

FRESH POWDER NORTHWEST

Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club

spokanewinterknights.com

spokanewinterknights@gmail.com

From the President

As I write this, another snowmobile season for many of us is drawing to an end unfortunately, even though I hope to sneak in one more ride!!

It has been a very busy year for the Winter Knights! We started this last summer with our annual picnic at Albeni Cove on Lake Pend Oreille. The weather was great and the picnic was a big hit. A bit later it was time for a reconnaissance trip to the Baldies, as much of the area was closed from the fires a few seasons ago. We were impressed with what we found for new open terrain. This was soon followed up by firewood cutting at the Ritz Warming Hut in October. After that, it was time for the Snow Show in November at the Spokane Fair and Expo Center. The Winter Knights then participated in the after Thanksgiving Parade in downtown Coeur d'Alene with a record attendance this year, and no rain or snow!! Next on the agenda was the Christmas Party in December.

After the New Year, it was time for rides, our favorite thing!! We had an impressive riding season this year with rides at: Priest Lake, Kings Lake, Beaver Lodge, Sand Canyon, Omak, Winthrop, 4th of July, Bunco, Trestle Creek, Roman

Nose, Castlegar, Seeley Lake, and McCall. Way to go ride leaders on a very impressive season!! Looking forward to next year and another impressive riding season!!

I wanted to highlight the last event the club participated in, which was helping to host the State Parks Directors from around the country on a snowmobile ride at Mt. Spokane. The Winter Knights, along with WSSA, furnished some extra snowmobiles and took the directors from the Selkirk Lodge up to the CCC Cabin and around the back side of Mt. Spokane to see the new 5th chair lift that the ski area is now building. We had 12 people on snowmobiles, some of whom had never seen a snowmobile before. It was a great event, followed by a fantastic prime rib meal at the ski lodge. I know State Parks was grateful for all the work by the Winter Knights and the WSSA crew that travelled over from Cle-Elum and Yakima to help.

Thank you again to all the Winter Knights volunteers for the countless hours they have logged in making our club great!!! Have a great summer and see you soon.

Greg Figg
President



APRIL 2018

Inside this issue:

VP's Message	2
Past President	
Baseball Game	3
Picnic & Golf	
Christmas Party	
Ruth Parker	
SAR	4
SAR (cont.)	5
Scholarships	
Stoy Dabbs	6
Quilts of Valor	
Upcoming Events	7
Baseball Tickets	8



From the Vice President

So as the 2017-2018 snowmobiling season comes to an end, all I can say is WOW! After seeing a 20% increase in attendance at the Snow Show, a huge increase in membership, the advent of the Mountain 101 rides, avalanche danger so bad that Washington state led the U.S. in avalanche-related deaths, attending Mike Duffy's Avalanche Level 1 certification course (and surviving), riding and organizing rides almost every weekend since December (30 rides and possibly more mountain rides this spring when the snowpack stabilizes), it has been one hell of a season!

This didn't just happen without the help of a lot of dedicated people stepping up and taking on the challenges of leadership. Without the commitment of these members taking time out of their personal lives and volunteering to hold a board position, lead rides, or chair a committee, we would not be the premier snowmobile club that we are. One person that I would like to personally recognize is Butch Glander, a

member since 1983. Butch volunteered to lead 5 midweek rides in Idaho and Montana and pass on his vast knowledge of this trail system. Unfortunately, Butch encountered a health issue mid-season and was unable to host all of the rides, but continued to make the club meetings and keep me on the straight and narrow. It's the dedication of members like Butch and many others that make this club so great.

Also, our area saw a huge increase in the quality of our groomed trail system thanks to Josh Wood and the employees at Selkirk Grooming. Josh also provided me with weekly grooming updates that I was able to share with other Spokane area snowmobiling groups on Facebook. The efforts of Josh and the Selkirk Groomers were greatly appreciated by our snowmobiling community.

If this wasn't enough, get ready for even more changes in Rides next season and how we

communicate. We now have a Facebook Group that is only open to Winter Knights Club members. Now, once members are accepted into the group, they can post pictures and details of their rides, organize a ride, find someone to go ride with and get the latest details and ride updates for the Mountain 101 rides.

So in closing, I would just like to thank everyone for making this another awesome season.

Glen Mumm

Vice President and Marketing Chair



From the Past President

Hard to believe three years as Club President has passed by already – time flies when you're having fun!! It has been an honor to be President and to see all the changes that have happened in our club over the last three years. We have had very dedicated people on our Winter Knights Board during my three year term and that made my position so much easier. Thank you to all of them!! And thank you to all the Winter Knights who are active members in the club!! Hope to see you at some of our summer club events or at the Fall club meeting in September!!

Sharon Crockett



2018 Spokane Indians Baseball Game

It's Opening Night at the Ballpark! The club invites all its members to meet at the ballpark for a great night of Spokane Indians baseball, fireworks and camaraderie.

The game is on Friday night, June 15, 2018 at Avista Stadium. Gates open at 5:30pm and the game starts at 6:30pm. They will be playing the Boise Hawks, farm team for the Colorado Rockies.



We have reserved a block of Reserved Upper Box Seats for only \$11 per person. In order to secure this pricing, the club must pay in advance for at least 20 people. Invite your family and friends to come with you!

Please see the attached ticket order form and return the bottom portion with your payment by May 31st to the McCarty's at the address listed.

This is a great opportunity to get to know each other better and without "helmet hair"!

2018 Summer Picnic and Golf Game

Our annual Winter Knights summer picnic will once again be held at Darrell and Norma Ritz's home on Albeni Cove by Newport, on Sunday, August 19 at 12:00 pm. Preceding the picnic, the annual 9-hole golf game will be at 9am at the Ranch Golf Club by Priest River. More information to follow this summer!

2018 Christmas Party

The Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club is turning 50 this year! Shami Ruggles is planning an extra special Christmas Party to celebrate this milestone! Do you have any ideas to help her plan this event? If so, please contact Shami as soon as possible as the "tracks" have already started turning. It will be at a NEW location this year: Red Lion River Inn in downtown Spokane. So mark your calendar now: Saturday, December 8, 2018. You won't want to miss it!



In-Memoriam: Ruth Parker



Ruth Parker passed away on January 18, 2018. She had been a Winter Knights club member for 36 years, along with her husband, Dave. Her favorite place to ride her Yamaha sled locally was at the Baldies. She enjoyed riding at Yellowstone as well. Every year she looked forward to helping anywhere she could at the Snow Show.

Search and Rescue (SAR)

Spring has been a teaser. Just when the “flat-landers” think that’s the last of the snow, here comes another round. Guess I’m just as guilty sitting at 2500’ MSL. Regardless, overall it was a good winter for snowmobiling, but now I am ready for summer activities (ATV and golf). Now to call-outs.

July 2nd at 10:am a call-out was initiated for a 21 year old male that had hiked out of Liberty Lake Park the day prior. The individual got caught up in darkness, turned around...i.e; lost, and with a low battery cell phone was able to call 911. Unfortunately, the subject had crossed over into Idaho and the call was received by Kootenai County Dispatch. Things didn’t get any better when Dispatch heard where the individual had departed from and instructed him to “turn around and go back the way you came”. Now with a useless cell phone, all future contact with the subject was just as lost as he was. Spokane County Sheriff’s Helicopter “Air One” was first to initiate the search in the early morning hours and being unsuccessful, a ground search was called out. With the state boundary in the middle of the search area, both Spokane and Kootenai County SAR teams were involved. Apparently the individual had walked all night and was well outside the primary search area established by a location “ping” of the last cell phone contact. In fact, the subject walked out on to Hwy

95 well south of Coeur d’ Alene resulting in the search being terminated at 5:pm.

November 30th at 4:am a call-out was initiated for a 34 year old female with a one year old infant in the Newman Lake housing area. Subject was possibly under the influence of alcohol and drugs, had a confrontation with her boyfriend and fled the house after midnight in light clothing in extreme cold conditions. Concern over the infant’s well-being was the primary reason for the call-out. After an initial search of open areas, parked vehicles and uninhabited places to shelter out of the weather proved unsuccessful, a house-to-house search was initiated around 7:am. Feedback and personal experience proves that residents of Newman Lake love dogs....every house has at least one or more. The subject and infant were located in a house within 500 yards of “last known point”. Search was terminated at 8:30am. Side note: Subject had an outstanding warrant and was arrested at the scene.

December 21st at 4:30pm a call-out was initiated for a 90 year old female dementia patient that walked away from her care facility in Fairfield, WA. Subject was located by a dog team, curled up in a fetal position under a tree across a field approximately a quarter mile from the facility. Individual was checked out okay with only mild

hypothermia. Search was terminated at 7:45pm.

Finally, another call-out....of sorts, was initiated February 28th through the Winter Knights website “Contact Form”. The explanation of this event is so convoluted that I feel it is necessary to explain the facts (as I see them) using the names of real people. Being the “writer” and not the “reader” does have its advantages. Anyway, a non-member by the name of Joel sent the Contact Form around 2:pm requesting help for his parents, Bill and Mary Jorden, who had launched out of King’s Lake Snow Park that morning on a 2006 Polaris 2-up. Apparently they took the Brown’s Lake trail (5030), cut over on the 037 trail and up almost to the CCA intersection when the engine seized. For the benefit of Mike Harrison and Allan Maxwell, I did say Polaris snowmobile, right? Being six miles out and now “on foot”, Bill knew that from past experience with dog sled teams in the area he could walk back a short distance to a particular spot on the ridge and get a cell phone signal. Bill did exactly that and was able to contact the Pend Oreille County Sheriff Dispatch, explain his situation and request assistance. Dispatch’s response was “we don’t have the personnel or equipment to assist you. Is there someone else you can call?” With the battery of his phone getting low, Bill was finally able to convince Dispatch to contact his son, Joel,

Search and Rescue (SAR) -- (cont.)

and relay their situation. Not knowing anyone with a snowmobile, that's when Joel decided to try the Winter Knights website for assistance. Hence, the form goes to our Web Master, Al McCarty, who in turn forwards an email out to a select few club officers and yours truly as the SAR point of contact. Now, much to the chagrin and frustration of our Marketing guru, Glen Mumm, I don't "TWEET", "Snap Chat", "Instagram" or even use "Face Book Messenger". I have an outdoor life to live! In fact, the only notification alert I have on my phone is for text messaging and that's only because it is how the County initiates "call-outs". It wasn't until around 6:pm when I received a text message from Greg Figg asking if I had seen the email. Long story-short, I called the listed cell number for Bill and surprisingly got an answer. At 60+ years of age, they had walked the six miles back to the snow park in a little over 4 hours. Upon arrival at the snow park, they met two Fish & Wildlife officers who acknowledged, that had Dispatch notified them, they would have been glad to help. It's

part of their job description to provide search and rescue. However, since they were safely in the parking lot and it was no longer a rescue, they were not allowed to assist in recovering the snowmobile. Bill repeatedly stated he did not know anyone with a snowmobile to help recover his, nor even where to rent one. Feeling the desperation in his voice I agreed to meet him the next morning to go and recover the sled. Accomplishing that the next day with the broken "Polaris" (Mike, Alan pay attention) sled on the trailer, Bill pulled out his wallet and offered up a wad of cash which I, feeling neighborly, politely refused. Instead I explained to Bill he could make a donation to WK SAR, should he choose to do so. Later as I related this story including the donation to Bob Walker, I get the Larry Giesa grin and the comment, "Good luck on ever seeing that!" I'll admit it was a tough decision whether to deposit the \$100 check or watch Bob eat it!

In other news, the Spokane County SAR Academy is almost at an end with just the Final Field Exercise

(test) remaining. We have Brett Emmert soon to join the team as a fully State certified member. Also, the club's philanthropic donation of \$300 dollars to the Spokane County Search & Rescue Council was publically and enthusiastically acknowledged. For those not familiar, the SAR Council is the focal point for all the volunteer teams for specialized training and only supported through fundraising and donations.

Lastly, expect another Winter Knights SAR Team Training/Social field exercise similar to last year with some new "twists" one day in late July or early August. More information to follow, particularly for those new members that indicated a SAR interest, as we move further down the calendar. As always, should you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me.

Wayne Smith
Search & Rescue



From the Scholarship Committee

We received one scholarship application this year from a well qualified applicant (the granddaughter of an active Winter Knights member). The Scholarship Committee elected to award the applicant the full \$2,400 scholarship. Congratulations to Josie Walker as she goes on to University of Idaho to study Ecology Conservation, Biology, and Plant Sciences!



In-Memoriam: Stoy Dabbs

I first met Stoy through the Winter Knights Search and Rescue program. He was a quiet and reserved sort of guy. He would always show up at our training sessions. He was the most prepared person that I know. His backpack weighed at least 75 pounds. He had a very old snowmobile that wasn't always reliable. He was a Winter Knights club member since 1978. If he couldn't ride, he helped in any way possible. Never a complaint came from his mouth. Stoy loved to be outdoors.

One day he called me to let me know that he was paralyzed from his chest down. He took this news with a grain of salt. Stoy had cancer of the spine. A few days later I contacted him where he was in rehab. No complaints, but his computer quit working. We in SAR thought it would be appropriate to replace it for him. When I handed it to him, he got a tear in his eye and very graciously accepted it. One day he showed up at a club meeting in his new wheelchair and said, "Bob, watch this." where he proceeded to stand up. Pretty soon he started taking a few steps, saying, "I'm going to beat this." Stoy would wheel chair down to the bus lines and get on a bus and come to meetings. He also got himself a Segway so he could go on the trails in the woods. Stoy finally got an older Subaru station wagon and had it configured so he could drive again with his hands. Stoy could then go anywhere that there was training. He even went through the SAR Academy with us, completing all the required tasks in his wheel chair.

I heard that Stoy wasn't doing well so I called him up one day this past January. In his normal upbeat way, he told me "The doctors said I would be dead in a week and a half, but I showed them. It has been three weeks and I'm still going."

When Stoy passed on, we had a memorial at the Sheriff Training Center on North Chase Road. There were several SAR members present from all of the teams. Everyone had a Stoy story to share. We all had a few tears in our eyes as the stories came.

Stoy was handed a difficult life, but handled it all with a grain of sand. He never complained about anything. I don't believe that Stoy Dabbs had a single enemy in this world. To me, he was a great person. We all could use his attitude in life.

Stoy, you will be and are truly missed.

Bob Walker, Winter Knights Search and Rescue



Quilts of Valor

Are you a service member or veteran touched by war? If so, you are eligible to receive a Quilt of Valor!

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover all combat service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor. The local Spokane branch of the Foundation currently has 89 members and have presented approximately 529 quilts to date. These members provide all the designs, material, labor and love that goes into each quilt. Each quilt takes 2-3 months to complete. Spokane Winter Knights member, Pamela Kelley, is one of these quilt makers. She would like to honor our club members with a Quilt of Valor if they are eligible. Please call her at 360-739-0917, or email her at pdk246@yahoo.com if you are interested or would like more information. She will send you a form to fill out with your military information.

All requests must be submitted to Pamela **by May 31, 2018**. Quilts will be presented in the Fall at one of our Winter Knights meetings.



Quilts of Valor
Quilting to Honor & Comfort

FRESH POWDER NORTHWEST - APRIL 2018

Page 7

2018 Upcoming Events

June:

15 - Spokane Indians Baseball Game (order tickets by May 31)

July:

15 - Membership renewals for 2018-2019 season mailed out,
renewal deadline is August 31

29 - Down River Days Water Crossing - Lone, WA

August:

14 - Deadline for Golf Tournament registration

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

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

September:

6 - Board Meeting

8 & 9 - Hay Days, North Branch, Minnesota

20 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

October:

4 - Board Meeting

18 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

November:

1 - Board Meeting

9 - Snow Show Set-up - Fairgrounds

10 - Snow Show - Fairgrounds

15 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

23 - CDA Christmas Parade - Come see our club float!

December:

8 - Christmas Party - 50th Anniversary - Red Lion River Inn



- Club Officers -

President - Greg Figg

Vice President - Glen Mumm

Treasurer - Sharon Crockett

Secretary - Ron Kelley

- Club Chairs -

Snow Show - Dean Meakin

Search & Rescue - Wayne Smith

Membership - Al & Nellie McCarty

Marketing - Glen Mumm

- Board Members -

Jim Freeman

Shaidon Storch

Brandon Propeck

Simon Triggs

Scott Ahrens

Bob Walker

- Web -

spokanewinterknights.com

- Email -

spokanewinterknights@gmail.com



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATIONS

National News

March 2018

ACSA is the 501(C)3 Charitable Organization Protecting your Rights to Access Federal Lands



Help Us Help Snowmobiling—Amazon Smile!



Here is a way to support organized snowmobiling – with absolutely no money out of your pocket. Amazon Smile.

We all buy from Amazon, some of us buy a lot and some of us buy a little. Some of us buy often and some of us buy occasionally. But reality is, we all buy from Amazon.

Many of us have Amazon Prime. No problem – Amazon Smile works there too.

Seems we're always in a hurry and we don't want to mess around trying to log in correctly. No problem, once you have taken a couple of minutes to sign up initially, it automatically recognizes you each time you sign into Amazon. It is literally a click of the button.

Why not let Amazon Smile support organized snowmobiling? It's their contribution – nothing from your pocket. Sign up now!

Support snowmobiling and enter! Chance to win monthly prizes!

Love snowmobiling? Love the chance to win monthly prizes? ACSA is once again publishing their raffle calendar which provides you the chance to win monthly prizes and support the year-long work of ACSA in promoting the rights of snowmobilers throughout the U.S. See your state representatives or visit our [raffle calendar page](#) to learn more!

And The Winner Is?

We count on so many volunteers in so many ways. It's a constant. It's a necessity. How do we reward them? Awards!

Now is the time to nominate for ACSA Awards. Recognize those volunteers! Honor those that give so much of their time and energy. These awards will be presented at the 50th ISC in Halifax on June 16th.

Categories include:

- Snowmobiler of the Year
- Snowmobile Family of the Year
- Young Snowmobiler of the Year
- Snowmobile Dealer of the Year
- Snowmobile Club of the Year

Those awards recognize the individuals – very deserving individuals that are the backbone to snowmobiling. Please nominate!!

CRT Awards recognize the trails. There are several categories to enter your trail projects. These awards are presented in Washington, DC in June.

The CRT awards recognize worthy trail projects funded by the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). These awards raise the trails visibility to the national level. The trails receive recognition of the efforts of local and state organization that work to bring the trails from plans to reality. These awards also come with Congressional recognition, which is good because they are the ones that appropriate the federal gas taxes to the RTP program.

All of the forms are on the ACSA website, <http://www.snowmobilers.org/snowmobilers-of-the-year.aspx>

Ever See Lies About Snowmobiles on Social Media or in the News?

It's always frustrating to see poorly written or downright untrue articles about snowmobiling on the news, in print and/or on Social Media sites.

When you see these, do you respond? We certainly hope so-never let an untruth about our sport stand unchallenged. So, where can you get real information to answer these untruths? Go to this page:

www.snowmobileinfo.org.

We've spent a lot of time and energy gathering facts and putting them together in a coherent manner. Please use this tool when encountering items published by folks with an anti-snowmobile agenda.



Want to know more about ACSA? Go to www.snowmobilers.org - [Facebook.com/AmericanCouncilofSnowmobileAssociations](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanCouncilofSnowmobileAssociations) - www.snowmobileinfo.org

Follow us on Instagram at [ACSA_snowmobiling](#) and on Twitter [@ACSA_snowmobile](#)

SPOKANE WINTER KNIGHTS SNOWMOBILE CLUB NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK



WHEN:

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2018

GATES OPEN @ 5:30PM

GAME @ 6:30PM

WHERE:

AVISTA STADIUM

602 N. HAVANA

OPENING NIGHT FIREWORKS



PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS BY MAY 31ST

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
P.O. Box 1255
MEAD, WA 99021-1255