

AMAL TALES

November 2024

President's Message

Hello Fellow Malamute Lovers!

We are hot off the trail of the AMCA National Specialty in Willmington, OH. What an AMAZING week! The show committee really outdid themselves. Beautiful venue, wonderful trophies and of course, beautiful malamutes! The amount of work (for several years!) that goes into putting something like this together is not for the faint of heart, huge appreciation to Cindy and her show committee for an exceptional experience!

Sharing this message with you brings up such feelings of gratitude for the people that volunteer their time, money and resources supporting this beautiful breed. Sharon, for her prep work during the year for a successful event. Paul and Tanya's presence at the AMAL tables. I was tied up with the "showing" aspect more than I had been in recent years so very thankful for the AMAL booth tenders! My husband for trekking us and the booth safely across the country and back each year. The humans who bring their dogs to participate in our rescue showcase. Everyone who contributes to the boxing, unboxing, loading, unloading, personal time, funds, blood, sweat, tears that people give for the dogs in need, not just for this grand event, but all year.

My daughter is 9, the magic age to show in junior showmanship at the Nationals. She's been IMPATIENTLY awaiting this milestone since before she was born. This girl has put in the work with The Walkie Talkie building a relationship, practicing, grooming, embracing the feedback given from her dog family and putting it to good use. It paid off, she and the Walkie Talkie were awarded Best Reserve Junior in Show! While I'm so proud of this accomplishment, the comments that people made to me about her kindness, sportsmanship, and support of her competitors over the last year really takes the cake. In this current stressful and taxing rescue environment, I challenge everyone to remember that we are here because we all have the same goal and love this breed. Kindness, support and gratitude for our fellow malamute lovers should be easy.

My husband took this picture as she was given her placement. It captured perfectly her joy of having a beautiful experience with her dog. Isn't that why we do what we do?

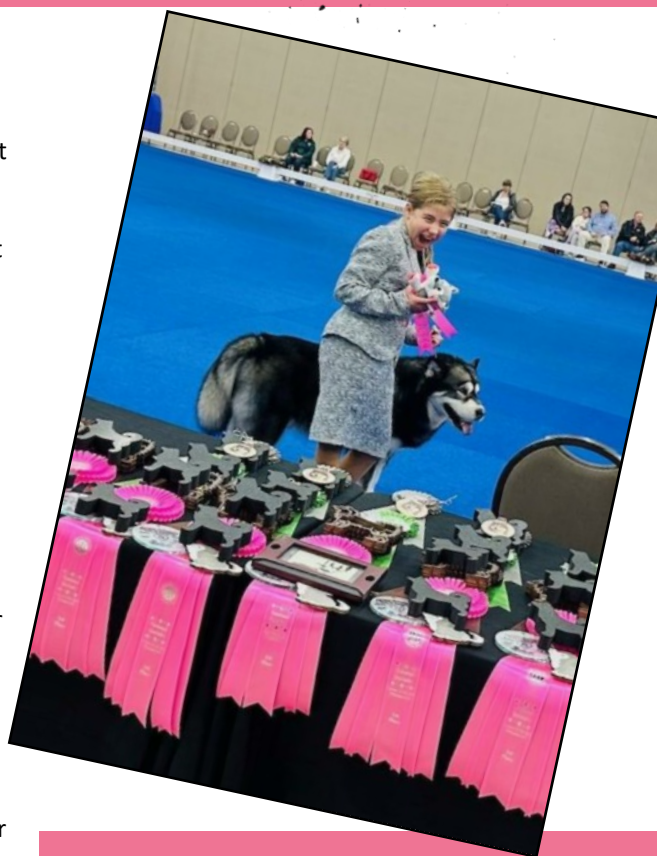
Andrea Stern

President, AMAL



Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

..... We Pull For Them



INSIDE

- **PLEASE PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES!**
Form, page 2
- **Neosporosis**, page 3
- **Words We Use**, page 4
- **Nationals**, pages 5 through 7

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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. 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 2024 - July 2025



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))**

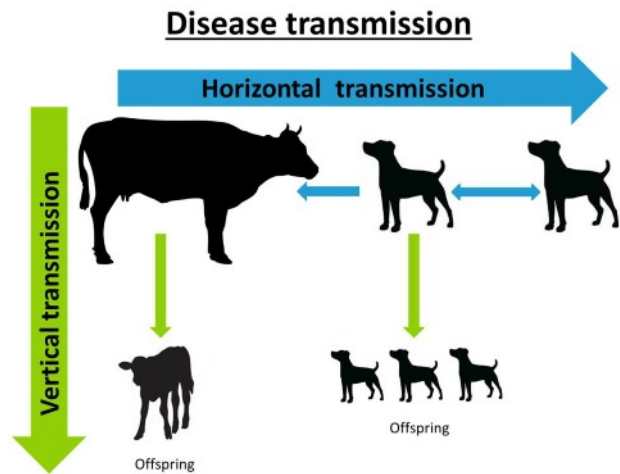
Please make check or money orders payable to the "Alaskan Malamute Assistance League" - no abbreviations, please. Also, please note, international money orders must state "US Dollars".

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

Understanding Neosporosis in Rescue Dogs: Symptoms, Treatment, and Prevention

Brianna Champagne

Ms. Champagne is a 2027 PharmD candidate at
the University of Connecticut



If you work with rescue dogs, you may occasionally encounter diarrhea as a symptom, which can sometimes be due to a lesser-known protozoan parasite called *Neospora caninum*. This parasite, primarily transmitted through raw beef or infected tissues, is one of the risks associated with raw feeding practices. It's important to know the signs, get a definitive diagnosis, and start treatment promptly to protect the dog's health.

While neosporosis primarily affects the nervous system, it can also lead to gastrointestinal issues such as diarrhea and flatulence. Other symptoms might include weakness, difficulty walking, and muscle atrophy. The first step if you suspect neosporosis is to get the dog to a vet for a stool sample. The stool test can confirm whether the parasite is present, allowing the vet to recommend appropriate treatment.

If the stool sample comes back positive for *N. caninum*, the good news is that it's treatable. The typical course involves 30 days of clindamycin, an antibiotic that is very effective against the parasite. Early treatment is critical to preventing more severe complications like neurological damage.

Tips and Tricks

- Educating adopters and fosters about the risks of raw diets is essential. Feeding raw beef or tissues can expose dogs to *N. caninum*, so sticking to cooked or commercially prepared diets is safer.
- If a dog has diarrhea, avoid letting it drink water immediately after eating. This can help ease their digestive symptoms.
- Fortunately, humans cannot contract *N. caninum* directly from dogs, so there's no need to worry about personal exposure from handling infected animals. However, practicing good hygiene, especially around dog feces, is always a wise precaution.

Neosporosis might be an uncommon and tricky diagnosis, but it can cause significant issues if left untreated. Being aware of the signs and knowing the importance of early veterinary intervention can make a big difference in a rescue dog's recovery and quality of life. If you suspect neosporosis, don't hesitate—get that stool sample to the vet and follow the treatment plan.

References

1. Companion Animal Parasite Council. Neosporosis guidelines for dogs. Available from: <https://capcvet.org>.
2. Dubey JP, Schares G. Diagnosis and management of neosporosis in dogs. Clin Microbiol Rev. 2007;20(2):323-367.
3. Merck Veterinary Manual. Neosporosis in dogs and its prevention. Available from: <https://www.merckvetmanual.com>.

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Words We Toss Around

We toss around many words in malamute rescue, and some of them can be confusing, especially to adopters whose contact with your rescue is brief and focused. They may not understand some of the words that volunteers use, and in the chaos of adoption, they may not ask. Or, consider the repeat adopter whose original malamutes were small, sturdy, bear-faced dogs with short, coarse, oily coats; she falls in love with a malamute she finds on your web site, but questions if this is really a malamute. Said dog is taller, a little bit willowy, and has long silky hair. Often, when faced with questions, rescue personnel use words like "Kotzebue" or "M'Loot."

Words are the currency of communication, and these two adjectives are rarely used outside of our community. Something many malamute lovers may not know is they reflect the American Kennel Club's recognition of the Alaskan malamute as a distinct breed, and revisions to the standard over decades. Much of the story, which is far too long to report here, highlights the politics of dog breeding and breed standards. It's a story rife with opinion, disagreement, and calculating behavior. (The story's twists and turns suggest that the movie *Dog Show* was not too far off the mark!) The bottom line is that helping adopters understand these words can explain why different malamutes look...Well...different!

The table below describes the differences between these strains, or lines of malamute. The American Kennel Club first recognized the Alaskan Malamute in 1935. At the time, only Kotzebues were considered for AKC recognition. Over the ensuing years, the malamute community hotly debated what constitutes a malamute, with some staunchly supporting the Kotzebue as the true breed, and others lobbying to recognize the M'Loot. Eventually, a malamute lover combined M'Loot and Kotzebues to create what became the Husky-Pak line. Today, most malamutes are descended from the early strains, and have characteristics of each to varying degrees. Very few pure Kotzebues or M'loots exist.

Another set of words that can confuse adopters: long coat and wooly coat. Long coats—sometimes as long as eight inches—are soft, straight, and lie flat; this coat resembles that of a Border Collie. Wooly coats are thick, dense, oily and may have a kinky or coarse texture. Although wooly coats usually have long guard hairs, the guard hair can be shorter and they always tend to retain loose fur. Owners need to brush or comb routinely, often contending with mats, to keep the coat well groomed

Kotzebues and M'Loots: Alaskan Malamute Ancestry		
Trait	Kotzebues	M'Loots
Body shape	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bear-like heads with blunter muzzles, wider chests	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Larger ears and longer noses, narrower chests• Rears sometimes lack the angulation of the Kotzebue
Coat and color	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nice coats, gray and white only (wolf gray)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Variety of colors, including red
Build	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compact/stocky body build with heavy bone• Sometimes short legged• Weight 60 to 80 pounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rangier body build with finer bone• Taller• Weight 70 to 90 pounds
Disposition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Congenial and get along with other malamutes quite well	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tendency to be a little aggressive
Name derivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Named after the Kotzebue Sound, which was named after Otto von Kotzebue, an explorer who searched for the Northwest Passage in the service of Russia in 1818	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Named after Paul Voelker's M'Loot kennels in Michigan

AMAL at the 2024 AMCA Regional & National Specialty Show



The AMCA 2024 Regional & National Specialty Show took place October 20 – October 26 at the Roberts Center, in Wilmington, Ohio. Cindy Benson was the Show Chair and she and her committee put on a great week-long event with regional, national and international participants. The weather was sunny and in the 70s; the events were great to attend, from the weight pull to the classes to the show events and all the evening activities ...It was so nice to visit with new and long-time friends—what a week was had by all!

AMAL participated in several show events: pre-sales of AMAL wines, week-long fundraising at the AMAL Table, the Rescue Showcase activities and signs displayed to honor our AMAL rescue affiliates, and sales at the AMCA Auction. *We thank all donors who contributed items and/or volunteer efforts towards table and auction sales, provided transportation services, shipment delivery collection, and materials preparation. Special thanks go out to Rob Pratt, Melissa Gage, Sharon Huston, Andrea and Jered Stern, Tanja Gube, Cindy Benson, Miranda Murdoch and the donating AMAL affiliates for their support in making this such a success.*

AMAL honored our rescue affiliates' adopters at the Rescue Showcase. Their dog stories were quite heartwarming and the dogs were wonderful to watch in the show ring. This year's Christenson

Award was presented there as well. Thanks go out to our attendees who watched the event.

The 2025 National Specialty Show will be held in the AMCA Southern Region (AL, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV), October 25 to November 1, 2025, in Kingsport, TN. AMCA Dru Ann Martin-Nutzell and Jay Van Zandt will co-chair the event.

We will need donations for this next event! Be sure and think about some breed treasures that you can part with for sales at the AMAL Table and/or at auction. Details will follow in 2025.

Hope to see you there...

Sharon Nichols

See pictures from Nationals on pages 6 and 7

BONE BROTH

Ingredients

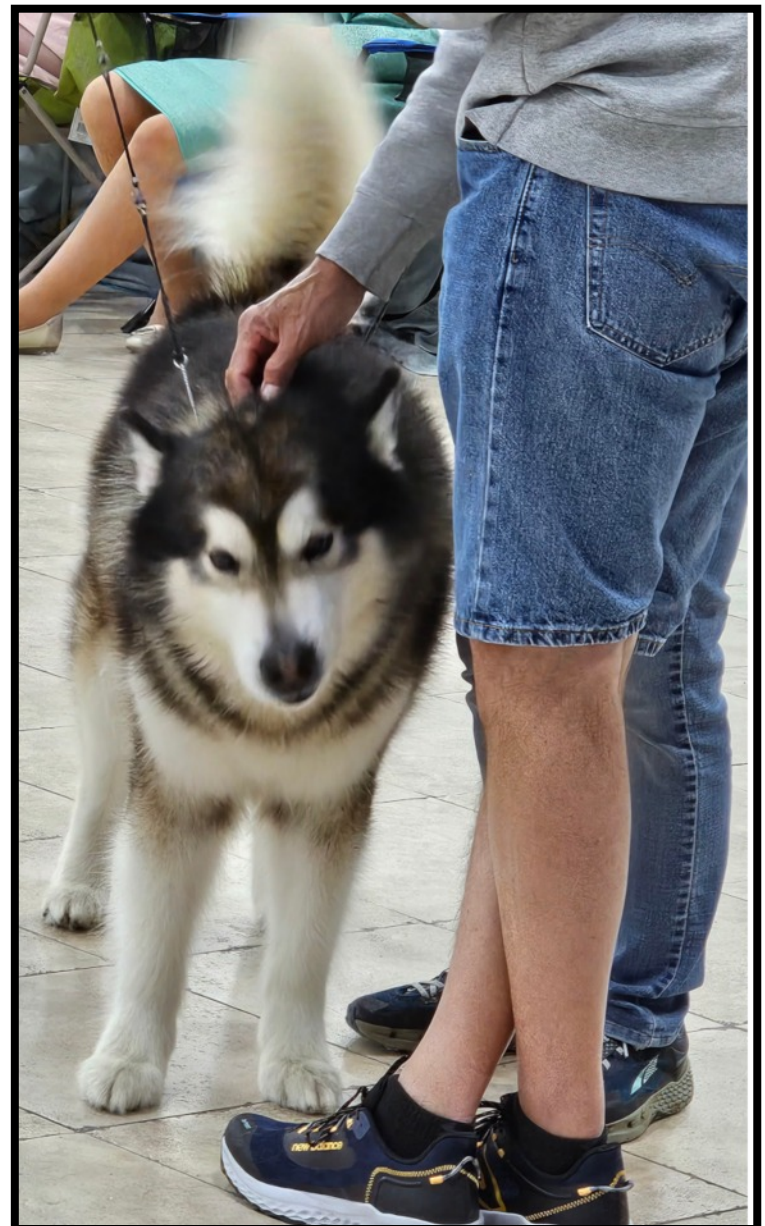
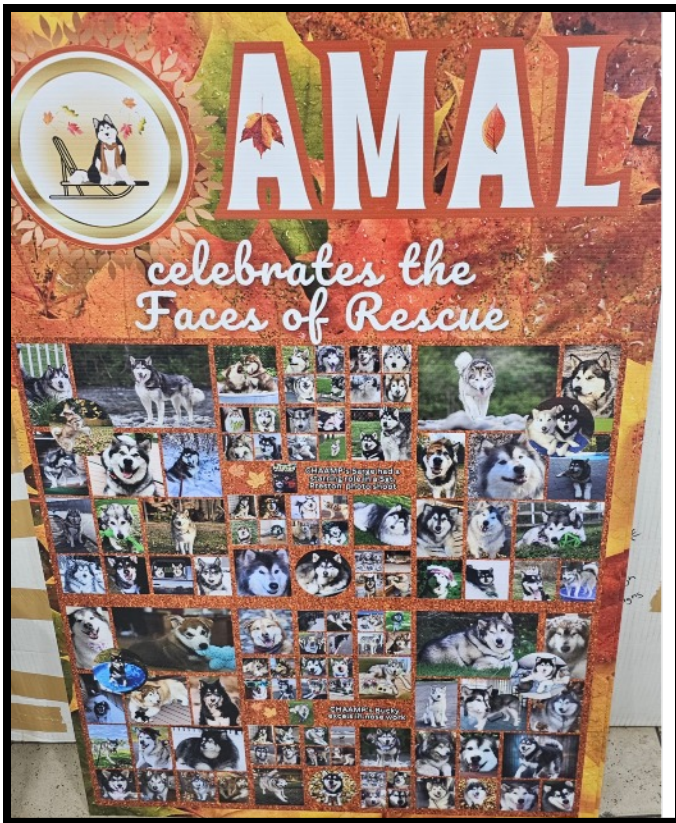
- Turkey carcass
- Water
- Apple cider vinegar

Optional

- Beef marrow bones
- Chicken feet
- Veggies and herbs (broccoli, kale, green beans, kelp, parsley)
- Garlic

Directions

- Put your turkey carcass and your bones in your pot. Add a little garlic.
- Fill the pot with water until the carcass and the bones are completely covered by 2-3 inches. Add 3-4 tablespoons of apple cider vinegar.
- If cooking on the stove, turn the heat to medium-high for an hour. In a slow cooker, cook on high for an hour. After an hour, turn the stove or slow cooker to low and let the bone broth cook for 24 hours.
- Strain the broth to remove all bone; a fine sieve or a sheet of muslin is a good tool for this job.
- Consider adding fresh broccoli, kale, green beans, or herbs and simmer until soft.
- Refrigerate (or freeze). Spoon 2-3 tablespoons over your dog's meals.







AMAL REMEMBRANCES

August 1 to October 31, 2024
In memory of Ali, by Linda Jansen McWilliams



In memory of Carol Bowen, by Teddy & Joe Bowen

AMAL PROFIT & LOSS SUMMARY	
July 1 through September 30, 2024	
INCOME	
Donations in	
General	\$1660.00
Membership	\$175.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1835.00
EXPENSES	
Affiliate Support (Vet and boarding)	\$7567.00
Insurance	\$2252.50
Newsletters	\$650.06
Special Award/Events	\$155.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$10624.56
Quarterly Net Gain/Loss	(\$8789.56)
Checkbook balance	\$130157.50
September 30, 2024)	

PLEASE PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES!

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

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