

AMAL TALES

NOVEMBER 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Happy Thanksgiving!

Here it is November already. It seems like 2018 was just introducing itself with a flurry of challenging weather across the country, and now we are just one month away from 2019 (and still experiencing climate-related challenges everywhere). In addition to wishing each and every one of you a Happy Thanksgiving, and acknowledging that hundreds of malamutes across the country give thanks for your volunteer activities, we have a little bit of good news to share with you.

First, Let's all congratulate Andrea Allen, our Vice President. She's the recipient of a tremendous honor from the Alaskan Malamute Club of America: its Distinguished Member Award. This award recognizes an individual who has gone above and beyond in service to the Alaskan malamute. That certainly describes Andrea to a T.

AMAL itself has awarded its annual Christenson Award to Cory Shaver, with additional recognition to Janet Mendel-Hartvig. It's an honor to recognize the good folk of the malamute world, and you can read about these two exceptional malamute lovers on page 3.

Finally, as we go into this holiday season, please remember that malamutes love table scraps – in fact malamutes like just about anything that's edible that they can reach – but not everything is good for every dog. In particular, please watch carefully when you have guests so that they don't inadvertently feed them something that's on the DO NOT EAT list. Let's call special attention to the artificial sweetener xylitol. In addition to being a sweetener, xylitol is also something called a humectant (it adds body to all kinds of products). It's in toothpaste, baked goods, some peanut butters (check the ingredient list!), sugar-free gum, and all kinds of items that smell and taste good. If your dog may have been exposed to xylitol and is vomiting or lacks coordination, go to the vet immediately. Xylitol changes insulin metabolism in dogs. It increases insulin levels and causes dogs to have low blood sugar within 30 to 60 minutes. Very small amounts can cause symptoms which in addition to low blood sugar and vomiting, can include weakness and general lethargy.

Tina Dunn

AMAL President



Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

..... *We Pull For Them*



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President

Tina Dunn

president@malamuterescue.org

Vice President

Andrea Allen

vicepresident@malamuterescue.org

Treasurer

Sharon Nichols

treasurer@malamuterescue.org

Directors-at-Large

Vicky Meluso & Miranda Murdoch

director@malamuterescue.org

OTHER OFFICERS

Membership

Shel Simpson

membership@malamuterescue.org

Secretary

Mike Ulman

secretary@malamuterescue.org

General Information

contact@malamuterescue.org

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 whose funding comes from donations and fundraising 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://alaskanmalamuteassistanceleague.org/about-amal/donate>



Special Donations

August 1st through October 31st 2018

In Memory of Snobuc's Kaya – loved by the Parkes Family, by Maria and Rolfe Dinwoodie

In Honor of "Summit Malamster," by Michael Paul

In Memory of Moxi – one of the dogs Rescued in South Dakota, by Karen Roertgen

In Memory of Milton, by Jeanne Elizabeth Kanfer

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.



CHRISTENSON AWARD RECIPIENTS

Mr. Cory Shaver is the first 2018 recipient of the Christenson Award. Cory has been a volunteer with GTS Siberian Husky Rescue for three years and has lived at its Rescue Ranch for a little over a year. He often cares for up to 40 Malamutes on his own. This demonstrates his commitment: At a moment's notice, he jumped out of bed and drove across several states to save 13 Malamutes in dire need. He drove them all (including a pregnant female with 10 puppies) back to the ranch in one night. He has assisted in several births and spent sleepless nights caring for more than 15 puppies from newborn to adoption age simultaneously. He plays with, trains, cleans, grooms, and loves them all and somehow still finds time to coach a baseball league and care for his own three dogs.

Mr. Shaver monitors and administers medications and vaccines, prepares meals, takes calls around the clock, and arrives on time for vet appointments, follow ups, and therapy sessions. He drives hours to assist malamutes about to be put down at shelters to assess the frightened and the confused, the sick and the abused, the "aggressive" and the "reactive." He schedules and attends 98% of all meet-and-greet adoptions at the ranch to secure proper matches that will end in happy, healthy, loving forever homes.

"No" is not in Cory's vocabulary. He has never once said "I can't " or "I don't know how." He takes on situations that most people could not imagine and handles them like he has been doing it his whole life. He remains calm, positive, and supportive through times of despair. He jumps in when most people can only look away from the pain and the suffering.



AMAL has awarded a second award this year, albeit posthumously. Many people in the malamute world have not heard of **Janet Mendel-Hartvig**, but some knew her well as a malamute lover and an agility enthusiast. And volunteers at Washington Alaskan Malamute Adoption League (WAMAL) got to know her as a generous benefactor and one of the good humans we all hope to be.

Janet, when she knew had little time left in this world, reached out to WAMAL with the offer of an incredible gift, a gift to be used to nurture rescue malamutes in our care—and for dogs that will find their way to our care in the future.

Because of Janet's gift, WAMAL has been able to purchase a small piece of rural property near Seattle to develop into a temporary home for malamutes waiting for adoption.

We want to publicly acknowledge Janet and her incredible generosity. Janet was someone who made it a point to make a difference, and did. She passed away in February, 2018.

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

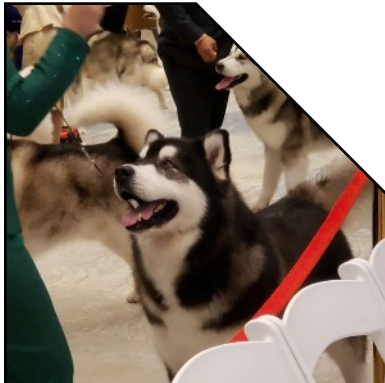
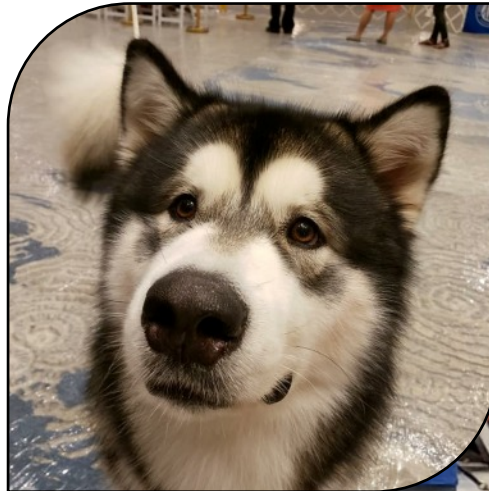
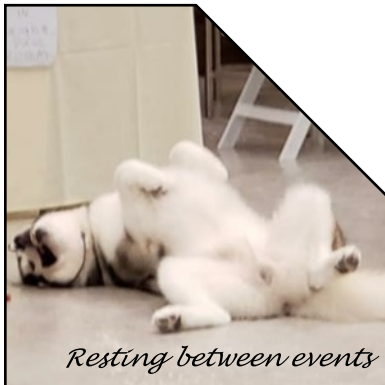
Jeannette Wick

Email: jywickrph@aol.com

Phone: (703) 629-6259

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2018 AMCA

National Specialty Dog Show

Sharon Nichols

The Alaskan Malamute Club of America (AMCA) held its National Specialty Show at the Doubletree Hilton at SeaWorld Resort in Orlando October 28 to November 3. The show's attendance was lower than prior years, but show participants certainly demonstrated enthusiasm! Show Chairperson Barb Salvadore did a great job overseeing the event and the activities occurred without issues. Best of Breed Winner was MBIS/MBISS TaolanQuest Flying Cloud and Best of Opposite Sex was BIS BISS Gch Kumata's Elevate Your Game. AMAL sends congratulations to them and the other winners! The international presence with dogs from Mexico, Spain, Canada, Italy, Russia, and Poland represented the breed nicely.

AMAL sponsored a wine tasting with our custom label wines to start the week on Sunday. The rest of the week we staffed show table sales, ran auction sales, and presented the Christenson Awards at the banquet. Best selling items this year were stickers, t-shirts, pewter buckles, mal calendars, Pedigree CDs, and books. Donations to AMAL were lower this year; let's hope the affiliates and AMCA members plan to send more quality items for 2019 sales! We really need high value auction items.

AMAL had no participants for the annual Rescue Showcase so Sharon Huston helped us develop posters of the past year's three major rescue seizures in Gillette, Wyoming; Concow, California; and Foxworth, Mississippi. We included a printed summary of the rescue activities for people to review. Many AMCA observers commented on how difficult it was to view the pictures and see the poor conditions from which the dogs originated. They were grateful that rescues could offer rehabilitation support and re-homing. Kudos go to Moonsong Rescue, Alaskan Malamute Rescue of Southern California, MUSH, TAMR, CHAAMP, and GTS for their tireless efforts responding to these cases.

Saturday night at the banquet, Andrea Allen awarded the AMAL Christenson Awards. This year was a little different; AMAL announced a posthumous award given to WAMAL in honor of Janet Mendel-Hartvig. Dr. Mendel-Hartvig left her home in trust for WAMAL, hoping it could be used to board rescue mals. The award recognizes her generous gift. AMAL presented a second Christenson Award to Cory Shaver, who lives at the GTS Northern Breed Rescue Ranch. Cory has been a one man show, working with up to 40 dogs at a time overseeing, caring for them, administering medications, transporting (at a moment's notice), rehabilitating, and ensuring that adoptions wind up in a good match. He embodies the spirit of the award.

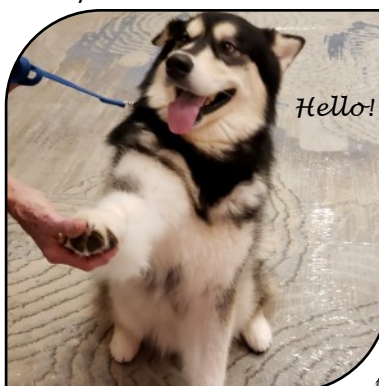
Next year's event in the Central Region is scheduled to be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Topeka, Kansas! The Regional will be held October 27 through the 29th and followed by the National from October 30 through November 2, 2019. We will provide more details as they become available.



*Mike Stone with GCHG
TaolanQuest Flying Cloud*



Italian owner/handler



BEEF STEW

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound of stew beef
- 1 sweet potato
- ½ cup carrots
- ½ cup green beans
- ½ flour
- ½ water plus 1 tablespoon oil

Serve cool

- Microwave the sweet potato in a microwave for 5 to 8 minutes until firm but tender. Set aside.
- Slice the stew pieces into chunks, about the size of a nickel.
- Cook the stew pieces in a tablespoon of vegetable oil over medium heat for 10-15 minutes or until well-done. Remove the beef chunks from the pan, reserving the drippings.
- Dice the sweet potato.
- Slowly whisk flour and water into the drippings.
- Add the meat and vegetables into the gravy and stir to coat. Cook until the carrots are tender – about 10 minutes.

AMAL Membership Application/Renewal

July 2018 - June 2019

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/ycyl39po> 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://www.malamuterescue.org/index.php/shop-2/cd-registry-pedigree/>

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!).

AMAL Membership

c/o Treasurer

P.O. Box 7161

Golden, CO 80403



AMAL PROFIT & LOSS SUMMARY

July 1, 2018 – September 30, 2018

INCOME

Donations in	
General	\$2656.65
Membership	\$300.00
Other	\$45.17
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 3,001.82

EXPENSES

Christenson Disbursement	\$300.00
Veterinary	\$1196.74
Insurance	\$648.00
Other Expenses	\$126.69
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2665.63
Quarterly Net Income	\$336.19
Checkbook balance (September 30, 2018)	\$79832.95

COVER BOY: CHILLY

Our handsome cover dog this month is Chilly, a two-year-old malamute who now lives in Montana. Chilly arrived at Moonsong Mals with deformed rear legs that prevented him from standing erect. The previous owners couldn't afford to help him. After a trip to the orthopedic surgeon, Moonsong learned his kneecaps were located in the wrong spot and after surgery and physical therapy, he is doing much better. He has been adopted.

Chilly is crazy and playful around the house, and takes two walks every day around an almost one mile loop into the countryside. He's working with a physical therapist and pushing to regain full function in those legs. It's a challenge, but the reward of a bully stick after a workout is incentive enough for him.

He loves sleeping on the bed with his new sister Navi (although he needs a bit of help to get up). And, he's able to climb onto the couch himself. He's been hiking and has already been in the snow a bit.

Chilly is a handsome, lucky boy.

AMERICAN WOLF: THE ALASKAN MALAMUTE VERSION OF ROOTS

Jeannette Wick

Recently, audible.com distributed an email describing 10 must-reads from the previous year. In the assortment of books, one popped out. Nate Blakeslee's *American Wolf: A True Story of Survival and Obsession in the West*, while not my usual gumshoe or police procedural with the mandatory dead body, appealed to my love of northern breeds. Promoted as an engaging read about Yellowstone's Lamar Valley wolf pack, I decided to skip the dead bodies and read something that might teach me something for a change. Blakeslee traces park ranger Rick McIntyre's long history observing wolves. Dubbed a "wolf interpreter," McIntyre began observing wolves at Yellowstone beginning in 1994.

The book describes the wolf pack's survival in an inhospitable country, and includes stories and observations about the many stakeholders in the reintroduction of wolves to this huge national park. The author is adept at balancing stories, opinion, research, tourism concerns, statistics, and politics. Park management reintroduced wolves in 1995, but the decision was not without controversy. Nearby town residents often opposed the reintroduction, especially if they had significant ranch land and livestock. It created a climate of "us against them" – those who were pro-wolf and those who were against. And of course, various parties took their arguments to the courts.

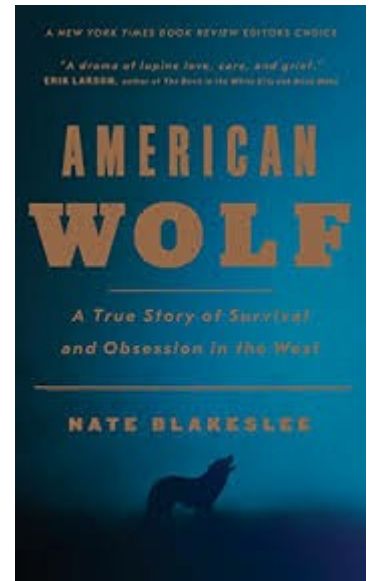
Reintroduction began with delivery of 15 Canadian wolves that were released in the Lamar Valley with hopes they would establish packs. Soon, researchers, citizen scientists, and professional wolf watchers lined Yellowstone's roadsides daily to watch for the pack's celebrities. Given numbers like "21" or "06" as names, these wolves raised pups, and established new packs while the nation looked on. Some of them became known nationally as nature writers and bloggers described their ups and downs.

The wolves, which recognize no human boundaries, began to spread outside the park's boundaries as their numbers increased. And as the number of wolves increased, so did pressure to allow hunting of these glorious canines. And yes, ultimately the book does contain a few dead bodies.

For me, the most interesting part were the book's descriptions of three things: the social hierarchy in each pack. The relationships between the packs, and the environmental impact of decimating the wolf packs. The social hierarchy is informative. Some of it is so remarkably like the behaviors I've seen in my own Alaskan malamutes that it's shocking. In one passage in particular, Blakeslee describes how a female, rather than squatting to urinate, lifts her leg against a tree to demonstrate her alpha status. We certainly have had a couple of female mals who have done just that.

The environmental impact of killing all wolves in the park earlier in the century – which included increased erosion, loss of many trees and bushes, and changes in bird populations – was startling.

The bottom line is that this book has it all. Mystery, intrigue, romance, Western drama, comedy, science, and even a little bit of fantasy and poetry. It's a good read and a spectacular listen on audio, a must-read for Alaskan malamute lovers.



AMAL GIFT COUPON

Consider making a donation as a holiday gift for a family member or friend! Complete this coupon with name and address of your malamute-loving friend or relative. AMAL will send a holiday card to the recipient notifying him or her that you've made a donation honoring him or her.

Donor's name as you'd like it to appear on the card: _____

Recipients' name and address: _____

Clip this coupon and mail it with your donation to AMAL, P.O. Box 7161, Golden, CO 80403 or donate vial PayPal on our website and send an e-mail to Sylvia at sylvia4wamal@gmail.com explaining that you've donated and giving the recipients name and address.



ALASKAN MALAMUTE RESCUES: COACHING FOR BONDING

Sylvia Bailey

Bonding with a new rescue malamute can be a slow and tedious process. Here are a few tips to share with adopters who are feeling frustrated

1 Don't expect the same dog. Chances are, adopters recently lost a family pet. It's important to remember that every dog has a unique personality, and combined with an often unknown background, adopters need to expect challenges. Try not to feel disappointed or angry when things don't go exactly as you hoped they would. Your new malamute will pick up on your emotions and frustrations, which in turn will cause anxiety on their part.

2 Routine, routine, routine. Your new rescue has had recent changes, sometimes many of them. His or her confidence in the situation may have become tainted. Where are his or her people, what happened to the home he or she knew? As soon as you bring your new dog home, have a routine. Have a specific time for walks, food, grooming, sleeping. Have a unique word to associate with each of these activities and use it every time. Be the leader, let them know they can relax while you take charge of the routine.

3 Sign up for Obedience Training. Don't skip this! Your new malamute may already know sit, stay, down etc, but obedience training is for YOU. Learn how to communicate with your dog, how to let him or her know what you expect. Learn how to work together with your dog. This is one on one bonding time you won't find elsewhere.

The love and trust of a Malamute is an incredible feeling. Work for it, earn your new dog's love. Have patience and compassion for as long as it takes this lucky dog to share its heart.



*Oreo bonding
with Bob
Sutherland*

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C/o Jeannette Y. Wick, Editor
306 Preston Road
Griswold, CT 06351