

October 2008 Newsletter

Greetings Montana Nightriders!!

Are you all thinking, breathing and dancing for snow? You just as well be, it snowed at the shelter yesterday. The time is coming!!

Shelter work/wood day was a resounding SUCCESS. At best count 27 individuals (and 5? dogs) showed up to finish the walls and benches, move the plexiglass to the new end and cut wood. Cut wood, we did. Gary Bailey Logging bucked up about 8 cords into 18 inch lengths for us at his logging site up on Lookout Pass. Eleven truckloads later, we now have about 10 cords of wood for our burning pleasure. Phil Fingar brought up his wood splitter and that was a welcome tool. Special thanks to Kyle Petersen and his two friends for swinging the maul all day and getting the work done. Really, they did look quite handsome on the end of the maul. Better than me, for sure. We're all getting a little older (smarter), ya know. Bottom line: Wait until you see it, the place looks great and that pile of wood is super impressive.

If anyone crosses paths with Donny Warnken, make sure you give him a giant thank you. Yes, he got paid some to put up the main frame of the shelter addition but he went well above and beyond what was required of him. Stayed late, started early, and lent his expertise in areas he didn't have to. Thanks, Donny

We still have a bit of work to do for the fire pit but it sounds like it is coming along. Kevin G. did a lot of fabrication for the new grill with improved design. Thank You, Kevin. The pipe and base are ready to go so all we need is the cone. Good news on that front, Al S. just let me know that Grant Forest of Forest Steel in Coeur d'Alene has finished fabricating the parts at no cost to the club, all we need is to weld it together. Keep up the good work "you guys." The rest of us truly appreciate your efforts.

Following the work day, we adjourned to the DeBorgia School house for dinner and the meeting. The Silver \$ crew did a great job of feeding us and the ribs were superb. I don't know if it was the food, the company, or the high of getting so much done in one day but, for all I can remember, we set an attendance record at the meeting. **44 people!!** We had a lot of stuff to cover, and I think, we set another record, **1 hour 15 minutes**, from start to finish!! This could be due to the couple free drinks the club offered after the meeting at O-Aces. However, I would like to think it is due to Mark's efficiency in getting through the meeting.

Congratulations to Don and Shirley Garr for 50 years of wedded bliss. After the meeting, Robin and P.J. surprised them with a cake. Good work to all of you who knew about it and kept the secret.

Meeting notes: The Alpine engine has been overhauled but apparently we need an inside shiv with a starter ring gear. I don't have a clue what these are but if anyone does, and you have them, please call Mark. Further, Mark will be out of the area most of the winter so we need some more operators for the groomer. If you are interested in donating a bit of your time, please call Mark 208-682-4963 or let me know and I will give the message.

Vintage Snowmobile Club will be having a race on our track again this year. Date to be announced. Maybe we can use this event to come up with a fundraiser of our own. Put on your thinking caps and come up with ideas. Last year's ideas included a snowdeo, flea market, and raffles to name just a few. We really need to develop something to replace Snow Boss. All ideas, great and small, will be considered so submit and submit often. (Your ideas, that is.)

Entertainment: Since Avery has their own groomer, Brooke is going to look into having a couple reciprocal rides with them this year. See next meeting notes below for what is entertaining about the next meeting.

Poker Ride: Mark your calendars for February 7, 2009. Since this is the 21st annual, we are thinking of using a theme around the legal drinking age of 21. Anyone got any goofy ideas?

Membership: **DUES ARE DUE DECEMBER 1.** I have attached a hard copy of the membership form. **PLEASE, PLEASE, I BEG OF YOU, fill it out in its entirety** and mail it back to me. Use return address on back of the membership form. We need to build an entirely new database for the membership. Also, if you have e-mail and you use it, include that address. It saves the club a lot of money on postage for newsletters. We are doing the membership contest again. For every new membership you sell, you get your name/ticket in the hat. In April we draw one ticket for the winner of a \$200 weekend on the club. Let's see if someone can give Larry and Don a run for the roses. Further, of those new memberships, one will be drawn for free dues the following year. Bill Corbit and company won last year. Let me know if you need more copies of the membership form or just copy the one I have sent you.

Next meeting: November 1, 2008. Fun begins with a 4-wheeler, motorcycle, jeep, truck, whatever, motorized poker ride. Meet at the Silver \$ at 11:00 a.m. Route to be determined at that time. BYOB and lunch. This will, of course, be weather permitting.

***Following the ride, we will meet at the DeBorgia Schoolhouse about 5:00 where Kurt's Polaris of Missoula will be **cooking us a free BBQ dinner** and showing us some of their products. Also, BYOB.

***Meeting to be 7:00 p.m. MST at Schoolhouse. **Elections will be held.**

***Remember, you don't have to come on the ride to come down and eat. Free food and good company, pretty good combination. We've got a really good momentum going from last month's record-breaking meeting, let's do it again!!

Until next time, get your sleds tuned up. Brooke