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# Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race®

Official Race Headquarters

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Book Release Party for Iditarod The First Ten Years**

**Anchorage, Alaska - March 1, 2015** - Book release party for *Iditarod® The First Ten Years*, at the Millennium Alaskan Hotel will be held on Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Redington Room with a no host bar and co-sponsored by the "Old Iditarod Gang" and the Iditarod Trail Committee. Many of the contributors will be on hand to autograph books including Iditarod champions Dick Mackey, Joe May, and Jeff King. Other mushers in attendance will be inaugural Iditarod competitors Howard Farley, Dan Seavey, Ken Chase, Bud Smyth, Raymie Redington, Rod Perry as well as mushers from the first decade Sue Firmin, Shelley Gill, Dee Dee Jonrowe, Sonny Lindner, Alan Perry, Rose Albert, Patty Friend, Myron Angstman, Al Crane, Lavon Barve and Official Iditarod artist and musher Jon Van Zyle. We are also expecting several more surprise guests from around the state.

The book is a story that has been waiting to be told for over 40 years. This anthology, conceived, written and compiled by the Old Iditarod Gang,

chronicles the evolution of Joe Redington's dream of running a race on the historic Iditarod Trail from Anchorage to Nome.

The Gang is a group of old friends who were passionate about those beginnings and were involved in every aspect of the race. A couple of them actually ran the race! With their contributions and first-hand accounts from dozens of others who were there, what they have created is a masterful book of memories and a book of thanks.

The collection of anecdotes and short stories is written by more than a hundred of those folks who participated -mushers, organizers, administrators, promoters and fund raisers; pilots, checkers, journalists, photographers, hams, veterinarians and hundreds of support personnel, all whom volunteered, working on their own dime and all doing it just to be a part of it. The historic book is a hard-bound 424 page volume packed with full-color and black and white photos. It also features 95 pieces of original art. The book's "old-timey" scrapbook format fits the theme of its historical significance.

The book will be headlined during Iditarod race week kick-off and will be showcased and sold at the Millennium Alaskan Hotel, in the Iditarod's gift shops, at the Musher's Banquet, at Pikes during the Race Restart and in Nome.

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Iditarod Trail Foundation designated specifically, for veterinarian care of the sled dogs.

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