



Graham Owners Club International
TIMBERTOWN MEET
Sandpoint, Idaho
July 21-27, 2025

I wanted to give everybody an update regarding the meet planned for July 2025 in Sandpoint, Idaho. The registration form is available in the Supercharger or online at the GOCl website under events. It is important to know that registrations will close at the end of May.



As some of you already did, the reservations at the venue hotel can be done as follows:

Best Western Plus Mountain Lodge, Ponderay, Idaho, blocked from 21-28 of July 2025 until June 21. Reservations are now open with a special rate of \$175.00 US per room per night.

You can use the link below or call the hotel directly mentioning GOCl or Graham Owners Club, (208)-255-4500 (not the toll free Best Western Reservations Line).

Booking link:

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.13063.html?groupId=M22HC8L7

By now you probably also know how to get to Sandpoint whether it is driving, flying or riding the train. For more information, check out the GOCl website for detailed options. If arriving by train it would be best to get in touch with Bonner Taxi to arrange a pickup, Sandpoint is an unmanned station. (Bonner Taxi, call/text 208-597-3463, web BONNERTAXI.COM, email BONNERTAXIINC@GMAIL.COM.

The following activities have been finalized for the week in North Idaho.

Monday July 21 there will be a welcome party at the venue hotel. More details will be provided on arrival.

Tuesday July 22 will be a day to get to know Sandpoint and the history of the region. The activities are several, a short cruise on Lake Pend Oreille to see the place from the water and to view the abundant wildlife, a visit to the Bonner County Museum and a Sandpoint walking tour. There are many options for lunch in town (plenty of good restaurants) and also for refreshments (beer halls, pubs and winery). In the evening there will be a presentation at the hospitality room followed by logging competitions.



There are three presentations planned during the week, more details will be available upon registration. For the logging competitions we will have pole climbing, axe throwing, log rolling, tree identification, sawing and choker events to decide which of the GOCl regions is the Bull of the Woods.



Thursday July 24 will take us north and up, driving to Schweitzer Mountain Resort. Once there we will have the option to hike up the mountain, take the lift or just stay at the main resort and enjoy lunch on your own. The people that hike or ride to the top can have lunch at the Sky House while being able to view three states and two provinces in two countries from the summit (Montana, Washington, Idaho, British Columbia and Alberta). The ones that decide to hike up will be able to ride the lift down for free (Schweitzer has a saying that if you hiked up you earned your ride down).



The GOCI Board of Directors meeting is planned for the afternoon and in the evening, day three of presentations and Bull of the Woods competition will be held at the hospitality room.

Friday July 25 will take us west towards Priest River. First stop will be at the Idaho Forest Group mill in Laclede where we will be given a tour of the plant. Lunch will be in Laclede at Klondyke's, regionally considered the best barbecue and prime rib. Lunch will be spare ribs. In the afternoon we will have a

stop at Riley Creek blueberry farm where you can pick your own blueberries or buy their products. From Laclede it is only 6 miles to Priest River where we can stop at Squatchee's for Huckleberry ice cream. In the evening, for whoever wants to participate, we will join the Asphalt Angels (local car club) in the annual Neon Nights cruise followed by a street dance. The option is to go back to the venue hotel and rest at the hospitality room.



Saturday July 26 is Timber Days in Priest River. It starts off with a combined Show and Shine car show with the Asphalt Angels. We can then watch the Timber Days parade that has some amazing logging equipment displayed followed by the Logging Competitions (where lunch and refreshments can be acquired). Since most GOCl members will have had the chance to participate in our own Regions' logging competition, volunteers can participate in the real thing if desired. Everybody's mind will be blown watching these interesting activities, especially the chainsaw competition using handheld V-8 engines to drive the saw.



Quote from the Priest River Chamber of Commerce:

🌲 ✨ Get ready to rock the "Timber Days"! 🔨 🎵 Unleash your inner lumberjack and join us for a wild adventure of chopping, sawing, and celebrating the spirit of the forest. Timber Days is not just an event; it's a symphony of axes and laughter in the heart of the wilderness. 🌿 🔥 Timber Days – where the forest comes alive with the sound of camaraderie and the thrill of competition. Don't miss the buzz, the chop, and the cheers!



The Timbertown Meet gala banquet will take place at the Heartwood Center in Sandpoint in the evening.



Sunday July 27 will close out the planned activities for the week with the traditional Farewell Breakfast at the venue hotel.

Here are some local and area attractions available for before or after the meet. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these.

Local attractions:

- Festival at Sandpoint (early August, booking recommended)
- Monster Lake Trout fishing
- Acoustic Research Detachment - US Navy
- International Selkirk Loop and byways
- Missoula Floods tour
- Silverwood Theme Park
- Tribal Casinos
- Western Pleasure Guest Ranch (dude ranch)
- Rowing and Paddling Sprints regatta (early August)
- Long Bridge Swim - 1.5 miles (early August)
- Priest Lake
- 100+ hikes
- Z-scale model railroad

Area attractions (distance from Sandpoint):

- Wallace Blues Festival (early July, 1.5 hours)
- Trail of the Hiawatha - bicycle adventure (1.5 hours)
- Glacier National Park (4 hours)
- Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks (8 hours)
- The Palouse (1.5 hours)
- Hells Canyon Jet Boats (Snake River - 4 hours)
- Whitewater rafting the river of no return (Salmon River - 6 hours)
- Craters of the Moon National Monument (8 hours)
- Sun Valley - first ski resort in US (8 hours)
- Spokane - Capital City of the Inland Northwest (1.5 hours)
- Canadian Border (1 hour)
- Boundary Dam (Tom Petty was the mayor of the town in "The Postman", 2 hours)



We hope you will join us for this meet in the Inland Northwest. We are sure you will be surprised at how much this last frontier has to offer.

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