

AMAL TALES

February 2024



President's Message

Hello Malamute Lovers,

Happy NEARLY Spring! I heard a rumor that a malamute ate Punxsutawney Phil because he predicted an early spring, and our lovable breed wants more snow! We certainly are in a heavy weather pattern in the US, with lots of snow here in Utah. I hope that all of our California members are staying safe and as dry as possible while the "Pineapple Express" runs its course!

AMAL and our affiliates have been very busy working on several large groups of dogs potentially needing rescue help. The majority of them are in the center of the U.S., and transport has been a struggle to work out. Unfortunately, most of the involved animal control groups have very small facilities and have struggled to manage the intake numbers. If you are available to assist with transporting larger (8 – 10) groups of dogs or know of a reputable transport company that AMAL can use, please email us details at president@malamuterescue.org so we can add contact details to our transport data base for these situations. In addition, should you have time on your hands and are looking for something to fill it with, volunteers are always in demand. Even if it's not directly with AMAL, we can put you in touch with your local area affiliate, they can ALWAYS use support in any way they can get it.

Speaking of volunteers, I would like to extend my personal gratitude to Sharon Huston. For many years, Sharon has donated her time, resources, and knowledge to putting together the beautiful rescue books, ribbons, and display boards for our Rescue Showcase at each Alaskan Malamute National Specialty. Her tireless work has ensured each participant has beautiful keepsakes from these special once in a lifetime experiences and brought awareness to our rescue work each year. THANK YOU Sharon for all that you have done to support AMAL and the sweet dogs whose lives have been changed by rescue work. If this is a project that you can see yourself working on for AMAL, please reach out and let us know.

As always, thank you for all you do in support of rescue each day!

Andrea Stern

President, AMAL



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Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

We Pull For Them

AMAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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P.O. Box 7161

Golden, CO 80403

Visit AMAL on the Internet at
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 2023 - June 2024



You can easily renew online, too!

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

Name(s): _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Hint: use an address label

Country: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

Choose a Membership and/or Subscription

- \$25 **Individual/Family** (includes AMAL Tales digital quarterly newsletter)
- \$100 **Benefactor** (includes AMAL Tales digital quarterly newsletter, 4-year membership, Pedigree Database access with updates)
- \$25 **Benefactor** (includes 1-year renewal with updates)
- \$30 **Pedigree Database Annual Subscription** only (includes online access for 1-year (no AMAL membership required))



I'd like to make a DONATION



Please find \$ _____ enclosed to help the Mals.
(optional)

- IN **HONOR** of _____
- IN **MEMORY** of _____
- Yes, I'd like to be contacted about helping Alaskan Malamutes in need of assistance
- My employer will match my donation

\$ _____ **Total amount enclosed (membership + CD subscription + donation (can all be included in 1 check))**

Please make check or money orders payable to the "Alaskan Malamute Assistance League" - no abbreviations, please. Also, please note, international money orders must state "US Dollars".

**Mail to: AMAL Membership
c/o Treasurer
PO Box 7161
Golden, CO 80403**



AMAL AT THE 2024 AMCA REGIONAL & NATIONAL SPECIALTIES

The **AMCA 2024 Regional & National Specialties Show** is scheduled for October 20 through October 26 at the Roberts Center, in Wilmington, Ohio. Cindy Benson is the Show Chair. The Great Lakes Region includes Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. Be sure to add it to your calendars and start making plans to attend. You can find a link to the details here:

<https://www.alaskanmalamute.org/national-specialty>

AMAL hosts a Rescue Showcase, which is a program that honors malamutes that have been successfully adopted in the region. Affiliates suggest dogs to be included and work with the owners to explain the process and encourage their involvement. Owners are responsible for their own transportation and lodging. Before the Rescue showcase, the featured dogs—called "rescue stars"—experience a special grooming session for the dogs before they participate in the rescue parade. A moderator reads their heartwarming stories and they are wonderful to watch in the ring. The audience is usually very appreciative of our rescue stars.

AMAL typically participates in several annual events in addition to the rescue showcase: pre-sales of our AMAL wines, week-long fundraising at the AMAL table, a demo for the Online Pedigree Database, honoring our AMAL regional affiliates, and presenting some terrific auction items for the Silent Auction. *Thanks for all donors who contribute efforts or donations (or both) for the AMAL swag bags, table or auction sales. and transportation services.*

We will need donations for AMAL's annual fundraising at this event!

Best selling items in the past have included limited edition prints, malamute-related items, Alaskan crafts, dog sleds, Hawaiian shirts with malamutes, soapstone handcrafts, grooming boxes, clothing items, and gift baskets. Be thinking of what treasures you may be willing to part with for the next show. We will post delivery contact information in a later newsletter, closer to the event.

Looking ahead to another great National Specialty in Ohio! Hope to see you there...

Sharon Nichols

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

Jeannette Wick

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The Cruel World of Puppy Mills

Ava Landry



Puppy mills are profit-driven, commercial breeding facilities that prioritize financial gain over their animals' well-being, health, and temperament. They primarily engage in the mass production of dogs and cats followed by the distribution of the animals using pet stores, classified ads, or online platforms. Approximately 90% of pet shop puppies originate from these mills, and retailers often rely on the mill owner's word when asking about the animals' health.¹ This means that retailers do not conduct any inspections. Resellers often need education about the animals' appalling living conditions. Puppy mills keep dogs in overcrowded makeshift shelters, and stacked cages leading to waste contamination and infestations. Often, dogs are exposed to extreme weather.

Breeding facilities provide little veterinary care and inadequate nutrition. Owners breed female dogs relentlessly, contributing to genetic issues such as deafness, epilepsy, and hip dysplasia. They discard the dogs when they are no longer profitable.

Across 47 states and Puerto Rico, approximately 10,000 puppy mills exist. The highest concentration is in the Midwest and Great Plains. Public awareness has increased recently due to media coverage of raids on unlicensed mills and convictions for animal abuse.² Fortunately, this awareness sheds light on the miserable conditions these animals experience.

Backyard breeders are a smaller but similar concern. People need to be aware of a multitude of red flags when identifying backyard breeders. These include selling multiple breeds or designer hybrids at a young age, a reluctance to show breeding premises, a lack of inquiries about potential

buyers, and an absence of guarantees. Animals from puppy mills and backyard breeders often suffer from various health issues such as congenital defects, parasites, and deadly diseases like parvovirus. It isn't always the case, but these health issues are in some cases an indication of an animal that came from a mill or backyard breeder.¹

The oversaturation of the market by puppy mills and backyard breeders drastically decreases the availability of animal homes in reputable establishments, shelters, and rescue groups. Millions of animals annually enter shelters nationwide. Responsible adoption from reputable sources is becoming more and more critical.

To curb this cycle of suffering, responsible consumer practices are vital. When purchasing from a breeder, consumers must prioritize reputable options that disclose the animals' living conditions, provide medical history, and adhere to responsible breeding practices. It is also important to support laws that limit the number of animals a person can own and breed while establishing care standards.¹ This helps prevent animal cruelty. Local pet stores can break this horrible cycle by promoting shelter adoptions and donating extra supplies to shelters. Individuals can join the battle against the suffering caused by puppy mills by being informed, advocating for legislative change, and supporting ethical adoption practices.

Legislative support, ethical breeding practices, and responsible adoption can create a world where animals are treated with compassion and find loving, permanent homes.

References

1. Buyer beware: The problem with Puppy Mills and backyard breeders. PAWS. Accessed February 8, 2024. <https://www.paws.org/resources/puppy-mills/>
2. Dog overpopulation and puppy mills. ISAR. July 12, 2023. Accessed February 8, 2024. <https://isaronline.org/nsite/dog-overpopulation-and-puppy-mills/>

AND THE WINNER IS~~~



SLOW THE HECK DOWN, LEO, BOWL FROSTING!

Ingredients

- 3 or 4 large potatoes or sweet potatoes, or 3 cups of cooked oatmeal
- ½ cup of cottage cheese
- Lots of shredded cheese—any kind
- Chopped hard or soft boiled egg

Our Leo has taken to gobbling his food like a starving dog (and we assure you, he is NOT starving). We make this mash and “frost” the inside of his bowl, placing the rest of his food on top. He loves it, and it slows him down.

Directions

- Boil or microwave the potatoes until they are soft and mashable, or prepare 3 cups of oatmeal that is looser as opposed to stiffer
- Add the cottage cheese and the egg
- Stir in the shredded cheese while the mixture is still warm, adding a little milk or water if needed



Hello? Hello!?!?!? Is Anybody Out There?



We know that loyal readers enjoy receiving *AMAL Tales*. We've received great feedback on stories about adoptable dogs or malamutes who've experienced 15 minutes of fame. Observant individuals will note that this issue looks a little bit different than previous issues. That's because we faced publication with little content submitted and we resorted to artificial intelligence to generate some watercolors.

For this issue, your editor needed filler material. She looked back through the approximately 12 years of issues for which she has manned the helm. You'll see her picture from when she first started above, and she had lots of enthusiasm and blonde hair. She now looks more like the grey malamute to the left.

It was fun to see the depth and breadth of articles from past years. Please note that you can find back issues on AMAL's web page in the newsletter archives (<https://www.malamuterescue.org/index.php/newsletter/archives/>).

Your editor's review found several ways that we can go forward and improve the quality of the newsletter. Past stories that covered the following seem to be the most engaging and helpful to our readers:

- Heartwarming stories about malamutes that successfully integrated into adoptive homes or overcame behavioral barriers
- Reviews of devices like vacuum cleaners, combs, leashes, or other appliances that help readers deal with common problems
- Reports from "roving reporters" who run into malamutes in the most unlikely of places
- Descriptions of how to handle common health problems experienced by malamutes, similar to the article on page 7 which was recycled from May 2014
- Funny stories about malamutes or cartoons

Consequently, **we are reaching out to you to see if you have a story that you'd like to share with our readers.** Certainly, your malamute has on occasion made you laugh until you cried!

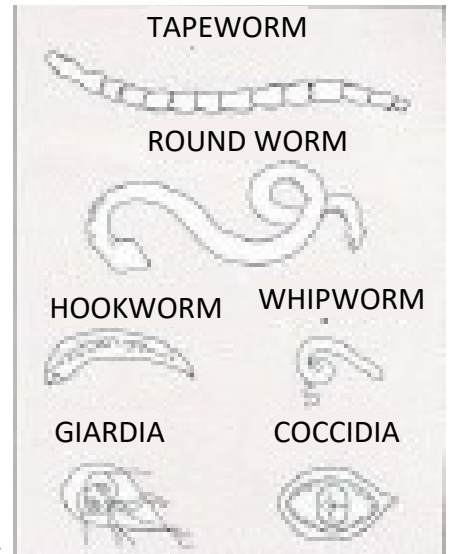
Appropriate material is short in length (300 to 500 words) and if you don't feel like writing but would be willing to be interviewed, we can arrange that. When we consulted with the editor's malamutes (pictured left), they said we also love pictures. I look forward to hearing from you! Contact me at jywickrph@aol.com.



A Stepwise Approach to Chronic Diarrhea in Malamutes

Jeannette Wick

For a while, all three of our malamutes had frequent bouts of diarrhea; all were rescues that had been neglected or roamed so long that their main source of nutrition was garbage. Many vet visits, countless rounds of metronidazole and other antibiotics, and much carpet scrubbing were discouraging. The dogs still had diarrhea. We finally found a vet who helped, and since then, we've used these simple, inexpensive tricks and resolved the diarrhea completely.



- 1 Re-treat the dog for any diarrhea-causing infection or infestation.
 - If the dog has had worms (especially whipworm) in the recent past and been treated, use Panacur once a month for four months. Worms tend to hide, and reproduce on a three-week cycle, so treating repeatedly will kill new worms.
 - Ask your vet to prescribe Diawin. Diawin is a mix of neomycin and Pepto Bismol-like antacid and charcoal. Generally, you'll see firmer stools within days.

- 2 Make sure that you feed the dog three or more small meals a day for at least a month, as opposed to feeding once or twice a day.
 - Try switching to a high-quality dog food other than chicken, beef, turkey or lamb to rule out food allergy. Consider raw food.
 - Add ½ cup of mashed pumpkin or sweet potato to each meal whether raw or commercial food. It firms stool and soothes the gut.
 - Feed the dog a little cottage cheese with each meal.
 - Some dogs develop diarrhea when they don't consume enough fiber. Consider a high-fiber food or add one tablespoonful of unflavored psyllium husks (the generic, unflavored version of Metamucil, available at health food stores). Key point: unflavored. Dogs don't like the flavored versions.
 - Remove the dog's water bowl ½ hour before mealtime and keep it away for an hour afterward. Some dogs eat and then drink too much and induce their own watery diarrhea—this is called dumping syndrome.

- 3 Try probiotics and continue these even if you go to Tylan (described below). We put our new dogs on probiotics for a few months regardless of their stool. Probiotics have many proven health benefits and can correct bacterial imbalances that dogs often develop while on the lam.

- 4 Still dealing with diarrhea after three to four weeks? Last, try Tylan. Tylan is an antibiotic that belongs to the macrolide class (like erythromycin), but it's also an anti-inflammatory. Its most frequent use is in poultry and swine, and it must never be given to humans!!! Dogs don't process Tylan through their liver, but it soothes their intestines. Tylan is ultimately eliminated through the stool and urine, so it is unlikely to cause liver disease or worsen a pre-existing condition. You used to be able to order the powder on the Internet without a prescription, but the new veterinary prescribing rules restrict it to veterinarians.
 - Note that dogs hate the taste, so you'll need to disguise it. We use liverwurst, peanut butter, or cheese. Eventually, they become accustomed to the taste and you can mix it in their food.
 - Start with ½ teaspoonful three times a day for at least two weeks.
 - If the dog's stool is firmer after two weeks, gradually reduce the dose, lowering the dose 1/8 teaspoonful every week. It's best to make a chart so you remember the dose reductions!

Many worms and bacteria cause diarrhea in dogs.

Risk of infestation increases if dogs roam or miss their monthly heartworm treatments.





PHOTO

AMAL REMEMBRANCES

October 1 - December 31, 2023

- In Honor of Denali & Yinson, by Gabe & Deb Castro, Steamboat, CO
- In Memory of Elvis, Lula and Daisy - for Niki Tischauser and Andy Williams, in Tetonia, Idaho, by their Mom, Diane Nance
- In Honor of Ali, Juneau and Kodiak, by Linda Jansen McWilliams, South Park, PA

AMAL PROFIT & LOSS SUMMARY

October 1 through December 30, 2023

INCOME

Donations in	
General	\$1385.00
Membership	\$100.00
National Specialty	\$1505.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$2990.00

EXPENSES

Newsletter	\$400.85
CHAAMP Rescue Support	\$6518.09
Christenson Award	\$62.17
National Specialty	1415.34
General	23.59
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$8420.04

Quarterly Net Gain/Loss (\$5430.04)

Checkbook balance \$145241.44

December 30, 2023)

PLEASE PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES!

(Mail the form on page 2, or pay online)

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