



WRRRA Winter 2017 Newsletter

White River Recreation Association

REPRESENTING FEDERAL LAND PERMITTEES IN THE UPPER WHITE RIVER VALLEY AND MT BAKER-SNOQUALAMIE NATIONAL FOREST SINCE 1929

Calling for your 2017 WRRRA Membership

Thanks to all who continuously support White River Recreation Association (WRRRA). Your commitment, hours of help, kind words, generous donations and dues - all are very much appreciated and responsible for our organization's success. If you have not joined yet, please do so. All are welcome.

Our background: we enjoy a special opportunity as part of our community's history sharing "back to the woods" experiences. This unique cabin program was established by Congress in 1915 to facilitate family recreation in our National Forests. In 1929, WRRRA was established at the request of the U. S. Forest Service and is one of the oldest and largest organizations of its kind in America. In 2016, National Forest Homeowners bestowed on WRRRA the "Outstanding Tract Award."

WHAT WRRRA DOES FOR YOU:

- WRRRA Informs – You receive communications on an ongoing basis through newsletters, group emails, our website, Facebook posts and other venues. You will know what is going on and what you can do.
- WRRRA Advocates – WRRRA speaks to decision makers and provides informed and sensible recommendations.
- WRRRA maintains relationships with the United States Forest Service (USFS) – Having access and an interactive relationship is critical.
- WRRRA partners – We work together with Greenwater residents, Washington State Forest Homeowners (WSHHA) and National Forest Homeowners (NFH) to address challenging issues.
- WRRRA supports stewardship of the beautiful forest – Three (3) times a year, member volunteers clean the litter from a section of WA Highway 410.
- WRRRA connects our community – There are many opportunities to participate and support a strong community. Meet and greet fellow cabin owners and Greenwater community members at friendly social events such as meetings, dinners, seasonal activities and socials, annual cabin tour, as well as the free to members' summer picnic. Share history.
- WRRRA leads by preparing for the future – Continuing to raise dollars for our Cabin Defense Fund dedicated for cabin program sustainability exemplifies this. When bad times come, WRRRA will be prepared.

In this issue:

2017 Membership Drive

Message from Kevin Orth, WRRRA President

2017 Board Election

Fall Dinner Recap

History Article: White River's Pantheon of Winter Stars

Stay informed – as a member you receive:

- Four (4) newsletter per year covering key and latest information and pertinent news relating to the cabin community. Free classified advertising.
- Regular email news and updates, advisories and calls to action
- Two (2) copies of the WRRRA Phone Directory (published next in 2017) with contact information of owners, local businesses, and emergency numbers – your best local information source
- Protection by a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone unlawfully entering or causing damage to a members’ cabin property. Members receive two (2) signs for posting at their cabin.
- Standing invites to exciting activities

At its October meeting, the Board raised WRRRA dues to \$40 which is reflected in your 2017 statement. This was announced at the November Dinner. Thank you in advance for your support of WRRRA and please remember to send the new amount: \$40.

PLEASE JOIN WRRRA BE INVOLVED
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

President’s Message

I wanted to start my first message with a little background, for those that don’t know me. My wife Kendra and I have owned Silver Creek cabin #26, across from the sledding hill, for the last 14 years. We have two teen girls who love being up at the cabin, skiing in the winter and somewhat reluctantly hiking in the summer. I have been the **Silver Creek rep since 2009**, and have developed and continue to manage the WRRRA Facebook page, and have led the Social Committee and organized the WRRRA Spring and Fall dinners and the summer picnics over the past few years.

I have had the great fortune to work with some tremendous people on the board during that time; I hope to continue to get a high degree of

engagement from the board, and all WRRRA members, so that we can continue to bring valuable information, processes, and events to you.



The board has set some excellent goals for the next year. We plan to bring more structure and better process to our relationship with the Forest Service and other government organizations, to continue to refine our financial management to ensure we remain financially strong, and to strengthen our membership. We also hope to share more information and resources around infrastructure issues such as safety, crime, disaster preparedness, and more. And, we are excited about the opportunity to work with new Forest Service staff who are coming into role.

If you have any interest in helping with these projects, or anything else associated with the WRRRA, please let us know – this is a volunteer organization and we need lots of help to get things done!

I also wanted to call out a very noteworthy opportunity for us all, in the upcoming **National Forest Homeowners (NFH) conference** which will be held at Cedarbrook Lodge in Seatac, April 21-22. The conference should be a fantastic opportunity to interact with other cabin owners from around the country, discuss issues, and get new ideas for our cabins and community. The topic of metal roofs will be a key one on the agenda. I hope that many of you will consider

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joining the board in attending the conference! For more information see www.nationalforesthomeowners.org.

I look forward to the challenge of leading the WRRRA and the board over the next two years, while juggling work and family commitments as well.

Please drop me a note if you have any questions, concerns, or input, at president@wrra.net.

I hope to see you up at the cabins or in the mountains soon! ~ Kevin Orth, WRRRA President

WRRRA Fall Dinner and Business Meeting

Just over 80 members and friends attended our dinner and business meeting November 5 at the Greenwater Community Center – another well-attended fall dinner!

At the business meeting that preceded the Fall dinner, the membership voted for candidates for 5 positions on the WRRRA board. Congratulations to the following individuals who have generously stepped up to fill these important roles and share their talents with the WRRRA community:

Kevin Orth, President

Tim Curran, Vice President

Tom Woods, Goat Creek Representative

Bill Vlases, Silver Springs Representative

Mark Curran, Deep Creek Representative

We then continued with the new dinner format, which includes a larger focus on social time, and brief updates on key topics rather than a speaker or longer presentation. Everyone took the opportunity to become better acquainted with their cabin neighbors during the social hour, and New York Catering from Enumclaw again provided an excellent dinner which was served buffet style. The theme was Oktoberfest, and the German style food, decorations, and music provided a fun festive atmosphere for the evening.

As dinner concluded, we were all introduced to Forest Service Recreational Specialist Brian

McNeil, and he provided us some updates from the USFS; we also got brief updates from Mike Smith from the Greenwater Fire Department, Jeff McIntosh from USFS Law Enforcement, and Perry Turner on Plowing.

We also had a very successful silent auction. Thank you to all who contributed and purchased items. There were some amazing bakers at work to help out this effort. Special thanks to Shirley Cherberg who contributed so many items to both the bake sale and the silent auction. Sales of donated items raised \$755.50 for the Cabin Defense Fund. Thank you to all who helped make this a success.

Lastly, the evening concluded with door prizes doled out by Ken Leader, as is tradition.

Thank you to everyone that attended, and we hope to see even more of you at the next dinner!

Karen Buhler - Incoming Silver Creek Rep

The board announces it will appoint Karen Buhler, SC9, to the unexpired term of Silver Creek Representative, being vacated by President Kevin Orth.

Karen Buhler is a freelance artist working in glass and a lover of projects. Her parents, passionate hobbyists, love the phrase and live it, " Busy people are happy people."

Karen studied Architecture in her early college years at the Ohio State University and eventually received her BS Agriculture, specialty Horticulture. An education such as this is indicative of her many and varied passions in architecture, its history, and the natural sciences of botany, plant taxonomy, entomology, hydrology, and agronomy.

Silver Creek #9, the Snoring Elk, is a place that crystallizes these interests and gives meaning to her life beyond just being a old cabin in the woods. Welcome, Karen, to the WRRRA Board!

Metal Roofs - So where are we?

Several of us on the Metal Roof committee met with Region 6 Forest Service (FS) and Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) staff on a very cold day, November 18th in the White River cabin area. The purpose of their second field study visit was for them to continue to physically review cabins in various tracts first hand and for us to dialogue more on the issue of standing seam metal roofs not being allowed as a replacement material for our wonderful historic cabins.

As background and for clarity, we prepared a document and shared it with them in advance. It summarized the issues and the rationale for why we believe standing seam metal roofs should be an option for cabin owners seeking replacement. Related inconsistencies in how the standards are applied were also addressed.

What we have been seeking is an exception to the section 106 guidelines of the National Historic Preservation Act to treat replacement of combustible roofs on recreation residences with non combustible metal roofs, including standing seam metal roofs, as non adverse. We also requested the need for a clear process that

provides for a reasonable approval time line. And in the short term, the request is for the abeyance of the requirement of the permittee to hire an archaeologist at a significant expense in time and money to document the cabin history when only modifying the roof.

We emphasized that this is not a new issue, but it is very important to our cabin owners to have this choice. The subject has been on the table for years. Additionally, we shared concern about the response time from the FS to cabin owners who have submitted requests and are not getting responses. Brian McNeil indicated that additional staff will be hired to help resolve the response delays.

We had a good day and very open exchange over a period of 3 hours walking together through various tracts and looking at specific cabins and roofs. The representatives were able to investigate first hand some questions they had as well as examples we shared. During that time together we observed examples of discrepancies and issues that had been raised. The urgency of this matter was made plain by the presence of tarps covering several of the roofs.

At the conclusion of our time together, Jeff Walker, Lead Archaeologist indicated that while



Metal Roof Field Meeting - WRRR Metal Roof Committee meets with Region 6 Forest Service and Washington State Department of Historic Preservation staff. Left to Right: Jeff Walker FS, Paul Alford FS, Kristen Hauge FS, Anne Curran, Albert Pollmar, Brian McNeil FS, Rena Irwin, Tracy Kremer FS, Michael Houser DAHP. Also attending was Tim Curran (photographer.)

he would like to, he could not give a specific date to respond, he recognized the length of time we have had this issue in front of them, and will be working within the agency to see how to address and provide an answer to our concerns. He said it was moving from his "to do list" to "must get done list." We told them we appreciated their time and study and look forward to some positive movement on this vital issue

Very recently we have heard from Brian McNeil, USFS, that there is a new application form in the works, but nothing definite yet. Your metal roof committee remains positive and very committed. Thanks to all of you for your continued support. This is an example of how WRRR works for members on important cabin owner issues. We will keep everyone informed on progress.

~ Rena Irwin,

WRRR Metal Roof Committee:
Chair, Rena Irwin; Members: Albert Pollmar,
Kevin Bannon, Tim and Anne Curran

White River's Pantheon of Winter Stars

WRRR is rich in skiing heroes. Here are some examples:

Lyle St Louis; WRRR President 1961-1963; NW Ski Hall of Fame 1990; SS-161. Lyle grew up in Wisconsin and came to Seattle as a school teacher in 1930. Lyle recognized the need for better safety on the hills introducing the very first volunteer ski patrols and some of the techniques used today. St Louis also wrote a ski safety feature for the Seattle PI.

Robert St Louis; son of Lyle; NW Ski Hall of Fame 2004; SS-161. Robert served in the elite 10 Mountain Division in WWII. Many of its cadre went on to high leadership positions in the ski business. After the war, St Louis was captain of the 1948 University of Washington Ski Team that participated in the NCAA finals.

Judy Nagel Johnson; NW Ski Hall of Fame 2016; SS-63. When Crystal Mountain opened in 1962, Judy competed along with sister Cathy in CMAC,

under the direction of their dad, Jack Nagel, Olympian, Director of CMAC and manager of Crystal Mountain Ski Shop. As a 16-year-old competing in the 1968 Olympics at Grenoble, Nagel skied the fastest in the first round of the slalom but missed a gate and was disqualified in the second round. Later in the 1968 she won the US Alpine Skiing Championship slalom and combined events at Crystal Mountain. Soon after that she took the podium at the World Cup event at Heavenly Valley. The following year she became the youngest American World Cup event winner in Italy with sister Cathy runner up.

Jim Martinson, NW Ski Hall of Fame 2014; US Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame 2015; SS-43. Father Elmer was a distinguished back country guide. A Vietnam war veteran and double amputee, Jim developed the first sports adapted wheelchairs. Winner: Boston Marathon 1981. Paralympics Gold Medals: track 1980 & 1984; downhill skiing 1992. 63-year-old competitor (oldest) at 2010 Winter X Games.

Wallace T. Staatz, SS-60. Staatz was owner of an Orting, Washington bulb farm he later redeveloped into High Cedars Golf Course. An early investor in Crystal Mountain Inc., Staatz became chair of the board of directors. Under his watch operations were methodically expanded culminating with a second stock offering with proceeds used to build the first high speed quad lift in Washington.


Tyler Ceccanti, SS-62. Starring in 6 Warren Miller movies, Ceccanti also does promotional work for several ski equipment manufacturers.

Alan Lauba, SC-52. Lauba was a member of the U.S. National Alpine Ski Team winning the 1984

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North American Downhill Championships and was a member of the 1986 world championship team. He is presently Director of the Crystal Mountain Jr. Race Team

LeRoy Kingland, SS-61. The Kingland brothers Bruce and LeRoy bought their cabin next door to Wally Staatz in 1958. In the first years of Crystal LeRoy cleared ski runs, did avalanche patrol and managed the Alpine Inn. He moved on to develop his own outdoor gear marketing business while serving on state and national boards promoting the ski industry.

There's more—just no more space. Got an idea to share? Email me: treasurer@wrra.net

~ Kevin Bannon

Annual Winter Family Sledding / Sliding Social

Sunday January 15th from 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Cabin Area Sledding Hill (across from Silver Creek cabin 26)

Please come join others from the cabin community at this event and hopefully we can all partake in some fun sledding or sliding!

Make sure you dress appropriately, bring your own sleds or tubes, and any refreshments you may want (to minimize liability concerns, alcoholic beverages are discouraged).

Parking may be tight, so please carpool or walk if possible. A bathroom will be available across the street at Cabin #26.

In order to minimize liability for the WRRRA and cabin owners, we have a few requests to help make this a safe event:

- Participants and parents should sign a liability release (forms will be available at the event).
- Parents are strongly urged to provide safety equipment such as helmets and eye protection for all participants.
- No standing on or sliding on the road.



- Safe and sane sliding speeds; do not build large jumps.
- Parents should remain on site for supervision of their children.
- Alcoholic beverages are discouraged.

We hope to see a good turnout at this fun event!

Questions? Contact Kevin Orth, SC26 at orthadventures@hotmail.com.

Snow Plow Update for Winter 2017

Overview: As expected we have had a good snowy start to the season. Which of course means we have had to plow multiple times already. The great news is that we had all but 10 cabins pay for plowing this year. From what we have seen thus far, most driveways are staked well, which makes it easy for the plow crews to find where to plow. I believe the few driveways that were missed the first go around were not marked.

We are going to be making some changes again to the plowing crews and hence our hope is to become more efficient regarding plowing time and consequently costs. To date the new crews have been more expensive, so Randy Iddings is going to help us out for the season. We look forward to lots more snow this season.

Questions and comments should continue to be directed to snowplow410@live.com.

WRRRA Calendar 2017

| Meeting/Events | 2017 Date (s) | Location |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Winter Board Meeting | February 6 | SeaTac |
| Spring Board Meeting | April 3 | TBD *** |
| Spring Dinner | April 29* | Alpine Inn |
| Spring Road clean up | April 30 | Hosted by Silver Springs |
| Summer Board Meeting | July 28 | Cabin Area |
| Picnic | July 29 | Dalles CC/SS CC |
| Summer Road clean up | July 30 | Hosted by Silver Creek |
| Fall Board Meeting | Oct 15 | TBD*** |
| Fall Dinner Meeting | Oct 28 or Nov 4** | Greenwater |
| Fall Road clean up | Oct 29 or Nov 5 | Hosted by Dalles |
| Board Planning Meeting | Nov 4/11 ** | Seattle |

* Depends on Crystal Mountain Schedule

** Depends on UW Football Home games

*** Board member home - TBD

Other pertinent dates include:

NFH - Annual Conference scheduled for April 21-22 in Seattle

WSFHA - Spring Meeting to be scheduled within the NFH time framework and location

WSFHA Fall Meeting - September 30 - Wenatchee Tract



Visit our Facebook page for frequent updates on social events and other topics: White River Recreation Association

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WRRRA

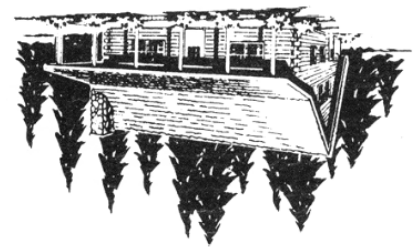
The purpose of White River Recreational Association (WRRRA) is to promote and protect recreational interests along the Mather Memorial Parkway and throughout the Upper White River Valley; to do any and all things lawful, just and necessary to better the interests of the members of the Association; to secure equitable legislation; and to cooperate with the Forest Service in the protection and administration of all recreational feature.



WRRRA Board for 2017

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| President Kevin Orth, SC 26 Home: 206-232-1764 Cabin: 360-663-0164 president@wrra.net | Vice President Tim Curran, DC 3 Home: 425-641-9335 Cabin: 360-663-2631 vp@wrra.net | Immediate Past Pres. Rena Irwin, DC 17 Home: 360-866-2570 Cabin: 360-663-2428 renairwin1@comcast.net |
| Secretary Anne Turner, SC 2 Home: 425-218-9822 Cabin: 360-663-2377 secretary@wrra.net | Treasurer Kevin Bannon, SS 155 Home: 206-244-9683 treasurer@wrra.net | Dalles Representative Mary Anne Gillett, D 26 Home: 253-839-0176 Cabin: 360-663-2417 dalles-rep@wrra.net |
| Silver Springs Rep # 1 Bill Vlases, SS 80 Home: 206-878-2541 Cabin: 360-663-7752 ss-rep@wrra.net | Silver Springs Rep # 2 Mark Wellington, SS 148 Home: 206-524-4036 Cabin: 360-663-2271 ss-rep@wrra.net | Silver Creek Rep Karen Buhler, SC 9 Home: 206-782-9175 Cabin: 360-663-2405 sc-rep@wrra.net |
| Goat Creek Rep #1 Tom Wood, GC 95 Home: 253-631-2653 gc-rep@wrra.net | Goat Creek Rep #2 John Campbell, GC 4 Home: 206-675-1516 Cabin: 360-663-2589 gc-rep@wrra.net | Deep Creek Rep Mark Curran, DC 3 Home: 206-933-8922 Cabin: 360-663-2631 dc-rep@wrra.net |

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