

AMAL TALES

October, 2012

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*Kimi, an Aluk Mal,
on vacation with
her foster family*

President's Message:

167 Malamutes—It Takes a Village

This issue of AMAL Tails is devoted to the 200 malamutes in Helena, Montana seized in the animal cruelty case against Mike Chilinski in October 2011. Since malamute rescue heard about the seizure—even before it hit the press—Moonsong Malamute Rescue and AMAL's board of directors have been involved. What started as a "did you hear this" email is now something that consumes enough of our lives to qualify as a second job for most of us.

After several email exchanges with the Lewis and Clark Humane Society executive director we were invited to their annual Spay-ghetti fundraising dinner. We also visited Malamute Village. We were able to see firsthand Helena's community involvement in their rescue, and Malamute Village staff's challenges in caring for 200 malamutes. We listened to their stories and began hands-on examination of the malamutes.

Once we started monthly visits, now called Mal-a-paloozas, we became intimately involved with the malamutes and started to see them emerge from their shells and flourish. Our enthusiasm for the dogs grew, so much so, we jumped right in when Malamute Village lost their lease and had to move. We helped find their new building and rallied to help the community move the malamutes during a long hot weekend.

After the move, Mike Chilinski released 33 malamutes to rescue. After Spay Montana had altered the dogs, we started moving them into foster and adopters' homes. While it was a lot of work, the camaraderie and love for these dogs really showed as we plotted where to place them. We are enjoying the fruits of our labors as adopters and foster homes report back with pictures and stories. They show dreams being realized.

We are going to need a lot more help to move the remaining 167 malamutes from Helena and place them if Chilinski is convicted in October. We don't know the outcome of the trial or the results of any appeals he may make. However we think it's prudent to lay the groundwork for their release. We might not be able to make specific plans right now, but we can get equipped and move quickly if the dogs are released.

We can't do this alone. If Mike Chilinski is convicted, we are counting on our affiliates to screen adopters and facilitate the adoption process. However, we will also need your help. Can you adopt or foster and help transport these malamutes to their new lives?

—Bob Sutherland, President, AMAL



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 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

Treasurer's Report

October 1, 2011 through August 31, 2012

Bank Account Balance - 10/1/2011 \$42,653.30

Income:

Deposits Received

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Memberships & Donations | \$15,158.13 | |
| MT Project Malamute | \$ 5,143.00 | |
| 2011 National Specialty | \$ 5,374.00 | |
| Matching Funds | \$ 1,103.43 | |
| Sales Items | \$ 35.00 | |
| Web Links | \$ 42.58 | |
| Total: | | + \$26,856.14 |
| | | + \$69,509.44 |

Checks Written:

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Advertising | \$ 903.60 | |
| Awards | \$ 66.00 | |
| Boarding | \$ 772.50 | |
| Crates/Supplies | \$ 1,241.28 | |
| Insurance | \$ 1,505.00 | |
| 2011 National Specialty | \$ 1,495.01 | |
| Pass Thru/Sponsor | \$ 8,272.88 | |
| Transportation | \$ 1,220.00 | |
| Veterinary | \$ 2,369.11 | |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 1,117.65 | |
| Total: | | - \$18,963.03 |

Bank Account Balance - 8/31/2012 \$50,546.41

This report shows AMAL's finances for October 2011 – August 2012. As a charitable organization, our finances are a matter of public record. If you have questions about any item, please contact me for details.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Nichols
treasurer@malamuterescue.org



Newsletter: New Paws on the Keyboard

Many thanks to Shel Simpson for her years of work on AMAL Tales. Shel took the newsletter to new levels, both in design and content. She used her many skills and resources to create a robust magazine-like publication that was bursting with stories. She works at somewhat of a disadvantage, being the sole AMAL member in Hawaii—we're referring to the time difference and distance as a disadvantage, certainly not the climate!

CHAAMP's Jeannette Wick has volunteered to take on the newsletter for at least the next year. She has considerable experience in newsletter work, having written a good part of and edited her community's newsletter for many years. She also crafted a newsletter for the National Cancer Institute's Pharmaceutical Management Branch for eight years. And she does much newsletter work in her "regular" job as a medical writer.

What can you expect to see in the next issues?

- We'll retain many of Shel's ideas and we aspire to her polished, glossy look.
- We plan to keep articles short—200 to 400 words—and keep the overall length to four to eight pages.
- We hope to run regular cooking, reading, health and activity columns. Can you write one?
- We are introducing topic-related advertising to help fund the publication.

Enjoy, and howl if you have questions or concerns.

AMAL Tales is The Alaskan Malamute Assistance League's Newsletter, published quarterly in the spring, summer, fall and winter. All rights reserved. Copyright 2012.

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Submit articles, stories and/or letters to the editor to:
Jeannette Wick
Email: jywickrph@aol.com
Phone: (703) 629-6259

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Don't Miss It: The National Specialty

The Alaskan Malamute Club of America (AMCA) National Specialty (NS) is coming soon! This year's show will be in Chattanooga, TN, from October 21 through October 27. (Learn more here: <http://alaskanmalamute-nationals.com/index.htm>.)

The NS includes conformation, sweepstakes, the working dog showcase, obedience and rally competitions, agility, weight pull and our favorite: the Rescue Showcase on Friday, October 26.

The Rescue Showcase highlights rescued Malamutes from the Southern region, including Florida, Virginia, Louisiana, North & South Carolina, and Texas. This event features adopted Mals and their owners walking the ring as we hear about each dog, how they came into rescue, obstacles they overcame, and their new lives. Each dog receives a show rosette and neck ribbon in recognition of their accomplishments. This is always a very heartwarming evening!

AMCA has once again offered AMAL a booth to sell items during the week. This can be AMAL's best fundraising event—but we need your help to make that happen! Please consider now what you and/or your Malamute club can donate for us to auction, sell, or raffle. All donations are tax-deductible! Malamute- or Alaska-related items are always very popular with the crowd.

You can send donations for the AMAL booth to:

Maria and Bruce Wells
147 Lucille St.
Sparta, TN 38583

Clearly mark the box AMAL NS

Thank you and we hope to see you there!



Special Dedications

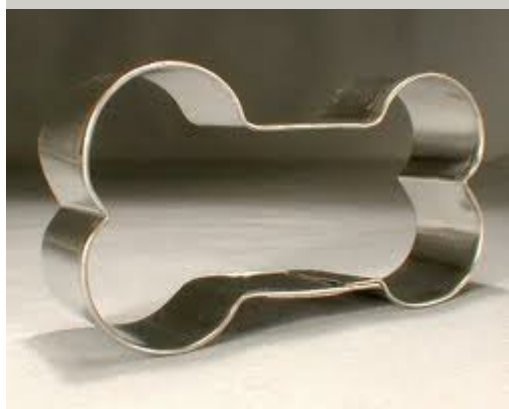
October 1, 2011 through August 31, 2012

In Memory of friend, Jane Wright - Maria & Rolfe Dinwoodie
In Memory of friend, Jane Wright - Jane & John Olstad
In Memory of friend, Jane Wright - Alice Schlicker
In Memory of friend, Jane Wright - Gunther & Dorothy Piepke
In Memory of friend, Jane Wright - Lois Daigler
In Memory of friend, Jane Wright - Elizabeth Maturski
In Memory of friend, Jane Wright - Frederick & Elaine Miller
In Memory of friend, Jane Wright - James & Karen Wolf
In Memory of Iris - Edward Hollidge
For Herbie & Cheggy – Maria & Rolfe Dinwoodie
In Memory of Jane Wright, Herbie & Cheggy – Terri Lee Murphy
In Memory of Joyce Fahlsing – Sandy Hochgesang
Memorial for Marina Giesecke – Marguerite Johnson-Blancquaert
In Memory of Angel – Sally Stephens
For Meeko – Shannon Mimms
For Senior Dogs – Gabriel & Debora Castro
In Memory of James Scott Dewitt “Scott” – the ACG Atlanta Team
In Memory of Summit of the High Desert –Michael Paul
In Honor of Lynne & Dan Anderson – Jim & Jan Gauntt
In Memory of Scott Cinnamon – Doug Neagli
In Memory of James Scott Dewitt “Scott” – Tyler Thompson



Lox and Schmear Dog Crackers

Lezlie Crosswhite



These treats will have your Mals howling!

- 1.5 cups whole wheat or white flour
- 8 oz cream cheese (or 4 oz cream cheese and 1/3 cup cottage cheese)
- 6 oz canned salmon (or tuna)

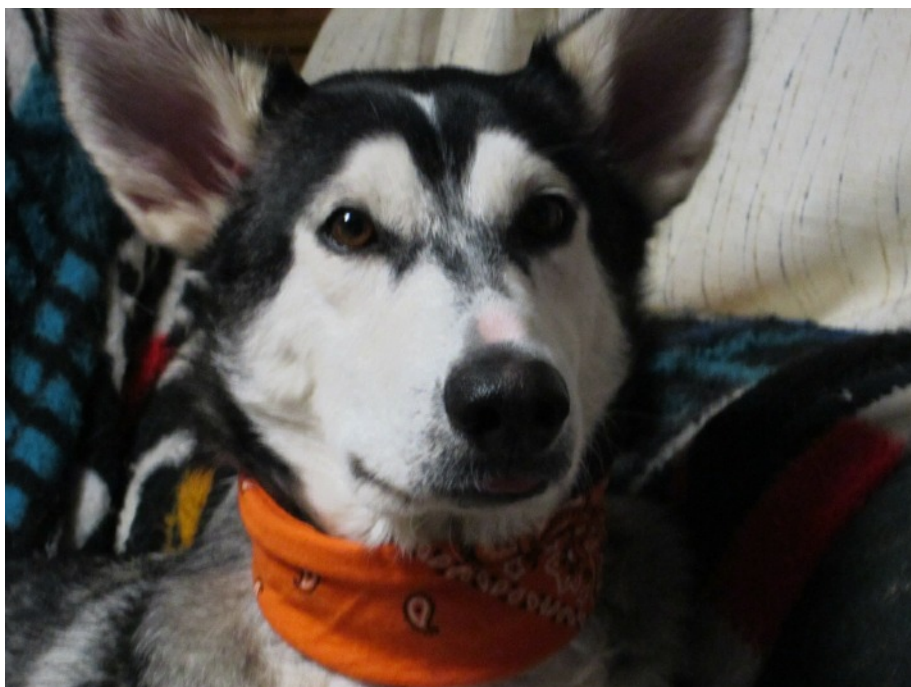
Preheat oven to 350°. Line a 9 x 13 pan with foil. Coat the foil with cooking spray.

Drain salmon or tuna, reserving the liquid. Puree salmon and cream cheese in food processor until smooth. Add the flour and process until incorporated, adding the salmon liquid as necessary to make a thick, sticky dough.

Coat your fingers and palms with cooking spray and pat the dough evenly into the pan. Use a pizza cutter to score the dough into the size pieces you want.

Bake 30-40 minutes until the crackers are firm to the touch. Let cool. Use the pizza cutter to cut the crackers along the scored lines. Break crackers apart, place on a cookie sheet. Bake at 250° until the crackers are completely crisp.

In the unlikely event of any leftovers, keep crackers frozen or refrigerated!



South to North Saga: Albert

In the cold winter of early 2011, AMAL's Lynne Anderson received a call from a Good Samaritan in Georgia, Jann Culpepper. Jann hadn't set out to rescue a malamute puppy—she was looking for a different dog. But she saw him and he was too pitiful to leave. Lynne notified Illinois Alaskan Malamute Rescue Association (IAMRA) and our hearts broke for this poor fellow, abused and sick since the tender age of six weeks. We agreed to take him.

After initial treatment in Georgia, IAMRA's transport coordinator Rox McCormick arranged Albert's transported to Illinois. IAMRA's Mandy and Joe Palermo gave him a foster home. Mandy has a soft spot for "itchy dogs," and Al certainly qualified—he suffered from mange, was covered in sores, and was nothing but skin and bones. The Palermos and their furries, HarleyDog and DieselDog, began Al's long physical and mental rehabilitation process. Day by day, week by week, month by month, "Albert," as Mandy called him, continued his journey of recovery, blossoming!

And then Dave Swanson, an IAMRA adopter and supporter, e-mailed. He and his family had seen Albert's unflattering pictures, read his story, and just knew that he was meant to be part of their family. Albert went from rags to riches! There was much celebrating the day Albert went home - and Albert was IAMRA's 700th placement.

Maybe someday he will grow into his ears!

The Best Revenge: Good Living

Albert is definitely our Oops baby; we surely did not plan on a third dog. We had Zack, a Border Collie. I used to raise and show Mals before I had kids, so we decided to find a shelter dog. That's when IAMRA came into our lives and we adopted Woo (aka) Ellie, a Mama Asha pup. So now we had Zack and Woo. Almost one year after we got Woo my daughter, Hannah, came to me with this story: IAMRA had rescued a pathetic pup called Al. We knew he was meant to join our family.

Al had been abused, tied to a tree, eaten by fire ants, and even shot with a bb gun (we found a bb under the skin in of his hind leg). Despite it all, he is one of the happiest, most loving dogs we've ever had. Now, Albert is always up to something, usually trying to take at least one of Woo's squeaky toys. Albert also likes to sing along with any YouTube video of Mal pups howling. He swims, but only with adult supervision. Woo has learned to use a pulling harness, and we think she will give little Al some rides in the sled this winter.

Thanks all the people that do so much with IAMRA for letting not one, but two sweethearts be a part of our family. God bless you all.

The Swanson Family: Dave, Judy, Hannah, and Sarah, and the crew Zack, Woo, and Albert



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 Montana Mals finds homes one by one!

AMAL Membership Application/Renewal

July 2012 - June 2013

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

\$20: 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 \$20 (at Individual/Family prices) and receive an updated Registry CD. I would ____ / would not ____ like an updated CD sent to me.

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



In Memory

Marina Giesecke
with Lee, her husband,
Maluka and Tonka

One year later, we still think of you with gratitude.
We miss you, Marina!

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

New! Advertisements

Effective with the next issue, AMAL Tales will accept advertising to offset the newsletter's cost. All advertising must be on topic-related to Malamutes or dogs in some way.

Advertising rates appear below.

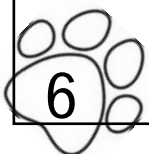
Business card size (1/8 page).....\$39.00/mo

Quarter page.....\$69.00/mo

Half page.....\$129.00/mo

Full page.....\$199.00/mo

The AMAL Board reserves the right to decline advertising that is in conflict with AMAL's mission or unrelated to dogs or rescue. Contact Jeannette Wick at jywickrph@aol.com for advertising information.



Living in Limbo

Our president's message on the cover directs your attention to a serious situation in Montana, with a probability that AMAL will need to place many Malamutes soon. Here's a summary of information available in the public record:

- October 2011: State official arrested Mike Chilinski of Aluk Alaskan Malamute Kennels, charging him with 90 counts of animal cruelty and other drug-related charges.
- Chilinski was released on \$100,000 bond. He refused to give up the dogs, indicating he wants to sell them. The Court placed the dogs under the care of the Lewis and Clark Humane Society, which housed them at an undisclosed indoor location near Helena at a cost of about \$11,000 a month.
- January 2012: The Court ordered the dogs to remain in the care of the Lewis and Clark Humane Society until trial. The judge had previously said Chilinski could assist in the placement of at least 70 of the malamutes. Prosecutors later alleged he was attempting to sell the animals.
- Due to legal maneuvers, the trial was delayed to October 2012.
- Chilinski originally asked the state to return the dogs to him but the Judge lacked confidence that the conditions at his facility would improve.
- June 2012: So-called "Malamute Village" lost their lease at the undisclosed location, and were relocated to the former State Nursery property west of Helena. This property was the site of a medical marijuana growing operation until a federal raid in March 2011.
- June 2012: Chilinski viewed the Malamutes and selected 33 that could be given up for adoptions. How he made the decision to release certain dogs and not others is unclear. See a video of the adoptable Mals here: <http://tinyurl.com/9gzkn3c>
- AMAL is the lead organization responsible for the adoption process as dogs are released.

Lewis and Clark Humane Society is telling potential adopters, "...those wishing to adopt should make sure they're 100 percent committed because the dogs have unique characteristics that set them apart from other breeds." :)



Folks from CO, UT, MT, WA, ID and AK have spent many weekends working in Montana. They report much progress among the shy dogs.

*The shelter needs cash donations:
<http://www.mtlchs.org/pages/donate.htm>
Please note the donation is for Project Malamute.*

Chilinski's motion hearing for the drug charges is October 10, with the trial scheduled for November 5.

Chilinski's trial on 92 felony counts of animal abuse is scheduled for Oct 15, 2012.





Photo of Misty, a Montana Malamute, courtesy of Moonsong Malamute Rescue

Misty found a home - but will others?

**We need you to step up for homeless Malamutes.
Please consider adopting or fostering.**

**Email: contact@malamuterescue.org
or your local Malamute Rescue group:
malamuterescue.org/rescue/listorg.html**