

# SnoFlyer

WSSA - The Voice of Snowmobiling in Washington

Volume 37 • February 2015

**Winter Rendezvous at famed Priest Lake in Idaho – Don't miss this event!**



**Help grow snowmobiling – take a non-snowmobiling friend out for a ride this winter! Photo courtesy of GoSnowmobiling.org.**

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— *President* —

**Dean Meakin**

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I thought 'Pineapple Express' was the name of a Hawaiian pizza. Now I find out it means "it is snowing and now it's going". I had 12" of snow in my yard on Sunday and zero by Tuesday night. Remind me next time, if I order a Pineapple Express, make sure it is a frozen one! No worries though, it has all been snow at Priest Lake, ID.

I would like to thank Paul Younie for making all the arrangements for our January meeting at the Naches Ranger Station. Thank you also for all the refreshments provided by the Yakima Ski-Benders Snowmobile Club. Thank you to all at the Ranger Station for allowing us to use your facility. We had a great meeting and completed our business on time. Go Hawks!

This Snoflyer will land just before we will be at Rendezvous 2015. My first thank you goes to the Rendezvous Committee for all the hard work, preparing and planning for this event. It takes almost two years from the time you begin planning until the event happens. There are always road blocks and hurdles to get

around. Thank you Greg Figg and Wayne Smith for staying the course and making this a great Rendezvous! I hope both of you will continue on for 2016. Thank you to Hill's Resort for taking great care to make everything just right for our event. You have truly spoiled WSSA. Thank you again.

The subject of 'Fat Tire Bikes' and sharing the snowmobile groomed trails are just beginning. We had great participation at our January meeting and we will continue to encourage snowmobilers to share with us your thoughts and concerns. This will more than likely be the subject of discussion at our Summer Meeting.

Our next meeting after Rendezvous is our Budget Meeting in March. Make sure if you are a committee chair that has an annual budget, please submit your request form by February 20th to help speed up the meeting. Thanks in advance.

In closing, all sorts of events are happening between now and June. Get off the couch and get involved. Let it snow!



— *Vice President* —

**Sandy Sternod**

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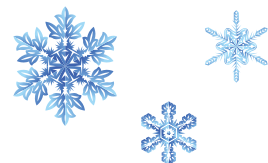
So far our snow outlook in Washington State is looking pretty bleak in January. As each of our WSSA District Reps gave their reports at the January Board Meeting on January 10th, I think only one reported any grooming. Fortunately some of us with the Stampede Summit Seekers Snowmobile Club were able to get in three rides between Christmas and the first weekend in January. At least I was able to put 150 miles on my new sled so the motor is considered to be broken in, just in case we get a big snowfall soon. However, as I sit here and write, there is no new snowfall expected until January 18th. I have lots of plans for riding this winter so I am hopeful Mother Nature will cooperate and bring us lots of snow in the next four weeks.

On a brighter note, we have big plans for the WSSA Winter Rendezvous which is being held at Priest Lake, Idaho. Yes, you read correctly, we are going to meet and play in Idaho. There will be rides offered along the Washington/Idaho border in addition to around the lake. If you have not ever attended Rendezvous, this is the one time a year we spend most of our time together riding. It is always a lot of fun and at times can be very adventurous depending on what group you decide to ride with that day. This weekend is especially nice to join in on because you get the benefit of a guided ride in a new area, and meet other riders

of similar skill level and make new riding partners. This is really great for families with children. So if you have not committed to joining us yet, go check out our website at [www.wssa.us](http://www.wssa.us) and make your reservation. We have dinner plans for both Friday and Saturday night (Valentine's Day), so come prepared.

Also of significance is this is the Board Meeting on Saturday night that new officers are elected for 2015/16. We will be voting for our next President, Vice President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer as the current terms for these positions expire the end of February. If you are interested in voting, join us at the meeting, and if you can't make it you can always send your proxy vote with someone you know who will be attending. We really value our members input, and hope you will participate in this important aspect of our Association's business. See you at Priest Lake!

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!



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## District Reports



**District 2 North**  
By Bob Henrie  
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Winter is in full swing here in Okanogan County! Most events are going off as planned with very few cancellations.

The Tri-River club did a tremendous job hosting the annual Chili Feed at the Yukon Jack Shelter out of Black Canyon. Club members from several County clubs made the trek and were treated to a wonderful meal and some great cookies!

The Methow Valley Snowmobile Association hosted their annual Christmas dinner again this season. Around 170 meals were served! They deserve a big pat on the back for their efforts!

The Bonaparte Snow/ATV Club is busy making preparations for their annual snow/ice drags on Bonaparte Lake.

And the Butte Busters are getting ready for their annual bucket run and are helping the Northwest Sled Dog Association put on their dog sled races at the end of January.

I just got back from a few days in Eagle River, Wisconsin. Some friends and I took in the Vintage Snowmobile World Championship Ice Oval Races. Saw three days of great racing with sleds from the 70's and 80's. It's always fun to see what snowmobiling is like in the Midwest. They have no mountains but the trail system is massive! There are snowmobile trails along all the roads back there; a day's ride might take you 200 miles between all the small towns. While we were there temperatures dropped as low as 14 below zero, but that didn't seem to have any effect on the snowmobilers. Day or night, if you were driving anywhere in the area there was a constant stream of sleds on their groomed trail system.

Still hoping for some more snowstorms to make it to Central Washington, but overall winter is starting off pretty good up here! Hope to see you all on the trail!



**District 2 South**  
By Matt Kensrud  
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Hello from District 2 South! We are still waiting for snow; some folks are out finding a little white stuff to play in, however coverage is still very low.

The Lake Wenatchee Rec. Club held a poker run January 3rd with 51 riders taking part in the ride. If you couldn't make the last run, the Club is planning another poker run for March 7th - check their Facebook page for additional information.

The groomers are up and running around the Lake and Leavenworth areas. The Apple Country Club, out of Wenatchee, started grooming on the 1st of January, and grooming operations are under way in the Chelan area.

The Bavarian Boondockers are also getting ready for a club ride, but current conditions are prohibiting them from selecting a date. Watch their Facebook page for updates.



**District 3**  
By Greg Figg  
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As your WSSA District 3 Representative, all is fairly calm at the moment.

We are waiting for more snow in the North Country. Grooming has started on a limited basis where snow fall amounts will allow it. I know all the clubs are waiting for more snow to be able to get off the trail.

I hope to be making contact with the Colville Drift Riders, Selkirk Trailblazers, and the Chewelah Snow Posse in the coming weeks. Hope to have more on their activities real soon.



**District 4 North**  
By Craig Miller  
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(253) 312-2092

Greeting from 4 North! I sincerely hope we are getting snow by now.

I had the pleasure of attending the WSSA General Meeting in Naches on Saturday the 10th of January. We all had a very productive meeting. A big thanks to Paul and Ronna Younie for hosting us. We had intended to make some rides but sadly in light of the poor snow conditions, we left the sleds at home.

By the time you see this, Junco will have held their annual Charity on the Snow event to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. As you may know, Junco does this event every year and has raised over \$65,000 to benefit this children's charity to date. Way to go Junco!

The Sno-Jammers will be hosting their annual poker run at Greenwater on February 7th.

As I write this we are in serious need of new snow for these events. I hope we get it.

Following that we are hoping for a good turnout at the WSSA Winter Rendezvous taking place at Priest Lake. I'm guessing the turnout will be good as I couldn't get lodging at Hill's Resort. I was able to secure some a couple miles down the road.

All clubs, be sure to keep tally of your volunteer hours worked and charity dollars raised. Then tally those and use the reporting form on the WSSA webpage under the 'Charity and Volunteer' tab to report them to me by April 15th. This would be any hours and dollars worked and raised between March 31st, 2014 and April 1st, 2015. We send this information to the International Snowmobile Council to be used for public relations and lobbying efforts on behalf of our sport. WSSA can also use this information in grant writing and lobbying at the state level. Please contact me if you need any help reporting. It only takes a few minutes to receive recognition for your efforts. Look for my Volunteer/Charity article in this issue of the Snoflyer for complete information.



**District 4 South**  
By Mike Ainslie  
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Greetings everyone! Well, as I write this article we have very little snow in our mountains to ride on. We just made a trip over to Yakima for a WSSA meeting and there was very little snow on the top of White Pass, which is not a good sign for us. There has been no grooming on either Mt. Adams or St. Helens as there has not been enough snow to groom. So let's all start doing our snow dance so hopefully we can get some riding in yet this season... We need snow badly.

Pamela McConkey with the Winter Recreation Program was at the WSSA meeting and reported once again the snowmobile registrations are way down again for the second year. Once again I would like to remind everyone the money we get for snowmobile registrations this year with the gas tax for each sled is the money we will use next year for grooming, plowing and sanitation. So let's all do our part and get those sleds registered so we have some money to work with next year.

Let think lots of SNOW!



**District 5 North**  
By Bill Miller  
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It's January 16th as I write this and I am a day late getting my report in. I was too busy watching it snow last night!

I want to encourage 5 North residents to keep informed and involved in a couple of important ongoing projects.

The DNR Recreational Trails Policy Committee:

[http://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/amp\\_trails\\_committee\\_presentation\\_20141217.pdf](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/amp_trails_committee_presentation_20141217.pdf)

Teanaway Community Forest: [http://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em\\_tcf\\_public\\_comments\\_061214.pdf](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em_tcf_public_comments_061214.pdf)

Clubs consider the following:

The Forest Service has requested our input regarding Fat Bicycle access to groomed trails. At this point it appears they would be riding out of motorized sno-parks and require a motorized sno-park permit. More money! <http://forums.mtbr.com/fat-bikes>

Another item for club discussion is allowing tracked ATV's on groomed trails. State Parks Snowmobile Recreation site states: The Winter Recreation Program provides sno-parks, cleared parking areas for vehicles in close proximity to groomed and/or backcountry trails. There are two types of sno-parks, those for snowmobiles and those for non-motorized sports.

Hope to see you at the Priest Lake WSSA Winter Rendezvous, February 13th-16th.



**District 5 South**  
By Paul Younie  
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This year, so far, I am not living the dream on the snow, riding to my heart's content, but am spending a lot of time at club meetings, club events, and WSSA meetings. This has been a good year to strengthen other snowmobiling activities with meetings and time spent with friends.

January 27th was the annual All Trails to Olympia Day. I look forward to this more each year. The legislative group always welcomes us and our input. This is a year with new faces and transitions in Olympia.

A note of change, another dealer has dropped the Arctic Cat product line. Valley Marine, Inc. of Yakima made it official that they will be bowing out by the end of March. Great products but the company demands too much, and is hard to get along with. Hmm, you would think they would take note of how many dealers they are losing. This reminds me of Ski-Doo's tactics in the 80's and 90's. Valley Marine will continue to take care of their customers and service the products, and they will continue their large boat and marine product lines. I wish to thank Valley Marine for their support in the winter recreational activities.

The Forest Service has a heli-logging operation in the Nile area. The landing will be off of the 1600 Road. They are felling trees at this time, and will progress from there. More info next Snoflyer.



**District 6**  
By Gary Simmons  
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Hello everyone! Just returned from our January WSSA meeting at the Ranger Station in Naches. It was a very informative meeting.

I hope you can make it to the WSSA Rendezvous at Hill's Resort on February 13th through 16th.

As of this writing, I have not made it on the snow yet. Not enough snow to keep from tearing up the machine.

As for the club's activities, the Mount Misery Club in Pomeroy is having their Bucket Run on February 7th. The Bucket Run with the Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club in Dayton is February 28th. Hope some of you can make it to one or both of these events.

Don't forget, do your snow dance!

## Club News

### Junco Snowmobile Club

By Craig Miller, Vice President

Greetings from the Junco Snowmobile Club!

We had the distinct pleasure to go riding in the beautiful Mt. Adams and Mt. St. Helens areas over the New Year's weekend. We rode four days in beautiful clear crisp cold weather and about 14" of fresh powder snow. We set out on Wednesday riding out of Cat Creek and got on top of French Butte, which is a rare occurrence. Conditions were just right for it. We could see all the volcanos from one spot. Thursday we toured the Mt. St. Helens area and had a fantastic view into the volcano's cone. Friday found us at Mud Lake and Saturday we explored a new area near Twin Falls. All in all we put about 180 miles on our sleds. We did a little boondocking but the snow was in too short supply for much off-trail riding. In true fashion for our area, we saw only four sleds besides our own.

By the time you read this we will have held our annual Charity on the Snow rides and charity auction at the Orr Creek Sno-Park. A huge thank you to all who came out to support our charity event this year, even in the face of the crummy snow conditions. The event is for the support of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which grants the wishes of children fighting serious illness. We hope to see you all again next year for this wonderful event.

Next up will be our members' support of the Sno-Jammer's Poker run. Following that, we'll be off to WSSA's Winter Rendezvous. We hope to see you all there.

Think Snow!

### Snomads Snowmobile Club

By BJ Oswald, Secretary

Our upcoming events:

February 21st - We are hosting our annual Golf Tournament at the Silver Ridge Ranch off of Exit 70 in Easton. The entry fee is \$25 per person and that includes 18 holes of golf and a Snomads T-shirt. There will be raffle tickets for \$1 each to be entered in a drawing for some amazing gifts. This event is open to all ages and abilities. You will need to bring three clubs and a tennis ball per person. Registration begins at 9am and the tournament begins at 10am. Shotgun start.

March 7th - We are hosting our Snowmobile Play Day. There will be activities for all ages and abilities. We will have technique and beacon training to just name a few. We will also have a potluck in the afternoon.

We are pleased to say our club is growing every month. We discussed at our last meeting our 'lack of snow' and are happy to report everyone is very optimistic that we will finish the season with a good supply.

We would like to invite everyone, including children, to our monthly meetings which are held on the first Friday of each month at 7pm in the banquet room at the Easton Saloon.

For more information, please contact Chuck White at cwhite98925@gmail.com, or myself at bjoswald21@gmail.com.

### Tri-River Snowmobile Club

By Kurt Hensley, President



A great turnout at the chili feed with members of the Butte Busters and Methow Valley also in attendance.

The Tri-River Snowmobile Club hosted the Chili Feed at the Black Canyon Shelter and had a great turnout with lots of chili, hot dogs and cookies! We



President Kurt serving up hot dogs.

had a great showing from the Butte Busters and Methow Club and lots of help from our Tri-River Club. Some of our members broke away and fixed a few signs in the area.

We are still doing our snow dance and although the trails are in good shape, we need more snow! Looking forward to our Benefit Ride on January 31st, leaving out of North Summit Sno-Park and going to Conconully for lunch.

Come join us and enjoy riding in the Okanogan! Call me at (509) 689-2843.

Think snow!

### Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club

By Kevin Hancock, Vice President



The day after writing this submission, our club met at the Fish Lake Sno-Park by Leavenworth. This was our first winter riding event for this season. We were expecting around 25 vintage snowmobilers to attend. We brought our barbecue and the club bought the meat, bread, condiments and drinks. Others were asked to bring a side dish if they wanted. The weather was supposed to be snowy. There will be more on this event along with pictures in our next submission.

Our next vintage riding event is still coming. It is planned for February 7th and is at the Blewett Pass Sno-Park. We will meet in the parking area between 9:30am and 10am. This is a riding event to Table Top Mountain. We will play in the open meadows, and ride the trails until we decide it is time to come down. Of course that could always change if the group wants to be more adventurous and the sleds are running well.

Our club has for three years sponsored an annual show, ride, and single cylinder flat track racing event at The Last Resort in Ronald. Twice we had vintage one-cylinder racing, but last year there were issues with low snow. The organization that was helping with insurance was forced to cancel their ride and the insurance. We are planning for this year to have the show and race on Saturday, February 28th. Then on Sunday, March 1st, we will have a vintage snowmobile ride.

Everyone is invited to participate in all of our scheduled events, old sled or no old sled. Just let us know you are coming. You can get the latest information and contacts off our website at [www.pnwvsc.org](http://www.pnwvsc.org), or our Facebook page.

During the last Washington State legislative session the law that regulates the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was revised. It now requires DNR to develop a statewide Recreation Trails Policy. I heard about it, volunteered, and was accepted to serve on the committee. I wanted us to have a voice for snowmobiling and winter sports on the committee. The policy is for all types of sports, motorized and non-motorized, summer and winter. You can get more information at this website: [http://www.dnr.wa.gov/recreationeducation/topics/recreationplanning/pages/amp\\_rec\\_trails\\_policy.aspx](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/recreationeducation/topics/recreationplanning/pages/amp_rec_trails_policy.aspx).

I am asking for your ideas to bring to the committee. You can either get them to me through the club's e-mail, [pnwvsc@gmail.com](mailto:pnwvsc@gmail.com). Pamela McConkey from State Parks has volunteered to be my alternate. You can also contact her through her e-mail at [pamela.mcconkey@parks.wa.gov](mailto:pamela.mcconkey@parks.wa.gov).

### Bonaparte Snow/ATV Club

By Bridgette Sterling, Marketing/Public Relations

Hello fellow club members! We hope you are having a better snow year than we have here. Some of our members have been riding in the Bonaparte area. The riding is mainly road riding since there hasn't been enough snow to cover the trails. Our club President, Mike Sterling, was invited to ride along

with the Tree Benders out of Republic on Sunday January 11th. They had a great ride in the Empire area with open meadows to play in. The bull moose who just happened to wander across the road was just another perk in the day. Thank you Tree Benders!

Since the Bonaparte area is experiencing low snow levels again this year, we are dealing with people driving around and/or destroying the closed Forest Service gates. These gates are clearly marked stating "Closed to All Wheeled Vehicles". Either these people can't read, they just don't care, or both. They are tearing up the roads and leaving huge ruts for what little riding area we have. A few of our club members have tried to catch these derelicts with no luck. We have been working with the Forest Service on this matter. Bottom line... unless we get some serious snow, this will continue. Our members will remain vigilant since this presents a riding hazard for everyone.

As I write this, we are busy organizing our annual Snow Drags at Bonaparte Lake. Luckily the weather has been cold enough for the lake to freeze over and enough snow on top for a good base. I will have all race results in the next edition.

Stay safe and happy (snowy) trails!

### Northwest Glacier Cruisers

By Julie Street Doran



I hope everybody has had a wonderful start to the new year! Our warming huts are warm and our sleds ready to hit the mountain! We are all still waiting for the snowfall to cover Mount Baker but it has not stopped Northwest Glacier Cruisers from having fun!

January 7th was a great night for training that is key for everyone in our sport. Whether it's new information, or keeping up to date with your GPS. The Glacier Cruisers would like to thank Bill Loud, Garmin Representative from Boise, for all his hard work and coming so far. We all would love to see him again next year!

One of the biggest events of the season is coming fast. The Northwest Glacier Cruisers' Annual Baker Shootout on March 21st. Lots of campers will be arriving for the weekend; make sure you grab your spot fast. Vendors should be arriving Saturday to demo some of their products. Bring your sleds, fuel and food; it will be an awesome weekend! All ages welcome! The Glacier Cruisers are still raffling a first prize BCA Avalanche package and the second prize is a gift certificate for a sled wrap from Arctic FX! The winner of the raffle items will be announced on the March 2015 Shootout weekend. Mike Duffy, Avalanche 1; Andy Wenburg, BCA; and Stephanie Santeferd - thanks for the Avy Package, and Bryan Flinker from Arctic FX, thank you so much!

The Northwest Glacier Cruisers' meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at Coconut Kenny's at 7pm. Located at 1060 South Burlington Blvd., in Burlington. Everyone is welcome! You can also find out more information about all upcoming events by finding us on Twitter at @NWGCSleds and also on Facebook at Northwest Glacier Cruisers. E-mail us at [northwestglaciercruisers@gmail.com](mailto:northwestglaciercruisers@gmail.com) for any information. Look forward to seeing you on the mountain!

### Methow Valley Snowmobile Association

By Chelsea Miller



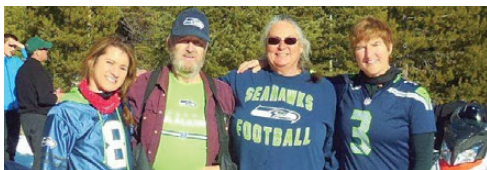
Our club rides have been going as scheduled with some minor adjustments due to Seahawks games! We are starting to get more snow around the Valley and the snowmobiling is just getting started.

Come join us at our President's Day Weekend Bucket Run. Sunday, February 15th - mark your calendars. It is an all-day

Continued page 6



## Club News



The Methow riders are Seahawks fans

event with cash prizes for the top hands and raffle prizes donated by our community. A great event for the whole family! The entry fee includes lunch and a collectible souvenir button. We hope to see you there! Arrive early to meet some of our club members and to assist with organized parking. The event is held from the Goat Creek Sno-Park. Ride begins at 10am and ends at 1pm.

Learn more on our blogsite: <http://mvsnowmobile.blogspot.com>, or through our Facebook page. You may e-mail us at [methowsnomobilers@gmail.com](mailto:methowsnomobilers@gmail.com) to inquire about purchasing tickets/buttons. We are always looking forward to new faces.

### Sky Riders Snowmobile Club

By RaeAnne Ro, Secretary



Here we go again, another late snow year. One good thing about late snow... more time for trail work! Sky Riders have continued to have work parties to help improve the condition of trails out of our community and around the area.



Not enough snow for the snowmobiles, but lots of fun with the saws and other toys!

The Sky Riders have also set the date for their annual Poker Run for Saturday, February 21st. Let's hope we don't have to postpone due to lack of snow again. This year, we are offering sign-up in two different locations, one at Sky Meadows for the residents and another out of the new Evergreen Snow Park! Last year's 'Best Checkpoint' winner and club Vice President, Chris Merrifield, has big plans to keep his title for another year, but he may have some pretty stiff competition. Bring your friends and family and come join us for a great day on the trails, fun checkpoints and lots of prizes!

Be sure to follow us on Facebook for more info on the club and upcoming events!

### Yakima Ski-Benders

By Rudy Classen, President



It is the middle of January as I write this report and I am so depressed. I see postings on Facebook from some of my friends Back East and they have snow, lots of snow, and we have very little. Grooming started late again this year but only lasted a couple of weeks. The lower parts of the groomed trails are not very good with hard pack snow or ice which is better than having nothing. However, in spite of the conditions on the lower trails a lot of folks are going out and playing in that wonderful white stuff. There is not as much as we would like but it will come.

I took my 12-year-old grandson out for a Sunday ride and let him ride my 800. He had a blast and really enjoyed the day but I very possibly created a monster. From a distance we were watching a couple of sledders high marking on a steep hill and he was very impressed. I didn't think much of it until a couple of days later when my daughter called me and told me that all he was talking about was high marking. I hope that I am allowed to take him again.

Our February 8th SnoFest/Family Fun Run is still a go at this point but the

lack of snow at lower levels is of concern. Mark your calendar; we always have a great time with lots of prizes and it is always good to see so many families riding together and enjoying our sport and the outdoors.

A number of Yakima Ski-Benders will be at the All Trails to Olympia Day again this year to visit with our elected officials. It is always important to visit with those you elect and others so they completely understand how important winter outdoor recreation is in this state for so many of our fellow citizens. These elected officials get bombarded daily by radicals who would like to end our access to our sledding areas and thus by being there and talking to all elected officials, we make a difference; a big difference. If you weren't able to make this year's event, do everything possible to make next year's. It is extremely important for the future of sledding. Put it on your schedule for next year.

Last year the Yakima Ski-Benders hosted, along with professional rider Brandy Floyd, a two day 'Little Girls Ride' which was well received and we plan on doing the same this year. This event is scheduled for March 14th/15th and will be held at the Ahtanum Winter Recreation Area west of Yakima. The base camp will be the lower level parking lot. A lot of snowmobilers bring their trailer or camper and make a three-day weekend out of this event. Bring your young rider and join us for a fantastic weekend.

### Spokane Winter Knights

By Greg Figg, President



Well, it is the middle of January right now and we are doing our snow dance hoping for some more snow. It seems this year we get some snow and then it warms up and the snow leaves. It has done this multiple times so far. Maybe it will stick around next time for more than a few days. The long-range winter forecast State Parks handed out at the last WSSA meeting was not the one you want to see; warmer and drier! Well, in any event, we are hoping for some good snow as we are just one or two storms away from some great riding!

Right now the Winter Knights are hard at work getting ready for the WSSA Winter Rendezvous at Hill's Resort on Priest Lake in Idaho. Hopefully we will see many of you at this event! In addition, we have some great rides planned for February and March of this year.

This will be my last column as President of the Winter Knights as I will not be running for President again next year. Being President has been a great experience for me to serve in this capacity. I will still be involved in the club, just in other capacities. I want thank the Winter Knights for the opportunity to serve as club President!

### WSSA MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT EVENTS 2015

#### Winter Rendezvous at Priest Lake, ID

February 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Hill's Resort on Priest Lake. Check this Snoflyer for details!

#### Big Tent Outdoor Coalition Rally in Olympia

February 24<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, 2015

9am inside the Capitol Building. Join us for a chance to talk to legislators and others about snowmobiling in Washington State

#### WSSA Budget Meeting

March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015

9am at the Last Resort in Ronald/Roslyn  
Join us and find out where your money goes!

#### International Snowmobile Congress, Niagara Falls, New York

June 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Meet snowmobilers from around the world and learn what happens at the national and international level!  
Details and registration information at [www.isc2015.com](http://www.isc2015.com)

#### WSSA Summer Meeting & Campout

August, 2015

Blu-Shastin RV Park on north side of Blewett Pass  
Join us for a weekend of fun! Chili and dogs on Friday night around the fire. Breakfast, followed by an informative meeting on Saturday. Legal Action fundraising fun and potluck dinner on Saturday night, along with another campfire. Breakfast again on Sunday before saying our goodbyes!

Visit [www.wssa.us](http://www.wssa.us) or check your latest Snoflyer for updates on these upcoming events.

### WSSA Legal Action Fund Raffle

For a new Triton XTD11-101 2-Place Aluminum Trailer!

#### TIME'S UP!

If you haven't bought your tickets yet, you are just about out of time! In fact, you'll just about have to come to Winter Rendezvous at Priest Lake to purchase them... (if any are left by then!)

Remember, this money supports WSSA's Legal Action Fund - to protect YOUR snowmobiling opportunities!

Drawing to be held February 14th, 2015. Need not be present to win.

WSSA extends special thanks to Kent Lisko of Kastle West Distributing for his continued support of our Legal Action Fund.



## Trail Grant Program

By Helen Maxwell, Trail Grant Chair

After attending the WSSA meeting in January at the Naches Ranger District Headquarters and seeing some new faces coming on board, I thought it might be a good time to refresh and inform people about the WSSA Trail Grant program.

The program was started in 2007 with the idea of providing help for clubs with projects they were doing to provide better conditions for their areas.

The Trail Grant applications are sent out to each club president the last part of October each year. A club can receive up to \$1,000 per year. There is usually \$10,000 budgeted each year for the program.

The completed grant application (including all permits, letters of approval and an estimated budget) has to be received by mail (no e-mails) by the Trail Grant Chair NO LATER than April 1st.

They are then checked for all items needed and correct, then the applications go to the District Rep. from that area for approval. The applications then come back to the Chairperson and are then sent to the Trail Grant Committee (consisting of three members) for scoring.

When they are received back by the Chair, signed off and scored, and the individual clubs notified of the approval, the application sign-off sheets are then copied for the files and the original is sent to the Treasurer for payment as close to June 1st as possible.

EACH club receiving a grant is responsible - even if working on the same project with another club - for an article and pictures being sent to the Chairperson for submittal to the Snoflyer. (Do not send directly to the Snoflyer editor/Publicity Secretary without prior coordination with the Grant Chair.) This requirement is needed before a club can apply for another grant in a different year.

It is very important the correct club president's name is sent to the Membership Chair(s) as soon as possible. This helps in getting the application to the correct person for completion.

Hope this makes sense, and if not, drop me an e-mail at [maxx321@q.com](mailto:maxx321@q.com) and I will see if I can clarify things for you.



**WSSA** - The Voice of Snowmobiling in Washington

## WSSA Trail Grant helps Tri-River Club and local riders

Info assembled by Matt Mead, Publicity Secretary

The Tri-River Snowmobile Club received a WSSA Trail Grant in 2014 for performing maintenance and brushing on groomed and un-groomed trails on U.S. Forest Service and Washington Department of Natural Resources lands in Okanogan County. In addition, the Black Canyon Shelter was fully stocked with wood.



Club members clearing the trail on the Loup for the groomer.



Cutting down bug-killed trees trailside; prevents blow downs and provides a source of heat too!



Local snowmobilers have the Tri-River club to thank when enjoying the warm Black Canyon Shelter.

An advertisement for Lake Cascade Recreation Area. It features a collage of images: a skier in silhouette on a snowy slope, a snowmobiler in a yellow jacket on a snowy trail, and a group of snowmobilers on a frozen lake. The text "WOW! Surprisingly Cool!" is written in a large, stylized font across the middle. At the bottom, it says "LAKE CASCADE RECREATION AREA" and "70 scenic miles north of Boise". A small map of Idaho with a star is also visible.

Welcome to the  
**LAKE CASCADE  
RECREATION AREA**  
Your fun, family-friendly, winter destination.

On any given day you can go snowmobiling,  
downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, snowboarding,  
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## Winter Rendezvous 2015

### WSSA WINTER RENDEZVOUS AGENDA

#### THURSDAY, February 12<sup>th</sup>

2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Early check-in, Welcome packet, Sign up sheet for Friday guided rides. Info available for local attractions.

#### FRIDAY, February 13<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Check-in, Welcome packet for new arrivals, Sign up sheet for Saturday guided rides.

8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Guided rides. Open time for non-riders.

5:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Hospitality hour. No host bar. Submit snowmobiling pictures for photo contest of action, worst stuck/other mishaps, scenery and family shots.

6:00 pm

Welcome by Hill's Resort

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Dinner...Mexican Specialty Buffet.

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Speaker, U. S. Border Patrol. WSSA General Meeting.

Treasurer's report, Minutes of last meeting, Old/New business, Nominations open.

8:00 pm to Midnight

Entertainment: Bingo.

10:00pm

First Annual Polar Bear Plunge led by WSSA President.

#### SATURDAY, February 14<sup>th</sup>

8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Guided rides. Lunch hosted by Winter Knights at Baldies Pelke Warming Hut, "the Ritz". Open time for non-riders.

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Submit snowmobiling pictures for photo contest of action, worst stuck/other mishaps, scenery and family shots. Sign up sheet for Sunday guided ride.

4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

No host bar. Silent Auction opens. Pictures for photo contest displayed; voting begins. Triton trailer \$5 raffle tickets on sale supporting Legal Action Fund.

5:00 pm to 6:00pm

WSSA General Meeting. Election of Officers.

6:30 pm

Photo contest voting ends; votes tabulated.

7:00 pm to 10:30 pm

Dinner Buffet. Silent Auction closes, Guest speaker, awards, Triton Trailer raffle, short live auction, contest winners announced.

10:30 pm to 11:00 pm

Pay for; pick up Auction items.

#### SUNDAY, February 15<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Guided ride to Coolin. Observe vintage snowmobile races (optional). Continue to Cavanaugh Bay.

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Late lunch/dinner at Cavanaugh Bay.

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Return ride to Hill's Resort.

#### MONDAY, February 16<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am to \_\_\_\_\_

"Rides on your own". Check out. Safe travel.

## Rendezvous Lodge Alternatives:

### Information provided by Greg Figg

Inn at Priest Lake  
(208) 443-2447  
www.innatpriestlake.com  
5310 Dickensheet Rd. • Coolin, Idaho 83821

Coolin Motel  
(208) 443-2712  
www.coolinmotel.com • coolinmotel@gmail.com  
266 Cavanaugh Bay Rd. • Coolin, ID 83821

Cavanaugh Bay  
(208) 443-2095  
www.cavbay.com  
4024 Cavanaugh Bay Rd. • Coolin, Idaho 83821

Elkin's Resort  
(208) 443-2432  
www.elkinsresort.com  
404 Elkins Rd. • Nordman, ID 83848

Grandview Resort  
(208) 443-2433  
www.grandviewpl.com  
3492 Reeder Bay Rd. • Nordman, ID 83848

Priest Lake Lodge  
(208) 443-2538  
www.nordman-idaho.com  
36442 Highway 57 • Nordman, ID 83848

### Registration Form

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Children Names/Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail? \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday Night Mexican Specialty Buffet** Adults (ages 13 & up) @ \$35/ea. Children (5-12) @ \$10/ea. 4 & under free.

(Cheese enchiladas, tortillas, sliced chicken, beef, baked potatoes, black beans, sautéed peppers, & toppings)

# Adults \_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_ + # Children \_\_\_\_ x \$10 = \_\_\_\_ **Sub Total \$ \_\_\_\_**

**Saturday Night Dinner Buffet** Adults (ages 13 & up) @ \$35/ea. Children (5-12) @ \$10/ea. 4 & under free.

(Baron of beef, chicken & chanterelle mushroom fettuccini, au gratin potatoes, broccoli, baked beans, & salads)

# Adults \_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_ + # Children \_\_\_\_ x \$10 = \_\_\_\_ **Sub Total \$ \_\_\_\_**

**Friday & Saturday TOTAL AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_**

**Make check payable to WSSA and mail w/ this form to:**

Wayne Smith  
12715 E. Deer Creek Rd.  
Chattaroy, WA 99003

Questions? call (509) 690-7059

OR

**Register & Pay by Credit Card On-Line @**

<http://www.wssa.us/>

**Note: Be sure and go through Member Log In**

# ONE AT A TIME ON THE SLOPES!

**RESPECT THE RED ZONE,  
IT WILL SAVE LIVES.**

This message brought to you by the American Council of Snowmobile Associations  
[www.snowmobilers.org](http://www.snowmobilers.org)







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**34th ANNUAL  
CHINOOK PASS SNOW FESTIVAL**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2015**  
**9:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

REGISTRATION STARTS @ 9:00AM  
PRIZES AWARDED AT 2:30PM SHARP  
DONATION \$6.00 (PRIZES INCLUDE CASH)

\*\*\*\*\* GREAT FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY \*\*\*\*\*  
LARGE LOT FOR RV PARKING

GAS & OIL AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE  
\*\*\*\* CONCESSION STAND

**DIRECTIONS:** HWY 410 – TURN RIGHT ON LIL NACHES ROAD,  
KEEP GOING TO 1904 SNOW PARK. FOLLOW THE SIGNS

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509-698-5619 OR 509-952-8298

**SPONSORED BY THE YAKIMA SKIBENDERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB**

# Proxy Form

## ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS

Be it known the Annual Meeting of the Washington State Snowmobile Association will be held at Hill's Resort in Priest Lake, ID, on February 13 & 14, 2015. Election of the officers for the upcoming 2015-2016 & 2015-2017 cycles will be held at this Annual Meeting. This notice will serve as your written notice prior to that Annual Meeting. If you are unable to attend this Annual Meeting, you may send your signed Proxy Form with another WSSA member to vote for you. No member may vote more than three proxy votes.

## WSSA WINTER RENDEZVOUS

That I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby constitute and appoint \_\_\_\_\_ attorney-in-fact and agent for me and in my name, place and stead, to vote as my proxy at the Annual Meeting of the Washington State Snowmobile Association, to be held in Priest Lake, ID, on February 13 & 14, 2015.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

## UNDER PROXY VOTE THIS ITEM:

WSSA Members unable to attend this Annual Meeting may vote by sending a letter of proxy (above form) with a club member or friend attending the Rendezvous. No one member may vote more than three (3) proxy votes. Ballot books will be issued for paid up members at the registration table. Proxy vote forms will also be checked at that time to be sure the member is paid for the year.



## Why should we clubs bother to report our volunteer hours and charity dollars to WSSA?

By Craig Miller, Chair of Volunteer and Charity Reporting

Well, I'm glad you asked that question. I hope you will take a couple minutes to read on.

Over the course of a year each club that is in any small way active, does some volunteer and or charity work to benefit snowmobiling and the community at large.

The Junco Snowmobile Club, for example, recently applied for and received a state grant to resurface the muddy parking lot at the Orr Creek Sno-Park. That effort required writing a grant proposal, several meetings and phone calls, recruiting heavy equipment operators to donate time and equipment, and coordinating with volunteers. The state Department of Natural Resources donated the material from one of their pits. Club members also rallied to help; many hours of time were donated. The grant, as well as some club monies, were expended to get it done. At the same time the club spent time and funds to do some repairs on the warming hut. This project benefits everyone who may use the sno-park during the year. Hunters, mushers, Christmas tree hunters, campers, 4x4 people and snowmobilers all benefit. It's a community service. It deserves to be showcased and recognized.

As a result, we figured we had about 180 hours and a few hundred dollars into the project. Lots of clubs do this same sort of thing as you can see by reading the club and district reports here in Snoflyer. They do trail improvements, build bridges, huts, chop and stock firewood, and hold charity fundraisers. The list goes on and on.

On the WSSA website there is a tab on the opening page titled Volunteer and Charity. Click that and you will see two links to forms. One is a project tracking form. Just use it to list who was involved and how many hours they worked. If money was raised or spent, list it. The second form is where you tally up all of your volunteer and charity hours and dollars and send them off to me. My information is on the form at the top. It's that simple.

Track the event or project on the first form, tally, fill out the second report form and mail it off to me. The current reporting year is March 31st, 2014 through April 1st, 2015.

After we get your yearly report or individual reports, WSSA reports all the hours and dollars to the International Snowmobile Council (ISC). The ISC is made up from all the national and state snowmobile organizations in the U.S., Canada and elsewhere. They meet annually at the International Snowmobile Congress.

ISC and WSSA use these volunteer and charity efforts to feather our nest so to speak in public relations; lobbying and basically showing the value snowmobilers add to the community. Every hour and dollar makes us look that much better in the eyes of the community at large. Please... please report your volunteer and charity efforts to us.

One caution. Report early and often if that's what it takes. I have to report all we get to the ISC by April 30th. I like to get it no later than April 15th so I have enough time to enter it into the ISC database by the April 30th deadline. After April 30th the window closes and all efforts not reported or entered are lost to us. There are a lot of clubs so don't wait until the last minute to report. I have to complete a separate ISC report for each club so it's a bit of a job to get it in on time.

Don't let your efforts go unrecognized. Report! It's easy, and fun! Feel free to contact me with any questions as I am ready to assist you. And a huge thanks to the clubs and members who have already reported some of your efforts. Keep it coming! You can reach me at (253) 312-2092 or [craig.miller@wssa.us](mailto:craig.miller@wssa.us).

## ISC 2015 - Register now for a barrel of fun!

Contact: ISC 2015 Committee & the New York State Snowmobile Association, [www.isc2015.com](http://www.isc2015.com)



What is ISC 2015? On June 10th-13th, 2015, the 47th International Snowmobile Congress (ISC) will be held in Niagara Falls, New York, at the Niagara Falls Convention Center. This event is dedicated to the development of strategies on our common role with respect to the environment, conservation, access, education

and accountability. It is attended by snowmobilers from around the world.

**Historic and beautiful Niagara Falls** - The 2015 ISC promises to be a most memorable event, set in New York's Niagara Falls. Did you know nearly 45 million gallons of water flow over the falls each minute and a drop of water that falls in Lake Superior can take 100 years to reach the falls? Niagara Falls freezes into a beautiful ice sculpture each winter as the water continues to flow beneath. The falls have receded seven miles in the last 12,000 years and may someday cease to exist. Water diverted from the Niagara River generates enough electricity to light up more than 50 million 100 watt light bulbs at the same time!

**The Finest Hotel** - Our host hotel, the Sheraton at the Falls, is one of the best hotels in Niagara USA and entertains thousands of visitors from the around the world. The hotel is only a short walk to Niagara Reservation (Park) the oldest continuously operated state park in the country.

**Register Now!** - Come join us at this very unique ISC. Register for the event and then make your hotel reservations as soon as possible and be sure to make them before May 13th, 2015, to receive the ISC room rate. Discounted room rates are available two days before and after the event, so come early and stay late to enjoy Niagara!

Visit [www.isc2015.com](http://www.isc2015.com) for full information and links to registration, the host hotel, and other useful trip information.

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541.480-7378  
[elklakeresort.net](http://elklakeresort.net)  
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Nestled amongst Three Sisters, Broken Top and Mt. Bachelor, Elk Lake Resort's majestic mountain views are the perfect backdrop for cross country skiing, snow shoeing, ice fishing and snowmobiling. Or simply come relax in the Historic Lodge and dine in one of Oregon's most pristine destination spots.



## 2015 Take a Friend Snowmobiling Campaign

Contact: Ed Klim, President,  
International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association



The Snowmobile manufacturers, through the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association (ISMA), are excited to partner with the organized snowmobiling community and the many snowmobile associations and clubs who support snowmobiling throughout North America. The unique partnership between the snowmobile manufacturers and the snowmobile community is now over 40 years old and has grown since the inception of the 'Go Snowmobiling' promotion six years ago.

The Campaign is designed to encourage the associations to work with their local snowmobile clubs, visitors and convention bureaus, and other interested parties in developing and holding snowmobile demonstration rides this winter.

The snowmobile riding events may be held any time between January 1st and March 31st, 2015.

The contest encourages the development and expansion of relationships clubs and associations have with visitors and convention bureaus, the media, and the related snowmobile businesses: dealers, restaurants, gas stations, banks, resorts, etc...

Research shows us that many individuals who do not presently snowmobile are very interested in 'giving it a try'. Over 80% of all citizens look very favorably toward a fun snowmobiling winter experience. Our research firm, interviewing thousands of non-snowmobilers across North America, discovered that when asked, non-snowmobilers will rate their interest in going snowmobiling on a scale of 1 - 10 as high as a '9' rating. Those of us who have participated in taking friends snowmobiling know there are 'miles of smiles' from those that we invite to join us and a good time is had by all. Very often our snowmobiling family expands as new riders purchase their first new or used snowmobiles as a result of our invitation to try snowmobiling for their own family fun in the winter.

We encourage all clubs and associations to participate in this fun and profitable contest. We encourage snowmobilers to welcome non-snowmobilers to enjoy snowmobiling and the great scenery, friendship, and fun that we all enjoy during the winter months.

All snowmobile clubs are encouraged to participate in the Take a Friend Snowmobile events and support their state or provincial snowmobile association in helping make their organizations grow and prosper. An Action Manual containing some great ideas on holding a ride event can be found on the [www.GoSnowmobiling.org](http://www.GoSnowmobiling.org) website. All participants are welcome and encouraged to post photos of their events on our [www.facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling](https://www.facebook.com/GoSnowmobiling) Facebook page along with some brief written points telling us some details about the ride. Our Facebook page is now close to 7,000 likes and is growing rapidly. Come join us!

## WSSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership valid until August 31, 2015

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

### Family/Individual (\$25)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Registered Sleds: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Riders: \_\_\_\_\_

Legislative District \_\_\_\_\_ Congressional District \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name of Business or Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner/Business Contact or Club Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT:

Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card (Visa or M/C) \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Legal Action Fund\*: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Questions about Membership? Contact Wayne or Florence at [membership@wssa.us](mailto:membership@wssa.us) or (509) 674-4401

Questions about WSSA? Contact: Dean Meakin, President  
2928 N. Nevada  
Spokane, WA 99207  
(800) 783-WSSA or (509) 220-1001  
E-mail: [dean.meakin@wssa.us](mailto:dean.meakin@wssa.us)

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR SPORT**

\*Contributions are not tax deductible

Snowmobile Registrations				
	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY 14-15 Difference
July	148	190	166	(24)
August	300	1,298	1,142	(156)
September	4,707	4,145	3,546	(599)
October	3,154	3,093	2,544	(549)
November	4,225	3,868	2,870	(998)
December	10,171	5,724	6,656	932
January	3,743	2,727		
February	1,288	2,864		
March	375	612		
April	85	105		
May	23	39		
June	20	24		
Total:	28,239	24,689	16,924	(1,394)

While registrations made a bit of recovery in December, the numbers show we are still lagging for the season.



## Matt's Misc.

### By Matt Mead • WSSA Publicity Secretary

matt.mead@wssa.us • (509) 697-6062



Matt Mead

**Kittitas County a bit infamous in January...** A couple of significant stories out of Kittitas County recently in relation to snowmobiling. The first probably answers the 'who done it' from October. Sheriff's deputies arrested Shawn Samuel Parker of Cascade Playtime Rentals in Ronald for allegedly trafficking in \$100,000 worth of snowmobile gear stolen from I-90 Motor-sports back in October. Rumors later spread Parker was involved and he had a strained relationship with I-90 due to debt owed. It wasn't police that solved the crime; a group of people who suspected what had happened went to Cascade Playtime Rental in an attempt to buy specific avalanche safety gear and were able to match serial numbers on some of the items. At the time the news articles broke, approximately \$41,000 in gear had been found.

The second story out of Kittitas County was in regards to Cle Elum's Louis Musso III who is accused of second-degree theft for allegedly taking thousands of dollars raised for local public projects. It hit home with WSSA as a \$3,500 grant we applied for/received for the new Evergreen Sno-Park was initially taken from the Kittitas County Parks and Recreation District 1 when Musso had been secretary for the District. (It should be noted he had paid back the money before being arrested, but probably only due to the fact investigators were narrowing in on him.)

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**Polaris buys motorcycle business.** I'm not sure if Polaris is really savvy or really inept; they have been on a tear the past few years acquiring new businesses. Actually, I'll go with savvy, if for no other reason than for 'market diversification'. The latest buy is Brammo Inc., an Oregon-based startup, maker of electric motorcycles. Polaris hopes Brammo's innovative lithium-ion electric powertrains will keep them at the forefront and have plans to begin manufacturing electric motorcycles at their Spirit Lake, IA, facility in 2015. Polaris has been an investor in Brammo since 2011 and have collaborated on several motorcycle and other vehicle projects. So, how long until we have a RMK-E version?!

**Good news for ATV/UTV users in the non-snow months!** From our Land-Use Chair, Don Anderson: "On December 26th, 2015, Okanogan County Superior Court found in favor of the Okanogan County Commissioners decision to open 597 more miles to the already open 335 miles of county roads to ATV use. The suit was filed by Conservation Northwest and the Methow Valley Citizens Council. Judgment was for the Counties Motion for Summary Judgment along with their Motion for Dismissal. The plaintiffs Motion for Summary Judgment was denied. Good news for Okanogan County and ATVers!" Note these are roads already open to cars and trucks, and the County was only looking to allow ATV/UTVs as recently okayed by the State Legislature. My take: frivolous lawsuit by environmentalists hoping to bully the County.

**Five-year status review on Canada lynx.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be conducting a five-year status review under the Endangered Species Act. The Canada lynx was listed as threatened in 2000 and you'll recall WSSA and other snowmobilers filed suit over their habitat a few years ago. The review is expected to be complete by June of this year and the following information is being sought:

- General information concerning the taxonomy, biology, ecology, genetics, and status of the lynx.
- Specific information on the conservation status, including information on distribution, abundance, and population trends.
- Specific information on threats to lynx the present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range; overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes; disease or predation; the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; and other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.
- Specific information on conservation actions that have

improved Canada lynx habitat or reduced threats to lynx.

- Habitat selection, use, and any changes or trends in the amount and distribution of lynx habitat.

Note: You are encouraged to submit information throughout this process... and it is safe to assume the extreme environmental groups will providing 'data' showing snowmobilers negative effects on the Canada lynx population! (Information should be submitted to Jim Zelenak, Montana Ecological Services Field Office, 585 Shepard Way, Suite 1, Helena, MT 59601. Contact Jim at [406] 449-5225 ext. 220 or jim\_zelenak@fws.gov.)

WSSA will let you know of any future impacts on our sport and/or enlist your help if needed. Detailed biological and threat assessment information can be found at <http://ecos.fws.gov/speciesProfile/profile/speciesProfile?sp-code=A073>

**Idaho Panhandle National Forest Forest Plan.** Again from Don Anderson, Land-Use Chair: "On January 5th, the Idaho Panhandle National Forest published its final decision on the Forest Plan. You can read it all by going to [www.fs.usda.gov/detail/ipnf/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5436518](http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/ipnf/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5436518). The ROD (Record of Decision) formalizes the Forest Plan for the next 15-20 years. It will take a while to digest the modifications to the Alternate that was drafted last year. The Supervisor selected Alternative 'B' which was the best of the four proposed. More to follow when I know more."

**Polaris RMK production moving to prime snowmobiling country in Huntsville, Alabama!** Polaris recently announced an 'expansion of manufacturing operations' plan and will be building a new facility in Alabama. The 600,000 square-foot facility will employ approximately 1,700. Expect the facility to be complete and online by the second quarter of 2016. Okay, I'm fibbing about snowmobiles being produced there; the focus is on off-road vehicle production which I assume means ATVs and UTVs.

**Snowmobilers save moose!** Three guys snowmobiling in Alaska came across a Moose's nose poking out of the snow and realized it was an entire moose buried in an avalanche. The animal was snorting and moaning, and with the threat of additional avalanches, the group dug it out. After digging the approximately 1,000 pound animal mostly out, they poked it's butt with a shovel and it struggled to its feet, caked in snow, and looking like an abominable snow-moose. It must have realized the snowmobilers were saviors and not a threat as it bounded down the mountain instead of attacking. Great positive press story!

**Economic Analysis of Outdoor Recreation in Washington.** Commissioned by the Legislature and recently completed by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), the report can be viewed here: [www.rco.wa.gov/documents/ORTF/EconomicAnalysisOutdoorRec.pdf](http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/ORTF/EconomicAnalysisOutdoorRec.pdf).

The report shows outdoor recreation creates nearly 200,000 direct jobs in this state, accounts for \$21.6 billion in consumer spending, and generates \$2 billion in local and state taxes. The amount of direct jobs created is comparable to those created by the tech industry and the aerospace industry in Washington.

I haven't fully read the 100-page document, but did see where they labeled our economic contribution at \$71,539,346. Of course the figure is a bit suspect given we are listed under "All-terrain vehicle riding on snow and ice", and our contribution lags all other winter recreation except for snow shoeing. Regardless, it does show the Legislature and others the worth of outdoor recreation and gives us ammo for protecting our dedicated fund and a bit of clout for legislative endeavors.

**Legislative update:** Not much to report yet. The session just began and WSSA was tracking down sponsors for our fuel tax refund issues. At this point we are pretty much in



the same position as last year: If there is a Transportation Funding Bill, snowmobilers (and boaters and other trail-users) will benefit. No Transportation Bill, then likely no relief.

From my position, I fear for our current dedicated fund this year with the mega-revenue shortfall anticipated. A few things will work in our favor though. 1.) Our lobbying in Olympia on All Trails to Olympia Day on January 27th. 2.) The recently released RCO economic study reference above. 3.) The fact our dedicated fund is smaller than ever thanks to low registration numbers being seen this season. (Not proud of the last one, just noting the facts.)

**Fat-tire bikes on sled trails update.** The topic was discussed at the tail-end of the January WSSA meeting and we were trying to wrap things up before the Seahawks game. Overall, there were many positive comments in support of fat bikes on our trails. A few detractors as well, with a common theme of safety concerns, trail impacts, and whether the bikers would 'pay to play'. (As I opined last month, I see no safety issue above what we already have in regards to the current mixed use; and bikers will be funding via motorized sno-park permits, and there may be opportunities to assess them via a sticker program down the road if deemed necessary.) State Parks commented there was a problem with the bikes on the groomed (set grooves) cross-country ski trails and the Forest Service noted the way the winter road closure orders were written in various areas around the state, the bikes were currently illegal. (It seems some of the orders don't specify motorized vs. non-motorized and state "wheeled vehicles prohibited". This isn't an insurmountable object in the Forest Service's eyes and can be changed.) The discussion continues on this so if you have a comment to make, please forward them to me, your District Rep, or the President/Vice President.

**Tracked ATV/UTVs on snowmobile trails.** No real update on this one. I've personally had some positive feedback regarding their use on our trails, but this wasn't a topic of discussion at the January meeting.

**Portable warming shelters.** Minor update: Mick Steinman, our Safety Chair, mentioned he likely has a shipping container donated for the purpose of a shelter. He had some details to work out, but it sounded like the ball is rolling!

**Last printed Snoflyer will be the March/Spring 2016 issue.** I hope this got your attention. This is what is going to happen if a new Publicity Secretary doesn't step forward in the near future. As I've outlined in previous issues, my term is up in March of 2016 and I will not be running again. So if you enjoy the Snoflyer, enjoy snowmobiling, enjoy learning A LOT MORE about our sport, please step up and let me know. I'm happy to start working with a new volunteer right now, or anytime leading up to the end of my term. Learn the ropes today and I'll step aside whenever you are ready! If you are interested in serving with WSSA, you won't find a better position!

**Facebook and Twitter?** Facebook 'likes' grew by more than 75 in the past month and are over 1,525! Nice, especially since there hasn't been much snow! We are on Twitter at @wssaustoo!

**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. You can reach me at [snoflyer@wssa.us](mailto:snoflyer@wssa.us) or (509) 697-6062. Address mail to 440 McKee Rd., Selah, WA 98942.

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www.lkchelanSnowmobileclub.com

#### Lake Wenatchee Recreation Club

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*Snowmobile Clubs are the reason we have places to ride! They maintain trails, build sno-parks & provide wood for local warming huts. They are a great place to meet new friends for year round fun. Join a local club today!*



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ILR Performance	23407 123rd St E	Buckley	WA	98321		253-735-5549
Jay's Snowmobile Service	1325 Hanson Loop	Burbank	WA	99323		509-845-2089
Chelan Rentals Resort	1800 Cooper Gulch Road	Chelan	WA	98816	www.chelanrentals.com	509-687-8467
Evans Marine	1058 E WoodinAve.	Chelan	WA	98816	www.evansmarine.com	509-682-4402
Mountain Addiction	362 Porcupine Lane	Chelan	WA	98816	www.mountainaddiction.com	509-881-8016
Aster Inn & Antiques	521 E 1st St	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.asterinn.com	509-674-2551
Bator Lumber	920 East 1st St	Cle Elum	WA	98922		509-674-2430
Best Western Snow Cap Lodge	809 W Davis St	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.snowcaplodge.com	509-674-0200
Cabin Creek Electric	207 E 1st St	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.cabincreekelectric.com	509-656-3049
Cle Elum Econo Lodge	906 East First St	Cle Elum	WA	98922		509-674-2380
High Country Outfitters & Camp Wahoo!	1780 Nelson Siding Rd	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.campwahoo.com	509-674-8331
Los Cabos Family Mexican Restaurant	812 W Davis St	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.loscaboscle-elum.com	509-674-5790
MotorToys Snowmobile Sales, Svc, Rentals	1313 Spansky Way	Cle Elum	WA	98922		509-674-6807
Reliable Auto Service	703 E 1st St	Cle Elum	WA	98922		509-674-0637
The Cottage Cafe	911 E 1st St	Cle Elum	WA	98922	www.cottagecafeleelum.com	509-674-2922
Benny's Colville Inn	915 S Main St	Colville	WA	99114	www.colvilleinn.com	509-684-2517
Carey's Autobody Inc	1101 S Main	Colville	WA	99114	www.careysautobody.com	509-684-2587
Clark's Marine & Powersports	192 DeGrief Rd	Colville	WA	99114	www.johnsmarinesvc.com	509-684-4581
Colville Motor Sports	165 W Birch Ave	Colville	WA	99114	www.colvillemotorsports.com	509-684-5540
Granite Peak Inspection, Inc	2668 Highway 20 E	Colville	WA	99114	www.granitepeakinspection.com	509-684-5827
Gibson's North Fork Lodge	100 West Boone	Conconully	WA	98819	www.gibsonsnorthforklodge.com	509-826-1475
Kozy Kabins & RV Park	111 East Broadway	Conconully	WA	98819		509-826-6780
Shady Pines Resort	125 West Fork Road	Conconully	WA	98819	www.shadypinesresort.com	509-826-2287
Sit'N'Bull Bar & Grill	PO Box 322	Conconully	WA	98819		509-826-2947
Lone Fir Resort & Café	16806 Lewis River Rd.	Cougar	WA	98274	www.lonefirresort.com	360-238-5210
Bob Feil Boats & Motors	2131 Sunset Hwy	E Wenatchee	WA	98802	www.bobfeil.com	509-884-3558
Easton Saloon	1860 Railroad	Easton	WA	98925		
Silver Ridge Ranch	182 Silver Ridge Ranch Road	Easton	WA	98925	www.silverridgeranch.com	509-656-0275
The Fab Shop	10315 16th St E	Edgewood	WA	98372	www.thefabshop.com	253-568-9124
Adventure Power Sports Rental	907 N. Hibbs Rd	Ellensburg	WA	98926	www.adventurerentals.com	509-933-1737
Arnold's Ranch & Home	615 S. Main St.	Ellensburg	WA	98926		509-925-6181
Baird & Miller LLC	801 Manastash Rd	Ellensburg	WA	98926		509-899-0243
College Park Apartments	1901 Walnut St.	Ellensburg	WA	98926		509-925-7275
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
Fitterer's Furniture	4th and Main	Ellensburg	WA	98926	www.fitterersfurniture.com	800-992-9828
Heinrich Auto Supply, Inc.(NAPA)	PO Box 1020	Ellensburg	WA	98926		509-925-5371
Luft Trailer Sales	907 N Hibbs Rd	Ellensburg	WA	98926	www.lufttrailers.com	509-962-5445
Perkins Restaurant & Bakery	1504 Highway 97	Ellensburg	WA	98926		509-925-4662
Webb Power Sports	907 N Hibbs Rd	Ellensburg	WA	98926	www.webbpowersports.com	509-933-1737
Enumclaw Suzuki-Yamaha-Polaris	408 Roosevelt Ave	Enumclaw	WA	98022	www.enumclawsuzuki.com	253-825-4502
H.I.D. Source	42315 Auburn-Enumclaw Rd SE	Enumclaw	WA	98022	www.hidsources.com	253-848-0908
Jet Chevrolet - RV, Inc.	35700 Enchanted Pkwy So	Federal Way	WA	98063	www.jetchevrolet.com	877-538-2438
Larson Powersports Northwest	4001 20th St E	Fife	WA	98424		253-344-5930
Tracy's Quality Painting, Inc.	3008 14th Ave NW	Gig Harbor	WA	98335		253-858-8242
Alpine Electric LLC	3730 234th Drive NE	Granite Falls	WA	98252		425-346-7327
I-90 Motorsports	200 NE Gilman Blvd	Issaquah	WA	98027	www.I-90motorsports.com	425-391-4490
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.ridenowtricitie.com	509-735-1117
Bob's Lift Trucks & Equipment	426 Naden Ave S	Kent	WA	98032		253-872-0401
Good Time Motors	7979 S 180th St	Kent	WA	98032		206-909-4997
Action Rentals	8202 Berkeley St. SW	Lakewood	WA	98498	www.actionrentals.net	253-284-9284
Norracks	1612 217th Avenue Ct E	Lake Tapps	WA	98391	www.norracks.com	253-862-6102
59er Diner	15361 US Highway 2	Leavenworth	WA	98826	www.59erdiner.com	509-763-2267
Mountain Springs Lodge	19115 Chiwawa Loop Road	Leavenworth	WA	98826	www.mtsprings.com	509-763-2713
Allsport Polaris/Honda	19505 E Broadway Ave	Liberty Lake	WA	99016	www.allsportracing.com	509-926-5044
Loon Lake Marina	41080 Marina Rd	Loon Lake	WA	99148		509-233-2303
Holz Enterprises Inc	6226 Chasteen Rd	Lynden	WA	98264	www.holzracingproducts.com	360-398-7006

## Washington State Supporting Business

Lynnwood Motoplex	17900 - Highway 99	Lynnwood	WA	98046		425-774-0505
Mountain View Lodge & Resort	25 Wapato Parkway	Manson	WA	98831		800-967-8105
Smokey Point Cycle Barn	15202 Smokey Point Blvd	Marysville	WA	98271	www.smokeypointcyclebarn.com	360-530-7800
Speedway Marina	15008 Smokey Point Blvd	Marysville	WA	98271		360-658-1288
WHAC Corporation HVAC	PO Box 1401	Marysville	WA	98270		360-653-4262
Graystone Tile	15226 16 <sup>th</sup> Ave SE	Mill Creek	WA	98013		206-618-6133
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
Moses Lake Collision Repair, Inc.	1006 W Marina Dr	Moses Lake	WA	98837		509-764-8001
Lifestyles Honda Skidoo	3302 Cedardale Rd Ste E100	Mount Vernon	WA	98274	www.lifestyleshonda.com	360-416-3950
Skagit Valley Pawn Co	628 W Division St	Mount Vernon	WA	98273	www.skagitvalleypawn.com	425-422-7792
Gold Creek Station	18431 State Route 410	Naches	WA	98937		509-658-2583
Washington Tractor	PO BOX 1098	Okanogan	WA	98840		877-422-3030
Complete Repair Services	7242 Littlerock Rd. SW	Olympia	WA	98512		360-570-2210
WA State Parks Winter Rec Program	1111 Israel Road SW	Olympia	WA	98504	www.parks.wa.gov	360-902-8595
Koala Street Grill	914 Koala Ave	Omak	WA	98841		509-826-6375
Mac's Tire of Omak	631 Okoma Dr	Omak	WA	98841		509-826-0586
Pateros Lakeshore Inn	PO Box 277	Pateros	WA	98846	www.pateroslakeshoreinn.com	509-923-9555
Blu-Shastin RV Park	3300 US Highway 97	Peshastin	WA	98847	www.blushastin.com	509-548-4184
Northwest Motorsports Inc	400 River Rd	Puyallup	WA	98371		253-256-4600
Chet's Honda/Polaris	17 H Street SW	Quincy	WA	98848	www.chetshonda.com	509-787-3617
Roosterbuilt, LLC.	P.O. Box 166	Ravensdale	WA	98057	www.roosterbuilt.com	425-432-3278
Rainier Welding Inc	19020 NE 84th St	Redmond	WA	98053		425-868-1300
Sundance Landscaping	11609 172nd ave n.e.	Redmond	WA	98052		425-533-6008
First Rate Mortgage	200 Mill Ave S Ste 410	Renton	WA	98057	www.CurtTiedeman.com	425-988-2501
Anderson's Grocery	711 S Clark Ave	Republic	WA	99166		509-775-3378
Watts Up Toyz	541 Meadows Dr S	Richland	WA	99352		509-592-1447
Johnson Mobile Home Park	209Greenacres Rd	Riverside	WA	98849		509-826-2879
Boulder Creek Ent	14121 Salmon LaSac Rd-Ronald	Roslyn	WA	98941		509-649-2222
The Last Resort	14254 Salmon LaSac Rd-Ronald	Roslyn	WA	98941		509-649-2222
Life Support	808 Lincoln St	S Cle Elum	WA	98943		509-674-2968
Dianes Tank Removal Services LLC	PO Box 77738	Seattle	WA	98177	www.dianestankremoval.com	206-510-9497
J & B Enterprises	12727 Phinney Ave N	Seattle	WA	98133		206-363-4670
Olympic 4x4 Supply	520 Pine Ave	Snohomish	WA	98291	www.oly4x4.com	800-752-9979
Kart-O-Rama, Inc.	13701 24 <sup>th</sup> St. E Unit A4	Sumner	WA	98390	www.kartoramainc.com	253-891-3490
Hank's Harvest Foods	412 E Methow Hiway	Twisp	WA	98856		509-997-7711
Twisp NAPA Auto Parts	214 S Methow Valley Hwy	Twisp	WA	98856	www.napaonline.com	509-997-2461
Independent Trailer & Equip Co	1602 Rudkin Rd	Union Gap	WA	98901	www.itec-inc.com	509-452-3672
Old Town Station Restaurant	2530 Main St	Union Gap	WA	98903		509-453-8485
G & G Automotive Machine	34 S Palouse	Walla Walla	WA	99362		509-525-2890
Jones AG	3090 Rd U SE	Warden	WA	98857		509-855-6492
Button Jewelers	444 N Mission St	Wenatchee	WA	98801	www.buttonjewelers.com	509-663-4654
Wenatchee Power Sports	3031 G.S. Center Road	Wenatchee	WA	98801	www.wenpow.com	509-665-6686
RADCOMP Technologies	136 N Main	White Salmon	WA	98672	www.gorad.com	509-493-2221
Cowlitz Motorsports	PO Box 846	Winlock	WA	98596		360-520-3911
Methow River Lodge and Cabins	110 White Ave	Winthrop	WA	98862	www.methowriverlodge.com	509-996-4348
Winthrop Inn Motel	960 Hwy 20	Winthrop	WA	98856	www.winthropinn.com	509-996-2217
Nob Hill Auto Wrecking	2609 West Birchfield Rd.	Yakima	WA	98901	www.NobHillAutoWrecking.com	509-452-2803
Owen's Yamaha-Suzuki Polaris	1707 N 1st St	Yakima	WA	98901		509-575-1916
Premier Power Sports	1504 Fruitvale Blvd	Yakima	WA	98902	www.premierpowersportswa.com	509-965-9889
Valley Marine Inc	1904 Fruitvale Blvd	Yakima	WA	98902	www.valleymarineboats.com	509-453-6302
VanAmburg Enterprises Inc.	2920 River Rd Ste 1	Yakima	WA	98902	www.vanamburgent.com	509-225-6681

### Out of State Supporting Businesses

Kastle West Dist	55 Matmor Rd	Woodland	CA	95776	www.kastlewest.com	530-662-8879
Cheap Thrills Rentals	303 N Third St	McCall	ID	83638	www.cheapthrillsrentals.com	208-634-7472
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 Hwy21 & 75	Stanley	ID	83278	www.mountainvillage.com	
Pro Caliber Motorsports of Bend	3500 N Highway 97	Bend	OR	97701	www.procaliberbend.com	541-647-5151
SRCC	145 W Dartmouth St	Gladstone	OR	97027	www.srcc.biz	503-310-7729
Stateline Polaris	84853 Hwy 11	Milton-Freewater	OR	97862	www.statelinepolaris.com	800-600-5309





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