

AMAL TALES

May 2022



Flying Fur Salutations

Time to start enjoying the warm weather and sunshine, and the flying fur! Everyone at my house is way past ready for days of laying on the lawn, relaxing, and livin' the good life.

I've got a lot of old girls at my house right now, four that are between the ages of 10 and 12 years old, so we spend a lot of our time relaxing. Puppies are adorable, entertaining, can be cute and hell (or holy nightmare terrors) but to me, nothing beats life with senior dogs. I'm always looking into ways to make these girls' lives easier, make them a little more comfortable and able to enjoy their days a little more.

Golden Paste has always been a game changer for my seniors (my husband and I both take it also!) when they start to have aches and pains from sore muscles, arthritis, old injuries, or previous surgeries. Be warned the taste is ATROCIOUS, but the benefits are worth it! Find the recipe I use on page 5. I start by giving a teaspoon morning and night and work up to a tablespoon.

The National Specialty is shaping up to be a great event in Estes Park, CO this year. It will be here before we know it so make your plans now. We'll have lots of enjoyable activities throughout the week, and a time to connect with other malamute lovers from across the globe. The rescue showcase alone is worth the trip!

Have an amazing summer everyone, until next time!

*Andrea Allen
President*



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**Please pay YOUR
ANNUAL DUES!**

(Mail the form, or pay online)



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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/shoppingcart?flowlogging_id=9f42ed13149d5&mfid=1622130830814_9f42ed13149d5#/checkout/openButton



AMAL Membership Application/Renewal

July 2021 - June 2022

To renew online, go to

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

Name/s: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

(HINT: Use a return address label)

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Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

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

_____ \$100: Benefactor

_____ \$25 Benefactor Renewal

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

COVER DOG: SHADOW

Stunning Shadow is a three year old, gorgeous malamute. Relinquished to a shelter because his owners were moving, he knows sit, down, wait, take it, belly rubs, and turns his head when recalled—especially when food is involved. Shadow is great with other dogs, but needs a house without small kids (just because of his size), cats, or squeaky animals. He is very strong. Though his leash manners are improving, he needs firm control if distractions present. He has some abandonment issues; he settles down after he is alone, but he dislikes watching his people leaving—even if it's just into an out-of-sight area. He will love his family so much, but is not a fan of strangers, especially men. Oh, he has a slight addiction to paper products: he's consumes napkins and paper towels fast when they fall. Shadow will be a great snuggly addition to a malamute-experienced home. Visit www.iamra.org for details!

A



The 2022 AMCA Regional and National Specialties were originally planned to be held in Colorado Springs, but are now rescheduled for October 30 – November 5th in Estes Park, Colorado!

The National Show is always a wonderful week of outdoor and indoor events with lovely fall scenery as the dogs compete. Thanks to Show Chair Rob Pratt and his Assistant Chair Justin Scoffield for their efforts to reschedule and deliver a great event in the Rocky Mountains.

AMAL participates in several annual events:

- Pre-sales of our AMAL wines
- Week long fundraising at the AMAL table in the show ring
- Honoring our Rescue Showcase participants from regional AMAL affiliates, and
- Presenting terrific auction items for the AMCA Silent Auction.

Best selling items in the past include limited edition prints, malamute-related items, Alaskan crafts, dog sled, Hawaiian shirts with malamutes, soapstone handcrafts, clothing items, and gift baskets. Consider donating items that you want to AMAL! We will provide delivery directions in a later newsletter and on the AMAL Facebook and web sites.

-Hope to see you there!

Sharon Nichols

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SEND ME A SIGN

Angela Brown

Rescue picked up Penny at age 6 months, and learned she couldn't be spayed because of a heart murmur. The cardiologist determined Penny had untreatable, severe aortic stenosis. Penny died of a heart attack on January 9, 2011, five days after diagnosis, while jumping for joy over dinner. Gone at 8 months, Penny's story was heartbreaking. After Penny passed, three signs suggested Penny was trying to tell me something.

Penny had soft toys with squeakers (not usually allowed for our dogs) because she was always under close supervision and simply played with them, rather than destroying them. No one, human or dog, had access to Penny's toys. The day after she died, I packed her things. But for several days after, I found pieces of perfectly white stuffing from soft toys inside and outside. Yet, her toys were boxed, intact, and locked away. Was Penny was telling me from beyond she had loved her toys?

Penny died on Sunday. On Tuesday, we received a letter from the county stating we hadn't purchased a dog license for her. We had set up our county account so that we didn't receive mail notifications for every dog. The county confirmed this notification shouldn't have been mailed. Was that Penny reaching out?

Thursday, a lady unknown to rescue came to the kennel with a container full of pennies. She said they were for Penny and quickly left. Startled and upset, I felt compelled to learn what Penny was trying to tell us. I decided to contact an animal communicator, but another event occurred while I tried to reach someone.

Penny hated riding in a vehicle. When we left for the cardiologist in January, I gave her eight ginger snaps to settle her tummy. On February 9 (one month to the day after Penny died), a new rescue pup made a mess in the back of the truck. When I pulled out the crate and rubber mat to clean, I found eight whole, clean ginger snaps in perfect condition under the mat directly under the crate.

On Valentine's Day, I finally spoke with the animal communicator, providing only Penny's birth date, death date, and the fact that she died from a terminal medical condition. The animal communicator said numerous generic things, then told me that Penny had visited four times in a "physical state."

The animal communicator said Penny mentioned the number eight several times. Penny said she knew when she arrived that her time on Earth was limited, but she felt loved and cherished. Penny enjoyed playing with her toys and made the most of each moment on Earth.

Two things that Penny told me through the animal communicator and made me believe:

- Penny said that even though I thought my left wrist was healed, it wasn't. I had broken my wrist—my left wrist—several months before (see picture above).
- Penny said not to worry because she was at peace and a black German Shepherd called Jenny was guiding her. Jenny was my first dog, a black GSD, that I got when I was 9 years old.

Here's a quote from Billy Graham that I have to believe is true: "Heaven is the place of final and complete happiness God has prepared for us - and if animals are necessary to make us happy in Heaven, then you can be sure God will have them there."

A good read on this topic is Marianne Michaels' book, *A Second Chance to Say Goodbye*

GOLDEN PASTE

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup turmeric powder
- 1 cup water plus extra water, if needed
- 1/3 cup coconut oil (use raw, unrefined, cold-pressed)
- OR linseed oil (flaxseed)
- OR olive oil (use virgin/extra virgin)
- 2 - 3 teaspoons freshly cracked (ground) black pepper; do not use pre-made pepper meal

- Bring the turmeric and water to a boil in a saucepan, then lower heat and simmer 7-10 minutes until you have a thick paste. Add the extra water to adjust the consistency if needed.
- Add the freshly cracked (ground) pepper and oil AFTER cooking, when it has been removed from heat and is warm to touch but not burning.
- Stir well and allow to cool again

Try 1/4 of a teaspoon, twice a day (with food and water) for the first 4 days, and build up to 1 tablespoon twice a day. Use within two weeks.



AMAL REMEMBRANCES

November 1, 2021 - January 31, 2022

- In Memory of Genny, by Maria Dinwoodie
- In Memory of Oscar, for Dave & Jen Henry, by Nancy E. Battey
- In Memory of Nakita, Max, Rosie, Delta & Kelsy, by Brian Brunner
- In Honor of Cody & Myah for all those malamutes out there in need of a warm, loving home, by Nina Harrison



AMAL PROFIT & LOSS SUMMARY

January 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022

INCOME

Donations in	
General	\$397.96
Membership	\$225.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$622.76

EXPENSES

Postage	\$15.60
2020 Tax – CPA Services	\$500.00
Affiliate boarding	\$2389.00
Newsletter	\$261.83
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3166.43

Quarterly Net Loss (\$2543.67)

Checkbook balance (March 31, 2021) \$149521.71



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.





The Latest Scoop on Poop *Jeannette Wick*

My neighborhood has an active listserv (Nextdoor app). Does yours? What makes people think it's okay to say things online to hundreds of others that they would hesitate to say to someone's face? In my neighborhood, a virtual firestorm erupts every once in a while. Frequently, the topic of such firestorm is dog poop. In second place behind dog poop is criticism about people's recycling habits.

Mostly people complain about dog owners who allow their dogs off leash in various areas, where the dog eliminates breakfast, lunch, or dinner. The owners don't pick up. Or, owners seem to be so engrossed in their telephones as they walk their dogs that they don't notice that the dog has eliminated in someone's yard. And they don't pick up. Some owners have videotaped such elimination and attached the videotape to the listserv posting. Tacky, but true.

Occasionally, posters complain that people have picked up the poop, but placed it in the poster's trash bin. GASP! This inevitably leads to a long slow discussion that tells dog owners that they should dispose of the poop not in any handy garbage can, but in The Right Way. This always makes me think, "Hmmm. What is The Right Way?" Recently a discussion about dog poop became entangled with a discussion about recycling. (This topic merging is also common, as many people forget to change the subject line. I post nastygrams about THAT!) As a thinking individual, I had to ask myself, "Is there an environmentally-correct way to dispose of dog poop?" This precipitated quite the research project.

First, I learned burying dog poop is the worst way to dispose of it. The Sierra Club has a position on burying dog poop. It says that it will contaminate the soil and eventually seep into nearby water sources. Fecal parasites and bacteria can remain in the soil for years, increasing risk of infection to your pets and your family.

Putting it into the trash is an acceptable disposal method. Traditionally, dog owners have used plastic bags. Plastic bags have now become horribly unfashionable, so dog owners should look for environmentally-friendly bags that are flushable or biodegradable. A note, however: most plumbers will tell you that almost everything labeled as flushable is not flushable. One can also watch one's dog and when it becomes apparent that poop is in the chute (so to speak), one can slide an old newspaper underneath the dogs derrière. I like this method because although I am not political, when a politician really irks me, I place his or her picture face up under said poop chute.

The US Environmental Protection Agency indicates the best way to dispose of dog poop in urban areas is to flush it down the toilet. That way, the feces land in an appropriate sewage treatment plant. The US Department of Agriculture, however, recommends composting dog poop (https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_035763.pdf) As I am out of space, I will stop here.

A 6-PACK and a Half

Rickie Anderson

Volunteers are the Washington Alaskan Malamute Adoption Leagues's life blood—after all, it's a 100% volunteer-run organization! WAMAL would like to introduce Kim Taylor.

Kim comes from a long history with northern breed rescue, first in Arizona. In 2019, she and her husband Zach answered the call for volunteer help at a work party at WAMAL's Malley Valley kennel. Since then, Kim has volunteered at events and joined the Ambassador team; members of that team bring their well-socialized dogs to events to provide a fuzzy hands-on experience for visitors and, let's face it, the dogs are true attention magnets.

Kim has also fostered, foster-failed (adopted three of her WAMAL fosters), and more recently led the search for malamutes that escaped from a sister rescue in a remote, forested area. These dogs were incredibly fearful of humans and worked hard to stay out of sight. For this search, Kim consulted with lost dog/trapping experts, set-up trail cameras to monitor movements, coordinated with a drone pilot, set up an enclosure trap, and secured volunteers to set out food at regular intervals to establish a feeding pattern to aid in capture. She and a group of dedicated volunteers spent many all-night stake outs so they could respond immediately once the trap was set and triggered.

The successful capture has led to these two dogs finding their forever homes—with Kim and Zach! Their home is now full of happy pups—nine to be exact: six malamutes, two huskies and one Newfie!! In Kim's 'spare' time she works as a surgical team vet assistant at a specialty veterinary hospital in Seattle.

When I asked what draws her to rescue, Kim replied "I want to give back. I believe in what WAMAL is doing. I've been to your kennel (Malley Valley) and have seen your dedication to these pups, some having been with you a very long time. WAMAL just doesn't give up on them."

Thank you, Kim, for your kind words and for your incredible passion for helping these magical furry beings! WAMAL is honored to have you as part of our pack!!



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Survey on Aggression in Ancient Breeds

Isabella L. Bean

Ancient dog breeds are highly intelligent, independent, and energetic. Their independence and reluctance to follow commands makes training particularly challenging. Undesirable behaviors such as aggression, separation anxiety, and excessive vocalization can pose problems for dog owners. Polish researchers surveyed 897 owners to discover factors and situations that promote undesirable behaviors in ancient dog breeds such as Akitas, Alaskan Malamutes, Basenjis, Samoyeds, and Siberian huskies. One hundred sixteen respondents owned Alaskan Malamutes.

Owners reported varying degrees of aggressive behaviors in 50% of Alaskan Malamutes. Aggression may be due to their close genetic relationship with wolves, but no one knows for sure. Lack of early obedience training and socialization can also contribute to aggressive behaviors. This survey found that females tended to be more aggressive than males, although studies from the 1980s suggested the opposite.

Previous housing conditions did not appear to have an effect on aggression, but present housing conditions did. Dogs that are kept outdoors without confinement and dogs that are kept indoors with backyard access had the highest incidence of aggressive behaviors. Although territorial aggression is a natural canine instinct, confining dogs, limiting contact with humans, and reducing environmental stimuli increases aggression. (Territorial issues were a significant issue in malamutes.)

Dogs also have an innate need to defend their owners; this can come out as an aggressive behavior towards other dogs/animals and humans. Some dogs, if kept on a short leash, don't feel confident that they can defend themselves from an aggressor and become aggressive. A similar situation is grooming where the dog is immobilized and unable to escape. Having a new groomer in their personal space can cause dogs to become aggressive if the grooming is unfamiliar or painful.

Mealtime aggression was most prevalent in malamutes. Dogs that feel threatened are more likely to guard food and food

bowls. Guarding is also more likely if owners punish or intimidate them. Dogs that were previously homeless or had to fight for food resources are also more likely to display mealtime aggression.

Separation anxiety—canine stress when the owner is absent—can manifest in many forms such as vocalization, elimination in the house, pacing, and spinning. Alaskan Malamutes were more likely to have separation anxiety than other breeds like Siberian huskies and Akitas. Malamutes were also the most vocal breed. Vocalization can be from separation anxiety or boredom.

Dogs that live indoors or in outdoor kennels tended to vocalize excessively. Dogs may vocalize if they become frustrated with limited space. Dogs that live outdoors may just be responding to the people, animals, and vehicles they see.

Some other facts from this survey show that Alaskan Malamutes weren't the "worst" dogs:

- Akitas were more aggressive overall.
- When the researchers looked at undesirable behaviors overall, only 7.79% of Basenjis and 15.88% of Alaskan Malamutes had undesirable behaviors. The other breeds all had more!
- Alaskan Malamutes were less likely to damage furniture than the other breeds, and Basenjis were most likely to munch on the couch.
- Alaskan Malamutes were more like to chase their tail or self-harm than to chase moving vehicle or fence-run than the other breeds.
- Samoyeds were a noisy lot and barked at visitors, when interacting with other dogs, when their owners gave them commands, and when alone at home.

Source: Wójcik A, Powierża K. The Influence of Breed, Sex, Origin and Housing Conditions on Undesirable Behaviors in Ancient Dog Breeds. *Animals (Basel)*. 2021;11(5):1435.



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Purchases made from any Kindle E-reader device through the Kindle Store are not eligible for donations.

FREE: A Word Rescues Love

Most rescues run on shoestring budgets (if yours doesn't, please volunteer to write an article for the August newsletter and clue us in). Chesapeake Area Alaskan Malamute Protection (CHAAMP) is no exception. They've gathered an extensive list of resources that are free for non-profits.

The offerings range from training and education for rescue volunteers to computer software and hardware that are free or deeply discounted.

Canva, a design tool that is the epitome of desktop publishing for amateurs, is free for non-profits, and CHAAMP also provides the link. Without non-profit status, the cost is at least \$120 annually. Rescues that need fresh marketing or adopter education tools will find Canva easy to use and remarkably flexible.

Interestingly, some dog training is also free. The courses offered at canineprinciples.com are interesting, and if you're a wolf fan, they have a course on wolf awareness.

Go to <https://www.chaamp.org/rescueshelterfreeresources>



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