

Snoflyer

*The official publication of the
Washington State Snowmobile Association*

**March 2020
Volume 42**

A Fun Holiday Weekend in Chelan!

Winter Rendezvous 2020

***Brianne Adamson had an awesome
time in Chelan! Photo by Jon Ferrian***

Inside: 2020 Rendezvous Pics & Details

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

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

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

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WSSA MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT EVENTS 2019/2020

WSSA Budget Meeting Naches Ranger Station, Naches March 14th, 2020

Season wrap-up. Find out what is planned for the upcoming summer and fall and help set WSSA's budget for the following year. Meeting starts at 9am.

International Snowmobile Congress Regina, Saskatchewan June 10th-13th, 2020

Take a vacation to Saskatchewan and become involved in snowmobiling at the international level! Find out how snowmobiling and snowmobile programs differ across the U.S. and Canada. A fun and educational time awaits! Visit www.snowmobilers.org/isc for details.

WSSA Summer Meeting & Campout Blu-Shastin RV Park, Peshastin (Blewett Pass) August 14th-16th, 2020

A fun family campout with meals provided Friday night through Sunday morning (for \$20 per person). Meeting starts at 9am on Saturday.



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WSSA's Winter Rendezvous was great this year at Campbell's Resort in Chelan. Thank you Tom Campbell for your heartfelt welcome we received and for sharing your family's history at Campbell's Resort. We were truly spoiled by you and Mary Amsden. Your staff rolled out the red carpet and made us feel like kings and queens!

Thank you Greg Figg and your committee members who helped in the planning of this event. Jon Ferrian, thank you for putting together the Thunderstruck movie night and the donation to the Legal Action Fund through the sales of the DVDs. Thank you to Ron and Dee Alred for all your work in the silent auction. I know how much time and effort you spend in making this a great fundraiser each year. Thank You to Kevin Amsden for putting together all the many rides available to us and for getting ride leaders to take care of us; we could not have a successful riding Rendezvous without you and your people. Thank you!

To the WSSA membership, thank you for your support by voting online for the officers of this organization. Thank you for electing me as your president for one more year. This is a position of honor and trust; I will do my best to put WSSA first and on the top of my priorities. Congratulations Dee Alred for being our vice president for another year. I know you will continue to commit your time and talents towards WSSA. Thank You to Wayne and Florence Mohler, Fred Pitzer, Shannon Lawler and Matt Mead for your full-time never-ending support to WSSA and your president.

I am writing this article while in West Yellowstone after completing a couple of meetings today. The first half of our day was spent attending the combined meeting of the 'Mountain Riding Area' and the 'Trail Riding Area' committees of the American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA). The joint meeting was a blast as Kim Rapp facilitated the group. All of us interacted with Kim as he asked many questions during the review of the survey monkey that happened ahead to this meeting. I think we are seeing more daylight as we discussed purpose, direction and goals. This is a work in progress and I am excited to see ACSA move forward with these committees. Also, to let you know, we had a fantastic turnout in attendance from all over the country. Thank You Kim for all you did to facilitate this meeting. Thanks to Bert Miller and Bob and Judy King for your help in making this joint meeting happen. The second half of our day was the Western Chapter meeting. We conducted business as usual after we had enough for a quorum. We finally got our bylaws updated enough so we can join the electronic age and have meetings and do business via the internet or e-mail! Each of the delegates gave reports on their respective states.

OK people! International Snowmobile Congress 2020 is in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. There is still time to register! The dates are June 10th-13th. For more information call me! Or please go to www.snowmobilers.org/isc.

As a reminder, we are now on year two of 'Building Bridges and Not Walls'. Associate memberships are still low and need our full attention! Please talk to your Dealers and Associates members, and others, about partnering with WSSA. There is strength in numbers! Go Outdoor Recreation! Go Team WSSA!

Greetings WSSA members!

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



I would like to thank you for re-electing me to the position of Vice President. I'm looking forward to another great year.

We had a great time at WSSA's Winter Rendezvous in Chelan. The Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club did a great job leading rides. The trails were well groomed and everyone had a great time. Greg Figg did an awesome job putting this event together. If you were unable to come, maybe you can plan to attend next year.

As I prepare this article, I'm in West Yellowstone to attend the Western Chapter meeting and new American Council of Snowmobile Association's 'Mountain Riding Group' Committee. I will give a report at our March meeting in Yakima. This is a planning meeting for the new committees of the American Council of Snowmobile Association (ACSA), the mountain and trail group. They hope that they can bond together different riding groups into one entity.

Our March meeting is our 'budget meeting' which means we plan out our yearly activities. We also set the meeting dates and places at this time. The committees are all dismissed and new ones are formed at this time. The committee chairs are selected by the in-coming president. If you are interested in becoming a chair of a committee, please contact Dean Meakin.

Looking forward to the up-coming year.

District Reports



District 2 South

By Matt Kensrud
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 (509) 433-2100

Hello folks; the District is buzzing! So many things happened in February; WSSA's Winter Rendezvous and rides hosted by the Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club, Bavarian Boondockers' club ride, Lake Wenatchee Rec Club's Poker Run, and a new owner of Wenatchee Power Sports, our local Polaris dealer WOW!

Lets start the report with a huge thanks to the Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club. Great job getting ready for the WSSA rides; the club worked hard at clearing downed trees on the Twentyfive Mile Creek trail so they could take folks for a ride up to the Shady Pass area. I was totally impressed by the club's organization of parking in the sno-park and the rides. GREAT JOB to everyone involved!

The Wenatchee club was honored to have Pamela McConkey and Jason Goldstein from State Parks Winter Recreation Program attend their February meeting. No snow down low is hampering grooming in their area. The club had their Poker Run on February 15th and fun was had by all!

The Bavarian Boondockers had there February ride to the warming hut. Thirty or so riders showed up and the snow was good up high.

Awesome news - Pacific Mountain Services won WSSA's Groomer of the Year award! Great job guys!

Any question? E-mail me at kus-tom509@aol.com.

the Forest Road 70, both roads are now open. The Fun Run has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 7th. Registration begins at the Government Meadows Cabin at 10am where you can get your T-shirt

(Continued on page 6)

Mud slides caused the Sno-Jammers' Fun Run to be cancelled in February.



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District 4 North

By Jim Bauer
jim.bauer@wssa.us
 (360) 508-9855

Welcome to March! A few quick updates on the Sno-Jammers and Junco clubs.

It was unfortunate timing with the Pineapple Express and Sno-Jammers Fun Run. A few mudslides took out Highway 410 and Forest Road 70 a couple days before the event which necessitated rescheduling the Fun Run. Through the efforts of WSDOT on the 410 and a Sno-Jammer work party on

District Reports

(Continued from page 5)

and purchase poker hands and raffle tickets. The Sno-Jammers work hard to put on a great fun-filled family event. WSSA will be hosting a check-in booth - come by and say hello.

Congratulations to Glenn Markowitz on his well deserved award for 'WSSA Grooming Coordinator of the Year' for his work coordinating the Pyramid Sno-Park riding area. Glenn has worked hard to improve the grooming in the park and coordinate work parties to address maintenance concerns. A big thank you to both R & R Grooming and Back Country Plowing & Grooming on the job they do for our clubs. Back Country even took the time out to rescue an injured sled-dog a couple weeks ago. Proof our groomers go above and beyond the call of duty.

On Leap Weekend Junco is looking forward to hosting the Cascade Drift Skippers and showing them around the riding areas at the Wakepish and Orr Creek Sno-Parks. Everyone has their fingers crossed for a bluebird-day of viewing Mt. St. Helens. I have seen some gorgeous Facebook photos of late.

I hope to see everyone out on the trails for some spring riding!



District 5 North

By Ron Lind
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(509) 607-0039

Greetings everyone! My name is Ron Lind and I am taking over for Bill Miller as the District 5N Representative. Thank you Bill for all your hard work!

I would also like to thank Dee Alred for organizing our All Trails to Olympia Day and everyone who attended. While in Olympia, we talked to our representatives about our snowmobile program, how it works, how it is self-funded, and to please not sweep our funds which would devastate our program. We also talked to them about adding tracked ATV/UTV's to the definition of a snowmobile to legalize them for use on our trails. I would encourage everyone who has not gone to Olympia before to attend next year.

We also had our WSSA Rendezvous in Chelan and had a great time with amazing rides and even better weather. Thank you Ron and Dee Alred for organizing and making a Legal Fund Auction such a huge success. Also, a huge 'shout out' to the Methow Valley Snowmobile Association for hosting such a

great Bucket Ride on Sunday.

Congratulations to Dee Alred for her continuation as our Vice President. A big shout-out to all the WSSA Award winners, with an added award going to Glenn Markovits for 'Grooming Coordinator of the Year'. If you would like to nominate anyone for an award next year, please watch the Snoflyer for more information.

Another item to consider is we are in need of a new Chairperson for the Kitittas County Grooming Counsel. Bill Miller will be stepping down; Bob Seelye who is now the Vice Chair will be stepping up for the rest of the season, but we will need a new Chairperson for next year. Please consider this if you are a snowmobiler in this area and are concerned with grooming.

There was a dog sled race held at Crystal Springs Sno-Park in January; thank you Cascade Summit Seekers, Jim Sternod and Ty Locke, and everyone else for making this a success.

There is a concern with the Evergreen Sno-Park, that it is not being plowed, or not being plowed completely by the County.



District 5 South

By Rudy Classen
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It's been a very interesting year so far. We had a pretty good start to our snow season but it didn't take long for us to experience the lack of snow we now have. Now in addition to lack of snow down low we have had warm weather and the melting snow has caused streams to flow across roads in some places which will probably create a road washout. If that happens it could give the Forest Service the opportunity to close the road or at best, delay the repair for years while they conduct numerous studies proving there is a reason for all the office help they have. We hope there is logging above the washouts which will cause quick response and repair. Funny how money talks.

Even with the lack of snow at lower levels, riders have been able to have lots of fun at higher levels. They have to cover up to six miles of very hard pack snow, sometimes ICE, to get there but they don't find many others and usually have thousands of acres of winter wonderland all to themselves.

The Drift-A-Way club has been having

rides out of the Rimrock and Boulder Cave areas on the weekends with an 'Old Codgers' ride (Thursday Misfits; we aren't all 'old' - Ed.) during the week. Both have been very successful.

The Yakima Ski-Benders held their annual Poker Run out of the 1904 sno-park and as usually they had a great turnout with about 175 riders. A lucky youth won a nicely reconditioned snowmobile at the end of the day.

WSSA will be sponsoring the upcoming Military Ride in early March. Matt is currently working on the final details. I want to thank Matt, Ron Alred, Frank Lamb, Doug Mason, Dan Wallbaum, and others who spent at least a day cutting fallen trees from the roads and trails that will be used during the Military Ride. We will have lots of firewood next year. Someone said over 200 trees were blown down. Everyone involved is also involved in the Military Ride.

We had a good number of folks from District 5 South attend All Trails to Olympia and had a great time calling on our elected reps. In this short session it was difficult for Dee to make appointments and on top of that, Olympia now has a policy where visitors cannot leave papers such as 'issues sheets'; they will only allow the info to be e-mailed to them.

The Ski-Benders will have their annual Kids' Ride on February 29th out of the 1904 sno-park and two nicely reconditioned snowmobiles will be given away to a couple of lucky youths. The Scavenger Hunt will be held the same day so that adults have something to do. Should be another great event.

Last but not least, Jim Kingman has been elected your new District 5 South Representative. Thanks Jim!



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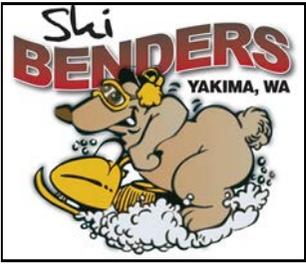
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Club News



Yakima Ski-Benders

By Liz Van Amburg, President

Where did winter go? This has been a crazy one; spring like temps, crazy rain and mudslides. Even with all that, the Ski-Benders had a great Snow



A great day at the Ski-Benders' Snow Fest Poker Run!

Fest/Poker Ride on January 26th. Rain was predicted, but it turned out to be a beautiful day! We even had a little fresh snow at the higher elevations. Thanks to Paul and Ronna Younie, everything ran smoothly. The Ski-Benders gave out tons of prizes from Owen's Cycle, Premier Power Sports, Tree Top, Mercy Theaters, Gold Creek Station, Majors, Van Amburg Enterprises, Stein's Ace Hardware, WSSA, Washington State Parks and so many others. We even raffled off a snowmobile, although I did not catch the name of our lucky winner. We had other clubs show up to show their support and some drove for hours to be there. Next year, please come join us; our volunteers put on a great event.

On January 28th, I joined another great group of volunteers at All Trails to Olympia. Dee Alred, Vice President of WSSA, chairs this event. She puts in tons of hours calling our legislators to make appointments. Don't quote me, but I believe overall we talked to 49 of them. We handed out the famous Hostess Sno Balls and WSSA pens. (No paper; the new norm.) We talked about protecting our dedicated snowmobile funds and getting SB 6363 and HB 2592 passed, letting tracked ATVs/UTVs use our trail system.

On February 8th, my grandson and I were going to join the Sno Jammers at their Poker Ride but due to a massive slide on Hwy 410, they had to postpone the event. We ended up riding up to the Little Bald cabin with fellow Ski-Benders and had a great day!

I want to give shout out to all the clubs having Kids Rides. I love it; they are show-



Before and after. Top pic is smiling Ski-Benders' faces at the beginning of All Trails Day; bottom pic is smiling, tired faces at the end of the day!



ing up everywhere! This is how we grow the sport of snowmobiling! By the time you read this, the Ski-Benders' Kids Ride will have just wrapped up. Donny Wolfe and Leesha Fuller are co-hosting with Mike Van Amburg and myself this year. We will have sponsored athletes like Brandy Floyd, Matt Hart (NorthWest Freeriders), Mark Messenbrink, Dustin and Lorien James, Stephanie Cumming, Joey and Kelsey Fay (NorthWest Freeriders) and Dan Daley are joining us this year! We are holding this year's event at the Little Naches Sno-Park. We are also adding a Scavenger Hunt chaired by Seth Ahlbrecht and the grand prize will be CASH! The Kids Ride grand prize is not one, but two sleds; huge thank you to Jon Ferrian (Jon Ferrian Live - #LiveLARGE) for donating one of them and The Ski-Benders for the other one!

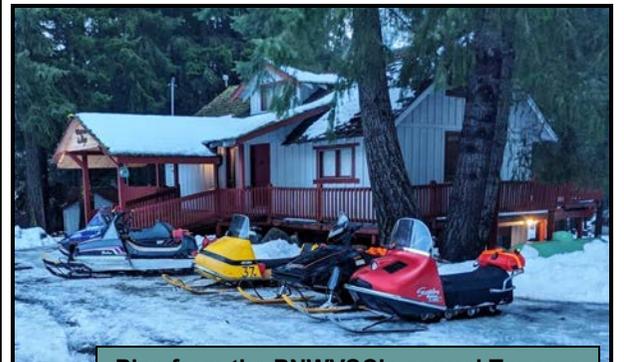


Pacific Northwest Vintage Snowmobile Club

By Kevin Hancock, Webmaster

Our club's been busy enjoying the winter. We had to postpone one event at the beginning of January in East Wenatchee due to the

lack of snow. After the weather improved by the end of January we held our annual 140-mile overnight ride from the Taneum Sno-



Pics from the PNWVSC's annual Taneum to Whistlin' Jack Lodge overnighter.



Park to Whistlin' Jack Lodge. We spend the night at the lodge returning the next day. This year we focused the

(Continued on page 11)

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Club News

(Continued from page 9)
ride on vintage one-cylinder bogie wheeled sleds, also known as one-lungers. Several one-lungers started out and one of them



Do you think a Taneum or Whistlin' Jack Lodge run is easy? Try it on a vintage sled!



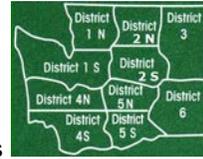
managed to make it the entire trip on its own power despite fighting fuel contamination problems.

Then at the beginning of February we took our modern sleds for a four-day overnight ride from Crescent Lake to Diamond Lake, Oregon. We stayed at the Willamette Pass Inn, and the Diamond Lake Lodge. We rode to the Crater Lake National Park overlook. The weather was clear with cold nights and mild daytime temperatures. The view of Crater Lake was fantastic. The next days we rode the expertly-groomed trails, leaving them to

(Continued on page 12)

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Club News

(Continued from page 11)



It's not all antiques and vintage! PNWVSC members enjoyed a trip from Oregon's Crescent Lake to Diamond Lake in early February.



play in the backcountry play areas.

Our next event will be finished when this Snoflyer debuts, but is the weekend of February 29th at The Last Resort in Ronald. It is a two-day event. On the Saturday we have an antique, vintage, and classic snowmobile show. We also run a timed agility course. Last year we gave away cash prizes for the fastest runs. Then on Sunday we will have an antique, vintage, and classic snowmobile ride on the trails close to the resort.

Coming up in the middle of March we are participating in the Mt. Baker Shootout sponsored by the Northwest Glacier Cruisers. We meet at the sno-park to ride up to an area on the glacier for a barbecue, and test ride new snowmobiles staged by the local dealers.



Winter Knights

By Greg Figg,
President

The Winter Knights Snowmobile Club is in the thick of rides as I write this article. The snow is starting to settle down which is letting rides go forth as planned. The avalanche danger in the past month had led to multiple rides being cancelled.

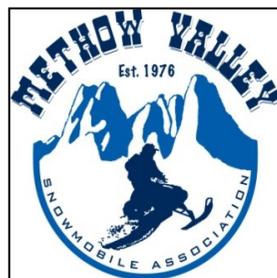
We are planning two rides to McCall, one for the trail group and one for the mountain riders. Given the epic snow they have had in McCall, we are hoping this continues to hold for our rides.

We are also keeping an eye on some land-use issues and potential forest road de-commissioning.

Lastly, the Winter Knights members have been getting involved in the Vintage Races at Priest Lake in Idaho. We have had a least four members competing in this ever popular sport.



Winter Knights members are involved in the Vintage Races held at Priest Lake.



Methow Valley Snowmobile Association

By Dan Stanley, Vice President

The Conconully Outhouse Races were on our club's agenda in January and 16 sledders rode over the 35-mile trail to watch the races and have some great food.

The following week members of our club rode (Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

out of Winthrop to the Sweetgrass Hut where we enjoyed some fresh snow and great hotdogs provided by our personal chef.

The next week, 11 members of our club headed up Boulder Creek out of Winthrop to meet up with the Butte Busters and Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club for their annual Chili Feed fundraiser. We rode through rain, fog and snow to get to the hut at Tiffany Springs. Forty-plus sledders packed in to get warm and eat chili.

The following week we had 23 members meet up with 17 members of the Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club at the Yukon Jack Hut. We cooked dogs and met new friends around a large wood stove.

We are a very active club and on February 16th we put on our annual Bucket Run. The 35-mile beautifully groomed course prepared by Adam of the Methow Trails Grooming Association made for a great day. We had sleds from all over the state packed into the Eightmile Sno-Park out of Winthrop. Forty prizes were given out and chili and hot dogs were served to everyone there.

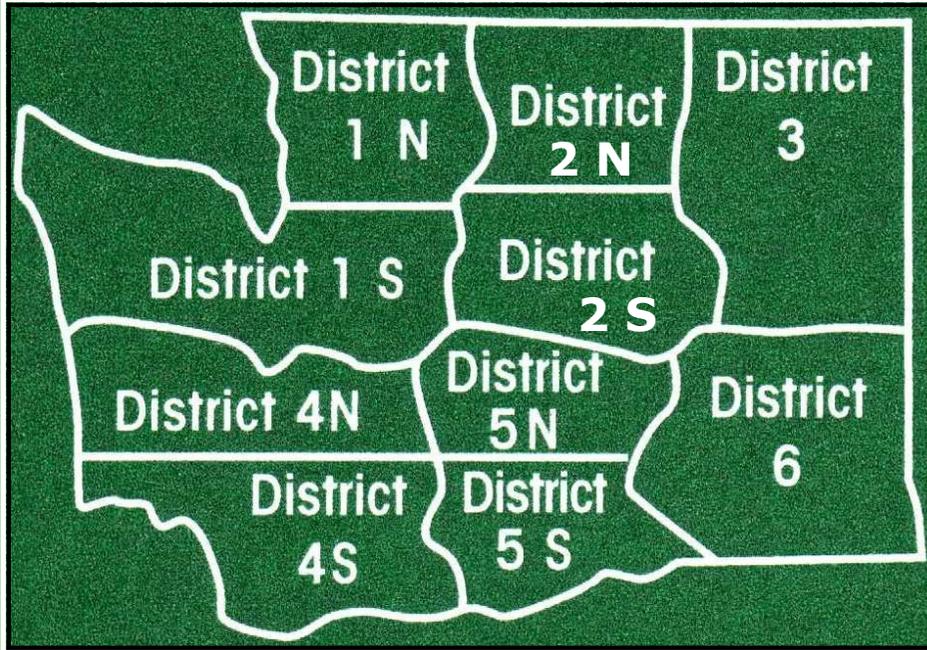
If you would like to ride with us on a weekend ride, go to our calendar on our blog (mvsnowmobile.blogspot.com) and meet us at the sno-park listed. We leave at 9am. (Continued on page 15)



The MVSA had a great turnout for their annual Bucket Run. Several riders came up from WSSA's Winter Rendezvous in Chelan to participate.



Snowmobile Clubs



Note: Facebook addresses in blue

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Club News

(Continued from page 14)



Bavarian Boondockers

By Matt Kensrud, President

The club had its February ride to the warming hut and 30 riders showed up for lunch.

Our next club ride to the hut is March 21st and we are planning to have a 'rescue fun day'; Tom Curtis, our AIARE instructor will be on hand to teach. We will be having prizes for fastest recovery - bring your gear!

Big news is our Vice President Andy Lee, along with board member Rob Webb, have accomplished the task of getting our 501C tax status in order; great job guys! This is a big step for the club.

We won WSSA's 'Club of the Year' award at the WSSA Winter Rendezvous, along with 'Club President of the Year' award!

If you have any questions, e-mail Bavari-

anboondockers@gmail.com. Thanks!



A grinning Matt Kensrud accepts both the WSSA Snowmobile Club President and Snowmobile Club of the Year awards on behalf of the Bavarian Boondockers.



Apple Country Snowmobile Club

By Tim Downs

Greetings from the Apple Country Snowmobile Club (ACSC)! This February we saw 51 degrees in Wenatchee. No, that's not a transposition as February should be 15 degrees. There's snow in the Colockum, but it's thin at the basin and our snow-cats are napping. They have been tuned, new GPS units and cleats installed... all with volunteer hours... but they've not seen much action. We wrote Jason Goldstein at State Parks for more snow, but he's being reluctant.

Our club is looking for a piece of property in the Stemilt area to store our snow-cats for the off season.

Kudos to Matt Kensrud, honored at the WSSA Rendezvous for the (Continued on page 16)

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Club News

(Continued from page 15)

new sno-park on Eagle Creek, near Leavenworth. It's needed in this very popular snowmobile area. Thank you Matt!

We said a fond farewell to Everett Burts in February. He is missed. The baton has been passed to his son, James, and ACSC lives on. Have a great spring!



Tollgate Trail Finders

**By Bob Smith,
Vice President**

Hi snowmobile friends! Being a snowmobile club, we are all about snow and trail conditions. It's all reflective on weather conditions that bring in the snow and allow our groomers to operate. Temperature is so critical to grooming the trails. 'Cold' below freezing temps are needed for the groomers to knock off the moguls and bumps on the trails. When the weather is warm and the snow is wet the holes behind the bumps wash out with snowmobile use unless the snow is allowed to freeze. We've had a most unusual snow season... December was low snow but early January brought heavy snow that made for fantastic snowmobiling. The Milkshake Snotel Site jumped from three feet to over seven feet in just a few days in early January. We've had up and down temps, but it has led to a great base of around seven-feet in the upper elevations. We pay a lot of attention to NOAA weather forecast and have found it to be very accurate. Jess Thompson, our grooming chairman, tells us his team of all-volunteer groomers is prepared to groom weather permitting. The key is cold weather.

Conditions are great! Get up and enjoy our beautiful snow-covered mountain. January Grooming Statistics: Groomed 426 miles over 91.7 hours and used 487 gallons of diesel. Removed 28 trees, performed 20 hours of maintenance and spent 26 hours driving to/from mountain covering 1,138 miles. OSSA Convention – The 2020 OSSA Convention in Joseph, Oregon, hosted by the Wallowa County Gamblers is in the books. There were attendees from all corners of Oregon and everywhere in between. Riding from Salt Creek Summit Sno-Park made me realize how much beauty abounds in the Wallawas and breaks of Hells Canyon. The snow was perfect, deep powder at most ele-

ventions. Saturday's ride was the Poker Run. It was fun seeing riders of all ages and skill



TTF members had a great time at the OSSA Convention in Wallowa.



levels hitting the different stations. There was plenty of untouched powder to enjoy along the way. The Saturday Banquet was a packed house. Perfectly smoked prime rib with all the fixin's. What a blast! Huge shout out to Dustin and Lorien at Outlaw Motorsports for all your hard work! I plan to attend the 2021 OSSA Convention in Klamath Falls, Oregon. Dates to be announced soon!

Upcoming events:
- Avalanche Awareness Course – Motorized. DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON. Taught by Victor and Kelly McNeil from Wallowa Avalanche Center. \$50 for Tollgate Trail Finders (TTF) members, \$75 for non TTF Members – all proceeds go to Wallowa Avalanche Center.
- Steak Out and Elections. Club officer and board member election. March 7th 5pm – TTF Clubhouse. Barbecue

at 6pm – Bring your own meat to grill and a side dish or dessert. If you are interested in running for a leadership role, let us know and we'll get you on the ballot.

Think snow and have a great year of sled-ding!



Lake Wenatchee Rec Club

**By Marilyn Mylius,
Vice President**

Monthly club news from the Lake Wenatchee Rec Club! Our annual Poker Ride was February 15th and went off without a hitch. Weather cooperated and we actually had partially clear skies for the duration of the ride with rain coming as everyone was loading and leaving! The trails



Rec Club Vice President Marilyn Mylius enjoying a day on the snow!

(Continued on page 17)



A wet ride with Snowmobile Advisory Committee members in January.



Sugarloaf at sunrise.

(Continued from page 16)

were smooth and fast, thanks to Pacific Mountain Services, our groomer guys! Congrats to the two top hand winners; Tim A.

and Shannon W., and low hand winner Trent D.; they each received approx \$90 in winnings! And had a great day for a ride! Win-win situation!

Speaking of our amazing groomer guys; Pacific Mountain Services, won the 'Groomer of the Year' award at the WSSA Winter Rendezvous! Very well deserved!

Also, congrats to our friends in the Bavarian Boondockers who won the 'Club of the Year' award and to their president and our WSSA rep, Matt Kensrud, who won 'Club President of the Year'! All well deserved! Our area 'cleaned up' at the ceremony!

Upcoming events at the LWRC:

March 14th - Monthly club meeting. General Meeting at 9am; Grooming Council at 10am.

March 21st - 2nd Annual Game Night and Potluck - open to members and non-members as well.

member, Jerry Holm. He will be greatly missed in both valleys. We have enjoyed



Rec Club members enjoying a mid-January ride!



Plenty of great scenery in the Lake Wenatchee area!



Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club

By Kurt Hensley, President

Some of the Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club members spent 10 days in McCall, Idaho, enjoying a wonderful snowmobile vacation. The rest of our members enjoyed our local snowmobiling including the Methow Bucket Run where they had a great turnout and had a short memorial for a greatly missed



Several Tri-Rivers members enjoyed a February trip to McCall.



Other Tri-Rivers club members enjoyed a day in the Methow at the Methow Valley Snowmobile Association's Bucket Run on February 16th.

riding and learning of some great places to ride in the Methow!

(Continued on page 18)

Clubs: Show us your LOGOs!

Club News



(Continued from page 17)

Drift-A-Way Snowmobile Club

By Matt Mead

The Drift-A-Way club has been busy this past month on and off the snow.

On February 29th, one of our members went to Olympia to testify in support of WSSA's Tracked ATV/UTV legislation in front of the House Transportation Committee.

The 'Thursday Misfits' have been averaging a ride a week, but it rarely has occurred on Thursday this season. What do you expect from misfits I guess?... Most of the riding has been up on White Pass behind Rimrock Lake due to the higher elevation, with a couple of rides out of Boulder Cave when the snow level briefly dropped. One of the mid-week rides was a chainsaw ride where members ran their saws more than their sleds; this was at Boulder Cave after a major wind and rainstorm brought down many trees across the groomed and un-groomed trails we use. (Thanks to the Chinook Pass Snowmobile Club members for doing most of the tree cutting on the groomed trails.)

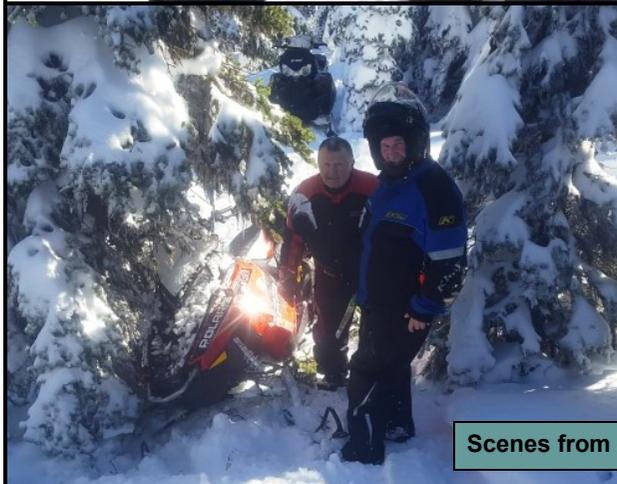
As I type this, several members just returned from WSSA's Winter Rendezvous in Chelan. This was a great event with spectacular weather and smooth trails. Fresh powder and snow depth was lacking in many areas, but that is the case state-wide. The Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club did a great job of hosting rides. Some of our members made the hour-and-a-half trek up to the Methow Valley Snowmobile Association's Bucket Run on February 16th. There was better snow up there and each checkpoint offered a warm fire and fresh-baked cookies!

Congrats to Drift-A-Way member Clint Adamson! Clint won the North Cascades sled deck raffled off by WSSA for their Legal Action Fund!

Club meetings are the first Monday of the month (during sledding season) at Round Table Pizza by Fred Meyer in Yakima. Dinner at 6pm. Looking for a not-to-challenging but entertaining mid-week ride? Check us out!



Drift-A-Way families, Adamsons and Devines, enjoying Winter Rendezvous in Chelan.



Scenes from a typical 'Thursday Misfits' ride.

Snoflyer Advertising Targets Snowmobilers!

Advertise with us! Rates starting as low as \$25 a month for Dealer/Associate members.

Full-page ads as low as \$100 per issue (with three month commitment).

Club ads heavily discounted - advertise your upcoming events!

E-mail or call for a rate sheet!
Matt Mead, Publicity Secretary

(509) 424-1575
snoflyer@wssa.us

Safety with Jon

I spent \$400 to save your life!

By Jon Ferrian — wssasafety101@gmail.com

Hello Washington sledders!

That is right! I spent \$400 on a Level 1 Avalanche Class to get the training I needed to be a safe backcountry rider... and guess what... that training I received, doesn't do me much good personally.

Consider this... I cannot rescue myself after an avalanche happens. All I can do is lay there under the snow hoping my riding companions also loved me enough to justify spending the \$400 on a Level 1 Avalanche Class and know how to rescue me in under five minutes.

Who do you ride with? I personally ride with my wife, kids and my friends. I love all of them enough to justify the \$400 on a Level 1 Avalanche Class. In this class I have learned how to look up and interpret an avalanche forecast. In this class I have



learned how to identify and avoid avalanche conditions and terrain. In this class I have learned how to avoid having multiple riders on the slope at one time to avoid having multiple people caught in a potential avalanche. In this class I have learned how to use my transceiver, my probe and my shovel to quickly locate and extract my wife, kids and friends from certain death if I didn't have this training. Mostly what I have learned in this class is how to make sure I never put my riding companions and myself in imminent danger out in the backcountry.

So \$400 is still too much? Then lets start out at a \$100 BASC Avalanche Course that will give me some awareness information and some basic hands-on companion rescue skills in the snow with my transceiver, probe and shovel. This is a one-day class that will give you the bare bones basics of what anyone should know if they are out in the backcountry of Washington, and frankly, on 90% of all of the trails in our state that cross through avalanche paths that you will be able to identify once you have taken a BASC or Level 1 Avalanche Class.

(Continued on page 18)

info@3fingeredjacks.com
(509) 996-2411

Find us on Facebook
& Instagram

Your Methow Valley Snowmobile Headquarters



WINTHROP, WASHINGTON

176 Riverside Ave
Winthrop, WA

Open every day at 7am - enjoy a hearty breakfast
to kick off your day in the powder!

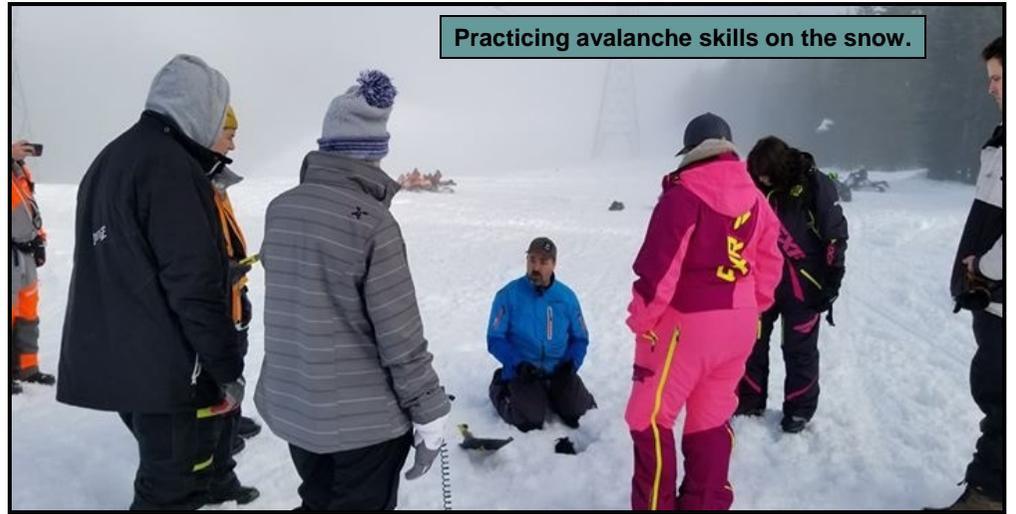
Every Day
Breakfast 7:00 - 11:00 am
Lunch & Dinner 11:30 am - 9:00 pm
Drinks until closing

Safety with Jon

(Continued from page 19)

So \$100 is still too much? Then lets at least take one evening after work in the fall before the season has started and take a three-hour awareness class at a local snowmobile dealership. This class will at the absolute minimum get you thinking about your avalanche education journey and help you realize how little you really know about avalanches and safely navigating the backcountry and trails of Washington state.

So three hours of your time at an avalanche class is still too much time and effort? Then I would like to apologize now because if you have not taken at least one awareness class and bought some basic avalanche tools like transceiver, probe and shovel then I am no longer comfortable riding with you in the backcountry of Washington and many of our trails. I care too much about you to not get some training and tools **to help save your life. If you don't care about your husband, wife, kids, brothers, sisters, or friends enough to get some basic training and tools then I will find new riding partners who will.**



Practicing avalanche skills on the snow.



Presenting the Ferrian family!

still wants to ride with you? Well, you can change your plans for the day to stay completely out of avalanche terrain or let your riding partners know that it is no longer acceptable to show up at the trail head without training and tools to help save your life if it becomes necessary. Your expectations and peer pressure will make a significant difference in how those around you perceive safe riding in the backcountry. Having the training will help keep you out of trouble in the first place so that you can continue to ride every weekend for the rest of your lives! That is really all we want, isn't it? To ride every weekend and know we will still be here tomorrow to see the people who are important to us is what it is all about!

If you have any questions about training or safety tools to ride safely in the backcountry, please don't hesitate to send me a message on Facebook, Instagram, or text (218) 251-2069 and I am happy to make myself available to answer questions and provide advise on ways to get trained and make sure that you have the right tools for a safe trip in the backcountry of snowmobiling.

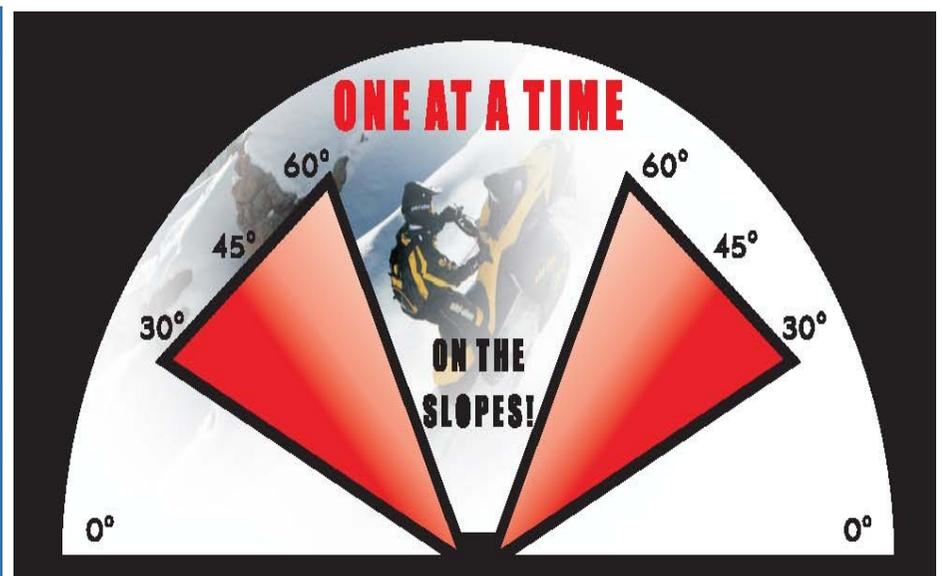
What do you do if you find yourself in the sno-park with somebody who doesn't have any avalanche safety gear or training and

Till next time.

#LiveLARGE

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO! - Avalanche Forecasts

Cascades (Canadian border to Mt. Hood) - www.nwac.us
 Idaho Panhandle - www.idahopanhandleavalanche.org
 WA/OR Blues - www.wallowaavalanchecenter.org/forecast/blues



State Parks Update

By Pamela McConkey, Winter Recreation Program Manager

The power of snowmobile clubs!

Washington is fortunate to have many snowmobile clubs and fantastic club members. Club members across the state can be a groomer's best friend. Many clubs have gone out prior to the winter season and brushed trails for easier access for the snow cats once the snow begins to fall and even after the snow has fallen and many more trees have come down, it's the clubs that help put together work parties to again help clear the trails. In areas that don't have clubs or active clubs, the trees still must be removed in order for the snow cat and groomer to provide you with those wonderful trails we all love to ride, and those snow cat operators are the ones out there in the elements at all hours of the day and night clearing the trees and opening the trails. So, thank you snow cat operators and clubs for working together and independently to clear the trails for grooming. Clubs are also powerful when it comes to raising money for their favorite charities; clubs across Washington put on rides, barbecues and other events to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation! These rides and events are generally about having fun and being out on the snow with club members and others with the added bonus of raising money. Clubs are also instrumental in 'making things happen and getting things done'; take the Bavarian Boon-dockers for example. They were looking for funding and agreements with the Snowmobile Advisory Committee (SMAC) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to make the Eagle Creek Sno-Park; due to the reduced number of snowmobiles registered and limited funding, the SMAC had to say no to funding, and the agreement reached with the USFS was later revoked for various reasons. But the club (and specifically the club president and trail groomer contractor) did not give up; they reached an agreement with a local land owner, got donations of materials, time and money, and made it happen. Another similar example is in the Okanogan where cooperation between the clubs and the USFS successfully moved the Bonaparte Sno-Park to a safer and larger area for the benefit of snowmobilers. Other examples: the Mt. St. Helens Trac Riders working with the USFS and private citizens got the Marble Mt. warming shelter built and reopened; The Colville club had several work parties to clear trees out of the trails; the Stampede Summit Seekers assisted the



Northwest Sled Dogs with their annual race out of Crystal Springs Sno-Park... you get the picture. Snowmobile clubs and the Washington State Snowmobile Association are amazing and have amazing members.

2020 WSSA Winter Rendezvous is in the history books

What a great event! Congratulations WSSA for another successful and fun-filled Rendezvous! The snow wasn't epic by any means, but everyone got to ride under mostly sunny skies and the grooming was fantastic; thank you Fatty K's (Chelan area grooming contractor) snow cat operators.

Campbell's Resort owners and staff are truly professionals when it comes to hospitality; the rooms are great and the entire place is kept sparkling clean from the moment you arrive in the beautiful lobby, to your room, to the restaurant and conference center. Great venue!

As always, the WSSA business meetings were kept short so everyone could enjoy the company of friends and the opportunity to make new friends. Silent auction items were donated by clubs, businesses and individual WSSA members. I was the successful bidder on a fantastic hand-made American Flag – great work Kevin Amsden. Other items included helmets, goggles, wine and chocolate baskets, Thunderstruck movies, and so much more... Then onto the live auction with Ron Lind (R & R Grooming) as auctioneer; he urged people to open their wallets and raise the bids on several great items. Congratulations to all the lucky bidders!

If you have never attended a WSSA Winter Rendezvous, you have been missing out! How about we see you there in 2021?!



Who removes the fallen trees? Your groomer operators and local club members. Don't forget to thank them!

Snowmobile Registrations

	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY 19-20 Difference
July	166	149	145	134	148	166	18
August	1,142	531	676	782	2,307	222	(2,085)
September	3,546	2,968	3,145	2,946	1,682	2,974	1,292
October	2,544	1,662	2,139	2,489	1,882	3,357	1,475
November	2,870	3,129	3,362	4,360	2,960	2,372	(588)
December	6,656	11,575	13,170	6,973	8,320	6,726	(1,594)
January	2,741	3,528	3,196	3,358	3,433	4,514	1,081
February	381	1,164	1,513	1,166	1,602		
March	68	298	686	674	958		
April	42	82	181	175	258		
May	22	32	93	93	90		
June	23	30	84	71	83		
Total:	20,201	25,148	28,390	23,221	23,723	20,331	(401)

Winter Rendezvous 2020

Winter Rendezvous at Campbell's Resort in Chelan

By Matt Mead, Publicity Chair

It was a far different experience in Chelan this year than when we were there six years ago... On that last trip, one week before the event was to kick off, there was no snow; snowmobilers and our event organizers were in a panic! But just two days before Rendezvous started, the skies opened up and dumped snow. The area went from none to too much. Well, not too much, just a bottomless powder.

Contrast it to this year and we could have used a foot of fresh powder, but even without it, we had snow to ride and everyone had a great time.

Many arrived on Thursday afternoon and evening to take part in the Friday rides. As usual, Campbell's resort staff was welcoming during check-in. They did have one request though; trucks with trailers, (those not interested in unhooking them), were asked to park at the nearby marina where the city had offered us free parking. This was new from our previous trips, but a large part of the resort's parking was taken up by a remodel job going on with one of the buildings, and the fact it was supposed to be a busy weekend for sweethearts since it was Valentine's Day weekend. The marina was about a block away, so the exercise didn't hurt anyone!

Most of Friday's rides, with different groups for different rider levels, rode on the south side of Lake Chelan. Other than the snow being really light at the 25 Mile Creek Sno-Park, everyone reported an excellent ride with great weather and a bit of fresh snow at the higher elevations. A few riders including myself, mostly those with commitments back at the hotel in the afternoon, chose to do their own thing and rode out of the Black Canyon Sno-Park on the north side of the lake. This group had marginally more snow at the sno-park level and had the same conditions up high. No matter where a person rode, the trails were superb!

Friday evening offered up a delicious taco bar for dinner. There was a ton of food and no way anyone left hungry! WSSA held half of a brief meeting, just touching on highlights of what the organization is up to. (We have worked hard to nearly eliminate all business meeting activities at Rendezvous.) The night was capped off with a Thunderstruck 18 movie

premier set up by Jon Ferrian. In addition to arranging the movie, he also had Thunderstruck DVDs for sale with the \$10 proceed going straight to the WSSA Legal Action Fund. While you needed to be a registered Rendezvous guest for dinner, the movie premier was open to all snowmobilers, both WSSA members and non-WSSA members alike!

Saturday dawned as another spectacular day with mild temps and partially sunny skies. All the guided rides left from the Black Canyon Sno-Park. No matter if you were in the trail group or the off-trail group, everyone ended up at the Yukon warming shelter for lunch where the Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club cooked up hot dogs for all the sledders. One of the fun things to do along this route is to ride the fire breaks. You run parallel to the trail for miles on end,

but you can make the ride more challenging depending on the lines you choose. While the main route along the fire break was well travelled, if you weren't afraid to put yourself in the trees, there was a bit of untracked snow to carve up! A few riders (including my daughter Ryan and I), again mostly those who needed to get back to the hotel a little earlier, rode out of the Gold Creek Sno-Park on a shorter ride. I had never been to this sno-park and it is quite a haul up into the hills on an icy road with the reward being a tiny sno-park. Our group of seven just about filled it! The higher elevation though did offer us more snow right out of the parking lot. After we enjoyed lunch at the warming hut with everyone else, we attempted to make a loop over closer to the lake. We eventually chickened out about half around because we

(Text continued on page 28)

Thank you for your support of the Legal Action Fund Auction!

I would like to thank the following businesses, clubs and people for all of the great items they donated to WSSA for the Legal Action Fund Auction.

Businesses:

- 509 • Boulder Creek • Dynamic Designs • EWS MotorSports • Federated Auto Parts
- Fire Starters • Fly Racing • Full Throttle • Gizmo Enterprises
- Jet Chevrolet/Dan Johnson • JLB Investments • JMC Motorsports
- Lumen8 Lighting/HIDSource • Luft Trailer Sales • Motor Toys • Off-Road Vixens
- Paulson's Motorsport • Pro Caliber • R & R Grooming • Rebel Heart Enterprises
- Rescue Tape • Ride Finesse • Sharkbite Motorsports • SK Northwest/Portland
- Sno-Dirt Products • Thunderstruck Films • WSSA Expo

Clubs:

- Apple Country Snowmobile Club • Bavarian Boondockers • Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club
- Cascade Drift Skippers • Drift-A-Way Snowmobile Club • Junco Snowmobile Club
- Northwest Glacier Cruiser • Sno-Jammers Snowmobile Club • Snomads
- Spokane Winter Knights • Stampede Summit Seekers • Yakima Ski-Benders

People:

- Kevin Amsden • Shannon Lawler • Wayne Mohler
- Mick Steinman • Cindy Woodward

Ron Alred
Legal Defense Auction Chairman

Winter Rendezvous 2020



Photos on this page submitted by Kelly Adamson.



Winter Rendezvous 2020



Photos on this page submitted by Jon Ferran.

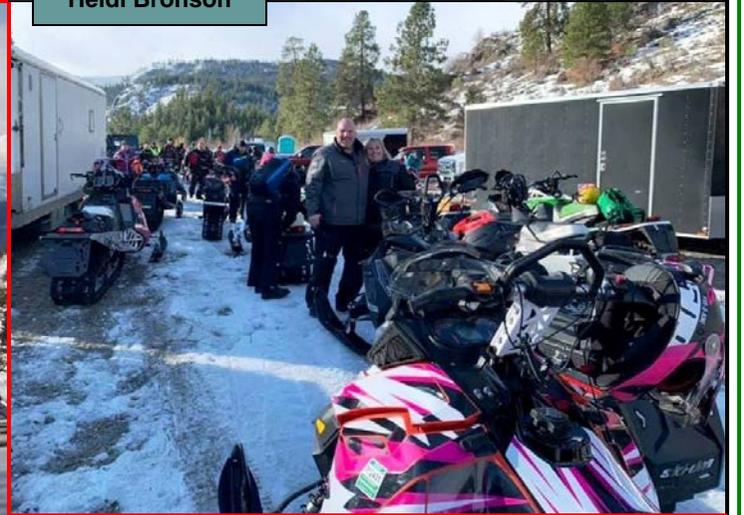


Winter Rendezvous 2020



Photos submitted by

Heidi Bronson



Photos submitted by Alex Cropley



Photo submitted by Shannon Lawler



Winter Rendezvous 2020



Photos on this page submitted by Jon Ferrian.

Winter Rendezvous 2020



Photos on this page submitted by Kelly Adamson.

Winter Rendezvous 2020

(Text continued from page 22)

weren't sure if the trail was fully open as we knew the club had been working to clear trees on the trails to be used for Rendezvous, but didn't know if they had cleared them all. (A big storm had recently brought down a lot of trees.) We did get a few decent views of Lake Chelan and also ventured low enough in elevation to ride just a tad of dirt on the south-exposed slopes!

Saturday night was busy and a bit chaotic. President Dean Meakin tried to keep us on track and in the end, I don't think anybody really cared. Dinner was a buffet with barbecued ribs, chicken and all the fixin's. The business meeting was wrapped up with District Reps giving their reports and the WSSA Officer election results were announced. Since the President, Membership and Publicity positions were unopposed, it is no surprise Dean Meakin, Wayne & Florence Mohler, and myself were reelected. The contest was for Vice President with Jon Ferrian running against incumbent Dee Alred. Voting was close, and in the end, Dee held the Vice President position for another year.

WSSA's Legal Action Fund Silent and Live Auctions were conducted. Thanks to the hard work of Ron and Dee Alred, there were hundreds of cool items to bid on, everything from snacks and wine to helmets and riding gear to winches and tools; it was no problem finding something useful to bid on. Ron Lind played auctioneer for the live auction; he has a way of pulling every last nickel out of a bidder's pocket! A cool kid's wagon overflowing with stuff including a fresh prime rib roast was but one of the items bid up.

WSSA awards were presented to a deserving group of people. A new award spearheaded this year by Ron Lind was the 'Grooming Coordinator of the Year'; the first recipient was Glenn Markovits. 'Groomer of the Year' went to Bill and Billy Burgess of Pacific Mountain Services in the Lake Wenatchee area. 'Dealer of the Year' was earned by Skagit Valley Polaris. The 'Club President of the Year' award went to Matt Kensrud, and his club, the Bavarian Boondockers, walked away with the 'Club of the Year'. And finally, WSSA's newest 'Snowmobiler of the Year' award winner is Brandy Floyd. Congratulations to all of them; well earned!

Participation was lacking in the Photo Contest this year, but we did have entries in every category. The 'vintage' category was won by Alice Miller; 'worst stuck/snafu' went

to Cindy Holznagel; 'action' was earned by Mark Gallatin; and 'family' easily won by Ron Alred. And who took top honors for scenery? Yours truly of course! (Even though my daughter and wife manage the Photo Contest, they don't rig the vote. Hard to believe, isn't it?!) The funny thing is I didn't even have an entry until the Wednesday before Rendezvous kicked off; a mid-week ride resulted in spectacular weather and a perfect picture of Mt. Rainier!

The evening wrapped up with the drawing for the North Cascades sled deck in support of the WSSA Legal Action Fund. While you don't need to be present to win, it is always nice when the winner is in the room. This year the lucky individual and his family were in attendance. Congrats Clint Adamson!

Sunday was another great day and snowmobilers had lots of choices! Some actually packed up and left, headed off to West Yellowstone for a week of riding. Many took the opportunity for another day of guided rides around Chelan. A few though chose another option: The Methow Valley Snowmobile Association's (MVSA) annual Poker Run held just north of Winthrop. While this was about an hour and a half drive, it was a chance to ride a new area out of the Eight-Mile Sno-Park, and the MVSA host a great ride. One of the highlights is the club has a roaring bonfire at each stop to warm up and offer up home-baked cookies and other treats. (My daughter loves this ride, so you can guess where we ended up!)

Dinner on Sunday is on your own. My family went for pizza, but Chelan has lots of dining choices, not to mention there is a restaurant right at Campbell's.

Presidents Day Monday is what you want it to be. For most, it is just a slog back home, but there are other options. We didn't do it this year, but in the past, we've picked a sno-park located on the way home and stopped off for a short ride; this is a great way to check out yet another area, or visit one you haven't been to in awhile.

All in all, Rendezvous 2020 was a great success! The somewhat lackluster snow... about average for what the rest of the state was experiencing... was more than made up for with Campbell's hospitality, great ride leaders from the Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club, above average weather, and spectacularly groomed trails!

The 2021 Winter Rendezvous will be in Wenatchee over Presidents Day Weekend and you will want to mark your calendar and plan to attend. You will have a great time!

SNOWMOBILE RENTALS IN WASHINGTON

Adventure Powersports Rentals

(Ronald/Roslyn)
(509) 933-1737

www.adventurepowersportsrentals.com

Cascade on Site Rentals LLC

(Leavenworth/Wenatchee)
(509) 423-3828

www.cascadeonsiterentals.com

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

Motor Toys

(Cle Elum)
(509) 674-6807

www.motortoysofcleelum.com

Mountain Springs Lodge

(Lake Wenatchee/Leavenworth)
Tours Only

(800) 858-2276

www.mtsprings.com

Redline Recreational Toys

(Seattle Area)
(206) 424-4FUN

www.seattle.redlinerecretoys.com

Sharkey's Watercraft & Snowmobile Rentals

(Chelan)

(509) 687-2312/9819

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.

Winter Rendezvous 2020

Thanks from the WSSA Rendezvous Chair

By Greg Figg, WSSA Winter
Rendezvous Chair

Glen Mumm enjoying a gorgeous day in
Chelan during Winter Rendezvous 2020.

I just returned from the WSSA Winter Rendezvous 2020 in Chelan. This was another successful Rendezvous as our attendance was around 85 people for Saturday night. The Lake Chelan Snowmobile Club did a fantastic job of showing us around the mountains for three days. This is no small feat that requires many hours of planning and work! A special thank you to Devon Griffith and Kevin Amsden for taking the time to organize these rides and food for us.

This year we tried something new and had a Thunderstruck Movie Premier on Friday night. We had a good turnout for this. Thank you to Jon Ferrian for organizing this on behalf of WSSA.

I wanted to thank all the folks who helped with the event this year which includes: Katy and Fred Pitzer for registration and all things money related, Wayne and Florence Mohler for help with many tasks, Ron and Dee Alred for WSSA Auction, Kathryn and Ryan Mead for the Photo Contest, Matt Mead for the e-mails and Snoflyer help, Jon Ferrian and Glen Mumm for Social Media advertising, and LaRhonda McCauley for taking care of Club Express.

Lastly, the staff at Campbell's Resort was great and accommodated all our meeting and hospitality needs. Especially wanted to thank Mary Amsden and Barb Smith for going the extra mile for us!

This is just my partial list, as you can see it takes a lot of help to pull off this event. Looking forward to another great event next year!



ACSA E-News

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



Recreational Trails Program

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) has been around for over two decades. The program is funded by federal gas taxes that you pay -- every time you fill your sled, or other off-road vehicle. Because you are paying federal gas taxes, but not using the vehicle on federal highways, it makes sense.

When the program was first started, a use-study was completed, which resulted in averages being determined on amount of gas taxes paid. Those averages, in addition to miles driven, number of registered off-highway vehicles and other factors determined a formula for the those dollars being returned to each state. About one-third of the money paid in is being returned to the trails programs each year.

There has been an effort to recover more than the 30% of our money as well as update the use study.

Recently, when the President's Budget was released, the RTP program, was not included. Yikes!

The legislative process, which includes the budget process, is fluid. This is not the first time the RTP program has been eliminated. Just another battle that is now before us!

Since then, legislation to increase the amount of money for the Recreational Trails (RTP) Program was introduced; HR 5797, RTP Full Funding Act of 2020.

The current estimates show the motorized recreation community pays in more than \$270 million. This legislation would triple the RTP funding from \$84 million to \$250 million.

Here is a short fun video of two of the sponsors discussing the proposed legislation: www.twitter.com/PeterWelch/status/1225898900260892672.

Do you know how much money your state receives for RTP?

Do you know how much of that money goes to motorized trails?

ACSA has been an active participant in the Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT) for over twenty years. The CRT is made up of

motorized and non-motorized user groups with it's focus being RTP. RTP is very important to the snowmobile community. We will work with the other user groups and put together a plan. We may need assistance from you -- and we will let you know exactly what we need once the plan is finalized.

RTP embraces the 'user-pay/user-benefit' philosophy of the Highway Trust Fund. More than 25,000 recreational trails projects have been funded since 1993. RTP funding covers up to 80% of a project, although there are some exceptions. States, local organizations or private donors can provide the remaining balance. States administer grants which range from \$200 - \$1M, but typically average between \$10,000-\$300,000.

Do you know the projects in your state that have been funded with RTP money? You can go to www.americantrails.org/crt/map for those projects as well as contacts for your state.

The Annual Washington DC Snowmobile Fly-In!

April 25th - 28th.

The Fly-In allows the Congressmen and Senators from the snowmobile states to meet with you -- their constituents. It's the best opportunity for them to hear about issues in their district, directly from you!

Contact the ACSA office for more information.

ACSA was recently in DC meeting with members of Congress. We met with Republicans and Democrats. We met with Congressmen, Senators, staff of Senators that are running for President and we met with Kevin McCarthy's staff.

Reminding these folks



About these folks!



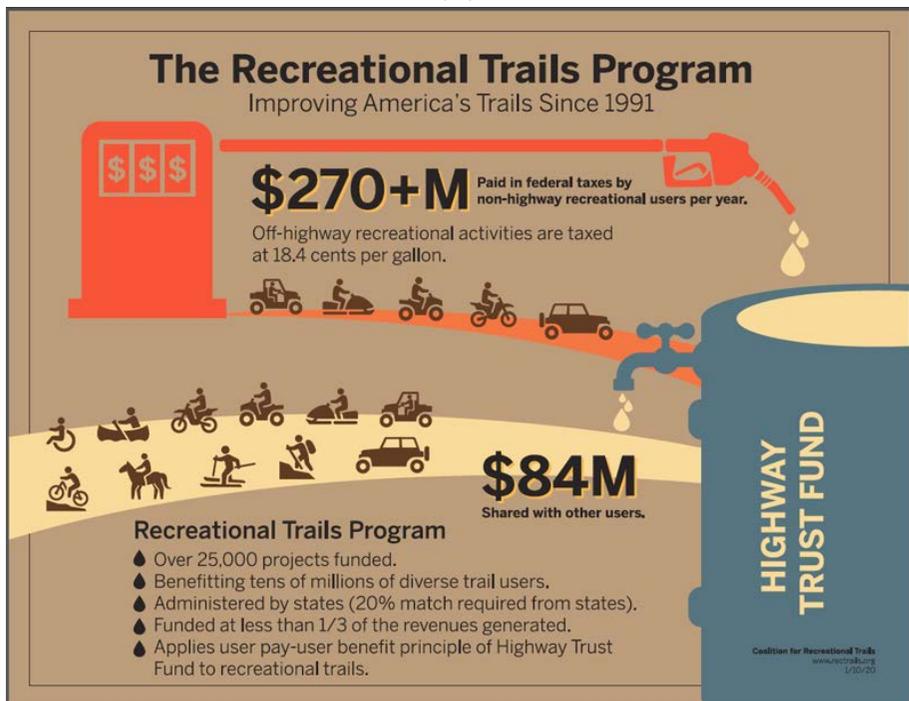
Forest Service Timber Harvest

In January the U.S. Forest Service announced it sold nearly 3.3 billion board feet of timber in 2019, or 75 million board feet more than the 20-year high set in 2018.

As another measure, the agency conducted forest restoration and fuels reduction on over four million acres through timber harvest and removing hazardous fuels like dead and downed trees, and combating disease, insect and invasive species infestations.

There are over 80 million acres of National Forest System lands that are still at risk and need treatment.

(Continued on page 31)



(Continued from page 30)

Trespass Poster Contest

Thanks to all who submitted posters for the 1st ACSA Trespass Poster Contest.

We all know if you 'Don't Know Where To Go -- There Will be No Where to Go!'

However, it is painfully obvious that not all riders are aware.

Therefore, we all must educate those riders of the importance of respecting the land-owner!

The poster that took 1st place was from Steve Bethke from Wisconsin. Congratulations Steve!



THANK A GROOMER!
THEY WORK DAY & NIGHT TO MAKE YOUR RIDE SMOOTH & PLEASURABLE!



ALWAYS WATCH OUT, SLOW DOWN & YIELD TO GROOMERS!

Visit snowmobileinfo.org for safe riding information.

Everyone loves a snow proposal!

She said yes!

Are You Following Us?

www.facebook.com/AmericanCouncilofSnowmobileAssociations

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



So, you're a mountain rider and don't need trails? RIGHT...



Facts Are:

- Groomed trails provide quick access to higher elevation & better snow.
- When you have sled issues, trails provide safest return to your vehicle.
- Injured? Yep, it's the trail they drag you out on.

SUPPORT GROOMERS, TRAILS & SNOWMOBILING BY JOINING A CLUB WHERE YOU RIDE.



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



Tracked ATVs/UTVs legislation update.

Our Senate bill (6363) passed out of the Senate on February 13th and was referred to the House Transportation Committee and received a hearing on February 26th. As I type this, the bill is scheduled for Executive Session in the House Transportation Committee on March 2nd. If the legislation can make it to the floor for a House vote, it is likely it will pass and be signed by the Governor. Time will tell. Thanks to Brian Rogers, Ben Holland, Ron Lind, Shannon Lawler and Pamela McConkey (from State Parks Winter Rec) for going to Olympia and supporting this legislation on the 26th. Having just returned from two events, the Mt. St. Helens Trac Riders' Vancouver School for the Blind Ride, and the Yakima Ski-Benders Kid's Ride, it confirms my belief welcoming tracked ATVs and UTVs into our ranks is in the best interest of our sport. At the St. Helens' ride, tracked UTVs and a tracked ATV were used to give rides to deserving blind students. While most of the kids were comfortable on the back of a snowmobile, a few weren't able to ride; this gave them the chance to enjoy the day's activities as well. For the Ski-Benders' ride, a tracked UTV served a more utilitarian purpose hauling people and equipment from the sno-park to a designated little kids play area; but hauling gear for clubs or individuals is a need and offer the young and old a chance to get out and explore when they physically can't on a snowmobile.

Freezin' for a Reason. That's the name of an annual bikini snowmobile rally held by the Lawrenceville Volunteer Fire Department in New York. This was the third annual event and the goal is to raise money for breast cancer. This recent February event featured riders racing down a 300-foot drag strip dressed in a variety of outfits including tutus and a caped Xena Warrior Princess bikini. Not just the ladies; a few un-shirted males ripped down the track as well! Over the three years, this event has raised over \$30,000. You can find pictures of the event on the Lawrenceville Volunteer Fire Department's Facebook page.

Washington snowmobiler hits deer.

Happened in late February in the Teanaway in Kittitas County. Sounds like the deer ran out in front of him on a road and caused him to lose control and be bounced into a tree where he broke a leg. While I don't consider snowmobiling an unsafe activity, this goes to show how unpredictable it can be and that dangerous situations can pop up in the blink of an eye. Ride smart. Ride prepared. (Oh, and how did rescue crews get to the man?...

An UTV...)

The ultimate Arctic Cat Journey. This is the way the company has billed it; two fathers, two sons, four Arctic Cats and 3,500 miles. It's about their ride from Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada, to Thief River Falls, Minnesota. Best I can tell, it is underway now. You can find out more about it on Cat's Facebook *(Continued on page 33)*



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(Continued from page 32) and Instagram pages using #UltimateACATJourney (The coverage seems pretty disjointed to me... hopefully they pull it all together by the end of the trip.) How cool would it be to do a cross-country adventure like this?!

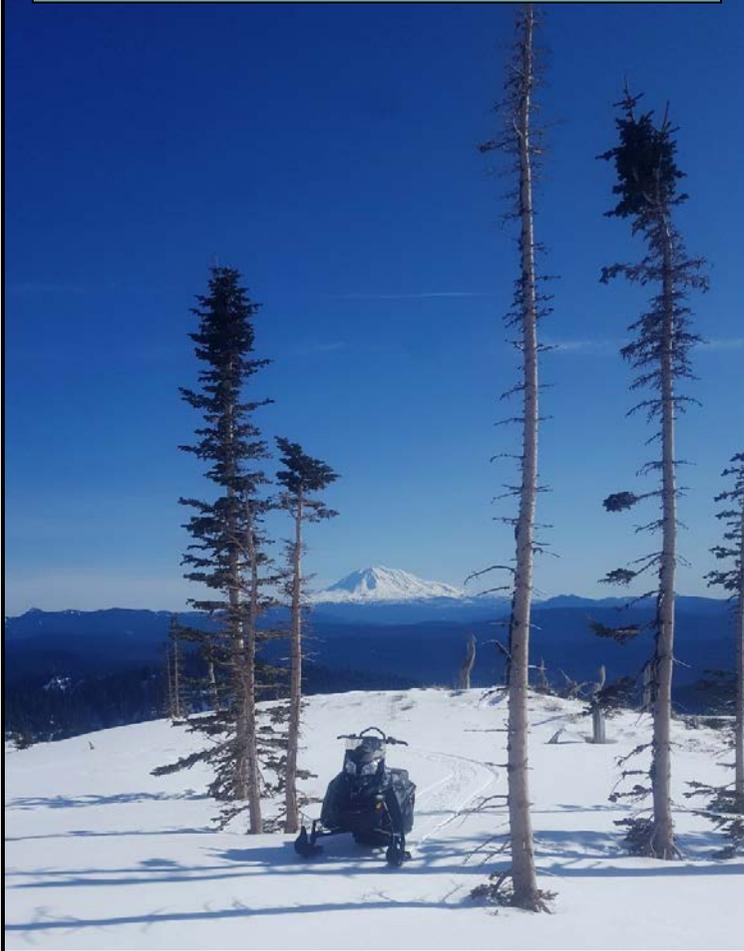
Can I get there from here? This is a question I ask myself on most every snowmobile ride. I also spend a lot of time before and after rides studying Google maps, my Avenza map tracks and satellite overlays.

snow melts; I love to drive/bike/hike in the off-season and look for potential snowmobile routes and destinations. This hasn't been a great winter for this type of riding with the limited snow depths. Who knows, maybe we'll have a few late season dumps which will allow me to lead our rides on some new adventures!... Anybody else out there have this affliction?

Movers and shakers! Our State Parks Winter Recreation Program Staff, specifically



I couldn't have asked for better weather on my recent first trip to Mt. St. Helens!



My riding group has heard me say many times "look, it's only a quarter-of-an-inch gap between these two tracks on the map!" For me, this is the thrill of snowmobiling. I love to travel cross-country and connect up two points on a map. I don't stop when the

Pamela McConkey and Jason Goldstein, have been out and about all winter. What does that mean? They have spent many days out on the snow, checking out the condition of sno-parks and groomed trails. In addition, they have been to several snowmobile club meetings, local grooming council meetings, club events and WSSA's Winter Rendezvous. Why is this important? It shows they are truly interested in the program and making it work for everybody. (Come on, when you think of State bureaucrats, you likely don't hold them in the highest regard. It's refreshing to find employees who truly want to do a good job.) As a side note, when Pamela and Jason are out checking conditions for the snowmobile program, they also spend an equal amount of time with the non-motorized (cross-country skiing, etc.) program.

This is significant for us because it means costs incurred can be split between the two programs. We are lucky to have these two working for us.

Washington Hometown/Snowmobile Washington App update. While checking the Avenza map store, I found two maps from Washington Hometown. These geo-referenced maps cover Southwest Washington and Central Washington. The Central Washington map is new and both can be used for navigation with the Avenza app. These maps are available for purchase for \$3.99 each.

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WSSA will be offering a scholarship to either a graduating high school senior or a person currently enrolled in a college, technical or vocational program. This will be a \$2,000.00 grant, and will be given to the winner regardless of other grants or scholarships the student may also receive. You can find the requirements at www.wssa.us under the 'Scholarship' menu item on the left margin. The entry deadline is March 31st.

