



Spring 2014

*An honorary society dedicated to the fun of snowmobiling*



Tom Anderson, President

Greetings fellow Dogs,

WOW, what a winter this has been. Dang cold but, hey, it kept the snow. Trails across the country have been excellent. Here in Southern Wisconsin we have been riding since mid-December and only recently lost the snow. Up in northern Wisconsin snow continues to fall, 4-8 inches every couple of days, with snow depths

4-8 inches every couple of days, with snow depths still over two feet on the trails. We needed this kind of winter.

I enjoyed a few days with the Dogs on a great Mid-West ride in February as we did the "mini mountains" of SE Minnesota. See article and photos elsewhere in this edition. Thanks again to Ed and Jean Skomoroh and Bob and Marie Linn for organizing this great event.

Next year's Mid-West ride will be in NW Wisconsin around the Hayward area. Dale Vagts says it will be another great ride so hold a few days open in early February. Dale will have details at the Congress. He has a cabin there so he should know the area. Key

word here is SHOULD.....

Congress.....this June many of us will gather in Keystone, Colorado for the International Snowmobile Congress and our Iron Dog Brigade annual meeting. This year will feature a new method and procedure for our elections. Roger Pillman is chairing the Nomination Committee and has full information on the process elsewhere in this edition. Please seriously consider the candidates when you vote. Remember we are "An honorary society dedicated to the fun of snowmobiling." so let's keep the election process clean and fun.

If you have not already done so, get on board and register for the Congress. See details in this edition. It's our only big gathering

event of the year and in addition to inducting new members, we get to see and enjoy the company of fellow Dogs again. The scenery will be grand in the Rockies.

I have spent the last five weeks producing the Sneak Peek Tour showing the sleds for 2015 from coast to coast. Attendance at all the shows has been up from last year and enthusiasm high. Makes you feel happy to be a part of this great sport of ours. As an Iron Dog, each of you has also made a major contribution to the betterment of snowmobiling. Be proud of that.

See you in Keystone ..... and THINK SNOW

Tom

## Page 2

ISC 2014 – everything you need to know about attending Congress this year

## Page 4

Midwest Iron Dog Ride

## Page 6

2014 SAE Clean Challenge



Check out the Iron Dog website @ [www.irondogbrigade.com](http://www.irondogbrigade.com)

# ISC 2014

Keystone Resort & Conference Center  
Keystone, Colorado  
June 11-14, 2014

*For more information go to: [www.isoc2014.com](http://www.isoc2014.com)*

## **ISC LODGING OPTIONS AT THE RESORT** (Group rate code CK2CSA)

### **Keystone Lodge and Spa** (starts at \$119 for single occupancy) –

The AAA Four Diamond Award-winning Keystone Lodge & Spa is surrounded by the majestic Rocky Mountains and thousands of acres of national forest close to Denver.

The lodge offers 152 guest rooms, including 14 loft suites. Each room affords a spectacular view of Keystone Mountain and the Snake River. The hotel room with one king bed is a traditional hotel room with a king-size bed and a private bathroom. The hotel room with two queen beds is a traditional hotel room with two queen-size beds and a private bathroom. The hotel suite with one king bed and living room is a two-level hotel suite with one king bedroom upstairs in the loft with television. All suites also include a downstairs sitting area with television and sofa pull-out couch and one private bathroom downstairs. All rooms include complimentary in-room wireless Internet, complimentary fitness center access, plush robes, a CD alarm clock and many other extras. Other amenities include a business center, exercise facilities, massage therapy services, ski storage and golf course. Additionally, the Lodge features over 10,000 square feet of meeting space.

Other amenities include a business center, exercise facilities, massage therapy services, ski storage and golf course.

#### *Prices for Lodge and Spa as follows:*

Single rate \$119                      Double rate \$129                      Triple rate \$139                      Quad rate \$149

#### *Prices for Lodge and Spa loft as follows:*

Single rate \$169                      Double rate \$179                      Triple rate \$189                      Quad rate \$199

<http://www.keystoneressort.com/plan-a-vacation/lodging/lodging-details.aspx?code=keystone-lodge-hotel>

### **Lakeside Village Condos** (starts at \$129 for single occupancy)

Our single-bedroom units include the studio, which sleeps two people maximum; the one bedroom, which sleeps two comfortably, four maximum; and the one bedroom plus loft, which consists of one enclosed bedroom with one open-bedroom loft and sleeps four comfortably, six maximum. The two bedroom has two enclosed bedrooms, one or two full bathrooms, a living room with sofa pull-out, and sleeps four comfortably, six maximum. If you need a little extra space, the two bedroom plus loft has two enclosed bedrooms and one open-bedroom loft, one or two full bathrooms, and a living room with sofa pull-out. For groups, we offer our three- and four-bedroom units, which are perfect for family vacations or a mountain getaway with a large group of friends.

#### *Prices for Condos as follows:*

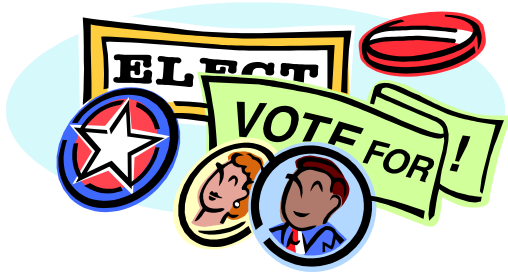
Studio: Single rate \$119                      Double rate \$129                      Triple rate \$139                      Quad rate \$149

One Bedroom: Single/Double rate \$129                      Triple rate \$139                      Quad rate \$149

Two Bedroom: Single/Double/Triple and Quad all \$189

<http://www.keystoneressort.com/plan-a-vacation/lodging/lodging-details.aspx?code=keystone-lakeside-village-condos>

**Check out the Iron Dog website @ [www.irondogbrigade.com](http://www.irondogbrigade.com)**



## It's Election Time!

The Nominating Committee of the Iron Dog Brigade calls for nominations for the positions of President, Vice President and Director. If you are interested in any of these positions, please submit your intention to Roger Pillman, Chairman, Nominating Committee @ 403-341-3524 or [lnrpillman@live.ca](mailto:lnrpillman@live.ca) or 35A Avenue Red Deer, Alberta, Canada T4N 2S5 by **April 30<sup>th</sup>**.

The annual election will be held at the general meeting of the Brigade at the 2014 International Snowmobile Congress.

### ARTICLE IX – OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Section 3:** The Officers of the Board shall each be elected per Article VII, Section 1, for a two (2) year term. The President and Vice-President shall be elected on even years and the Secretary-Treasurer on odd years.

**Section 4:** Nominees for President, Vice-President or Secretary-Treasurer must have served at least two years as a Director of the Brigade or member of Iron Dog Brigade in good standing for ten consecutive years.

**Section 5:** Directors shall each be elected per Article VII, Section 1, each year on a rotating basis to serve a three (3) year term.

**Section 6:** Directors may only serve two consecutive terms of three (3) years. There must be two (2) years interim before a Brigade member can be elected to the same position.

**Section 9:** Any member in good standing may run for an open board seat but must be approved as a nominee by the nominating committee.

**Section 10:** Active members of the Brigade shall submit in writing to the Nominating Committee their willingness and what they can offer as a Director of the Brigade by April 30 each year. On April 30 all nominations cease.

**Section 11:** Elections will be by secret ballot at the annual general meeting. Any active member in good standing attending the annual general meeting may vote.

F.Y.I.

The altitude of the Congress will be approx. 9,000 ft elevation and the need to drink water and to allow for altitude adjustment is very important. There will be walking of a couple of blocks between the Hotel and the Conference center - each way. Transportation can be provided from Hotel to Conference Center.

Check out the following website that should help prepare you to have a great time:

<http://www.wikihow.com/Prevent-Altitude-Sickness>

# Midwest Iron Dog Ride

## Caledonia, Minnesota

by Jean Skomoroh



*Dogs and Sno-Gophers  
at their clubhouse*

The afternoon of February 1<sup>st</sup>. the doors of the Crest Motel began opening and closing as we arrived in Caledonia, located in the far Southeastern corner of Minnesota, for our 2014 Midwest Iron Dog ride. We quickly unloaded our sleds off the trailers to be ready for riding the next day and headed for the party room to be ready for the Super Bowl. But, the delight of being together and the anticipation of the morning's ride diminished the interest in the game. Maybe it wasn't such a hot game anyway.

Though we didn't depart till 9:30 each morning it was still COLD. Every sled was ready to ride except one, and we who were there know who's that was! Good thing for him because of Ed's recent knee surgery his

Doc wouldn't let him ride this year. So, there was a spare sled. No one had to miss out on a magnificent ride.

Those of us who had never ridden in the area before had no idea there was such beautiful terrain in Minnesota. The trails were groomed to perfection though they were very steep in many places. They were just as challenging as some of the mountain trails I have been on out west. Tom Anderson had an altimeter on his sled so we know we went up and down from 200 feet all the way up to 900 feet in a very short distance many times. Even made my ears pop.

We were a group of around twenty five Iron Dogs and guests on the trails so this was a big group to keep together. Our guide Dennis Conniff did a fine job of keeping us together.

We crossed dozens of bridges over flowing water and had a photo op stop at a spring flowing out of a hillside into a pond that had watercress blooming. Can you believe it; watercress blooming in Minnesota in February? If it hadn't been 5 degrees I would have picked some.

Several local club members joined us on the trails and were a wealth of information about local lore. We were treated to a club sponsored delicious dinner in their groomer shed/club house and got to meet even more of their dedicated members.

There was quite some discussion about who should get the Toilet Seat Award. Remember, if a Dog brought a guest and the guest screwed up, the Dog got the award. There were three candidates, one Dog finding his sled with a dead battery on the first morning,

another guest who was accused of missing a bridge and a third guest who had a dead battery, worn out carbide that caused his ski to wear through missing a half day ride while it was being repaired, then messed up his reverse getting it off his trailer after it was fixed. It was a guest of Bruno Andreini so he got the Toilet Seat Award in a hands down vote.

Many Thanks to Bob and Marie Linn who put this whole ride together with all the attention to detail of a wedding planner. Great experience and I would love to do it again.

We only encountered an average of five sleds each day on the trails so this riding area has been a well-kept secret and I know why. At the end of the wind up dinner we were asked to keep the secret too, so shhhhhhhhhhh!



*Group stops for a break and photo op at a scenic*



*Our band of Dogs and guests.*



*Bruno Andreini was presented the Toilet Seat Award by Ed Skomoroh for the actions of his guest, Jim Muller.*



*Dinner and social at the Caledonia Sno-Gophers Clubhouse.*



Do you have any news that you would like to share?

Send your article to (Gail Hanson) [pyroboss@metrocast.net](mailto:pyroboss@metrocast.net)

# 2014 SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge - 15 Years of Innovation

By Kay Lloyd, ACSA's First President



The SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge is an annual snowmobile event where teams build and modify existing snowmobiles and compete in multiple events based on improvements in design, emissions, noise, fuel economy, cold start ability, acceleration, handling, and overall performance.

As a Judge at the SAE Clean Snowmobile Challenge at Michigan Tech, the day begins at 5:30 am, picked up at 7:00am, with a Judges Meeting at 7:30am, and then the fun begins. It was below zero for the first 4 days. The Challenge started Monday with the Teams checking in and performing final check on their snowmobiles to make sure they meet all competition rules.

Sixteen Universities sent both electrical and mechanical engineering students from across the US and Canada (Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison, Univ. of Wisconsin- Platteville, Univ. of Idaho, Ecole de Technologie Superieure, Michigan Tech, SUNY-Buffalo, Univ. of Waterloo, Northern Illinois Univ., North Dakota State Univ., Univ. of Minnesota-Duluth, Kettering Univ., McGill Univ., South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, and Univ. of Alaska Fairbanks-Bristol Bay).

There were 181 students, 85 on-site Judges/Volunteers, and an additional 106 Judges that score the students presentation papers online. The fuel used was 16 % bio-isobutanol mixed with high octane gasoline. This is known as iso-butanol 16, similar to E10 (10% ethanol in gasoline). There were 4 Electric sleds along with 2 Diesels, and the rest were Internal Combustion 2-stroke and 4-stroke sleds. Of the 11 that started on Tuesday morning, 9 of them made the 100 mile run to Copper Harbor, which broke a previous record of six.

Wednesday and Thursday were spent listening to Student Presentations of their Designs and MSRP. Wednesday evening was a "Snowmobile Public Display" at the Copper County Mall in



Houghton. It is a time to network with Industry, Supporters and Students. Friday allows for some free time and completion of testing.



Saturday is kicked off by a "Cold Start" of the snowmobiles that are in the Competition. And, it was barely above Zero! Then the teams moved to the Polaris Acceleration Event and the Polaris Objective Handling Event. The day ends with the Awards Banquet where the winners receive a variety of 31 Plaques, Trophies and Money.

Check out these Websites:

[www.mtukrc.org/csc2014pix/index.html](http://www.mtukrc.org/csc2014pix/index.html)

[www.mtukrc.org/snowmobile.htm](http://www.mtukrc.org/snowmobile.htm)

[www.facebook.com/SAECleanSnowmobileChallenge](https://www.facebook.com/SAECleanSnowmobileChallenge)