

FRESH POWDER NORTHWEST

Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club

SpokaneWinterKnights.com

spokanewinterknights@gmail.com



JULY 2020

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From the President

Greetings Winter Knights Members,

It is the end of June now as I write this article. I hope this finds you in good health with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. With the pandemic, a lot of us had our snowmobile season end a little sooner than normal with the closure of many of our riding areas. We were all hoping this virus might go away like some of the others have and we would be able to enjoy a more normal summer. However, that does not seem to be the case judging on what is happening.

On the positive side of things, I have taken some hikes in areas I have never been and gone on a couple fun ATV rides. I think many of us are finding new activities to enjoy or being able to modify other ones to fit our new sense of normal.

I know our membership is interested in the other activities the Winter Knights have carried on for many years and how they may be affected:

Snow Show--

We are continuing to follow the developments closely as it relates to our snow show in November. Dean, our Snow Show Director, is working with the fairgrounds on guidance and what options may be available. Dean is also looking to see what insurance for the show he can find, as with the pandemic, acquiring the needed insurance appears to be more difficult. It is our desire to have the show if we are allowed and if we can do it safely, meeting all the protocols. None of us want to put our members or snowmobiling community at risk. We will provide more information to our membership once additional details become available, so stay tuned on this. (continued on page 2)

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From the President - Continued

Summer Picnic and Golf Tournament--

In regard to the Summer Picnic this year, we have had to cancel it. The Idaho State Health Department guidance does not recommend having our event this year, unfortunately. Cancelling it was not something we wanted to do, but we need to be in compliance with the regulations as not to put the club or our gracious hosts in a potential difficult position. Our picnic will return again next year!!

Board--

In regard to the budget, we will want to have the club membership approve our

budget at our club meeting this Fall. We will also be looking at the budget in the meantime for potential cuts, as our income will likely be reduced this year. Lastly, I anticipate we will have a vacancy on our Board of Directors this Fall. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please let one of the board members know for you to be considered. More to follow on this later in the summer.

Meetings--

We are hopeful we will be able to have in-person meetings again this Fall, but it is too early to know. We will continue to communicate electronically

with our membership via email. We are also investigating having our club meetings online if we can't meet in person.

I hope you find ways to enjoy your summer and continue to stay healthy in this trying time.

Sincerely,

Greg Figg,
President



Upcoming General Meeting



Our next scheduled club meeting is Thursday, September 17, 2020 at the [NEWTECH Skill Center](#), located at 4141 N. Regal. This may change, however, pending the status of the

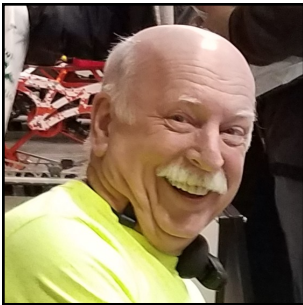
COVID-19 situation. We will keep you informed as that date nears.

Next Board Meeting:
September 3, 2020 @ 6pm
Location: Contact Greg

Snow Show 2020

For now, Spokane Interstate Fairgrounds has **NOT** cancelled our event. So, we are still a **GO**, until we are not. Hopefully things will move forward, however, we need to be ready for either outcome. This is a list of my concerns and the roadblocks we are facing as we move forward:

1. Our Governor could stop it. (No show at Phases 1-3)
2. The Spokane Interstate Fairgrounds.
3. Our Insurance Company.
4. Spokane Winter Knights Liability.
5. Our Volunteers, especially our 65 and over's.
6. The cost to implement social distancing requirements at Phase 4.
7. Our Exhibitors' and Attendees' safety.



As the event day draws closer, we may have to make decisions without much notice. More will follow and we will keep everyone in the loop. Please be and stay safe out there.

Respectfully submitted;

Dean Meakin

WK Snow Show Director

2020-2021 Rides

HELLOOOOO!!!! Hope everyone is doing well and having a good summer. Just wanted to touch base with you during the summer to give you something to think about while you are out trying to have some fun. While you are out hiking, riding dirt bikes and ATV's, or just camping, please keep in mind new places to go snowmobiling this winter. I know, I know, summer just got started!! I am trying to put together a list of different places not too far away that club members can use to go snowmobiling. If you happen to be at a place that you like, please take a picture of the parking lot so people have an idea about how to park and what to expect. Also, if you would like to lead a ride at one of your favorite spots this winter or have questions about what is involved, please contact me personally or send an email to the club at

spokanewinterknights@gmail.com and it will be forwarded to me. My plan is to have a 2020-2021 club ride schedule ready to distribute in November or December. We can do rides during the week and on the weekends, day or night. I look forward to your input.

While it would not be club-sanctioned, if any of you want to have a ride this summer (dirt bikes, ATV's, side by sides, mix and match), please let me know. Please be safe and have FUN in the sun this summer and I'll see you in the Fall!

Rene' Wigen,
Board Member



Search and Rescue (SAR)

In case you are tired of hearing and reading about COVID-19, there are two “call outs” I can make you aware of. The first was on Sunday, March 29th at 2:18pm in the 3700 block of Colbert Road in Mead. It involved a missing “at risk” 16 year old male last seen in the vicinity of Pine Needle Road. Subject was reported as without shoes and without medications for approximately 24 hrs. The first search was terminated at 8:34pm and scheduled to resume at 8:am the next day. After a sighting called in by a citizen, the subject was finally located in the vicinity of McDonald’s (Hwy 2 and Hwy 206). The individual was in good health and returned to his parents. Search was

terminated at 5:52pm.

The second call out was an InterAgency Request for Assistance in Mineral County, MT on Sunday, May 3rd to help locate a 74 year old white male with Alzheimer’s missing from his home in Nine Mile Falls since Wednesday, April 29th. A Silver Alert had previously been made public and the individual’s vehicle, a Subaru Legacy, was found stuck in a snow drift in the hills behind the \$50K Silver Dollar Bar. The search effort that day was uneventful, however, the subject was found deceased the next day, May 4th, in Haugan, MT.

In other SAR news, the County Search and Rescue Academy, which started

January 3rd and runs on a Friday night for 8-10 weeks, was finally able to graduate (i.e; certify) 17 individuals in May. Classes were suspended for several weeks due to the initial Coronavirus outbreak. Congratulations to those individuals that stayed the course in spite of the disruptions.

Wayne Smith,
SAR Director



Spokane Indians Baseball Game

Due to COVID-19, the Northwest League cancelled the 2020 baseball season until further notice. Therefore, our Winter Knights “Night at the Ballpark” has been postponed until next summer.

Club Video

Have you already submitted your club ride or event photos and video footage for the new club video? If not, please upload your files to the master Winter Knights riding folder contained within Dropbox at the link below **BY Sunday, July 12**, so that Rick Suhr can start producing the video. Thank you!

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/nCMoVSVI0txX07R7YBto>

Trail Clearing

I hope your summer is going quite well. Mine so far has been exceptional, except for the quarantine part. My wife and I did the first three weeks quarantined and watching what was going on in the world very seriously. We still take it seriously, but have made a few modifications in the way we live. Since the YMCA closed down, I had to find another way of exercising so I wouldn't grow out of my clothes. I went through my unused exercise programs that I have kept over the years and found the OLD Army exercise program called "The Daily Dozen". I started doing them, drug out my bicycle, and lost eight pounds. However, I couldn't wait to get back into my routine at the Y, but now there is a new glitch. If you are over 65, they won't let you use the facilities. Now what do I do? Age discrimination, I say. The answer that I have come up with this past month to prevent from going stir crazy is to dig out my Polaris RZR side by side and head to the mountains. A lot of our club members also have 4X4's and are doing the same thing. I have gone on several rides with the best people ever. Social distancing on an ATV has turned out to be fun. It's just riding on brown dirt instead of white snow. We

have found our share of dirty snow in the mountains. The darn stuff has turned us around on several occasions. Bummer!

While in the mountains, especially the Kings Lake area, I have been looking for trails that need to be cleared this year. Last week we went up and did the Bead Lake route. Once we entered the trail full of brush, my majestic wisdom told me that we had struck "much brush" or "Gold" as one would say. The first 1.25 miles is the area that we need to work on. Sooooooo, sometime this summer or early fall, I will have our e-mail gurus send out a request asking for some help. Don't worry, with a chain saw you can get some pretty darn good social distancing, plus some pretty darn good exercise. The best part is we will be able to see real people and visit. Those darn masks are a problem for me so that would be your decision to wear one or not. The flip side is that it would keep you from eating a lot of bugs, which I'm sure there will be plenty. You would have to furnish your own lunch, but the bugs would provide much protein.

Well folks, I am currently getting the RV ready for some

social distancing from my house and yard work to various campgrounds, locations to be determined as I go this summer. A few days here and a few days there. Who knows. Anything but this darn quarantine. Much more RZR time with the greatest folks ever.

Have a great summer y'all. See ya' on the mountain trails. And just remember while in the mountains, the same hand signals apply. Just because one person is waving one finger at you, it doesn't mean what you think. It's supposed to mean that there is only one more rider behind them.

Ride safe and keep the rubber side down.

Bob Walker, Board Member



Membership Renewal Invoices

IT IS TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP! Be on the lookout for your Winter Knights renewal invoice. It is being mailed 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.

Mail your payment BY August 31, 2020 so your membership does not lapse, as September 1 is the start of the new 2020-21 season for both the Winter Knights and 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 automatically for you. It is much easier on our end this way.

3 Ways to Renew your Membership!

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.

Just go to
spokanewinterknights.com/membership-renewals
and follow the instructions.

Membership Dues = \$30 per year, same as last year.

Newsletters: They are emailed to our membership for free. If you want yours mailed via the U.S. Post Office, there is an additional \$5 annual fee.

Al & Nellie McCarty
Membership Chairs

Website

Have you checked out the club website lately?

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

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



2020 Upcoming Events

July:

15 - Membership renewals for 2020-2021 season mailed out

26 - ~~Down River Days Water Cross - Lone, WA~~ (cancelled)

August:

11 - ~~Deadline for Golf Tournament Registration~~ (cancelled)

16 - ~~Golf Tournament - The Ranch Golf Club, Priest River, Idaho~~

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

31 - Membership Renewal Payment Due

September:

3 - Board Meeting - Contact Greg for location

12 & 13 - Hay Days, Minnesota

17 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

October:

1 - Board Meeting - Contact Greg for location

15 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

November:

5 - Board Meeting - Contact Greg for location

13 - Snow Show Set-up - Fairgrounds

14 - Snow Show - Fairgrounds

19 - General Club Meeting - NEWTECH Skill Center

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

December:

12 - Christmas Party

- Club Officers -

President - Greg Figg

Vice President - Glen Mumm

Treasurer - Cindy Woodward

Secretary - Sharon Crockett

- Club Chairs -

Snow Show - Dean Meakin

Search & Rescue - Wayne Smith

Membership - Al & Nellie McCarty

Marketing - Glen Mumm

- Board Members -

Brandon Propeck

Rene' Wigen

Erv Koller

Bob Walker

Jim Freeman

Shaidon Storch

- Newsletter Editors -

Al & Nellie McCarty

- Web -

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