



Greetings,

The trails have snow and we are starting the packing for the season as of this writing. Last season got off to a real slow start with marginal conditions for the early part of the season and it ended well with some late season storms. Last season we groomed the trails 23 days with 262 man hours spent. If you were up skiing or snowshoeing on freshly groomed trails last season, then there were probably several groomers up there the night before preparing the trails for all of us to enjoy. We owe these guys a lot, as all their time is volunteer time. All of the equipment worked well last season without any major problems so maintenance costs this season were about average.

Last season we had three moonlight skis at Sibley and all were well attended. **Save the dates** for moonlight events on: **Saturday, December 10, Friday, January 13, Saturday, February 11, and Saturday, March 11.**

This summer there were several trail work days and we did a lot of general clean up and removed several large stumps from the trail. The Forest Service replaced three of the log creek crossings with nice new bridges and added one new bridge over a small swampy area. Between the Forest Service and the club, we had all the trails cleared and then the end of October we had a major wind event that took trees down all over the trails. Again we had to re-clear the trails so they should be good except for the occasional ones that come down. A big **Thank You** to all the people involved in this summer's trail work!

This fall we held an open house at The Barn in Big Horn for the club to spread awareness of what we do. Approximately 70 people attended to eat a delicious lunch and share stories. We had most of the grooming equipment on display and also showcased the plans to expand the warming hut at Sibley.

We also added a link to the website if you would like to pay and donate on line. **Thanks to Melissa Butcher with PB Communications & Strategic Solutions for running our website for us!**

Next fall we will be re-electing all officers and board positions for the club. Everyone serves a two-year term. I have decided it is time for me to step aside and turn my duties over to the people that would like to see the trails and club continues. I have been clearing these trails, working on equipment and grooming trails since 1978 and have been the club president since 2001. It has got to the point it is consuming far too much of my time. I think if what I do could be separated out to several people it would not be a large burden on any one.

If anyone wants to get more involved, now would be a good time to step forward, to learn what all is involved in running this organization. Obviously grooming and machine maintenance is the major part of it as; no trails, no club. We groom and maintain the Cutler and Sibley trails under a special use permit with the US Forest Service. They provide us a vehicle to drive for grooming and reimburse us for the fuel we use. **All** other operating costs are bore by the club which includes all the equipment, all maintenance, and incidental items.

Without your support we cannot continue to have well maintained trails for all to enjoy. Please complete the Membership Form and encourage others to join the club.

Happy Trails,
Curt Schwamb
President