

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OREGON STATE SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION

THANKFUL FOR OUR GREAT OREGON OUTDOORS AND OUR OSSA FAMILY



Cody James



Wallowa County Gamblers Hosted the 3rd Annual Jr Sledder Day! At Salt Creek Summit Cabin



Spring riding is upon us....for the moment. We had a great day on the mountain for the kids play day March 13th. Sun was shining, kids were smiling and fun was had. We had 24 kiddos out this year with their parents. We have enjoyed some great riding this season and the play day was no different. The snowmobile industry is a great one to be a part of, many companies donated to this years ride and we thank them. We look forward to continuing our season into April and of course look forward to next season eagerly. *Keep riding and enjoy the last few weeks of the season.* -WCGSC



SUMPTER VINTAGE OVAL RACE ACTION Recap March 13-14

Hello from the east side of Oregon!

With the help of a small army of local volunteers, the Grant County Snowballers hosted the season finale vintage oval races at the fairgrounds in Sumpter, Oregon. The event was well attended with racers coming from many of the surrounding states and as far away as Utah.

There were 19 classes held over the weekend, with three lap heats on Saturday and five lap mains on Sunday, finished off with a ten lap dash-for-cash winner-take-all ran in by 11 riders. We had 105 entries, up from the 88 entries in the February race.

Our club and the Sumpter club are looking at making this a BI-annual event next year, with the season opener and closer being held back in Sumpter. If you are interested in competing at a fun place with some awesome folks, this is the place to be! We have a long list of people to thank that we will list on our club Facebook page. Come find and follow us at GCSC to keep updated on future races and events our club hosts!

- Jina Carniglia, Grant County Snowballers

Special thanks to William Sproul, the Grant County Snowballers snowmobile club, the ladies registering everyone and keeping things straight, stager, all the flaggers, EMT folks, groomers, consession folks, Jim Smith, and all I'm forgetting here for putting on a fun race. You created memories for my young 12 year old racer that he'll never forget and will keep this sport alive.

- Matt Ruder, Thatcher, Utah

We just have to say the main flagger guy was quite good!!! we enjoyed his enthusiasm and love of his job! We were very impressed! Nice job from the Chewelah folks!

- Trina Nelson, Chewelah, WA

What a fun race. I have to say the ladies were SERIOUS. Love it! This grandma is so Happy I got to finally race in the same heat and final as one of my grandchildren. Memories for sure.

- Janet Cloke

The third and final vintage race at Sumpter is in the record books !!!! 105 entries set the mark to beat for next year !! Thanks you everyone that made it to Sumpter this year !!! I was finally able to make it out to the infield and grab some race action from the corners !

- Jim Smith, Bend, Oregon

Jim you take wonderful pictures! Thank you so much for capturing so many great action shots!

- Jina McKinley Carniglia



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Above Photos: Daja Fite

See more photos and video at:
Western Vintage Snowmobile Racing +
facebook



video capture photo: Cindy Schmitt

photos by Jim Smith

Professional Flagger Robert Lawrence brought exceptional flair and excitement for the racers and spectators!



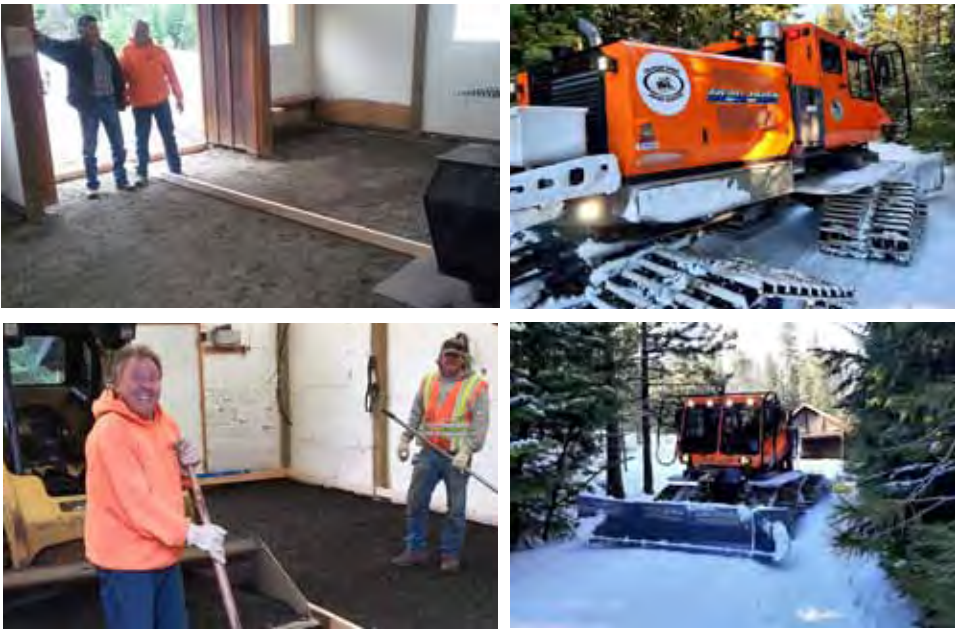
video capture photos: Daja Fite, Boise, ID

Columbia Gorge
Power Sledders

Greetings Brothers and Sisters of the Oregon State snowmobile Association. Well, winter finally showed up here, a couple of months late but at least we have good snow conditions so we can all go out and enjoy our sport. We were finally able to get our new Tucker snocat out on the snow, February 16th for the first time this season. It is a wonderful beautiful machine and should provide our club and fellow snowmobilers years of service and lots of miles of safe groomed trails.

Our grooming chairman, Dave Rogers announced his retirement in January, we were saddened to receive the news. We want to thank Dave for all his years of dedicated service to our club and everything he was able to accomplish. We will miss him, but he assured us he's not going anywhere, and will be there when we need him. John Vogel was appointed to be our new grooming chairman. We wish him luck, he has a hard act to follow. Thank you John for taking over the reins of our clubs grooming operation. You can be sure, he will take good care of our new Tucker snocat!

We are looking forward to getting out and enjoying some of the nice groomed trails now that we have enough snow to work with. We need to get out and ride and enjoy this lastmonth of winter, as spring and summer will be here before we know it. Take care everyone. See you on the trail.



With snowcat's help, officers track down suspect on forest road

■ Staff report
Columbia Gorge News

A lengthy pursuit by OSP cruiser, county SUV, and snowcat resulted in the arrest Feb. 26 of a 52-year-old Madras woman in the snowy forested area about five miles off Eightmile Road.

Trooper Jonathan Swiger was heading south on US 197 near milepost 12 at 2:55 a.m. when a black Jeep Wrangler heading northbound crossed into his lane, nearly crashing into him head-on, Swiger reported in an OSP log entry. The Jeep Wrangler then nearly crashed head on into a log truck that was behind Swiger, he reported. He turned around and overtook the Jeep at milepost 7, the driver of the Jeep was traveling approximately 85 miles per hour before turning west onto Eightmile Road. Swiger activated emergency lights and siren but the driver kept going at approximately 60 mph, failing to drive within her lane, Swiger reported. "Due to the reckless driving I observed prior to attempting to stop the driver, I decided to engage in a

pursuit as I believed she was going to continue driving recklessly," he said in his log report.

The driver went west on Eightmile Road, north onto Walston Grade Road, and back south on Pine Hollow Road towards Eightmile Road. Swiger lost visual of the Jeep on Pine Hollow Road and began checking the area for the vehicle. He saw fresh tracks in the gravel heading west on Eightmile Road, Walston Grade, and Pleasant Ridge Road and followed the tracks to the forest boundary. The tracks continued west into the Mt. Hood National Forest on USFS Road 4440.

Wasco County Deputy Ray Randall arrived and Swiger told him the OSP vehicle did not have enough clearance to continue.

About five miles from the forest boundary, Randall's SUV got stuck in the snow and the tracks continued.

"I know this area very well and suspected the driver was also stuck a short distance from us," Swiger said. A snowcat driver from the Columbia Gorge Power Sledders responded to assist

and the operators located the Jeep and driver about a mile west of where Swiger and Randall were stuck.

They were picked up by the snowcat and provided a ride to the Jeep's location. The driver was attempting to get the Jeep unstuck by driving it back and forth. The driver was taken into custody without incident, Swiger said.

"The driver admitted the reason she attempted to elude was because she knew she had a warrant for her arrest. The driver told me the reason she crossed into my lane was she fell asleep," he reported. The snowcat operators hooked up to the Jeep and transported officers and arrestee to USFS Road 44 where they were met by Wasco Deputy Nolan Ward, who transported the driver and lodged Jody Lee Speck, 50, at NORCOR on charges of attempting to elude, reckless endangering, reckless driving, and the parole violation. The Jeep, which was a rental, was towed for safe keeping. The snowcat operators took the officers back to the stuck patrol SUV and pulled it out.

Mt. Hood Snowmobile Club

We finally started grooming in February after the big storm. We are now grooming 5 days a week. Most of our trail system is only 4,000 ft so getting snow can sometimes be a bit challenging.

Randy Bolin has been one of our primary groomers for several years. He lost his leg in a snowmobile accident on Mt St. Helens a couple of years ago, but that hasn't stopped him from snowmobiling or from grooming.

On Monday February 22nd, TJ Reilly and Randy Bolin spent 11 hours in the groomer. The groomed 60 miles and removed 46 downed trees from the trails.





Chemult Mountain Trail Riders

by: Ben Sunderland

As you read this article we will have had a meeting of OSSA Board Members, area volunteers and those interested in volunteering. The session to occur on March 7th. Information to be provided and planning for continued efforts to staff our trails & maintenance programs and to also gain volunteers for our emergency services (fire) department in both our Chemult & 2Rivers communities. Provided that this in our final opportunity to provide updates this season thru the OSN, we can likely keep you informed by emails and/or facebook notes.

Very much appreciated has been the continued support of OSSA. Specifically all of the time and work provided by our Dist.4 Director at Large Richard Colman. He has been to the area several times and has completed training of at least (2) volunteers to date. Between them they have been out and have gotten some grooming completed. As I write, the cat is out there doing more. YOU need come on down or over and give the area a "run". Understood is that the snow is "great".

Please do contact us if you can assist or know of someone who can.
Contact:

Richard Colman (541) 480-1906
or (me) Ben Sunderland (541) 896-0039.

Thank YOU and DO continue to be "safe".



Ochoco Snow Sports

The season might have started out a little slow on the mighty Ochoco but it's clearly finishing up strong now! Snow is abundant, trails are groomed, and adventure awaits those who feel the need for speed.

The club held its Groomer Appreciation and membership drive at Indian Prairie in February and we had the mother of all turnouts! The club hosted a COVID friendly pot luck with Baby Back Ribs (18 racks), backed beans, salads, and exotic jerky from last hunting season. A Lipitor salesman would have been useful after that meal... Our club President Jimmy Valentine and his team of volunteers really took their game to another level as new members were lining up to join the club (or Jimmy wouldn't feed them). We want to shout out to Richard Colman and his grooming team all their hard work this season.

Be well everyone,
Kevin "Jack Thumb" Donham



Moon Country Snowbusters

Our Snowmobile community lost a beloved member today. Rest in peace Johnny Clapp. Memorial Day celebration will never be the same.

Johnny grew up in Gresham Oregon and started snowmobiling in the 70's. There he owned his own shop, JC Motorsports. When he moved to Central Oregon he brought with him his love and immense knowledge of the snowmobile sport. Even when he could no longer hill climb or drag race, he would be firing up the BBQ waiting to listen to everyone's riding stories and sharing a few of his own from years past... All while listening to his favorite rock band, AC/DC. If you were lucky you might've heard him sing a verse or two. Johnnies BBQ was the main attraction at the Memorial Weekend Annual snowmobile gathering at Dutchman Flats in Bend, OR for 25 plus years.

Johnny was a very dear friend, loved by all and will be dearly missed.

- Submitted by Dara Conway and Terrance Jalbert



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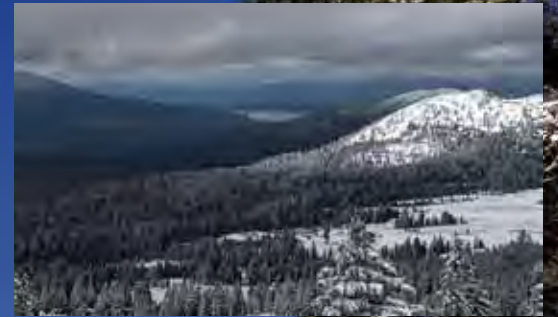


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Panhandle Snowmobile Club

NEWS FROM THE PANHANDLE
SNOWMOBILE CLUB

Submitted by Mary Herold, Sec.

WOW! February has come in with a bang. We have had a lot of snow since the middle of the month. Fish Lake had 10 feet before the last dump. Halfway has been packed every weekend with snowmobilers. It does help that our restaurants have dine-in now.

Our Poker Run on February 14th was a great success. We had lots of riders in town for the long weekend and the groomers

really did a great job. Thanks to all who came and participated, the wonderful Donors and to those who worked the stations and groomed the trails.

The winners of the 2021 Poker Run:

1st Place	Mike Knode	(Halfway)
2nd Place	Amber Archibald	(Dallas)
3rd Place	Dafney Kirby	(Halfway)
4th Place	Carter Loeb	(Gresham)
5th Place	Scott Taylor	(Dallas)

We also gave out 41 items in the raffle.

Please be careful out there
as there is avalanche danger.

*Have fun and enjoy the
winter snowmobiling.*

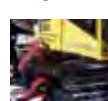


Sugar Loaf on 3-3-21, taken by Mary Herold



Pictures from Steven Wayne Brooks

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Klamath Basin Snow Drifters Snowmobile Club

We were finally able to have a group meeting again at Willy's Pizzeria on Tuesday March 9th. We had 12 club members attend the meeting. It was great to get together again for an in-person meeting.

Don Ambers was able to attend our last meeting and expressed how grateful he and Janet are for the donation from the club to help with their medical expenses. Don was pleased to report that Janet is recovering well from her stroke. He told us that he is starting to gain weight again now that Janet is back home and cooking meals for him! We are all very happy to hear how well Janet is doing.

We are very pleased to report that our club has now reached 104 family memberships. Our goal at the beginning of the season was to reach 100 family memberships. It was not that many years ago that we were hovering around 60-70 family memberships, so this is something we are very excited about.

We would like to put a huge thank you out to all of our dedicated groomers. They groomed 1,056 miles in January, and 953 miles in February. We have reached a total so far for the year of 2,305 miles groomed and 842 personnel hours. The most miles groomed in a single day was 71 miles, which took 16 hours. Please be sure to thank our groomers when you see them.

We held our nomination of officers for the 2021-2022 season at our last club meeting. The following members were nominated for office, and we will vote on them at our next club meeting on Tuesday April 13th. We are still working on securing a location for the meeting and will notify everyone when we get it finalized.

Our next club ride was Saturday March 13th. Club ride started at 9 a.m. followed by our annual steak feed dinner at Four Corners snowpark. We served steaks, baked potatoes, water, and a dessert. I was excited to see that the Medicine Lake area had picked up 12 inches of snow since Sunday, and conditions were very good!



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Please keep an eye on our website (www.kbsnowdrifters.org) and our Facebook page for the most updated information on club events, pictures, and the grooming report.

Thank you for your support,
Thomas Bentley
Vice President KBSD



Wes Waltermann sledding in Bend area on his Ski-Doo Summit 800

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OregonSnow.org is Oregon State
Snowmobile Association's
official website.





Moon Country Snowbusters

Meet Our Member **T.J. Reily**

Name: TJ Reilly

Age: 62

Hometown/current: Happy Valley

Profession: Auto Repair

Years riding: 14

What kind of sled do you have? 2019 SkiDoo 165 850 SP

Mountain or Trail: Mountain tree riding

Other Activities: Motorcycles, Jeep, Polaris RZR, flying airplanes

How long have you been a member: 3 years at Snowbusters

Other things you want people to know:

President of Mt Hood Snowmobile Club, OSSA District 1 Membership Director

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Avalanche Courses This Season

For you powder hounds, avalanche danger is real, getting education and awareness is important and could save your life or the life of someone you know. The Wallowa Avalanche Center offers AIARE Motorized Companion Rescue Course and Motorized Level 1 Avalanche Course. For more info go to www.wallowaavalanchecenter.org/courses.



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Snowmobile Safety

For more safety tips go to: www.snowmobile-ed.com
Avalanche Training: www.nwac.us



Did you know that you must have a valid driver's license or snowmobile safety card to operate a snowmobile in Oregon? OSSA offers snowmobile safety classes for all ages, even kids as young as 7 years old. See: www.oregonsnow.org/contact/safety-training/ Snowmobile safety starts before you go up to the mountain.

Are you totally prepared? Here's a partial list of items to consider carrying: Shovel, hand saw, water, protein bar, 2 way radio, SPOT unit, cell phone with spare battery, maps, first aid kit, matches, fire starter, extra socks, extra gloves, emergency blanket, whistle, tampons, compass, mirror, zip ties, duct tape, Leatherman tool pliers.

Tow Strap

Snowbunje allows you to tow a snowmobile without 2 riders (available at most snowmobile dealers).



Backcountry must have items:

Shovel, Avalanche Probe, Avalanche Beacon, Avalanche Backpack



Moon Country Snowbusters

Snow was falling,
so much like stars
filling the dark trees
that one could easily
imagine its reason for
being was nothing more
than prettiness.

- Mary Oliver, "Snowy Night"

**AND SNOWMOBILING
OF COURSE !**



Moon Country Snowbusters wants to remind all riders that Central Oregon riding areas do have avalanche dangers.

Here are a couple photos of some riders that were in a slide on Tumalo February 13th. All riders fared well and as you can see used their gear. Are you riding with the appropriate gear? Have you taken an Avalanche course? Are your friends riding with the right gear? These are all important questions that you should be saying YES to.



Mike Merritt and his team of groomers have been out and in full force, grooming as much as possible. Our area is used heavily and these groomers are doing an amazing job getting out there most nights of the week.





Mt. Jefferson Snowmobile Club Club Trip to McCall, ID

By Maria Sammons, MJSC President

Many MJSC members enjoyed the annual March Club Trip. This year’s destination was McCall, ID. The weather was perfect (Blue Bird Days) and so was the company. Everyone had a great time exploring and riding every day and safely socializing afterwards.

We offer several club trips throughout the season to make sure every member has an opportunity to explore new riding areas as well as enjoy the fellowship of our snowmobile community. All are welcome and encouraged to participate!!



Sled recovery from a close encounter with a tree.



MJSC Members on Annual March Club Trip to McCall, ID, playing in some beautiful terrain.



Big Brother (Nick) and Little Sister (Olivia) enjoying some quality time.



MJSC Group photo on the last day of riding in McCall, ID. Top of the world from a fire lookout station.



Cascade Connection Snowmobile Club

Greetings from Cascade Connection, CC Riders

Cascade connection’s CC Riders have been busy clearing, and grooming once the snow started falling. We had limited trails to work with after the fire closed access to our most popular trails. But once the clearing operations ended, and the loggers quit for the Winter, we got busy with our trails.

We had some good club rides to Chemult, and Odell Lake. Now we are very excited to use the new demo Piston Bully that was delivered the middle of March. We will get to use it till season’s end, and hope it will end up in our stable next season. Its a fantastic machine.

We look forward to next season, and hope this covid business is in the rear view mirror.





Wallowa County Gamblers

Well our season has been a decent one so far. Our SnoPark has never been so busy. Vehicles from all over are coming to enjoy this beautiful place we get to call home. Our groomers continue to stay on top of the new snow, our Poker Run is behind us.

The Wallowa County 3rd Annual Jr Sledder Day was March 13th at Salt Creek Summit Cabin. It was a day filled with games, lunch, prizes and of course fun, fun for the whole family. There was also a presentation from WC Search and Rescue on Outdoor Survival. It was a free event of fun on the snow. (photos on page 1)

We continue to get more snow each week and continue to be out on it enjoying the fresh powder, the views and the love of this winter recreation we get to do week in and week out. We hope that your winter is treating you nicely as well and the days just keep getting better and better.



Candlelighters.
For Children With Cancer



Rogue Snowmobilers

Greeting Everyone!

Greg here from the Rogue Snowmobilers.

In stead of our traditional monthly article from the Rogue club, we wanted to talk a little bit about one of the organizations we support each year.

Southern Oregon Candlelighters is an organization dedicated to assisting families battling childhood cancer. They assist with some of the costs that sneak up on families that insurance does not cover. Hotel costs, food, gas money and other expenses families must deal with for their child to become cancer free.

The Rogue snowmobilers has been one of the largest contributors to their cause every year. The club has been donating faithfully each year since the 1999/2000 season. Every year we dedicate two events to their cause:

1. We do an annual "pie auction" where generous club members either donate homemade or store-bought pies and auction them off to even more generous members of the club. With the help of our general membership, we have raised over \$109,500 over the years for this cause.
2. We invite the kids up for a play day in the snow, usually sometime in March when the weather gets better. We give them snowmobile, & sleigh rides. We also put our snowcat on display for them to check out. The club also provides the kids & their family's lunch. This fun play day in the snow helps take cancer off the mind of the kiddos & their families for the day.

This year, COVID-19 got in the way of our plans we do each year for the kids. Many of these children are undergoing chemotherapy that makes them even more vulnerable to virus & other bacterial infections. Instead of hosting a pie auction this year, we are calling upon our members once again – this time around as a donation link hosted on our website.

Even though COVID-19 took the spotlight across the world, childhood cancer does not stop because of it. Many families out there are having to potentially struggle with the fact they have lost their job & their kid has been diagnosed with cancer. Organizations like Southern Oregon Candlelighters are there to step in, time & time again to help these families in need.

Our club is calling upon anyone that can spare a few extra dollars to consider donating here to help their cause <https://roguesnowmobilers.com/2021-candlelighters-donation/> A donation to their cause is a tax-deductible donation and can be used as a tax write-off each year.

We sincerely appreciate your consideration and support with the ongoing battle against childhood cancer.

Thank you!

Greg Gulrich
Vice President, Rogue Snowmobilers
roguesnowmobilers.com





Sumpter Valley Blue Mountain Snowmobile Club

Find us on Facebook
(<https://www.facebook.com/sumptersnowmobileclub>)

Our last club meeting for the season will be April 10th at 5pm at groomer shed. We will be discussing how we want to do the Poker Run for next year. We want to thank the merchants that helped us this year. If it wasn't for them, we would have a hard time to pull it off.

The groomer has been out cleaning up the trails. There's still lots of great snow for spring riding, you just might have to go a little higher to unload.

Hope everyone has a great summer and we will see you next season. Thanks groomer crew for doing such a wonderful job this season.

*Photos from
John and Elaine Livran's group ride*



*Photos from
Gary Olson
and Kathy Reedy*



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