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www.snowmobilemuseum.com



Top of the Lake
Snowmobile Museum

Naubinway, MI

5th Annual Top of the Lake Swap Meet

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Calling All Polars! | 2 |
| Mark Your Calendar | 2 |
| Christmas is Coming | 2 |
| New Sleds in the Museum | 2 |
| VSNA National Show | 3 |
| Building Fund Donations | 3 |
| New Members | 3 |
| Visitors from Switzerland | 4 |
| Consignment Auction | 4 |
| Advertisers | 5-7 |

The numbers were down for the Swap Meet this year, but the people, the weather, the buying and selling of valuable parts, and the general atmosphere were way up! The day began at 8 am under a bright blue Upper Peninsula sky and ended at 3 pm with sunburned vendors anxiously waiting to find out who the raffle winners were. One of our swappers won the 50/50 raffle while visiting the craft and food vendors at the 12th Annual Fall Fest across road (sorry, I didn't get his name.) We want to thank all of the volunteers who so willingly help make this event a success. We also want to thank the swappers who bring their trailers across the Mackinac Bridge, and Walter who came from Florida for this weekend, and Tony from Northern Minnesota! A special thanks to John Zeglin, Goose Thomsen, Terry Underwood, and Doug Lubahn for donating the prizes for the gate ticket drawings during the day. Next Swap Meet—Sept. 8, 2012.

Left: Our latest research project is this Wing Aero Sleigh that was made in St.



Ignace, MI by the Wing family in the 1930's and 1940's. They were used to travel across the ice to Mackinac Island, and to hunt coyotes during the war. This painting, done by Blaine Wing in 1950, was donated by John & Bethany Kelley of Lennon, MI who purchased a cabin owned by the Wing family. This and another painting were on the walls of the cabin. We have been in contact with Blaine Wing's son. We'll keep you posted....



Steve Hall, Traverse City, Michigan, sets up his display

Fall 2011 Raffle Winners:

- 1st – Storage Shed or \$500 – Mike McGuirk, Troy, Ohio
- 2nd – '72 Puma – James Badder, Brimley, MI
- 3rd – Grand Traverse Resort 2 night stay – Jeff Corn, Leesburg, IN
- 4th – \$100 gas – Brad Maycroft, Coopersville, MI
- 5th – Quilt – Sheri Edwards, Engadine, MI
- 6th – Snowmobile Rocker – Linda Suchey, Vanderbilt, MI
- 7th - \$50 cash – John Bergman, Newberry



Above: Owen Labadie picks the raffle winners

Thank you to all who bought tickets. We were able to deposit \$2000 into our building fund from the ticket sale. Our next raffle drawing will be during our Show, Feb. 18, 2012. Tickets are available now. Call the Museum for tickets or find Charlie at shows.



Calling all Polars!

Fall 2011

Page 2

By: Ted Postula



2012 will be the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Polar Snowmobile. Also, this is the 20th anniversary of the Naubinway Top of the Lake Show and Ride. The featured sled at the Feb. 18th & 19th Show will be the Polar.

To commemorate these landmark anniversaries, we are trying to get as many Polars to show as possible. Charlie and Marilyn Vallier usually run the show and do an excellent job, but since I just happen to own 4 Polars, and have been working on a registry of current owners, they asked me to invite all Polar owners. We thought this would be a perfect time to showcase as many as we can find. It sure would be awesome to get as many consecutive numbers as possible. With the research I have

been doing, I know where the #1 is and the highest number I have found is #29. I have serial numbers 4, 5, 8 & 9. Recently I have been in contact with collectors on the east coast, and have found 4 in that area. I know of six in MN, six in MI, and one in OH.

This is just a start, and if anyone has anymore information, please call me. Plan now to join us in Naubinway in February 17 & 18, 2012 for the world's largest gathering of Polars since they left the factory. **Contact** Ted & Sherry Postula, 31118 S. Tower Rd, Goetzville, Mi 49736 (906) 297-8481 email: spostula@centurylink.net

Mark Your Calendar!

- 20th Show & Ride, Feb. 18 & 19, 2012
- Join our revised ride route on Friday, Feb. 17th – guided rides through the woods and chili in the cabin.
- Feb. 18 Snowmobile Show and Raffle Drawing. Prizes include: 1974 Arctic Cat, Mackinac Bridge Tower Tour, 4 rounds of golf at Mackinac Island, \$100 gas card, deluxe grill, \$50 cash. Tickets will be available at the museum with all proceeds going to the Building Fund.
- Spring Auction on the Museum building site, US 2, Naubinway, MI
- 7th Annual Vintage National Championship Show, July 13, 14, 2012 at St. Ignace, MI - Kewadin Shores Event Center.
- Sept. 8, 2012 - 6th Annual Swap Meet



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

Christmas is Coming!

Don't forget to check out our website for great gift items for the snowmobile enthusiast. We have rockers, books, Old Iron I, II, & III DVD's, museum shirts & hats, calendar, hand-painted Rupp and



copper snowmobile ornaments, vintage keychains and light switch covers. Call for more information.

A new Vintage Panther, with a leopard seat, has been added to the Rocker collection

Website Info

The Museum's website address is www.snowmobilemuseum.com. We feature various snowmobiles in the Museum, sell gift shop items, and you can become a member online. 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.

New Sleds In the Museum:

- 1961 Snowbug
- 1963 Bonham 660
- 1967 Rupp Sno Sport
- 1971 Alaska Ski
- 1974 Arctic Cat VIP

Stop by and check these out!



VSCA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW

The Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum in Naubinway, MI will host the 7th Annual VSCA (Vintage Snowmobile Club of America) National Championship Show representing the Midwest region, July 13 & 14, 2012 in St. Ignace, MI at the Kewadin Casino Event Center. All types of snowmobiles will be on display and will be judged to determine the National Champion. The snowmobiles will arrive Thursday evening and Friday morning and the display will be open to the public Friday from 3-9pm, and Saturday from 9am – 5pm, with the banquet, awards, guest speakers, and silent auction to be held on Saturday beginning at 6:00 pm. There will also be a Swap Meet on Saturday. Camping will be available with 21 RV sites.

We are currently looking for Sponsors to be a part of this National Show. The sponsor form, registration form and other information will be available on the Museum website; National Show Page. Pre-Registrations, with payment, will need to be turned in by June 30, 2012. For more information, call the Museum at 906-477-6298 or email at info@snowmobilemuseum.com

Snowmobile Clubs Donate to Building Fund



Above: The ASBA Raffle Sled, Drawing March 3, 2012

The Traverse City ASBA Snowmobile Club is raffling a 1970 Arctic Cat, 760 JLO, with Montana pipes. All of the proceeds will go to our Building Fund! The drawing will be during their show on March 3, 2012, at Peegeo's in Traverse City. Tickets are available at our Museum and they will be taking the Arctic Cat to various shows to sell

tickets. A signed Brad Hulings poster and a Museum Vintage Arctic Cat rocker are also part of the raffle drawing.

Matching Fundraising Report

As of Oct. 25, we have received \$13,000 from the generous people who have sent in their donation with the fundraiser form from the website,



newsletter, and Museum. We have made donor boards for the new building fundraiser in 4 categories: Individual, Equipment & Labor, Snowmobile Clubs, and Business donors (thank you Ellis!).

Each donation goes into a special account for the new building. Please call the Museum if you can help us out in any way.

Right: The Onaway Snowmobile Club donated \$125 from their Sept. 3rd 50/50 drawing. Thanks to Virgil, Steve and Dominic!



A list of donors can be found on the museum website on the New Building page. You will find a donation form on page 4 of this issue. Help us preserve the history of this great sport!



1976 Yamaha SRX 340 - check it out in the Museum!

Welcome New Members:

- Brian Buchl, Marquette, MI
- Jeff Malaska, Sault Ste. Marie, MI
- Kris Larsen, Kewaunee, WI
- David Sakry, Princeton, MN
- Denny Jones, Angola, IN
- Larry Bicigo, Crystal Falls, MI
- Gary Koska, Cold Spring, MN
- Kevin Styburski Mackinac Isl, MI

WANTED: New Members!

If you would like to become a supporting member, or already are a member and need to re-new your membership, call the Museum and Marilyn will set you up. The cost is \$50 per year, and is renewed in July. This supports the day-to-day operation of the Museum.

Museum Visitors from Switzerland



On July 16, 2011, two young men came into the museum and I knew immediately that the accent was not a local one. As I found out, they were visiting the United States from Switzerland. Luckily they did speak English. Their names are Silvan Friker and Tilman Holke.

Silvan was once a foreign exchange student, living with a family in Richland Center, Wisconsin and they were back here visiting the family. They stopped at the Museum on their way to visit the sights of the United States for two weeks, beginning with Mackinac Island and eventually on to Holland, Detroit, Toronto and the Niagara Falls.

I learned that in Switzerland about the only people who have snowmobiles live in the mountains or they are used on the resorts. I'm hoping they will send me some information about snowmobiling in Switzerland.

February 18, 2012 Raffle Prizes:

Sponsored by First National Bank of St. Ignace

- 1st 1975 Arctic Cat 340 Panther Snowmobile (John Ketcher & Sean Feneley)
- 2nd Mackinac Bridge Tower Tour
- 3rd Deluxe Gas Grill (Norm & Kay Cader)
- 4th Mackinac Island 2 Rounds of Golf (Grand Hotel)
- 5th Shipwreck Museum Overnight Stay for 2
- 6th Mackinac Island 2 Rounds of Golf (Grand Hotel)
- 7th \$100 Gas Card (Shute Oil Co)
- 8th \$50 cash (Museum Member)

Tickets are available at the Museum.

\$5 for 1, \$10 for 3

Consignment Auction Huge Success!

Our 1st Annual consignment Auction was held on Oct. 1, 2011, with great success. Auctioneer Ted Postula from Goetzville, MI, sponsored the event, with a portion of the proceeds going to the Museum. We were able to raise



\$1500 for the Building Fund! We are making plans to have another auction in the Spring, which will include all recreational vehicles, campers, fishing equipment, lawnmowers, etc. Our website and Facebook will keep you posted when a date has been set.

Fundraiser Form - 501c3 Not for Profit Corporation

The Museum Board is seeking matching funding for a new building on US 2 in Naubinway. The Museum will contribute \$100,000 and is offering a challenge with 3 ways to contribute. As a business or person, donating \$100, \$500, or \$1000, your name will appear on our donor wall. You will also receive a tax-deductible receipt, and \$1000 donors will receive either lifetime gold membership or a free banner ad on the museum website for 5 years (your choice).

Return form to: Top of the Lake Museum

P.O Box 2

Naubinway, MI 49762

Membership includes free admission to the Museum and related events for you and a guest, a Museum decal, a member card and 2 newsletters yearly. The fundraising contribution will be used as matching funding for a new building in Naubinway, and to continue the growth of the Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum.

☐ Other ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Above

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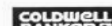


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