

# THE BUZZ

April 2004

*MEETINGS: 7:00PM*

AT THE HILLTOP

THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH (Sept-April)

**\*\*\* *This Month's Meeting is at the Beehive @ 7:00*\*\*\***

***Wednesday April 14, 2004***

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are again at the end of another season. A season with many ups and downs; from early snows followed by early rains, to week after week of subzero temperatures. From one trail closure to another. The bad news, we can't control the weather, the good news, we can control the trail closures.

As many of you are aware the board took steps in addressing the problems we've been having with the trail closings. For those of you that aren't aware, the board held a special disciplinary hearing on Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at the VAST office. This meeting was held based on Article IX of the Sno Bees By Laws (view at [www.snobees.com](http://www.snobees.com)). Letters were sent to 15 "alleged" trail violators, and their parents. Why their parents? Because they were all juveniles. Does this mean that these juveniles are the only offenders? Absolutely not. There are many more of you, both juveniles and adults, that should have been "chosen" for this meeting. The board knows this, but had to start somewhere.

I'm very happy with the turnout we had at the meeting. It was well attended, with well over 50 people in the room. I think that this meeting will really help out our club. A lot of people left the meeting with a better understanding of the club and trail system. As for the "alleged" violators, they'll be watching the trails and reporting individuals they feel are harming our trail system. The board is serious about keeping our trails, and will take steps to ensure their future. This could include revoking future violators membership, because riding the VAST trails is a privilege and not a right. To all of those that attended the meeting, I thank you in advance for your continued commitment to the future of our trails and club as a whole.

So what other steps are being taken to protect our trails? First the county dues that each of you pay have raised enough money to purchase two snow machines for use by the Washington County Sheriff's Department. The Barre Sno Bees were 100% behind this acquisition. The Sno Bees also volunteered the "Beehive" as a base for the sheriff's to operate out of while they get up and running. Sgt. Brett Meyer is well informed on the problems we have had in the past and is on board to help eliminate future problems. In addition the board is looking at setting up trail patrols to increase awareness out on our trails. If you are interested in volunteering for trail patrols, which would be done

in conjunction with law enforcement, or would like more info, please contact myself or any of the directors.

With the season over with it's time to start cleaning up the trails. This includes picking up signs, trash, closing gates and most importantly thanking landowners. I will be picking up syrup in the next week or so to distribute to our trail trustees for distribution to our valuable landowners. Speaking of landowners I'd like to share a note received by Wayne Pelkey recently.

“My wife and I want to thank the Sno Bees for all their effort and prompt action to our request to control the speed through our property with all the special signs and attention involved. It has really worked this season and I am happy to say all but a very few riders complied with our request and your signs. Please convey to the Sno Bees and VAST of our appreciation. And the time you took as a groomer operator to give my young son and I a ride in the modern groomer down to the valley and back was appreciated; as I was also a groomer operator in Calais a few years ago”

~David Grant

Thanks David.

With the season ending so rapidly, the annual Poker Run had to be canceled due to a lack of snow. The annual dinner/raffle was held and was a huge success. Especially for Mark McCarthy and Dave and Mikela Martin who ended up splitting the grand prize of \$3700. A special thanks to Randy Lamberti for chairing this event once again. Thanks also goes out to Paul “Cookie/M.C.” Plante who once again did an outstanding job running the event.

The Central Vermont annual Make a Wish fundraiser was a huge success again this year. We were able to raise and donate \$10,000 to the Vermont chapter of Make a Wish. This event continues to grow every year, and is for a great cause. I have been happy to CO-Chair this event for the last couple of years with Carol Hebert, but will be looking for a replacement this coming year. If this position interests you please contact myself soon, as this is an important event for the Sno Bees to be involved with.

Recently the Sno Bees presented a couple local businesses with recognition plaques. A plaque was presented to Mike Beaudet and Gille's Sales & Service for their outstanding support of our club with the highest membership sales. This was a thankless job for Mike and his staff, so Thank You. Also a plaque was presented to Joey Laquerre and Laquerre's Marine and Sport for their continued dedication and support towards our club, especially our grooming operations. Thanks again Joey for your donations.

Other major contributors to the Sno Bees this year include Mark Gheradi and Buttura & Gherardi Inc. Thanks Mark. Wolfgang and Stone Tech Inc once again contributed to the Sno Bees. Thanks Wolfgang. Bob Campo and Rock of Ages also continued their support toward the Sno Bees. Thanks Bob. These individuals are among some of

the many annual contributors to the Sno Bees. We sincerely thank you for your continued support each and every year. With yours and others help it allows us to maintain a building that is utilized all year long.

In closing I'd like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer. I know right now that we already have a bunch of work to do before snow flies next fall. We can always use a helping hand. If you'd like to help contact Lionel or myself and we'll be certain to put you to use. Thanks. Enjoy the warm weather.

Sincerely,

Brent Tewksbury  
President

**Brent Tewksbury** - President- 476-9960  
**Ryan Bellavance**- Treasurer- 476-4573  
**Ron Plante**-Trails Coordinator- 479-2124  
**Marc Cote**- Membership- 476-6495  
**Greg Rouleau** – Director  
**Scott Lange** – Director  
**Randy Lamberti** – Director  
**Brian McAvoy** – Director  
**John Berkeley** – Director

**Dave Thomas** - Vice President- 864-5155 (ex.225)  
**Dave Martin**- Secretary-479-0151  
**Lionel Cyr**-Trail Master-479-9604  
**Adam Martin** – Director  
**John Plante** – Director  
**Theresa Berkeley**- Director  
**Donald Bellavance** – Director  
**Dave Watson** – Director  
**Angela Leclerc** - Webmaster

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 14, 2004 7:00 P.M. at the Beehive  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: [www.snobeas.com](http://www.snobeas.com) (Memberships Available online)





