

Jon Van Zyle

2027 CALENDAR



FOR THE DOGS 



NORTHERN LIGHTS

			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			

January 2027

	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						

Saturday

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.



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NEW YEAR'S DAY

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Eastern Orthodox Christmas

Eastern Orthodox New Year

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MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR.

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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									
							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

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						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 <div> Marmot Day <i>(Alaska)</i> Gunnar Kaasen, with lead dog Balto, arrives in Nome with the serum, ending the relay and the epidemic, 1925. </div>	3	4	5	6 <div>Chinese New Year</div>
7 <div>Ramadan begins</div>	8	9	10 <div>Ash Wednesday</div>	11	12 <div>Abraham Lincoln <i>(1809-1865)</i></div>	13
14 <div>Valentine's Day</div>	15 <div> PRESIDENTS' DAY Aliy Zirkle becomes first woman to win Yukon Quest 1,000-mile race, 2000 First Winter Sports Tournament <i>(later Fur Rendezvous)</i>, 1936 </div>	16 <div>Elizabeth Peratrovich Day</div>	17	18	19	20
21	22 <div>George Washington <i>(1732-1799)</i></div>	23	24	25 <div>First Yukon Quest 1,000 race begins in Fairbanks, 1984</div>	26 <div>Heritage Day <i>(Yukon Territory)</i></div>	27
28	<div>  <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> </div>					



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						

March 2027

April						
	1	2	3			
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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 <p>First Iditarod Sled Dog race begins (<i>Anchorage to Nome</i>), 1973</p>	2	3	4	5	6 <p>Susan Butcher Day Ceremonial start of the Iditarod in Anchorage</p>
7	8 <p>Ramadan ends</p>	9	10	11	12 <p>Dallas Seavey becomes first six-time Iditarod winner, 2024</p>	13 <p>Lance Mackey becomes first person to with both the Yukon Quest and Iditarod in the same year (<i>2007</i>) Susan Butcher wins her first Iditarod, 1986</p>
14 <p>Daylight Saving Time begins</p> <p>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</p>	15 <p>John Baker of Kotzebue becomes first Alaska Native musher to win Iditarod, 2011</p>	16	17 <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>	18 <p>Martin Buser becomes first non-U.S. citizen to win Iditarod, 1992</p>	19	20 <p>Spring Equinox Libby Riddles becomes first woman to win Iditarod, 1985</p>
21 <p>Palm Sunday</p>	22	23	24	25	26 <p>Good Friday Centennial All-Alaska Sweepstakes (<i>Nome-Candle-Nome</i>) begins, 2008</p>	27
28 <p>Easter</p> <p>Mitch Seavey wins centennial All-Alaska Sweepstakes, 2008</p>	29 <p>Seward's Day (<i>Alaska</i>) Vietnam Veterans' Day</p>	30	31	<div>  <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> </div>		

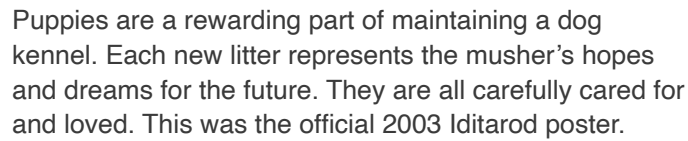


PUPPY LOVE

	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			

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

Saturday



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U.S. Tax Returns due

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Passover begins

Earth Day

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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

SundayMondayTuesdayWednesdayThursdayFridaySaturday



Mushers try to balance the hours of running and resting during long distance racing or traveling. This painting is my attempt at poking fun at this part of the mushing schedule. This was the 2005 official Iditarod collector's print.

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	<p>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.</p>		



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	6	7	8	9	10
INDEPENDENCE DAY	INDEPENDENCE DAY (observed)				Alaska Flag Day	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
						Ted Stevens Day (Alaska)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Parents' Day						



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	<div></div> <div>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.</div>			




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				

September 2027

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						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	LABOR DAY					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Grandparents' Day						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			Autumn Equinox			
26	27	28	29	30	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 MUSER

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		

October 2027

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				

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.

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Rosh Hashana begins

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Yom Kippur begins

COLUMBUS DAY
Thanksgiving (Canada)
Indigenous Peoples Day (Alaska)

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Alaska Day

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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									

November 2027

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				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Daylight Saving Time ends				VETERANS DAY Remembrance Day (Canada)		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				THANKSGIVING		
28	29	30	<div><p>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.</p></div>			



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

December 2027

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

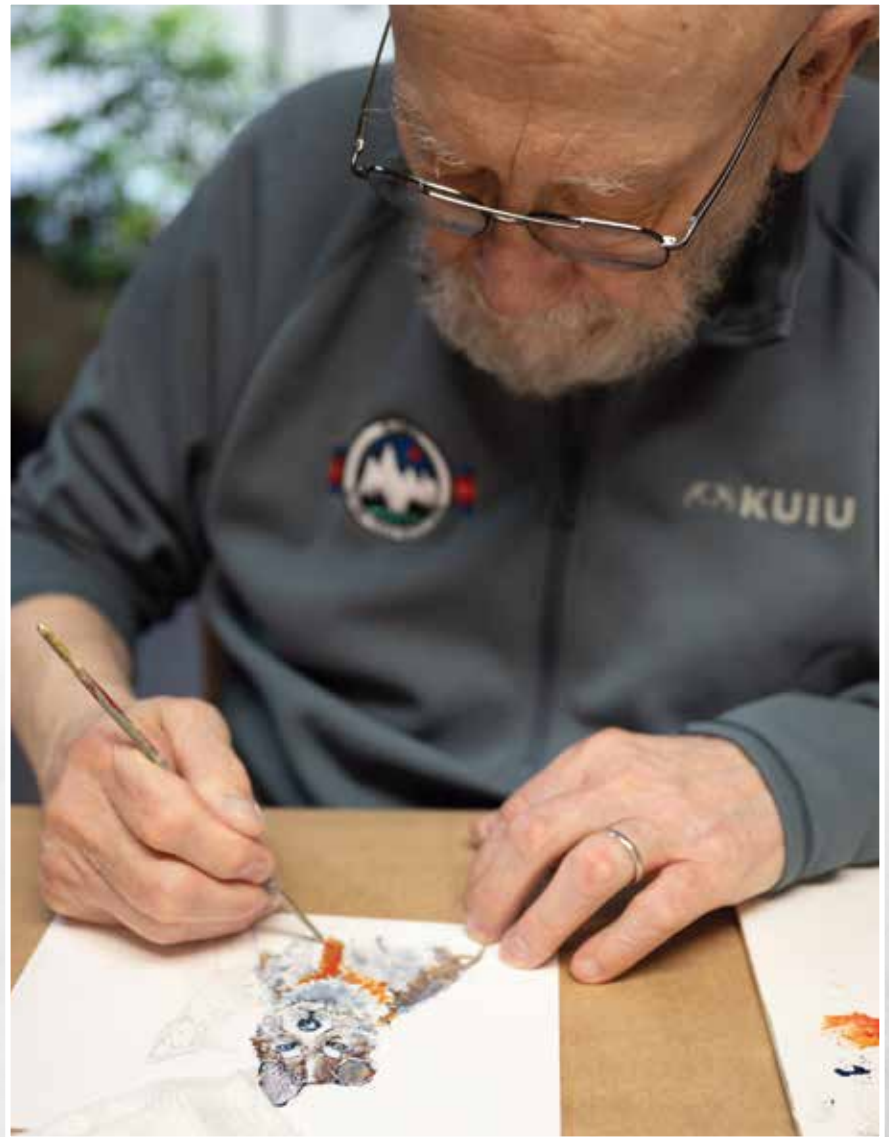
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Traveling at night has the dog teams energetic from the colder temperatures. When temperatures drop below -30°F, fog starts forming around you and your dog teams. The moisture expelled from the musher and dogs' warm breath and body heat form a fog that follows you down the trail. This was the official 2009 Iditarod collector's print.</p>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Winter Solstice			Hanukkah begins Christmas Eve	CHRISTMAS
26	27	28	29	30	31	
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.

Don Van Zyle



Jon Van Zyle

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29				

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MAY

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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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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					

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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 Zyles live near Eagle River where they raise and train Siberian Huskies.



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UPC



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