2019 Race to the Sky

Montana’s 300 & 100 Mile Adult & 100 Mile Jr. Sled Dog Races

Jack Beckstrom
34 Years Strong

Wow, another year has come and gone but not without notice.

Sadly was the unexpected passing of Jack Beckstrom, the original race founder. He was one of the beginning visionaries who helped plan the first Race to the Sky and every race after that. He wanted to introduce distance mushing to Montana and that he did!

Jack was a board member, musher rep, treasurer, race marshall, fundraiser and always a dog musher and competitor. He changed the trajectory of dog mushing in Montana by exemplifying good dog care and education for mushers and the community. Jack was active on the board for 33 years.

He also planned mushing symposiums so dog mushers could be better prepared to run the Race to the Sky. In the early years, it was a challenging 500 miles. He had a lifetime of stories about racing and being part of the original planning organization. He mentored new mushers and he loved what he did!

He founded Adanac Sleds and Equipment over 40 years ago, making dog sleds and equipment and shipping sleds and gear all over the world, working on prototype sleds and equipment and loving what he did. He race marshaled the only snow race in Australia, twice and lots of other races.

It has been a challenging year figuring out how to do the things that came naturally to Jack. He is missed by many and was loved by all.

We dedicate this year’s race to Jack with undying gratitude for all that he did and the sacrifices he made for Race to the Sky.

We continue to honor all the sled dogs and dog trainers who were led to Camp Rimini War Dog Reception and Training Center during World War II. They were true heroes and used their trained sled dogs on search and rescue missions, saving thousands of dollars in military equipment, saving lives and returning crash victims for a proper burial.

So come see for yourself: the dogs love what they do and so do the mushers. Bundle up the kiddos and come to all the events, they are free. Support the race by purchasing race products to support the mushers and enjoy yourself!

Pam Beckstrom, Board VP, Race Secretary and 34 Year Volunteer
Race Sponsors

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Bruggeman Endodontics & Implants
Great Falls – www.drbruggeman.com

Sponsor since 1986

www.adanacsleds.com

BRONZE SPONSORS ($500-$999)

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Ammo, Mylee & Carter – The 3 Shilohs

Missoula Electric

White Tail Ranch – Ovando

Hi-Country Snack Foods - Lincoln

Blackfoot Communications - Lincoln
SLED BANNERS 2019

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Cory’s Valley Market – Seeley Lake
Adanac Sleds & Equipment
Mobile City Self Storage – Helena
Troy Library Chess Club - John Hay
Wild About Cats Rescue & Sanctuary
Rejuvenate
Sweet Pea Sewer & Septic – Helena
Barbie Nelson – Chef
Axis Physical Therapy - Missoula
Helena CTVA 4 Wheeler Club
Bruggeman Endodontics – Great Falls
Enterprise Rentals – Helena
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Free Cycles Missoula MIST (Missoulians for Sustainable Transportation) – Tracy O’Reilly
White Tail Ranch – Ovando
Bernice’s Bakery – Missoula
Perfectly Raw - Canada
Hi-Country Snack Foods – Lincoln
Glen’s Automotive – Seeley Lake
R & R Powder Coating – Helena
Ellen Allen – Big Sky Realty
iFlyBigSky
Citizen’s Alliance Bank – Seeley Lake

First Place Wins for 500, 350 and 300 Mile Races
Since our Beginning

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<th>Year</th>
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2019 Race to the Sky – Feb. 8-12
Schedule of Events

Friday, Feb. 8, Lincoln
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Vet Check 300 mile race – Hi-Country Snack Foods,
6:00-8:00 p.m. Pre-race Dinner (free Mexican dinner) – Lincoln Com. Center

Saturday, Feb. 9, Hi-Country Snack Foods, Lincoln (to WT – 52 miles)
11:00-1:00 p.m. Vet Check – 100 Adult and Junior teams
2:00 p.m. Start of 300 Mile, 100 Mile Junior & Adult Races

Saturday, Feb. 9, White Tail Ranch, Ovando (to SL - 50 miles)
6:00 p.m. View 100 and 300 mile teams

Sunday, Feb. 10-11, Seeley Lake Comm. Center, SL (to OC - 50 miles)
4:00 a.m.-noon 100 Mile teams finish at Morrell Creek Trailhead
2:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 300 Mile teams in & out of Seeley Lake Com. Center
1:00 p.m. 100 Mile Awards, Seeley Lake Com. Center

Sun-Mon., Feb. 10-11, Owl Creek Primitive Camp (to SL – 50 miles)

Sun-Mon., Feb 10-11, Seeley Lake Com. Center, (to WT – 50 miles)

Mon.-Tues., Feb. 11-12, White Tail Ranch, (to finish – 52 miles)
300 Mile teams in & out of White Tail to Lincoln finish

Mon.-Tues., Feb. 11-12, Hi-Country Snack Food, Lincoln, Finish
8:00 p.m. on (Mon.) Finish of 300 mile race (Final cut-off is noon Tuesday)
2:00 p.m. (Tues.) 300 Mile Awards Ceremony, at Hi-Country

Visit www.racetothesky.org, Facebook, email info@racetothesky.org.
Updates for media will be published several times a day on the website along with aerial drone photos and GPS map updates constantly.

Race to the Sky T-shirt artwork for 2019

Available at all race events, at Hi-Country Trading Post & Grizzly Claw in Seeley Lake. Race to the Sky blend coffee is also available at all venues.
Race Checkpoint Directions

300 MILE VET CHECK, HI-COUNTRY SNACK FOODS, LINCOLN, (from Helena) follow Highway 12 past Elliston and Avon. Turn right (north) at Highway 141 just beyond Avon, cross the railroad tracks, and follow Hwy. 141 for 34 miles to the end of the Helmville Road. At the stop sign intersecting Highway 141 and Highway 200, turn right (east) toward Lincoln and travel another 16 miles farther. Hi-Country Snack Foods is on the left side of the road when going toward Lincoln from the Helmville Road. Watch for signs--all races start and 300 finishes under the beautiful archway.

FREE PRERACE DINNER, LINCOLN COMMUNITY CENTER, main street Lincoln on Friday night, 6 p.m., everyone is invited.

OFFICIAL START, HI-COUNTRY SNACK FOODS, LINCOLN, (from Helena) follow Highway 12 past Elliston and Avon. Turn right (north) at Highway 141 just beyond Avon, cross the railroad tracks, and follow Hwy. 141 for 34 miles to the end of the Helmville Road. At the stop sign intersecting Highway 141 and Highway 200, turn right (east) toward Lincoln and travel another 16 miles farther. Hi-Country Snack Foods is on the left side of the road when going toward Lincoln from the Helmville Road. Watch for signs--race starts and finishes are right under the beautiful archway.

CHECKPOINTS, HI-COUNTRY SNACK FOODS TO WHITETAIL RANCH, OVANDO, from Lincoln, follow Hwy. 200 west toward Ovando. Turn right off Highway 200 at mile marker 53 (Dry Creek Road). Follow Dry Creek to White Tail Ranch which is about 7 1/2 miles on a plowed dirt road.

CHECKPOINTS, WHITETAIL RANCH TO SEELEY LAKE COMMUNITY CENTER, follow Dry Creek to Hwy. 200, turn right and head toward Clearwater Junction/Seeley Lake. Turn right onto Hwy. 83 at the big steer (literally) which is Clearwater Junction or mile marker 32. Follow Hwy. 83 north through Seeley Lake. The Community Center is on the right side of the road on the edge of town (big brown building).

MORRELL CREEK (Seeley Creek, same) FINISH, 100 Mile race, head north through Seeley Lake, at the edge of town is a sign for MORRELL CREEK (turn right, go up the hill and the finish is at the top on the right side of the road).

FINISH 300 MILE RACE, HI-COUNTRY SNACK FOODS FINISH, LINCOLN (above)

300 MILE AWARDS CEREMONY, Hi-Country Snack Foods (above)

For information, go www.racetothesky.org MSDI is a 501 (c)3 nonprofit corporation

Musher Bios -300 Mile Race

Brett Bruggeman is a 48 year old dentist and dog musher from Great Falls, Montana. His family operates Skinny Legs Sled Dogs and he has been mushing for 8 years. This is his seventh Race to the Sky and he ran Iditarod 2018 and won the 2016 Eagle Cap Extreme 200 with his Alaskan huskies. In his free time, he enjoys horse packing, fishing and falconry. He is sponsored by Bruggeman Endodontics & Implants. He is also the sponsor for the GPS units on each sled.

Gabe Dunham is a 35 year old tour operator from Darby, Montana. He will be racing Alaskan huskies and in the lead will be Foxy, Weasel, Dietrich and Nova. She has been mushing for 19 years. Her most exciting race has been the Eagle Cap Extreme. This is her first Race to the Sky 300.

Clayton Perry is a 59 year old home center owner from Power, Montana. He has been dog mushing for ten years and in the lead will be Smoke and Ash. He runs Alaskan huskies, Doug Swingley breed. She has received the Best Cared for Team Award at Race to the Sky, a first place at Eagle Cap Extreme,
second place in Race to the Sky 100, first at Flathead Classic and several sportsmanship awards. He got started using sled dogs to access the back country to hunt mountain lions and trap bobcats.

Damon Ramaker is a 37 year old nurse from Fountain, Minnesota. He has been mushing for five years and runs Cindy Gallea Alaskan huskies. He got his start skijoring with hunting dogs, then handled for Cindy Gallea and now has his own team. This is his second Race to the Sky, finishing his first 300 mile race last year in fifth place.

Cindy Gallea is a 67 year old nurse practitioner from Wykoff, Minnesota. She has been running Alaskan huskies for 32 years. She has finished Iditarod and Race to the Sky multiple times with two second place finishes in 1995 and 1997. In the lead will be Casper, Montana, Barack and Susan. She says she is so appreciative of all the people in Montana who keep this wonderful race going.

Bryce Mumford is a 38 year old mailman from Preston, Idaho. He has been mushing for 8 years with his Alaskan huskies. He finished race to the Sky 300 in 2015 and 2016 in fourth place. In the lead will be Lolly and Ishtar.

100 Mile Junior

Nicole Grangroth is a 16 year old student from Menahga, Minnesota. She has been mushing for 3 years. In the lead will be Gravel and Whistle with the background of her dogs being from Jamie Nelson's Alaskan huskies. She came in second place in the 2018 Jr. John Beargrease and this is her first Race to the Sky Junior 100.

100 Mile Adult

Roy Etnire is a 63 year old millwright from Seeley Lake, Montana. He operates Mystik North Sleddogs and has been mushing for nine years. He won the 2014 Eagle Cap 100 and the Race to the Sky 100 in 2013 and 2014. He also received the Best Cared for Team Award at Race to the Sky. In the lead will be Sidney, Gondor and Chattie Kathy. Roy runs Alaskan huskies.

David Hassilev is a 58 year old retiree from Priest River, Idaho. He has been dog mushing for six years and runs Alaskan huskies and Chinooks. In the lead will be Galaxy, Flyer, Dust and Cinder. He ran the Eagle Cap 2017 race and got his start with one Chinook and a scooter. This is his first Race to the Sky 100.

Miriam Osredkar is a professional guide and dog trainer from Fairfield, Montana. She has been mushing for 11 years and worked as a dogsledding guide in Alaska and Wyoming. In 2016, she participated in 90th Anniversary Serum Run in 2015 along with running Iditarod. In her spare time, she enjoys backpacking, kayaking, skiing and all outdoor activities. She will be running dogs from Skinny Legs Sled Dogs. This is her second Race to the Sky.

Steve Madsen is a 54 year old attorney from Cougar, Washington. He operates a kennel of Alaskan huskies and has been dog mushing for 27 years. He ran the 2004 and 2006 Iditarod with that being his most exciting race ever run. In the lead will be Leopard and Scandal. The background of his kennel is Swingley and Barron. His most exciting race was the 2006 Iditarod. This is his tenth Race to the Sky.

Spencer Bruggeman is a 17 year old student from Great Falls, Montana. He raced the 100 mile junior
Race to the Sky in 2017 as the youngest teen to finish. He enticed his dad, Brett, to take up dog mushing and they train together. When he isn’t mushing, he enjoys fly-fishing and music. He is sponsored by his mom and dad, Brett and Suzette Bruggeman and Bruggeman Endodontics.

Janet Bahe is a 58 year old retired postal clerk from Togo, Minnesota. She got her start with Inuit dogs and after going to Boot Camp in Minnesota, she started running Jamie Nelson Alaskan huskies. She has been mushing for 18 years and enjoys mentoring kids. In the lead will be Francis, Cinder and Trestle. One of her students is Nichol Grangroth who is running the Junior Race to the Sky this year. This is her first Race to the Sky.

Jenny Roddewig is a 23 year old college graduate from Bozeman, Montana. She has been mushing her whole life and racing for 12 years. She races Alaskan huskies with breeding emphasis on larger trap-line style dogs. She was the 2011 and 2012 Jr. Race to the Sky champion, the 2013 Beagrease 150 champion and the 2014 Race to the Sky 350 champion and has received 8 Best Cared for Team Awards and has raced many other races. She says her favorite race has always been Race to the Sky and she is a second generation musher, starting with her dad, Rob, who is, once again, our Race Marshall.

Christina Gibson is an 18 year old student from Carlton, Washington. She has been racing Alaskan huskies for 5 years. She received the Jr. Iditarod Sportsmanship Award and received the Northwest Sled Dog Association Best Kept Team Award in 2018. She took first place at last year’s Jr. Race to the Sky 100. In the lead will be Brother, Nellie, Freckles and Rubicon. This is her first 100 mile adult race.

Laura Daugereau is a 36 year old construction worker from Stokett, Montana. She has been mushing Alaskan huskies for 26 years. In the lead will be Sike and Farce. She got started with a pet lab/Samoyed mix who pulled her on a toy sled. She has raced lots of races including the Iditarod but she still says the Jr. Yukon Quest was the most exciting.

Rick Larson is a 53 year old construction worker from Belt, Montana. He has been mushing for 25 years running Alaskan huskies. He has won the Race to the Sky 300 and last year’s Race to the Sky 100 mile race. He has received multiple Sportsmanship and Best Cared for Team awards at Race to the Sky. In the lead will be Bart and Charlotte.

Charmayne Morrison is an 18 year old student from Polson, Montana. She is currently training and handling for Anduril Kennels of Bozeman. She has been mushing for five years and this is her third Race to the Sky. She ran Junior Iditarod and the Junior Race to the Sky in 2018. She ran the Pedigree Stage Stop 8 dog race earlier this month. In the lead will be McGee, Sitka and Elim.

Patrick Roy is 32 year old subcontractor from Plains, Montana. He got started watching Iron Will, running the Rootbeer Classic at the age of 10 and running for 8 years as a youth. He is now back racing after a 16 year break. He will be racing Alaskan huskies with Shout, Harley and Marlin in lead. This is his first Race to the Sky 100.

Justin Harris is a 45 year old sled dog tour guide/whitewater river guide from Redmond, Oregon. He has been mushing for 23 years, running Alaskan huskies. In the lead will be Sidney and Bolt. He is running dogs from Mount Bachelor Trail of Dreams Kennel. He has run the Eagle Cap Extreme, the McCall Sled Dog Challenge, the Cache Valley, Utah 200 mile race.