

Snoflyer

*The official publication of the
Washington State Snowmobile Association*

February 2023

Volume 45

Mid-season lull...

Bring on the big storms!

***Inside: Club News
Winter Rendezvous Info
State Parks Update***

Aim your phone
here, click, and join
WSSA today!



Cover Pic: From a ride on Bethel Ridge taken by Matt Mead.



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Click here for up-to-date grooming reports!

Photo Credit - Craig Hill

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GROOMED TRAIL REPORT

UPDATED DAILY



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WSSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership valid until August 31st, 2023

Annual Dues (circle one): Family/Individual or Club - \$25 Associate - \$50

FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL: (\$25)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ County: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

of Registered Sleds: _____ Number of Riders: _____

Legislative District: _____ Congressional District: _____

ASSOCIATE- Business or Dealer (\$50) and Clubs (\$25)

Name of Business or Club: _____

Owner/Business Contact or Club Contact: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Business Type: _____ Snowmobile Dealer? (circle one): Yes No

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____ Website: _____

PAYMENT: Cash: _____ Check #: _____

Credit Card (Visa or M/C): _____ Expiration: _____ V-Code: _____

Membership Dues: \$ _____

Contribution to Legal Action Fund (not tax deductible): \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Mail Application and Payment to: WSSA Membership
2130 Lower Peoh Point Rd.
Cle Elum, WA 98922

Membership questions?

Contact Wayne or Florence at membership@wssa.us or (509) 674-4401

Questions about WSSA? Contact: Dee Alred, President
9104 Wide Hollow Rd.
Yakima, WA 98908
E-mail: delia.alred@wssa.us
(509) 965-8305

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR SPORT

WSSA MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT EVENTS 2022/2023

Winter Rendezvous & WSSA Meeting In Yakima

February 17th - 20th, 2023

Guided rides. Leaders for family-friendly, mid-level trail/off-trail and again for the extreme; we'll have a ride for you! Meals and entertainment on Friday and Saturday nights. Legal Action auction and announcement of Legal Action Fund raffle winner.

WSSA Meeting at the Lake Wenatchee Rec Club March 11th, 2023

Our annual budget meeting. Starts at 9am. A lunch option will be provided. Hoping to schedule rides for Friday and/or Sunday. Help set the financial direction of your state snowmobile association.

International Snowmobile Congress June 7th-June 10th, 2023

Join us in Moline, IL, and visit friends... or make new friends... from around the country and learn about snowmobiling in other states, provinces and European countries. Visit www.snowmobilers.org/isc for details.

WSSA Summer Meeting & Campout August 18th-August 20th, 2023

Join us at the Blu-Shastin RV Park in Peshastin for a weekend of fun! Friday night chili feed. Root beer floats and a duck race on Saturday.



Snoflyer Advertising Targets Snowmobilers!

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E-mail or call for details
Matt Mead, Publicity Secretary
(509) 424-1575 or snoflyer@wssa.us

2022/23 Season Ad Rates

	Digital	Digital & Print^
Full Page	\$160	\$260
3/4 Page	\$135	\$215
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1/4 Page	\$90	\$145
Credit Card*	\$25	\$50

Single issue rates - discounts for multiple issue buys

Club rates: 25% off full & 3/4 page, 50% 1/2 & 1/4 page

*Available for Clubs & Associate Members only

^Only available for months a print issue is offered

Leadership

Delia Alred, President
delia.alred@wssa.us • (509) 965-8305



The snow is piling up and people are out playing! What a great sight! I hope everyone has gotten their snowmobiles registered. If you see anyone without a registration, please inform them our grooming dollars come from the registrations and to please get them registered!

I'm really looking forward to our WSSA Rendezvous this year as it's going to be in Yakima. We are meeting at the Yakima Valley Museum. Your registration includes admission into the museum. This is a real treat!

The clubs in the area are looking forward to guiding rides from the three different areas. Ron Alred has set up nine different guided rides covering Friday, Saturday and Sunday! All levels of experience will be covered. Some rides will include lunch. There will be sign-up sheets at the hotels Thursday for the Friday rides.

Tickets for the Legal Action Fund sled deck raffle are still available. It will be given away on Saturday night, February 18th, to some lucky winner!

I hope to see you there!

Dean Meakin, Vice President
dean.meakin@wssa.us • (509) 220-1001



Thank you everyone who participated in 'International Snowmobile Safety Week'. I know it is real important to educate all of the new snowmobilers who have arrived since COVID-19. By the way, you can teach safety on snowmobiles every time you go out. It is what we do. If you need any additional materials to pass out, please, let me know and I will gladly send you more. Thank You American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA) for all you do to support this week of safety.

As I write this article, WSSA elections are happening online right now. Please vote to show you support the people and the countless hours these volunteers contribute for the greater cause. I also noticed we will need to find a new recording secretary as that position was vacant on the ballot. Please consider volunteering for this job. Also, as a reminder, we are still looking for District Reps in 2 North and 4 South. To the clubs in these areas, we need your help in finding the best person to be your representative, your ambassador, your messenger. Without a voice from your area, we are at a loss as to what the needs are. Please contact me with any questions concerning what the job entails, and check page 20 of this Snoflyer to see the map of the district locations in Washington.

Final Reminder: the next 'Mountain Riding Summit Meeting' will begin by traveling on Wednesday, February 22nd, and returning home on the 26th, in Alpine, Wyoming. There will be some avalanche training at a very low cost from the Bridger Teton Avalanche Center. You need to contact me concerning the avalanche training real soon. The blocked rooms are filled now, however there are still rooms available to book. (Check with the Brandin' Iron Inn, a WSSA advertiser - Ed.) Please let me know if you are interested in attending. This event is sponsored by ACSA.

ISC 2023: Is still a GO! In Moline, Illinois, from June 7th-10th. If you have never attended this event, then do it this year. The International Snowmobile Congress (ISC) has always been educational and informational! (E/I).

Join WSSA and help support snowmobiling in Washington State!

What Does WSSA Do For YOU?

- WSSA's Legal Action Fund defends snowmobiling in Washington against adverse land-use actions.
- WSSA members work on behalf of all Washington State snowmobilers in Olympia's Capitol.
- WSSA District Reps represent snowmobilers' interests with local land officials and in regional trail grooming councils.
- WSSA travels to Washington D.C. to discuss snowmobile related issues with your congressional representatives and national land managers.
- WSSA represents snowmobilers on the national level with a voice in the American Council of snowmobile Associations and the International Snowmobile Council.
- WSSA hosts the annual Snowmobile Expo & Swap Meet in Puyallup – the largest snowmobile event in the Pacific Northwest.
- WSSA's successful Trail Grant program helps fund new sno-parks & warming huts, trail upgrades & facility improvements.
- WSSA's annual Winter Rendezvous offers you the opportunity to ride in different parts of the state with guided rides and evening social gatherings.
- WSSA supports snowmobile and non-snowmobile projects and charities to boost the image of snowmobilers across the state.

District Reports



District 1 North

By Hans Brubaker
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(360) 922-8296

The Westside WSSA Ride put on by the Whatcom County Snowmobile Club was held on a snowy January 21st. We had a great turnout which was much appreciated. Riders from Central and Western Washington converged at the Canyon Creek Sno-Park for a day of riding and socializing.



L to R: Irene Henninger, NWAC; Hans Brubaker, WSSA District 1; Joe Deboer, Vice President Whatcom County Snowmobile Club; Nikolai Ferrell, Forest Service Recreation Program; and John Varner, President, Whatcom Snowmobile Club.

A snowstorm moved in mid-day but a little hill climbing and backcountry exploration was possible, and lots of tree riding for those who wanted it.



L to R: Tanner Hamlyn, WSSA District 4N; Christina Markovits Hamlyn, WSSA Recording Secretary; Glen Markovits, WSSA District 1S; and Hans Brubaker, WSSA District 1N. Missing from photo is Matt Mead, WSSA Publicity Secretary, and Mark Gallatin, a past (very past!) WSSA President, who were out riding.

A cookout managed by master chef Joe, aka Whatcom Club Vice President, kept everyone fed for the day.

We were grateful for our Forest Service and Northwest Avalanche Center (NWAC) representatives and the opportunity to ride together and visit. Riders could see how the

Obligatory group shot. (At least six riders are missing.)



NWAC avalanche forecast is developed from field testing.

Thanks to the support from WSSA, Mount Baker Motorsports, Chair 9 Pizza, and all the volunteers and attendees who made the event a great day on the snow.

It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm and teamwork from everyone - basically what makes the snowmobile community so awesome. (Continued on page 6)

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District Reports *Continued...*

(Continued from page 5)



District 2 South

By Matt Kensrud
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 (509) 433-2100

The season started out so awesome with big snowfalls, then the rain came, which was okay to help create the base, but it warmed up and now the real struggle has started. If you know anything about grooming with warm temperatures and wet snow, it's almost impossible to do anything with it. I understand the frustration this weather brings to our fun and trail systems. I have been in close contact with our groomers. They are frustrated too; no grooming no money; simple as that.

I've been getting lots of calls on downed trees on the trail system in the Blewett Pass area which is in the Cle Elum Ranger District. Heavy snow and winds are a bad combo. There are lots of folks out trying to help clear trails. If any of the clubs in the district have any questions or things you would like to discuss, feel free to call me.



District 3

By Greg Figg

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 (509) 534-3417

In Northeast Washington we are in the heart of our sledding season. While the snow is still a little sparse for the full off-trail experience in some places, we are enjoying very good riding conditions. Grooming is underway in the Mt. Spokane, Chewelah, Colville, Ione, and Usk areas.

Clubs are also in full swing with rides and events happening locally and with trips to other states and areas additionally. It is also the vintage racing season at Priest Lake, Idaho, next to us. Vintage races will be held on February 18th and 19th this year. This event is always a good time with

many sleds in all different classes competing. You will also find several WSSA members out on the ice with their vintage sleds.

Lastly, please consider attending the WSSA Winter Rendezvous in Yakima this year on February 17th through the 20th. Some great rides are scheduled from trail to adventure rides. A great silent and live auction will be held to raise money for the Legal Auction Fund. We are also planning to have a sled-tacular movie on Friday night. Please see this Snoflyer for more information.

(Continued on page 9)

Wanna race?! Priest Lake is where it is at!



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Washington State Supporting Businesses (Listed alphabetically by city)

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Mt Baker Moto-Sports LLC	2111 Iowa St	Bellingham	WA	98229	www.mtbakermoto.com	360-676-4096
PNW LED	18715 95 th St E	Bonney Lake	WA	98391	www.pnwled.com	253-233-7547
Mission Outdoors	PO Box 7350	Bonney Lake	WA	98391	www.missionoutdoors.org	253-831-8309
Evans Marine	1058 E Woodin Ave	Chelan	WA	98816	www.evansmarine.com	509-682-4402
Mountain Addiction	362 Porcupine Ln	Chelan	WA	98816	www.mountainaddiction.com	509-881-8016
High Country Outfitters & Camp Wahoo!	1780 Nelson Siding Rd	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.campwahoo.com	509-674-8331
Motortoy Rentals Tours Service	1313 Spansky Way	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.motortoyrentals.com	509-674-6807
Sportland Yamaha Inc	4402 Bullfrog Rd	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.sportlandyamaha.com	508-649-2259
The Cottage Cafe	911 East First St	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.cottagecafeceleum.com	509-674-2922
Bennys Colville Inn	915 S Main St	Colville	WA	99114	www.colvilleinn.com	509-684-2517
Colville Motor Sports	165 W Birch Ave	Colville	WA	99114	www.colvillemotorsports.com	509-684-5540
Gibsons North Fork Lodge	100 West Boone	Conconully	WA	98819	www.gibsonsnorthforklodge	509-826-1475
Shady Pines Resort	125 West Fork Rd	Conconully	WA	98819	www.shadypinesresort.com	509-826-2287
Lone Fir Resort & Café	16806 Lewis River Rd	Cougar	WA	98616	www.lonefirresort.com	360-2385210
Cascade Towing and Repair	2560 E Sparks Rd	Easton	WA	98925		509-656-2400
Silver Ridge Ranch & RV Resort	182 Silver Ranch Rd	Easton	WA	98925	www.silverridgeranch.com	509-656-0275
Bob Feil Boats & Motors	2131 Sunset Hwy	E Wenatchee	WA	98802	www.bobfeil.com	509-884-3558
The Fab Shop	10315 16th St E	Edgewood	WA	98372	www.thefabshop.com	253-568-9124
Central Powersports	2310 W Dolarway Rd	Ellensburg	WA	98926	www.centralpowersports.com	509-933-1737
Ellensburg Powersports	309 S Main St	Ellensburg	WA	98926		509-925-9330
Ellensburg Tire Center	400 W University Way	Ellensburg	WA	98926		509-925-1044
Luft Trailer Sales	907 N Hibbs Rd	Ellensburg	WA	98926	www.lufttrailers.com	509-962-5445
Clem's Enumclaw Powersports	408 Roosevelt Ave	Enumclaw	WA	98022	www.enumclawsuzuki.com	360-825-4502
High Cascades Power Sports Apparel	2001 S 292 nd St	Federal Way	WA	98003	www.highcascades.co	253-886-8944
Jet Chevrolet - RV Inc.	35700 Enchanted Pkwy S	Federal Way	WA	98063	www.jetchevrolet.com	877-538-2438
Soundview Consultants LLC	2907 Harborview Dr	Gig Harbor	WA	98335	www.soundviewconsultants.com	253-514-8952
Pacific Logging LLC	9823 163 rd Ave NE	Ganite Falls	WA	98252		425-508-9150
I-90 Motorsports	200 NE Gilman Blvd	Issaquah	WA	98027	www.I-90motorsports.com	425-391-4490
Trailside Homes	PO Box 1829	Issaquah	WA	98027	www.trailsidehomes.com	509-674-6828
Pierre's Polaris	7504 NE 175th St Ste 8	Kenmore	WA	98028	www.pierrespolaris.com	425-488-8600
Ridenow Powersports Tri-Cities	3305 W 19th Ave	Kennewick	WA	99338	www.ridenowtricity.com	509-735-1117
Greg's Motorsports	5817 184 th Ave Ct E	Lake Tapps	WA	98391		253-380-0558
59er Diner and Cabins	15361 US Hwy 2	Leavenworth	WA	98826	www.59erdiner.com	509-763-2267
Cascade On Site Rentals	9588 E Leavenworth Rd	Leavenworth	WA	98826		509-423-3828
Dan's Food Market	1329 US Hwy 2	Leavenworth	WA	98826	www.dansfoodmarket.com	509-548-5611
Leavenworth Snowmobile Rentals	15361 US Hwy 2	Leavenworth	WA	98826	www.leavenworthsnowmobilerentals.com	509-763-0333
Mountain Springs Lodge	19115 Chiwawa Loop Rd	Leavenworth	WA	98826	www.mtsprings.com	509-763-2713
Pacific Mountain Services	22745 Brown Rd	Leavenworth	WA	98826		509-670-6665
Loon Lake Marina	41080 Marina Rd	Loon Lake	WA	99148		509-233-2303
Premier Polaris	122 Charles St	Monroe	WA	98272	www.premierpolaris.com	360-794-8669
Levi's Auto Parts	500 E 3rd Ave	Moses Lake	WA	98837		509-765-4567
D and G Marine	15379 SR 536	Mount Vernon	WA	98273	www.dandgmarine.com	360-630-1132
Lifestyles Honda Skidoo	3302 Cedardale Rd Ste E100	Mount Vernon	WA	98274	www.lifestyleshonda.com	360-416-3950
Elk Ridge Campground	13880 SR 410	Naches	WA	98397	www.elkridgecampground.com	509-658-2093
Gold Creek Station	18431 SR 410	Naches	WA	98937		509-658-2583
Xtreme Powersports	1930 2 nd Ave N	Okanogan	WA	98840	www.shopxtremepowersports.net	509-826-5771
WA State Parks Winter Rec Program	1111 Israel Rd SW	Olympia	WA	98504	www.state.parks.wa.us	360-902-8595
Blu-Shastin RV Park	3300 US Hwy 97	Peshastin	WA	98847	www.blushastin.com	509-548-4184
Chet's Honda/Polaris	17 H Street SW	Quincy	WA	98848	www.chetshonda.com	509-787-3617
Backcountry Plowing & Grooming	859 Cispus Rd	Randle	WA	98377		253-722-4123

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Washington State Supporting Businesses (Listed alphabetically by city)

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Repin Construction LLC	PO Box 541	Roslyn	WA	98941		509-649-3323
Life Support	808 Lincoln St	S. Cle elum	WA	98922	www.lifesupport90.org	509-674-2968
Dianes Tank Removal Services LLC	PO Box 77738	Seattle	WA	98177	www.dianestankremoval.com	206-510-9497
High Mark Real Estate Services	2021 NW 58 th St	Seattle	WA	98107	www.highmarkhomesales.com	206-861-5525
Kart-O-Rama Inc	13701 24 th St E Unit A4	Sumner	WA	98390	www.kartoramainc.com	253-891-3490
Old Cannery Furniture	13608 Old Cannery Way	Sumner	WA	98390	www.oldercanneryfurniture.com	253-863-0422
Hank's Harvest Foods	412 E Methow Hwy	Twisp	WA	98856		509-997-7711
Twisp NAPA Auto Parts	214 S Methow Valley Hwy	Twisp	WA	98856	www.napaonline.com	509-997-2461
Premier Power Sports	2615 Main St	Union Gap	WA	98903	www.premierpowersportswa.com	509-965-9889
Procaliber Motorsports, Inc	PO Box 1679	Vancouver	WA	98668	www.procaliberbend.com	360-256-5000
G & G Automotive Machine	34 S Palouse	Walla Walla	WA	99362		509-525-2890
Wenatchee Power Sports	3031 GS Center Rd	Wenatchee	WA	98801	www.wenpow.com	509-665-6686
Radcomp Technologies	136 N Main St	White Salmon	WA	98672	www.gorad.com	509-493-2221
Three Fingered Jacks	176 Riverside Ave	Winthrop	WA	98862	www.3fingeredjacks.com	509-996-2411
Nob Hill Auto Wrecking	2609 West Birchfield Rd	Yakima	WA	98901	www.nobhillautowrecking.com	509-452-2803
Apple State Power Sports	1707 N 1st St	Yakima	WA	98901	www.applestatepowersports.com	509-575-1916
VanAmburg Enterprises Inc	2920 River Rd Ste 1	Yakima	WA	98902	www.vanamburgent.com	509-225-6681

Out of State Supporting Businesses (Listed alphabetically by state then city)

Baum Shelter Too	13956 Nisula Rd	McCall	ID	83638	www.baumsheltertoo.com	208-636-4393
Elkins on Priest Lake	404 Elkins Rd	Nordman	ID	83848	www.elkinsresort.com	208-443-2432
Hill's Resort	4777 W Lakeshore Rd	Priest Lake	ID	83856	www.hillsresort.com	208-443-2551
Mountain Village Resort	Jct Hwy 21 & 75	Stanley	ID	83278	www.mountainvillage.com	800-843-5475
Truck Boss USA	7040 SE 298 th Ave	Gresham	OR	97080	www.truckbossdecks.com	503-313-2795
SK Northwest	250 SE Division Place	Portland	OR	97202	www.sknorthwest.com	503-238-2510

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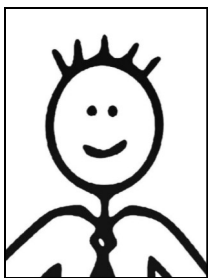
**DON'T RIDE IMPAIRED SO YOU COME
HOME SAFE TO YOUR FAMILY.**



Visit snowmobileinfo.org for safe riding information.

District Reports Continued...

(Continued from page 6)



District 5 North

By Jason Holmes
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(253) 226-4939

Hello from District 5 North! The snow has definitely been somewhat moody this January. Miserable snow at the lower elevations and decent above treeline. Hopefully February provides better conditions to build off the last few months of the season.

The Snomads out of Easton have been able to find a new establishment to hold their monthly meetings. They do a lot for their local community and you can find their social media page on Facebook. The Snomads have sponsored the Evergreen Sno-Park as a club which will help maintain a successful partnership with Kittitas County Parks and Recreation Department.

The Upper County Recreation Association (UCRA) is working with a vendor to acquire multiple transceiver check stations for the motorized and non-motorized programs throughout Washington State. These will be available for the 2023/24 season and they will work with State Parks to determine where the stations will be deployed.

As I write this, the Northwest Avalanche Center (NWAC) will be hosting a 90-minute avalanche awareness seminar at Dru Bru in Cle Elum on the 24th of January. Hoping for a great turnout and will post information about attendance in the next Snoflyer.

Make sure to read about the WSSA Winter Rendezvous in this month's Snoflyer. It's a great opportunity to ride a new area(s), meet new riding partners, and have a great time on the snow.

UCRA received another grant for \$4,500 in early January. UCRA uses these funds to open, re-open and maintain trail systems in Kittitas County. If you have a project in mind, please feel free to attend our monthly social gathering to talk about it. You can find the social media page on Facebook by searching 'Upper County Recreation Association' for details.

One thing to possibly keep in mind when the snow levels aren't the best is to try and incorporate some trail brushing while you are out on your rides. Tree branches and alder brush are notorious for taking out side mirrors on the groomers and slowing down the grooming progress. Let's work at keeping the groomers moving.

Have fun and stay safe.



District 5 South

By Ron Lind
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Greetings from District 5 South! I'm thankful for the snow we have gotten, but with the rain and warmer temperatures in mid-January, it is melting fast. Hopefully we will get some new fresh snow soon.

Things are pretty quiet in my area. The Ski-Benders had a great 'Chilly Feed' up on White Pass; thank you Matt and Ryan Mead. Their 'Fun Run' on January 28th at the Little Naches Sno-Park will have just completed when this Snoflyer comes out. This will be followed by the 'Kids Ride' on February 25th. The Kids Ride pre-registration is filled up, however if you would like to bring your child up for a fun day of riding and learning you are more than welcome.

The Ski-Benders are still working on their warming shelters with the Drift-A-Way club. I'll be posting more information when the Selah High School finishes this project.

The Drift-A-Ways are still riding and working on clearing trails; everything they do is much appreciated.

The Chinook Pass club meets at Gold Creek Station every third Thursday of the month, taking care of their area.

I would like to encourage everyone to attend the WSSA Rendezvous in Yakima, February 17th to the 20th; the information is in this Snoflyer. R & R Grooming and the Yakima Grooming Counsel will be having a chili dog lunch at the Government Meadows cabin on Sunday the 19th. There will also be lunches served at different sno-parks to everyone that would like to ride. Ron Alred will be supervising the rides with sign-up sheets available. Dinners will be served at the Yakima Museum with a bar being manned by the Ski-Benders. Hope to see a great turnout so everyone can see what great riding areas we have.



District 6

By Chris Shires
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(509) 521-5511

Pomeroy's bucket run was held on Saturday, January 21st. Snow

Notes

conditions at lower elevations (Rose Spring Sno-Park) were a little sketchy but rideable. The Mt. Misery warming hut had a four-foot base but icy. The event had a nice turnout with sunny weather and 4" of fresh snow.



Awesome weather for the Mt. Misery Snow Drifters' Bucket Run!



Riding conditions at Dayton are hard packed and icy right now in mid-January. Fresh snow is needed. Dayton's bucket run is scheduled for March 4th.

The Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club ride to Joseph, OR, organized by LaRhonda McCauley the weekend of Jan 14th was a success!



The Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club had a successful ride in Joseph, OR!





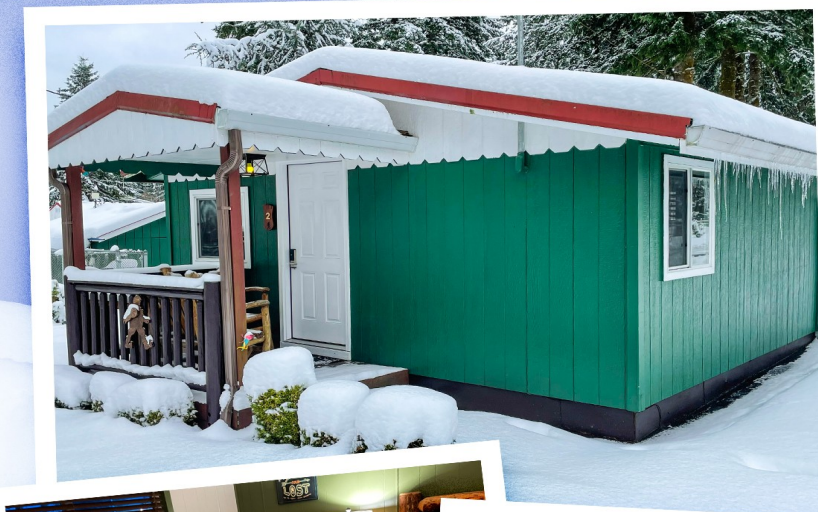
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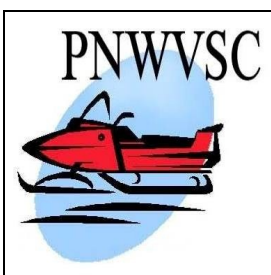
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Club News



Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club

By Ray Bergstresser, President

Paul, Erin, and Stephen did some exploring in early December in the Mt. Baker area, leaving FS-17 up the Cumberland Creek drainage with vintage sleds. With the snow level all the way down to the valley floor they were able to park right off the highway and put 25 miles on the vintage hardware before taking the newer sleds out. Everyone made it back to the trailers under their own power. It was a great day of riding!



Club members had a great time in the Wenatchee area at their annual ride and barbecue event.



Early December ride up around Mt. Baker.

Between Christmas and the New Year we had our annual vintage and modern sled shake-down riding event at Atkinson Sno-Park close to Trout Lake. The first day Ed, Stephen, and Paul rode vintage sleds from the sno-park to Goose Lake. The snow was deep and they got stuck, but nothing these expert vintage riders couldn't handle. All their vintage sleds made it back to the sno-park on their own power which is a successful day for vintage snowmobiles.

The PNWVSC had a great time riding old and new machines from the Atkinson Sno-Park.



The next day they took their modern sleds for a long ride to Takhlakh Lake. They rode an 80-mile loop returning to the Atkinson Sno-Park that afternoon.

Then on January 7th we held our annual club vintage snowmobile ride and barbecue event in Wenatchee. All week the snow was perfect then temperatures warmed up until there was light rain. But there was still enough snow for the participants to ride around the fields. They spent the day riding their old sleds, enjoying great food, and each other's company.

As I write this, coming up on January 29th the club has reservations for our annual vintage ride from the Taneum Sno-Park to Whistlin' Jack Lodge in Cliffdell. The participants will spend the night in the Wapato Cabin and return to Taneum Sno-Park on Monday, January 30th. It is a 70-mile one-way ride. We have done this for several years, so you will be riding with members with several years of experience who know the way.

We have a new event this year. It is a vintage snowmobile event in Conconully, WA on February 4th. The town of Conconully is sponsoring a vintage snowmobile show and ride during their annual winter festival. On the first day is a vintage snowmobile show with judging. Then on Sunday there will be a snowmobile ride on the beautiful Omak trails.

(Continued on page 13)

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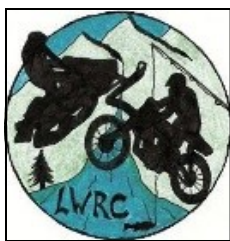
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Club News *Continued...*

(Continued from page 11)



Lake Wenatchee Rec club

By Marilyn Mylius,
Vice President

Hello all from the Lake Wenatchee Rec Club! We definitely got snow, and then more snow... and then some rain. But temps are dropping, thankfully, and groomers are back to work!

We have a couple of events to note; our annual Snowmobile Geocache Challenge continues until March 15th so you can still sign up and go looking for the treasures! The event is listed on Eventbrite under Lake Wenatchee Rec Club events.



The Bob Melson Poker Ride is scheduled for February 18th. We will be selling hands early on Friday the 17th at the clubhouse from 6pm to 8pm, and then from 7am to 10am on the 18th. It's a really fun event with lots of great prizes and lunch available at the clubhouse after the ride! Hope to see you there!



Winter Knights

By Al McCarty, President

For most of my life I've been a bit of a loner. My childhood situation no doubt had a strong influence in this tendency as hurt

from others kept me from wanting to involve myself in society. Now that I've somewhat matured, I look back at my younger days and wonder what I might have missed along the way by choosing to go at it mostly solo instead of seeking out meaningful relationships and allowing people into my life. I'd like to believe now, in my early 60's, I've grown out of it some, but know for sure it hasn't completely vanished from my behavioral routine. While I do have some very special relationships with some caring and influential people, I still spend several hours each day swimming around in my own thoughts that can, at times, keep me on the solitary track. Living among and with others, depending on each other, is still a bit awkward for me, but I'd like to believe it's not as painful as I was once thought it to be in my youth.

Our club recently embarked on a travel-ride to a place new to the majority of us on the trip, where we met up with our guide for the day, who was indigenous to the area and actually a member of our club that I'd never met. He gladly led a troop of 16 riders over 60 miles, stopping at play areas and a warming hut for lunch. Bit by bit I got to know him and learned of his great strength and perseverance. In 2021, he came down with COVID-19 and was hospitalized for several months, and just narrowly escaped the need to be intubated before climbing out of the near-death darkness so many patients were experiencing. He lost over 75 pounds and was unable to stand on his own or take care of himself. Even the simplest things seemed almost impossible as he had to rely on others for his existence. Eventually, he left hospital care and returned home for the long journey of recovery. Gaining some weight back, he fought weakness and began riding snowmobiles again. At first, he could barely hold on to the bars and had to have someone

pull start his machine. He was determined to beat the virus that had taken so much from him, and decided riding was the key to rebuilding his strength. His snowmobile clan stepped up to help see him through his awkwardness and made him feel wanted even though he couldn't quite feel that way himself. Without hearing his remarkable story, I wouldn't have suspected he's still recovering, since it certainly wasn't apparent while riding with him. He is definitely a good rider, and as I learned, an

awesome person as well.

I've thought quite a lot about him since that day, his story and his character, and how he had to depend on others for so many things he had previously taken for granted. Well into recovery, he now better appreciates his life and speaks fondly of the relationships forged during his bout with the virus. When I go riding, either on a snowmobile or dirt bike, I find myself focusing on the trail ahead and very little else. Even at rest stops, I'm anticipating my

(Continued on page 14)

Come ride the eastern slopes of the Cascades with the Yakima Ski-Benders!



Join us for the following events:

WSSA's Winter Rendezvous

February 17th-20th 2023 - Yakima

Hosted by WSSA, with several rides led by the Yakima Ski-Benders. Get a taste of the local riding opportunities in the Ahtanum, and on Chinook Pass and White Pass! Easy trail to extreme off-trail, we've got you covered!



Kids' Ride

February 25th 2023 - Little Naches on Chinook Pass



Young riders are our future! Bring out the kids, any age, they will have a blast! Supervised loop track set up for Kitty Kats and small displacement sleds. Rides for the less experienced youngsters and

challenging rides for the older kids. A great meal served in the afternoon. Camp for the weekend!

Chinook Fest

June 8th-11th 2023 - Jim Sprick Park on Chinook Pass

A spectacular music festival in the mountains! The Yakima Ski-Benders host the bar and this is a great fundraiser to help support our in-season activities.

Club News *Continued...*

(Continued from page 13) next move and what the road ahead might be like instead of taking the time to really listen to something other than the gears whirring in my head. At that club ride, for some reason, I stepped away from my habits and took the time to hear and feel something that will no doubt change me forever. Learning of his new lease on life surrounded by those who cared really flipped my mind into a new, better direction. Fortunately, I was afforded the opportunity to make this realization without edging on the border between life and death. I whole heartedly thank our guide that day for sharing his life with us, and opening my eyes to see there's a great deal more out there to be

appreciated once I decide that stepping out and letting in is far better than hiding within.



Yakima Ski-Benders

By Liz Van Amburg,
President

Hey everyone, the Ski-Benders had their Chilly Ride on January 14th. GPS coordinates for the event location were shared to members and to social media and the goal was to navigate to the site. A marginal weather forecast may have hampered the event, but everyone who attended had a great time and loved the adventure. The homemade chili and roasting marshmallows over a fire was a hit! Thanks Matt and Ryan Mead, and Ron and Dee Alred for hosting this event.

Our Family Fun Day/Poker Ride will be complete by the time you read this. Stepha-



Part of the fun was navigating to the Chilly Ride location using the provided GPS coordinates. Chili wasn't bad either!



nie and Andy Beaman are doing a great job. Hopefully we have some great stories and pictures for the March issue.

(Continued on page 15)



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Club News *Continued...*

(Continued from page 14)

Kids Ride news: We again want to thank Jolene Vesey and her crew for all their hard work on the Crab Feed as the Kids Ride has some amazing gifts for the first 100 kids, as well as a very cool raffle at the end of the day. Keep in mind we are not planning on turning away any kids, however the gift bags will only be given to 100 kids. You will have three separate opportunities to get raffle tickets to use for the raffle at the end of the day. We have multiple sleds we are giving away and several other super cool prizes from our very generous donors. 1 - You get one for showing up. 2 - Do the picture search on the WSSA safety trailer. 3 - Go to the meadow and listen to the NWAC presentation or if you are in the Littles, Mike will give you a safety presentation.

The event is free to all who attend, including a free meal and quick snack in the morning while we get the groups organized.

Parents, please bring your patience with you. Parking gets jammed up and we are all volunteers trying to give your children a great experience. When you get there, please check in at the club trailer so you know what group you are in and what time and where you are leaving from. If you are doing your own ride, check in at the club trailer when you leave the parking lot as well as when you return to the parking lot by 2pm. A group picture will follow the raffle; please have your shirt on and try and stay; we'd like to have all the kids in the picture! Camping is available first come first serve.

I am looking forward to seeing our new chairperson implement her ideas; thank you Audeena Smith for taking this on. We all know this has been my baby for the past 10 years and was hard to give up. I know she will do a great job. See you all there.

The container (becoming two warming huts) project is on hold until Selah High School's spring trimester. Thank you to the Drift-A-Ways for getting their part of the project together. We will have more news for you next season.

The Ski-Benders have the privilege of being the host club for WSSA Rendezvous weekend, February 17th-20th. Everyone needs to get registered for the event as soon as possible; registration covers meals, social times and entry into the Yakima Valley Museum. Online registration is available at www.wssa.us. We need to show our support for WSSA and show off our riding areas. Ron Alred is in charge of the rides. There will be rides for all levels. I look forward to seeing you.



Methow Valley Snowmobile Association

By Evie Johnson,
Secretary

So. Much. Snow. Locals are saying we have the most snow in town since 1996! The town and state workers, and the grooming organizations in the Methow have had their work cut out for them. People have been messaging our association with lots of grooming questions. We inform them they can find the most reliable and current grooming information on the Washington State Parks and Recreation website. Please be aware of the notable dips created at many cattle guards on the trails; slow down when you see one.

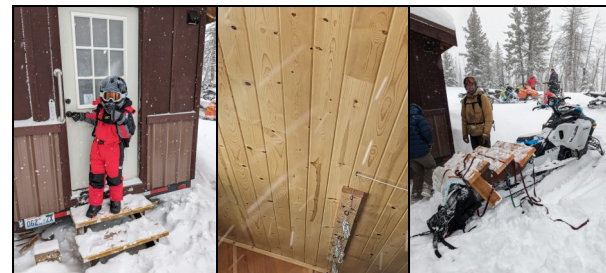
In reference to the previous Snoflyer, there was mention of the importance of having current registration on our sleds and helping to spread awareness to others that snowmobile registration pays for the grooming of the trails. All snowmobile users utilize the groomed routes to get to where they are going. Whether that is to backcountry ski, boondock, or just cruise. I personally talk to a lot of people in the Methow community and this is definitely NOT a widely known fact. Education on the basic logistics of how it all works is helpful to preserve the future of our favorite recreation!

Conditions warmed up a bit toward the beginning of January and we were finally able to make a snowman in the yard; first opportunity this season since the first and permanent snowfall on November 6th. We are hoping that also means a better and possibly more friendly base out in the backcountry. As always, check the avalanche forecast before you go.

We noticed the warming huts have been seeing lots of activity! Especially the Sweetgrass Butte hut with its glorious views. We are always welcoming volunteers to add more firewood to the huts if needed, or send us a message if you notice a need for more. Donation boxes are inside the huts, any donations go directly into funding the supplies,



♪ Do you want to build a snowman? ♪



Methow huts are popular! Come on by and check them out!

materials, and fees of maintaining them.

We are still holding our association meetings every third Tuesday of the month, for February and March. We send an e-mail to our current members asking for attendance notification to make sure there is enough pizza to go around! These meetings are a great opportunity to share input with the association. The Methow Valley Snowmobile Association is focused on the sport of snowmobiling and creating and facilitating events that directly involve it. Including an emphasis on avalanche awareness and training and general safety points. The Methow hosts riders of all intentions and capabilities with her expansive variety of terrain. There truly is something for everyone here and we want everyone to care about that. Bringing the various snowmobile user groups together on the common ground that we all want access to our public land is our priority. That doesn't mean we have to ride together but it does mean that we are literally riding out from the same snowpark and utilizing the same resources. Come to a meeting and add to our many discussions!

(Cont. on page 16)

SLOW DOWN WHEN RIDING WITH KIDS



KEEP THEM SAFE. MAKE IT FUN!

Visit snowmobileinfo.org for safe riding information.

Club News *Continued...*

(Continued from page 15)



Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club

By Kurt Hensley,
President

The Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club is proud to be one of the oldest clubs in the state of Washington. Our club was started in the late 60s and we still have an active member who helped to start our club. Betty Wagoner (pictured right) is still an avid snowmobiler and always ready to go sledding. This month we would like to honor all her work and how active she has been in the snowmobile community being our club representative on the County Advisory Board. She taught many of us how to snowmobile and the rules of the trail. We appreciate her staying active and always being ready to sled!

Also pictured are Julie Johnson and Dina

Betty Wagoner



Julie Johnson with moose tracks!



Women of Tri-Rivers



Dina Lund with her sled dogs.

Lund with her sled dogs. One of our club activities has been helping keep the trails open for the sled dogs and we are happy to have them active in our club.

This has been an awesome snow year; if you want great sledding just come sled with us! Happy trails!

(Continued on page 17)

HAVE FUN
ON YOUR
RUN

BUT DON'T DRINK
'TIL YOU'RE DONE

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Club News *Continued...*



(Continued from page 16)

Sno-Jammers Snowmobile Club

By
**Christina Hamlyn,
Vice President**

Greetings! The Sno-Jammers have been having a great season so far with fun events and awesome club rides! Make sure to check out our website at www.snojammers.org and follow us on Facebook to stay up-to-date on additional rides and events we have planned this year!

To kick off the year, we had our annual New Year's ride and campout. Our club enjoys riding all over the state and exploring new areas, so this year we hosted our New Year's ride out of the Orr Creek Sno-Park near Mt. Adams. We had 24 participants join us that weekend and rode over 150 miles between Saturday and Sunday! Everyone had a great time and the views were incredible!

In January, several of our club members also supported the Junco's 'Charity on the Snow' event on the 14th. During the day we (Sno-Jammers) rode 107 miles to Lone Butte



Group shot during our New Year's ride coming back from Flattop.



A quick stop at Takhlakh Lake during our club New Year's ride.



Sno-Jammers made it to where the old Midway fire watch tower used to be.



Mid-ride break to Lone Butte on January 14th.



Sno-Jammers taking care of down trees going to Lone Butte.



View of Mt Adams during our New Year's Ride.

and back; an area none of us had ridden before. We experienced all types of weather and navigated our way through lots of downed trees on groomed trails (we cut and moved what we were capable of to help the groomer). On January 23rd several Sno-Jammers, including a handful of WSSA board members, attended the WSSA Westside Ride in support of WSSA and the Whatcom County Snowmobile Club. This was a great event which offered riders the opportunity to ride a new area and speak with WSSA leadership. In late January, Kim and Loren (long time members of our club) hosted an out-of-state ride to Diamond Lake, OR. They did an excellent job coordinating the ride and everyone enjoyed themselves! There is a possibility the club may host a ride there again next year, so if you missed out this year there may be a chance to join us again! Stay tuned for pictures in next month's edition.

Have you ever wanted to ride Lake Tahoe? James Brittain, club Treasurer, will be hosting a ride from February 11th-12th and there is still time to join him! If you are interested, please contact him at jameybrittain@hotmail.com for all the details. Jimmy Bauer and Clem Tuchscherer, both long-time members and huge supporters of our club, have a month-long ride planned in February to Polaris, MT. If you have reserved your spot, please make sure to check with them for any last minute details. They have done a great job coordinating this event and are looking forward to riding with everyone attending!

Lastly, MARK YOUR CALENDARS because on Saturday, March 4th, we are going to have our 33rd annual Fun Run out of Greenwater. NEW this year: a portion of the proceeds will be awarded as an academic scholarship, (more details on how to apply will be

(Continued on page 18)

Club News *Continued...*

(Continued from page 17) shared at a later date), and the remaining proceeds will go right back into the sport to keep users safe and

Sno-Jammers

33rd Annual

FUN RUN

Saturday, March 4th

Pyramid Creek Sno-Park
(Greenwater, WA)
Registration 8:00am-12:00pm
(Course open 9:00am-2:00pm)
Raffle starts at 2:30pm
* Times subject to change. CASH ONLY *

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 Gold Creek Station * Noob Crew Sledders * WSSA

A portion of the proceeds will go towards our NEW club SCHOLARSHIP fund!

snojammers.clubexpress.com

enjoying their time in the Greenwater area (cabin maintenance, trail maintenance, sign replacement, etc). Anyone who has participated in this event in the past knows it is a lot of FUN! We give away thousands of dollars in raffle prizes and HUGE amounts of cash for our top hand winners! We have a new and exciting course planned and our checkpoint sponsors this year are I-90 Motorsports, Clem's Enumclaw Powersports, WSSA, Noob Crew Sledders, and the Sno-Jammers. Attending this year will also be the Northwest Avalanche Center, U.S. Forest Service, Bill Yager with King County Search and Rescue (SAR), and the King County SAR Snowmobile Division to answer all your safety and avalanche questions- Make sure to bring your beacon/shovel/probe because there will be opportunities to do some on-the-snow avalanche training. Registration will begin at Pyramid Creek Sno-Park at 8am where you can purchase your 'hands', raffle tickets, t-shirts and food. If you are interested in donating a raffle prize to this year's event, please contact Christina Hamlyn (Markovits) at crmarkovits@gmail.com. This is a FAMILY FRIENDLY event, so bring everyone you know!

As always, we meet the first Wednesday of every month from September-May at the Round Table Pizza in Puyallup. Social hour starts at 6pm and the meeting starts at 6:30pm. EVERYONE IS WELCOME. See you on the SNOW!



Bavarian Boondockers

By Matt Kensrud, President

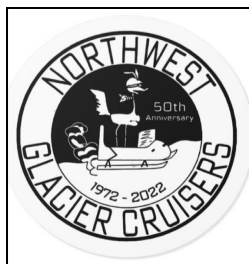
Hello everyone! Hope your season is cruising along and you're getting lots of rides in.

The club had its first ride January 14th. There were over 40 sledders who came out. It was great to see everyone! The club made a good chunk of cash to help Donna Segeman out. Donna came up the hill with us and she had a great time. I want to thank Leavenworth Snowmobile Rentals for loaning us a sled. On the business side, the board has found and made a decision on our new trailer. Yay, all of our stuff in one unit!

The club will be having two club rides in February. One with a special guest from the Northwest Avalanche Center; check it out on the website.

The next club meeting is the first Wednesday of the month being held at Krystal Restaurant in Leavenworth.

If you have any questions, please e-mail me at BavarianBoondockers@gmail.com or call (509) 433-2100.



Northwest Glacier Cruisers

By Jessica Ronhaar

Our Highway 20 Ride was canceled due to lack of snow. We only had six inches at the gate. We will try to reschedule when we get more snow and the level comes down.

We are excited for our Youth Snowmobile Day on February 11th at the Memorial Hut. We will have a barbecue and a free raffle for a snowmobile for one lucky child. The Northwest Avalanche Center will be at Youth Snowmobile Day to do avalanche basics with our kids. Everyone is welcome and families are encouraged to come and ride together.

March 11th is the annual Ladies Ride. The Cabins at Ovenell's Heritage Inn are full but all ladies are encouraged to join us for the day to ride.

March 17th is the Luke Rohde

Memorial Ride and March 18th is the annual Mount Baker Shoot Out with barbecue, raffle and more. Join us for the weekend or for the day.

As always, our monthly meetings are the first Thursday of the month at Coconut Kenny's in Burlington. Everyone is welcome to come to a meeting and we would love for you to be a part of our club.



Junco Snowmobile Club

By Chris Sutton

We would like to start out by saying a HUGE 'thank you' to each and every donor, participant, and vol-

(Continued on page 19)

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Club News *Continued...*

(Continued from page 18) unteer for our 'Charity on the Snow' event last month! This was by far the BEST YEAR we have ever had and we wouldn't have been able to do it without all of your support! Our grand total as I write this is almost \$17,000 and we still have a few donations coming in!

For over 20 years we have been giving 100% of the proceeds from this awesome event to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Alaska and Washington!

So many special people are involved in making this happen every year and we couldn't be prouder of our club and its mem-

bers! We also had a special guest attend this year, Jason Goldstein, our Washington State Parks Winter Operations Manager! Jason camped out the whole time on top of his pickup in a rooftop tent with a built-in stove for heat! He has been touring the sno-parks and isn't afraid to get his hands dirty by cutting a few trees that occasionally block our trails for the groomer! We were happy to have him witness our club's passion for Make-A-Wish, and we are VERY thankful for his support and everything else he does for our snowmobile community!

A list of our donors this year includes:

Clem's Enumclaw Powersports, Paulson's Motorsports, WPS, I-90 Motorsports, Powersports Northwest, Fastrax Motorsports, High Cascades Apparel, Mountain Lab, The Old Cannery Furniture Warehouse, Gonnason Boats, West Coast Laser Design, The Grasshopper Inn B & B - Polaris MT, Back Country Plowing & Grooming, mrs mtn man Studio, Camping World, Jim and Jan Martinek, Adam Green w/Snap-On, Mike Dunham w/Mac Tools, OBEE Credit Union, Jon Ferrian, Matt and Kristal Simpson, The Emery Family, Tom and Donna Motland, Eric and Wendy Henderson, Bob Davis, Chris Sutton, Phil Snow, The Hallenbeck Family, Mike Broyles, Jeff Huard, Mike Collins, Mike and Frances Heasley, Robert and Rachel Barra, Dennis and Sue Browe, and many more!

Our Junior Board Member, Hailey Carter, really stepped up to the plate this season and took on the challenge of leading our first annual Kids Ride at Charity on the Snow! She made a presentation at our January Meeting with her ambitious plans for this event and we are so proud of her for showing such determination and leadership for our first Kids Ride! She really set the bar high for all our future Junior Board Members! See the pictures provided for a group shot taken out on the trail during a break to play in the snow! Each season we will elect a new Junior Board Member to participate on our Board of Directors and provide important insight from the younger generation that will be the future of our club! (Continued on page 20)



Orr Creek Sno-Park packed with campers, trucks, & trailers.



The lucky winners of our raffle sled was the Beeler family!



Jordan Duncan teaching his son Lincoln how to ride his Kitty Cat!



Takhlakh Lake - Photo taken by Jason Goldstein.



Jim Martinek & Clem make a great team for our live auction!

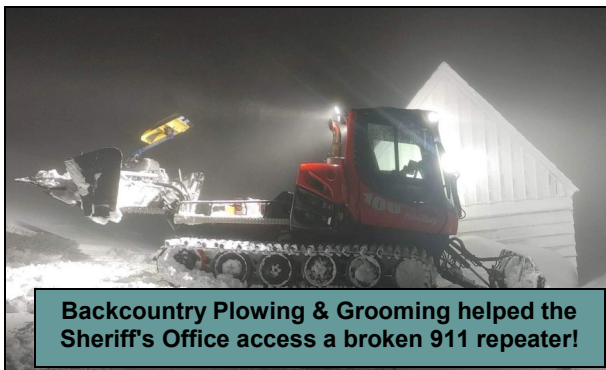


The next generation of Junco's on our 1st Annual Kids Ride!



Club News *Continued...*

(Continued from page 19) Back Country Plowing & Grooming never ceases to amaze us with their dedication to the clubs they groom for! They had two groomers running the week before our event and did an awesome job keeping the trails smooth and the roads to the sno-park clear! They always participate in any club events and donate their time and auction items to support our causes! They



Backcountry Plowing & Grooming helped the Sheriff's Office access a broken 911 repeater!

even answered a call for help from the Sheriff's Office when a 911 repeater went down at the Red Mountain Lookout. Travis worked all night grooming the access road to the lookout so they could take equipment up via snowmobile and tracked side-by-side to make the necessary repairs! They are THE BEST GROOMERS AROUND!

We meet on the first Monday of each month at 7 pm, September through April, at Round Table Pizza - 7921 S. Hosmer St. A-1, in Tacoma. We now have a Zoom meeting option for those who cannot attend, and a social hour that begins at 6pm for those who like to mingle before the meeting! Our membership is only \$20 a year per family, and we welcome you to come join us! If you would like to be a member and support our club but cannot make it to our meetings, you can mail a \$20 check to our Treasurer, Kristal Simpson, at 11012 Canyon Rd E. Suite 8 PMB 858, Puyallup, WA 98373. Please include a piece of paper with your e-mail address and all family members names (spouse and kids under 18). You can also send you dues via PayPal by using @juncosnowmobile! If you would like to follow us on Facebook for more information about our club, our rides, and our 'Charity on the Snow' event, use the following link: www.facebook.com/Junco-Snowmobile-Club-693699857309032

**Make New Friends,
Join a
Snowmobile Club**



**You'll Never
Ride Alone**



Drift-A-Way Snowmobile Club

**By Matt Mead,
Secretary**

We are well into the season and with luck still have three months to go!

Drift-A-Way members held a Chilly Ride on January 14th... Oh, wait, that was a Ski-Benders' event... But several Drift-A-Way members are also Ski-Benders and hosted the event. It was a fun day on White Pass with homemade chili and hot dogs roasted over a fire. Thanks to Ron and Dee Alred, Ryan Mead, Fred Pitzer, Jim Kingman and the Adamson family for hanging out for the day.

A week later, three Drift-A-Way members travelled over to the Mt. Baker area for the WSSA Westside Ride hosted by the Whatcom County Snowmobile Club. The weather wasn't great, but the local club did an awesome job of showing us around and served up a hot trailside lunch. One of our members suffered a bit of agony and there is a painful-to-watch TikTok video of the 'incident'.

Drift-A-Way members were again working with the Ski-Benders on their Snofest/Poker Ride on January 28th at Little Naches. Some members worked the event trailer and manned a checkpoint while others enjoyed the ride and hoped to win a great prize.

Mid-week rides have been ongoing with a mix of fun and work. Members cut a few trees out of the way for the groomer on Bethel Ridge and at Boulder Cave, and delivered a small load of firewood to a warming hut in the Ahtanum. We don't just work though; we had a great ride in the Ahtanum after dumping the wood, a couple of off-trail adventures at Boulder Cave and playing in the powder on Bethel Ridge.

Are you looking for a low-key family club with rides catered to all abilities? Or maybe a mid-week ride group with a sense of humor that dabbles off-trail? If so, check us out! We meet the first Monday of the month through the season at Round Table Pizza in Yakima. Dinner at 6pm with the meeting to follow. You can find contact info for president Jim Kingman on the WSSA's Contact page in this Snoflyer. Join us!



Drift-A-Way members helping host the Ski-Benders Chilly Ride. It's all about getting out and having fun on the snow!

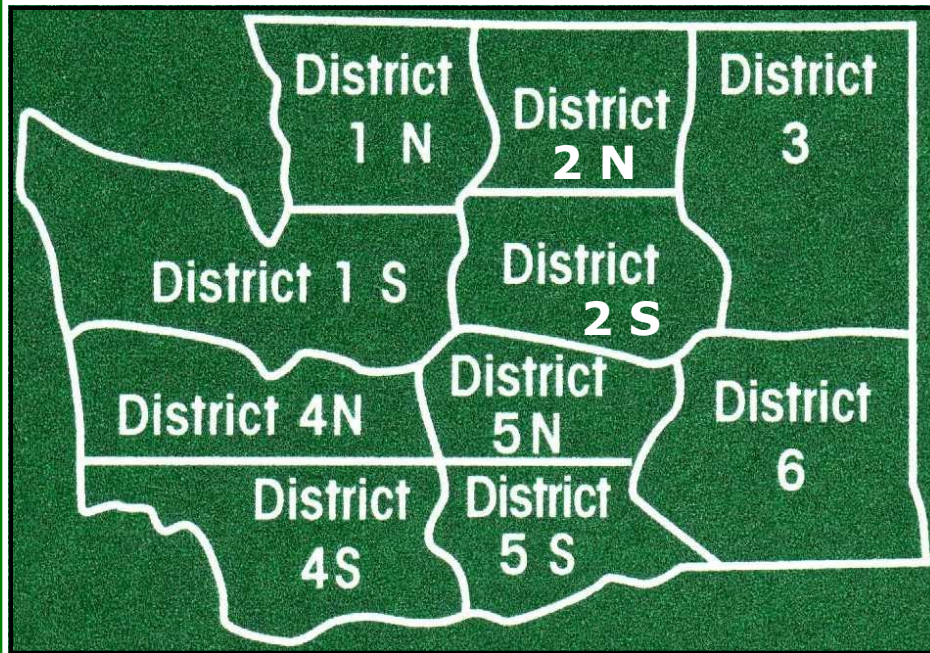


Taking a break near Timberwolf on White Pass.



A couple of trailer loads of firewood delivered to the Tree Phones warming hut followed by a day of play!

Snowmobile Clubs



Note: Facebook addresses in blue

District 1 North

(Clallam/Jefferson/Kitsap/Skagit/Snohomish/Whatcom Counties)

Northwest Glacier Cruisers

Tom Shields
(360) 661-0003
northwestglaciercruisers@gmail.com
www.northwestglaciercruisers.com
[Northwest Glacier Cruisers](#)

Whatcom County Snowmobile Club

John Varner
(360) 510-1560
whatcomcountysnowmobileclub@gmail.com
[Whatcom County Snowmobile Club](#)

District 1 South

(King County)

Cascade Drift Skippers

Darren King
(360) 224-5411
darren.j.king@hotmail.com
www.cds.clubexpress.com
[Cascade Drift Skippers](#)

District 2 North

(Okanogan/Ferry Counties)

Bonaparte Snowmobile/ATV Club

Mike Olmstead
(509) 486-1134
bonaparte.snowmobile.atv.club@gmail.com
[Bonaparte Snowmobile/ATV Club](#)

Butte Busters Snowmobile Club

Ron Hirst
(509) 486-2284
whistlerman_2000@yahoo.com
[Butte Busters Snowmobile Club](#)

Methow Valley Snowmobile Assoc.

Craig Stahl
(509) 996-2378
methowsnowmobilers@gmail.com
www.mvsnwmobile.blogspot.com
[Methow Valley Snowmobile Association](#)

Mountain Trails Grooming Assoc.

Bob Wagner
(509) 739-4430
mountaintrailsgrooming@gmail.com

North Central ATV Club of WA

Tim Weller
(509) 826-6780
ncatvclub@live.com
[North Central ATV Club of Washington](#)

Okanogan Association of Snowmobile Clubs

Richard Stahl
(509) 881-1220
rstahl327@gmail.com

Republic Tree Benders

Brian McKay
(509) 775-3511 • bam2604@yahoo.com
[Republic Tree Benders Snowmobile/ATV Club](#)

Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club

Kurt Hensley
(509) 689-2843
wakefield63@gmail.com
[Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club](#)

District 2 South

(Chelan/Douglas Counties)

Apple Country Snowmobile Club

Jim Burts
(509) 860-3980
applecountysnowmobile-club@yahoo.com
www.applecountysnowmobileclub.com
[Apple Country Snowmobile Club](#)

Bavarian Boondockers

Matt Kensrud
(509) 433-2100
info@bavarianboondockers.com
www.bavarianboondockers.com
[Bavarian Boondockers](#)

Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club

Devon Griffith
(509) 679-9704
devongriffith64@gmail.com
www.lkchelansnowmobileclub.com
[Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club](#)

Lake Wenatchee Recreation Club

Michelle Kocher
(509) 763-3858
www.lakewenatcheerecclub.com
[Lake Wenatchee Rec Club \(LWRC\)](#)



District 3

(Grant/Lincoln/Pend Oreille/Spokane/Stevens Counties)

Chewelah Sno Posse

Howard Justice
509-233-8027

Selkirk Trailblazers

Brian Ford
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selkirktrailblazers@gmail.com
[Selkirk Trailblazers Club](#)

Spokane Winter Knights

Al McCarty
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spokanewinterknights@gmail.com
www.winterknights.com
[Spokane Winter Knights Snowmobile Club](#)



District 4 North (Grays Harbor/Lewis/Mason/Pacific/Pierce/Thurston Counties)

Barnyard Racing

Eric Clark
fj55@comcast.net

Junco Snowmobile Club

Joshua Simpson
juncosnowmobileclub@gmail.com
[Junco Snowmobile Club](#)



Lewis County Drift Skippers

Jim Beslow
(360) 494-6690 • beslowsap@gmail.com

Northwest Boondockers

Mike Eveler
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mike.eveler@cpfd.com

Sno-Jammers Snowmobile Club

Tanner Hamlyn
(253) 376-2739
tanner.hamlyn@wssa.us
www.snojammers.org
[SnoJammers](#)



District 4 South

(Clark/Cowlitz/Skamania/Wahkiakum Counties)

Mt Adams Snowmobile Club

Duane Warren
(360) 521-9728
mtadamssnowmobileclub@gmail.com
[Mt Adams Snowmobile Club](#)

Mt St Helens Trac Riders

Dan Frazier
(360) 903-6185
jwatson98626@gmail.com
[Mt. St. Helens Trac Riders](#)



District 5 North

(Kittitas County)

Hi Country Beelers

Dan Johnson
(253) 838-7600
jetjohnso@aol.com



Snomads

BJ Oswald
(206) 227-2912
bjoswald21@gmail.com
[Snomads of Easton](#)



Stampede Summit Seekers

Jim Sternod
(206) 948-2946
stampedesummitseekers@gmail.com
[Stampede Summit Seekers](#)



District 5 South

(Benton/Klickitat/Yakima Counties)

Cascade Snow Drifters

Nina Gottschalk
(509) 945-2511 • 98shay@gmail.com

Chinook Pass Snowmobile Club

Rick Arnold
(509) 945-1678 • rickrcllc@gmail.com



Drift-A-Way Snowmobile Club

Jim Kingman
(509) 698-3658
mtnmax777@yahoo.com



Yakima Ski-Benders

Liz Van Amburg
(509) 759-5179
yakimaskibenders@hotmail.com
www.yakimaskibenders.net
[Yakima SkiBenders](#)



District 6

(Adams/Asotin/Columbia/Franklin/Garfield/Walla Walla/Whitman Counties)

Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club

Jeremy Nichols
(509) 629-1337 • jnichols_24@hotmail.com
www.BMSCWA.com
[Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club](#)

Mt. Misery Snow Drifters

Kent Flynn
(509) 566-7012 • klfflynn@msn.com
[Mt Misery Snowdrifters](#)

Tollgate Trail-Finders

Brandon Christensen
(509) 830-3706
tollgatetrailfinders@gmail.com
www.tollgatetrailfinders.org
[Tollgate Trail Finders Snowmobile Club](#)



Pacific Northwest

Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club

Stephen Phillips
(603) 203-5344 • pnwvsc@gmail.com
pacificnorthwestvintagesnowmobileclub.org
[Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club](#)



Vintage Snowmobiles of the Inland N.W.

Dave Brummer
(208) 755-8334 • dbrummer@stimsonlumber.com
www.wsvsa.com/VISOTINW.html

Membership

Membership Matters

By **Wayne and Florence Mohler**,
Membership co-chairs

Memberships continue to arrive, but at a much slower pace than in October, November and December. Your membership is essential for WSSA to speak for and represent the interests of snowmobilers at all levels of government. Whether it is land-use issues, such as over-snow travel, wildlife closures, legislative concerns, or protecting the funds in the dedicated snowmobile account, your membership makes our collective voice stronger. Numbers count!

Since snowmobile clubs and WSSA are all volunteer organizations, it takes a lot of people to effectively represent the snowmobile interests. If you are inclined to get more involved and seek out these volunteer opportunities, the Snoflyer or the WSSA website www.wssa.us is a good place to start. If you're not a club member and want to find new riding partners, or explore new areas – give one of the clubs a call. And for your friends who are not members – sign them up!

Welcome to all the new members and 'thank you' to those

who have renewed.

If you have any questions about membership or online voting, please e-mail us at membership@wssa.us or call (509) 674-4401. And remember – Your Membership Matters!

Aim your phone here, click, and join WSSA today!



DON'T USE KIDS AS AIRBAGS

KEEP THEM SAFE.
PUT 'EM ON THE BACK.

This message brought to you by the American Council of Snowmobile Associations
www.snowmobilers.org



WSSA's Associate Partnership Program

Luft Trailer Sales in Ellensburg is offering a 10% discount on parts.

Are you next? Add your business name here!

With all the challenges facing everyone during this past couple of years, we have a program with our Associate members to try to bring our snowmobile members together with our Associate members through an affinity or loyalty program. It's very simple and straightforward – As an Associate, just let us know how you would like to participate. WSSA will publicize the Associate members and what they are offering in the Snoflyer and on social media. Just contact membership@wssa.us to get signed up!



WSSA Contacts

WSSA BOARD

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District 2 North Rep

- -VACANT- -

District 2 South Rep

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Greg Figg
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greg.figg@wssa.us

District 4 North Rep

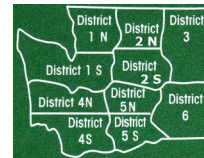
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District 4 South Rep

- -VACANT- -

District 5 North Rep

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District 5 South Rep

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District 6 Rep

Chris Shires
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Need an address? Contact Wayne Mohler, wfmohler@msn.com or (509) 674-4401

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• Hans Brubaker - Co-Chair
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- Legal Action Auction - Ron & Dee Alred
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Trail Grooming • Wayne Mohler
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Tracked ATV/UTV • Matt Mead
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State Parks Update



State Parks Winter Recreation Program

By Corey Tolar, Winter Recreation Program Manager



As in winters past, this winter season has been unpredictable with snow falling early then slacking off in some areas. With the early dumping of snow, the snow removal budgets for many areas are getting close to being expended. It is expected we will have to dip into the snow removal emergency reserves to keep the sno-parks open. We will be keeping an eye on the forecast to see how the rest of the season goes.

Winter Recreation Grooming Map

The winter recreation grooming map on the State Parks Winter Recreation website was taken down due to application issues. This year we received new GPS units that were intended to provide more accurate grooming data to the public. Unfortunately, the data provided by the new GPS units is not carrying over to the grooming map application as intended and the application is showing outdated and inaccurate information. Therefore, the decision was made to take the grooming map down until a solution could be found. The program is in the process of finding alternatives for grooming information for the public.

Nordic Pulse APP

This year the Winter Recreation Program is conducting a pilot project with Nordic Pulse and one of the pilot areas is the snowmobile trails out of Crystal Springs Sno-Park. Users can visit the Nordic Pulse website (Nordic-pulse.com/map) and see what trails were groomed and when. The feedback we have received so far has been encouraging and the program is looking at

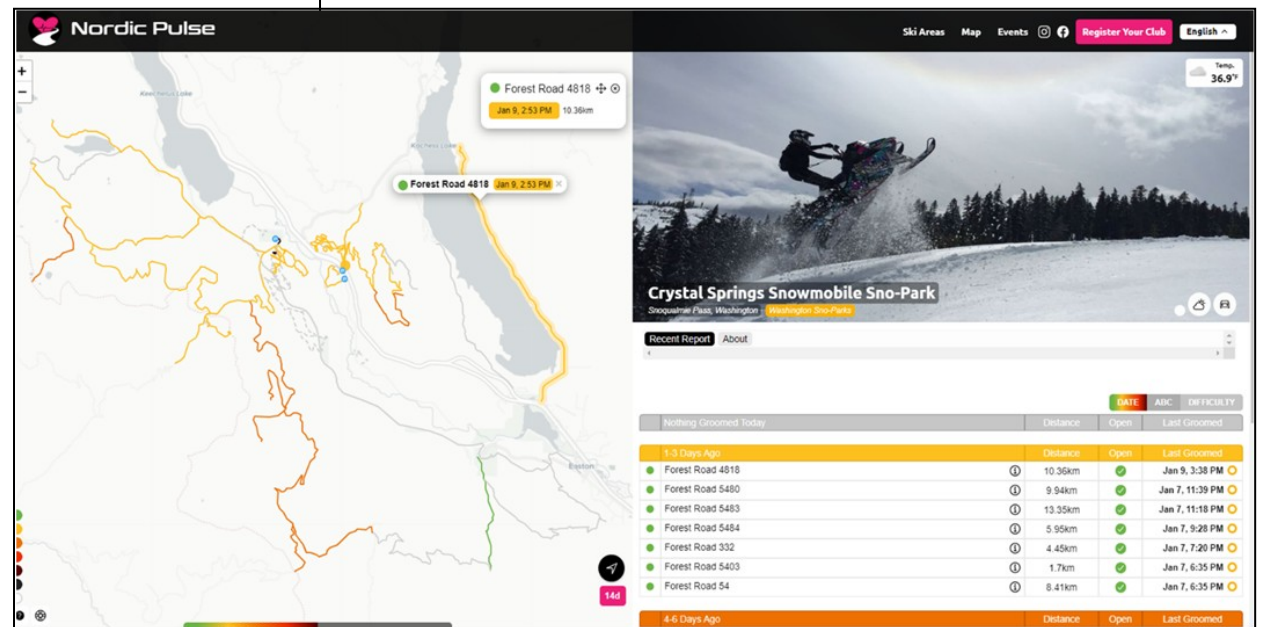
ways to increase the use of this service in the future. A screenshot of the site is include here.

Snowmobile Registrations

The snowmobile registrations through January are listed below and as you can see, snowmobile registrations are currently down 682 from last year at this time. We need everyone to register their snowmobile and be sure to pass the word around. Remember, when you register your snowmobile you get a free Sno-Park permit.

Winter Recreation Contact Information

E-mail: winter@parks.wa.gov Phone: (360) 902-8684



Snowmobile Registrations

	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY 22-23 Difference
July	149	145	134	148	166	151	186	147	(39)
August	531	676	782	2,307	222	249	1,291	636	(655)
September	2,968	3,145	2,946	1,682	2,974	3,220	3,418	3,385	(33)
October	1,662	2,139	2,489	1,882	3,357	3,189	2,274	2,078	(196)
November	3,129	3,362	4,360	2,960	2,372	5,009	2,860	3,787	927
December	11,575	13,170	6,973	8,320	6,726	7,229	7,681	6,995	(686)
January	3,528	3,196	3,358	3,433	4,514	3,295	3,337		
February	1,164	1,513	1,166	1,602	1,293	1,541	1,072		
March	298	686	674	958	355	636	449		
April	82	181	175	258	89	219	153		
May	32	93	93	90	135	108	116		
June	30	84	71	83	126	179	92		
Total:	25,148	28,390	23,221	23,723	22,329	25,025	22,929	17,028	(682)



Visit
the State Parks Winter Recreation Page at
<https://www.parks.wa.gov/130/Winter-recreation>
for
Sno-Park Info,
Mobile Friendly Maps,
Updated Grooming Map,
and Other Useful Information

Notes

Second annual International Snowmobile Day

By Ed Klim, President, ISMA

The second annual International Snowmobile Day, held on October 29th, 2022, was a homerun for 51 snowmobile clubs that participated in the event. The Snowmobile Day, patterned after the Swedish Snow Day, helped start off the snowmobiling season with smiles, fun, and planning for a great winter season. The participating clubs reached across the U.S. and Canada and joined snowmobilers together in a unique way. Clubs held cookouts, show and shine events, safety training and some trail and brush cleaning to name a few of the events.

The day-long event was a great start for clubs preparing their fun and work schedule for the year. In many cases, the event brought together the clubs with dealers and local Chambers of Commerce to plan some great winter events.

The reports we have received from the clubs highlighted the support of the International event in the marketplace. Snowmobilers love to get together and talk about their winter sport, have great food, and plan for future events.

Every participating club is planning on doing the event next year, which will be held on Saturday, October 28th, 2023. We have been asked to announce the date early so everybody can make their plans.

Many photos were sent in from the clubs, highlighting their event. Look on our Facebook page www.Facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling (photo page) for an album of photos from the snowmobile clubs showing how they celebrated International Snow-

ISMA

International
Snowmobile
Manufacturers
Association



www.snowmobilerspledge.com

The Shadow Knows - Pt 2

By Dean Meakin,
Vice President



(Part One appeared in last month's Snoflyer and identified the need for finding and training replacements for key volunteer positions; check it out if you missed it. Part Two notes how to deal with the new found 'shadow'.)

Refresher from last month: Volunteering, in general, for any organization is at an all-time low. Those who do volunteer are finding themselves being responsible for too many jobs. So, what happens? Volunteer burn-out! There is a huge list of reasons for not wanting to get involved with or running for a leadership position. Some of them are a lack of knowledge, lack of time, and lack of experience. You can add your own personal reasons to this list. Organizations need to have a plan in place to help remove some of the reasons for not stepping up to the plate. 'The Shadow Knows' will provide possible solutions to the problem.

Part Two: Patience is mandatory for both parties if this program is going to work. No two persons are alike, so learn each other's personality and focus on those things in common to both. Job shadowing is a real-time event and requires commitment from both.

To the Leader: When you are conducting a meeting, always make sure you have an outline of how you are going to proceed. This you already know. Before you go to the meeting, prepare the same outline with lots of blank space between each point. Give this copy to your shadow and ask them to write notes in the blank areas of what they saw and heard. Discuss these notes after the meeting or at a later time.

To the Shadow: The best education or training you will ever receive is in real-time. Pay real close attention to details of the leader you are shadowing. When they are conducting a meeting, observe their presentation skills. Are they confident, nervous, upset, happy? Leadership is in the details. Take good notes to help you understand what is needed when you become the leader. Compare your notes with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) of your organization to see if it follows suit. Remember, our main focus is on the 'job' part of shadowing.



DIESELWERX.COM

WSSA Legal Action Fund Raffle North Cascade Sled Deck

Buy a raffle ticket (or several) in support of WSSA's Legal Action Fund and win a sled deck! The drawing will happen on Saturday night during WSSA's Winter Rendezvous in February. The tickets are \$5 each and only 1,000 will be sold. Those are spectacular odds!



Legal action to protect your riding areas is expensive! WSSA needs to be able to defend snowmobiling when the issues arise and this means having a strong Legal Action Fund!

Contact your WSSA District Rep or any board member for tickets. Support the sport and help us protect snowmobiling for future generations.

Don't miss your chance to win a top-rated sled deck and help support WSSA's Legal Action Fund. The more you buy, the better your odds of winning!

Deck provided and built by North Cascade Sled Decks in Marysville, WA. Features include:

All aluminum expandable sled deck
Adjustable legs for long or short box
11 foot 2 piece ramp

Includes center loading
Side lights and dome light
Carbide protectors for all 3 positions

Super Clamps donated by DieselWerxs.com in Cle Elum, WA

(Buying raffle tickets in support of the Legal Action Fund are in no way tax deductible.)

WSSA 2023 Scholarship

The Washington State Snowmobile Association will again be offering a scholarship to either a graduating high school senior or a person currently enrolled in college. This will be given to the winner regardless of other grants or scholarships the student may also receive.

The applicant must be a member of the Washington State Snowmobile Association; submit the completed application form; submit a resume detailing his/her involvement in snowmobiling as well as extra-curricular activities; and include an essay. (Essay info on WSSA website.)

Click the 'Scholarship' menu item at www.wssa.us for details and the application forms.

The deadline is March 31st, 2023. Contact Shami Ruggles, WSSA Scholarship Chair, at (509) 979-4852 or sixruggs@gmail.com with questions.



Notes

Planned rides for Winter Rendezvous

Guided rides on Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Ahtanum/Tampico

Two levels of advanced rides
Boondocking on/off trail
Family/mainly trail riding

White Pass

Boondocking on/off trail - Cold Creek
Family/mainly trail riding - S. Fork Tieton

Chinook Pass

Boondocking on/off trail - Boulder Cave
Family/mainly trail riding - Little Naches

Chilidogs will be served Sunday at the cabin
in Government Meadows

*Rides subject to change based on snow
conditions and availability of ride leaders*

Government Meadows cabin, Chinook Pass.



View from Raven Roost, Chinook Pass.



Government Meadows, Chinook Pass.

WSSA RENDEZVOUS CHILI DOG LUNCH



19 th
February

WHERE
The Cabin at
Government Meadows

Hosted by: R&R Grooming &
Yakima Grooming Counsel

SNOWMOBILING PHOTO CONTEST AT RENDEZVOUS

FIVE CATEGORIES:

ACTION • WORST STUCK/OTHER SNAFU'S • VINTAGE • SCENERY • FAMILY

REGISTERED RENDEZVOUS PARTICIPANTS CAN SUBMIT PICTURES TO
RYAN MEAD IN ADVANCE OR AT RENDEZVOUS ON FRIDAY
EVENING OR SATURDAY

PRIZES AWARDED SATURDAY EVENING

NEED MORE INFORMATION? E-MAIL: snoflyer@wssa.us
PHONE/TEXT: (509) 424-1575

Silent Auction At Rendezvous

Just a reminder to the clubs that items are needed for our
silent auction for the Winter Rendezvous.

When you have your item ready, please send me an e-mail
letting me know what you are bringing and suggested retail
value so I can make up the bid sheets ahead of time. If it is a
basket, or gift box let me know the theme also.

Thank you!

Ron Alred
Silent Auction Chair

WSSA Winter Rendezvous Yakima February 17th - 20th

Guided Rides

Friday-Sunday

Information / Sign up @ Check-in

Different rides for:

extreme/family trail/easy off-trail



Home2 Suites

Yakima, WA

Rates \$119/Night

Reservations

(509) 453-1806

Rendezvous Pricing

Dinners

Friday and Saturday Night at the

Yakima Valley Museum

Friday \$30/Saturday \$30

Includes Entry to Museum

Registration Form

Last Name _____ First _____ Spouse _____

Children Names/Ages _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone # () _____ E-Mail _____

Friday Night Dinner \$30 (Under 7 Free) #Adults _____ x \$30 = Sub Total \$ _____

Saturday Night Banquet \$30 (Under 7 Free) #Adults _____ x \$30 = Sub Total \$ _____

Total Amount \$ _____

Method of Payment: Check or Credit Card (Visa/Master Card only)

Make payment out to WSSA and mail form to:

Fred Pitzer
P.O. Box 668
Yakima WA 98907
(509) 952-9916

Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ CVV (3 or 4 digits) _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

SNOWMOBILE RENTALS IN WASHINGTON

Chewack River Guest Ranch

(Methow Valley/Winthrop)

(509) 996-2497

www.chewackranch.com

CJ Marine

(Lake Wenatchee Area)

(Lake Wenatchee Area)

(206) 878-8668

www.cj-rentals.net

Leavenworth Snowmobile Rentals

(Leavenworth)

(509) 763-0333

www.leavenworthsnowmobilerentals.com

Motortoy's

(Cle Elum)

(509) 674-6807

www.motortoyrentals.com

Mountain Springs Lodge

(Lake Wenatchee/Leavenworth)

Tours Only

(800) 858-2276

www.mtsprings.com

Red Ace's Customs & Rentals

(Mossyrock - Orr Creek Sno-Park)

(360) 880-1608

www.redacesrents.com

Ride Finesse

(Ravensdale)

(206) 883-4635

www.ridefinesse.com

Sharkey's Watercraft & Snowmobile Rentals

(Chelan)

(509) 687-2312

www.lakechelanonline.com/rentals.html

The Last Resort

(Ronald/Roslyn/Cle Elum)

(509) 649-2222

www.thelastresortwa.com

List compiled by Florence Mohler, WSSA Tourism Chair.
Please call (800) 784-WSSA (9772) with tourism
questions or updates to this listing.

Note: WSSA does not endorse any business listed. WSSA provides
this list only as a courtesy. Please report any errors in listing to
Florence Mohler at (800) 784-9772.

ACSA E-News

**Contact: Christine Jourdain, Executive Director,
ACSA, (517) 351-4362**



Update on Stanislaus Forest Lawsuit

The Sierra Snowmobile Foundation, a club in the California/Nevada area, has filed a lawsuit against USDA - U.S. Forest Service and the Stanislaus National Forest over their Over-Snow Vehicle Plan.

This is in response to lost riding areas, a 12-inch minimum snow depth for grooming, as well as hard start/close dates on parts of the Forest - regardless of snow depth. Since signed, the plan reduces snowmobile access to only 14% of the Forest, down from about half available previously. This year it is estimated that snow will remain in the mountains until well into June, however the highest elevation area on the Forest, typically with the most snow, will close April 1st.

California Wilderness Society and WildEarth Guardians immediately filed to intervene in that lawsuit, as well as file their own cross claim. WildEarth Guardians also just recently filed a Notice of Intent to sue the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Stanislaus National Forest, and the adjacent Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, using the Endangered Species Act over the Sierra Nevada Red Fox. Estimations are 39 remain in the wild and they allege over-snow vehicle use designation will have a negative impact on them, so it appears they will be filing another suit.

The Stanislaus decision will likely set a very dangerous precedent for every National Forest across the United States to follow suit.

There is currently a fundraiser/sweepstakes taking place to help the Club with their legal fees... win a sled!

Get your tickets here: <https://www.tapkat.org/sierra-snowmobile-foundation/P93Oq9/donate>

Auburn Extreme Powersports has graciously donated a brand new Polaris KHAOS AXYS 850cc 165" x 2.75" to help keep your riding areas open.

100% of the proceeds go directly to the Sierra Snowmobile Foundations legal fund!

Visit the Sierra Snowmobile Foundation website here: <https://sierrasnowmobilefoundation.com/>

Avalanche Education Sweepstakes

The Avalanche Alliance 2022 Sweepstakes is an effort for the motorized snowsport community to join forces and raise money to support avalanche centers around the U.S. and Canada. This is an opportunity for us to show solidarity in our goals of reducing avalanche fatalities for motorized users.

Proceeds from these sweepstakes will be awarded to avalanche centers, scholarships, and Avalanche Alliance ambassador training and community education initiatives to strengthen the motorized community's connection with avalanche centers.

Prizes in the Sweepstakes include:

- Grand Prize: Custom 2022 Ford F-350 Super Duty
- 1st Prize: Marlon Xplore Pro II sled deck
- 2nd Prize: Klim head-to-toe Winter package
- 3rd Prize: Fly Racing snow gear package

Buy your tickets by visiting here: <https://www.tapkat.org/american-institute-for-avalanche-research-education/m9mn65>



Forest Service Addresses Wildfire Risk

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack recently announced expanded efforts to reduce wildfire risk across the Western U.S.

These investments, made possible through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), will directly protect at-risk communities and critical infrastructure across 11 additional landscapes in Arizona,

California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

Secretary Vilsack is also directing the Forest Service to use and prioritize a suite of provisions authorized in the BIL to more quickly apply targeted treatments to the high-risk fireheds identified in the Wildfire Crisis Strategy.

These treatments are required to be ecologically appropriate, maximize the retention of large trees, protect old growth, and to consider possible effects on historically underserved communities and tribes. Treatments are also to be carried out collaboratively alongside participating communities and partners.

"This program will bring more than \$490 million to 11 key landscapes across the western United States, and will be used to restore our National Forests, including the restoration of resilient old-growth forest conditions," said Vilsack."

In Case You Missed This...

BRP recently announced intentions to build an additional boat manufacturing plant in Chihuahua City, Mexico, a major milestone in the company's marine strategy.

With this construction, the company intends to increase its manufacturing capacity and capabilities to meet demand for its marine products and fuel the growth of the business.

The production is planned to start early 2025.

Avalanche Class Assists in Rescue and Recovery

Recently, Mike Duffy was teaching a Level 2 Motorized Avalanche Class in Colorado. After class they came across an avalanche which buried two of the three riders.

Duffy said the students did an amazing job and were digging for a transceiver within a minute of being on scene. Grand County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue was on scene very fast and handled CPR and medical.

Did You Know?

It is believed Elvis Presley purchased upwards of four Hellstar Jetstar snowmobiles which he used to ride around his Graceland estate.

The Hellstar snowmobiles were manufactured in Wahoo, Nebraska. They were promoted as the first four-season family sportsmobile, optional front wheel kits could be purchased.

2022 is tied for the fifth warmest year on Record according to the NASA and NOAA.

The average surface temperature for Earth during 2022 tied with 2015 as the fifth-warmest on record, NASA found in an analysis.

Global temperatures during the last year were 1.6 degrees Fahrenheit above its average for its baseline period of 1951 to 1980.

The past nine years have also been the warmest since modern recording of temperatures began in 1880.

Earth in 2022 was about 2 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than the average temperature of the late 1800s.

Are You Following Us?

www.facebook.com/AmericanCouncilofSnowmobileAssociations

(Information pulled from weekly e-mail blasts and edited for publication in the Snoflyer.)



Visit www.snowmobile.org for Safe Riders! material. Please use to promote club membership and snowmobile safety!

Matt's Misc.

By Matt Mead,
Publicity Secretary

For me, the line is blurry.

What am I talking about? The difference between a work party ride and an average snowmobile ride. Both have me out on the snow and riding my snowmobile. Both have me out with good friends. So what's the difference? One brings satisfaction of improving snowmobiling for everyone else. Don't take that lightly.

I'm sure I've had a chainsaw along on half my rides this season, cutting trees out of the groomed trail or other forest roads. Our local groomer has me on speed dial; he knows if he needs trees cut out of the trail, I'm likely the guy who can put a few people together on short notice and do it. We've had a couple of rides this season that were more work than play; you can tell those days as I'm towing a tag-a-long behind with my big saw, extra fuel, and other items needed for bigger trees or just more of them. My only gripe on these days is that I can't sidehill with the tag-a-long.

I'm not writing this to brag... although I'm proud of the work my friends and I have accomplished. No, I'm writing it to inspire others. WSSA and the clubs ask for volunteers to fill dedicated spots on boards and committees, but for those who don't like such regimented things, working on trails is also badly needed, year round. Take a look around your riding area. Lots of things are obvious... like that snag hanging off the bank you have been snowmobiling around all season and the groomer almost caught his mirror on. Cut it! Involve your friends. The same applies when summer rolls around and you bring out your wheeled toys. Think about it. Join us!

WSSA Westside Ride. Nothing interests me less than large group rides. And watching the Mt. Baker forecast leading up the ride wasn't inspiring either. But I felt it was important to represent WSSA so I gritted my teeth and made the trip up. I'm glad I did! I had a great time and the weather wasn't so bad.

My hats off to Hans Brubaker, District 1N Rep, for putting this ride together! He did a fantastic job! And thanks to the Whatcom County Snowmobile Club for supporting this event and cooking up a great hot meal of burgers and dogs!

Hans and the club had everything well handled and the limited parking was well organized and there was room for everybody and then some. After the ride, everyone was

invited to meet a few miles down the road at Chair 9, a popular local (to the mountains) pizza pub. The upstairs of the establishment had been reserved and pitchers were discounted. (And the pizza was good too!)

Getting back to the ride, it never felt like a big group ride. We had quite a few initially head to Church Lake, but once there, many smaller groups broke off and explored the area above treeline. Hans led a few of us up 'Widowmaker' and beyond; sadly the visibility was poor and there was really nothing to see. The area felt expansive. After lunch, Mark Gallatin (a very Past WSSA President!) led a small group of us to Excelsior where we climbed up through the trees to another large open area. Again visibility was hampered, but the riding area was spectacular! (Thanks again Mark!) For whatever reason, our small group was last back to the snowpark and off of the mountain; guess that isn't a bad thing.

A final shout-out to Whatcom club president John Varner for my Whatcom County Snowmobile Club hat. Does that mean I'm an honorary member?...

Not ready for prime time. That's the simplified answer. I'm talking about the 'Winter Recreation Grooming map'. The map was brought online last winter and by using a color-coded legend, you could see which trails in your area had been recently groomed. It had the potential to be an awesome tool. (I promoted it heavily last season.)

The grooming cats around the State are equipped with GPS transponders. Until this year, they recorded every five minutes the cat was in operation. If you look at the grooming data maps State Parks has, you'll see a bunch of straight lines going from data point to data point, and not following the contours of the trails at all. This isn't really an issue if all you are doing is monitoring if the grooming is occurring as it is supposed to - basically for monitoring contractor/contract compliance. But how can this data be used for the general public? That was the trick. Software was used to take the data available, and smooth it so it looked like the groomed trail. In the process of doing this, concessions were made. The public grooming map would show a section of trail groomed if specific GPS locations were pinged with the groomer. The idea was if the groomer hit a specific point, it was likely

they groomed a whole section of trail. Unfortunately some of those points were close to intersections and if the groomer drove by, it might signal a section of trail they weren't going down. To compound the problem, the snowcats this season were updated with new GPS units that send a signal every two minutes or so, and up until very recently, this change had a slew of problems as well.

So the map was unreliable and upsetting snowmobilers who were basing rides on what the map showed; it was causing grief with the groomers as well.

State Parks has no idea when they will be able to bring this data back, they are working on it. They would love to automate and provide real-time or near real-time grooming data to the public. (It saves them phone calls!) What are the obstacles? Software obviously. But don't forget costs! When they are spending money, they are spending OUR Snowmobile Program money. They are very mindful of that and want to balance cost with performance.

Last month I commented on a neat iPhone feature... And it pained me to do so as I HATE Apple and everything the company stands for. Well, now let's talk about the negative of the new iPhone.

The new phones have a 'crash detection' built in and when you are in a severe crash, it notifies rescue services. Seems a cool feature, but you can already see where I'm going with this. Apparently it is causing problems in snowmobile communities where the act of riding is sending out false 'crash detection' notifications. And it isn't just snowmobilers. ATV/UTV riding and downhill skiing can set it off as well. And roller coasters. Law enforcement is required to follow up on 911 calls, so if they can't get hold of the phone owner, they have to send somebody out. Yikes. That's the Apple I know and love.

Snoflyer or website comments? Don't hesitate to get in touch if you have a concern or question with the Snoflyer, WSSA website or our Facebook site. Call (509) 424-1575 or e-mail to snoflyer@wssa.us.



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