

# Alaska 1981 Race Schedule

PLACES and CONTACT PERSONS	Anchorage ASDRA Dock Tozier 344-2068	Willow Earl Norris 543-2972 or 543-3300	Homer Ann Patch 235-7766 Mike Holland 567-3989	Delta Dog Mushers Bob Lizardi Box 167 Delta, AK. 99737	Montana Creek Dog Mushers Montana Creek Lodge 733-2312	Kenai Peninsula Sled Dog Racing Assoc. John Roderick 262-4378	Knik Aurora Dog Mushers Dewe Olson 376-5558	Fairbanks Alesia Dog Mushers Frances Darling
DATES								
Saturday, January 17 Sunday, January 18	Open \$500 Limited		Point Race	Reprinted from "THE GANGLINE" a dog musher's newsletter.			Knik Championship 2-day	
Wednesday, January 21		Kuskokwim 300 miles \$20,000 purse						
Saturday, January 24 Sunday, January 25	Open \$500 Limited			8 dog, 8 miles	Cantwell 110 miles \$1,000 purse	For updated information, call the respective race's spokesperson.		
January 31 - February 1	Ekron 2-16 miles \$4,000 purse	Willow race	Point Race					16 mi. prelim. 14 mi./7 dog 8 mi./freight



## IDITAROD TRAILS

By Anne Patch

### The Building Of A Check Point

Out in the Alaska wilderness across the Kuskokwim Mountains, approximately 45 miles from Ophir on the way to Iditarod (another 40-50 miles down the trail), construction is about to get underway on a new Iditarod Trail Race check point - Don's Cabin.

During the 1979 race this half-way spot became a haven for a group of cold, tired mushers...Don Montgomery of Ohio, Dr. Jim Lanier of Anchorage and Gene Leonard of Finger Lake among them. The weather was typically terrible; the trail temporarily impassible, and the men and teams took refuge in a broken down floorless frame cabin which became affectionately remembered as "The Lettuce Crate". Needless to say, at many points in the "structure" there was nothing standing between the occupants and a clear view of the scrubby, spruce-dotted tundra outside. The wind and snow filtered freely

through the holes and little shelter was gained from the relentless cold.

Don Montgomery, after going on to finish the race in Nome and returning to his home in Ohio, decided that that old lettuce crate with a few new materials and a little work could become a welcome check point breaking the long distance between Ophir and Iditarod on the southern route of the Iditarod Trail.

In an attempt to bring this idea to reality, Don has donated the funds to rebuild the cabin and the check point construction has become a project of the Iditarod Trail Committee.

Right after the first of the year, Iditarod musher and 2-time winner Rick Swenson will take his dogs and one or two other volunteers, his hammer and nails and head to the lettuce crate to begin repairs.

Jack Coghill of Nenana Fuel Company and an Iditarod Board member, has volunteered to fly the materials to the sight. Veteran musher Joel Kortke is already hard at work on a door for the "new" cabin, and the crew at Wasilla's YAAC is at work on a sign to proudly proclaim the new haven "Don's Cabin Iditarod Trail Check Point".

It promises to be very civilized compared to what the mushers found in 1979. A Yukon stove will be installed along with a new tin roof, new insulation in the walls, a warm insulated floor and tar paper on the exterior.

Don Montgomery himself will greet the 1981 mushers and serve as checker at his new wilderness outpost-approximately 1/2 way down the 1049 mile Iditarod Trail from Anchorage to Nome.

## Racers signed up for 1981 Iditarod

As of December 30, 1980, a total of 42 mushers have signed up to compete in the 1981 Anchorage-to-Nome Iditarod Race. They are listed below:

1. Joe Redington, Sr. Knik, AK
2. John Barron Big Lake, AK
3. Jerry Austin St. Michael, AK
4. Terry Adkins Cheyenne, WY
5. Glen Craig Nenana, AK
6. Norman Vaughan Anchorage, AK
7. Susan Butcher Knik, AK
8. Dr. Robert Martin, MD Wasilla, AK
9. Larry Smith Dawson City, Y.T.
10. Myron Angstman Bethel, AK
11. Burt Bomhoff Anchorage, AK
12. EEP Anderson Takotna, AK
13. Roger Roberts Ophir, AK
14. Rick Swenson Eureka, AK
15. Sue Firmon Flat Horn Lake, AK
16. Mark Freshwaters Ruby, AK
17. Dr. Earl Sprunger, DVM Apple Creek Ohio
18. Dee Dee Jonrowe Bethel, AK
19. Herbie Nayokpuk Shishmaref, AK
20. Sonny Lindner Delta Jct., AK
21. Gerald Riley Nenana, AK
22. Dennis Boyer Palmer, AK
23. Libby Riddles Nelchina, AK
24. Clifton Jackson Noorvik, AK
25. Roger Nordlum Kotzebue, AK
26. Willie French New Zealand
27. Jeff King McKinley Park, AK
28. Gary Whittemore Cantwell, AK
29. David Monson Unalaska, AK
30. Rick Mackey Wasilla, AK
31. Russell Ivey McGrath, AK
32. Donna Gentry Skwenta, AK
33. Jim Strong Hope, AK
34. Steve Flodin Chugiak, AK
35. Wes McIntyre Homer, AK
36. Dan Zobrist Nenana, AK
37. Ted English Chugiak, AK
38. Duane Halverson Trapper Creek, AK
39. Bud Smyth Fairbanks, AK
40. Martin Buser Switzerland
41. Douglas Sherrer Takotna, Y.T.
42. Bill Thompson WhiteHorse, Y.T.