

AMAL TALES

February, 2014

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President's Message:

Happy Gotchya Days Galore

January 21, 2014

This marks the one year point. It's been one year since the Aluk malamutes were given freedom from Project Malamute.

After 14 months of legal processes, the judge granted custody of 180 malamutes to the Lewis and Clark Humane Society late in 2013. Lewis and Clark, through Spay Montana, set up a two-day spay-neuter clinic to alter the malamutes and prepare them for adoption in late December. Two AMAL affiliates, Malamute Rescue of Alaska and Alaskan Malamute Rescue of North Carolina, provided the money to handle the 165 spay-neuter operations.

On the first weekend of January, 2013, AMAL and its affiliates starting moving malamutes to new homes. The last transport occurred at the end of February and emptied Malamute Village. While it was a big challenge to move so many dogs from a remote location, the bigger effort of finding them homes has been, of course, more difficult. But a year later we have found homes for all but 16 of the Aluk malamutes.

You can find the current list of the remaining available Aluk malamutes on the AMAL web site at <http://malamuterescue.org/>. Just slide down the page a bit and you'll see who's available and where they are located. With a little bit of effort, I hope we can help each of these 16 malamutes who have waited a long time for a good life find warm, loving placements in good homes.

We should all take a moment and thank ourselves and each other for taking on and accomplishing such an enormous project. These malamutes have been transformed from severely undernourished dogs—some with very shy dispositions—to wholesome, happy dogs. Almost 200 of these dogs have you to thank for beginning the lives they've always deserved. As we wind our way through the year, there will be "happy gotchya days" for most of them.

Thank you for pulling for them.

—Bob Sutherland, President, AMAL



Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

..... We Puff For Them

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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 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 or go to <http://tinyurl.com/c3jlyqj> and use PayPal



Ebay Auction a Hit

Thanks to everyone who participated in the AMAL Ebay auction that started on Black Friday. This year we raised a little over \$1300 after the last calendar sales rolled in. People with malamute-loving friends and family were scrambling for hard to find and fun gifts. Some of the big hits of the auction were the 2014 AMAL calendar, a few new t-shirt designs including a "Sleeps with Mals" nightshirt, and colorful glass and bead malamute tree ornaments. The unique item that brought in the most money was a beautiful, mint condition Tango Barbie that was donated to AMAL at the 2013 Nationals. It flew across country to help the mals. We are already thinking ahead to new designs and ideas, and looking forward to next year!

Mals on the Web

AMAL's web site (<http://www.malamuterescue.org>) is a valuable resource for any malamute owner, actual or prospective. If you haven't tagged it in your favorite sites, please visit. On it, you'll find the most recent news, ways you can wear your commitment to malamutes, and links to articles and resources.

We're also on Facebook! It's an active page with plenty of pictures, so "Like" us and see the last few Montana Mals find homes one by one!

Mals & Canine History

Look here to find a story about contagious cancers, and how malamutes fit into the picture: <http://tinyurl.com/m3ydsjm>





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The Arctic Games-

Making Urban Sports Happen

Texas Alaskan Malamute Rescue (TAMR) and Husky Haven held *The Arctic Games-Making Urban Sports Happen* to promote the working activities of dogs in urban areas. The event was open to all breeds and we had a few non-sled dogs come like Labs, chows, bull terriers, and golden retrievers.

The event took place on Saturday, January 18, in Houston, Texas. Activities included weight pull demonstrations, scootering and carting, hiking with backpacks, using a Springer on bikes, canicross, and classes on how to choose the right harness and train your dog for pulling. We had a great turnout and it was definitely a success. Gear from multiple vendors was available for folks and their dogs to try out, and there were lots of door prizes awarded. We hope to make this an annual event and make it bigger and better. Visit our web site (<http://www.proj477tamr.wix.com/thearticgames>) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/thearticgames>).

TAMR and Husky Haven also hosted a silent auction that raised more than \$800!





AMAL Membership Application/Renewal

July 2013 - June 2014

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/cn72xz7> 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 (at Individual/Family prices) and receive an updated Registry CD by emailing your paid completed form (or online PayPal request) to 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://malamuterescue.org/about/memberapp.html>

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
PO Box 54
Concord, NC 28026

Mesha

Holly Justice

My name is Mesha, aka Princess Pea, because I am as sweet as can be! I have the sunniest disposition and a face that will melt your heart. I came into rescue in July of 2012 at four months old. My rear legs were paralyzed from a parasite that attacked my spinal nerves and caused my legs to be very stiff. I was unable to use them.

Moonsong Malamute Rescue and my foster Mom tried physical therapy for several months in an attempt to regain some use in my legs, but I was still growing and developing so they were unable to help. My legs became deformed, causing pain since I still had some feeling left. With several caring veterinarians' help, we decided to amputate both rear legs and alleviate my pain.

Thanks to several donors, I had surgery in November 2012. I am so much happier now without legs that just got in my way. I'm pain-free!

Since my surgery, I've learned how to use my new wheels! I've gone swimming, paddle boarding, and cross country skiing. I run around the yard playing with my foster brothers and sisters.

Mesha has been through a lot but never lost her bright spirit and zest for life. She is an inspiration and shows what a little perseverance and a lot of love can do. Mesha is what rescue is all about!
Adopt Mesha here: <http://tinyurl.com/mbxyz6z>



Rosetta

Dan Herrin - RoRo

There was a scared Mal named RoRo
Who hid her natural glow glow
Til Carolyn came and found her
And brought out her inner bounder
Now she could be painted by Van Gogh.



Bandit

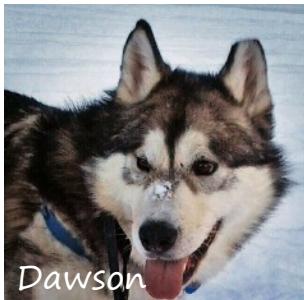
Bob Sutherland - Cinder

With his malamute blinded by snow,
An Alaskan is struggling to row
Through a river of ice,
When he hears this advice
From the dog, "Let's just go with the floe."

Niki Tischhauser - Dawson

There was once a sad and scared dog
named Dawson
When he experienced new or loud things
he played possum
But he's made leaps and bounds
And he now clowns around
He's finally acting like a real Mal and
he's awesome!

Cinder



Dawson

Glenda Herrin - Sienna

There once was a Mal named Sienna,
Whose fur was the color of henna!
She wo'd for each meal
Sometimes with a squeal,
And now she sings opera in Vienna!

Rob Johnson - Wyle

Beware of a dog named Wyle.
He'll capture your heart quite slyly.
He's quick with a grin, and quicker to sin.
If your shoes are missing, search Wyle.

Sylvia Bailey - Deejay

There once as a Fuzzbutt named Deejay
Who was stubborn and wanted his way
He stole sis's stuffie
Sis grabbed his neck scruffie
And he respects her to this very day



Cheryl Loeffler - Bandit

I now have a dog named Bandit!
When out on the trail, he bounds like a rabbit!
With dancing feet and twinkling eyes,
a toothy grin and a quick surprise,
Not everyone gets a hug from my Bandit!



Charlie

Tracy Cahoon - Charlie

Charlie the malamute
Despite being really cute
Was stubborn and shy
Though we all know why
And thus we love him anyhow



Loving the Aluk Mals
with
Limericks!



Connie Eigell-Smith - Lola

Miss Lola loves to smile
but from when I first got her it took a while.
She's a chatty little mal
and Yukon is her favorite pal.



Cindy Klettke - Strider

There once was a malamute named Strider
As a pup he met an ear biter
She chomped on his ear
When he got too near
And now he's half an ear lighter.



Sheri Ahlheim - Spirit

Our Spirit will steal one of your shoes
and give it a couple of chews
then hide it somewhere
perhaps under a chair
then dash back to his bed for a snooze



My Life with Nukka

I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1991. After returning from Iraq in 2003, I realized I was a changed person. I was more isolated and didn't really care about anything. I soon divorced and am now remarried to a loving wife, Valery, and have three children ages 8, 9, and 9 months old. I remained this way until 2011 when my wife told me I needed help. I was diagnosed with PTSD and started treatment. I learned that two Marines I'd served with in Iraq received service dogs through a Florida program. After learning how it helped them, I researched to find the best program I could find. The most reputable in my area was Soldier's Best Friend (SBF).

In 2011, Nukka came to us from Alaskan Malamute Rescue of Arizona in Tucson. We were excited to give her a loving home. When she arrived she weighed 40 pounds—20 pounds below average for a female. Sue Adkins, Rescue Director, told us that Nukka came from an abusive environment; she'd also been bred too young. Nukka was very loving from the beginning. After weaning her off a strict diet for six months, it took more than a year to bring her up to 60 pounds. She is now a happy, healthy family member. Sue is very supportive and checks on Nukka from time to time.

In June, 2013, I applied to have Nukka trained by the SBF program. Elaine from SBF interviewed my wife, Nukka, and me to see if Nukka was a good fit for the program. She was and we started training in July. Nukka and I have since passed the AKC Canine Good Citizenship and the service dog Public Access Test. She will graduate in February 2014.

Nukka allows me to stay calm around strangers in public places. She is my security and second set of eyes which I lack in the civilian world. On the command of "cover" she stands directly behind me horizontally and makes contact with my legs so I know she's there. She creates a barrier that allows for me to keep my personal space clear. She blocks incoming strangers and in close quarters, she guides me through to a less crowded area.

Because PTSD affected my everyday life, I gave up my career as a federal law enforcement officer/firearms instructor to be a stay-at-home dad. At home, Nukka is a calm, fun loving part of our family just like any other dog. When the service dog vest goes on, it's amazing to see her transform into a working dog. Nukka wears a vest made from the same desert digital camouflage uniform I wore in the Marines. I am very grateful that Denise, the owner of Vests4Vets, created this for me. The donations she receives allows her to make these vests for other vets with service dogs at no charge. Lynn and Paul Sansale, the owners of Rescue Dog Art, have selected Nukka to model for the 2015 Rescue Dog Art calendar. I am looking forward to this new venture with Nukka.

All these organizations have been very supportive and have created new source of awareness for veterans and their service dogs. And for that I am very thankful. There is still a question between Nukka and me:

Who Rescued Who?

Mike Lozano

Honor your Valentine



Photo courtesy of Thomas Photography thomasphotography@gmail.com

*Thank you AMAL members
for supporting rescue!*

Yes, I would like to help homeless Malamutes

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

\$25: Join AMAL: For Individuals and Families who wish to receive AMAL Tales, the AMAL Newsletter which is published quarterly.

Make a Donation! Please accept the following donation in the amount of:
\$ _____ In memory / honor of: _____

AMAL - c/o Treasurer PO Box 54 Concord, NC 28026
Or visit malamuterescue.org and use the Paypal tab



Special Donations



Paycheck from Bettie Page,
owner of Jackie Hanson-Roach



In memory of Violet Nelson, by Cathy & Joe

To Moonsong Malamute Rescue,
in memory of Suzie Walter,
by Andrea Christopher

To Artic Rescue, for Babs' surgery,
by Linda & Kenneth Hair

To Artic Rescue, for Babs' surgery,
by Jamison and Tiffany Hensley

In celebration of Cinder, by Debra Castro

For expenses for MT malamutes from the ALUK seizure, in
honor of Linda Frank's retirement,
by McCray Lumber

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