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The Onaway Snowmobile Club donated their 50/50 money from their Swap Meet held on Sept 4, 2010 to the Museum on 9.11.10. Pictured below are Charlie Vallier accepting the donation, Virgil Morell, and Dominic Chojnacki. Not pictured, from the Onaway Club, is Steve Tennant.



4th Annual Top of the Lake Swap Meet



Picture courtesy of Steven King

Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010, was the 4th Annual Top of the Lake Swap Meet. We want to thank all the hardy, dedicated swappers who came to our 4th Annual Swap Meet! In spite of the miserable rain that just couldn't wait until 4:00 to start, the deals were being made. Fortunately, they had the Museum to come in and get warm, check out the changes, and have some coffee and chat with friends. We want to acknowledge the many new people to our event, especially those from Indiana, Wisconsin, Canada and Minnesota. We are grateful to the people who do-

nated sleds and parts for us to sell. All proceeds go to our new building fund. We are also grateful to the Onaway, MI Club who donated their 50/50 money from their Swap Meet that was held on Sept. 4. (See related article and picture.) We will keep you posted on the progress of the new museum!

Our big raffle drawing was at 3:00. The winners were:

- 1st prize – '66 Johnson Skee Horse – Craig Fredenburg, Wayland, MI (donated it back to be auctioned at the Show)
- 2nd prize – Kewadin Casino One-night package – Brent Herrmann, Vermont
- 3rd prize – \$100 Gas Card – Lori Underwood, Belding, MI
- 4th prize – Log Birdfeeder – Rob Thompson, Fruitport, MI
- 5th prize – Museum Rocker – Ellis Sutfin, Naubinway, MI (donated it back to the Museum)
- 6th prize - \$50 cash – Laurie Wyse, Naubinway, MI

Thank you to everyone who donated their time, energy, and monetary donations!

The **next raffle drawing** will be Feb 19, 2011, during the Show Banquet. Tickets: \$5 for one, \$10 for 3. Contact the Museum or check some of the Shows this winter for tickets.

- 1st prize – 1974 Johnson JX 400, donated by Mike Suchey
- 2nd – Shipwreck Museum Overnight pkg,
- 3rd – Soo Locks Boat Tour
- 4th - \$100 gas card – Donated by Shute Oil
- 5th – Museum Snowmobile Rocker
- 6th - \$50 cash, donated by a Museum member

Visitors From Finland



Pictured above are Jouko Viitakangas, Eero Laurell, and Matti Salonen.

One of the most fascinating aspects of this museum is meeting the people, especially when they are from another country. On May 13, 2010, I had the honor of meeting three men from Lahti, Finland. Only one of them, Matti, spoke English, so he translated for the other two men. I could tell that they were enjoying themselves and were amazed at the different snowmobiles we have here. Matti did say that they have snowmobiles in Finland, and a lot of snow, but these men didn't have any themselves. He also said there was a factory in northern Finland that used to make the Arctic Cat Lynx, but sold it to Bombardier.

The three men had traveled to Toronto, to Sault, Canada, then to Chatham, MI in the U.P. to visit relatives. They saw our sign out on U.S. 2 for the museum and made a stop. Their next destination was Delaware and Washington and then back to Finland.



Mark Your Calendar for the 19th Top of the Lake Snowmobile Show & Ride

February 18 and 19, 2011, is our 19th annual weekend of fun with the old sleds in Naubinway, MI, located 45 min. west of the Mackinac Bridge on U.S. 2 in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Friday-9am: 12-mile breakfast ride to Engadine for a great breakfast put on by the American Legion Post #290. Helmets are required.

Friday afternoon - Bonfire ride and Hus-Ski Hustle. Ride three miles for a bonfire (bring a hot dog and marshmallows), an eventful show of Hus-Ski power riding, and lots of "sled talk" plus a short guided ride through the woods on private trails.

Saturday-10-3pm: Sled display in downtown Naubinway. Free registration at the Snowmobile Museum, two blocks South of US 2.

Saturday - 4:30pm: Banquet in Engadine with a presentation on the featured sled (Single Ski sleds), raffle drawings and an auction with the proceeds going to the Top of the Lake Museum Building Fund. We would appreciate any donations for the auction. All donations are tax deductible.



For more info, call Charlie at 906-477-6192, the Museum at 906-477-6298, or email info@snowmobilemuseum.com.

Left:: The SnoByke will be the sled for this year's Single Ski design.

"February 18 & 19th, 2011, is our 19th annual Top of the Lake Snowmobile Show & Ride." Don't miss it!

Website Info

The Museum's website address is www.snowmobilemuseum.com. We feature various snowmobiles that are in the Museum, sell gift shop items, and you can become a member online. If you have any suggestions that you would like us to include on the website, please let us know!

Also, check out the Great Stories page on the website which features visitors to the museum.

You can advertise on the website with a banner ad for \$100 a year. All proceeds from our sales go back to the Museum. Please contact Marilyn if you are interested in any information about the Museum or the website.



Featured Sled: 1969 Galaxy



Frederick-Willys of Farmington, Minnesota, a wholly owned subsidiary of Stanley Home Products which produced table tennis and pool tables, started producing the Sno Dart snowmobile in 1967 and in late 1968 introduced the Galaxy snowmobile for 1969 only. Four models of the all "Pink" Galaxy's were offered in horse powers ranging from 8 to 23 horsepower. Kohler and JLO motors were utilized.

In late 1969 the company was sold to Kaiser Industries of Sioux Falls, South Dakota who went on to manufacturer the Sierra Timberline snowmobile but that's another story.

This sign is for the new property and was made by Dave Goldthorpe of St. Ignace, MI.



Thanks to Dan Derry for giving us permission to use this painting, painted by artist, Steve Witucki.

Notice Gordy Breeding on the Arctic Cat?

If you would like to "Sponsor" this or any other part of the project, please contact Marilyn

Land Purchased for New Museum



Above: Thank you to John Ketcher, Allen Frazier, Steve King & Charlie Vallier for installing the new sign.

On July 27, 2010, the land was purchased on US 2 in Naubinway for the future site of the new museum.

Our first big project was getting the land cleared. Thanks to Aaron Schroeder of Engadine, MI, for letting us use his backhoe. With Aaron, Charlie Vallier and Jason Vallier's help, the trees have been cut down. Stan Zellar Logging

has done the chipping of the trees, and Bruce Hamill Trucking has hauled the stumps. We have someone who will be leveling the site and the new sign is up.

We will post updates on the project on our website, on the Home page under Building Fund. In the near future we will have a New Building page. If you are interested in helping or contributing in any way, please contact Marilyn at the Museum.



Left: Cutting the trees on the new Museum property

Right: Hauling the stumps



Left: Chipping the trees

With all of the donations we have received of memorabilia, money, and snowmobiles, we realize this has become a project of love and memories made by so many people. It is definitely not "our" museum, but "your" museum. As you

can guess, it will take a lot of hard work and help to build and establish a bigger and better museum. We want to make you a big part of this project. We are having donation boards made to list the donors and contributors.



Thanks to Dan Derry, "Safe Passage" the 2nd in a series painting with the Eliason, by Steve Witucki, and featured at the 2010 Rogers City Snowmobile Show is available at the Museum for sale. Call for details.

One-Time Registration for Historic Snowmobiles

On June 29, 2010, a large contingent of interested antique and vintage snowmobilers attended the Michigan House of Representatives Tourism, Outdoor Recreation and Natural Resources Committee meeting on House Bill No. 6261. In attendance were snowmobile representatives from all areas of the state as well as interested out of state parties. Locally, museum members Charlie Vallier and John Ketcher attended.

Of interest to the snowmobilers was section 82105C of bill No. 6261 which pertains to provisions for one-time registrations and trail permits for Historic snowmobiles which are those defined as being 25 years or older when registered. The fee would be \$50 with \$3 going to the Sec. of State for administration. \$5 will be appropriated for the county sheriff departments and local law enforcement agencies. \$42 will be for Snowmobile Trail Improvements.

Bill Manson, MSA Executive Director, John McGuirk, Antique Snowmobile Club of America President, and Doug Lubahn, Vintage Snowmobile Representative, all testified before the House Committee in support of the proposed committee. All four members of the committee that have been working with the Michigan Snowmobile Association to promote such a bill were on hand for the hearing. Members are Bernie Reid, Lapeer, Roger Jordan, Coloma, John McGuirk, ASCOA President, and Doug Lubahn, Lapeer.

An amendment to the bill as written was proposed which added the wording "occasional use" to the wording describing the approved uses of a so registered Historic snowmobile. After some discussion, the committee voted to accept the amendment by a vote of 9 to 1.

The committee then voted to send the amended bill to the full Michigan House for consideration by a vote of 9 yes, 0 no and 1 abstaining.

The Bill went to the Senate on September 8, 2010. You can contact any of these members for an update on the results. All interested parties should contact their local representative asking them to support the proposed bill 6261.

Written by John McGuirk

WANTED: New Members!

If you would like to become a supporting member, or already are a member and need to renew your membership, call the Museum and Marilyn will set you up. The cost is \$50 per year.

Looking For:

A Well Driller and Building Materials!!

Welcome New Members

We would like to welcome new Museum members:

John Zeglin, Midwest Vintage Snowmobile Shows, Delano, MN
William Lee, Ft. Wayne, IN
Ray Krakowski, Dryden, MI
Tom Farnquist, Shipwreck Museum
Rich Brawley, Soo Lock Boat Tours
Ellis Sutfin, Naubinway, MI
Dan Plue, Naubinway, MI
Matt Collins, Warren, MI

Special Thanks to New Sponsors:

Frank Sadlon with E Graphics and Vintage Sledders. We look forward to working with you!

Are You Interested?

Idea #1: The Naubinway/Museum "gang" is hoping for snow so they can ride to Cranberry Lodge on the Hiawatha Club this winter. It was done a couple of years ago, and was a fun adventure for the whole family. The lodge has no power, a woodstove for heat and cooking (a great pot of chili), a huge hill for sledding, and lots of backwoods trails to explore. If this idea sparks your interest, contact Charlie and let him know.

Idea #2: How about a trip to Mackinac Island across the ice?? Of course, the ice will determine the outcome of this idea. We would meet at the St. Ignace Quality Inn and travel across to Mackinac Island, have a meal at the Village Inn, and we are open to ideas for the rest of the day. We would do this as a fundraiser for the Museum, and it's a thought in the beginning stages. Let us know what you think!!

Rare Visitor is Rescued

On a warm September day, with the door wide open, a local hummingbird felt inclined to come in and see what it was missing out on. Unfortunately, it decided this was not where he really wanted to be and had a difficult time finding that same door it came through. It became so frightened and exhausted, the poor thing got its bill stuck in the ceiling tiles grids. Luckily, visitor, Jean Eckler from Baja, Mexico came to the rescue. Jean was able to collect it from a window when it finally collapsed, took it outside, and stroked it back to life. The hummingbird recovered, flashed its tiny tongue a few times and took off – hopefully to find a friendlier destination for a hummingbird. Well done, Jean!

To read more stories, visit our the Great Museum Stories page on our website.



Visitor, Jean Eckler, rescues a hummingbird in the Museum




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