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Volume 34 • No. 1 • 2023

WINNING EDGE

YOUR TOTAL MOTORSPORTS MAGAZINE

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AND SHOWING

Inside:

**Flashback - Marion
Swap Meet 2022**

**Remember When
1984 Alpina
T.B. 250**

and more!

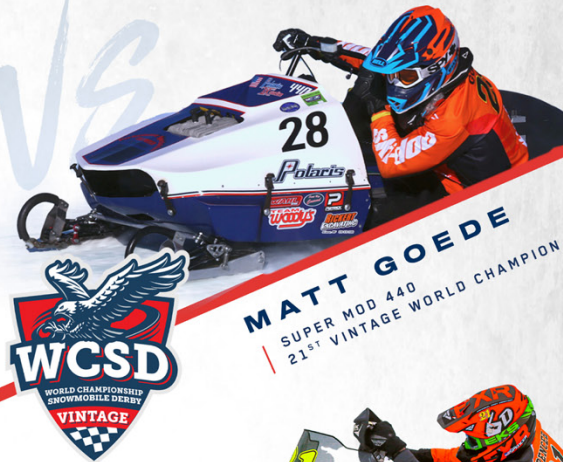


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- JAN. 21-22 3RD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRO ENDURO
- JAN. 19-22 60TH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SNOWMOBILE DERBY
- FEB. 16 LEGEND LAPS
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WHAT'S HOT

Industry News

Trufant Motorsports - New kid on the block

By Mike Decker

Dan Studer is a driven man. Born and bred in Michigan, Dan grew up an energetic and curious boy on the family farm. Always fascinated with the workings of all things mechanical, he would spend his spare time tinkering and dissecting all the various equipment farm boys have access to. Dan had a special affinity for bicycles, motorcycles and snowmobiles, which would set the stage for a large part of his life still to come.

Dan has fond memories of the snowmobile trail-riding exploits with his father, Warren. The exhilaration of exploring a winter wonderland as they sashayed and explored the fields and woods from the seat of a snowmobile will always stay with him. When Dan was a young man and had children of his own, he and his dad drove their snowmobiles to see Dan's son, Jonathon, who was attending Lake Superior college at the time; completing a long trek to Sault St. Marie on their sleds, which included crossing the treacherous "Ice Bridge" (marked by donated Christmas trees). Not many snowmobilers can tout that brave venture.

Dan would inevitably get into snowmobile racing, garnering good success along the way. Among his winnings included a BEVRA series class championship in 2019. Dan still continues to hit the racetrack at age 55. Dan's love affair with motorsports would inspire his son



Trufant Motorsports storefront.



Jonathon to also become a motorhead (and a serious

motocross racer in

due time). That would begin yet another chapter in the life of the Dan Studer family as they embarked on a campaign of chasing motocross titles and championships which would keep them on the road for over a decade as they traveled from race to race all around the country. And Dan's expertise kept Jonathon's race bikes humming.

One thing Dan could never get out of his mind was starting his own business. And that has been coming to fruition over the past few years. The days of dabbling in online snowmobile parts sales has now methodically morphed into a near full blown operation. The business cov-



Dan Studer at the racing controls.

ers a wide spectrum which includes parts-and-service for snowmobiles, motorcycles, ATV's, lawn mowers and chainsaws. And they are already a full franchised dealer for a line of chainsaws. Although currently a parttime effort, Dan says things will soon transition to a fulltime operation. Especially considering the great response they are experiencing.

Dan and wife, Kathy, are quickly running out of space and already expanding their service area. That's obviously a good sign of things to come. And the growing pains will surely continue to ensue. All successful businesses are forced to endure it. I use the word "endure" because being in business is very challenging in all regards. That's why most people are scared to do it. But not people like Dan Studer. Either you have what it takes, or you don't. Dan has it. And he's spent a lifetime preparing for it.

Dan and Kathy's new business is called "Trufant Motorsports" and is located in Trufant, MI. They've teamed with a gentleman named, Brody Burrell, who has knowledge and expertise in the area of vintage snowmobiles. Together they comprise a veritable force capable of handling much of your mechanical and equipment needs. Their website is: trufantmotorsports.com. You can also reach Dan at: 231-301-3869 (or on Facebook--Dan Studer). You can also contact Dan or Kathy via email at: trufantmotorsportsllc@gmail.com



Dan's son, Jonathon.

Pictured below: Trufant Motorsports offers a variety of parts for your snowmobiles, small engines and lawn equipment. They also have access to parts for ATVs, UTVs and farm tractors.



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Flashback

Marion's 2022 Swap Meet a great success

Text & Photos By Steve Landon



At a busy swap meet like Marion's, sellers have to go the extra mile to get their items noticed like the gentleman did offering AI Enno ski-doo parts. He was able to shop and sell at the same time



A proud buyer of a Chrysler Sno Runner hauls off his find firmly wrapped in his arms. The unique little sled should be a blast to ride once restored.

Marion, Michigan - October 8, 2022; --Face it the summer of 2022 had been a rough one for all. High gas prices, inflation, nasty summer pests and the usual hot temperatures had kept people longing for better days ahead. Well fear not help is on the way. A chill is in the air, Autumn's annual explosion of fall color has passed, days are getting shorter and colder which means snowmobile season is coming on fast. In the days and weeks ahead a white blanket of snow will be covering the ground. To be ready for that first ride, smart sledders made their annual trek to the Marion Snowmobile Swap Meet at the historic Marion Fairgrounds/Veterans Freedom Park!

Presented by the Marion Snowmobile Club the event is by far the biggest and clearly the best snowmobile swap-meet in Northern Lower Michigan, attracting enthusiasts from around the Great Lakes, some as far away as Ohio, Indiana and Ontario Canada

Early calls for a good snowy winter had snowmobile enthusiasts fired up and eager to get things ready for what might well be a fabulous season on tracks and trails across much of the nation's snowbelt. Nowhere was that enthusiasm more in evidence than at this year's swap meet when another big crowd of sledders filled the grounds looking for bargains on everything from complete trail ready sleds to parts, memorabilia and more.

As in past years shoppers with long wish lists and dreams of finding something special like a rare sled from their youth began arriving bright and early as usual Saturday morning. While a chilly breeze kept temperatures a tad on the cool side overall it was a perfect day filled with plenty of sunshine and many vendors to choose from.

Surprisingly snowmobiles of all ages and conditions were selling better than expected even among young families and adults looking to get into or back into the hobby as a trail rider, collector or vintage racer. As always parts and accessories were big movers.

Everyone in to collecting knows every now and then when you least expect it something rare comes along that you can't resist. Mike Allen of Farwell, Mich., whose an avid collector of Mercury Snowmobiles seems to have an eye for finding rare and hard to find items. In Marion a few years back he found a complete 1970/'71 Leisure Vehicles Industries Roamer / Raider Snowmobile owner's manual in original mint condition complete with warranty card. Nineteen Seventy-One was the first year for the twin track cockpit machines. This year eagle eye Mike came across another rare treasure, Monroe Sno Shox for snowmobile shocks for one year

Continued on Page 10

**February 18th
2023**



Presented by the
MARION SNOWMOBILE CLUB

Snowfest

VINTAGE SNOWMOBILE RACES, SHOW & SWAP MEET

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Admission \$5.00

Fri. Night Early Registration: 4 p.m. to dark

Sat. Race Registration: 8-10 a.m.

Racing: 11 a.m.

Show Registration: 8 a.m.

Trophies: 1 p.m.

Swap Meet: 8 a.m.

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www.marionvintagesnowmobileclub.com • Facebook: Marion Vintage Snowmobile Club

Marion Fairgrounds / Veterans Memorial Park

Marion, Michigan, 49665

Design courtesy of Amber Hart • Photos courtesy of Steve Landon, thewinningedgemagazine.com



Nice sleds like this Merc 644 and lots of parts were in abundance

Continued from Page 8

"I worked on a Sno-Jet this past summer that actually had a set like this installed on the machine.

I saw the Monroe kit when I first arrived at the swap meet, every time I went by the booth where it was located, I stopped to look at it again. Near the end of the swap meet I noticed the gentlemen was packing up to go so I offered him \$20.00, thankfully he accepted" - Mr. Allen said

According to vintage snowmobile enthusiast and history buff Monty Wiseman the Monroe Sno-Shox kit was indeed rare.

"When the snowmobile boom took off many non-OEM companies and people looked at sleds and thought "How can we improve on this and make some money?"

Monroe Equipment Company in Michigan, better known as Monroe Shocks, early on realized snowmobile skis were pretty basic and at best were poor for control and suspension. In 1968, they started work on a radical design and in fall of 1969 offered an upgraded replacement ski using a coil and shocks. While a tremendous improvement, the price was a sticking point to keep the line going. However, their efforts were not a waste of time. Many snowmobile manufacturers took note of the design and had Monroe build shocks for new OEM ski designs onward. - Wiseman said"

Snowmobile club president Dave Swiler was once again
Continued on Page 12



One Sleddin' family went home happy after filling their wish list with something for everyone



Looks like a scene out of American Pickers as snowmobile enthusiasts dive into a load of rusty gold looking for parts



Wheeling and dealing can get pretty serious even with smaller parts



Nothing beats a snowmobile swap to meet old friends and talk about sleds



Former oval track enduro snowmobile racer Tim Havercroft - left- shows some of the finer points on this beautifully restored Sno Pony to its new owner.

Continued from Page 10

very happy with the event.

"I think the attendance was up from what I could tell. We used just about every inch of the fairgrounds and at one point I heard the vehicles were all the way back out to the south gate on M-66. I felt the swap was a great time and everyone that I talked to seemed happy! I was told several times how much fun people have at our swap meet. I saw a lot of people carrying parts around or hauling them with carts or wagons. I felt we did pretty well for the food drive portion of our event as well. I had a lot of canned goods in the back of my truck and several club members helped unload them at the local food pantry. The pantry thanked us and were very happy with the goods we dropped off to them this year.

I can't thank all of our sponsors, vendors and everyone that attended enough for all their support this year. It was another great swap, I am now looking forward to gearing up for Snowfest on February 18, 2023. Suzuki Snowmobiles are the featured show sled this year however, all makes and models are welcome and encouraged.

If anyone is interested in becoming a club member, please let us know. I had a group of guys ask me about joining and helping out. I welcomed that for sure! I love being a part of this club and I get a lot of enjoyment out of seeing everyone have so much fun when we do our events. - Swiler said»

Another successful swap-meet behind them, Marion Snowmobile Club members will turn their focus to the Marion Snowfest. Before you know it, crews will be building the ice oval and grounds will be taking shape for the vintage snowmobile show and swap meet. To learn more about the Marion Snowmobile Club, the Marion Snowmobile Swap Meet and the Marion Snowfest like them on Facebook; Marion Vintage Snowmobile Club or visit their Website; www.marionvintagesnowmobileclub.com



Cassie Baker and Family get ready to head off with another load of goodies. Nothing beats a golf cart for shopping



This pretty nice Boa-Ski got a lot of attention



A must have item is a dolly if you're a serious shopper



Even the smallest sled can get pretty heavy when loading



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THE *Vintage* EDGE

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Remember When... Team Spencer won Lincoln in '84?



Bill Britt, #22 takes the checkered flag.

Story and Photos by Steve Landon

LINCOLN, MICH. - The sweet taste of victory has evaded Terry Spencer, 37, of Burton, Mich., for over eight years of professional enduro racing. Those years of frustration all came to an end as drivers Bill Britt, 23, of Turner, Mich., and Rob Sass, also of Turner, Mich. piloted their aging sno-pro Arctic Cat to victory in the Lincoln Lions 250, 500 Lap Enduro.

Alan Haynes and co-driver Jeff Hunt of Mt. Pleasant, Mich., finished second, seven laps back on a Polaris Indy, sponsored by Grable and Sons Metal Products of Dimondale, Mich. In the last 20 laps Haynes was on the same lap with the Spencer team, a mere four seconds out

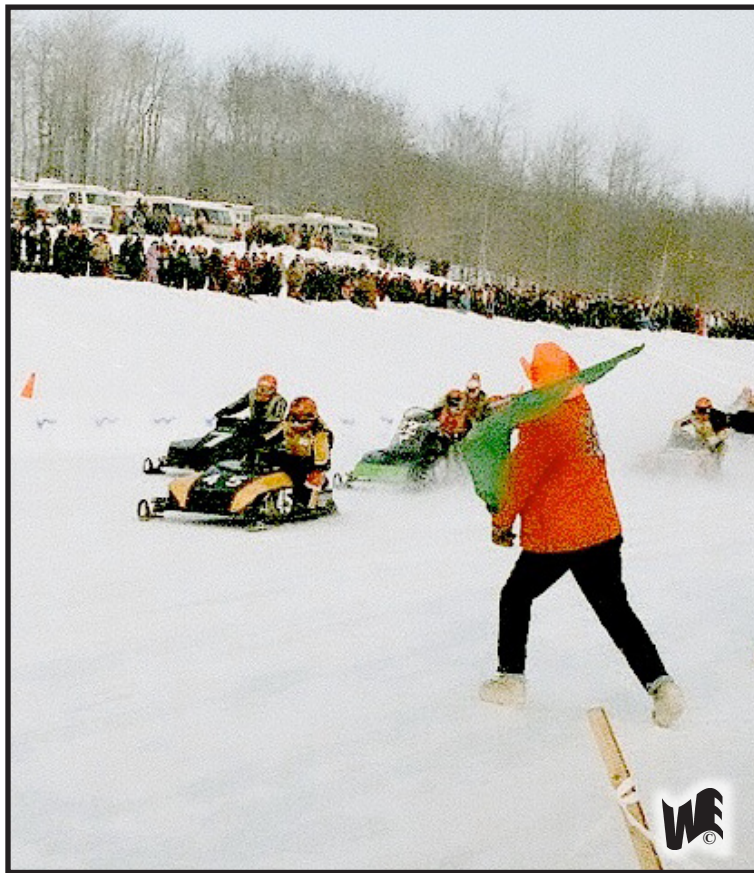
of first, when he lost two pipes and broke the right front shock.

"We knew we were 27 laps up on third and there was no way we were going to stop, it was all or nothing," said Haynes.

An estimated crowd of over 4,000, were on hand despite a wind chill at the start of -20 below. To the surprise of many, the romored new stock equipment did not materialize. Instead the field was filled with sno-pro Arctic Cats and Ski-Doo's. Even the stock sleds that did show had major front suspension changes to stay competitive with the sno-pro equipment.

The interest in consumer stock sleds was a common

Continued on Page 16



Dan Kirts, #45 bolts into the lead at the green.



Team Freedom, #8 with garry Wilson and Walt Bandstra finished sixth on skidoo.



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Top Ten Finishers

Place	Team Name	Qualifying Driver	Sled	Town
1.	Team Spencer	Bill Britt	Arctic Cat	Turner, MI
2.	Grable and Son's	Alan Haynes	Polaris	Mt. Pleasant
3.	Agnew Racing	Ed Badour	Arctic Cat	MI Munger, MI
4.	Kipfmiller	Jeff Kipfmiller	Arctic Cat	Bay City, MI
5.	ATM	Ken Manning	Scorpion	Harrisville, MI
6.	Team Freedom	Walter Bandsta	Ski-Doo	Brimley, MI
7.	Team Hehn	Rich Hahn	Yamaha	Royal Oak, MI
8.	Team Busch	Doug Guffey	Ski-Doo	Burton, MI
9.	Havercroft	Tim Havercroft	Scorpion	Lincoln, MI
10.	Team Benner	Dan Kirts	Ski-Doo	Bristol, IN.

Continued from Page 14

topic of drivers and pit crews with most agreeing it was the thing of the future and almost a must to stay competitive at the Soo I-500.

As expected, Dan Kirts captured the pole in time trials and led briefly during the first 25 laps. Kirts of Bristol, Ind., was looking forward to notching his ninth career win until

an accident in turn two left his Ski-Doo bent and battered. After a lengthy session in the pits he recovered to finish 10th, 98 laps back.

1983 Triple Crown winner Jeff Kipfmiller, 25, of Bay City, Mich., led in the early going for 75 laps before front suspension problems on his Arctic Cat, forced him to, finish the day in fourth.

The big names in the past few years were not a factor in Lincoln. Rob Diamond of Lapeer, Tom St. John of Midland, Mich., and Gerry Adamowski all found themselves watching from the sidelines, their sleds resting in pits with various problems.

By the 200 lap mark the final five finishers were making
Continued on Page 19



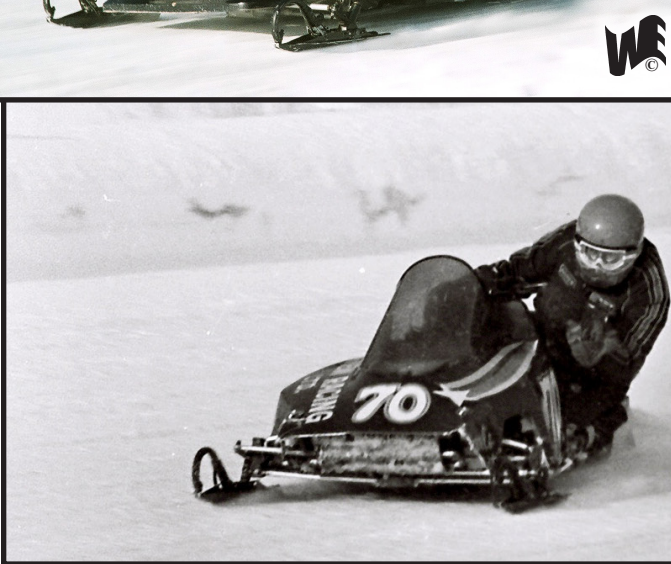
Above: Team Busch with driver Doug Guffey finished 8th.

Below: Bill Steven's and Jeff Kipfmiller captured 4th place.



Above: Bill Britt edges past Rich Hahn, #95 who drove a Yamaha.

Below: Ed Badour and Jeff Willoughby OF Agnew Racing finished third.



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9. 1984 & Older 340 Mod Stock
10. 1984 & Older Powder Stock
440cc max.
11. 1984 & Older Single Pro
12. 1984 & Older 440 Improved
Fan/Free Air/Liquid
13. Relic Class 340 Stock
14. 1984 & Older 340 Improved
Fan/Free Air/Liquid
15. 1984 & Older 440 Stock Sr. Class
(55 yrs & up)
16. 1984 & Older Single Mod Stock
17. 1984 & Older Jr. Stock 340
(10-16 Years Old)
18. 1984 & Older 440 Mod Stock
19. 1984 & Older Single Cylinder Stock
20. 1984 & Older 440 Stock
21. 1984 & Older 340 Pro
22. 1984 & Older 340 Liquid Stock
23. 1984 & Older Junior Imp. 340
(10-16 Years Old)
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28. 1984 & Older Single Cylinder Imp.

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7. 1984 and Older
340 Stock
8. 1984 & Older
340 Mod Stock
9. 1984 & Older
Powder Stock
440cc max.
10. 1984 & Older
Single Pro
11. 1984 & Older
440 Improved
Fan/Free Air/Liquid
12. Relic Class
340 Stock
13. 1984 & Older
340 Improved
Fan/Free Air/Liquid
14. 1984 & Older
440 Stock Sr. Class
(55 yrs & up)
15. 1984 & Older
Single Mod Stock
16. 1984 & Older
Jr. Stock 340
(10-16 Years Old)
17. 1984 & Older
440 Mod Stock
18. 1984 & Older
Single Cylinder Stock
19. 1984 & Older
440 Stock
20. 1984 & Older
340 Pro
21. 1984 & Older
340 Liquid Stock
22. 1984 & Older
Junior Imp. 340
(10-16 Years Old)
23. IFS/Champ Open
600cc max.
24. Relic Class
Single Cylinder Stock
25. Relic Class
440 Stock
26. 1984 & Older
440 Pro
27. 1984 & Older
Single Cylinder Imp.



Above: Jeff Kipfmiller, Bill Britt and Dan Kirts lead the field at the start of the Lincoln lions 250.



Above: Alan Haynes' co-driver Jeff Hunt (#23) edges past Team Spencers Rob Sass, (#22).

Left: Dan Kirts overcame a crash to take 10th place for Team Benner.

Continued from Page 16

their moves for the top spot. Ed Badour of Munger, Mich., and co-driver Jeff Willoughby of Lake Orion, Mich., had moved their Arctic Cat to the top. Ken Manning on a Scorpion from Harrisville, Mich., was just three laps back and closing in fast. The Spencer team was slipping steadily up from fifth and just seven laps separated them.

Manning, an area favorite, nudged into first at 250 laps but Haynes in second and Badour were just seconds apart on the same lap. By 300 laps Manning was still on top but like a chain reaction everything that could go wrong did. First a cooling hose broke, then the under carriage. Finally five laps later the drive chain broke. Despite all of the problems they managed to finish fifth, 60 laps out.

"Despite all the problems we were happy, we didn't start working on the sled until a week before the race," said team manager Joe James.

Continued on Page 20

Below: Team Spencer with driver's Rob Sass, & Bill Britt celebrate the Teams first victory at the awards banquet.



Continued from Page 19

After leading for over 50 laps Ed Badour's problems started to take their toll. Driving a three-year-old sno-pro Arctic Cat chassis with over 2000 racing miles on it, the sled lost many of the studs and Badour found himself taking the high side of the track to keep running.

"I said from the start we were going to win this thing, but loosing traction and being black flagged twice for a missing mud flap cost us a lot of important time," said Badour. The lack of traction also cost some additional time when Willoughby went flipping into turn four. He was unhurt.

Bill Britt had put Spencer's Arctic Cat in first by 350 laps to stay, yet despite having everything going their way no one would say it was in the bag until the flag fell. Haynes was close behind and the memories of the 1983 Alpena race still haunted them. On the final lap Spencer was on top in Alpena only to have victory taken away by Dan Kirts on the back stretch of the final lap.

Spencer opted to stay away from the driving to concentrate on wrenching. "We did nothing different from the past except go with the younger drivers," said Spencer. "We have been so close" to winning many times it is just hard to believe we finally did it."



Local Favorite Ken Manning slips past Mike Staszak. Driving a Scorpion, Manning finished 5th.



Team Spencer took the victory at the Lincoln Lions 250, 500 Lap Enduro.

Left: Mike Staszak exits the pits on his Arctic Cat.



Team Havercroft, #99 Tim & Scott Havercroft of Lincoln grabbed 8th place on a Scorpion.



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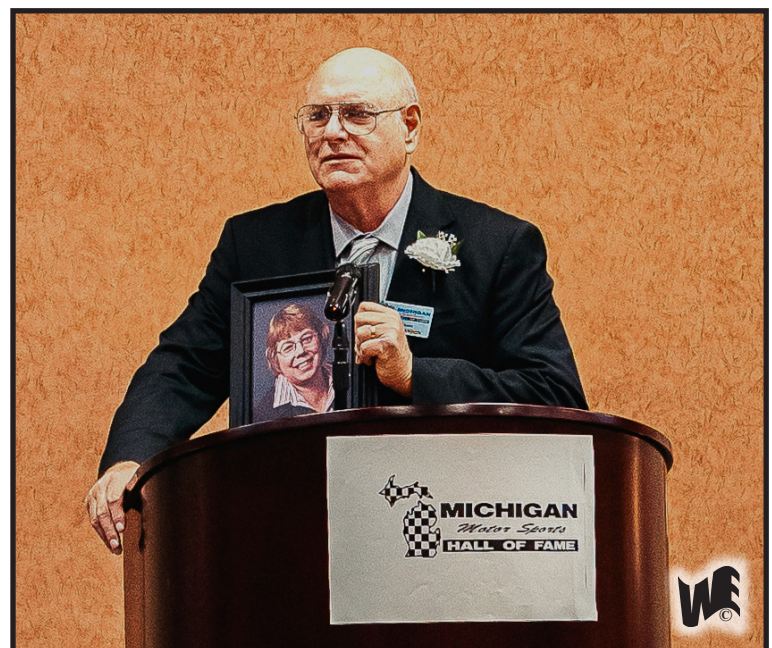
Steve & Sherry Landon/The Winning Edge Magazine Inducted into the Michigan Motor Sports H.O.F.

No one expected that an invitation to dinner at their hometown Pizza Hut in 1979, followed by a first date at Big Boy and "The Muppet Movie" would lead to marriage in 1980, four children and 41 years of adventure. That in a nutshell pretty well sums up the life of Farwell, Michigan residents Steve and Sherry Landon, founders of The Winning Edge Magazine a popular snowmobile publication covering competition and snowmobile performance since 1985.

Born and raised in and around Mt. Pleasant, Mich., the couple had never met until that fateful day in 1979 despite having shared schools and friends. It was one of those friends Donna Husted Kriss whose introduction would change their lives forever. From their first date on they would become an inseparable team doing almost everything in life from family to work together. They honestly expected to live an average life, but it was anything but average. Never in their wildest dreams did they imagine publishing a snowmobile magazine that would one day lead them into a Hall of Fame. On Sunday November 6, 2022 on what would have been Sherry's sixty-third birthday the couple was inducted into Michigan Motor Sports Hall of Fame with the class of 2022 during ceremonies at the Comfort Inn of Mt. Pleasant., Michigan. Sadly, Sherry who had joined Steve at the podium in 2007 when they were awarded the MMHOF Mick Schuler Media Award had

passed away in 2021.

Steve caught the snowmobile bug in the late 1960's after being given a ride on a Johnson Skee-Horse. Before too long his family had three 1970 /'71 Yamaha's ready to



Steve Landon took a portrait taken by daughter Sarrah to the podium for his speech. It seemed only right to have her by his side even in spirit.



Like many past racers and inductees, the Landon's had a display of some of their work and accomplishments. That display included their first ever computer used to produce the magazine, a Macintosh SE restored by son Steven T.

hit the snow. One day while snowmobiling in Clare, Mich., at his grandmother's farm, family friend and local racer Tommie Bauer invited Steve to a nearby oval track enduro race. From the green to the checkered flag, Steve was hooked! Making the day even better, Jim Stovak of Mt. Pleasant, MI who had sold his family their Yamaha's won the race on a Yamaha.

Never one who liked watching from the stands, Steve dreamed of one day covering racing as a member of the press. A newshound and history buff by nature, he would pick up a few freelance photo and radio jobs after graduating from Mt. Pleasant High School in 1976, reporting on area race teams. In 1977, Bill Brauker, owner of the Harrison Star newspaper gave him his first big break, hiring him to shoot pictures and write about area news.

That same year Marion's Basil and Francis Niver, owner of "Team Highland" an Arctic Cat race team who won the Alpena Thunder Bay 250 earlier that year advertised the Marion 150 in the Star. Knowing how much Steve loved racing, they invited him to cover the race. The Marion 150 would mark his first time covering an area snowmobile race. From those early stories Steve would go on to write

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woody's
Congratulates



Our long time friends and Publishers of The Winning Edge Magazine

Steve and Sherry Landon

on their 2022 induction into the
Michigan Motorsports Hall of Fame





The Landon kids Steven, Seth - pictured on cell phone Stacey and Sarrah spent a lot of time in the cold and snow while growing up traveling with Mom and Dad covering races from Vermont to Alaska and Canada. Seth who lives and works in Alaska could not make the trip down for the induction. He is pictured with his daughter Olivia.

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and take photos for a number of state and national snowmobile publications. His work also appeared and continues to appear in ads, books, programs and promotional materials. Sadly, December 31, 1977 marked the last Marion 150 enduro however, snowmobile racing continues on the old Marion fairgrounds track with vintage competition during the annual Marion Snowfest in February.

It's been said countless times by racers and race fans "If the girl you're dating comes to more than one snowmobile race, she is the one for you." In 1980 Sherry joined Steve at all but one race. From that point on people told him she



All together. The Winning Edge Magazine team past and present came for the induction. Laurie Shooltz, Sherry Landon in Portrait and in Spirit, Steve Landon and Amber Hart. Laurie who was on the founding team with Sherry and Steve that started the magazine, she also designed the book "Legends Around the Mile" by Steve Landon and John Kenn. Amber Hart took over the design of the magazine, promotional fliers after Sherry passed away. She also designs the HOF Induction program.

was a keeper. Boy was she ever! From babysitting Steve's bulky camera bag, to taking race notes and occasional photos, this shy quiet young lady would become a talented graphic designer, artist and photographer. She was truly an amazing best friend, loving wife, mother, business woman and a talented contributor to the sport of snowmobiling.

In the 1980's Steve and Sherry photographed Harness Horse Racing at 21 Michigan County Fairs in addition to shooting weddings. Every winter Sherry followed Steve as he covered racing for various publications. In 1984 they opened a small photo Shoppe in Harrison, Mich., called the "Click Click Shoppe". Working with \$500.00 received from Jim Musselman of Woody's Snowmobile Traction Products who purchased their first

ad. Sherry and their dear friend Laurie Shooltz would help Steve realize his dream of publishing a magazine. Sherry came up with a name "The Winning Edge" Magazine". The logic was everyone needs The Winning Edge, to



Before Sherry passed away she thanked Steve for the Adventure. In 1995 they flew the interior of Alaska in a Cessna 180 covering the Iron Dog cross country snowmachine race from Wasilla to Nome Alaska and back. Here they are together at the Rainy Pass Lodge in the interior of Alaska it was just one of their many adventures together.



complete on the track, or in the workplace. On a snowy December Day in 1985, the first edition rolled off the press. From that issue it has expanded and still exists today. In 2007 it became the first snowmobile magazine to go all digital.

Not one's to stand by just covering racing, they got involved working Beyond the Edge as volunteers with a number of events and projects across the snow-belt. From 2001 - 2013 they produced "Memories at the Mile" a vintage snowmobile show at the Soo I- 500 that included a vintage snowmobile parade lap around the famed one-mile ice oval track. Active with the Marion Snowfest since the beginning, Steve continues to help promote and cover the event today as well as their annual fall swap meet.

As a designer Sherry produced everything from posters to books using Steve's photos and stories from various snowmobile, motorized and popular events they covered. Her biggest projects were the 150, page 50th Anniversary Eagle River World

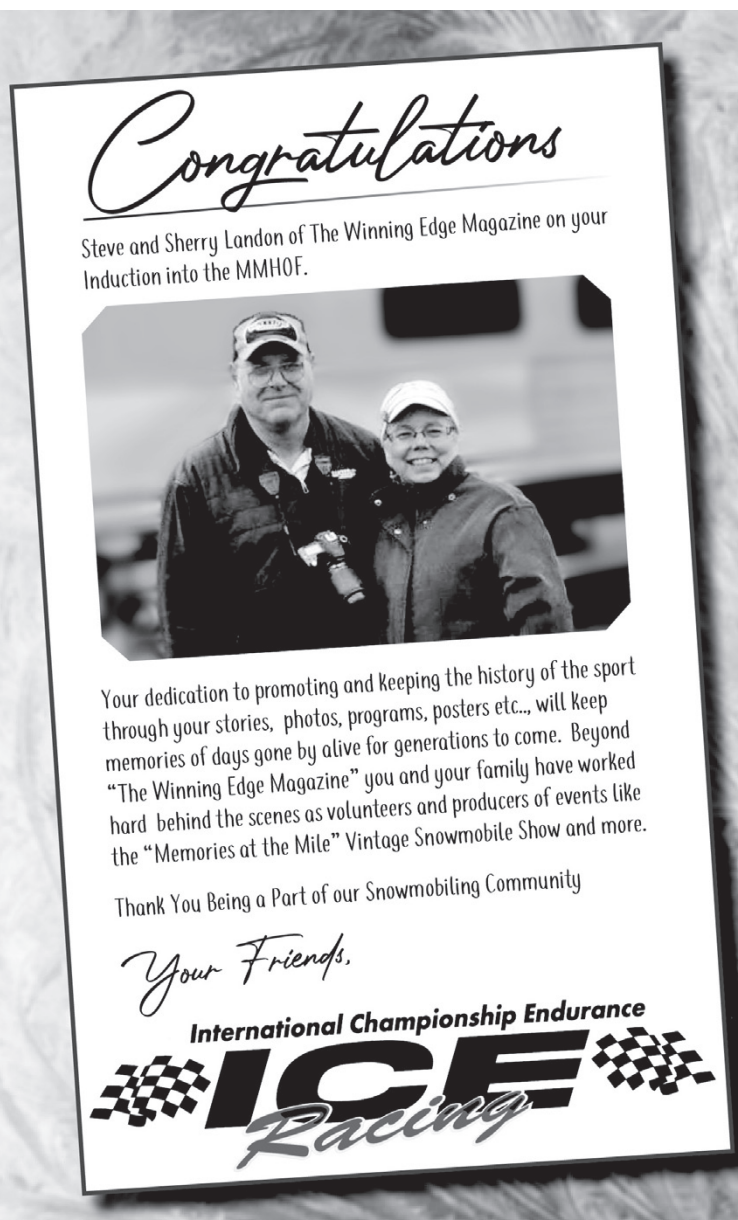


First edition

Championship Snowmobile Derby program and the 25th Soo I-500 history book "Legends Around the Mile" working together with designer Laurie Shooltz, Steve and Soo I-500 historian -John Kenn. Over the years Sherry's designs, photos and art work appeared in national publications, in ads and promotional materials. Locally she was very honored to have designed the logo for the Clare Arts Council. From 2008 - 2019 working with Steve, and others, she designed the Michigan Motor Sports Hall of Fame induction program. Currently designed by her special friend and former co-worker at the Clare County Review and Marion Press Amber Hart with help from Steve and Hall of Fame board members.

Sherry was a mom who wanted to keep her kids in the loop. Because of the magazine their children Steven, Sarrah, Seth and Stacey traveled while growing up, visiting places and seeing sights across the U.S. and Canada many only dream of, all in part because of her hard work with Steve helping to make The Winning Edge Magazine a success.

"We never looked to make a lot of money. We wanted to
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A surprisingly large group attended the induction of Sherry and Steve Landon in the Michigan MotorSports HOF. Here is just a portion of those on hand; Back Row L-R Brian Niver, Dale Smith, Tammy Walker, Dennis Walker, Terry Coomer, Kyler Smith, Bernie Blain Shannon Gibis, Brenda Blain, Laurie Shooltz, Steven T. Landon, Mike Allen, Diane Miller, Bill Miller, Ted Lane, and Roger Britt. Front Row L-R - Anne and Bill Brauker, Stacey Landon DeGeer with portrait of Sherry Landon, Steve Landon, Ellie Smith, Betty Coomer, Wilma Gibis, Sarrah Landon Smith, Amber Hart, Mechele Ann Pinkston Allen, Carissa Baker, Kielely Grider, and Cassie Baker. Missing from photo; Donna Husted Kriss, Jan Bailey, Larry Tiede, and a few late arrivals.

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have a life filled with memories and experiences our children would cherish long after we're gone. We tried to give 100% to all those we worked with and served by going the extra mile whenever possible. Like everyone we had some rough times, however, the good times more than made up for any bumps we dealt with along the road. I know for sure we would have never traded all the experiences we had for all the money, luxuries and fancy toys in the world," Steve Landon said.

After their kids graduated, Sherry went on to finish her education at Mid-Michigan Community College outside of Harrison, Mich., graduating with honors in 2010. Following a long career with the Clare County Review / Marion Press that began in 2006 Sherry moved on to her dream job with the Clare County MSU Extension office. Together Sherry and Steve were active volunteers with 4-H, community projects and more until Sherry's unexpected passing on May 27, 2021 from pneumonia while being treated for breast cancer. Sherry had battled breast cancer since 2015 the last three years at stage four when it went to her bones. She never let cancer keep her down, working onsite or on-line right up to a few weeks before she left for heaven.

Sherry always had a positive upbeat attitude from the day she was diagnosed with cancer and told people "No matter where my journey takes me, I am going to do it with a smile on my face and a happy heart"

Moments before she passed into the arms of Jesus ,

Sherry embraced, kissed Steve and said "Thank you for a wonderful adventure" Indeed it was. Heaven truly gained a beautiful soul.

Sherry wanted Steve to continue The Winning Edge Magazine. In honor of her request, the magazine will continue until the good Lord reunites them in heaven . Thanks to Amber Hart who has stepped up to help Steve keep going. Since it was first published well over 200 plus issues have been produced covering events and interesting people from Maine to Alaska and Canada.

At the Hall of Fame induction Steve carried a portrait of Sherry taken by their daughter Sarrah to the podium to give his acceptance speech.

"I was the luckiest man in the world to have Sherry as my wife. The award was given to us as a team it only seemed right to have her portrait by my side when I accepted. I have no doubt she was right there with me in spirit smiling proud as ever at what we accomplished over the years.

The name on the plaque says Steve & Sherry Landon, however, this honor belongs to the good Lord, everyone who believed in us, supported us and worked with us along the way. None of this would have been possible without them.

Pulling the magazine and the other projects Sherry and I did over the years back together has been a bit of a challenge since Sherry passed. Thanks to Amber Hart plus advice and encouragement from others we're on the right

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track." Landon said.

Since the early 1980's some of the finest men and women in the Great Lakes State have been honored for their contributions to racing. Here's on the track, in the garage and behind the scenes have received the ultimate recognition by being inducted into the Michigan Motor Sports Hall of Fame.

In addition to the Steve & Sherry Landon Members of the Class of 2022 Inductees were; Tim Curry, Tom Sprague Sr., John Turnbull Sr., The Austin Brothers, Tom Tiganelli / Shadowwoods Racing, Douglas Peterson, Eddie Hayden, Mel Householder, Reinbold Racing, and Randy Varney. This deserving group consisted of car owners, car builders, oval track racers, drag racers, promoters, road racers, and journalists.

Special awards were given as follows; Michigan Motor Sports Hall of Fame Lifetime Achievement Award went to two recipients, Dick Alberts, and Dick Stemler. The Dick Beebe / MMSHoF Contribution to Motorsports Award went to Laura Tucker. and Matt Prieur received the Mick Schuler / MMSHoF Media Award.

Another year successful year behind them plans are already in the works for the 39th Annual Michigan Motor Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremonies set for Sunday November 5, 2023. To learn about the Michigan Motor Sports Hall of Fame visit their website <http://www.mmshof.org/>



Steve's dad Tom, with Sherry & family on the Alaska pipeline in 1996 while covering a snowmobile race.

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11:00 AM - RIDE
Ride to Cranberry Lodge, 13 miles one way.
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3:00 PM - 7:00 PM - GET TOGETHER
At the Snowmobile Museum
6:30 PM - NIGHT RIDE
Night Ride & Bonfire,
3 miles to the Millecoquins Bridge

SAT. FEB. 18
8:00 AM TO 10:00 AM
Line up for Show, downtown Naubinway,
Register at Museum (Free)
10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM - SHOW
Snowmobiles on Display, downtown Naubinway
4:30 PM TO 5:30 PM
Banquet at the Garfield Township Hall in Engadine
5:30 PM TO 8:30 PM
Speaker - John McGuirk
Merchant Drawings, 50/50, Museum Raffle Drawing
Museum Auction - donated items accepted,
proceeds go to the Museum Building Fund

For more info contact Charlie or Marilyn at
906-477-6298

The Winning Edge

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In memory of Sherry E. Landon

Co Publisher and Designer

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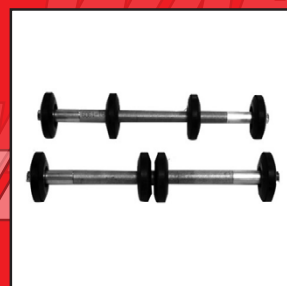
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