

AMAL TALES

November, 2014

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Winston

The Human Element

Our newest foster, Winston, put his big ol' head on Jackie's lap last night and gazed up at us with such a sweet, loving look... It made us wonder who he was, where he came from and why in the world would someone give him up? Did he run away and no one bothered to look for him? Did the owner simply dump him off in a field or at a shelter for someone else to deal with?

We always imagine what that must be like. Most dogs love the sight of the leash and the idea of going for a car ride. How happy they must be when they get in the car on their way to the shelter or country road. When their owner turns and walks or drives away, what goes through their mind then? How alone and frightened they must be.

We're firm believers that if we want to succeed in the humane business, we must concentrate first on the human element. This is not always easy. And this has been a rather rough week for us.

One of our favorite dogs is being returned to rescue for the second time. This particular dog came to Taysia Blue when a good Samaritan saved him from being shot in his backyard because he soiled a rug. His next family thought they would have the time for him, but didn't. His next family seemed perfect for him, yet he didn't apparently measure up. He deserves a forever home, not just an 'until he screws up' home or an 'until we move' home or an 'until we get tired of him' home. But if we don't expect a dog to be perfect, we shouldn't expect humans to be perfect either.

When we adopt, we commit to love and care for them for the pet's entire life. When pets do things that we don't like, the enlightened, educated species should correct that behavior. It shouldn't be a one-and-done mind set. Humans seem to embrace a disposable, planned-obsolescence, fast-food, quick-gratification attitude about much in life, including our pets. Why would anyone treat a life as something that can be discarded?

Each week we stare at the rescue waiting list and match it to available foster families. We come up short. We know we should focus on the one(s) we can save, but instead our hearts ache for the ones that we can't save. Our hearts break for the shelter volunteers and staff who plead for help or receive our e-mail or calls telling them we can't help today.

Saving one at a time.... That is all any of us can do. We can't save them all, but we can save THIS one... If you're feeling a bit disheartened, a little compassion-fatigued, read this and take the words to heart. We can save THIS one.

—Michael Roach, President, AMAL and Jackie Roach, Taysia Blue Rescue



Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

..... We Pull For Them

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PO Box 54, Concord, NC 28026

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.

AMAL at 2014 AMCA National Specialty

Sharon Nichols



AMAL was active in this year's Alaskan Malamute Club of America (AMCA) National Specialty Show. We hosted our annual AMAL booth. Thanks go to volunteers Shirley Hendricks; Patty Hasegawa and her husband Ed Zimmerly; Patty's sister Leslie Hasegawa; Tanja Gube; and affiliates Florence Robinson, Sharon Huston, Karen Jordon, Michael Roach, Tom and Tina Dunn, and Paul Ganci for setting up, manning the booth, packing up, and general help as needed during the show. Patty and Ed accepted packages in advance which really facilitated our efforts. Michael also made some impressive, colorful signs to welcome the showcase participants and draw people to the booth.

The AMAL Booth had some great stuff: Patty Hasegawa donated eight fur babies that she made of real malamute fur! Leslie made a beautiful quilt/blanket with a malamute's head. Nika Reininger, a POLARIS volunteer, etched different sized glasses with mal silhouettes and paw prints—we sold out of the wine glasses by the second day! Several AMCA members provided handmade and valuable items for us to sell.

The AMAL Rescue "Showcase of the Stars" occurred on Friday (see page 5). Participants were thrilled to be there. Several participants were 2011 Montana Seizure dogs. It was great to see the owners connecting with their dogs' sibling or parents. AMAL's last event was the AMCA auction. Leslie's quilt generated the largest item amount, but we also had nine other great entries that added to our ultimate total.

It was fun to take breaks and watch the show dogs as they were groomed and competed in the ring. Participants came from many countries outside the U.S. including New Zealand, Australia, Italy, England, France, Russia, Korea, Denmark, Mexico and Canada. Chairperson Marion Scire and Co-Chairperson Gloria Toussaint led the specialty show and selected a gorgeous location: Shelter Bay Island, opposite the striking San Diego skyline - boats and ships on either side of the land mass that housed the resort. We enjoyed perfect weather! Gloria's husband, Terry, was also very helpful in providing assistance to AMAL.

Next year's event will be held in Sturbridge, MA, November 8-14. Save the dates and look for details after December 1st this year.





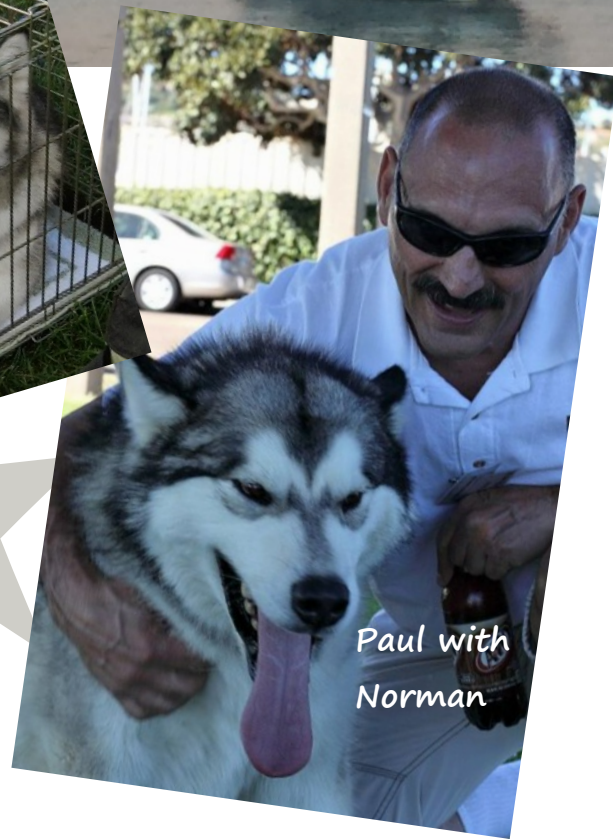
Thank you Leslie and Patty!



Agility



Alaskan Malamute Club of America
2014 National Specialty Show
Highlights



Paul with Norman

It's all about the dogs!
3

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 your membership dues at work!

AMAL Membership Application/Renewal

July 2014 - June 2015

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 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

Special Dedications

August 1, 2014 through October 31, 2014



In honor of Cinder, by Debra Castro

Just for all mals! By Kenneth & Toni Porter

In memory of Honey Bear, Sugar Bear & Sunsha Bear Ford - by Patricia and Thomas Ford

In honor of Buck, by Katherina Burger & Tim O'Brien
For my favorite animal, the Alaskan Malamute - by Glenn D. Parker

In honor of CHAAMP/AMROD for all their efforts with Bo, by Janice Hendrickson

In memory of Zeus, by Jeff Rauske

In honor of Summit, the "Malamonster" - by Michael Paul
(You can see Summit's picture on the cover of the AMCA November newsletter!)

Pondering the Newsletter

Printing, mailing materials, postage...it all adds up. Many of our members receive the newsletter electronically, but we still mail quite a few copies. If you are still receiving the newsletter by snail-mail, please consider changing to electronic distribution. Every penny saved is another penny that can go directly to Malamutes in need.

To switch to electronic distribution, please contact membership@AMAL.org





AMAL Rescue Showcase

A wonderful group of AMAL's dogs participated in this year's Rescue Showcase. Many were from the Montana Seizure. The owners have worked to make these dogs good breed ambassadors and family pets. We started with a light picnic rendezvous so participants could mingle with each other, re-visit their dogs' relatives (in some cases), and hear an update on the events schedule. We met in a greenway across from the resort and enjoyed the lovely neighboring San Diego scene across the bay. Tina Dunn arranged a light touch-up grooming for the dogs, and the owners had a little free time before the Rescue Showcase began.

- Tina also placed all the Showcase dogs, and created super-sized gift baskets for participants.
- Sharon Huston arranged and ordered the ribbons, armbands, medals; and designed amazing memory books that reflected the beach theme environment of the show for participating dogs and their handlers.
- AMAL President Michael Roach and AMCA President Steve Anderson distributed the honors in the show ring.

The dogs behaved very nicely, although we did have one who decided she had walked enough and sat down mid-ring! The crowd applauded appreciatively as each dog circled the ring and as the group exited for formal pictures taken by Michael Roach beside the beautiful bay setting.

The evening finished with a celebratory cocktail hour in the courtyard at the resort. This gave everyone a chance to sip some wine, discuss the day's events, and relax. The flickering luminaria lights and jazzy music served as a nice backdrop to the end of an active day! Note: Check the AMAL Facebook page for more photos!

Sharon Nichols
2014 AMAL Rescue Showcase Chairperson

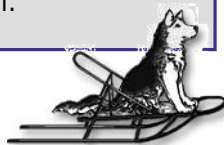


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*Went to San Diego, got the tee shirt,
going home now!*

Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

..... *We Pull For Them*

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