

FRESH POWDER NORTHWEST

Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club

www.winterknights.org

spokanewinterknights@gmail.com

2015 Summer Picnic

This year's summer picnic will be on Sunday, August 9 at 1:00pm at the Ritz' home on the Pend Oreille River near Albeni Cove in Newport. The club will provide burgers or BBQ beef, plates and cutlery. Please bring your favorite picnic dish or dessert to add to the meal, as well as your own

beverages. There is a large lawn area and a nice beach, so don't forget to bring your lawn chairs, swimsuits, towels and sunscreen. It should be lots of fun

as always, so please plan to come! If you need directions, call Norma Ritz at 509-220-2758. See you there!!!



WINTER KNIGHTS GOLF TOURNAMENT

CALLING ALL GOLFERS (Men, Women, & Children)

for the annual "**WINTER KNIGHTS GOLF TOURNAMENT**"

WHAT: FUN time of Golf (only 9 Holes)

WHEN: Sunday, August 9, 2015 (before the club picnic)

WHERE: The Ranch Golf Club, Priest River, Idaho

TIME: 1st Tee Time @ 9:00 a.m.

Please call Sharon Crockett (484-7273) to reserve your spot in our "tournament."

*****Golf reservation deadline: Wednesday, August 5, 2015 *****

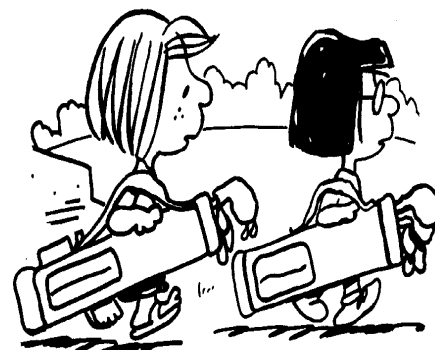
DON'T MISS THE PRIZES and ALL-AROUND GREAT TIME!



JULY 2015

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From the President

Summer – it came fast and one part of our brain wants it to hurry by so the snow will get here and we can snowmobile!! Our membership committee has planned a couple of events for us to get together this summer, which started with the Indians baseball game on June 20, the River Days in Lone in July, and then we have our summer picnic on August 9.

Speaking of the summer picnic, part of that picnic is golfing at the Ranch Golf Club near Priest River the morning of the picnic at 9 a.m. It's a nice 9 hole golf course, we don't compete – just have fun in the sun – and everyone is welcome to join us. You can golf, you can just enjoy walking with the group, or you

can be a chauffeur of the golf cart!

Thunderstruck will be coming to Spokane in August – more details to follow once we hear from the organizers of that event.

We lost two of our club members this spring – Tom Yochum and Larry Giesa. Both gentlemen will be missed tremendously – not only for the hours they donated to the club – but for their friendship!

We are putting together a club clothing order from Stadium Sportswear which will include different options to choose from, i.e., types of clothing and colors. Most likely we will start taking orders at our September

club meeting and/or by email.

We have ordered cling on and stick on decals from SignScapes with the Winter Knights logo which will be available for \$1.50 each. These can be put on the inside or outside of your vehicle windows, your snowmobile, etc. I hope to have them by the summer picnic!!

Our next general club meeting will be on September 17 at the NewTech Skills Center, 4141 N. Regal Street at 7:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. for \$10.

Enjoy your summer and hope to see you at one of our summer club events!

Sharon Crockett,
President

Upcoming General Meeting



Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 17, 2015 at the NEWTECH Skill Center, located at 4141 N. Regal. Social hour starts at 6:00 pm and dinner is at 6:15. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm. Light Dinners are \$10.00 per person (this includes tax and tip). We will have a “Student

Shoe Fund” donation jar at check-in. Please help support the students in the culinary arts program!

Next Board Meeting:
September 3, 2015,
6pm, at Abacus,
2928 N. Nevada.

In Memoriam - Tom Yochum

The following is submitted by Frank and Terry Young, with lots of help from Mike Yochum and Maralyse Wight.



On April 19, 2015, our club lost one of its most beloved members, Tom Yochum. If anyone could live up to the title of a "Winter Knight", it was truly Tom, who was a member of our club for over 38 years. The hours of work and dedication he has given to the club and the sport of snowmobiling over the years is immeasurable.

Tom had a deep love for the sport of snowmobiling. He got the bug back in 1971 when his son, Mike, bought an old Polaris from a neighbor. While Mike was away in the military, Tom thought he'd try it out. He loved that old sled, wooden seat and all. At first he rode around his home and Mt. Spokane and soon he ventured out to the Baldies and the Priest Lake area.

He quickly found out that no one was removing the fallen trees from the trails and if he wanted to ride, he'd have to organize a work party from time

to time to clear the trails. The first work party consisted of Tom, his best friend, Frank Hager, his son Mike and Mike's wife, Linda. Usually after any major storm, they would take a Saturday and clean up the downed wood. Tom wanted everyone to enjoy the sport that he loved. After a few years, in 1977, he joined the club and enlisted the club's help in clearing the roads.

For years he organized the wood cutting at Mt. Spokane and the Baldies. Often times it was only him and Frank out clearing roads. For many, many years until just recently, it was Tom, who every month, went to the Ritz warming hut at the Baldies and mowed the lawn, raked the inside gravel floor, cleaned out the fireplace and did the worst job of all...he cleaned out the outhouse! He helped build the Ritz and he was instrumental in getting the state to put in restroom facilities in the King's Lake parking lot.

Tom was a good teacher. He had a lot of patience and enjoyed seeing a new rider learn the skills of handling a sled. He went on many rides with his friends, family and club members.



Inevitably, he would be the ride leader, as he had an incredible sense of direction. Frank Hager would usually bring up the rear.

Anyone that knew Tom, knew what a wonderful sense of humor he had. He loved to laugh and pull a prank here and there. A story that Mike shared was that back in the 70's, Frank Hager had just bought a new sled and was really proud of his new toy. The problem was that he had gotten himself a lemon and it was always breaking down. One day when they were out for a ride and they stopped for lunch,



Tom placed some dog food in front of Frank's sled. When Frank saw the dog food he asked "What's this about"? Tom told him that he thought it would help that dog if he fed him some lunch! It got a lot of laughs and Frank didn't have that sled the next year!

Everything Tom did in life was done with care. His love for his wife, Faye, his family and his friends came first. His home, garden, vehicles and tools were kept as good as new. To have known Tom was one of life's blessings. He will be remembered and missed by many.

In Memoriam - Larry Giesa

An excerpt from Bob Walker's speech at Larry's funeral service on May 28, 2015:

I first met Larry about 3 years ago in the Winter Knights Snowmobile Club. For some reason I was impressed by this man. He was quiet and reserved. He had a genuine heart and was a hard worker.

Larry was the Vice President of our club and on the Board of Directors. He was always planning rides and trying to make things better. He was always there for wood-cutting, brush-cutting, or rebuilding and repairing something. Larry would also help us cook and prepare for the Newcomers Ride. He would set up lights so the members could see better in the dark or be better served on Frank Young's night ride.

A couple of years ago, 13 of us all went riding in McCall, Idaho with him. Larry got sick while we were there. We were very concerned about Larry as he wasn't getting any better as the week progressed. One night we were all in the condo and Mike Harrison wanted Larry to go to Emergency. Larry refused, which even made all of us more concerned. Finally, some stated that they were going home a day early. We all jumped on the band wagon and decided Larry was going home also. This didn't set well with him as he didn't want to interfere with our fun. Finally he said OK.

The diagnosis was AML Leukemia. Treatment then started all spring long. He

started feeling better and you know Larry, he wanted to ride his ATV. We went riding 3 times together. I couldn't stop Larry. Finally I told him that we could only ride 50 miles each day. He looked at me with his Larry smirk and agreed. On the next ride we went out and for some reason after about 40 miles we seemed to take the wrong turn. It ended up being 70-75 miles. I accused him of deliberately getting lost, but he just gave me that little smirk of his again.



During that summer we would travel the snowmobile trails looking at which ones needed brush-cutting. Sometimes he and Dennis Parshall would go together and brush-cut trails. A commendable undertaking for these two. Larry was always the first to volunteer to do projects. We, along with several other volunteers, built the second story racks in the storage shed. He was right there with us repairing the Ritz Warming Hut too. No matter what the job, he did it with great enthusiasm.

Larry retired as a plumber. He learned his trade while in the Navy. Larry was in the Navy

during Vietnam and served on the USS Ticonderoga. I contacted Tony Lamanna of the Honor Flight and told him about Larry. At first Larry didn't think he was worthy of going. Finally I convinced him to fill out an application. He was selected because his illness was terminal. I gave him a Navy Veterans hat for the occasion. He did go and I believe he had the experience of a lifetime. Rest in peace my friend. We will all miss you.

- from Sharon Crockett

Larry Giesa – a Winter Knights member since 2007. Larry and I met in 2010 – he became my “chauffeur” and I was his “wingman” on our shared snowmobile excursions. Larry thoroughly enjoyed snowmobiling and was happy to ride as much as he could. Larry was a very kind man; he did not want to hurt anyone's feelings; he didn't want to worry anyone; and he was willing to help whoever he could. Larry had a big red truck in which he hauled our sleds to the mountains. I will always think of him when I see a red truck on the street! Very sad to realize that I won't hear that red truck coming down my street again at 6:00 a.m. on a Saturday morning to head to the mountains.



Special Award

Earlier this spring, the board of directors decided they wanted to start a new award to be given to one of the most outstanding participants in the snowmobile club. It was named the Tom Yochum Award. President Sharon and Treasurer Greg put this together and presented it to Larry Giesa on May 21 while he was alert and in Hospice.

2015 Scholarships

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that the Winter Knights Scholarship awards for this year will be distributed amongst the following applicants:

- Alyssa Figg, daughter of Greg & Lisa Figg
- Reid Haight, son of Rob and Lisa Skellenger
- Nathan Child, son of Jeff and Theresa Child
- Alexandra Johnston, granddaughter of Darrell and Norma Ritz



Spokane Indians Baseball Game

Baseball, peanuts, fireworks . . . and the Winter Knights! 13 club members and guests sat on the 1st base sideline upper reserved seats cheering on the Spokane Indians during Saturday, June 20th's sold-out game against the Hillsboro Hops. The sun was at our back, the breeze was blowing, the players were stealing bases, a good game was followed by a great firework show and a fun time was had by all.



Renewal Forms for 2015-2016

Attached in this newsletter, you will find the club renewal forms for the new 2015-2016 season. Please look over it carefully to make sure that all the information is correct. If you have any corrections or additions, please notate it on the form and return it with your payment of \$25. If you are a Golden Member, no money is due, but please return the form. Especially important is the section for your email address and whether you want to receive the newsletters through email versus snail mail. The goal is to cut back a little on our postage and printing costs in this area. Thank you for your timely payment, as we need to pay your WSSA dues in August and September.

New Email Address

The club has a new email account, **spokanewinterknights@gmail.com**. Al and Nellie McCarty, the new Membership Committee Co-Chairs, have spent a lot of time recently trying to get a hold of all club members to verify current email addresses. The Calling Committee has phoned many of you as well. However, we still have not achieved 100% contact. We want to make sure all members are correctly listed in the contact list, so that you get important information from the club. If you have not received recent emails about the Spokane Indians baseball game outing or the Tom Yochum memorial service, then you are either NOT on the new email list or are listed incorrectly. Please send your current email address to **spokanewinterknights@gmail.com** as soon as possible so that we can get you fixed up. Thank you.



Also, a big thank you to Bob Walker and Don Anderson for all their work in the past to deliver club information. We appreciate all you have done.

Newsletter Feedback

As the new editors of the club newsletters, we are looking for input from the club as to what you would like to see in upcoming editions. A new addition featured in this newsletter is the **Upcoming Calendar of Events**. We welcome your input and suggestions so that the newsletter reflects what you want and need. You can email us at **spokanewinterknights@gmail.com**. If you choose (on your renewal form) to get the newsletters through email instead of snail mail, all the pictures will be in color and you will save the club some postage and printing money.

Al & Nellie McCarty

Website Feedback

Earlier this year, the club website crashed. Dean Meakin, the webmaster, quickly put up something to get it back on-line. It is still a work in progress. You can find it at **www.winterknights.org**. Take a look at it and then give Dean some feedback regarding what needs to be improved, added or deleted. The website should serve a dual purpose: 1) a reliable reference point for existing members to get info and 2) provide an inviting representation of what the club is for prospective new members. Send your ideas and input to **spokanewinterknights@gmail.com**. Thank you!

2015-2016 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: **SHARON CROCKETT**

VICE PRESIDENT: **LARRY GIESA**

TREASURER: **GREG FIGG**

SECRETARY: **RON KELLEY**

PAST PRESIDENT/SNOW SHOW

CHAIRMAN: **DEAN MEAKIN**

SEARCH AND RESCUE CHAIRMAN:
WAYNE SMITH



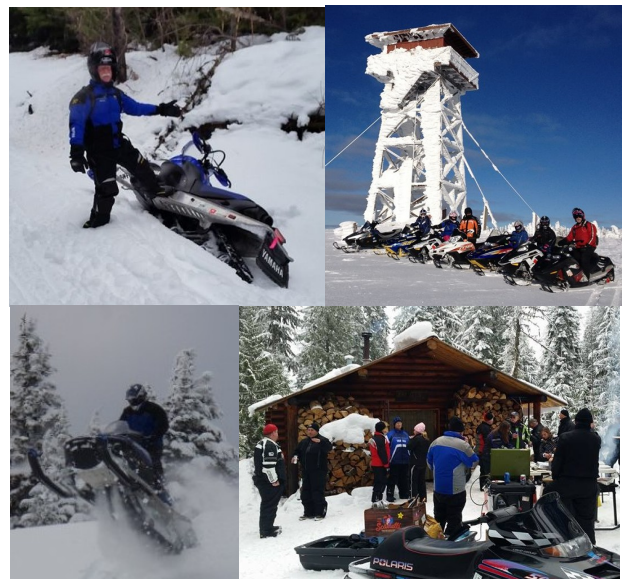
BOARD MEMBERS: **FRANK YOUNG, BOB WALKER, GLEN MUMM,
ROB SKELLENGER, STEVE RUGGLES, JOHN PETERSON**

Due to Larry's passing, the club will need to re-elect a new **Vice President** at the September 2015 club meeting. Are you interested in this position? Please refer to the By-Laws in the Phone Directory for duties and responsibilities. If interested, please email us at spokanewinterknights@gmail.com as soon as possible.

We are also looking for a new **Marketing Chairperson**, effective immediately. This person would be responsible for researching and ordering items with the club logo. Duties would also include identifying recruiting opportunities and setting up information booths at events to market the club to prospective new members. If interested, please email us at spokanewinterknights@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Pictures Wanted

Did you get a chance to take any cool pictures this past winter while participating on Winter Knight rides, events, Snow Show, wood-cutting, etc? If so, please share! We would like to include them in our 2014-2015 photo recap. It would be helpful to include a brief note as to where, when and who. You just might see your photos on the cover of the new 2015-2016 phone directory. Send photos to spokanewinterknights@gmail.com. The Membership Chairs thank you in advance!



2015 Snow & ATV Show & Swap Meet

Everything is on track for our Snow Show this year. Contracts are signed with the fairgrounds, basic flyers are out in the public and Contracts are ready to send out to the Exhibitors in July. Below is our 2015 list of Department Leaders and their contact numbers. Please call them to let them know where you would like to help out this year. I have the first 17 pages of our operations manual updated for 2015 and still working on the rest. Please let me know if you want me to e-mail the first 17 pages to you right now. Well that is all I have for now as it will be quiet till about the 3rd week in July. By Dean Meakin

Snow and ATV Swap Meet Departments / Leaders for 2015:

Director:	Dean Meakin	509-220-1001
Treasurer:	Roni Wolfe	360-562-5942
Advertising Coordinator:	Special Board Committee	
Bank Coordinator:	Greg Matthews	509-999-2341
Accounting Committee:		
Exhibitor Check-In Coordinator:	Peggy Smith	509-690-7059
Volunteer Coordinator:	Mike Harrison	509-535-5985
Kitchen Coordinator:	Ron Kelly	509-850-9400
Security Coordinator:	Dennis Parshall	509-499-0494
Ticket Sales Coordinator:	Greg Figg	509-951-2654
Sled Sales Coordinator:	Steve Ruggles	509-993-4291
Sled Floor Sales Coordinator:	Rob Skellenger	509-928-7411
P.A.C. Coordinator:	Jim Freeman	509-993-4853
Parking Lot Sales Coordinator:	Shami Ruggles	509-993-4291
Setup Coordinator:	Wayne Smith	509-690-7059
Tear Down Coordinator:	Dennis Aho	509-467-2880

Winter Knights Committee Chairpersons:

The Following Winter Knights Committees are also vital to the Snow Show:

WK Marketing Chairperson:

WK Membership Chairperson: **Al & Nellie McCarty** **509-238-6370**

WK Search and Rescue Director: **Wayne Smith** **509-690-7059**



2015 Snow & ATV Show

Nov. 14, 2015

9AM - 5PM Spokane Fairgrounds

35th Annual Show

"Help Us Help You"



Spokane Winter Knights 2015 / 2016 Ride Schedule

December 2015:

12-19 Tune-up Ride at the Baldies: 9am, on-trail and off-trail ride.

January 2016:

1-5 thru 1-8 Seeley Lake, MT: Contact ride leader Mike Harrison, or visit our Facebook page for more information.

1-9 Fast Trail Ride at Nordman, ID: 9am, launch at the 302 Lot at Nordman.

1-16 Flowery Trail Ride at 49° North: 9am, family ride. Launch from the upper lot by the ski resort.

1-23 Newcomer Ride: 9am, launch from the Kings Lake parking lot.
Trail ride and moderate off-trail riding.

1-29 thru 1-31 Eric Holt Ride at Coolin, ID. Location to be determined.

1-31 Back Country Ride: Time and location to be determined based on snow condition. This is an EXPERT level ride!! Avalanche training, beacon, probe, shovel and a modern mountain sled are required.

February 2016:

2-6 Frank Young's 2nd Annual BBQ and Bonfire Ride: 11am, launch from the Kings Lake parking lot. This is a trail ride around the Baldies, returning to the Kings Lake lot by 5pm for a BBQ and bonfire. There will be a night ride, weather permitting.

2-12 thru 2-15 WSSA Winter Rendezvous: Location - Walla Walla, WA at the Marcus Whitman Hotel.

2-13 Festivus Ride: A ride for the rest of us! This ride is for those of us that can't make it to the WSSA Rendezvous. Launch location will be at 4th of July Pass. Contact Glen Mumm for details.

2-17 thru 2-21 McCall, ID: See our Facebook page for more details.

2-28 Back Country Ride: Time and location to be determined based on snow condition. This is an EXPERT level ride!! Avalanche training, beacon, probe, shovel and a modern mountain sled are required.

(cont. next page)

Ride Schedule (cont.)

March 2016:

3-5 End of Season Trail Ride: 9am, Kings Lake to Lamb Creek (Priest Lake) for lunch at Millie's, then ride back to Kings Lake.

3-12 End of Season Back Country Ride: Time and location to be determined based on snow conditions. This is an EXPERT level ride!! Avalanche training, beacon, probe, shovel and a modern mountain sled are required.

** **SNOW BALL RIDES!!** These are unscheduled rides that will take place during the week, throughout the season, Monday thru Friday. Locations to be determined on spur of the moment. Watch our Facebook page for the announcement and location of these rides. For those of you that don't use the internet, please call Glen Mumm for dates and locations starting in December.

For more information please visit our Facebook page, or call

Glen Mumm 509-993-3159 or Rob Skellenger 509-599-2601

We handed out this ride schedule at the March meeting. Here it is again in case you have misplaced your copy or didn't make it to the meeting. Thanks Glen for putting this together!

Glen says to watch our Facebook page for ride confirmation and announcements of who the ride leaders will be for each ride as we get closer to the ride dates. If you would like to help with any of these rides, please contact Glen Mumm at 509-993-3159.

The logo for AllSport, featuring the word "ALLSPORT" in a stylized, metallic, 3D font with a red outline.

19505 E. BROADWAY AVE
LIBERTY LAKE, WA 99016
800.359.4884



EMPIRE
CYCLE

CALL US:
(509) 892-6368
7807 E. Sprague Spokane, WA 99212

Search and Rescue (SAR)

Winter sure passes quickly especially when there is little snow. Other than the few club rides in the "Baldies", little use was made of the club SAR sled...barely enough hours to initiate a break-in service.



Thanks to Bob's ingenuity we can tandem tow the two cargo box sleds or a box sled with the toboggan. While doable, apparently it is not as much fun taking high speed sharp turns up and down the mountain trail. Surviving the unwanted adrenalin rushes when the "tail wags the dog" we (snowmobile and ATV) are now at least covered by damage insurance. Unfortunately, as a club we are classified as a commercial entity which doubles the cost of the policy.

Mentioned in the Winter Newsletter, we are still awaiting County start on the Wilderness First Aid certification training. Hopefully, it can be accomplished prior to the next significant snow fall. I know several team members are waiting anxiously to add PhD to their signature block. Other upcoming SAR events include a county Mock Exercise scheduled for June 27th which involves a familiarization and mapping of trails on the backside of Mt. Spokane. Also, a maintenance/training session on SAR equipment at the storage unit scheduled for 9:00 am, Saturday, July 11th and a Spokane County Volunteer Awards and Appreciation BBQ coming up sometime in mid-September. As to past events, particularly with "callouts", there were three: **3/17/2015** at 5:45 pm, missing 68 year old male Alzheimer's patient, Spokane Valley area. Search terminated at 00:45 am. Subject located at 5:45 later that morning on E. Trent Ave. **4/7/2015** at 12:04 am, lost 16 year old autistic male, Spokane Valley area. Search terminated at 8:26 am when subject showed

up at his doctor's office and **6/4/2015** at 3:10 pm, missing 76 year old male with dementia in the north Spokane Wandermere area. Search terminated at 8:04 pm with subject found the next day. Again, the lack of snow on Mt. Spokane is believed to have minimized the odds for lost snowshoers and snowboarders, usually on the backside. The only "rescue" involving the SAR sled was to tow Glenna Pargman's "broke down" sled to the Nordman Snow Park.

On a more somber note, Winter Knights' SAR contributed \$100 to the Sergeant Greg Moore Memorial Fund, the Coeur d'Alene police officer killed in the line of duty. Of course, we also had the close personal loss of our dear friend and team member, Larry Giesa. I can't say enough about Larry and his contributions to the SAR unit and club. He will truly be missed. By Wayne Smith



2015 Upcoming Events

July:

25 and 26 - Down River Days - Ione, WA
(see club website for more info)

August:

5 - Deadline for Golf Tournament registration
9 - Golf Tournament - The Ranch Golf Club, Priest River, Idaho
9 - Summer Picnic - Ritz' home on Pend Oreille River
(bring side dish or dessert & beverage)

September:

3 - Board Meeting - Abacus
17 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center
26 - Siemers Farm Fall Festival Outing - Green Bluff

November:

13 - Snow Show Set-up - Fairgrounds
14 - Snow Show - Fairgrounds

December:

12 - Christmas Party - Ramada at the Airport
19 - Tune-up Ride (on-trail and off-trail ride) - Baldies - 9am

- Club Officers -

President - Sharon Crocket
Vice President - Open
Treasurer - Greg Figg
Secretary - Ron Kelly

- Club Chairs -

Snow Show - Dean Meakin
Search & Rescue - Wayne Smith
Membership - Al & Nellie McCarty
Marketing - Open

- Board Members -

Frank Young
Bob Walker
Glen Mumm
Rob Skellenger
Steve Ruggles
John Peterson

- Web -

www.winterknights.org

- Email -

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