

# AMAL TALES

MAY 2019



## OH YES! WE HAVE NO BANANAS! *jyw*

Every malamute is different, but one forgets how different if one has the same dogs for a long period of time. For many years, we had three concurrent mals (but lost one every two to four years). Recently, we were lucky enough to have the same two for many years by virtue of having one who lived a remarkably long life and one who came at his first birthday. Recently, we adopted Miley, age 4, after she was removed from a neglect situation. We thought we'd seen everything. We had not.

First, it appears that Miley may have come from a place akin to a frat house for dogs. Her exuberance and lack of house training was simply remarkable. She's a jumper. We've had jumpers before, but their athleticism pales in comparison. She can clear a six foot fence, and is compelled to climb anything with horizontal slats or wire. The first time we found her on the kitchen counter—not counter cruising, but sitting on the kitchen counter—it was quite startling. When we saw that she could, from a seated position, jump onto the counter in one bound, we knew that she is the malamute equivalent of an Olympic triathlete.

Miley is also a banana lover. Always curious about statistics, I checked a search engine to find out what percentage of dogs like bananas. Statistics evaded me, but I did find squeaky plastic toy bananas, warnings that dogs should not eat banana peels (they can cause a blockage), and a recipe for a "banana dog," which looks disgusting (see recipe, page 5). We moved our bananas to a high open shelf above the coffee pot. That did not stop her. She somehow jumped onto the small area of exposed counter and nabbed the bananas. (We wish we had a video of her taking a banana to a secluded area of the den, holding it with her left paw, and WHACKING THE HECK OUT OF IT until it bursts. She eats the soft banana, and leaves the peel.) If you want a banana at our house, please check the microwave oven; if you use the microwave oven, kindly remember to put the bananas back promptly.

Last, we thought that perhaps Miley was the stereotypical all brawn, no brains athlete. She refused to be house-trained. We learned after months of trying that her previous owner trained her to "go" inside. Ugh. We know how to house-train a dog. We do. She was having none of it. She was so aggressive about treats that she would knock us over for a treat hidden in a pocket or pouch. Finally we found a small container that hid the aroma of bacon or liver, and we made progress. She is now \*almost\* house-trained. But (you knew there would be a "but," didn't you?), she now knows the mathematical formula, "#2 = treat." Within a week of learning it, she figured out "2 X #2 = 2 treats." So she would make a small #2, circle back for a treat, and do another #2 immediately for another treat. This week, she is up to, "3 X #2 = 3 treats." It's ridiculous. She also examines rabbit droppings with great interest, and she seems to be wondering, "Do they get a treat for each morsel?"



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**Alaskan Malamute Assistance League**

..... *We Pull For Them*

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Golden, CO 80403

Visit AMAL on the Internet at  
[www.malamuterescue.org](http://www.malamuterescue.org)

The Alaskan Malamute Assistance League is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and charitable organization recognized by the national breed club, the Alaskan Malamute Club of America. We are an all-volunteer national rescue network which includes state and local breed rescue groups, as well as individual members.

**DONATE**

AMAL is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose funding comes from donations and fund-raising events. All donations are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law and go directly to helping Alaskan Malamutes. To donate contact

[treasurer@malamuterescue.org](mailto:treasurer@malamuterescue.org)

or go to

<http://alaskanmalamuteassistanceleague.org/about-amal/donate>



**AMAL Membership Application/Renewal**

July 2018 - June 2019

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/ycyl39po> to renew on line!

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

(HINT: Use a return address label)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Level**

\$25: Individual/Family who want to receive AMAL Tales, the quarterly AMAL newsletter.

\$100: Benefactor receives AMAL Tales plus Compact Disk with Alaskan Malamute Pedigree & Registry Program.

*\*\*\*CD Renewal - If you are an existing AMAL Benefactor with Registry CD, you can renew your membership for \$25 and receive an updated Registry CD by emailing your paid completed form (or online PayPal request) to*

[treasurer@malamuterescue.org](mailto:treasurer@malamuterescue.org). Those non-U.S. AMAL members who want CDs shipped to them should add \$10 for postage cost consideration. CD Pedigree online form: <http://www.malamuterescue.org/index.php/shop-2/cd-registry-pedigree/>

**Make a Donation!**

Please find \$\_\_\_\_ enclosed. Is this in memory of or in honor of someone? Tell us here:

Yes, I'd like to be contacted about helping Alaskan malamutes in need of assistance: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership / Donation Payment**

Total Amount Enclosed (membership + donations):

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* Include AMAL Memberships and other donations all in one check --- simply designate the amounts on this form.

Please make your Check or Money Order (International Money Orders must state "US Dollars") payable to the Alaskan Malamute Assistance League (No abbreviations please!).

**AMAL Membership**

c/o Treasurer

P.O. Box 7161

Golden, CO 80403



# SURRENDERED, BUT NOT SURRENDERING!

*Lois Mckennett*

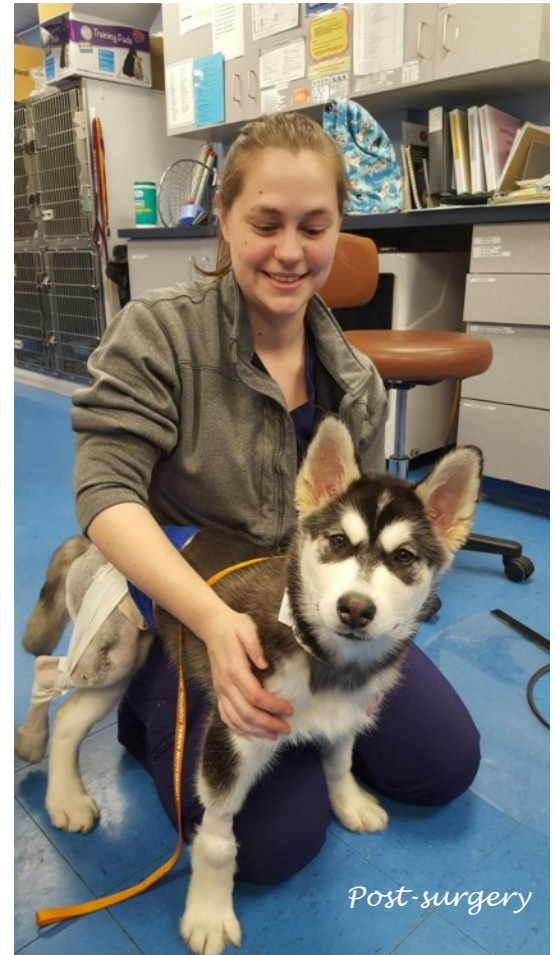
A veterinary hospital contacted Chesapeake Area Alaskan Malamute Protection (CHAAMP) about Layla, a three month old puppy who'd been surrendered. She apparently fell out of an apartment window and was unable to use her back leg. The vet hospital had taken X-rays and it looked like her leg was broken. CHAAMP agreed to take her and do whatever we could to help.

Once Layla arrived at CHAAMP, its vet determined she had a shattered knee. The vet was not sure he could save the leg. The orthopedic surgeon worked for hours putting the pieces back together and fortunately, he saved her leg.

Despite the long road to recovery, Layla is doing really well. She has started her rehab appointments and makes tremendous progress every day. She is such a love and touches everyone she meets. Her previous situation hasn't seemed to affect her, and she is full of life and spunk.

Layla's happily-ever-after moment came when her devoted technician at the veterinary hospital applied to adopt her. Now, she's nimble and has her forever home, too!.

Thanks to everyone who chipped in for Layla's care.



*Post-surgery*



*After Therapy Session #1: SO TIRED!*



*Water therapy!*

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## Loose leash walking



## LET'S TALK TRAINING

*Mimi Tello*

It's critical to find a trainer who connects with you and your malamute. CHAAMP is fortunate to work with Stephanie Peebles who interned with Pat Miller, CPDT, a leading proponent of positive training techniques. Stephanie's amazing personality brings Zen to the rescues who come to us excitable, jumping up and lacking self-control and our volunteers. She waits patiently to capture and reward good behavior, then gives the malamute the freedom to make a good choice. Stephanie emphasizes the importance of timing when marking good behavior with a clicker or a verbal cue such as "yes." Our malamutes prefer the latter. Stephanie's calmness and tranquility transfers to the malamute. Stephanie views each malamute as unique and develops a custom training plan using no fear, no force, and no pain. Rescue dogs have been through enough hardships, we owe it to them to learn how to train them with kindness.

Due to his excitability and short attention span, Bucky is our most challenging rescue. With positive training, he has changed his ways! He has learned that sitting earns him rotisserie chicken sandwich bites and that jumping makes his favorite treats and human go away. The reward isn't always food; it can be affection such as petting. When using petting as reinforcement, long strokes or massaging for five seconds works well. Before you know it, learning is fun, and both the human and the dog are happy getting what they want while simultaneously building a healthy bond.

Stephanie has also worked with Thelma and Louise who came to us fearful and wild after fending for themselves as abandoned young puppies. They are learning to play off switch games, which teach the malamute to go from an aroused/excited state to a calm one. They are also learning It's Yer Choice (Leave It) which rewards the dog when he or she leaves treats alone. To begin, Stephanie closes her handful of treats and holds it out. Then she allows the malamute to bite, lick, and paw at her hand. Whenever the dog removes her nose from the hand holding the treats, Stephanie marks the behavior with a verbal "yes" and gives the malamute a treat from her other hand. This is teaching Thelma and Louise self-control, setting them up for success.

Stephanie has also shared valuable resources on the Fear Free movement and how it's the future for our best furry friends. You can find a Fear Free Certified professional who has completed nine hours of veterinary education with stringent testing and annual continuing education requirements. You can also join as a pet owner and have access to a wealth of information. Of note, boarded veterinary behaviorists review 100% of the content.

Fear Free Happy Homes Membership:  
<https://fearfreehappyhomes.com/>

Find a professional:  
<https://fearfreepets.com/resources/directory/>

The Pet Professional Guild (PPG) is a membership organization representing pet industry professionals committed to results based, science-based, force-free training and pet care. Its Rescue and Shelter Division develops tools and resources that support rescue partners. CHAAMP is working on the application to join!



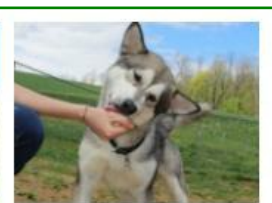
Lucy



**Bucky**  
 learns that  
 jumping up  
 gets nothing,  
 but sitting  
 makes good  
 things happen.



Yer Choice (Leave It)



# MILEY'S BIG BANANA DOG

## INGREDIENTS

- 1 hot dog bun
- 2 tablespoons peanut butter
- 1 big banana, peeled
- ½ sweet potato
- 2 tablespoons Greek yogurt
- 2 T honey

- Toast the hot dog bun until it is very dark. Miley says burned is OK! Burned is her favorite!
- Spread the peanut butter on the bun. Miley says it's OK to use more than 2 tablespoons.
- Smack the banana into the roll like you would a regular hot dog. Miley says, "Hurry up already!!!"
- Microwave the sweet potato until soft (Miley says, do this first really!), peel it, and smooch it around the banana. Miley drools on the floor at this point.
- Spread the Greek yogurt on top.
- Drizzle with honey and STAND BACK!!!



## SPECIAL DONATIONS

February 1 through April 30, 2019

In memory of my granddaughter's beloved dog, Beowulf  
– by Carol Scott



## AMAL PROFIT & LOSS SUMMARY

January 1, 2019–March 31, 2019

INCOME	
Donations in	
General	\$1258.94
Membership	\$125.00
Other	\$100.35
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$1484.29</b>
EXPENSES	
Bank charge	\$25.00
Newsletter	\$246.35
Veterinary	\$1240.50
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1511.85</b>
<b>Quarterly Net Income</b>	<b>(\$27.56)</b>
<b>Checkbook balance</b> <i>(March 31, 2018)</i>	<b>\$85020.36</b>



**DOUBLE YOUR DONATION!**

Most Employee Donation Matching programs will match your donation to AMAL! Ask your Human Resources Department about your company's procedure. Questions? Please feel free to direct them to [treasurer@malamuterescue.org](mailto:treasurer@malamuterescue.org).



## 2019 AMCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY DOG SHOW

*Sharon Nichols*

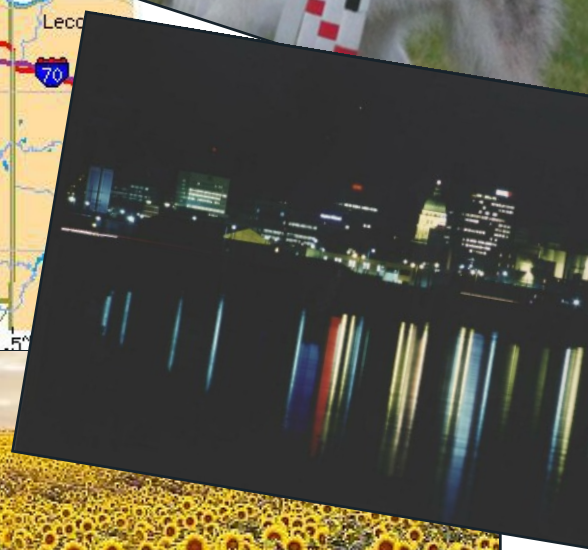
AMCA will hold its National Specialty at the Capitol Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, in the Central Region location of Topeka, Kansas. The dates are (Regional) October 27 through October 29 and (National) October 30 through November 2, 2019. The link is: <https://www.amcanational.com/>.



AMAL plans to participate in its usual events:

- Table sales of donated items during the week
- The Rescue Showcase -featuring regional adopted rescues and their handlers, and
- The AMCA Auction.

We're looking into possibly offering a local AMAL beer or wine as well. All affiliates are encouraged to attend and donations for the table sales and the auction are very much needed! Be thinking of good ideas. Some past successful sales items include these breed-specific items: books, t-shirts & sweatshirts, jewelry, hats, statues, paintings, things that fit into a suitcase (for travelers), hand crafted iron dog leash hangers, dog sled, holiday items and Alaskan collector items. Anything an Alaskan Malamute lover would enjoy!





## Texas Senior Earns CGC

*Delilah Hymas*

Rescue dogs can aspire to do great and fun things! Handsome rescue Malamute "Royal Chief of Aquila" just passed his Canine Good Citizenship (CGC) test. Chief also enjoys lure coursing (Fast Cat) which is a 100 yard dash chasing a lure.

Chief, who turned eight on April 23, was one of more than 50 malamutes and huskies left behind when the breeder of Aquila kennels in Mississippi passed away and the family surrendered all the dogs to the local animal control. Texas Alaskan Malamute Rescue took in Chief and his daughter.

Chief's owners Rick and Delilah Hymas, started fostering him in May 2018 and adopted him in July. They say he is one of the easiest malamutes they have ever owned! Seniors ROCK!!



## **NO 911 FOR PETS : YOU MUST BE THE EMT!**

*Sylvia Bailey*

I recently attended a one day, 10 hour certified course to learn the basics of Pet First Aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). I've been meaning to do it for years, and am so happy I finally made time. The most important information we learned was to stabilize the pet until it can get to an emergency clinic. No matter what the injury, the most important thing is emergency care at a clinic in a life or death situation. An estimated 20% off all accidents ending in pet deaths could be prevented if First Aid measures had begun right away.

The course included everything from approaching an injured animal to splinting a leg on a mountain trail. Also covered were choking, bleeding and wounds, bone and joint injuries, restraint and transport, CPR, artificial respiration (AR), bloat, eye and ear injuries, burns, frostbite, hypothermia & heat stroke, poisoning, parasites, snake bite and insect stings, impaled objects, infections, bandaging, foreign objects, shock, dangerous plants, indoors and out, and human foods that are poisonous to pets.

I left with an easy-to-use manual and quick reference guide for your first aid kit, and a certificate of completion. Check your area for a certified Pet First Aid course today. Some offer group classes in a location of your choice.

Wouldn't it be nice to offer this option to your adopters?



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