



VSCA National Championship Show

Let me start by saying this was the best vintage show I ever attended! The 1st annual VSCA national championship show was held May 19th-21st in Thief River Falls, MN. The host facility was the Ralph Englestad Arena; this is a hockey arena that would make any NHL team happy. Upon arrival we were greeted by Judy Meagher and the VSCA staff, after registering our sleds and getting our passes for the weekend we proceeded to unload the machines. Some nice fellow's with four-wheelers and trailers hauled the sleds into the arena, we just had to ride along and unload once inside. The show sleds were placed inside the rink lining the boards with two rows down the center as well.

The next thing on the agenda was a guided tour of the Arctic Cat factory, Thief Rivers Falls is of course the home of Arctic Cat, while they were not running the snowmobile production line at the time we did get to see four-wheelers in production – this was quite interesting. Friday night was the ice breaker reception at the arena, good food, beverages and a chance to meet some new vintage enthusiasts as well as spending some time with a lot of old friends. Finally Saturday morning and time for the big show! 196 sleds by my count and most of them were near perfect, the competition was unbelievable. Outside was a swap area with some pretty nice stuff – I did not see much changing hands. The live auction was quite interesting with a lot of unique machines for sale but unfortunately not very many sold, again I think a lot of people were “just looking”

Back inside to the show field, this consisted of about 50% Arctic Cat “Zs”, King Cats, EXTs, Mods, Sno-Pro's, you name it – if it was a Cat it was there (no surprise), as for the rest of the makes, not as much variety as one would expect for a “National” show. No Skiroules, few Scorpions, and not a single Sno-Jet! Jerry and I helped with the judging – given the quality of the machines this was quite a task. Saturday night brought the event we were all waiting for – the buffet dinner and awards ceremony, this was catered by the “Black Cat” bar and grill (our home away from home) the staff did a great job of this – a good meal as well as very friendly people.

Now for the awards, Cale Johnson received a 4th place for his mini moto-ski, Brian Rocheleau took a 3rd place for his winter camper in the cutter class, Jerry and I ended up in the largest class (pre 74 race restored) with 31 machines, neither my 71 EXT or his 71 Ski-Daddler placed, but again

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Very special guest “Edgar Hetteen” poses for a photo, this show was a great chance to talk to some of the true legends like Edgar, Bob Eastman, David Johnson and many, many others.

Check out the CSM website for more photos from the VSCA national show as well as other show coverage.....

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