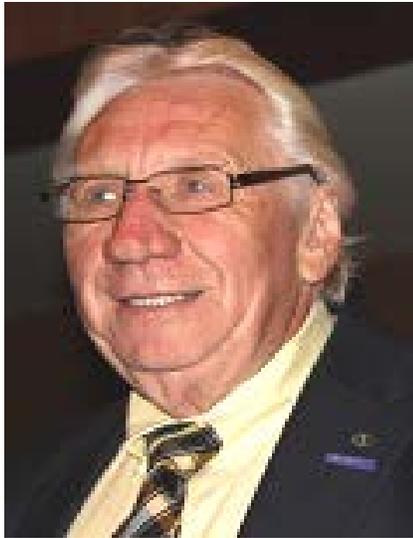




Summer 2015

An honorary society dedicated to the fun of snowmobiling



Ed Skomoroh, President

An old dog's bark-

It seems like it was many months ago that I attended the International Snowmobile Congress in Niagara Falls, NY.

I always look forward to attending congress and seeing old friends whom unfortunately I see only once or twice a year.

For those of you Dogs who were not able to attend I will first give you a brief summary of our Membership/Board Meeting. Attendance was just down slightly considering it was located in the North East.

We had a lengthy and productive board meeting with the membership and the board expressing their thoughts and

opinions. The board felt that before we had the elections the proposed new bylaws be approved. Bob King chaired the by-law presentation and he will give an overview of the new bylaws elsewhere in this issue. After approving the bylaws we had three director positions open and four members running. Two new Dogs were voted in, Dale Vagts and Harold Case. Both are long time members. Bonnie Holbrook allowed her name to stand after clarification of the bylaws and was voted in. Jack Welsh was the unsuccessful candidate. Judy King will have more information on the elections. John Mitchell past Secretary/Treasurer allowed his name to stand after approval of the bylaws running against Bob Linn for the Secretary/Treasurer position. John was successful in being voted in for another term.

As you will note in this issue the financial standing of the Brigade is good. We had no surprises and expenses were kept in check.

Kay Lloyd our Vice President felt our board meeting should not be all business as in the past and Kay

would politely interrupt with her tiny bell at several intervals announcing drawings for prizes. This went over well and the membership enjoyed the break in business.

As of this writing you will see we have confirmed a Midwest ride which will return to Caledonia for 2016 and will be chaired by Bob Linn again.

The North East has planned a ride for 2016 and you can read about in this issue also. I know Charlie Kurtz will be chairing this event.

As to West Yellowstone, at the time of our board meeting it was uncertain whether there will be ride this year since Bill Howell is stepping down. Something tells me the ride will go one but there will be a new leader. Over the years the Howells have done a tremendous job guiding flatlanders like me. I first got them to treat me to a tour in the early seventies when I worked for Cat. I will never forget while out on the trail pulling a Kitchen Cutter they stopped and surprised me with a birthday cake. Thank you Bill and Carol, you will be greatly missed.

Cont. on next page

As usual during each breakfast the Dogs were in their place at the reception entrance collecting breakfast tickets. Thanks to everyone.

People do take notice!

On Friday night we had our annual banquet and Induction of our pups. Tom Anderson had his trusty Sir Lancelot sword and managed not to remove any ears during the induction. The new Dogs were Frank Roy, Kim Rapp and Dale Hickox, Congratulations guys!

The room was beautifully decorated as usual but the finishing touch was each diner was given a beautiful 40th anniversary wine glass, thanks

to Bonnie Holbrook who was able to pull this off the last minute.

During the many announcements Kay Lloyd again interrupted very politically correctly and had several Dog's talked about their past winter ride adventures. I was most interested in hearing about the North East Blizzard and how many snowmobilers came to support the various fire and rescue departments who were having difficulty in reaching and saving people. Living in the Minneapolis area the TV showed us mountains of snow but nowhere did we see snowmobiles coming to

the rescue and I knew they played an important role in saving snowmobiles coming to the rescue and I knew they played an important role in saving lives during this extraordinary blizzard. Thank you snowmobilers!

Was congress fun, you bet! Yes we had business to attend to but we also enjoyed ourselves. I look forward to Rapid City next spring however let the lazy wonderful warm summer days in Minnesota just drag along. I am in no rush to get summer over with.

Have a wonderful summer and hug a friend, life can be good.

~ Ed ~



THE DOG STORE

For clothing and apparel go to: <http://irondogbrigade.qbstore.com>

Please remember that merchandise with the Iron Dog logo is for Iron Dogs ONLY...not family members and others!

New from the Vice President

2015 INTERNATIONAL TRAILS SYMPOSIUM REPORT

By Kay Lloyd, Iron Dog V.P. and WSSA Scholarship Chair

American Trails hosted the 22nd International Trails Symposium in Portland May 17-20, 2015, at the Oregon Convention Center. 760 attendees from 48 States and 17 Countries came together for an inspiring and educational conference. The theme for the 2015 Symposium was "Solutions for Success." Check it out at: <http://americantrails.org/ee/index.php/symposium/2015> to see the Agenda and the Activities.

Dora Wolfe and I represented WSSA, while Todd Call and about 12

Volunteers represented OSSA. It is the first time in the history of American Trails that the Trails Symposium was held in 'snow country' so we had an awesome booth!

Mount Hood Polaris loaned a new snowmobile, Cascade Dog Sled Club loaned a musher's sled and on Sunday when it was open to the Public, the Musher brought 2 of his dogs down for people to meet. The manikins and equipment were provided by REI. We surrounded it with white sheets to look like Winter. The booth that WSSA and OSSA shared was right

across from it, so it made it very interactive.

The Winter Recreation scene was very well received by the Attendees, so it made it all worth it. Dora and I drove to Portland on Friday to be ready to set the booth up on Saturday. Todd Call was very helpful and carried a lot of the heavy loads. He and his crew did an awesome job visiting with people, while Dora and I ran the Silent Auction.

It was a very rewarding experience, and I was proud to be an Iron Dog!



New Polaris: (l to r) Todd Call, Kay Lloyd, Dora Wolfe



The right 1/3 of the Exhibition Hall layout

Report of the Secretary / Treasurer



John Mitchell

| 2014-2015 Approved Budget | | | 2014-2015 Actual | 2015-2016 Proposed Budget |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Beginning Balance | | \$18,656.21 | | \$ 17,922.96 |
| Income | | | | |
| Interest | \$ 4.00 | | \$ 1.41 | \$ 1.50 |
| Pin & Patch Sales | \$ 90.00 | | \$ 468.15 | \$ 0.00 |
| Banquet Guest | \$ 440.00 | | \$ 539.00 | \$ 250.00 |
| Member Dues | \$6,210.00 | | \$ 6,430.00 | \$ 6,370.00 |
| Fund Raising | \$ 0.00 | | \$ 0.00 | \$ 160.00 |
| Clothing | \$ 200.00 | | \$ 60.00 | \$ 50.00 |
| ISC Planning Com Reimb | \$ 0.00 | | \$ 250.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| Total Income | \$6,944.00 | | \$ 7,748.56 | \$ 6,831.50 |
| Expense | | | | |
| Banquet | \$5,391.00 | | \$ 4,254.73 | \$ 2,852.00 |
| ISC Planning Com Exp | \$ 600.00 | | \$ 502.09 | \$ 600.00 |
| Office Supplies & Sec Trvl | \$ 945.00 | | \$ 948.55 | \$ 1,064.00 |
| Pin & Patch Exp (BDI) | \$ 0.00 | | \$ 183.08 | \$ 0.00 |
| George Eisenhuth Award | \$ 400.00 | | \$ 454.57 | \$ 190.00 |
| Midwest Ride | \$ 250.00 | | \$ 250.00 | \$ 250.00 |
| West Ride | \$ 250.00 | | \$ 0.00 | \$ 250.00 |
| Northeast Ride | \$ 250.00 | | \$ 0.00 | \$ 250.00 |
| Office Suplies | \$ 0.00 | | \$ 638.79 | \$ 700.00 |
| Memorials | \$1,000.00 | | \$ 200.00 | \$ 300.00 |
| Donatins to Other Organizations | \$ 500.00 | | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 |
| Promotion (Wine Glasses) | \$ 0.00 | | \$ 0.00 | \$ 389.00 |
| Memorial Book | \$ 0.00 | | \$ 0.00 | \$ 200.00 |
| Web Page | \$ 600.00 | | \$ 550.00 | \$ 600.00 |
| Total Expense | \$10,341.00 | | \$ 8,481.81 | \$ 8,145.00 |
| Net Income | -\$3,397.00 | | -\$ 733.25 | -\$ 1,313.50 |
| Ending Balance | | \$15,259.00 | \$ 17,922.96 | \$ 16,609.46 |

2015 ISC Meeting Wrap-Up

Summary of By-Law Changes at ISC

Bob King Bylaws Committee Chairperson

Members of Committee: Ross Antworth, Joann Smith, Marilyn Rudiger, Kay Lloyd, Ed Skomoroh as President. Judy King was note taker. (6-11-2015)

We had many suggested changes to the by-laws and hopefully this will be a quick synopsis.

-  First we tried to clarify an active member by passing if your dues are not paid by March 31 of each year you will be an inactive member.
-  It was proposed that the position of Permanent Director be eliminated but it did not pass.
-  The committee also proposed that officers can only serve 2 consecutive terms and then must have a two year interim before running for office again. This did not pass.
-  To be an officer (Pres., VP, Sec/Treas) in the Iron Dog Brigade you need to be a member in good standing for 5 years. This was changed from 10 years and it passed.
-  To be a director in the Iron Dog Brigade you have to be member in good standing for 3 years. This also passed.
-  In the event of an officer or director was no longer able to serve in their elected position, the President has the authority to fill the position with 2/3 vote of approval of the Board. The Nominating Committee will have the responsibility to fill vacancies when a Director is elected into an Officers position. This also passed.
-  The Secretary-Treasurer will be required to prepare a budget 30 days prior to the annual to be presented at ISC for approval. Passed
-  The President will attend the “Fall ISC Planning meeting” to represent the Brigade.
-  The last change was if the Brigade is dissolved, all monies would be dispersed to charitable snowmobile organizations.

2015 ISC Meeting Wrap-Up



Iron Dog Meeting held during Congress.

The following Dogs were at the meeting:

East

Charlie Kurtz
Jim Holbrook
Marie Hixson
Gail Hanson
Bonnie Holbrook
Ross Antworth
Harold Case

Midwest

Ed Skomoroh
Tom Anderson
Judy King
Joanne Smith
Duane Sutton
Dale Vagts
Nancy Hanson
Jerry Hanson
Marlys Knutson
Dick Melick
Bob King

West

Kay Lloyd
Wayne Mueller
Florence Mueller
Roger Pillman
Jack Welch
John Mitchell
Kay Lloyd
Roger Lampitt

2015-2016 Iron Dog Brigade Officers

President Ed Skomoroh
2nd year of 2-year term

Vice President. . . . Kay Lloyd
2nd year of a 2-year term

Secretary/Treasurer. John Mitchell
1st year of a 2-year term

Past President. . . . Tom Anderson

Directors:

Bob King
Begins 2nd year of a three year term

Bonnie Holbrook
Begins 1st year of a three year term

Harold Case
Begins 1st year of a three year term

Dale Vagts
Begins 1st year of a three year term

Roger Lampitt.
*Remains on board as permanent
Director/Advisor*



Do You Know Your New Directors?

Harold Case - New Hampshire

Harold has been married to his wife Judy for 38 years. He began snowmobiling in 1967 and has owned Motoski, Scorpion, Polaris and Skidoo sleds. He joined his first snowmobile club and the New Hampshire Snowmobile Association (NHSA) in 1975. Harold participated in the first Easter Seals ride in 1975 and has participated every year since.

He has held offices in the Hudson Sno-Men, NHSA Hillsboro County, NHSA as President and Vice President, Co-Chair and Chair of the Northeast Chapter of the International Snowmobile Council (ISC), President and Vice President of American Council of Snowmobile Associations (ACSA).

Harold was inducted into the Iron Dog Brigade with his brother Charlie in 1992, into the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame in 2004, named NHSA Snowmobiler of the year in 1994 and awarded the Easter Seals Warren A. Bwell Award in 1996.

Harold has chaired several committees for NHSA including the Scholarship Committee which he started, Safety, Advisory, Snow Traveler and Easter Seals Ride In.

Harold has shown his dedication to snowmobiling through his volunteerism and leadership.



Dale Vagts - Iowa



Dale and his wife Joyce began snowmobiling in 1968 in St Louis Park, Minnesota. When their busy lives took them to Cresco, Iowa in 1982 they became members of the very active club called the Driftrunners. Dale was elected club secretary and revived the “Snowfest” which has evolved into an event of 3000+.

In 1984 Dale became a director Region 5 of the Iowa State Snowmobile Association (ISSA). In 1987 he became Vice President of ISSA and in 1989 President. In 1984 he put together a liability insurance policy for our local club which was soon adopted by the ISSA as their master policy and the policy for all clubs in Iowa. By the end of the first year, Minnesota, South Dakota and Illinois had adopted it as their master policy. Since then 20 state associations with over 700 clubs are insured through his insurance agency, V & V Insurance Agency, Inc. This has been the standard for snowmobile clubs for 30+ years.

In 2007, Dale was inducted into the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame. Dale has served as part of the Audit Committee for the Iron Dog Brigade.

Dale has been an active volunteer and supporter of snowmobiling across the nation but especially in the Midwest. His skills are too numerous to list but well known by the snowmobile community.

ISC Happenings



Our two Iron Dog ladies and Thirsty Dog Queens, Joann Smith and Marlys Knudson announced that the total collected and donated to snowmobile charities and organizations is now \$50,865. Next year's ISC is back in South Dakota where the Thirsty Dog tradition started 25 years ago.



Congratulations Dennis!!

Dennis Burns, Executive Director of the Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organizations was presented the 2015 George A. Eisenhuth Award by the Iron Dog Brigade at the annual International Snowmobile Congress. This national award is given to a deserving individual for their distinguished service to snowmobiling.

L to R: Ed Skomoroh, IDB President; Dennis Burns, Executive Director of the Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organizations Kay Lloyd, IDB Vice President

Who Let the Dogs Out!!!



By Mary Anne Grabow, International Snowmobile Media Chair

The Iron Dog Brigade celebrated their 40th anniversary at the International Snowmobile Congress held in Niagara Falls, NY , June 10 – 13, 2015.

Many people don't know exactly what being an Iron Dog means. The Brigade was formed to be a "social and honorary type of organization that could make a solid contribution to furthering the sport and industry, and to be a speaker's bureau that would be available to promote the sport.

Over the years the organization has grown to 125 members who are inducted at their annual meeting during the International Snowmobile Congress each June. Membership is by nomination with the main requirement being that the nominee having served at least 15 years in the sport of snowmobiling either in industry, journalism, pioneer, government or volunteer service. Many of their members are also members of the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame.

A formal banquet was held to celebrate the anniversary. Approximately 30 Iron Dogs met along with their guests to induct new members and honor some of their Brigade as well. This year's inductees included Frank Roy, Kim Raap, and Dale Hickox.

At each Congress, you can clearly see the "Dogs" presence as they volunteer their service to help make the event run smoothly. They serve as greeters, ticket takers, auctioneers, and speakers among other things.

At the awards banquet, they announced the recipient of the 2015 George A. Eisenhuth Distinguished Service given to a deserving individual for their distinguished service to snowmobiling. This year's recipient was Dennis Burns of Canada.

Three new pups inducted into Iron Dog Brigade at Niagara Falls ISC



L to R: Frank Roy, Kim Rap, Dale Hickox, Dale Vagts at the podium

Dale Hickox ***Sponsored by James Holbrook***

Dale Hickox and his wife Shirley live in Vernon River, Prince Edward Island, where he is the owner/operator of a vegetable farm. They have two adult daughters, Jennifer and Stephanie. Dale started riding in 1969 when his father bought a 1969 Ski-Doo Nordic. His most memorable snowmobile event was organizing and hosting the 2014 Celebration Ride, the 150th Anniversary of the meeting that formed Canada which was a 3-day event with 120 riders, politicians and media riding across the Province. Dale has been an active snowmobiler for 30 years and has served his local club and the Prince Edward Snowmobile Association since 1999, serving as President since 2007. In 2014 Dale was elected President of the Canadian Council of Snowmobile Organizations for a two-year term. In PEI, Dale saw the need for youth involvement and had the by-laws changed to include 5 youth members on the board who have contributed a great deal to all board activities. Dale was awarded the CCSO Excellence Award for Outstanding Snowmobiler in 2012. Dale has worked tirelessly to bring together a group of dedicated volunteer board members whose combined efforts have developed highly-respected relationships with local government officials, local snowmobile dealers, the membership at large, and the Island community.

Kim Raap
Sponsored by Peggy Spieger

Kim Raap and his wife Dee Dee live in Sioux Falls, SD and have two children, Jessica and Kelsey. Kim is the owner of Trails Work Consulting, which helps user groups and agencies address motorized recreation issues and management. He started snowmobiling around 1969 when his family bought two used snowmobiles and got involved with the Groton Snowmobile Club. Kim has worked for the South Dakota State Parks, where he helped grow the trails in the Black Hills from 195 miles to 325 miles and developed the Mickelson Trails among many other accomplishments. Kim was the State Trails Program Manager for the Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources where he worked closely with the Wyoming State Trails Council and the Wyoming State Snowmobile Association in addition to his duties of managing the Trails Program and ORV Program. Kim served as the Governor's liaison to the National Park Service for Wyoming in their role as a cooperating agency in the Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks Winter Use Management EIS and SEIS. He has been awarded numerous professional honors from state agencies and user groups for his work in land management and trail development and dedication to the sport of snowmobiling. His professional testimony has been given at Congressional hearings, District Courts, and across the United States and Canada concerning trail use and development and policy. Kim has published many articles, brochures and booklets dealing with education and safe snowmobiling and ATV use making him a most outstanding person in motorized recreational education.

Frank G. Roy
Sponsored by Charles Kurtz & Harold Case

Frank G. Roy lives in Concord, NH with his wife Karen and has one daughter, Lynn Soares. Frank started snowmobiling at the age of 12, got involved in racing and then became involved with the Umbagog Snowmobile Association. Frank has held every position within the club but his main focus has been on the trails. He served as Trail Master from 1976 to 2005 and Trail Administrator from 1976 to present. The grooming program has gone from one Alpine Snowmobile to three Piston Bullys which maintain over 175 miles of trail each winter, which also requires fund raising in the area of \$40,000.00 to keep the program running each year. Frank has made the town of Errol a snowmobiling Mecca even though this is his second home. His range of knowledge and history with snowmobiling is relied upon for projects in his area and for snowmobile clubs statewide.

Do You Know the history of the Yellowstone Ride?

By Roger Lampitt

In the early 1990's when I was elected President and Bud Wieman Secretary Treasurer, two ideas seem to be the topic of much discussion during Iron Dog gatherings. The idea of Winter Rides, and Bud's idea of creating a Newsletter (Dog Tags) to improve communications between members of the Brigade. Bud would use the newly created communication tool to promote the Winter Rides.

The first of the rides would occur at West Yellowstone, Montana as a result of my talking to Bill Howell about having the first ride at West. Bill suggested we have the ride in conjunction with the World Snowmobile Expo being held at West Yellowstone in early March. Bill and Carole put together the details and Bud sent the information to the Brigade via the "Dog Tags". Roger and Helen Lampitt assisted Bill and Carole with whatever needed to be done. The ride drew over 50 participants, 22 Dogs, spouses, and guests. Everyone wanted to make the ride at West an annual affair. Bill and Carole agreed to be

the host. The decision to move the ride date to January was agreed upon due to better Winter weather conditions and the Park being open. The Park closes in early March in preparation for the Summer season. Sharing the West Yellowstone Ride experience at the following Congress increased the interest in providing a similar activity in the Midwest and the Northeast.

The weekend of activity started with a gathering of attendees on Thursday evening. Introductions, proposed ride areas, schedule of activities for the weekend, sign-ups for Friday's rides, and orders for Iron Dog caps and T-Shirts as well as generic Caps and T-Shirts for our guests. Early on we found there was interest from attendees for caps and T-Shirts with the Iron Dog logo for Iron Dog members and the same items without the Iron Dog logo instead stating "I Rode With The Iron Dog Brigade". Carole and Helen would have samples to show, colors available and pricing from a local shop. Orders were taken and the following

day they would follow-up with the local shop and deliver that evening. They would do the same on Friday evening for delivery Saturday night

Friday was a day of riding per the sign-ups Thursday evening. In the meantime Carole and Helen were busy with the cap and clothing orders and checking on the Friday night gathering (Buffalo Burger Buffet). Friday's evening function would include ride assignments for Saturday's rides, evidence of potential "Crutch" nominees and a Yellowstone Park update from either Jack Welch or Bill Howell.

Saturday was a day of riding per the sign-ups Friday night. Carole and Helen would be checking on the Banquet (especially those years with 100+ in attendance) and provided a tour about town for those who chose not to ride on Saturday.

The Saturday night banquet took on many formats over the years - Jason Howell presented two programs; one on an Alaska ride and another on a race he

and his partner ran in Eastern Canada, reenactment of John and Cathy Mitchell wedding, Iron Dog version of Twenty Questions featuring attending Iron Dog members (questions came from previous Dog Tag issues) and nominations for the “Crutch Award” plus selection of the annual winner.

Sunday found some needing to start their journey home while others stayed on to enjoy a few more days of Yellowstone snowmobiling.

The rides at Yellowstone have continued on an annual basis thru 2015. Bill and Carole have continued to act as hosts for the ride with Roger and Helen assisting. Bill provided Licensed Guide Service for the attendees at no cost to the Brigade. In the years when the Northeast delegation numbered at least 50, the total for the ride

approached 100 riders choosing their destinations during evening meals for the next day’s activity. Bill would assign the Guides and it was Roger’s responsibility to see that all riders were ready for the day’s activity in their assigned group as a result of their sign-ups the night before. Destinations included Yellowstone Park and numerous locations in the National Forest mostly in neighboring Idaho.

Early on Roger and Helen found an interesting trophy to present during the banquet for the ride. The trophy was an interesting “Crutch”. The first year the “Crutch” was awarded to Bud Wieman for traveling the most miles to attend the ride. After that the “Crutch Award took on a new meaning. Everyone observed the actions of the Brigade members nominees

were accepted at the banquet for shall we say unusual behavior on the trail. Ken Stewart was an early winner dropping his camera in the water at Big Springs.

Iron Dog brigade member Chuck Mitchell created a traveling case for the crutch. The crutch was last awarded to Tom Muir. Tom's claim to fame this past Winter was the fact he is the ONLY Iron Dog member to attend Every Ride from the very beginning.

Now that the ride will be continued in another location in the West Tom decided to donate the “Crutch” to the Hall of Fame as part of the Iron Dog display.

The Yellowstone Ride has had a great run. On behalf of the entire Iron Dog membership, **I want to pass on our sincere thanks to Bill and Carole Howell for a job Very Well Done!**



Roger Lampitt enjoying snow ghosts on Two Top



Dave Robertson 2014 winner presents crutch to Tom Muir 2015 winner

Dick and Audrey Decker were named parade marshals for the 2015 Eagle River Fourth of July parade.



The Decker's, who have lived in Eagle River since 1985 when they purchased the World Championship Snowmobile Derby Track, said they were honored to lead the annual parade.

"It's overwhelming," said Audrey. "I never dreamed that something like this could take place."

"Indeed it's an honor," added Dick. "We love this town. We love this community. There's a lot of good people out there we're honored and very happy to do it." The Decker's, who owned a snowmobile tour and rental business in Minocqua, purchased the Derby Track from the Eagle River Lions Club and have been involved in the biggest race in snowmobiling the past 30 years.

"We came here because of the track and when the opportunity developed to purchase the track, it was the perfect background for our snowmobile touring business that we started at that time. Eagle River has always been very deep in our roots because of the boys racing snowmobiles. We were here a lot."

Dick said it was a good decision when they moved their family and tour business to Eagle River. "We did live in Minocqua for a while after leaving Marshfield and worked out of there with the tours and snowmobile rental business," he said. "But then when the touring business was expanding and needed more room, we starting looking at Eagle River because who would not want to live in Eagle River. To me, it's God's place because of the lakes and the heritage it has. It just worked out. We happened to be here at the right time when the Lions wanted to back out and it just worked out well for all of us."

While Dick and Audrey are 83 and 82, respectively, they stay active in the business. They sold the now- AMSOIL World Championship Derby Track to their son, Chuck, in 1989. Dick said, "Chuck has done a hell of a job building it up and he's not finished. He's got a lot more ideas. It's going to be interesting."

"Audrey and I are getting old," said Dick with a laugh. "We should be moving on, but I think as long as we have kids -- Chuck, Steve and Allen -- in town, we'll be part of the Derby. At least I hope we are, because it's a passion, it's more than just a job."

Their passion for snowmobiling started in the 1960s when they purchased their first snowmobile for the family and they have never lost the excitement, still hosting tours in their early 80s. Through their involvement in snowmobile tours and racing, Audrey said they have developed many friendships over the years. These people come, summer and winter, just to visit us. Dick, who still can be seen at the Derby Track office nearly every day of the week, said the family's racing spirit has expanded, noting three of his granddaughters are now racing stock cars. "I go to work every day just because I enjoy and it keeps me alive I think," he said. "But what we do when we are not working is chase those girls around and watch them race, and that is two and three times a week. We were in Slinger just last week. Drove down in the afternoon and got back home at 2:30 in the morning. So we're staying active."

Audrey said 12 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren keep the couple busy in their free time. Meanwhile, Dick had some advice for people reaching retirement age.

"People retire too early and when they retire, they don't do anything," he said. "You've got to do something and you have to stay active. If you do that, chances are you will be living longer and a lot better."

"You know, I have been in the parade when the Derby has had floats. But this was a lot different," said Audrey. "I guess I'm a little embarrassed being in the position of Parade Marshal and leading. It's hard to explain. It almost seems like it's too big of an honor for us."

Dick said he missed driving the AMSOIL World Championship Derby Track float through the parade route.

"But, it was fun because we were able to ride a John Deere UTV (utility task vehicle) to lead the parade and we were very proud of that, we would like to thank Lakeland Lawn and Equipment in Arbor Vitae for the use of the UTV," Dick Said.

Dick has been an active supporter of developing all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and UTV routes in the Eagle River area.

"The North Woods needed a shot and the ATV thing is going to help immensely," said Dick. "We have a big ATV/UTV event coming up in August and we worked harder on that than the Derby because it's new to us. It's going to be a good one and it's going to help Eagle River area." Dick was referring to the first ATV/UTV World Championships coming to the Derby Track Aug. 28-30. Dick said, "We took great pride in leading this year's parade. We are just very grateful and want to thank everyone for this honor," he said.

*Editorial and picture credit:
Gary Ridderbusch / Editor
Vilas County News-Review*

Side by Side UTV/ATV Racing and Fun Time Activities coming to Eagle River, Wisconsin

Don't miss this exciting premier racing action at the AMSOIL World Championship Derby Track in Eagle River, Wisconsin. Mark your calendar NOW....for August 28-30, 2015. Three (3) big days of racing!

TELL YOUR FRIENDS ... This is going to be BIG !!!!

For more information on this event please contact Russell M. Davis, VP Sales and Marketing, AMSOIL World Championship Derby Track, Eagle River, Wisconsin. russmdavis@gmail.com or call the office at 715.479.4424.

2016 Northeast Iron Dog Ride

The 2016 Northeast Iron Dog Ride will be held at Gorham, New Hampshire on February 22nd, 23rd and 24th, arriving on Sunday February 21st and departing on Thursday the 25th. We will be staying at the Town & Country Inn and Resort, located in Shelburne/Gorham.

The Town & Country Inn and Resort are centrally located in the beautiful White Mountains of New Hampshire and is the perfect place for your next snowmobile adventure. Direct trail access leaves from the parking lot, connecting to over 7,400+ miles of large open groomed trails. Snowmobile rentals are also available at Northeast Snowmobile & ATV Rentals, located in Gorham approximately two miles from the Town & Country. Please contact Gail Hanson @ 603-273-0220 for reservations and rates.

Hotel amenities include lounge with pub, indoor heated pool, Jacuzzi/sauna, high speed wireless internet, in room coffee, refrigerators & microwaves. A nightly rate for 2 guests including breakfast is \$98.00 plus tax. Single rate (one person) is \$72.00 plus tax. When making reservations, call 603-466-3315 and make sure you tell them that you are with the Iron Dog Group. To check out the hotel go to: www.townandcountryinn.com

We are still working out the details to the agenda, once finalized we will send it out:

Tentative Agenda

+ Sunday, February 21st

Arrival at the Town & Country Inn and Resort. Dinner is on your own tonight!

+ Monday, February 22nd thru Wednesday, February 24th

7:00am – Meet for breakfast in the dining room

9:00am - Depart from the Town & Country Inn for a full day ride. Lunch at a restaurant on a trail. Return to the hotel approximately 4:30pm.

Dinner and entertainment is still in the process of being worked out.

+ Thursday, February 25th

Depart from the Town & Country Inn and Resort. Check out is 11:00am

For more information please contact Charlie Kurtz @ 603-482-9815
or Gail Hanson @ 603-273-0220.

2016 MidWest Iron Dog Ride

The Midwest ride which will return to Caledonia for 2016 and will be chaired by Bob Linn again. More details will be announced shortly – keeping checking on the Iron Dogs website and our Facebook page