**  
\$150 on or before Dec 1st  
\$190 after Dec 1st
- **Other Permits/Fees:**  
\$35 - multi-day (per day)  
\$15 - replacement  
\$7.50 - admin fee  
\$35 - special event



# B.E.A.S.T.

## President's Message – Darin McRae

The 2017-2018 season is fast approaching! I, like you, are getting more excited about the arrival of snow. You will be happy to know that the BEAST snowmobile club is healthy and a very active club but more volunteers are always welcome and needed.

My first year as your President was a huge learning curve and brought with it a better appreciation for the work required by volunteers that make everything happen, the community support we are entrusted with and the enjoyment that snowmobilers of all ages, from all walks to live enjoy. I am still excited about this opportunity and look forward with work with such a great group of people to keep organized on-trail snowmobiling alive!

On behalf of the club, I would like to extend a big thank-you to Gord Servant for his work as Vice President (and Communications Coordinator) and welcome Chrystal Bass into the VP position. I would also like to thank Rob Campbell for his work as South-East Trail Director and welcome James McCurdy to the post.

A special thank-you goes out to Julie-Ann Bedard for her efforts as VIA Coordinator. I would like to welcome aboard Wanda Bowes as the new Volunteer Coordinator, BJ McMahon as the new Communications Coordinator, and Rob Illingworth in the new position of Club Rides Coordinator. To each of you, and our other season Coordinators, I look forward to supporting your important efforts.

To my fellow board members, thank you for bringing your passion, insight, and experience to the table. Let me also thank every BEAST volunteer for your effort; without you we would not have snowmobiling like we do now. Equally important, we would be amiss if we did acknowledge the tremendous support Landowners provide by allowing the use of their land.

The BEAST Board and general membership approved the following four main priorities for the upcoming season (in order of importance):

1. **More on the Snow (MOTS).** MOTS is the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs



(OFSC) strategic plan to address the significant financial issues we face provincially. We are currently in a transition year as part of District 1 (which is changing its name to Upper Canada Snowmobile Region [www.ucsr.ca](http://www.ucsr.ca)). We will continue to influence and shape the implementation of the plan.

2. **Building Community Connections.** Our focus here is to maintain our core volunteer base and recruit new volunteers while offering more organized club rides and enhancing the relationships with our local communities.
3. **Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT).** Through a lot of effort, we have secured the use of the trail and a \$120,000 grant for bridge improvements in Carleton Place. We will need to monitor and manage use on this trail and will continue to work with the Lanark County Municipal Trail Corporation (LCMTC) to that end.
4. **Ontario Trails Act.** The passing of this act has come with mixed feelings and has forced some trail closures by landowners. We share each landowner's concerns but will continue to work with landowners to hopefully mitigate their concerns through further discussions, increased communications and education session.

I would ask every snowmobiler to buy a permit to support our local club and organized snowmobiling in Ontario and as a volunteer-run organization, I would ask you to take some time and come out on a work day and/or get involved in other ways. Get more involved in the BEAST family! Contact our VIA coordinator or the Trail Director in your area as they always have a to-do list ready for a volunteer.

Darin McRae, President  
P.S. Ski-Doo is still the #1 sled to ride ;-)

## BEAST Club Rides - Rob Illingworth

Great news, the BEAST will be organizing more group rides this season. They will be of all different skill levels to accommodate everyone even younger kids, families, couples and two-up riders. This will be a great opportunity to get out and meet some new people and ride some trails you may have never ridden. A valid trail pass will be required to participate in these rides. Most of the rides will revolve around food inside an establishment rather than trail lunches as we want to keep everyone warm.

We don't have all the details worked out yet but to perk your interest we are working on:

- a family friendly ride on New Year's Eve (and with fireworks).
- a regular weekly night ride for moderate skill riders with a different destination each week.
- a family friendly ride for all ages on the weekend, with a stop at a local member's camp for a lunch snack

- a longer distance ride, on the weekend, to a local pancake emporium.
- an advanced skill level ride due to a longer distance, less stops, and a later return time.
- A weekend get away to Haliburton on our annual BEAST Corporate / Club Ride. Full details are below.
- A week-long get away to complete Ontario's premier snowmobile tour: Round Algonquin Park (RAP) Tour. Full details on below

Keep watching the BEAST Website and Facebook for an announcement of these rides and the skill level required. If you would like to be included on a mailing list to be notified in advance email [ClubRides@TheBEAST.ca](mailto:ClubRides@TheBEAST.ca). We will also need volunteers to organize and led these rides.

## BEAST Corporate / Club Ride 2018 - Debbie Lackey

Haliburton is the destination for this year's corporate / club ride! The Pinestone Resort is happy to welcome us during the weekend of 16 to 18 February 2018. Rooms may be reserved for \$129/night single or double. There is a restaurant on site and indoor pool and they are located just off Haliburton County Snowmobile trail #7 (which runs off B103). Google says it will take 3 hrs and 21 minutes from Carleton Place to reach the Pinestone. We have a block of rooms reserved for our group. Just make sure you reserve your room before 10 December 2017 and tell them you are with the BEAST. You may view the rooms at <http://www.pinestone-resort.com>. Call now: 1800-461-0357.

There are several options for sledding:

- ◆ #1 Head up via truck and trailer on Thursday evening to sled on Friday and Saturday
- ◆ #2 Head up via truck and trailer early on Friday to sled Friday afternoon and Saturday
- ◆ #3 Head up via truck and trailer Friday to sled on Saturday

Contact Debbie Lackey at 613-253-5486 or [jlackey@storm.ca](mailto:jlackey@storm.ca) if you have any questions and let her know your plans.



## RAP Tour 2018 - Ian Edwards



If you have not completed the RAP tour, now is your time! The RAP tour showcases the best of Ontario snowmobiling in one remarkable circle tour Round Algonquin Park. Snowmobiling through OFSC Districts 6, 7 and 11, riders will experience incredible trails on an exciting mix of utility corridors, abandoned rail lines and old logging roads, plus sledding through the extensive forests of the rugged Canadian Shield.

The plan is:

- ◆ Thu, 15 Feb 2018 – Carleton Place to Mattawa Golf and Ski (~340 kms)
- ◆ Fri, 16 Feb 2018 – Mattawa to Haliburton (~350 kms)
- ◆ Sat, 17 Feb 2018 – Sled around Haliburton on the Corporate Ride (~200 kms)
- ◆ Sun, 18 Feb 2018 – Haliburton to Barry's Bay, Ash Grove Inn (~260 kms)
- ◆ Mon, 19 Feb 2018 – Barry's Bay back to Carleton Place (~320 kms)

Call Mattawa Golf and Ski 800-762-2339 to book a cottage (3-4 people can stay in each cottage) for Thursday night and Ash Grove Inn 613-756-7672 to book a room for Sunday night. If you haven't done so already rooms for the Corporate Ride at the Pinestone Resort in Haliburton need to be booked before Dec. 10th. There is a block of rooms held under the BEAST. Call 800-461-0357.

Please note, these days are 300+ kilometer riding days which will be 7 to 9 hours. Contact Ian Edwards at [iedwards62@yahoo.ca](mailto:iedwards62@yahoo.ca) or 613-257-1359 if you wish to join on this ride.



## Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT) - Gord Servant, Ian Edwards, and Darin McRae

We made a commitment to secure funding for OVRT bridge development and we came through with a **\$120,000** OFSC / Ontario Tourism Grant to help Lanark County enhance two key bridges in Carleton Place. Use of the OVRT is a high priority for the B.E.A.S.T to provide a safer crossing over the Mississippi River.

The Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT) is a combined vision of the counties of Lanark, Renfrew, and the Township of Papineau-Cameron, to create a multi-use recreational trail, which has been made possible by purchasing the retired 296km CPR rail corridor from Smiths Falls to Mattawa. The Lanark County portion extends from Smith's Falls to Arnprior.

In partnership with Lanark County, B.E.A.S.T. was successful in securing a major OFSC / Ontario Tourism grant where Lanark County covered the first 15% of the project and the B.E.A.S.T. secured the remaining 85% through the grant. This bridge project focuses on upgrading the Mill Street bridge and the Mississippi River bridge, both in Carleton Place to include installation of new weath-

support from Lanark County, the Town of Carleton Place, and the Townships of Beckwith and Montague. The Town of Carleton, the Carleton Place Downtown Business Improvement Area, Lanark County, and Beckwith Township all cite that opening these bridges will generate significant four-season economic activity within the communities connected by the trail

Bruce Robinson, Governor for Upper Canada Snowmobile Region (Eastern Ontario) commented, "that the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs was pleased to support this worthwhile project since the multi-use trail will enhance the economic activity, especially in the winter, when other sources of tourism dollars are not as plentiful. The OFSC's number one priority is offering a safe and reliable trail to our riders. The two most problematic places for snowmobiles to travel are along roadways and over ice. This new trail helps eliminate both of these options which makes the funds spent here a great investment."

Darin McRae and Ian Edwards, alongside the West Carleton Snowmobile Trails Association President (W.C.S.T.A.), Scott Hamilton, attended many OVRT public information meetings and made presentations to County, Townships and Town Council meetings outlining the case for inclusion of

snowmobiles and the benefits the snowmobile club can provide in maintaining the trail in the winter.

This new trail will create many other tourism opportunities, continue to establish a multi-use recreational trail loop within the County, and provide a safe public water crossing for summer and winter recreational enthusiasts within Carleton Place.

Lanark County and The Town of Car-

leton Place are currently grading and preparing the trail within town limits and with the bridge work will be completed this fall. This will mean that B.E.A.S.T. will be able to extend their BEAST 311



trail, along the OVRT corridor, from 10th line of Beckwith, through Carleton Place and over the Mill St. bridge and the 4 span bridge crossing the Mississippi River, continuing to the 8th line of Ramsay, to reach the BEAST 202, just North of Carleton Place.

It is important to note that the OVRT north of the 8th line Ramsay will not be used this year, as access through Almonte is not possible due to the bridges in that section not being fitted with appropriate safety measures. In addition, speed limits within the Town of Carleton Place will be 20 km/hr (normal for residential areas) and there will be time of day limitations imposed. Riders will heed the reduced speed limit and exercise caution at all road crossings. The trail through town will allow access to businesses by foot or marked access side trails.

B.E.A.S.T. extends a huge thank-you to the councils of Montague Township, Beckwith Township, the Town of Carleton Place, and Lanark County who all support the OVRT as a multi-use trail. We also extend a special thank-you to the BEAST volunteers who voiced their support and the neighbouring District 1 clubs who came out and supported our cause.

Last, but not least, our very own Southwest Trail Director, Ian Edwards, has been a great advocate, supporter, communicator within the County of Lanark – without him we would have not been successful.



ered steel railings, modification of existing expansion joints to provide a smooth surface, removal of a catwalk, and install approach guiderails. A secondary benefit of this grant is that it frees up Lanark County funds to be used on other portions of the trail.

With community support, B.E.A.S.T. has championed the long-term use by snowmobile clubs as part of this important multi-use trail and obtained full

## By the Numbers and Rider Experience Survey (2016-2017 Season) - Darin McRae

Here are some stats compiled from the OFSC's Annual Report<sup>(1)</sup> for last season:

- 108,760 registered permits sold:
  - ⇒ 77,959 Seasonal
  - ⇒ 13,334 Classic
  - ⇒ 8,073 Multi-day
  - ⇒ 14,301 (free) Try our trails
- 16 week snowmobiling season in some parts of Ontario
- OFSC is comprised on 212 member organizations
- OFSC was able to buy 19 groomers last year at an investment of \$4.5M
- OFSC manages 305 industrial groomers
- 81,3000 grooming hours pers season (4 year average)
- OFSC estimates that snowmobiling has an \$1.7B economic impact
- 32,000 km of trails
- 6.4% increase in permit sales over the 2015-2016 season

Each year the OFSC conducts a rider experience survey. Here is some interesting data compiled from that survey <sup>(2)</sup>:

- 90% of riders are male
- 85% of riders are between the ages of 25 to 64 years old
- 11.8% of 18 to 24 year old volunteer
- 20.1% of 25 to 64 years old volunteer
- Top three snowmobiles owned by 18 to 24 years old:
  - ⇒ 26.9% - Ski-Doo Trail
  - ⇒ 21.0% - Polaris Crossover
  - ⇒ 14.4% - Polaris Trail

- Top three snowmobiles owned by 25 to 64 years old:
  - ⇒ 40.4% - Ski-Doo Trail
  - ⇒ 17.7% - Polaris Crossover
  - ⇒ 15.0% - Polaris Trail
- How do males describe themselves a snowmobiler:
  - ⇒ ~62% - Avid
  - ⇒ ~35% - Casual
  - ⇒ ~2% - Newbie
- How do females describe themselves a snowmobiler:
  - ⇒ ~51% - Avid
  - ⇒ ~42% - Casual
  - ⇒ ~5% - Newbie
- Top Districts for female riders:
  - ⇒ 10.3% - D9 (Grey Bruce, SW Ontario)
  - ⇒ 10.7% - D2 (Kawarthas, Bancroft, Mazinaw)
  - ⇒ 11.5% - D6 (Haliburton, Bancroft, Ottawa Valley)
- Top Districts for male riders:
  - ⇒ 9.6% - D1 (Calabogie, Ottawa, Cornwall)
  - ⇒ 9.8% - D5 (SW Ontario)
  - ⇒ 10.7% - D6 (Haliburton, Bancroft, Ottawa Valley)



(1) 2017 Annual Report, The Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs

(2) Rider Experience Survey: Below the Surface, 16 September 17

## Top 15 Excuses for Being Late from Sledding – C.B., L. M., T.M. & D.M.

- [15] I threw out my back rushing home but hit [insert rival club's name] bumpy trails.
- [14] Snow day for the kids so I had to go out and take them riding.
- [13] Come on, I'm driving a [insert Polaris], I'm guaranteed to breakdown and be late.
- [12] The groundhog was predicting an early spring so I was out improving my riding hours to \$\$\$\$ spent ratio.
- [11] The drive-thru lineup at Tim Horton's was really long.
- [10] I put my truck keys in my tunnel bag ... last known sighting? Not since 3 groomer passes ago.
- [9] Sign to closest gas: 65 km West. Sign to destination of truck 69 km East. Km to empty: 63 km.
- [8] I didn't want to be rude so I waited for the snow to set before passing the groomer.
- [7] I decided to take a 'short cut'.
- [6] My buddy with his [insert rival sled brand here] forgot to bring a spare belt.
- [5] We got lost as I was following [insert your friend that has no sense of direction].
- [4] I took a detour to pack down the swamp.
- [3] There was time. We just had to take one last loop.
- [2] There was no direction / distance sign.
- [1] No excuses! I just didn't want to come home!



## North East Trail Sector - Daryl Rauhala

The BEAST North East (NE) consists of trails from Stittsville southwest on the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) /also labeled BEAST 200, BEAST 202, portions of the A Top Trail from BEAST 202 southeast to the Jock River, BEAST 303 east to Copeland Rd, and E104A (Ashton swamp between Dwyer Hill Rd and Ashton Station Rd), and the BEAST 206.

In general, the NE is high, dry and the easiest BEAST sector to access for trail work and overall maintenance. From a trail grooming standpoint, all these trails are covered by one 2001 BR180. On top of that, the A Top trail is the NE's grooming responsibility end to end within the BEAST.

New for 2018, the BEAST 203 is covered by the NE groomer in the (mainly north side) of Richmond. The southern Richmond sector will be covered by the southwest (SW) BR180 groomer. Swamps and creeks largely define the boundaries, especially in the early season.

We have a seasoned groomer crew, with the bulk of the grooming operations occurring between 8PM and 6AM. This allows time for the trail to setup and ultimately last longer. The NE BR180 has an operator scheduled to groom every night of the season. The common factors that prevent a grooming shift are lack of snow, breakdowns, warm weather and rare cases

of cold spells, a smooth icy base that remains mogul free.

There are a few changes for 2018. BEAST 201 is unfortunately closed. This is an access trail from Hazeldean Rd in Stittsville to the TCT / BEAST 200. A key landowner is actively working this land and it will not be suitable for snowmobile usage this season. Many options were considered, but now, and for the next few years, we do not see any option. This is hope to re-open in future years.

With the sale of the southeast (Richmond area) groomer to meet OFSC guidelines, the NE groomer will officially cover the Richmond sector. This has occurred in the past on an as needed basis, but is now part of planned grooming.

One key area of constant concern is the TCT / BEAST 200 leading out of Stittsville. This trail is unique as it is a multi-use (shared) trail controlled by the City of Ottawa. Its yearly status is controlled by city council based on feedback from the public in the context of all shared trails within the city limits. In the past, each year the BEAST enters into a land use agreement with the city and pays a fee for the right to maintain an OFSC trail within the city limits. The city has been a great partner with the BEAST and in the fall of 2017 we put

together a 5 year term with the

city to minimize paperwork, cost and effort on both ends. This arrangement will continue on the condition that snowmobilers are courteous to other users of the TCT. As this is the only access to OFSC trails out of Stittsville, please be extra cautious here and pass along this message to fellow sledders. Slow down to a crawl when passing other TCT users. We must police ourselves here, or we all lose access, plain and simple.

I will repeat this message below, as it has fallen on deaf ears thus far. On a personal note, I have filled this volunteer trail sector coordinator role since 2004, when I moved to the area. Our NE land coordinator has been involved longer than I, 20+ years. It is time for some new blood, as our best before date has expired! If you cherish any of the trails mentioned above and want to see them exist in the future, please consider taking a role in some of the volunteer tasks that it takes to keep them open.

We have various volunteers that maintain sections of trail, which simply means installing pickets and signs, cut a few trees, and keep in sync with the landowner (s). What is required is to coordinate? Attend one club meeting a month and fill in the loose ends around trail management.

Step up to keep local OFSC trails alive!!



## South East Trail Sector - James McCurdy

As [hopefully] everyone knows the southeast (SE) sector is the wettest section within the BEAST network with many swamps and creeks. With the full support of the club, we are actively looking at all options to move trails onto dry land. This is a personal priority for me! We are currently looking for safe ways to re-route and potentially some culvert and/or bridge work. To make this happen I need your help!

We have almost finalized the issues with the BEAST 203 to re-establish the trail north of Richmond. We still have not been able to open the BEAST 203 into Barrhaven due to landowner issues but we are pursuing this.

We have sold the SG1200 as part of MoTS as the BEAST had to transition to three groomers. This is a good thing as the machine did not perform as we had expected and if we kept it any longer we would have been forced to keep it as the OFSC develops its provincial groomer replacement plan.

To pick-up the grooming, we are reviewing our grooming plan and developing a three-groomer plan where the NE groomer would pick up the majority of the work and the SW groomer would pick up the BEAST 309.

I am also looking into options to build some feeder trails to services in and around the Richmond area. Hopefully



there will be some positive news in the near future.

Volunteers are critical to great trails and we need more volunteers in the SE section. Please call or e-mail me if you can help out with brushing, picketing or have land that we may be able to re-route trails onto.

We are looking to host a family friendly volunteer / rider appreciation on trail snack/lunch for BEAST members in the SE sector. Stay tuned for details and we hope to see you.



## Sponsorship - Chrystal Bass

On behalf of the BEAST club, we would like to extend many thanks to our generous sponsors. We encourage every snowmobiler to support the businesses that support us in making great trails.

A-J Repairs Services  
Ashton Brewing Company  
Black's Conners, Polaris  
Carleton Place Marine, Yamaha  
Central Plumbing Services  
Crawford Landscaping  
I.D.A. Carleton Place  
Kanata Opticians  
Keystone Traditional Masonry  
Law and Orders Burgers  
March Road Motorsports

Mementos Signs, Awards, Promotions  
Murray Refrigeration, AC & Heating  
Ryno Motors  
Sani-Sol Pools and Spas  
Stittsville Trailers  
Total Recreation  
Universal Supply, NAPA



**OFSC Interactive Trail Map – Points of Interest are still available.** The OFSC on-line trail map, [ofsc.mapbase.ca/viewer](http://ofsc.mapbase.ca/viewer) offers Points of Interest (POI's) listings all year. This feature lists your businesses GPS coordinates and makes your business more visible to sledgers, displaying location on the map, including address, phone number, logo, photo and business hours. Contact the Sponsorship Coordinator at [beastsponsor@gmail.com](mailto:beastsponsor@gmail.com) for more information.

## North West Trail Sector - Audy Bedard



The Northwest sector has a bunch of great trails! The key trail is E104A from Mississippi Lake to the village of Lanark that connects to District 6. If you take the BEAST 306 from the E104A to connect to WCSTA, you will run through the village of Clayton where you will find friendly service, fuel, and snacks at the General Store. The BEAST 307 runs from the E104A at Boyds Settlement to Innisville where you can fuel up your trusty sled. There is also Laws & Orders where you can get warm and have a hot meal. Last, but not least, there is my favorite trail, the BEAST 308 which runs from Clayton to 3 mile Bay on White Lake. The 308 has limited grooming capabilities as there are a few water crossing. This is more of a remote trail which is 21 kms long through some very picturesque forest – make sure you stop at the bluff with a great view.

Unfortunately, BEAST 307 is closed this season, a section of trail from Innisville to Mississippi Lake, due to off season trespassing. This section of trail also had a short section of water crossing that limited grooming start times.

Great news is that the BEAST 202 will connect to the new BEAST 311 which runs on the OVRT through Carleton Place and southward. There will be no trail from the 8th Concession north to Almonte this season as there are upgrades needed on the bridges in Almonte. We hope to be using this section next year to connect with WCSTA. Check BEAST website for updates.

## South West Trail Sector - By Ian Edwards



A major focus within the Southwest Sector is continuing to work towards total utilization of the Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT). This was the old CP Rail Line which ran from Smiths Falls through Carleton Place continuing north through Mississippi Mills and points beyond.

For the 2017-2018 winter we will have the privilege to groom and maintain the BEAST 311 trail, on the OVRT, from Sturgess Road, just north of Smiths Falls, all the way to the 8th line of Mississippi Mills, just north of Carleton Place. The new section through Carleton Place was added this year

due to our successful grant application to improve the bridge over the Mississippi River. This project will be completed before Dec. 1.

**IMPORTANT:** Since we are in the town of Carleton Place there will be a 20 km/hr speed limit and a curfew of operation between 7 am to 11 p.m.

## BEAST Poker Rally - Dave Poaps

The BEAST Poker Rally will be running from Danby's Bar and Grill in Munster, on Saturday February 10, 2018, at 2858 Munster Road. On the BEAST 203 trail, close to the A Trail.

Contact Dave Poaps at 613-913-5400 if you have any questions.



**BEAST Poker Rally**

**Danby's**  
BAR AND GRILL  
2858 MUNSTER RD. Munster

**Sat February 10, 2018**

Registration from 9:00am to 11:00am  
Entry Fee: \$25.00  
Breakfast available  
-returning to Danby's by 5:00pm  
-6:00pm winners will be announced  
-Entertainment to follow late afternoon  
Please bring proof OFSC trail permit.  
For any further information please contact:  
Dave Poaps @ 613-913-5400

**Up to \$1000 in cash prizes**

## BEAST Trail Patrol - George Laight

The OFSC Trail Patrol Program commenced in 1983 at the inception of the user-pay system. Trail Patrol members volunteer their time and the use of their personal equipment to be snowmobile ambassadors. These volunteers are clearly identifiable by their Trail Patrol vest, and each member also carries their Trail Patrol ID issued by the OFSC.

The BEAST Trail Patrol is currently comprised of about 30 members who patrol as their individual time permits during the week, weekends and evenings. Patrols generally consist of two Trail Patrol members but occasionally include four to eight members. During the 2016/17 season, BEAST Trail Patrol Members logged fewer hours the normal due to the local trail conditions, but we were still out there when possible. We have members stationed all over the BEAST Trail system including Stittsville, Richmond, Almonte, Barrhaven, Carleton Place, and Munster Hamlet.

The primary function of Trail Patrol is public awareness and safety. Trail Patrol members' duties are centered around activity on OFSC Prescribed Trails and may be summarized into four broad categories:

- **On-Trail Support:** Trail Patrol members provide on-trail support in the form of maps, safety equipment, directions, help and updated information on trail conditions.
- **Safety Promotion:** Members promote safe riding by reminding snowmobilers of safe riding practices.
- **Risk Management:** Trail Patrol members actively identify and report unsafe or unusual conditions, remove branches and report safety issues to the club.



- **Landowner Agent:** As the agent for the landowner, a Trail Patrol has the authority to lay a notice of Trespass to Property charge.

Members of the Trail Patrol will be out again this season checking for permits and helping snowmobilers. Our goal is to ensure the trails are safe and everyone is compliant with and aware of the various laws.

You can help too! If you can commit to 10 to 15 hours of riding over the winter season, we are always looking for new volunteers. Getting started involves an introduction session to the four categories shown above and some on the snow excursions to familiarize you with day-to-day activities on the trail. Contact [george\\_laight@sympatico.ca](mailto:george_laight@sympatico.ca)



## Beauties of the BEAST - Julie-Anne Bedard

The fifth annual Beauties of the BEAST women only snowmobile ride was held 4-5 February 2017. 18 Sleds and 21 women riders women left the Almonte area and snowmobiled to Golden Lake where we stayed at the Sands on Golden Lake. The trails were mostly excellent on both days there and back. We raised \$3500 for Lanark County Interval House. Wow! I was so impressed and proud of what we were able to do.

This season the Beauties will be sledding to

Spectacle Lake Lodge in Barry's Bay on 3 February and back on 4 February 2018. The proceeds from this season's Beauties ride will again be donated to Lanark County Interval House.

If you are interested in joining or sponsoring us, please contact Julie-Anne Bedard at 613-256-2973 or [jabedard@storm.ca](mailto:jabedard@storm.ca). For more info check out <http://www.thebeast.ca/?p=4230> and follow the Beauties on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/beautiesofthebeast>



## BEAST Workdays - Jim Lackey

Once again, BEAST has organized workdays that provide an opportunity to pitch in and help us get trails ready for the season. Often, we hear from people that they *want* to help but family commitments or their work prevent them from participating. We are offering three different choices again this season, but don't let your unavailability on those specific dates stop you from volunteering to help. We do have some volunteers that work on the trails during the regular work week, which may be better suited for shift workers or people who have more time during the week than on the weekend.

Many hands make light work, so why not give our team a hand? We all seem to be able to make time in our plans to snowmobile on the weekends after the trail work is done and ready to ride. We would appreciate it if similar planning could be considered to pitch in and help rather than leave it all to the few die-hard volunteers. I can assure you that you will learn a lot about the sport that you may not have known and you will have a lot of laughs with a great bunch of people.

Having assets like a chainsaw, an ATV

or power tools are all great things but not absolutely necessary to have. All that is needed is to show up, and we will figure out a task for you.

Workdays usually start around 9 am with people meeting at a designated location a few minutes early so we can organize work groups. There are the usual meeting places to choose from, so pick the one closest to you and come on out!

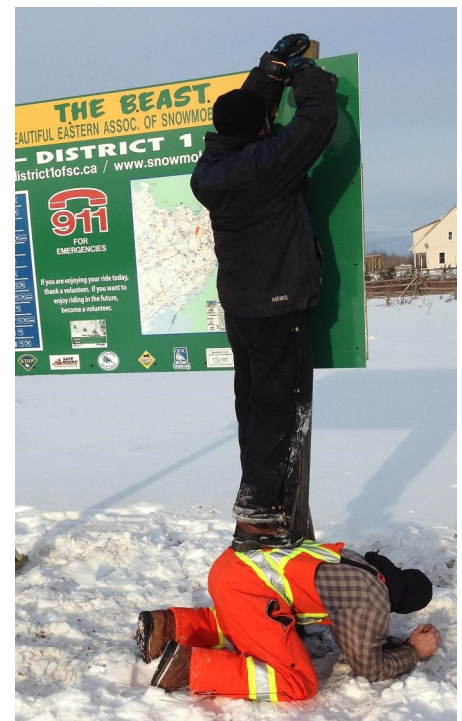
- South West: Jim Lackey, 1405 7th Line Beckwith, Carleton Place: 613-253-5486
- North West: Audy Bedard, 1465 Wolfe Grove Rd, Almonte: 613-256-2973
- South East: James McCurdy, [ser-beast@mail.com](mailto:ser-beast@mail.com)
- North East: Daryl Rauhala, [sdhsa\\_general@yahoo.ca](mailto:sdhsa_general@yahoo.ca)

**Work dates this season are 25 Nov 17, 2 Dec 17, and 9 Dec 17.**

### BEAST Potluck

Following the 2 Dec 17 workday, we have an old-fashioned family friendly potluck dinner at Jim and Debbie Lackey's

house at 1405 7th Line Beckwith. Everyone participating on the workdays or any other day is more than welcome to join us. Just contact Debbie at 613-253-5486 for details.





## Driver Training - Debbie Lackey

Ontario Law requires any person 16 years and over to hold a valid Ontario Driver's Licence or a Motorized Snow Vehicle Operator's Licence to operate a snowmobile on OFSC snowmobile trails. Persons 12 to 15 years old require a Motorized Snow Vehicle Operator's Licence.

The OFSC Driver Training Course is designed to emphasize the safe operation of motorized snow vehicles. Upon successful completion of the course, the participant will be legally eligible to drive a snowmobile in Ontario.

### Course #1:

- Saturday 18 Nov 2017, from 8am-4pm. Beckwith Recreation Complex, 1319, 9th Line Beckwith.
- Registration Tuesday 14 Nov 2017, 7-8 pm at the Lackey's, 1405 7th Line, Beckwith
- \$40 per student.

### Course #2:

- Saturday 13 Jan 2017, 8am-4pm
- Beckwith Recreation Complex, 1319, 9th Line Beckwith
- Registration Tuesday 9 Jan 2017, 7-8 pm at the Lackey's, 1405 7th Line, Beckwith
- \$40 per student

**PLEASE NOTE: There will be no registration on the day of the course.**

Each student must produce her or his birth certificate, or passport upon registration.

Please email Deb Lackey, BEAST Driver



## Volunteers in Action (VIA) - Wanda Bowes and Julie-Ann Bedard

New this year, get your Volunteer Card!! Receive valuable DISCOUNTS from supporting businesses. Help us out for at least one work day, or 8 hours of any volunteer work, and receive a Volunteer Card. See the link. [district1ofsc.ca/volunteerreward.htm](http://district1ofsc.ca/volunteerreward.htm).

VIA is looking to expand our close-knit group of volunteers to include more men, women and children who love snowmobiling and are looking to contribute. Of particular note, high school students can earn 40 hours of community service by volunteering within the club. As with every season, we need volunteers for the following:

- trail work (spring and fall)
- social activities (planning and organization)
- fundraising (but don't worry; we keep it fun!)
- communications (newsletter)
- Trail Patrol

Even if you can spare a couple of hours, it is a help and is greatly appreciated. Age and gender don't matter — we are all snowmobilers and enjoy the outdoors.

## Volunteer Awards

Throughout the year, OFSC, District 1 and the BEAST have awards for volunteers. Volunteers are nominated by their peers and voted on by the Board of Directors and executives of the BEAST.

The 2016/17 season winners will be announced at 2 December 2017 BEAST Potluck.

Congratulations to our previous 2015/16 season winners:

- Volunteer of the Year — Ian Edwards
- Sector Volunteers of the Year:
  - South West — Jim Lackey
  - North West — Cameron Hann
  - North East — Scott Sergeant
  - South East — James McCurdy
- Family of the Year — Jim & Wendy Larocque
- Rookie of the Year — Rodney Blackburn

Your VIA contact is Wanda Bowes. She can be reached at 613-914-0192 or email [volunteers@thebeast.ca](mailto:volunteers@thebeast.ca).



### BEAST email updates:

If you haven't received an email from us lately, you're probably not on our mailing list. When filling out your permit application, make sure to include your email address or better yet visit our website at [www.thebeast.ca](http://www.thebeast.ca) to sign up today. We will not sell your information nor will we fill your mailbox with useless emails! You may unsubscribe at any time in the future if desired.



ONTARIO  
FEDERATION OF  
SNOWMOBILE  
CLUBS  
**VOLUNTEERS  
IN ACTION**



## Groomers, Groomers, Groomers - Jim Lackey

BEAST Grooming will see some changes for the coming 17/18 season. As part of the More on the Snow (MoTS) initiative, there is a need for the Province to reduce the size of the grooming fleet so we can focus more dollars on groomer replacement rather than groomer repairs. At present, BEAST has groomed close to 330 Kms of trails with 4 large industrial sized groomers. Our fleet consisted of 3 Bombardier BR180 groomers all of early 2000's vintage and a new SG1200 groomer. As part of the grooming fleet review, BEAST was advised that we need to reduce our fleet size to get it to 3 units and that 1 of these 3 would be eligible for replacement with a brand new unit. The executive discussed the requirement and decide the best move was to sell the SG1200 as it was not

consistent with the current fleet and it was also intended for lower hour operation. A club from Maine bought this SG1200 over the summer and will be taking delivery of the unit very soon.

BEAST crews will be working diligently to complete repairs on the older BR-180 as a couple issues did arise at the end of the grooming season. The

problem will be in one case that we will need some snow ground coverage to test

repairs and we were not able to trouble shoot and complete that work in the spring. The repair on this unit will be completed as early as possible and we may try



to get into an open dirt type field to get the jump on this (BR's can do a fair bit of damage to the lawn when there is no snow!).

All of this to say is that we continue to work with the OFSC

and District to help advance the More on the Snow program.

## OFSC is Celebrating 50 Years - Darin McRae

Prior to 1967, the snowmobile clubs in the province operated independently of each other. On 4 February 1967, the Huronia Snow Riders of Midland hosted a gathering of representatives from 16 snowmobile clubs across the province. At the meeting, John Power, President of the Huronia Snow Riders, stressed that only through the cooperation of all clubs sending a representative to a provincial meeting would snowmobiling grow. At the meeting, a majority vote made the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs a reality.

Shortly thereafter, a club membership fee was established of \$15 and an individual membership fee was set at \$2.50.

In 1971, the OFSC becomes incorporated and by 1972 the OFSC had grown to 70 member clubs. By 1974 it had grown to 160 clubs and by 1976 to 250 clubs.

In 1979 the Driver Training Program is implemented following Bill 161 which makes it law for snowmobile operators to be licensed. By the end of the decade, the program has trained 4,500 students per year.

In 1981, the OFSC adopts a user-pay Trail Permit system and Trail Funding Program. Under the Trespass and Occupier's Liability Acts the clubs became the landowners' agents under a signed Landowner's Permission Agreement.

In 1993, the Snowmobile Trail Officer Patrol (STOP) program is launched as a pilot project in Sudbury.

In 2000, Bill 101 makes it a legal requirement for most snowmo-



biles using an OFSC Prescribed Snowmobile Trail to have and display a valid permit.

On 1 November 2010 the Interactive Trail Guide goes live providing riders with a state-of-the-art, online mapping tool for trip and ride planning. That same year, Brenda Welsh is elected as the first female OFSC president.

This is an overview of the many historical milestones that have contributed to the growth and sustainability of snowmobiling in Ontario today. For a more complete list of key dates and activities visit <http://www.ofsc.on.ca/org/about/history>





## Permits - George Laight

Ontario law requires every sled entering an OFSC Prescribed Trail to have and display a valid snowmobile trail permit sticker, and have the trail permit paperwork with you.

A valid snowmobile trail permit must be affixed to your windshield to ride on OFSC trails.

All permit sales are on-line this year, so keep the confirmation e-mail from OFSC until you receive your permit sticker and paperwork in the mail, just in case of a postal code mix-up. You will have the confirmation e-mail for reference, in case you don't receive your permit in the expected time.



## Important Dates - by Dave Poaps

These are important dates to mark onto your calendar.

- Nov 18, 2017, Driver Training
- Nov 25, 2016, BEAST Workday #1
- Nov 29, 2017, Trail Patrol Recertification
- Dec 1, 2017, Last day to buy your season pass at \$220.
- Dec 2, 2017, BEAST Workday #2
- Dec 2, 2017, BEAST Volunteer Potluck Dinner
- Dec 2, 2017, BEAST Volunteer Awards
- Dec 7, 2017, General Meeting
- Dec 9, 2017, BEAST Workday #3
- Jan 4, 2017, General Meeting
- Jan 9, 2018, Driver Training Registration
- Jan 13, 2018, Driver Training
- Jan 20-21, 2018, Trail Patrol Check Point Weekend #1
- Jan 28-29, 2018, Trail Patrol Check Point Weekend #2
- Feb 1, 2018, General Meeting
- Feb 3-4, 2018, Beauties of the BEAST Ride
- Feb 3-4, 2018, Trail Patrol Check Point Weekend #3
- Feb 10, 2018, BEAST Poker Rally
- Feb 15-19, 2018, RAP Tour
- Feb 16-18, 2018, BEAST Corporate Ride
- Feb 17-19, 2018, OFSC Try our Trails Free Weekend
- Mar 1, 2018, General Meeting
- Apr 5, 2018, General Meeting
- April 7, 2018, BEAST Landowner Appreciation
- May 3, 2018, General Meeting
- Aug 2, 2018, BEAST BBQ and AGM

## Volunteers Come in all Shapes and Sizes! - Chrystal Bass & Ethan M.

Ensuring that we have great trails to ride and that they will be around for years to come is something that requires the work of countless volunteers performing many different tasks, including our annual fall trail work weekends. It's been my personal observation as a single parent to a 9-year old boy, that typically ladies and kids are in the minority at trail work events – but everyone who wants to help is welcome to come out and lend a hand. There are jobs for everyone!

Trail work has been something our family looks forward to every year. I was curious what the upcoming season meant to this youngster who has volunteered in the past and I was happy to learn that despite the cold, wet, late November weather and physical labour

aspect of ensuring we have trails to ride, his enthusiasm toward volunteering again this year is apparent. He chose to write a short article and wanted to share with anyone who wanted to read it:

### Snowmobiling and Trail Work

Snowmobiling and trail work is fun because it's time you get to spend with family and friends. If you need help, they are there with the tools and knowledge to help you. You get to see new things, and learn how to take care of the trails and your snowmobile. We always have lots of fun on the way.

- Ethan M.

One of the goals of our organiza-

tion is to do our best to make sure the club and our trails are around for years to come. We work on weekends to provide an opportunity for anyone who has a little bit of time to spare to come out and meet new people, lend a hand, and become one of the volunteers that makes our sport possible.

There are plenty of things that need to be done, trail work just happens to be our favourite.

**ATTENTION!**

**ATV's and others...**

**Don't Trespass On Private Land**  
**No one is allowed on OFSC trails on private land in spring, summer or fall without the landowner's permission.**

**Please stay off**  
**or the trail may close permanently.**

**CONTACT US: BEAUTIFUL EASTERN ASSOCIATION OF SNOWMOBILE TRAILS**

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 8, Stittsville, Ontario, Canada, K2S 1A2

**Email:** [info@thebeast.ca](mailto:info@thebeast.ca) **Website:** [www.thebeast.ca](http://www.thebeast.ca)

**B.E.A.S.T. Board — 2017/2018**

President	Darin McRae	<a href="mailto:President@thebeast.ca">President@thebeast.ca</a>	613-831-9909
Vice President	Chrystal Bass	<a href="mailto:VP@thebeast.ca">VP@thebeast.ca</a>	613-863-2500
Treasurer	Jim Lackey	<a href="mailto:jlackey@storm.ca">jlackey@storm.ca</a>	613-253-5486
Secretary	Dave Poaps	<a href="mailto:davidpoaps@xplornet.com">davidpoaps@xplornet.com</a>	613-489-0750
Trail Directors:			
North West	Audy Bedard	<a href="mailto:jabedard@storm.ca">jabedard@storm.ca</a>	613-256-2973
North East	Daryl Rauhala	<a href="mailto:sdhsa_general@yahoo.ca">sdhsa_general@yahoo.ca</a>	
South West	Ian Edwards	<a href="mailto:iedwards62@yahoo.ca">iedwards62@yahoo.ca</a>	613-257-1359
South East	James McCurdy	<a href="mailto:serbeast@gmail.com">serbeast@gmail.com</a>	

**B.E.A.S.T. Coordinators — 2017/2018**

Volunteer	Wanda Bowes	613-914-0192	<a href="mailto:volunteers@thebeast.ca">volunteers@thebeast.ca</a>
Trail Patrol	George Laight	613-791-6521	<a href="mailto:george_laight@sympatico.ca">george_laight@sympatico.ca</a>
Communications	BJ McMahon	613-957-2427	<a href="mailto:bj_mcmahon@hotmail.com">bj_mcmahon@hotmail.com</a>
Driver Trainer	Deb Lackey	613-220-9597	<a href="mailto:jlackey@storm.ca">jlackey@storm.ca</a>
Sponsorship	Chrystal Bass	613-863-2500	<a href="mailto:beastsponsor@gmail.com">beastsponsor@gmail.com</a>
Social	Deb Lackey	613-220-9597	<a href="mailto:jlackey@storm.ca">jlackey@storm.ca</a>
OFSC Response	Jim Lackey	613-220-9597	<a href="mailto:jlackey@storm.ca">jlackey@storm.ca</a>
Inspection	Ian Edwards	613-257-1359	<a href="mailto:iedwards62@yahoo.ca">iedwards62@yahoo.ca</a>
Merchandise	Deb Lackey	613-220-9597	<a href="mailto:jlackey@storm.ca">jlackey@storm.ca</a>
Trail Guide	Dave White	613-836-6494	<a href="mailto:dave@mementos.com">dave@mementos.com</a>
Landowner	SW - Ian Edwards	613-257-1359	<a href="mailto:iedwards62@yahoo.ca">iedwards62@yahoo.ca</a>
	NE - Darrel Drew	613-836-3842	<a href="mailto:dd.drew@sympatico.ca">dd.drew@sympatico.ca</a>
	NW - Julie-Anne Bedard	613-256-2973	<a href="mailto:jabedard@storm.ca">jabedard@storm.ca</a>
	SE - Dave Poaps	613-913-5400	<a href="mailto:davidpoaps@xplornet.com">davidpoaps@xplornet.com</a>
Health and Safety	VACANT		
Beauties of the BEAST	Julie-Anne	613-256-2973	<a href="mailto:jabedard@storm.ca">jabedard@storm.ca</a>
Club Rides	Rob Illingworth	613-355-0953	<a href="mailto:ClubRides@thebeast.ca">ClubRides@thebeast.ca</a>
Signage	VACANT		

