

# NORMAN VAUGHAN'S SERUM '25 RUN

## NENANA TO NOME

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WWW.SERUMRUN.ORG

January 4, 2007

Dear Interested Serum Run Participant,

Good day! The Norman Vaughan Serum '25 Run will be holding an Informational Serum Run Shakedown Event on February 16 – 18, 2008 (weather permitting), where interested mushers and snowmachiners can get a better idea of what the Serum Run is all about. The trip is limited to 15 mushers due to parking constraints and an unlimited number of snowmachiners.

**Event Information** (possible itinerary):

**Date:** Saturday, February 16 and return on Monday, February 18, 2008

**Place:** Willow (meeting place could be Willow Community Center, Deshka Landing or Crystal Lake Parking Lot and will be determined closer to event)

**Time:** Arrive at designated meeting place by 9:00 am for 11:00 am departure

**Plans:** Saturday, February 16th - Travel to Yentna Station Roadhouse approx. 35 miles of mostly river travel. Meals and housing are available for a fee. Half the group will be expected to camp to test winter gear.

Sunday, February 17th - Depart Yentna Station Roadhouse by 10:30 am and travel approx. 45 miles to EagleSong Lodge. Travel will be on the river, swamps and varied terrain. Meals and housing are available for a fee. The other half the group will be expected to camp to test winter gear.

Monday, February 18th - Depart EagleSong Lodge by 10:00 am and travel approx. 45 miles back to Willow departure point. Travel will be on swamps and the river then connecting back to Willow via swamps and lakes.

**Costs:** Still to be determined, but you can plan on at least \$150 for the weekend.

All mushers and snowmachiners must come prepared to camp out at least one of the two nights to make sure their gear is up to par for the elements. Mushers must provide their own dog supplies (dog food, one bale of straw, booties, stakeout line, kennel, etc.) and snowmachiners will need to bring a cargo sled capable of hauling dog supplies (straw, dog food, kennel) and other gear such as tent, cots, extra fuel, etc.. We prefer snowmachines without paddle tracks, however if that is all you have access to you will be asked to travel behind the dog teams.

The Serum Run Trail Boss and Musher Coordinator will hold an informational meeting in early February for those attending the event. A teleconference number will be provided for those who can't attend in person. There is a short application to be filled out by both mushers and snowmachiners. Mushers will be chosen based on information provided on the attached application. Those who applied for the 2008 Serum Run do not need to fill out the form.

# Norman Vaughan Serum '25 Run

## Informational Serum Run Shakedown Event

February 16 - February 18, 2008

### Snowmachiner Application

#### **Introduction**

The Serum '25 Run is a long distance dog mushing expedition that commemorates the courageous effort and success of the original Serum Runners, who delivered life saving diphtheria serum to Nome in 1925. The Serum '25 Run, with dog mushers and supporting snow machiners, will travel the same route taken by the original Serum Runners from Nenana to Nome. In addition, dog mushers and snow machiners will speak to each village school along the way to commemorate the original feat and to inspire school age children to live Col. Norman Vaughan's life philosophy, "Dream Big and Dare to Fail."

#### **Mission**

The Serum 25 team will stop over night at each village, traveling between 30 and 60 miles a day for approximately 17 days. There will be at least four nights camping along the trail during the trip. The route will follow the Tanana River down to the Yukon River, and then pick up the Iditarod Trail at Kaltag that will continue to Nome. Food and gear pickups are planned for every third day, with each dog driver carrying one day's worth of food and gear for their teams. Snow machiners will carry their own gear, food, and fuel, along with the balance of gear, food, and straw for the dog teams. A successful Serum '25 Run will be the result of a team effort between dog mushers and snow machiners who are willing to share in this mission of historical, educational and cultural appreciation.

#### **Personal Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M/F \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Emergency Contact:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Machining:**

How many years have you been snow machining? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own your own machine? \_\_\_\_\_

*If not, who owns the machine?* \_\_\_\_\_

Year, Make and Model of machine you plan to use? \_\_\_\_\_

A work type machine with a wide track and reverse is strongly recommended. A freight-hauling sled capable of carrying 500 lbs, a minimum of 8 ft in length, is required. Pindle type hitches are preferred. Each cargo sled is to be fitted with a second tow hitch at the rear of the sled in case a machine has to haul two sleds.

**Reference:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Statements:** *use additional sheets, if necessary*

What is your snow machining experience?

When do you plan on running the Serum Run?

**Please complete and mail or email this form by January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 to:**  
**Norman Vaughan Serum 25 Run**  
**P.O. Box 770376**  
**Eagle River, AK 99577**  
**Email: [erin-pcorp@alaska.com](mailto:erin-pcorp@alaska.com) or [kent@kakphoto.com](mailto:kent@kakphoto.com)**

**Participants will be notified no later than February 1<sup>th</sup>, 2008 of their status.**