

*Jan*  
**Van Zyle**  
2027 CALENDAR



FOR THE DOGS 



# NORTHERN LIGHTS

December 2026

1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February

1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

# January 2027



Before leaving a checkpoint during my two Iditarod races, I would provide snacks to my dogs consisting of raw meat with tallow and vitamins. The snacks gave them an extra boost to hit the trail once again. Many times, I would do this under the shimmering northern lights.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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1	2
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NEW YEAR'S DAY

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				Eastern Orthodox Christmas		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
				Eastern Orthodox New Year		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31			The diphtheria serum relay ("Great Race of Mercy") begins in Nenana with musher "Wild Bill" Shannon. This heroic relay of dog-sled teams carried diphtheria antitoxin to Nome, 1925.			



ABOVE EGEGIK

**January**

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**March**

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31					

# February 2027

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2  Marmot Day (Alaska) Gunnar Kaasen, with lead dog Balto, arrives in Nome with the serum, ending the relay and the epidemic, 1925.	3	4	5	6  Chinese New Year
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Ramadan begins			Ash Wednesday		Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)	
14  Valentine's Day	15  PRESIDENTS' DAY Ally Zirkle becomes first woman to win Yukon Quest 1,000-mile race, 2000 First Winter Sports Tournament ( <i>later Fur Rendezvous</i> ), 1936	16  Elizabeth Peratovich Day	17	18	19	20
21	22  George Washington (1732-1799)	23	24	25  First Yukon Quest 1,000 race begins in Fairbanks, 1984	26  Heritage Day (Yukon Territory)	27
28		<p>This depicts a moment during my 1979 run in the Iditarod. As we were running the trail, there was an explosion that erupted from the snow. A flock of ptarmigan erupted, buzzing over my dogs' heads. It was total glee for a few minutes. This was the official 2007 Iditarod poster.</p>				



# EVENING'S COMFORT

**February**

1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

**April**

1	2	3				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

# March


 2027

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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	1	2	3	4	5	6
						Susan Butcher Day Ceremonial start of the Iditarod in Anchorage
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Ramadan ends			Dallas Seavey becomes first six-time Iditarod winner, 2024	Lance Mackey becomes first person to with both the Yukon Quest and Iditarod in the same year (2007) Susan Butcher wins her first Iditarod, 1986
14 Daylight Saving Time begins  Doug Swingley of Montana becomes first musher from outside of Alaska to win Iditarod, 1995 Mitch Seavey sets then-record Iditarod time (8d 3h 40m 13s) and becomes oldest winner, 2017	15  John Baker of Kotzebue becomes first Alaska Native musher to win Iditarod, 2011	16	17  St. Patrick's Day	18  Martin Buser becomes first non-U.S. citizen to win Iditarod, 1992	19	20  Spring Equinox Libby Riddles becomes first woman to win Iditarod, 1985
21  Palm Sunday	22	23	24  Good Friday Centennial All-Alaska Sweepstakes ( <i>Nome-Candle-Nome</i> ) begins, 2008	25	26	27
28  Easter  Mitch Seavey wins centennial All-Alaska Sweepstakes, 2008	29	30	31	 <p>With all of the modern equipment in today's world, a few moments of gathering wood to build the comfort of a fire is still one of my one of my favorite things to do.</p>		



# PUPPY LOVE

**March**

1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**May**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

# April

2027
**Sunday****Monday****Tuesday****Wednesday****Thursday****Friday****Saturday**

Puppies are a rewarding part of maintaining a dog kennel. Each new litter represents the musher's hopes and dreams for the future. They are all carefully cared for and loved. This was the official 2003 Iditarod poster.

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U.S. Tax Returns due

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Passover begins

Earth Day

Passover ends

Arbor Day



RUN, REST SCHEDULE

April									
1	2	3							
4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
25	26	27	28	29	30				

# May 2027

June									
1	2	3	4	5					
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
27	28	29	30						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Easter Orthodox Easter		Cinco de Mayo				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Mothers' Day			Armed Forces Day			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Arbor Day (Alaska)						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Victoria Day (Canada)						
30	31	MEMORIAL DAY				



# BREAKING TRAIL

May							
	1						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

# June 2027

July							
	1	2	3				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Flag Day				EMANCIPATION DAY (Juneteenth) observed	EMANCIPATION DAY (Juneteenth)
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Fathers' Day	Summer Solstice					
27	28	29	30	In the early years of the Iditarod race, we depended on our snowshoes to break a lot of trail for us and our dogs. In today's race, snowmachines break a well-marked trail. Today's musher sees very little need for snowshoes anymore. This was the official 2005 Iditarod poster.		



WAITING FOR DINNER

June						
1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

# July 2027

August						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			While the musher is inside probably getting a cup of coffee, his dogs patiently wait to have their dinner warmed in the blazing cook pot. Soon they will be bedded down for the night in comfy straw.	1  Canada Day (Canada)	2	3
4	5 INDEPENDENCE DAY (observed)	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Ted Stevens Day (Alaska)
25 Parents' Day	26	27	28	29	30	31



EVERYTHING BUT THE KITCHEN SINK

July

1	2	3				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September

1	2	3	4			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

# August

2027



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Civic Day (Canada)						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Discovery Day (Yukon Territory)						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	 <p>Many first-time Iditarod mushers make the mistake of overloading their sleds with needless objects. Actually, very little supplies are needed other than the required gear. With checkpoints and food drops every 40 to 50 miles, a musher need only bring a few emergency supplies. This was the official 2002 Iditarod poster.</p>			



OLD TIMERS

**August**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**October**

1	2					
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

# September 2027

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

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Saturday



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LABOR DAY

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Grandparents' Day

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Autumn Equinox

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With this painting, I illustrated two of my favorite dogs: Anouk, Jona's leader on several trips, and "Hard Tack," an older, very dependable team dog. Both are from old working lines, and of traditional sled dogs, giving them a characteristic "dirty face."



# FIRELIT MUSHER

September

1	2	3	4			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

November

1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

# October 2027

Sunday      Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



Nights on the trail usually find us tending a warm fire. The dogs have been fed and are sleeping in a curled position in the snow, and my dinner is warming in the coals. All is well.

1      2

Rosh Hashana begins

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Yom Kippur begins	COLUMBUS DAY Thanksgiving (Canada) Indigenous Peoples Day (Alaska)					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Alaska Day					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
	Halloween					



WHERE'S HE GOING NOW?

October

1	2					
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

December

1	2	3	4			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# November 2027



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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1	2	3	4	5	6	
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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VETERANS DAY  
Remembrance Day  
(Canada)

Daylight Saving  
Time ends

14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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THANKSGIVING

28	29	30				
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Our absent-minded musher is trying the patience of his team leader, who is anxious to be on the trail. The musher is heading back into his tent once again for whatever it is that he is missing.



# GHOST RIDERS

November

1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

January 2028

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

# December 2027



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

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Thursday

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Saturday

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Traveling at night has the dog teams energetic from the colder temperatures. When temperatures drop below -30°F, fog starts forming around you and your dog teams. The moisture expelled from the musher and dogs' warm breath and body heat form a fog that follows you down the trail. This was the official 2009 Iditarod collector's print.

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Pearl Harbor  
Remembrance Day

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Winter Solstice

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Hanukkah begins  
Christmas Eve

CHRISTMAS

Boxing Day  
(Canada)

New Year's Eve



# For the Dogs

Working dogs have always been a part of my life. I grew up with a mother with a working dog kennel. I also started painting young in life. So, I grew up knowing I wanted to be a veterinarian or an artist. When I moved to Alaska, this place made the decision for me. Alaska changed me. It became what I painted, what I do. I learned early in my career to not just concentrate on one thing, which is why dogs and dog mushing are a relatively small part of what I paint.

But my experience in mushing in the Iditarod for my first time in 1976 left an imprint on me. It led to a life filled with over 50 years of dog mushing and raising huskies. It gave me a great opportunity and inspiration. My favorite painting was a piece called, "Above the Struggle." It was a big landscape with deep snow everywhere, with a musher driving a six-dog team through that snow with no trail. That struggle was so illustrative of life on the trail. Being an artist is a lot like being a musher; you never give up. And with both, dogs fill a large part of my heart.

*Jan Van Zyle*



# Jan Van Zyle

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
						1			1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3	4				1				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31																			30								
MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3									1			1	2	3	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31			
													30	31														
SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4				1	2			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
																				31								

# 2028

### January



### February



### March



### April



### May



### June



### July



### August



### September



### October



### November



### December



## Jon Van Zyle

Jon's art career has spanned nearly five decades. He produces numerous paintings a year for one-man exhibitions in the United States as well as Europe. Art is Jon's life and Alaska, all Alaska, has been his inspiration. Jon and his wife Jona, also an artist, travel extensively, gathering material and experiences for their continuous production of works of art. The Van Zyle's live near Eagle River where they raise and train Siberian Huskies.



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UPC



This calendar was printed with plant-based inks on paper milled from trees harvested in accord with guidelines promoting responsible forest management.

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