CLARENCE HEDLOFF

Commonly called “Soapy”, he was a life-long member of the Ely Ski Club. He started jumping at an early age but his biggest impact was in his later years as a Central Division Judge, and even more so as the Central Division Junior Jumping Chairman.

In the early 1960’s, Soapy was an integral part of the move and construction of the jumps (15, 30 and 45 meter) at Hidden Valley. He also was a part of the team that brought the new 60-meter slide to town in 1983. It was sold for $1.00 sometime in 2003 and has a new home with the Norge Ski Club in Fox River Grove, near Chicago, IL.

Through his efforts and coordination, the Junior Team from the Central Division was always a force to contend with. At least three Junior National Champions were named during his direction, support and guidance: Bob Banovetz in 1961, Robert (Butch) Hedloff in 1963, Mike Williams in the late 1970’s; and Olympian Jim Grahek in 1980.

He passed away December 25, 1995.