Happy February 2017,

The snow is falling here in Vermont! It's a glorious winter wonderland out there! The trees look so pretty with all the fresh snow!

MAIL CALL

From President Ed Skomoroh

Dear Iron Dog Members:

Jean and I just returned Thursday from the Midwest Iron Dog Ride which took place in Hayward WI. Hayward is approximately 3 hours away from our home where we for the past 3 years have not had enough snow to ride. Dale Vagts, who put together this ride for the second time, did an excellent job in providing guides and seeing that the trails, the lodging and meals were top notch. Dale also went to great lengths to design a classy Crapper Award plaque, top notch. Dale we thank you very much. We had approximately 30 riders and we rode from Monday through Wednesday and most days the riding temps were very pleasant.

I believe we rode all in all about 220 miles.

Next year the Midwest Ride will move to Minnesota to a Northern town of Babbitt MN. Since temps are cooler there so the ride will be held the last part of February. Hopefully some of our Dogs from Manitoba will take part next year. Les Ollila has been planning this ride for several years now and we all look forward to participating. Tom Anderson our photographer and writer will be filling you in on the Hayward ride and who got the prestigious Crapper Award.

Ed Skomoroh

I've heard of a few "Dogs" that could use some prayers and cheer. I'm sure there are others that I have not heard about.

And there is a couple that I have heard that I do not have their permission to share. My prayers are with all of us that are dealing with serious health issues. You never know what life will throw in your path, that's for sure. I know I have found that I have a lot more understanding about physical and emotional disabilities than I ever did before. May GOD bless each and every one of us.

Tom Anderson had hip surgery today and will be going home tomorrow. Dennis is dealing with serious health issues and could use some prayers. Mitzi Oakes has had some health issues and has been in and out of the hospital this winter. Jack Sheets' illness is progressing. Phyllis takes his mail to him and reads them to him. Jack and Phyllis appreciates the cards they have received.

I've enclosed their mailing addresses should you wish to send them a note or card.

Tom Anderson

3393 County Rd MN McFarland, WI 53558

Dennis Conniff

6721 State 44

Caledonia, MN 55921

Phyllis Sheets (for Jack Sheets)

2350 Stonebridge Drive

Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Mitzi Oakes

7 Aspen Drive, Apt. 329

South Burlington, VT 05403

WWW.IRONDOGBRIGADE.COM

Duane Sutton and Gail Hanson working on building our new website. We'll be able to control the new website content much better and it will be much easier to keep things up to date. That is as long as ALL OF YOU keep them updated with new goings on! So, if you have Iron Dog pictures, feel free to send them to Duane and Gail. Their emails are <u>duanesutton@yahoo.com</u> and <u>rtcat1@myfairpoint.net</u> so flood their inboxes!

I know, you're welcome Duane and Gail!

IRON DOG DUDS - check out the newest in Spring fashion - click on "Dog Duds" on the top of the page.