



Feb 2015 Newsletter

### CWDB Executive

President: Robert (Bob) Smith – 705-694-1199

Secretary Treasurer: Dave Reilly – 705-566-6748

Vice President: Vacant

Chairperson: Vacant

Welcome back to the trails everyone. Whew, what a job to clear away the damage from three freezing rain/snow cycles this winter. Birch, alder and cherry trees that normally stood at attention on the sides of the trails, or gently arched into an overhead canopy, bending like fridge wilted celery into the trails. Their top branches became frozen into the center of the trail, requiring cutting of both the top and bottom of the trees to release them, and tossing them into the bush to remove them. That is why we try to have an active Club organization, to open our trails with the help of our member volunteers. The \$5 membership helps us pay for stamps for the news letter, for rental equipment, equipment repairs, equipment fuel, the occasional early morning breakfast for the crew. No grooming can begin on the trails until the trees that can damage groomer windows, antennas, mirrors and hoses have come off the trails. So everyone waits for the few to make them right for the so very many.

We also have Club members who have taken the Trail Patroller training and made themselves available to monitor the safe and appropriate use of your trails. More volunteers would be appreciated as Trail Patrol hours generate some revenue back to the Club. Unfortunately our pool is small and there are times when OFSC asks Clubs to participate on a particular day and we cannot get enough people to come out.

We Thank You, all Volunteers! That would include Ralph Constantineau, JP Duchene, Dave Zanon, Ray Menard, Serge R. Trottier, Bob Smith, Dave Reilly, Rob Vaillancourt, Frank Bonhumeur, Richard Bleskie, Pete and Liz Lagraneur, to name a few.

Luc Parent, Michelle Menard (past Presidents) and Ray Menard (Signage and past Trail Operations Co-ordinator, past Snowarama Club contact) accepted your Club's award of The Ted Day Communication Award for 2014. This award is for outstanding communications with it's club members.

In addition, the Menards were awarded the OFSC Volunteer Family of the year (2014). This all took place at the OFSC Annual General Meeting in Ottawa. Congratulations!

Upcoming CWDB events: **FEB. 15TH, 2015 TRAILSIDE WEINER ROAST**

Planning a ride on Sunday? Then, keep us in mind! Coniston/Wahnapiitae Driftbusters volunteers will have a trailside fire burning so come roast hotdogs and marshmallows and



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have a cup of hot chocolate with us. Perfect stop with the family! From 11h00 am to 4h00 pm Corner of D and #83 Trails (on rail bed) Hot chocolate Marshmallows Draws and prizes donated by local businesses Club Memberships available for \$5.00.

Don't have a 2015 Trail Pass? **Try our Trails** – the OFSC is offering a no cost permit to allow you to try out the trails on your snowmachine on the Ontario Family Day weekend (**Feb 14 – 16, 2015**). You must complete the free permit application, print it out, and place it on your machine. The instructions are here at the OFSC website - <https://permits.ofsc.on.ca/> Trail Patrollers will be out to ensure all riders have a trail permit of one form or another on their machines while on OFSC trails that weekend.

Our CWDB Club, through its sales agents in stores and motels in Sudbury, Coniston, Wahnapiatae and Online, has seen approximately 666 trail permits sold. This does include online permit sales attributed to our area. Wow. Unfortunately for us, we can only identify 12 CWDB memberships from those who purchased trail permits locally. Ouch. Another blow to the Club is that the excellent online trail permit sales system is sadly not able to give us membership contact information, even though it is able to give us the \$5 membership fee collected, though this comes to us in late spring. What a dilemma... people pay for memberships and want to help the club, but we never call because we no longer get that message in time, if at all, and the member thinks “to heck with them, I offered.” Of course the opposite is true, we NEED your help. Today, I would say our main contact system is through the computer program “Facebook”, where we post information on our Coniston-Wahnapiatae Driftbusters Snowmobile Club page at [www.driftbusters.ca](http://www.driftbusters.ca) and on the Sudbury Trail Plan Association page. It allows members to keep up to date, to post questions and photos.

Please, if you are, or want to be a member of our Club, contact Dave Reilly the Secretary by phone (705) 566-6748 or email [scouterdave@hotmail.com](mailto:scouterdave@hotmail.com) and let him know whether you are already a paid member, your name, mailing address and phone number, and if you have one and use it - your email address. Please tell him also if you are able to help out with club activities. It would be much appreciated. We plan to give out membership cards in the future.