

FRESH POWDER NORTHWEST

Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club

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2016-2017 Ride Season

Fellow Winter Knights, another snowmobiling season has come and gone. This one ending abruptly with Mother Nature raining us out just when the snow pack was getting really good, Grrrrrrrrrr ! O' well, winter is only 9 months away. Just enough time to finish my next build. The 2016-2017 season had plenty of challenges. With unpredictable weather patterns, the ongoing issues with the logging and the Forest Service at the Baldies, and not to mention the completely new ride format this year, we had our work cut-out for us. All in all it was another great season thanks in no small part to all the members that stepped up to help put on these rides every weekend for 2 1/2 months. Thank you all !! Also thanks to everyone who stayed after the rides to have a burger with us and gave their input on what we did right, and what we could improve. Without your input we would not have had so many great rides.

When you see the new ride schedule inside this newsletter, you'll notice more changes coming for next season. The 1st club ride is not until January because winter seems to get here a little later every year. We have added more mountain rides, and now they are on both Saturdays & Sundays so

more members have a chance to enjoy these rides. And you will notice that every other Saturday has been left open in the hope that you casual trail riders and sightseers will step up and introduce your fellow club members to your favorite ride. You'll have the full support of the Rides Committee when it comes to getting the word out about your ride, and if you need support like sweep riders or caravan hosts, we can help with that, too. All we ask is that you, acting as the ride host and leader, have a good knowledge of the area you are going to, a predetermined route with an approximate mileage number so your guest will know how long of a day to prepare for, and a starting time of your choice.

So in closing I would just like to add one more thing...

SNOWBIKES RULE !

Ain't change great?

Glen Mumm

Vice President, Ride Coordinator,
Promotions & Marketing Chair



**APRIL
2017**

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SNOW & ATV SHOW

NOVEMBER 11

9AM - 5PM

**SPOKANE
FAIRGROUNDS**

ADMISSION \$10

12 & UNDER - FREE

SPONSORED BY



SPOKANE WINTER KNIGHTS SNOWMOBILE CLUB

From the President

Winter is gone and spring is coming in like a lion with all the rain! I think there were some great rides this winter. I especially enjoyed the rides at Omak (WSSA Rendezvous) and McCall in the beautiful powder we found there (especially since they were the only rides I was able to make thanks to a sore shoulder)!! Thanks to Glen Mumm for coordinating our rides and with the help of Al McCarty in getting all of the information out on [Facebook](#) and through the club's email!!

At the March club meeting we elected two new Board members, Michelle Axelson and Simon Triggs. Thanks for taking on those positions! And thanks to Steve Ruggles and Rob Skellenger for their willingness to be on the Board for the last 3 years!! The remaining current Board members were unanimously re-elected for another year. The Presidential Trophy was given to Glen Mumm

for all that he has done for the Club this last year. I am amazed at his energy sometimes!!

Glen recently posted a picture of his new snowbike on Facebook. Interestingly, the Winter Knights Scholarship essay task was to research state laws and see how snowbikes are accepted in Washington. We had some very thought provoking essays from five very well qualified applicants (all related to Winter Knights members) and which we will need to discuss this coming fall at our club meetings. The Scholarship Committee elected to award each of the five applicants a \$500 scholarship. Congratulations to Bryson Kelley, Grace Howell, Cassandra Staker, Mardi Folsom, and Cassandra Peterson!

Hope to see you at some of our summer club events or at the fall club meeting in September!!

Sharon Crockett,
President



CALLING ALL GOLFERS (Men, Women, & Children) for the Annual "WINTER KNIGHTS PRE-PICNIC GOLF GAME"

WHAT: FUN time of Golf (only 9 Holes)
WHEN: Sunday, August 6, 2017 (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 "pre-picnic golf game"

******* Golf reservation deadline: Tuesday, August 1, 2017 *******

DON'T MISS AN ALL-AROUND GREAT TIME!



2017 Summer Picnic

Our annual Winter Knights summer picnic will once again be held at Darrell and Norma Ritz's home on Albeni Cove by Newport, Sunday August 6 at 12:00 pm. They have a beach, lawn, and lots of room for our group. Kids are welcome and can swim in the cove so bring your lawn chairs, swimsuits, towels, and sunscreen. The club will provide the meats, plates, and utensils. Please bring your favorite 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.

We also invite you to join us before the picnic at the Ranch Golf Club by Priest River for a relaxing and fun round of golf – only 9 holes. We don't compete – just have fun in the sun (at least that's what we hope). You can golf, you can just enjoy walking with the group, or you can be a chauffeur of the golf cart!



Search and Rescue (SAR) **** Part 1 - More on Page 4

The old adage “time flies when you are having fun” tends to make me question if I had any fun at all this winter. The occasions of snowmobiling were definitely the highlights of this past winter period, but in retrospect, after seemingly never ending plowing, blowing and shoveling....it felt like winter would never go away. Alas, spring has finally arrived and with that the tasks of reconfiguring SAR equipment from winter to summer which has been expanded with a generous donation of a 2009 Ski-Doo Renegade X 800, a 2010 Can Am Outlander XT 650, and a 2010 Aluma Utility trailer along with various

accessories and equipment. All this thanks to Eric Duke, a Customs Agent that purchased the equipment while stationed in Alaska. Eric stated that Alaska “spoiled” him by being able to snowmobile right from his door. Combined with a dislike to trailer, the equipment remained

unused the last couple of years. Eric admitted to a few feeble attempts to sell the equipment, but finally decided he would rather have the extra garage space and take advantage of the tax write off. A very generous contribution that is greatly appreciated.



Search and Rescue (SAR) **** Part 2

One possible advantage of a somewhat nasty and brutal winter is that with travel restricted due to ice and snow....people tended to stay at home. Hence, no "call outs" for Spokane County. There was one request for outside agency support from Shoshone County last month to look for a young man missing while walking his dog. Typical with outside county requests it was already two nights and the beginning of the third day since the individual was reported missing. The request was for snowshoers only and as you might expect, not high on the "to do" list for members of a snowmobile club. Additionally, with below freezing nights and rainy weather, the prospects of surviving the cold lacked any optimistic results from the search management people. However, miracles do happen and the individual was

found obviously suffering from extreme exposure, hypothermia and dehydration. He is expected to make a full recovery, for which he thanks his dog in helping with some shared body warmth throughout the nights.

The Spokane SAR Academy is in the process of finishing up with a final Field Exam on April 1st. This will result in the full qualification of one team member and hopefully, one or more new members. For newer club members having indicated an interest in the SAR team, you should have received information via email about team involvement and the qualification process. Again, you don't need to wait until the next academy (October, 2017) prior to joining the team.

Team training normally on the 4th Thursday of the month has been "hit and miss" with all kinds of scheduling conflicts.

The latest was with Gonzaga's "Sweet Sixteen" playoff game and having been unsuccessful in getting the NCAA to reschedule, decided for the benefit of any attendance at all.... to cancel for a future outdoor training event sometime during the summer period. With extended daylight hours it will offer numerous opportunities to expand on GPS, land navigation skills and to just play in the dirt. So....those club members that are interested in Winter Knights SAR, contact me to be on the information contact list.

By Wayne Smith



2017-2018 Ride Schedule

January:

- 1-6 Tune-up ride at Mt. Spokane
- 1-12, 13 & 14 Greg Figg's Weekend Party Hard Ride at Coolin, Idaho
- 1-20 Newcomer Ride at Kings Lake (Baldies)
- 1-27 OPEN

February:

- 2-3 Eric's Ride at Coolin
- 2-10 OPEN
- 2-10 Saturday Mountain Ride
- 2-11 OPEN
- 2-17 Franks BBQ Ride at Mt. Spokane
- 2-24 OPEN
- 2-25 Sunday Mountain Ride



March:

- 3-3 Nordman 302 Lot to the Trapper Warming Hut
- 3-10 OPEN
- 3-10 Saturday Mountain Ride
- 3-11 OPEN
- 3-17 End of Season Ride at Hanna Flats to North Baldie
- 3-24 OPEN
- 3-25 Sunday Mountain Ride





United States Department of Agriculture

Colville National Forest

March 2017

Forest Plan Revision Update

Revised Project Timeline and Next Steps

The Colville National Forest is working its way through the final review steps on the revised forest plan and final environmental impact statement (FEIS) that went out for public comment last year (Feb-July 2016). Since August, the planning team has worked to assimilate the public comments. Individual resource specialists and the interdisciplinary team (IDT) as a whole evaluated the comments that were received from tribes, local officials, state and federal agencies, industry, environmental groups, and the general public. Some adjustments to the final plan and analysis are being made where feasible based on those comments.



Rodney Smoldon
Colville Forest Supervisor

The Plan Revision Team is currently working with our Regional Office on an internal review of those final documents. The Forest expects to submit the forest plan and FEIS to the Forest Service Chief's office in Washington, D.C. later this spring.

Another significant process step that the team has initiated concurrently with our Regional Office review is the formal consultation process with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), which is required by law under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The Forest is working with USFWS to finalize the Biological Assessment (BA); once the Forest submits the BA to the USFWS, they will have 135 days to review and provide feedback to the Forest on the revised forest plan and environmental analysis documents. Similar to the approach the forest has taken in working with the public, tribes and local officials; the Forest has been working with our USFWS partners under an informal consultation process for a number of years throughout the plan development stages, which has helped the Forest consider and begin addressing concerns they may have had early in the process.

Once the Forest completes the internal review and ESA consultation steps, we anticipate releasing the final Forest Plan and FEIS documents this summer (2017). Before a record of decision is finalized, there will be a 60-day objection period (also known as a pre-decisional review period) which is initiated upon notice in the Federal Register and newspapers of record.

What this means is that those individuals and entities who have "standing" can file an objection, if they choose. To have "standing" a group or person must have submitted substantive comments on the draft environmental impact statement during the formal comment period.

Once the objection period closes, the Forest Service then has 90 days to work through any objections.

To learn more about the objection process and who may have standing to participate in it, please check out this webpage: https://www.fs.fed.us/objections/objections_related.php or this informational brochure (PDF):

<https://www.fs.fed.us/emc/applit/includes/FINAL219Objection%20Brochure.pdf>



FRESH POWDER NORTHWEST - APRIL 2017

2017 Upcoming Events

June:

15 - Spokane Indians Baseball Game (order tickets by June 1)

July:

15 - Membership renewals for 2017-2018 season mailed out, renewal deadline is August 31

30 - Down River Days Water Crossing - Lone, WA

August:

1 - Deadline for Golf Tournament registration

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

6 - Summer Picnic - Ritz' home on Pend Oreille River

September:

7 - Board Meeting

9 & 10 - Hay Days, North Branch, Minnesota

21 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

October:

5 - Board Meeting

19 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

21 & 22 - Puyallup Snow Show

November:

2 - Board Meeting

10 - Snow Show Set-up - Fairgrounds

11 - Snow Show - Fairgrounds

16 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

December:

9 - Christmas Party - Ramada at the Airport



- 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 -

Michelle Axelson

Simon Triggs

Scott Ahrens

Bob Walker

Dennis Parshall

John Peterson

- Web -

spokanewinterknights.com

- Email -

spokanewinterknights@gmail.com

SPOKANE WINTER KNIGHTS SNOWMOBILE CLUB NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK



WHEN:

THURS., JUNE 15, 2017
GATES OPEN @ 5:30PM
GAME @ 6:30PM

WHERE:

AVISTA STADIUM
602 N. HAVANA

OPENING NIGHT FIREWORKS



PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS BY JUNE 1ST

MEMBER NAME: _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS: _____ x \$11 = \$ _____



PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
SPOKANE WINTER KNIGHTS
AND RETURN PAYMENT WITH THIS FORM TO:

AL & NELLIE McCARTY
PO Box 1255
MEAD, WA 99021-1255