

Iditarod committee selects Seeley as No. one musher

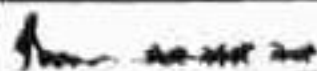
Eva Brunell "Short" Seeley, a longtime New Hampshire resident and an internationally known breeder of Alaskan Malamutes and Siberian Huskies has been selected by the Iditarod Trail Committee to be the honorary "Number one" musher.

Each year, the committee selects a well known dog musher or some non-musher who has done much to perpetuate the sport of sled dog racing and the Iditarod Trail Race to be the honorary musher.

Mrs. Seeley, the first woman to receive this honor, died Dec. 28, 1985, at the age of 94.

She lived at Wonalancet, N.H., where she ran her world-famous "Chinook Kennels" and was a breeder of prize-winning Huskies and a noted show judge and author.

The founder of the New England Sled Dog Club in 1924, Mrs. Seeley was an active competitor in the New England and Eastern Canadian racing



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circuits for 30 years. In 1932, she was the only female entrant in the Olympic Sled Dog Demonstration Race at the Lake Placid Winter Olympics.

During World War II, Mrs. Seeley and her husband Milton conducted a school for men and dogs to be used in downed pilot rescue missions on the North Atlantic flight pattern that ran from Newfoundland and over Greenland and Iceland.

Mrs. Seeley's kennels supplied dog teams used in the exploration of the Antarctic continent, beginning with the first Byrd Antarctic Expedition in 1929 and including Operation Deepfreeze in 1956.

She was one of two women sled dog drivers to be inducted into the Musher's Hall of Fame in Knik.