

AMAL TALES

May 2021

HAPPY SPRING AMAL MEMBERS!

It's officially dog molting season in my neck of the woods. My vacuum and dog blower are earning their keep this month and the birds are enjoying the extra fluff for their nests. We have been enjoying the longer days and the warmer temps on our walks and hikes.

With the COVID vaccine making headway it seems that the Alaskan Malamute Club of American National in Gettysburg, PA in October will be held as planned. Now would be the time to make your plans and reservations if you can make it. It is a week filled with shows, weight pulling, agility and rescue fun. If you've never been to a National Specialty, there's nothing quite like it!

Congratulations to CHAAMP volunteer Dorothy Schneider as the recipient of the 2020 AMAL Christenson Award!! Be sure to read all about her selfless efforts and the value that CHAAMP places in her efforts, volunteers like Dorothy are priceless in the efforts of malamute rescue!

The malamute community has lost a larger-than-life member. Jim Kuehl spent his life with this breed we're all so fond of, showing, working, sledding and getting up to just as much mischief as the dogs, sometimes more! He had a fun-loving personality, a wonderful sense of humor, loved to share entertaining stories and people always looked forward to his presence at any activity. I am sure that Poker Flats is missing his presence.

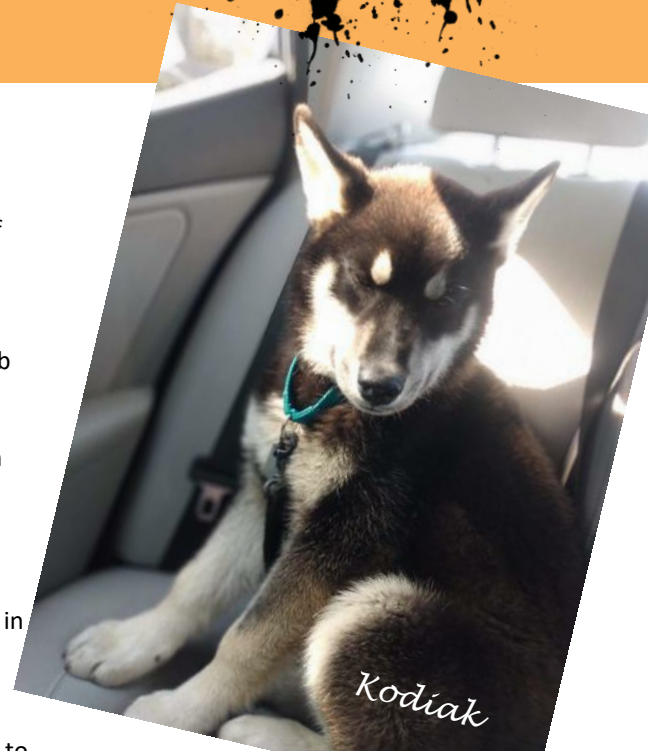
Please remember to pay your membership dues if you haven't done so. Also, if any of you have requests or recommendations that would be helpful newsletter content, please send them over to Jeannette. We are also always in need of great pictures of dogs for the newsletter. If you have pictures of your dogs lounging around OR participating in any activities, we'd love to see them!

*Andrea Allen
President*



Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

..... *We Pull For Them*



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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. All donations are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law and go directly to helping Alaskan Malamutes. For more information, visit

https://www.paypal.com/webapps/shop/pingcart?flowlogging_id=9f42ed13149d5&mfid=1622130830814_9f42ed13149d5#/checkout/openButton



AMAL Membership Application/Renewal

July 2020 - June 2021

To renew online, go to

<https://www.malamuterescue.org/index.php/membership/>

Name/s: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

(HINT: Use a return address label)

Country: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

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

____ \$100: Benefactor

Please note that the Alaskan Malamute Pedigree & Registry Program is currently being moved to an online program. The Compact Disk is no longer available.

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!).

Mail to:

AMAL Membership
C/o Treasurer
P.O. Box 7161
Golden, CO 80403

PLEASE PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES!

(Mail the form, or pay online)



Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

We Pull For Them

Gettysburg, PA

AMCA REGIONAL & NATIONAL SPECIALTIES 2021

The 2021 AMCA Regional and National Specialties will be held in Gettysburg, PA October 10-16, 2021! Join us for a week of activities while soaking up the beautiful autumn foliage!

–Save the dates! Ask for the AMCA special rate at the beautiful Eisenhower Hotel & Conference Center. More info & schedule: <https://www.amcanational.com/>.

AMAL volunteers will host the annual table sales during the week. AMAL will also host the Rescue Showcase on Friday, October 15 to honor the efforts of the regional affiliates' adopters and to highlight advancements the dogs have made since finding their forever homes. It's always a moving experience to hear their stories, The Silent Auction on Friday will also have some AMAL items for consideration.

How can you help? People who have items to donate for resale at the AMAL table (during the week) or auction items for the end of the week, please bring them to the AMAL Table as you attend the Show, or if you prefer mailing/shipping the items, we'll announce a contact and address in the next newsletter. Best selling or auction items from prior events include malamute-related items, Alaskan crafts, dog sleds, handcrafts that are malamute themed, snow gear, clothing items, children's dog toys, gift baskets, quilts and other good ideas that you may have!

If you have questions, please contact Sharon Nichols at: snichols@nurdog.com.

Hope to see you at the National!



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Submit articles, stories and/or letters to the editor to:

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Christenson Award: Dorothy Schneider

For the past 5 years, Dorothy Schneider has been an invaluable member of Team CHAAMP. No one ever has ever had to ask her to help—Dorothy knows what has to be done and is always one step ahead!

For example, she is always the first to arrive at CHAAMP fundraising events. After a long drive, Dorothy sets up the tables, runs the CHAAMP booth, hands out brochures, advocates for malamute rescue, and stays late to clean and box the inventory! However, fundraising events only tell part of her story.

An expert crafter and baker, Dorothy donates her time and talents to whipping up tasty treats and making lovely bandanas, pillows, socks, quilts, blankets, and aprons for CHAAMP fundraisers and auctions. In addition, she has fostered CHAAMP's most challenging malamutes and given them an opportunity to flourish. Every malamute fortunate enough to live with Dorothy experiences a loving, structured environment and is prepared to successfully transition to a suitable forever home.

Not one to sit still, Dorothy constantly makes sure her fosters have enough exercise and sniffing time. When asked why she does it, Dorothy simply replies, "The pups need it just as much as I do." In her "spare" time on weekends and weekdays, Dorothy drives to walk, feed, and bathe the CHAAMP malamutes.

Dorothy does everything without hesitation because of her generous heart. Without her dedication and willingness to volunteer, Team CHAAMP would be lost. Without her ability to help them thrive, our malamutes would be lost (even though they occasionally like to give her a hard time as only a malamute can). CHAAMP is honored to have Dorothy on our team.

Eleven TIPS: Caring for Seniors

Miranda Murdoch

1. Enrich your seniors' lives by providing stimulation such as puzzles (filled with food); walking them in new places; giving them car rides in the country; teaching them new commands; hiding treats for them to find throughout the house; and giving them extra love and attention.
2. Make their environment safe. Yoga mats or area rugs will prevent them from slipping on floors. Provide ramps to make getting on furniture or in the car easier. Use baby gates to block off steps so that they don't fall down the steps.
3. Protect them from rowdy pets and children. Even though wrestling was a daily activity for my malamutes, my 12 year old can easily be knocked over by the rough housing of his best friend at this stage of life.
4. Switch them to a food that nutritionally matches their health and age. They may need fewer calories as they age. Certain foods, such as Purina Pro Plan Bright Mind, are designed to help older dogs with their cognitive function. Some foods contain nutritional supplements that support joint health.
5. Prepare your seniors for old age. If possible, have their teeth cleaned or any type of surgery they may require done while their health still permits them to go under anesthetic safely. Introduce your dogs to ramps before they actually need to use them. Teach them hand signals in addition to verbal commands as they may lose their hearing later in life.
6. Keep your dogs at the appropriate weight. Easier said than done given voracious malamute appetites, but their joints will feel much better without extra heft. If your malamutes seem to sleep all the time, have gain weighted, have skin conditions or hair loss (not the normal blowing of coat), ask your vet about a thyroid panel test. Low thyroid is common in mals, especially as they age.
7. Consult your vet to determine if nutritional supplements, pain medications, physical therapy, or acupuncture might help your old guys stay active and feel better.
8. Keep them comfortable with soft beds and fans blowing on them.
9. Prepare ahead financially for your dogs' old age. Sometimes the vet bills can be staggering when a major illness strikes. Squirreling away some money each month before your dogs reach old age will make things a bit easier when you need to cough up big bucks for medical treatments.
10. Consider purchasing a stretcher in case you need to move a dog that cannot walk on his own. Here is a link to a stretcher that seems reasonable.
https://www.shopmedvet.com/product/stretchers-animal-pet-trolley-22inchx45inch-each-YDC-9?r=GSS17&p=GSS17&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIypKusvTG8AIVEZJbCh3TwQCWEAQYAIBEGjvWPD_BwE
11. Count every day as a blessing.

MILEY'S KIND OF OATMEAL!

Ingredients

- 2 pounds of meat (beef, chicken, pork, etc)
- 2 cups assorted vegetables
- 2 large sweet potatoes
- Assorted seasoning
- One cup water
- Oatmeal

Place all ingredients except the oatmeal in a pressure cooker. Cook on the appliance's recommended setting and open it immediately or let it sit—makes no difference.

Transfer the meat and vegetable to a suitable container. Eyeball the liquid, and add about ½ the amount of oatmeal (i.e., if you have 2 cups of liquid, add 1 cup of oatmeal). Cook it until it's tender, and stir it into the meat and vegetable mixture or serve it plain as a treat.

AMAL REMEMBRANCES



- In Loving Memory of Rolfe Dinwoodie (pictured left with Aurora), by his wife, Maria Dinwoodie
- In support of AMAL rescue efforts for malamutes, by the Hobson/Lucas Foundation
- In Memory of Rolfe Dinwoodie, by Kathleen Verzillo
- In support of AMAL rescue efforts, by Network for Good for Facebook
- In Memory of Catherine White, by her children: Helen Catherine White, Robert & Cathryn White – for all who give malamutes better lives
- In support of AMAL rescue efforts, by Marksmanship Training Group



AMAL PROFIT & LOSS SUMMARY

January 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021

INCOME	
Donations in	
General	\$4142.26
Membership	\$350.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$4492.26
EXPENSES	
Newsletter	\$261.41
Other: Software upgrade	\$150.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$411.41
Quarterly Net Income	\$4080.85
Checkbook balance March 31, 2020)	\$106410.01



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.





Matchmaker, Matchmaker, Make me a Match!

Mike Ulman

I'd been fostering a very shy malamute, Kaleena, for CHAAMP for a year when Toby came into rescue. He was an enthusiastic three-year-old malamute whose excitement was too much for a family with a toddler and another child on the way.

Toby arrived with a growth on his lip. A vet had given it a 'wait and see' recommendation three months earlier. A biopsy after surgery indicated that it was a fibrous cell sarcoma, so he had a second surgery to increase the margins. Fortunately, the cancer had not spread and he has remained cancer free in several follow-up visits to the oncologist.

Kaleena had lived loose with several other malamutes before coming into rescue, so she should have welcomed a male companion. Although she had been and still is fine with visiting dogs and dogs away from home, she decided that she didn't want to share her house with another dog. However, Toby's presence convinced her that she wanted to spend her time inside with people instead of outside in the yard. After working with a trainer for two months, it became apparent that Kaleena had no interest in adapting to life sharing her house with another malamute, so she returned to rescue, where she was placed successfully as an only dog a few months later.

As an only dog, Toby was very sweet and well-behaved, but had more energy than I was able to burn off walking him. Some walks included walking in water deep enough that he was swimming for half a mile, but he still exploded out of the water with no sign that it had made a dent in his energy level. Then Sasha came into rescue after nine years as an outside-only dog and I adopted her as a companion for Toby. She and Toby accepted each other immediately, although I took some time before trying them loose together in case Toby's problems with Kaleena had any lasting impact.

From the day I brought Sasha home, Toby relaxed and his energy level dropped significantly, even though he wasn't exercising as much as he had as an only dog.

Apparently, what appeared to be normal working-dog energy had actually been some kind of stress that disappeared with a mellow female malamute companion. The two dogs have bonded deeply, and I discovered that managing both of them on lead is easier than managing either alone during a yard sale on my lawn.

Sasha was diagnosed with kidney disease at her first checkup after coming into rescue, but it was controlled easily with medication and has not progressed in the 18 months since it was first diagnosed. She remains active and playful at age 11.

Both Toby and Sasha are more relaxed and happy the more people are fussing over them, so they view trips to the vet or groomer as treats. At the yard sale, it became apparent that Toby was a magnet for any children walking past. He still needs to learn not to jump up on people, but that's easily controlled when he's on lead.

Six months after Sasha joined us, Toby tore his left ACL. This was at the beginning of the shutdowns for the pandemic, so it seemed to make more sense to have the simpler ACL repair that could be done at my regular vet clinic, Dunkirk Animal Hospital. The surgery went well and Toby dealt with the limitations of the ten-week recovery period better than might have been expected based on his energy level before Sasha joined us.

Unfortunately, the repair failed after Toby was fully healed from the surgery. He was on limited activity for six weeks after it failed to see if the knee would recover. When it didn't, he was on limited activity for another couple of months until TPLO surgery could be scheduled at Chesapeake Veterinary Surgery in Annapolis. Since that surgery last February, he's had to spend most of his time in a crate because he's too active otherwise. With Sasha's companionship, he's still happy to spend time in the crate. Next week he goes back to the surgeon for his 14-week checkup. Hopefully, he'll be released from restricted activity and be able to begin spending time running around the yard with Sasha again.



Up, Up, and Away! Meet Kodiak!

Hal Negrin

As Shelter Coordinator for Washington Alaskan Malamute Adoption League (WAMAL), I was notified about Kodiak, a 4-month-old malamute puppy, by a rescue partner in Los Angeles. She'd heard that Kodiak had been transferred to the SPCA LA Shelter in Long Beach, CA, from a kill shelter in Palmdale, CA. They hoped to help save him and connect him to rescue.



Kodiak was found as a stray. The first day or two after he arrived, he was fine but soon, he developed a bad case of shelter stress. Once he got to the Long Beach Shelter, my wife Donna and I went to meet him. He was a sweet pup who's going to be a big boy. He was very shy and retreated to a corner of the play area when we first approached him. He wasn't toy- or treat-motivated but we did get him to relax a little. It was clear we had to get him out of the shelter environment.



Fortunately the rescue partner Monica who told us about him was able to foster him for a few days while we made transport arrangements. She has five huskies of her own plus a husky visitor, and he lit up as soon as he saw them. It was playtime! Monica and her husband were able to slowly show him humans are a good thing and made much progress in the few days he was with them. And, he became best pals with one of their dogs Jack, who he idolized.



Pilots N Paws stepped right up with transport for him to fly from Southern California to Northern California, staying overnight with a foster. Two plane rides later, he landed in Oregon, where our WAMAL Transport Coordinator Deirdre met the plane. He had a meet and greet with one of our very experienced fosters and went home with her and his new friend and play pal, Zeb. He's settling in nicely and loves every dog he meets. Kodiak has started to really loosen up around the humans and is on his way to becoming an awesome malamute boy!





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A Farewell to Jim Kuehl

Sharon Kalous

Today we learned of the passing of one of the original Nicolet Musers, Jim Kuehl. Jim will be loved and missed for his wit and humor. His Nicolet tradition was bringing in the New Year with reciting the "Cremation of Sam McGee" and putting one of his hats on Lucky the deer mounted on the cabin fireplace. You knew Jim had been down a trail because you would grab the hat or glove he dropped as your team passed. I think we all lost count how many times his team came into camp without him.

But the friendship went beyond Nicolet to dog shows and bonfires at Poker Flat that we were sure would bring a visit from the Fire Department. I could write a book on the memories shared. One thing for sure the trails in heaven will never be the same now that Jim and his silver harnessed malamutes grace them With love, wit, humor & a little bit of chaos.

AMAL extends deepest condolences to his wife, Robin Haggard of Poker Flat Kennel.

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