



Museum Hours: 9—5
 W11660 U.S. 2, Naubinway, MI 49762
 906-477-6298
 E-mail: info@snowmobilemuseum.com
 Webpage: www.snowmobilemuseum.com
 Facebook: Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum



24th Annual Show & Ride-February 19 & 20,

Inside this issue:

Rear Engine Antique Trail Ride	2
Upcoming Events	2
Quebec Bombardier Museum	3-4
\$1000 Bombardier Challenge	3
Soo I-500 Vintage Show	5
FL Snowbirds Win Museum Pass	5
Brad Redman Memorial	6
Engadine Preschool Visit	6
Novi Show	7
Sweden Visitor Writes Article	7
Quilt Donated by Area Quilters	7
1959 Polaris Sno-Traveler History	7-8
Marquette TV 6 Video	8
Advertisers	9-11



Bernie Reid Wins the '72 Arctic Cat Panther

Show and Ride— A Huge Success!

The 24th Annual Top of the Lake Snowmobile Show and Ride, the weekend of February 19 & 20, 2016 was favored with a large turnout of both participants and spectators for the event. The museum was open with extended hours and was very busy for the entire weekend.

The weekend started with the Top of the Lake Communities Association hosting a pancake breakfast at the Naubinway Pavilion on Friday morning.

Then activities really kicked into high gear with somewhere around 155 vintage, antique and classic sleds participating in the 26 mile round trip vintage ride to the Cranberry Lodge on the Hiawatha Club. Hotdogs and brats were enjoyed upon their arrival at the lodge. Thanks Hiawatha Sportsmen Club for the use of their property. We also want



to thank Rich Hotz Catering for supplying the hot dog, brats and buns, and as the chef! Rich even volunteered to do it again next year. Thanks to Bernie Reid for supplying the grill!

A light drizzle moved in Friday evening but it did not deter a determined group from tackling the night ride 5 miles out to the Pipeline Bridge and back. Upon their return there was time to visit and sample the many types of food brought in to the museum for the event.

Saturday dawned dry and clear for the show held in downtown

Continued on Page 2

2016 Show and Ride Raffle Winners:

Raffle tickets were sold during the year and the drawing was held Feb 20, 2016

- 1st prize: 1972 Arctic Cat Panther (donated by Dick Heney) Bernie Reid, Ortonville, MI
 2nd prize: 40" TV (donated by Bob White) – Jeff Carlson, Saginaw, MN
 3rd prize: \$100 Gas Card (donated by Shute Oil) – Tyler Rounds, Bay City, MI
 4th prize: Power Inverter (donated by Norm & Kay Cader) – Hugh Bigelow, Epoufette
 5th prize: Snowmobile Print (donated by Museum) – Larry Delamater, Six Lakes, MI
 6th prize: \$50 Cash (donated by Museum member) – Harry Bowering, Komoka, Ontario

Show Awards Winners:

- Fun Ride Favorite/Antique – Dick Hummel, Lewiston, IL
- Fun Ride Favorite/Vintage – Kevin & Bryce Struck, Brant, MI
- Tow Strap Award – Larry Brenner, Wayland, MI
- Featured Sled Award – Alan Wolfgang, Saginaw, MI - 1971 Alouette
- Special Button – Jan McGuirk, Sidney, OH

Don't
miss
it!

Huge
Snowmobile
Donation from
Quebec
Bombardier
Museum
Pages 3-4

Naubinway. There was a great showing of many different brands of machines. Alouette snowmobiles were the featured sled this year and there were many nice examples present. There was a steady flow of trail riders stopping to view the 150 sleds on display. Saturday's events concluded with the annual dinner banquet which included a can raffle, Alouette history presentation, drawing for the raffle prizes and a live auction of donated items, which is a museum fundraiser.

Of course, the lack of safe ice prevented any thought of journeying to St. Ignace on Sunday to travel the ice bridge to Mackinac Island. Hopefully better conditions will exist next year.

Written by John McGuirk



Time for Lunch on the Trail!

Rear Engine Antique Snowmobile Trail Ride, Feb. 2016

A group of regular participants in the Annual Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum's Ride and Show had talked about an antique rear engine snowmobile ride the week of the show for many years. This year, the group finally turned their dreams into reality.

A group of ten antique sleds left Naubinway on February 16th to start a three day round trip to include Naubinway to Curtis to Newberry and returning to Naubinway. The trip covered three days and totaled a little over ninety four miles. They were accompanied by a trail guide snowmobile and a trailing safety sled.

Riding rear engine machines were Tim Reiter, Ray, Michigan, Dick Hummel, Lewis-town, Illinois, Russel, Dan and Darrin Willis, Hopedale, Illinois, John McGuirk, Sidney, Ohio, Bernie Reid, Ortonville, Michigan, Roger Jarema, Boyne Falls, Michigan, Fred Edgerton and Chrissy Phegley, Hale, Michigan and Ted and Sherry Postula, Goetzville, Michigan.

All machines were built between 1962 and 1965 and included Arctic Cats, Polaris Sno-Travelers, a Polar, an Autoboggon and a Boatel Trailmaker. The group was met with enthusiasm by snowmobilers riding the trails and many photos were taken. The group averaged about 5-6 miles per hour and stopped every day to cook lunch on the trail.

Dave Shope, Rapid River, served as tour guide on a "modern" 1972 Ski Whiz and Jan McGuirk and Karen Jarema served as safety and rear alert for any approaching traffic. The weather was perfect and the trails were in excellent condition. The group had a terrific time and they are already talking about future rides.



Written by: John McGuirk

Upcoming Events: (Events Charlie & crew will be attending)

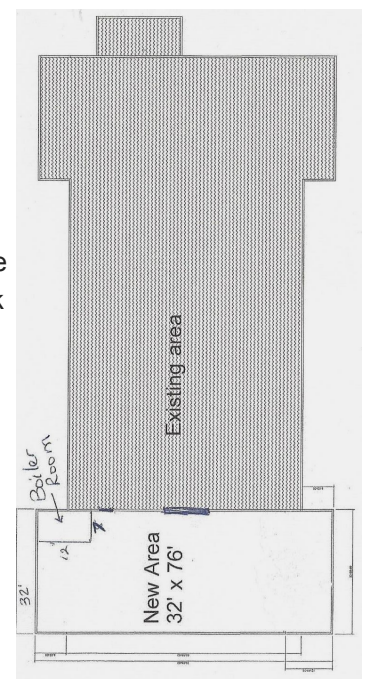
May 29 – St. Germain, WI Show & Swap
 July 15/16 – 11th VSCA National Championship Show, Lancaster. NH
 Sept. 9/10 – St. Ignace, MI Snowmobile/Tractor Show (pre-register)
Sept. 17 – Top of the Lake Swap Meet & Auction, Naubinway, MI
 Sept 24 – Honda East, Maumee, OH Show (See info below)
 Nov 4-6 - Snowmobile USA Trade Show, Novi, MI
 Nov 5 & 6 – A-1 Show & Swap, Chesaning, MI
 Dec 3— Crivitz, WI Show & Swap
 Jan 14 – Diablo Rouge 50th, Port Washington, WI (GoGodiabla.com)
 (We will have more information in our Fall, 2016 issue)
 Feb 4 – Memories at the Mile, Soo I-500 lap & Show, Sault Ste. Marie, MI (pre-register)
 Feb 17/18, 2017 - Top of the Lake Snowmobile Show & Ride – Naubinway. This year's featured sled will be large Track Vehicles. **This will also be our 25th year!**

Maumee, Ohio Show: Sept 24, 2016: Honda East, 1230 Conant St., Maumee, Ohio. Show times: displayer set up time: 7:00am to 9:00am; Show Hours: 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. This a show only, no swap, free food, drink for all in attendance. This is a free show for displayers and spectators. 419-764-9850.
 This is a new show for the Museum to attend and be part of.

Bombardier Addition

The new Bombardier addition is set to begin in late May or June, 2016.

You can follow the progress on the Museum Facebook page, Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum.





TV 9&10 and TV6 were here to film the Unloading Day

Huge Snowmobile Donation from Quebec Bombardier Museum

The Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum (TOLSM) is planning a 32' x 76' expansion this summer to provide space for display of 33 rare and unique snowmobiles donated to the museum by the J. Armand Bombardier Museum in Valcourt, Quebec.

The TOLSM received a signed contract for the gifting of the 33 snowmobiles, which includes rare vehicles manufactured by Polaris, Arctic Cat and Yamaha, and some from Russia, Finland and Sweden. The J. A. Bombardier Museum is making changes to their museum to only feature Bombardier products and with those changes is gifting away several snowmobiles that are no longer suitable for its collection policy. The contract with the J. Armand Bombardier Museum states that the 33 snowmobiles must be picked up by March 24, 2016. The 33 rare and unique snowmobiles will be owned by the Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum and the majority will be displayed within the museum supplementing the current display of 122 snowmobiles and memorabilia. All 33 snowmobiles will have identification placards detailing that the snowmobile was gifted by the J. Armand Bombardier Museum to the Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum. Some select snowmobiles will be offered on loan to other museums in Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, New Hampshire. The gifted snowmobiles must be kept in ownership of the Top of The Lake Snowmobile Museum and cannot be sold. The snowmobiles on loan to other museums will be returned to Top of the Lake Museum when the addition is completed.

(Continued on Page 4)

\$1000 Challenge for the Museum Bombardier Addition:

A \$1000 Challenge was started by Roger & Karen Jarema in February to help fund an addition to the Museum which will house the 33 snowmobiles we are getting from the J. A. Bombardier Museum (see story above.) We are applying for a grant, but will need more funding to complete the 32'x76' addition. All donors are listed on a special board on the Donor Wall and will receive a Lifetime Membership. We also will provide a tax deductible receipt for you!

To date, we have the following \$1000 donations: Roger Werner - St. Johns, FL; Roger & Karen Jarema - Boyne Falls, MI; In Memory of Brad Redman, by Betty Redman (see related story on page 6) - Beaverton, MI; The Vallier Kids - FL, MA and MI; Doug Bolfa - Genoa, OH; Soo Marine Supply (Joe McCoy) - SaultSte. Marie, MI; and Greg & Jackie Busch - Grand Blanc, MI



Building Fundraiser Form—501c3 Not-For-Profit Corporation



The Museum Board is seeking funding to support the new Bombardier addition. A business, snowmobile club, or person who donates will have their name on the Museum donor wall. Donors will receive a tax-deductible receipt. \$1000 donors will also receive either lifetime membership or a free banner ad on the Museum website for five years.

Return form to: **Top of the Lake Museum**
W11660 US 2 P.O. Box 2
Naubinway, MI 49762

The fundraising contribution will be used for support for the new Bombardier Addition, and to continue the growth of the Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum.

☐ Other ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000

Name/Business _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

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



The 1980 Finncat has a new home!

Bombardier Museum Cont. from pg 3

On March 21, 2016 Charlie and Marilyn made the 1600 mile round mile trip to meet the trucker, Greg Smith (with Halvor Trucking from Superior, WI) at the J.A. Bombardier Museum in Valcourt to load the snowmobiles. The snowmobiles were delivered to the Museum on March 23 to a fantastic gathering of several news media people and fans of the Museum.

At present nine of the sleds are on display in the Top of the Lake Museum. Some of the sleds are duplicates of existing displays within the Top of the Lake Museum. They are being loaned to other museums for display. The Crane Museum (Paul Crane) in Lancaster, New Hampshire has four (1970 Boatel GP, 1970 Moto Ski Capri 500, 1973 Johnson Phantom, 1974 AMF Harley Davidson). The Antique Snowmobile Museum of Indiana (Dan Blaney) in Morocco, Indiana has four (1969 Ski Whiz and 1969 Scorpion Mark II 300, 1969 Mercury 220ER, and the 1973 Yamaha EW634B). The Bilacic Museum (Steve Bilacic) in Turner, Michigan has two (1978 John Deere Spitfire and 1990 Polaris Indy 650) and the Eagle River, World Snowmobile Headquarters (Tom Anderson) in Eagle River, Wisconsin has six, (1971 Sears 309, 1970 Moto Ski Grand Prix, 1973 Brutanza LC 44, 1974 Mercury 440, 1990 Arctic Cat Prowler, 1992 Yamaha V-Max). That leaves eight sleds that will not be displayed at the present and will be housed off site with Museum members until the addition is completed.

We want to thank Greg Smith, the truck driver for Halvor Lines. Greg stopped in our Museum right after we found out we were getting the snowmobiles. He was telling me he hauls snowmobiles and other products from Valcourt to the States. We did some talking, he gave us the phone number for his boss, contacts were made and Greg ended up being the driver for us! Halvor Trucking was the first truck to haul snowmobiles from Valcourt to Duluth, MN back in 1967 and they have been hauling for Bombardier since then.



Trucker Greg Smith & his buddy, Ricky

We also want to thank Mike at Livingston International, Inc, the broker who got everything through customs without a hitch.

We especially want to thank Elisabeth Warren from the Bombardier Museum for her kindness and ease of transfer of the paperwork for these machines, especially with the language barrier. She also gave us a quick tour of the renovation being done at their museum. It is scheduled to reopen on May 20, 2016. We plan on returning someday soon to see what is going to be an outstanding display of the history of Bombardier products.

Welcome New Members

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

- Roger & Karen Jarema, (Lifetime), Boyne Falls, MI;
- Robert & Kelly Lennox, Bay City, MI;
- Bob Bouck, Grand Blanc, MI;
- Dean & Terrlyn Brodberg, Naubinway, MI;
- Roger Werner, (Lifetime), St John's, FL;
- Betty Redman, (Lifetime), Beaverton, MI;
- Pat Peterson, Birch Run, MI;
- Dan Edwards, Manistique, MI;
- Donna Cody, Saline, MI;
- Bob Boruta, Kent City, MI;
- Frank & Lori Spincich, McMillan, MI;
- Joe McCoy, (Lifetime), Sault Ste. Marie, MI;
- Greg & Jackie Busch, (Lifetime), Grand Blanc, MI;
- Tim Dupuis, Saginaw, MI;
- Chris Malloy, Germfask, MI

2016 Top of the Lake Swap Meet Sept 17, 2016—Naubinway, MI 49762

Raffle Ticket prizes: Drawing, Sept 17, 2016

- 1st – 1975 Yamaha - (donated by Roger White)
- 2nd – 8x10 Storage Shed or \$500 Cash - (donated by Charlie's Sheds)
- 3rd – \$100 Gas Card – (donated by Shute Oil)
- 4th – Snowmobile Rocker – (donated by Ellis Sutfin)
- 5th – Snowmobile Print – (donated by Museum)
- 6th – \$50 Cash – (donated by a Museum member)



**Call for updated information.
906-477-6298, info@snowmobilemuseum.com**



Soo I-500 Vintage Lap and Show

The I-500 was held in Sault Ste. Marie, MI on Feb 6, 2016, and the Museum was in charge of the Memories at the Mile lap. This event happened an hour before the start of the official 48th I-500. The Museum was once again asked to sponsor a Vintage/Antique display. Charlie was

busy talking sleds and selling Museum gift shop items. Thanks to Sandy & John Ketcher and Kurt Krause for their help at the sale table.

The biggest honor for the vintage/antique people is always the Memories at the Mile lap. 59 sleds were driven around the one mile track. It was fun hearing cheers from the crowd as the announcer called out each driver by name. Several rear engine sleds were on the track and made it all the way around! The oldest machine was a 1962 Polar driven by Ted Postula from Goetzville, MI.

76 registered sleds along with several unregistered sleds were on display the rest of the day. Spectators were everywhere and lots of history was shared.

Two trophies were given out. "People's Choice" was awarded to Rebecca Allen & John Lenton, from Ubly, MI with a 1969 Ski Whiz. "People's Choice – Runner-up" was given to Robert Bloom, from Pullman, MI with a 1976 Arctic Cat 250 Z. Thank you to Craig & Sharon Oliver for donating the trophies and Steve & Sherry Landon for designing the dash plaques.



People's Choice Winners:
Rebecca Allen & John Lenton



People's Choice Runner-up:
Robert Bloom

Written by Karen Jarema

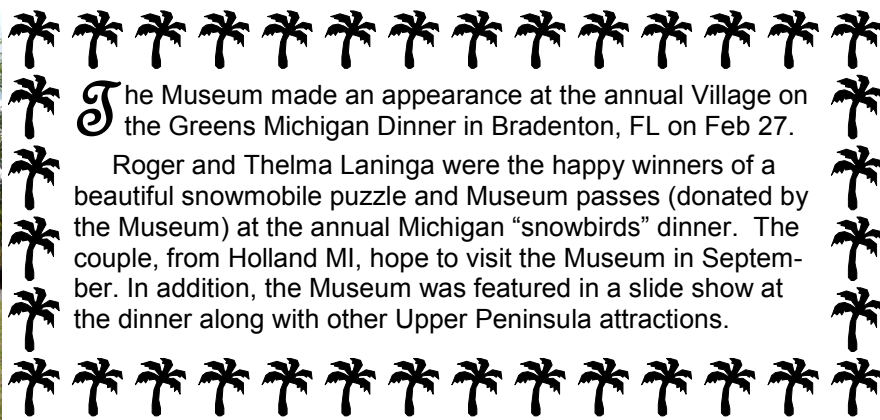


Above: Driver, Danny Maki, Kovar Racing

Local Racing Team Places 3rd at the 2016 Sault Ste Marie I-500

One of our local Museum sponsors, Bryan Kovar (D & D Hardware) is team owner of Kovar Racing in Engadine. Bryan has raced in several I-500 races and this year his team placed 3rd! It took 9 hours and 49 minutes to complete the race. Congratulations, Kovar Racing!

The I-500 began in 1969. It is a completely volunteer-based organization. The official race is hosted on the only one-mile ice oval snowmobile track in North America. The I-500 is the biggest event in the Upper Peninsula and in the entire snowmobile-racing world. (Source: <http://www.miheadlines.com>)



The Museum made an appearance at the annual Village on the Greens Michigan Dinner in Bradenton, FL on Feb 27.

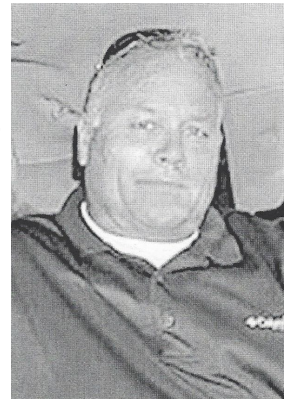
Roger and Thelma Laninga were the happy winners of a beautiful snowmobile puzzle and Museum passes (donated by the Museum) at the annual Michigan "snowbirds" dinner. The couple, from Holland MI, hope to visit the Museum in September. In addition, the Museum was featured in a slide show at the dinner along with other Upper Peninsula attractions.

Website Information: Visit us on the web at: 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"

In Memory of Brad Redman

Brad passed away on Oct 4, 2015. He had been coming to the UP/Naubinway area since he was young. At age 18 he became a member of the Hiawatha Sportsman's Club. In 2001 he bought his first snowmobile & in 2010 he found his passion racing vintage sleds with the Great Lakes Antique Snowmobile Series (G.L.A.S.S.) He also went to swap meets, always looking for hoods and became known as the "Hood Guy". A banner was made for his trailer that said "Hood Guy." Brad started a collection of sleds, mostly Arctic Cats. One of his last finds was a 1971 Ski-Doo, just like the one he rode as a kid. His dream was to restore it. His family is now finishing it for him. Brad was really glad when the Museum opened. He loved to stop by and talk shop with everyone. That is why when Betty saw the \$1000 Challenge on facebook, she knew she had to meet the challenge for Brad. "Brad was really happy working on his sleds or painting one of his hoods. This and much more will be the fond memories we have of him".



The Engadine Preschool class came to the Museum on Valentine's Day to see the snowmobiles. The 1950's Airsled was a class favorite. Each of the preschoolers were able to go for a snowmobile ride—There were lots of smiles! They also had their Valentine's Day party at the Museum.



More Visitors!

Phil Molto, a contributing editor of Snow Goer Canada magazine and snowmobilitv.ca, visited us on December 1. Tom & John had so much fun while he was here!

Phil said he wished he had a week to look over everything we have here. Thanks for coming Phil! Update – Phil's fantastic article appeared in the March issue of the SnowGoer Canada magazine. It sounds like he will be back to do an article on the Bombardier donation.



From our Facebook Page:

"We got to meet Rich and Marge Schmidt, from Campbell-sport, WI, today. Marge is 74 years old and she has been riding since March 5, 1982. She has ridden a total of 140,000 miles in Michigan, Yellowstone, Wyoming, Ontario, Canada, MN and North Dakota.



Marge and Rich have been riding in Michigan every week-end lately. She also collects snowmobile ornaments and has 295 of them. She saw a couple here that she doesn't have, (but we definitely won't part with the ones we have here!) It was fun talking to her!"

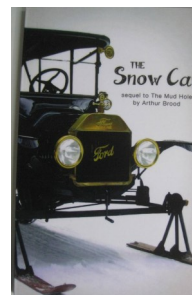
New in our Gift Shop



Left: Poker Runs III print by Kevin Daniel now available



9" Stained Glass sun catchers



Left: "The Snow Car" written by Arthur Brood (from Rudyard MI)



Above: U.P. Logo Shirts

Items in our gift shop can be sent to you – just call (906-477-6298) or email us! Check out our gift shop online at: www.snowmobilemuseum.com

Attention Advertisers:

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

Novi Show – Nov 6-8, 2015

The Snowmobile USA Show, one of the world's largest snowmobile expo shows, has been held in Novi, MI for 23 years and this was our first time having a booth there. What a great experience! Of course, this was a learning experience for us, and we learned that we want to go again next year.

16,700+ people came through the doors that weekend and a lot of them stopped and checked out our booth. I have to say the rockers were a huge hit. We wanted to let the "new snowmobilers" know about the "old snowmobilers" and what we have to share with them. We were set up next to the Antique Snowmobile Club of America's display. We also took our 1972 Arctic Cat raffle sled and the newly restored Waywego and they were sitting in the ASCOA display with the other awesome vintage machines. We want to especially thank Tom Anderson for the booth space, Billy & Owen Labadie, Larry Weinreis, Patti Vallier and George Dorsey for helping us out in the booth. We plan to set up a booth at the 2016 show, November 4-6. Stop by and say HI.



Visitor from Sweden Publishes Museum Article in Swedish Magazine



Swedish magazine, "Sno Skote"

Asa Sundstrom-Lidgren from Sweden, visited the Museum in October, 2015. She was very interesting to talk to! She gave us some information about the Larven snowmobile, which was made in Sweden. Lennart Nilsson, inventor of the Larven snowmobile, still lives in the same town that she does.

Asa and her family are the writers and editors for magazine, "Sno Skote." After returning home, she wrote an article about the Museum for their Dec. 2015 issue. Of course, it's in Swedish, so I contacted Kenneth Fjallstrom, a friend from Sweden who we met many years ago, and he translated it for us. Can we say we've become "international"?

Thank You

Right: The Northern Neighbors Quilters gather in our meeting room every Tuesday. They surprised us with this beautiful quilt for our Show Auction as a thank you for using our room. Thank you ladies!!



History of the 1959 Polaris Sno-Traveler (W-7)

By: H. John Wojnaroski III

This 1959 Polaris Sno-Traveler (W-7) was owned by my parents, *Henry and Virginia Wojnaroski Jr.* My dad was employed by the *N. W. Hanna and Consolidated Coal Company* on Lime Island, Michigan from 1950-1982.

Lime Island was a fueling station for the ships that traveled the Great Lakes. The Island is located on the St. Mary's River, about 35 miles downstream from the Soo Locks and about 12 miles north of Detour Village. The closest contact with the mainland is Raber/Goetzville, MI.

From Raber to Lime Island is a distance of 3 miles. During the winter months (December-March), the St. Mary's River froze over and the ships could not navigate the river. During those winter months, maintenance on the fueling equipment was on going. In 1982, the Island closed its operations due to the newer larger ships no longer needing to stop for fuel mid-way between its cargo pick up and drop off points. My dad was the Superintendent of the Island fueling operations when operations ceased.

During the winter months, prior to the invention of the snowmobile, to get to the Island, one had to walk the 3 miles across Raber Bay, pulling with them their supplies, etc. Later in the winter, the ice would get thick enough to support an automobile. This Polaris, Sno-Traveler was the 2nd snowmobile to call Lime Island its home. The first snowmobile was owned by *Jim Fulton*. *Jim* was the *Dock Superintendent* on the Island at that time. It too was a Polaris. I believe it was a Ranger (C-10). This Sno-Traveler was originally purchased new by my uncle and aunt (*Leonard and Virginia Wojnaroski*). *Leonard* too was employed on Lime Island. *Uncle Leonard* purchased this sled as new from Polaris Industries, Roseau, MN (\$795.00).

(Continued on Page 8)

From our Facebook Page, March 5:

20 members of the Snomads Snofari Snowmobile Club members were here in full force today. Some of them come every year. I wasn't able to talk to them very much because we had 95 people at the Museum today! Another record broken (except for our show weekend.) We had 350 visitors visit the Museum that weekend.



Riders from the Southeast Michigan Snomads Snofari Snowmobile Club stop at the Museum. A big thank you to the Club for their generous donation for the Bombardier Addition!



TV 6, Marquette, Airs Video Featuring the Museum

Left: The Museum was featured in a TV 6, Marquette video on the "Discovering" Show which aired February 22, 2016. If you would like to view the video, go to: www.906outdoors.com and click on "Discovering." Then click on "2016 episodes" and scroll down to episode #184. You can watch the video free online or order the DVD.

(History, Continued from page 7)

I am not sure if he went to the factory to pick up the sled or if he elected to pay the \$12.00 crating/shipping charge to deliver the sled via common carrier from Minnesota to Lime Island, MI! On February 12, 1962, my parents purchased this sled from *Uncle Leonard* for \$600.00.

From 1959 until the mid-1970s, this sled was a "work-horse" hauling tons of supplies to and from Lime Island. During a typical trip to the Island, the sled would be hooked up to 1 and sometimes 2 cargo sleds to pull to the Island groceries, gasoline, fuel-oil, machine parts, etc. Once the St. Mary's froze over, this sled allowed our family to live at our "main-land-home" in Goetzville. With this sled, dad could go to work every day and still be home at night.

When my Dad was not using the sled for work, we as a family would use it to get to our many "secret fishing holes" in the Raber Bay and Munuscong Bay areas. During the month of March, we would use the sled to gather maple sap to make maple syrup. The sled's ability to pull heavy weights at a very s-l-o-w steady speed allowed us to pull a 50 gallon barrel on a cargo sled to collect the maple sap and not spill a drop!

From the mid-1970's until the mid-1990's the sled sat in storage in my cousin *Jim and Michelle Traynor's* barn in Goetzville. At that time, I decided to put the sled back into "active duty" by using it for my winter fishing. With a tank of fresh gas and 2 pulls on the recoil starter it started up and ran just like it did when it was new! However, I found out that using this sled for fishing in 1995 was not the same as when I used it as a kid for fishing in 1965. No matter where I went it, I always drew a crowd. Everyone wanted to pull up with their new-noisy-high-powered-snowmobiles to see this predecessor of the modern snowmobile. To say the least, I did not get to catch many fish when I was accompanied by this sled!

In 2011, I entered this sled in the 5th Annual Hale Antique Snowmobile Contest in Hale, MI. It won the 1st place trophy for the Oldest Sled in the contest. At that event, I met *Fred Edgerton* who was the Director of the event. I told *Fred* that I wanted to restore the sled to factory condition and wondered if he knew of anyone with that expertise. *Fred* suggested that I contact *Charlie and Marilyn Vallier* at the *Top-Of-The-Lake Snowmobile Museum* in Naubinway, MI. I contacted *Charlie* and told him what I wanted to do and with his permission, after the restoration is complete, I would like to exhibit it in the *Museum*. *Charlie* referred me to *Mark and Marcia Williams* in Gulliver, MI to do the restoration. I contacted *Mark and Marcia* and the rest is history! *Mark and Marcia* are unbelievable. Through this project, they have become my good friends. Their attention to research and detail is remarkable. *Mark's* ability to work with metal is amazing. I delivered this sled to *Mark and Marcia* on November 18, 2013. *Charlie* and I met with *Mark and Marcia* on January 31, 2016 and delivered the sled to the location that you see it today.

I hope you enjoy your visit at the *Top-Of-The-Lake Snowmobile Museum*. I appreciate all the good work that the *Museum* does to preserve the history of the snowmobile. I am happy to share with you some of the many memories that my parents and I have had through our relationship with this sled.



