

FRESH POWDER NORTHWEST

Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club

www.spokanewinterknights.com

spokanewinterknights@gmail.com

From the President

Greetings Fellow Winter Knights,

I first wanted to thank our Winter Knights volunteers that helped us with woodcutting and cabin maintenance this Fall. With the leadership of Bob Walker, we made short work of woodcutting at both Mt. Spokane and King's Lake. No matter what happens this year, our wood is stacked and the cabins are ready for the winter!!

For the last two weekends, a couple of our local dealerships had snow shows of their own to help out with our snow show being cancelled this year. We attended the one in Pinehurst at Valley Powersports on November 7th and Allsport in Liberty Lake on November 14th and 15th. I would like to thank Allsport for donating the revenue from the parking lot swap meet to the Winter Knights, plus the generous donation of an extra \$1000.00 to help the club with the loss of revenue from the snow show this year. Thank you again Allsport for this great support!! (pictures on page 7)

Looking forward, I am disappointed to report that we had to cancel our club rides at least through the end of January. With the recent upsurge in the COVID-19 virus and the rules that are in place, it is not feasible to have group rides at this time. We will reassess this come the end of January.

While our club rides are cancelled, we would encourage you to continue to ride your favorite spots or a new spot with your riding partners this year (please don't ride alone). What a great way to take your mind off the daily pressures we are dealing with and to have fun while maintaining our social distance.

In sharing what we are hearing from our local dealers this year, there is a lack of spare snowmobile parts.

They are telling us to be cautious of those early season rides where rocks and stumps are lurking for us to hit them. That new suspension a-arm may not be available for some time.

Our plan is to continue to have our Board and general meetings virtually through the Zoom computer software. We will email you the Zoom meeting link, which allows you to join our monthly general meeting by clicking on it.

Lastly, please be safe, ride with a partner and carry the needed equipment for your riding style and area. Enjoy the holidays and hope to see everybody again real soon.

Best Regards,

Greg Figg , President



**November
2020**

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Woodcutting - Day #1 Mt. Spokane 10-10-20

Good afternoon all. As I was sitting in my nice warm living room, I realized that I should write an article about the club's recent woodcutting experiences, so here goes.

On October 10, Mt. Spokane was the focus of our wood cutting. 11 of the 13 arrived for breakfast at McDonalds on Hwy 2 and 206. Peggy Smith (and Wayne) had set aside 2 large wood piles on their property for us to cut up and take to the mountain. I had pre-positioned the WK log splitter and trailer the previous day. We all arrived at about 9 am. A slight drizzle had started and the enthusiasm was above high. All pitched in. Some started the chainsaws to ensure proper 6 foot distancing was occurring, while others gathered around the log splitter as rounds started coming.

All was going well, until Mother Nature decided to give us some

RAIN. Then more and more rain! Nobody seemed phased and just kept going. Soon the trailer was filled. Brandon backed his truck in and soon that was filled as well.

We then caravanned to Mt. Spokane, where the wind began to howl. The road was fogged in and yellow needles came onto the road, making it very difficult to even follow the road. But as the mighty snowmobilers that we are, we moved on in. As I stood under a fir tree giving me a shower, trying to open the gate, Mother Nature decided I needed to get wetter. The rain came in much harder and the wind came up, making it even more fun than shoveling snow. We proceeded to the CCC Cabin, where I backed the trailer up to the wood shed. Everyone jumped out of their warm vehicles and started to put wood in the Shelter. Brandon was throwing wood to the next

person on one side of the trailer and Cindy started the same thing on the other side. Cindy inferred that no guy could outdo her. Brandon, in his quiet demeanor, said that no woman would outdo him. The wood started flying into the shed! Everyone was doing their best to keep up and to stay warm. I went over to the CCC Cabin to start a fire, and low and behold, we were locked out due to COVID. The Ranger failed to tell me this. There went our hamburger and hot dog lunch, to be provided by the Winter Knights. Plan B was set in place. Soon the trailer and truck were empty and the Shed full of wood. I gave everyone my address and we ended up in my garage for lunch, of course socially distanced. Greg and Sharon donned their masks and fixed lunch for all of us.

Thank you Norris Boyd, Mike and Sue Harrison, Brandon Propeck, Cindy Woodward, Mitch Allen, Dan Parshall, Steve Ruggles, Al McCarty, Lee Witham, Mike Close, Greg Figg and Sharon Crockett. (Hope I didn't miss anyone!) The adventure was a great success, water-logged and all. The Winter Knights logged approximately 101 hours on this project.

Stay tuned for more wood cutting adventures, Day #2, this time at the Baldies!

Bob Walker

Woodcutting Chair
Board Member



Woodcutting - Day #2 Baldies 10-17-20



On October 17, club members met at McDonalds in Newport, Washington at 8 AM. After breakfast, off to the Ritz Warming Hut we went, via Priest River and up to the Squaw Valley Road.

Upon arrival at the warming hut, we were greeted by Bruce Rawls, who had already started a fire. (Kudos!) The weather was clear, finally. Chain saws were passed out, the log splitter set in place, safe distancing was instilled. Wood started to come down the hill and wood started being split. Rick grabbed a ladder and screw gun and started re-screwing the roof. Greg and Al headed to the back of the shed to clean the crapper. Toilet paper, a VERY important product, was replaced. The new flag went up and all was good.

Outside, a couple of lines were formed and the wood began to

get stacked up. Rene' became our truck driver and Kevin knew that he had to get out of her way. Chris Walker began splitting logs by hand with a splitting maul. I believe he was trying to beat the log splitter, but it was like 3 to one. Greg started prepping lunch. There were a few sidewalk superintendents giving all of us instructions as to where each individual piece of wood should be placed. Safe distancing was definitely instilled.

After about 1 1/2 hours, the front of the warming hut was again filled to capacity. A wood round was placed inside for a chopping block and a brand new axe was left. Sure would be nice if no one stole it this year, but Ho Hum, we know what will happen.

Greg and Sharon again adorned their trusty masks and rubber gloves and began to cook hamburgers and hot dogs, plus a

great big bag of candy for one and all. Hand sanitizer was placed in various spots to insure everyone was clean and safe. Hand sanitizer was also left in the toilet and lunch area for anyone willing to use it. LUNCH WAS DRY AND GREAT.

I want to thank Sue and Mike Harrison, Ken and LA Brown, Ian Wyles and Jessica Lewis, Greg Figg, Kevin and Rene' Wigans, Terry Simpson, Al McCarty, Cindy Woodward, Mitch and Wendy Allen, Rick Suhr, Mark and Cindy Close, Bruce Rawls and Chris Walker for a great wood cutting experience and a lot of fun. (Hope I didn't miss anyone or leave anyone out.) The Winter Knights logged approximately 181 hours towards this event.

Thank you one and all for a fun-filled day.

Bob Walker

FACES OF THE CLUB: Rick Suhr, Board Member



My name is Rick Suhr and I am the new Board-appointed replacement for Erv Koller, filling his position as a board member until the end of his term.

I joined the Winter Knights around 2015, and I have enjoyed the friendships and rides I have been able to take with the club. Recently, I have used my photo, video and editing skills to help create the club's yearly videos and promotional material.

I was born and raised in Republic, WA. Growing up, I had endless logging roads and wide-open fields to hunt and ride. Winter has always been my favorite season and if I wasn't snow skiing, I was riding. My first sled was a 1971 Artic Cat Cheetah 440, buying it for \$175.00 at age 11 or 12. I was always tinkering on it. Even had to use a tinfoil gum wrapper around a spark plug thread to limp home once.

I owned that sled until the early 90's. After riding some relatives Ski Doo Elan's, I fell in love with the little sled. Light weight, long track, could put it in your truck and close the tailgate. I ended up buying these little sleds, fixing, and selling them. This was the beginning of my very bad habit for buying and re-selling snowmobiles.

Push forward to 2011. My youngest is working for a farm changing sprinklers when he comes home and tells me his boss (Randy Kummer) is going to teach him how to rebuild his Yamaha Exciter motor. From that point on, my son taught me how to rebuild motors. This moved me into the next phase of fixing, riding, selling to make a profit to afford this hobby. It provided great father and son time. To this day, we use it as a way of paying for upgrades in gear and snowmobiles.



I just rebuilt a 2014 Polaris 800 Pro that I will modify throughout the season. Her name is Snowflake :) The chassis allows me to learn how to sidehill easier and work on my technique of riding the moderately aggressive rides. If I'm stuck, I'm **not** having fun!

I hope to meet you all riding this winter and I look forward to representing the club.

Rick Suhr



Life Flight Renewal

It is time to join or renew Life Flight memberships through the Winter Knights. Our 2020 memberships expire on December 31, 2020.

The membership fee is **\$59** a year. The membership will cover any dependents claimed on your tax return and elderly or disabled family members living in the same household.

1. If you are **joining** for the first time, please send your completed Enrollment Form (see back page of this newsletter) and your check for **\$59 MADE PAYABLE TO THE SPOKANE WINTER KNIGHTS** to me by December 1, 2020. You can mail it to me at the address below.
2. If you are **renewing** and there are no changes in your household, you do not need to complete a membership form. I just need your check for **\$59 MADE PAYABLE TO THE SPOKANE WINTER KNIGHTS or cash**. You can mail it to me at the address below.
3. If you would like to give a membership to a family member or friend, or invite someone you know to join our group membership in Life Flight, you can do that also. I just need the application completed and a check for **\$59 MADE PAYABLE TO THE SPOKANE WINTER KNIGHTS**. You can mail it to me at the address below.

Life Flight is not offering the 3 year membership any longer - you can only renew for a 1 year membership. If you have any questions, please call me at 484-7273.

Sharon Crockett
1128 E Gordon, Spokane 99207

2021 Scholarship

The application form for the Winter Knights 2021 Scholarship is now updated and posted on our club website. Please send all required documents to the address on the application (email will not be accepted) by March 15, 2021.

Questions: Sharon Crockett (509) 484-7273 or visit our club [website](#) for detailed information.

Upcoming General Meeting



Our next general business meeting will be virtual on:

Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 7pm.

An email will be sent to you in January with the Zoom link for you to click and join in.

Next Board Meeting:

January 7, 2021

Time and Location TBD

Rides

The snow is falling and it's almost time to ride!!! I have compiled a full schedule of Trail/Less Aggressive Off-Trail rides for the season... BUT... due to the current COVID-19 restrictions and the club's insurance, we are NOT able to have "Sanctioned Winter Knights Club Rides" at this time. However, if someone wants to ride, just post your ride destination and time on our "Facebook" page. If anyone wishes to meet you there, they can just show up and have a good ride. If the COVID-19 restrictions open up later, then I can post the rest of the ride schedule for the season. This is NOT how I wanted my first year as Ride Coordinator to go, but I am doing everything I can to get us out there and riding. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me personally or send an email to the club and they will forward it to me. Once again, I am sorry, BUT we will make this work!



Rene' Wigen
Ride Coordinator
Board Member

Membership News

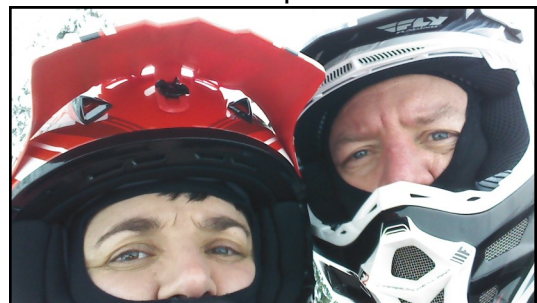
Thank you everyone for renewing your membership dues this year, especially during these difficult times!

We are up 3 new members so far this year, thanks to the efforts of the Board members at the Allsport Snow Show event last weekend.

There are still about 25 members that have not yet renewed. If you are one of those, please mail in your \$30 check, made payable to Spokane Winter Knights, as soon as possible to: P.O. Box 1255, Mead, WA 99021-1255. You may also renew on-line by going to our [website](#), completing the renewal form and pay using PayPal.

Golden members, even though you are free from paying your Winter Knights dues, you still need to make sure your contact information is correct. Please return your updated form, call us, or email us at spokanewinterknights@gmail.com.

Al & Nellie McCarty
Membership Chairs



Treasurer

Here we are, Winter 2020! As 509 says, #CANTCANCELWINTER. As your Treasurer, thank you for your membership dues amidst a time when we are unsure just how much we can legally offer as a “club” amidst this pandemic. We appreciate your continued support!

Finding the Spokane Winter Knights has been the most incredible family I could hope to have. If you are reading this newsletter, here's a shout out to our newsletter peeps who do a pro job, along with wrangling our membership, and so much more...thank you McCartys! If you are a NEW member, reach out and get to know the Board and members. This year may be a little tougher to do so, but we appreciate you supporting the club, and please be good ambassadors wherever you ride!

To those who always go above and beyond, thank you for your energy, time and friendship. The wood cutting trips...I cherish each memory, down to the “last log”! The pouring rain at Wayne & Peggy's (we miss you Wayne), to driving rain and wind on Mt. Spokane with an amazing group of friends, you are the best! Our second wood cutting at The Ritz...good times were had by all! Bob is one amazing guy to get these scheduled and completed year after year. (continued on page 9)

Allsport Snow Show Pictures - November 14-15, 2020



Wayne Smith In-Memoriam

In memory of our friend and snowmobiling partner, Wayne Smith... Some of this information is from a 2009 booklet called "We Honor Our Magnolia Veterans" given to me by Peggy Smith.

Wayne was born October 31, 1946 in Evansville, Indiana. He graduated from Magnolia High School in 1965 and married Peggy Swiney in January 1966.

In December, he received a Christmas Card from the President of the United States instructing him to report on January 10, 1967 to Fort Polk, Louisiana, for 8 weeks of Basic Training. He went on to Advanced Infantry Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, then on to Artillery Officer Candidate School graduating November 7, 1967. Wayne volunteered for Rotary Wing (Helicopter) Flight School. He and Peggy then went to Fort Wolters, (Mineral Wells) Texas for primary Helicopter Training and the birth of their first son, Christopher. Wayne finished his final phase of Flight School at Hunter Army Airfield, (Savannah) Georgia in December 1968.

Wayne went to Vinh Long, Viet Nam in January 1969, while Peggy moved back to Magnolia. Wayne was assigned to the 7th Squadron 1st Air Cavalry and volunteered to fly in the Scout Platoon. Air Cavalry was a relatively new concept at the time, designed to "seek out and destroy" an elusive enemy. It involved missions consisting of two Scout OH-6 Observation Helicopters commonly referred to as "Lochs" and two AH-1G "Cobra" gunships with a UH-1H "Huey" Command and Control Ship (C&C). Scouts would fly at tree top level, while gunships orbited at altitude above. Upon contact with the enemy, Scouts would mark enemy positions with smoke and the gunships would roll in with rocket and mini-gun fire. C&C would then radio back to the staging area for the Lift Platoon to bring in ground troops.

With almost 1000 combat hours and his Viet Nam service, Wayne was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses, The Bronze Star, three Purple Hearts, Air Medal with 37th Award and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.



"Spoof" picture of Wayne and his Scout Helicopter in Viet Nam

After Viet Nam, Wayne returned to Fort Wolters, Texas, where he served as a helicopter instructor. Following that, he served in numerous aviation and armor unit assignments at Fort Hood, Texas, where his second son, Brent, was born. Wayne decided to make a career of the US Army. He attended Infantry Officers Advanced Course, Jump School, and Command General and Staff College. Key assignments included Command of a Tank Company at Fort Hood, Command of an Attack Troop, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Germany and Professor of Military Science (ROTC) at Lamar University, Beaumont Texas, as a Lieutenant Colonel. He retired after twenty years of service and was awarded the Legion of Merit.



After retirement, Wayne became a financial planner for the military for 10 years. Then he worked as the Assistant Director for Bell City Probation Department, retiring March 2007.

Wayne moved to Washington and joined the Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club in 2012. Here he became the Director of the Search and Rescue Unit. He became very involved within the club. He and Peggy became avid snowmobilers and ATV riders.

Wayne passed away September 28, 2020 from Multiple Myeloma Cancer. He will be greatly missed as he was a friend to all.

Bob Walker

Treasurer - Continued

There is so much effort and planning that goes on behind the scenes, and I am grateful to be getting to know the people who consistently give SO much to our club! Helmets off to all of you! Sitting on the Board has allowed me the opportunity to see just how much effort our President, Greg, generously donates. I wish I had the space to personally thank everyone for their efforts and friendship. I hope these memories with all of you never leave me! Speaking of memories, I'll always cherish the day I called Wayne Smith to inform him that someone had accidentally put funds in the Search & Rescue account that belonged in the general membership account and I needed to take it back. He was in a great deal of pain, but in true stalwart Wayne fashion he said, "Get over here, I'll arm wrestle you for it!" Gosh....perspective! He was suffering, but was still laughing...and finished by saying, "Nah, skip that, I don't want to get beat by a girl!" Ah Wayne... one of the great ones who gave so much! This world misses you, and Peggy, we love you!

I recently purchased my Idaho Non-Res and groomer tabs at the Allsport Snow Show and went out to the garage to uncover my sled saying, "We are going to have an epic year, you and I," (and don't tell me you don't talk to your sled). As I topped off Ace (yes, I name my sled) with fresh oil, dusted off the skis, took off the old tabs and smoothed on the new ones, I was thinking to myself, "Another epic season is here!"

This year is going to look different for our club, and we all have to take a deep breath. I hope our paths cross several times because that is what snowmobiling means to me. One big family! Being on the mountain in the beautiful snow is perfection! I can't wait for this season and for more perfect memories. Please know there are people here to help if you want to learn a new skill. I had someone spend a good deal of time with me last year after my return from a professional Ride Rasmussen class (whoooooa...talk about pushing my previous limits at Ride Rasmussen...yikes)! A club member reinforced the new skills I had learned just weeks before and continued to push my limits (thanks Glen)! I went on a few trail rides in the last couple years...GREATEST people, they welcome everyone, and much laughter ensues. Spokane is lucky to have this club and we need to carry it through difficult years like this one. This industry, the riders, our wonderful leadership at WSSA, the companies who give us perfect riding gear, the local dealerships who give endlessly to our club, the people who pull your skis 500 times and still smile... you are the BEST!



You may have noticed by now that I am obsessed with snowmobiling. I started riding as a baby in my dad's arms on a two piece sled, graduated to riding alone at age 4 on a Massey Ferguson Ski Whiz (yes, my dad was a Massey Ferguson dealer; yes, Massey Ferguson DID make snowmobiles; yes, I was a farm girl), and now enjoy laughing at myself as I build skills in the back country. Believe me, there are plenty of reasons to laugh at myself! Keep coming out, keep packing your lunch, bring your camera for memories, and enjoy every minute. If you forget your camera, I've got you covered! I start and end every ride with a group photo, along with snapping memories of everyone I see! It is my way of sharing happy moments...ok, and to prove we brought everyone back to their trailers alive!

(continued on page 10)

2020-2021 Upcoming Events

December:

12 ~~Christmas Party - Ruby River Hotel~~ (CANCELLED)

January:

7 Board Meeting - 6pm - location TBD
21 General Club Meeting - virtual on Zoom - 7pm

February:

4 Board Meeting - 6pm - location TBD
18 General Club Meeting - 7pm

March:

4 Board Meeting - 6pm - location TBD
18 General Club Meeting - 7pm

Treasurer - Continued

Sorry in advance if you are sledding with me, it's dark, and I don't want to go back to the trailer. I have a hard time facing the "end of the day". But present day Cindy would go back to each ride day and fist bump myself, followed by an exuberant hug for the pivotal decision to keep riding as long as there is fuel in the tank!

Here's to a season of progression for all, more greatest memories, no broken parts (sled or human), and mountain sunsets! HERE'S TO THE NEXT BEST SEASON EVER!



Cindy Woodward
Treasurer



- Club Officers -

President - Greg Figg
Vice President - Glen Mumm
Treasurer - Cindy Woodward
Secretary - Sharon Crockett

- Club Chairs -

Snow Show - Dean Meakin
Search & Rescue - Bob Walker (Interim)
Membership - Al & Nellie McCarty
Marketing - Glen Mumm

- Board Members -

Brandon Propeck
Rene' Wigen
Rick Suhr
Bob Walker
Jim Freeman
Shaidon Storch

- Newsletter Editors -

Al & Nellie McCarty

- Web -

spokanewinterknights.com

- Email -

spokanewinterknights@gmail.com



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GROUP MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT

Spokane Winter Knights Association

MEMBER ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Spouse/Domestic Partner: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Additional Eligible Household Members:

Includes any dependents claimed on your tax return and elderly or disabled family members living in the same household

	Date of Birth	Relationship
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

_____ I am an existing member. ID# (if known) _____

Member's Signature: _____

GROUP DISCOUNT MEMBERSHIP:

- ◆ Annual fee of \$59 per year per household.
- ◆ Discount rate is valid with enrollment through an approved group only.
- ◆ Payment directly to Life Flight Network is not available.
- ◆ Complete Statement of Understanding is found on the reverse side of this form.

LIFE FLIGHT NETWORK FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 3841 • Portland, Oregon 97208-3841

Phone: (503) 678-4370

This form is valid through 11/30/2020. Contact your employer or group representative for an updated enrollment form if this form is expired. New member benefits take effect 72 hours after receipt of completed enrollment form and payment. Life Flight Network transports patients based on medical need, not membership status. Medicaid beneficiaries should not apply for membership. Life Flight Network operates under its own FAA Part 135 Air Carrier Certificate.