

FRESH POWDER NORTHWEST

Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club

SpokaneWinterKnights.com

spokanewinterknights@gmail.com



JULY 2016

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2016 Summer Picnic

Our annual Winter Knights summer picnic will once again be held at Darrell and Norma Ritz's home on Pend Oreille River's Albeni Cove by Newport, on Sunday, August 14 at 1:00 pm.



They have a beach, large lawn area, and plenty of room for our picnic, so bring your lawn chairs. Kids and adults are welcome to go swimming in the cove, so don't forget your swimsuits, towels, and sunscreen. The club will provide the meats, plates, and utensils. Please bring your favorite picnic dish or dessert to add to the meal, as well as your own beverages. If you need directions, call Darrell & Norma Ritz at 509-220-2758.

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 14, 2016 (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: Tuesday, August 9, 2016 *****

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



SPOKANE WINTER KNIGHTS SNOWMOBILE CLUB



From the President

Hope you're having a great summer!! Hard to believe it's July already – it goes so fast – but it's that closer to snow flying in the mountains!!

I gotta say – this is an exciting time to be President of this club! Thanks to Al and Nellie McCarty (and with lots of help from Glen Mumm), we are going to have a new Winter Knights website where you can pay your dues online (if you choose), order Winter Knights apparel any time you want and have it mailed direct to you, see pictures of club outings, and view the ride schedule. Our Facebook page continues to get a lot of “likes” with all the pictures and videos being posted on it – hopefully we will

get new members joining us after they see what fun we have in the mountains!

We are closer to our annual summer picnic and golf game also! Coming up August 14 at the Ritzs' lake cabin. If you are going to golf with us and haven't contacted me yet to let me know you're going to join us at the Ranch Golf Course, please do so by August 9. The golf course likes to have an idea of how many will be playing. It's not a competition – we golf and have fun – and no one cares what your score is!

And then along comes September when the first board meeting occurs on the 1st Thursday and the Club meeting on the 3rd Thursday of the

month. The NEWTECH Skill Center is currently being renovated so we are in for a surprise when we have our first dinner and meeting in September.

Enjoy your summer and see you soon!

Sharon Crockett,
President



Upcoming General Meeting



Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 15, 2016 at the [NEWTECH Skill Center](#), located at 4141 N. Regal. Please arrive by 6:00 pm, 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 continue to have the “Student

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

Next Board Meeting:
September 1, 2016
6pm @

[North Spokane Library](#)
44 E. Hawthorne Rd.

From the Vice President

By the time you read this, the season will have changed from spring to summer. The summer solstice will be behind us, the days will be getting shorter, and winter is getting closer by the minute. With this changing of the seasons comes some major changes for the Winter Knights. Past President Dean Meakin has announced that he is closing the brick and mortar location of his computer repair business Abacus, and going mobile. For many years, Dean has been kind enough to allow the Winter Knights to hold our board meetings there, use the printers, store the massive amount of supplies required to put on the Snow Show, hosted the website, and so much more. We owe Dean a huge debt of gratitude, because without his efforts this would be a very different club. Thanks Dean!

Al & Nellie McCarty, along with being the Membership Chairs, have developed a new mobile-friendly website for the club with all the bells and whistles, including on-line membership sign-ups and renewals, and so much more. The new website will become a major marketing tool for the club in our continuing partnership with the power sports and dealership community, Snow Show promotions, and the on-line purchasing of club swag including hats, jackets, beanies and more.

The Board of Directors will be working hard this summer to resolve the storage issue for the considerable amount of items that were stored at Abacus in support of the Snow Show. This will require a complete reorganization of our current storage facility and a good ol' fashioned house cleaning in an effort to avoid having to get another storage unit and spending more money.

One of our new members, Rick Suhr, has volunteered to help produce a new club video for the Snow Show. Rick is a professional in this field and we are very lucky to have him give up his free time to produce this video for the club, as I have dumped a ton of raw footage on him. This video will be used as a marketing tool at the Winter Knights membership booth at the Snow Show, to give people an idea of how diverse this club is, and how becoming a member of the Winter Knights can benefit them. If you have any video of club events or of personal snowmobile rides that you would like to share in the production of this video, please contact me to make arrangements to do a data transfer and I will get it to Rick.

So in closing, I would like to say this is just the tip of the iceberg. There are many changes coming to the 2016/2017 ride season to

improve the quality and increase participation at the rides. If you would be interested in helping with the rides, please give me a call to discuss where you might fit in best and what you would be comfortable doing. All help is greatly appreciated. Work in preparation for the Snow Show has already started in earnest, with the bulk of the work still ahead and the need for volunteers has never been greater.

I would like to thank everyone involved for their continued support and efforts, to ensure that the Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club continues to be the premier snowmobile club in the Inland Northwest.

Glen Mumm,
Vice President
Ride Coordinator
Director of Promotions & Marketing



Membership Renewal Invoices

We are trying something new this year. Traditionally, renewal invoices were always attached to the July newsletter. However, members seemed to overlook the invoices when they threw away their newsletters and then claimed they never got an invoice. This would result in additional printing and postage costs to resend the invoices.

To eliminate confusion this year, the membership renewal invoice has been mailed to you separately from this newsletter. In fact, you should already have received it in the mail!! If not, be on the look out for it. It was mailed out on July 15.

It is imperative that every member keep their contact information up-to-date. It is especially important that your email address is accurate, since this is our main form of contact with you throughout the year. Examples of important emails we send include: last-minute ride location or time changes, special events, meeting reminders, etc.

Membership Dues have increased to \$30 this year.

There is an additional \$5 annual fee for mailed newsletters.

3 ways to renew your membership this year!

1. Renew On-line and pay with PayPal.
2. Renew On-line and send a check in the mail.
3. Renew by updating contact information on the invoice and mailing it back with a check.

The letter included with your mailed renewal invoice has all the details, so please read it carefully. **Please pay your renewal by August 31, 2016**, so that you will not be considered “expired” by WSSA.

Please renew your membership through Winter Knights, **NOT** through WSSA directly. Once we update our club database, we will then update the WSSA database for you. It is much easier on our end this way.

Al & Nellie McCarty

Membership Chairs

New Website

The club has a new website! The address has changed, so please make a note of that!

Go to SpokaneWinterKnights.com and check it out! It is mobile-friendly and easy to navigate.

Don't forget to bookmark it for easy access in the future.



New On-line Membership Renewal Options

Our new updated website now gives you the ability to renew your club membership ON-LINE!

You have 2 options:

1. Renew on-line and pay online with PayPal.
2. Renew on-line and mail in your check.

Just go to SpokaneWinterKnights.com, select the Membership tab and follow the instructions.

For those of you interested in trying out our new ON-LINE renewal system, we have a special incentive for you!

For being our guinea pigs and helping us make sure that the new online renewal set-up is working properly, we will enter you into a **drawing for 2 free tickets** to a Spokane Indians baseball game. You get to choose the night (based on availability) from the following remaining 2016 home games: August 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, September 1, 2.

Simply renew on-line and make your payment **BY SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2016**. You will be automatically entered into the drawing.

IMPORTANT OFFICIAL NOTICE

The club is trying to go paperless and save money on printing and postage costs. **From this day forward, all newsletters will only be emailed to you.** It is free and in color!! This means you must keep us informed if your email address changes. If you have not supplied us with your email address, please do so immediately by sending us an email to spokanewinterknights@gmail.com.

If you do not have email, or prefer a mailed copy of a black and white version of the newsletter, you must pay an additional \$5 fee annually. Please add this fee to your membership renewal.

Golden Members: This \$5 annual fee for mailed newsletters applies to you, even though you do not have to pay the membership renewal. Please include this fee with your “updated” membership renewal form being mailed to you.

Spokane Indians Baseball Game

A group of Winter Knights attended the opening night game of the Spokane Indians at Avista Stadium on June 17, 2016. The Upper Reserved seats were on the 1st base line side, so no problem with the sun being in the group's eyes. The Indians gave the Vancouver Canadians a run for their money, but in the end, were not able to get the win. The evening closed with a great fireworks show. A good time was had by all ... well ... except by Bob Walker, who is not a fan of the game and can be often heard saying he'd rather watch paint dry.



2016 Snow & ATV Show & Swap Meet

The wheels are turning at full speed for the 2016 Snow & ATV Show this November 12th. We have had many calls from new exhibitors asking about our show and what it takes to be part of it. Since last year was a good snow year, it has raised the level of excitement for the show this year. Contracts go out on July 15th to our repeat exhibitors and once they have committed to return, we can assign the balance of the open spaces to the new exhibitors. More info to follow as it comes in. Don't forget, we need lots of volunteers to keep this a great and successful show. Thanks and have a great summer.

Dean Meakin
Snow Show Director



2016 Snow & ATV Show
Nov. 12, 2016
36th Annual Show
sponsored by:
9AM - 5PM Spokane Fairgrounds
Fun & Prizes for the Whole Family!
"Help Us Help You"

 

SPokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club

Colville National Forest Plan Update

The Spokane Winter Knights has been involved in the review of the most recent draft of the Colville National Forest Plan. I would like to thank Glen Mumm and Frank Young for their help and time as they have spent hours being part of the Forest Service review group for this plan.

Comments on this draft plan just closed on July 5th. The preferred alternative in the draft plan was dubbed Alternative "P" which continues to provide for the use of snowmobiles in the areas we typically ride in Kings Lake, Paupac, Calispel Mountain, etc. Consequently we supported this alternative "P" as it did allow our use to continue.

The plan did propose some new Wilderness Area up by Metaline and around Sullivan Lake. However, this area has been closed to snowmobiles for many years so it is not a loss of riding area to us. While the plan is not everything we could hope for, it is a reasonable compromise.



The Forest Service will be releasing the final plan later in the year, which we will be looking over to make sure nothing has changed as it relates to snowmobiling. Stay tuned on this issue.

Greg Figg

Search and Rescue (SAR)



County SAR activities have been minimal so far in this summer period. In a way I guess it could be considered “good news” in that no one was in serious need of rescuing. Plus, there was nothing to interfere with team member summer plans..... vacations, etc. There was one “call out” on April 5th at 0345 hours (3:45 am) in the Post Falls area to look for a missing 38 year old white male. Subject was considered mentally disabled, diagnosed with diabetes and last seen at his home around 2200 hours (10:00 pm) the previous night. Interestingly enough, the individual had been the subject of a previous search approximately a year ago and was found back then sleeping in an unlocked vehicle. Needless to say, the search parameters involved cruising through the Post Falls neighborhoods in the wee hours of the morning and checking the

insides of parked vehicles with flashlights. While SAR members plan for and accept the hazards of a search in rough terrain and adverse weather conditions, the idea of prowling around vehicles parked in streets and driveways like a burglar brings a different level of adrenalin to the emotional equation. Fortunately, no one was challenged (or shot) and the subject was found pacing back and forth in front of a former residence approximately a half-mile away at 0845 hours (8:45 am). Search was terminated and several went out for breakfast.

Thurston County Sheriff’s Department did broadcast a statewide request for SAR volunteers to conduct an ongoing evidence search for the remains of a homicide victim. Response required a two day commitment between the dates of June 20th through July 20th with hotel, meals provided and fuel costs reimbursed. While an expense-paid trip across the state could have some appeal, the idea of working in a landfill sorting garbage with rakes

and shovels looking for body parts did not invoke a significant response from Winter Knights nor Spokane County. All of which speaks highly of the intelligence of team members and limits to the definition of “rescue”.

Overall, SAR activities have been so slow even the County Mock Exercise on June 25th ended up cancelled due to lack of participation. Scheduled in the middle of summer and over Hoopfest weekend probably didn’t help...you think? Anyway, the typical overnight fall mock exercise is tentatively scheduled for September 9th, 10th and 11th. Maybe we will be able to crank up the snowmobiles for it! Never hurts to be an optimist.

Wayne Smith
SAR Director



2016 Upcoming Events

July:

30 and 31 - Down River Days - Ione, WA

August:

7 - Deadline for Baseball Ticket Drawing for On-line Renewals

9 - Deadline for Golf Tournament Registration

14 - Golf Tournament - The Ranch Golf Club, Priest River, Idaho

14 - Summer Picnic - Ritz' home on Pend Oreille River
(bring side dish or dessert & beverage)

31 - Membership Renewal Payment Due

September:

1 - Board Meeting - North Spokane Library

15 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

October:

6 - Board Meeting - (location to be determined)

20 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

November:

3 - Board Meeting - (location to be determined)

11 - Snow Show Set-up - Fairgrounds

12 - Snow Show - Fairgrounds

17 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

December:

10 - Christmas Party - Ramada at the Airport

17 - Tune-up Ride (trail and off-trail ride) - Mt. Spokane - 9am

- Club Officers -

President - Sharon Crockett

Vice President - Glen Mumm

Treasurer - Greg Figg

Secretary - Ron Kelley

- Club Chairs -

Snow Show - Dean Meakin

Search & Rescue - Wayne Smith

Membership - Al & Nellie McCarty

Marketing - Glen Mumm

- Board Members -

Scott Ahrens

Bob Walker

Dennis Parshall

John Peterson

Steve Ruggles

Rob Skellenger

- Web -

SpokaneWinterKnights.com

- Email -

spokanewinterknights@gmail.com

