



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT SCOTT LANGE, Lifetime Member

2/22/2022



Day Job:

Retired in 2015 from Air Gas-Merriam Graves where he worked for 32 years.

“Every day is Saturday for me”

How long has Scott been helping the club:

Scott joined the club in 1987 and has volunteered since day one. He's served as President from 1993-1995 and has held all other positions except Trail Master and Membership Chair. Scott also served the Washington County Snow Club as Secretary for 25 years and Vice President for 2 years.

Most enjoyable thing to do for the club:

Scott enjoys selling raffle tickets. In fact, he says he's pretty good at it. He's sold over a thousand through the years. He also enjoys being out in nature, installing and taking down signs, communicating with landowners and working on trails.

Just being out in nature working on the trails is exhilarating for Scott. Spotting all different species of wildlife is most exciting for him. He's seen deer, turkey, Canadian lynx, owls, fisher cats, moose, bobcats and even a lost beaver in a field. Last year he snapped a picture of a bald eagle.

"Some of the places are so far in the woods that you can only get there by helicopter or snowmobile"

Favorite thing(s) about the club:

Scott feels we are very fortunate for the dedicated team of volunteers working together for the club. Some other clubs are not so fortunate. We are as strong as we've ever been!

We have a permanent facility to meet and work on equipment.

Most memorable experience:

The Bison Chase...

In 1995, Scott had a run-in with a bison while snowmobiling in Yellowstone. He was in the middle of a small group of snowmobilers and just as he was going by, one of the bison put his head down and began charging at Scott! Pushing the throttle to get away, Scott looked back, and that bison was on his tail. As Scott went up a hill, he hit about 40 mph and finally got away from the angry bison. The chase ensued for about a quarter mile. When Scott got back to the ranger's office and told him what happened, the ranger was surprised at this big chase as bison usually don't pay any attention to snowmobilers.

Fun Fact about Bison: A bison can outrun a horse. Ask Scott, he can verify.



Check out this story about Scott on the next page!:

Submitted by Francine Perkins, Membership Volunteer

Scott Lange – just out for a Saturday ride

March 2022

By: Steve Avery, Sno-Bee President

Saturday 3/5/22 was a beautiful day; amazing blue sky, sunny, and in the mid- 20's. We had just received a couple of snowstorms; just enough to get the trails groomed. Trails were decent, and lots of people were excited to get a ride in. The bad news was that the Sunday forecast was for temps in high 50's with rain, which will likely wipe out our trails. The combination of open trails, a beautiful day, and the threat of our riding days being numbered, it seemed like everyone who owned a sled was out riding this day. Combine the high traffic with loose snow conditions and ice underneath; it made for some 'challenging' riding.

Sno-Bee, Scott Lange had decided to go for a ride on 302 over to Groton, leaving late morning from the Sno-Bees Beehive. He headed out from the Beehive over 302 to Groton. He had hardly gotten started, when, he came across a sled with the hood up on the side of the trail. Scott stopped to help and saw they had blown a belt. He introduced himself to the 2, a father and son. They had a spare belt; but didn't know how to change it. The Dad said something to the effect that his son was going to Google it. Scott promptly responded by stating something to the effect of "*don't bother with Google; I can help you with it*". After working to remove the remnants of the shredded belt, Scott had the new belt installed and sent them on their way.

Scott continued his ride along trail 302 travelling east. *Coincidentally, I was riding with a group around that same time, headed east on 302. We saw Scott somewhere between the signboard and the loop trail in Groton. Scott saw us approaching and pulled over to wave us by. We all gave a wave while we continued on our way.* The trails were a little rougher than he liked, so he cut his trip short by turning around at the Eastman's house in Groton and headed back the same way he came. On his way back, on the stretch of trail just above the signboard, he rounded a corner to see a rider laying in the middle of the trail, with a smashed snowmobile off the side of the trail against a tree. There was one other sled, and 2 other riders there as well. Scott pulled over; he could see that the person lying in the trail was a woman, and her leg was bent at a 90-degree angle just below her knee. The sled was centered on a good size maple tree and the motor was pushed up close to the handlebars. It must have been quite a hard hit. The 2 other riders were a man and young boy. The man said he had called 9-1-1, and that the first responders were arriving where the trail crosses Reservoir Road in Orange. Scott made sure the woman was covered up and kept warm. She didn't seem to be in a lot of pain; but he knew enough to keep her warm, especially as she was lying on snow/ice. He then headed out to meet the rescue squad.

Scott met the rescue squad. They arrived via truck and said the off-road rescue group was entering at a different point along Bennett's Mill Road further up the trail, just below the signboard. Scott gave the EMT a ride on his snowmobile back up to the scene. Shortly afterwards, the off-road rescue squad, and VT state police were arriving. Scott checked in with the PD and rescue personnel to see if he could help any further. There were now plenty of people on site to assist, so Scott headed out. Before leaving he talked with the dad and son. For a long time, Scott has made these small castings (silver or pewter) and he tends to carry them around and give out as gifts. They are small; maybe the size of a ½ dollar or so. Some of his favorites are unicorns, moose, and angels. While talking with the Dad and son, Scott reaches

into his pocket and pulls out one his handcrafted angels and gives it to the boy, assuring him that everything is going to be OK.



Later that day, the Sno-Bees received this message from BJ King through our Facebook page:

“Met a member of your club today at the scene of an accident. He gave firefighters a ride to the scene. He also gave my son a metal angel and we never got his name. Just wanted to say thank you. Please tell him thank you if you talk to him. A great representative of your club and the sport”

This story sums what kind of person Scott is. On this day he showed all that is good about our snowmobiling community. Thank you Scott!