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 E-mail: [info@snowmobilemuseum.com](mailto:info@snowmobilemuseum.com)  
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 Facebook: Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum

## 2015 Swap Meet & Auction

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Museum all day. The weather cooperated after the first hour of rain, and the Museum was a great place to mingle and talk the "snowmobile talk".

The 9th Annual Top of the Lake Swap Meet & Auction was a complete success! Enough money was raised to pay the heat bill in the new building for this winter! And maybe even a couple light bills! This was the best turnout we have ever had and we are grateful to everyone for participating and those who helped out.



Lots of available items showed up including snowmobiles, parts, signs, etc. Everyone that entered received a red raffle ticket and numbers were drawn for door prizes that had been donated by Kewadin Casino.

Another huge part of our day was the "Unveiling of the Waywego" snowmobile, built by Ralph Webber from Trenary, MI. We had the Waywego restored, thanks to a MCACA (Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs) grant.

About 20 members of the Ralph Webber family and their community, came to see a part of their family history being relived. Charlie spoke about how the project began and how excited we are to have this part of

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Marilyn was busy inside with lots of interested people browsing through the

### 2015 Fall Swap Meet Raffle Winners:

Fall Raffle tickets were sold during the year and the drawing was held at 3 pm on Sept 19

Below: Dennis Kamyszek won the Yamaha with a ticket bearing his birthday numbers! Congratulations Dennis!

- 1st prize— 8x10 Storage Shed or \$500 cash-Don Willson – Nevada, OH
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – 1975 Yamaha GP338 (donated by Roger White) Dennis Kamyszek – Rogers City, MI
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize – \$100 Gas Card (donated by Shute Oil) Phil Ehlert – Ovid, MI
- 4<sup>th</sup> prize – Cordless Drill (donated by Norm & Kay Cader) Cathy Collins – Brimley, MI
- 5<sup>th</sup> prize – Snowmobile Print (Safe Passage) Jim Slabaugh – Angola, IN
- 6<sup>th</sup> prize - \$50 Cash (donated by Museum Member) Ben McClain – Alpena, MI



UP history in here. The Webber grandson, Will, who was our source of pictures and information, also spoke about how the family is proud to have this piece of their heritage preserved and on display for everyone to see.

The day ended with the auction. There were snowmobiles and other items donated to the museum for this auction. We do appreciate your donations! Also many items were sold for individuals. There were a lot of happy buyers and sellers. If you see Roger Jarema, thank him for being our auctioneer!

Thank you to all who came to be a part of the event, swapped, or sellers/buyers at the auction. We also want to send a special thank you to Village Pizza in Naubinway for opening early for us!

All proceeds will continue to support the Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum Fuel Fund. The Swap Meet/Auction next year will be Sept 17, 2016. The Waywego Story is available to read on the Museum website, under the Great Museum Stories page.



Above: The Ralph Webber family with the restored Waywego snowmobile

### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual VSCA National Championship Show, Aug 7 & 8, 2015

The Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum was present at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual VSCA (Vintage Snowmobile Club of America) National Championships held in Midland, MI at the Midland County Fair Grounds on August 7 & 8, 2015. In conjunction with the VSCA Championships the Antique Snowmobile Club of America was invited to hold their annual summer membership meeting. The weekend also sported a well organized and attended Swap Meet and Racers Reunion event.

The National Show was a huge success with over 250 sleds entered in the many different classes. The Museum had an inside display area selling Museum memorabilia both days of the show. The booth was manned by Charlie and Marilyn Vallier and John and Sandy Ketcher.

(article by John McGuirk)



Left: National Show – Brian Musselman’s 84 & 85 Soo I-500 Winning Ski Doo. This I-500 race sled is back on display at the Museum. We’re honored that the Musselman family thought it belongs here!

Right: Bob Benner sees his old race sled and reminisces with his driver, Rick Zudell, at the Midland National Championship Show. Bob’s family took him to the National Show in Midland and didn’t tell him his old race sled would be there. He was surprised and very thrilled! He had snowmobiles racing at the Soo I-500 beginning in 1972 and for 32 more years. His team won in 1982 and holds the record for the fastest time finished.



#### Welcome New Members

If you would like to become a supporting member, or if you need to renew your membership, call the Museum. The cost is \$50 per year, and is renewed on your sign-up date.

- Engadine Historical Society, Engadine, MI
- Lee & Marlene Kasper, Albertville, MN
- David & Lisabeth Smith, Hart, MI

#### Welcome to Adoba Hotel

Jim Henderson and Leslie Chapman signed papers to purchase the former King’s Motel in downtown Naubinway on October 1. They have begun renovations and hope to open by Jan 1, 2016. [www.adobanaubinway.com](http://www.adobanaubinway.com)

#### Upcoming Events:

(Events that Charlie & crew will be attending)

- Nov 6 & 7 – A-1 Show & Swap, Chesaning, MI
- Nov. 5-7 – Novi Show, Novi, MI
- Jan 2, 2016—Hale, MI Show
- Jan. 29 & 30, 2016 – 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Rapid River, MI Show & Ride
- Feb 19 & 20, 2016 – Top of the Lake Snowmobile Show & Ride (Possible ride to Mackinac Island on Sunday, Feb. 21)
- Antique & Vintage Snowmobile Show Crossroad Location, Marquette, MI - (formerly Big Bay) February 26th & 27th, 2016; 26 Mile ride on Feb. 26th to Lakenenland with bonfire & Show at the Crossroad Restaurant on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>. For more information call 906-345-9849.
- March 4 & 5 – Rogers City Antique & Vintage Show & Ride
- March 11 & 12 – White Pine Lodge Show & Ride, Christmas, MI

#### Website Information: Visit us on the web at: [www.snowmobilemuseum.com](http://www.snowmobilemuseum.com)

Featured are various snowmobiles, gift shop items, and you can become a member online. You can advertise on the website with a banner ad for \$100 a year. All proceeds go to the Museum. Please contact Marilyn if you interested in any information about the Museum or the website. Also, visit us on Facebook: “Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum”

## Skiroule Snowmobile (Continued from the Spring, 2015, issue)



### A Facebook Story continues...

The Museum featured the Skiroule snowmobile at our Show, Feb. 2015. The Skiroule we have at the Museum belonged to Rokie Talentino and we invited his family to come to our Show Banquet to honor Rokie and his accomplishment as the Runner-up Dealer of the Year in 1973. His granddaughter, Carri, wasn't able to be at the Banquet; however, she was at the Museum in August, 2015. Facebook has been a great outreach for us!

**Facebook:** (Aug 30, 2015) "Our awesome visitor for today was Carri, Dan and their friends from Sault Ste Marie, MI. Carri came to see the Skiroule that belonged to her grandpa, Rokie Talentino. This machine and her family were honored at our snowmobile show last Feb. Carri wasn't able to make it to the banquet, so she was able to bring back many memories and honor her grandfather here today. We supplied her with a few souvenirs from the show which were of course Skiroule items. We used Rokie's machine for the logo. We learned a lot from her family that we didn't know about Rokie and his story with the Skiroule dealership he owned in the Soo. We also included a story about them in the last newsletter. This is one part of this job that really touches my heart!"

2,580 people reached --replied:

*Lorie Talentino Smith:* "This is the sled my Dad sold when I was a kid."

*Dan Buhro:* "Myself and many of others spent a lot of time with Rokie in that shop. As the years went by things didn't change much, except the roles were reversed. When we were young Rokie helped us and as we all got older he would call me and I would stop by and help him. Funny how that worked out, but would not change a thing. Rokie was a great friend and you always knew where you stood. One of a kind."

### Building Fundraiser/Pledge Form—501c3 Not-For-Profit Corporation



The Museum Board is seeking funding to continue support for the new building on US 2 in Naubinway. A business, Snowmobile club or person who donates will have your name on our donor wall. You will also receive a tax-deductible receipt. \$1000 donors will also receive either lifetime gold membership or a free banner ad on the Museum website for five years.

**Return form to: Top of the Lake Museum  
P.O Box 2, Naubinway, MI 49762  
Naubinway, MI 49762**

The fundraising contribution will be used for continuing support for the new building in Naubinway, and to continue the growth of the Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum.

Other     \$100     \$500     \$1000     Pledge

Name/Business \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Check     Cash     Credit Card (Please call with card information)

Pledge: Financial \_\_\_\_\_ Labor \_\_\_\_\_



### Rattlesnake Annie Visits the Museum

Rattlesnake Annie provided a free mini concert for our local Tribal Elders on June 17. She was a very entertaining singer and has quite a history in the country music world. Of course, Charlie gave her a quick tour of the snowmobiles and she liked the Eliason. This was her first trip to the U.P. Joe Blanchard from Gould City was responsible for getting her up here. Thank you Joe! We were able to get our new chairs through the Sault Tribal 2% money and we are so glad they were the first ones to use them!



Above: Charlie, Rattlesnake Annie, and Joe Blanchard

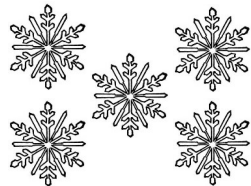


### Recognition from Michigan Representatives:

We received a very special surprise in June - a Special Tribute from our State Senator Tom Casperson. It states that "it is a genuine privilege to commend the members of the Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum of Naubinway, MI, who have dedicated themselves to preserving and showcasing the history of snowmobiling. The effort of all those who are providing time, equipment, memorabilia, financial resources and other encouragement to promote the museum speaks well of the spirit of community that exists among snowmobiling enthusiasts tell of the spirit of community that exists among snowmobiling enthusiasts...."

It is signed by State Rep. Frank Foster, State Rep. John Kivela, State Senator Howard Walker, State Rep Ed McBroom, State Rep Scott Dianda, State Senator Tom Casperson and our governor, Rick Snyder! We will have it posted on the Donor Wall so you can read it the next time you come in! I have to share this, because it is for so many people who have helped with this Museum!

Join us for our Feb. 19, 2016 Ride!  
(Picture taken by Dan Derry.)



### "Ice Bridge" Trip to Mackinac Island Feb 22, 2015

For the last two years, some people who attended our Snowmobile Show in February met in St. Ignace for a ride to Mackinac Island. We hope to make this an annual event (depending on ice conditions.)



Photo by Karen Jarema

### 2016 Top of the Lake Snowmobile Show & Ride

Feb. 19 & 20, 2016—Naubinway, MI 49762  
Featured Sled: Alouette

#### Friday events:

7:30-9:30am - Breakfast at the Naubinway Pavilion  
10:30am – Ride to Cranberry Lodge, 13 miles one way  
All snowmobiles welcome  
4:00-8:00pm – Get-together at the Snowmobile Museum,  
6:30pm - Night Ride

#### Saturday events:

8:00-10:00am - Line-up for Show, downtown Naubinway,  
Register at the Museum  
10:00-3:00 – Snowmobiles on Display, downtown Naubinway  
4:00-6:00pm – Banquet at the Engadine/Garfield Township Hall  
6:00-8:00pm - Alouette presentation by John McGuirk;  
Merchant Drawings; 50/50; Museum Raffle Drawing; Museum Auction by Ted Postula (donated items accepted, proceeds go to the Museum Building Fund)

**Sunday 12:00** – Trailer sleds to St. Ignace and ride the Ice Bridge to Mackinac Island.

(Depending on ice conditions!)

**Call for updated information.**

**906-477-6298, [info@snowmobilemuseum.com](mailto:info@snowmobilemuseum.com)**



## 2nd Annual St. Ignace Tractor/Snowmobile Show

The St. Ignace Show on September 11 & 12, 2015, was very popular again this year with a nice increase in attendance over the 2014 show. There were 44 sleds representing four states on display along with several sleighs and memorabilia displays.

The Museum had a welcome and memorabilia booth. The raffle sled for the upcoming Museum's annual swap meet was on display and raffle tickets were on sale. Some of the participants for our show talked about bringing a couple sleds that have wheel kits to ride around with the tractors in the parking lot next year. If anyone else wants to join in, give us a call!

Coupling the snowmobiles with the tractor event helped draw a large spectator turnout throughout both days of the show. Of note, a tractor displayer from 2014 who saw the snowmobile show last year brought his vintage snowmobile for display this year as well as his tractor for crossing the bridge. We're hoping more will join us next year.

The St. Ignace Events Committee sponsored awards in ten categories for the snowmobiles and displays. This is a fun show, so some of the awards are a little goofy. We want to give a huge thank you to the St. Ignace Chamber and Visitor's Bureau Events Committee for sponsoring this show!

The Museum is looking forward to the next show which will be held on September 9 & 10, 2016. The Museum invites you to bring your antique and vintage snowmobiles next year and enjoy the fun at this great indoor venue.

### Model T Now on Display at the Museum!

This 1926 Model T has a suspension that was built in Ossippee, NH, which is also where the track conversion kit was originally built. The track kit was named "Snowmobile" in 1913, which happens to be the first time the word "snowmobile" was ever used. This machine is originally from a Ford dealership in Marquette, MI.



Right: Hugh & Wende Periard & daughter & son-in-law, John & Emily Petrovich



### David Wells, Writer for SnowGoer Magazine, Visits the Museum

Dave & Kathy Wells stopped in to visit us on September 27. What an amazing man! He has so much knowledge and loves sharing it. He needed to get some measurements on some of the machines we have here. I can predict you will see his stories coming up in the SnowGoer magazine. We had a couple of machines here that he didn't know about. I was so glad I got to congratulate him for recently being inducted into the International Hall of Snowmobile Fame in Eagle River, WI. Congratulations David!!



# Thank You

Thanks to John Matchinski's labor and the Sault Tribe, we were able to get our new sidewalk on the north side of the building this fall.

John also made picnic tables out of treated lumber and three of them are for sale for \$150 each, with the proceeds to go to the museum. Call the Museum if you would like to purchase one.

### New Meeting Room Chairs:

Thanks to the Sault Tribe 2% funding, the Museum was able to purchase 64 new chairs for the meeting room. The new ones are much more comfortable for the groups holding an all-day meeting!

*Gary St. Andre passed away in September, 2015. We would like to thank Ethel Toms-St. Andre for the generous monetary donation in Gary's memory.*



# Wedding Bells

**K**ye & Kelly become engaged during our 2015 Show Ride last February. Well, they were just married in October! Kye's great-aunt sent us pictures of the cake with two snowmobiles, which she bought from the museum, as cake toppers along with a wedding picture. Congratulations to a wonderful couple. We hope to see them again at our Show and Ride next February!



Above: BMW snowmobile picture submitted by Pierre Pellerin

Below: Airsled snowmobile picture by Pierre Pellerin



## Scale Model T donated to the Museum

We want to thank Don Bohls, Cheboygan, MI, for donating 2 of these Model T's, the same weekend as the actual 1926 Model T came to the Museum! One is on display and the other one will be auctioned off at our Feb Show Auction.



## Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum Raffle Ticket Prizes February 16, 2016 Show and Ride

Tickets: 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10 (Tickets available at the Museum)

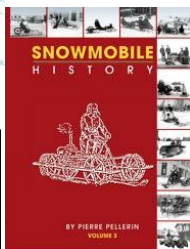
- 1<sup>st</sup> prize – 1972 Arctic Cat Panther (donated by Dick Heney)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> “ 40” TV (donated by Bob White)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> “ \$100 Gas Card (donated by Shute Oil)
- 4<sup>th</sup> “ Power Inverter (donated by Norm & Kay Cader)
- 5<sup>th</sup> “ Snowmobile Print
- 6<sup>th</sup> “ \$50 Cash (donated by Museum Member)

*Need not be present to win  
All proceeds go to the Museum Building Fund*

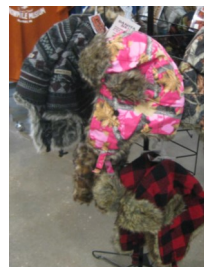


1st Prize: 1972 Arctic Cat Panther donated by Dick Heney

## New in our Gift Shop



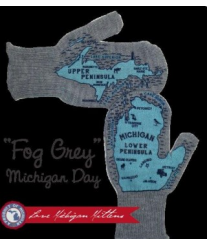
Left: Pierre Pellerin's book, Vol III; (400 pages)  
SkiJet to Zimogor



Above: Dakota Dan Hats



Above: 11" x 29" Banners



Left: "Michigan" Mittens



Right: U.P. Logo Shirts



**Items in our gift shop can be sent to you – just call or email us!  
Check out our gift shop online at: [www.snowmobilemuseum.com](http://www.snowmobilemuseum.com)**



Above: The Anderson family, Wesley, Donna & Renee

## The Anderson Snowmobile Mystery Solved!

The 1963 Anderson snowmobile is snow machine that Charlie's dad, Lawrence Vallier, bought at a garage sale for \$5 about 30 years ago. Charlie went on a mission to find out what it was. I guess we could say that was the spark for the Museum idea, many years ago. Quite a few years later Charlie took it to a show in Manistique, MI and Melvin Anderson, whose father, Clay Anderson, built the machine, came up to him and told him the story behind it! Last year, Melvin was able to visit the Museum along with two men from Manistique. He brought some old pictures with him, which was very cool!

Now the rest of the story! Another brother, Wesley, visited the Museum on September 15 with his wife, Donna, and their daughter, Renee. Wesley & Donna live in Louisville, Colorado. Renee drove them to Manistique. Renee said it has been a great reliving the past with Melvin and they had to come to the Museum.

There were two more brothers, Howard and Lloyd, who worked on making the snowmobiles with their dad, Clay Anderson. They weren't sure how many snowmobiles they made because they used parts from one to make the new ones. During the Depression they would snowshoe to camp. When their dad saw a picture of a snowmobile, that was it! He got out some paper, drew up a design and they all went to work on it. All four boys became machinists. Wesley, now 86, worked for Dow Chemical and he & his wife, even went to China to work for a year after he retired. As you can see in the picture, they were very excited to see a piece of their history again.

## More Visitors!

A very special father visited the Museum on Father's Day, June 21. Gary Gilbertson and his son, Dave, were in Newberry for the weekend for the off-road rally races and they stopped in here to check on their Mercury Twin Track.

Gary is the Mercury engineer who spent a few years creating this mechanical marvel. He came to see it when it was in our old building, and he even took it back home to put all the correct parts on it. This was their first visit to our new building. Thank you so much for stopping by and also for your support Gary! It has been an honor to have this machine on display here for all to see. The Mercury Twin Track will be on display at the St. Germain, WI Museum for a Prototype display, 2016.



## Invader Snowmobile Invades the Museum

Left: The Invader was made by Drake Industries in Ferndale, Michigan from 1974-1976. They were equipped with either a 340cc or a 440cc Sachs Dyno RX engine and the machine was made of aircraft aluminum. It is thought that only 12 were made – six with the free-air engine and six with the liquid-cooled engine. The Invaders were made for racing.



Above: A Steam Powered Snowmobile, (picture sent to us by Shelly McManus)



Left: Jessica from TV 6 in Marquette, MI was on October 2 to do a 45 second spot about the Museum! We have been trying to get them here for years and it finally happened. Jessica also went to the new 906 Hunting Company store (across the road from us). It was good day for Naubinway!

### Attention Advertisers:

If you want to advertise in the newsletter, please call or email Marilyn at: [info@snowmobilemuseum.com](mailto:info@snowmobilemuseum.com)



2015 I-500 Vintage lap - Turn 3

## Soo I-500 Show

**J**oin us on Feb 6, 2016 for the Memories at the Mile Vintage Show at the Sault Ste. Marie I-500 race track. This is one of those Bucket List things to do!

**When:** Sat. Feb 6, 2016 – Take a lap around the race track just before the start of the Annual

Soo I-500 Race. Line-Up is at 8:30am. After the lap, the Vintage Snowmobiles will be on display on the South side of the track all day. Last year 64 machines made the lap, without any breakdowns! We do recommend studs – it is an ice track.

**Contact:** Charlie, 906-477-6298 or email [info@snowmobilemuseum.com](mailto:info@snowmobilemuseum.com) to register. We like to register ahead of time for this show. We need to report to the Soo I-500 committee how many will be making the lap.



## Allis Chalmers Remembered:

Roy Stewart and two fellow Allis Chalmers co-workers built three Allis Chalmers prototype snowmobiles in 1965. One is still in existence and it happens to be here at the Museum.

On Oct. 26, 2015, John Stewart the nephew of Roy, stopped to see the machine. He was on his way home from his Uncle Roy's funeral in Iron River, MI. John said they had a collage of pictures of the snowmobile, with his uncle, at the funeral. He remembers seeing it sitting in his grandma's barn, full of dirt. He also remembered his uncle taking it out and getting it stuck in a snowdrift and they had to get a tractor to get it out of the snow. Thank you John for the stories that we can all relate to. Great memories are meant to be shared!



Above: John Stewart



Left: Ted Postula got this Eliason from Dick & Marilyn Schaefer. It's an Eliason Motor Toboggan and was purchased by Northwestern Hannah Coal Co.--Lime Island and has been in Raber since. If anyone has any history or pictures, Ted would like to have copies. Contact the Museum.

Right: Pete Hydukovich



We are sad to hear about the recent passing of a good friend of ours, Pete Hydukovich. Pete was from Hibbing, MN, which is where the Trailmaker snowmobile was made. He had a collection of these machines, and was a member of the Antique Snowmobile Club of America where we were always able to meet up with him at these meetings. He also drove here with a friend for our Grand Opening. He will be missed!

## **Billy Labadie Update** by Michelle Vallier Labadie

Well, we're working on a year and three months since Bill's accident. He is recovering slowly and suffers from extreme pain almost every minute of every day. He recently saw his hip doctor and got an injection in his hip. Hopefully this will help with the pain he has been having.. Just not sure how much his hip is affecting his back or how much his back is affecting his hip... Doc does think his hip looks good and believes this will help him. Next step is to work on pain management and figure out how to function during his favorite time of year. However, we are thankful God has blessed us with life.



Our new lighted sign has caught the attention of many people driving through Naubinway.







