

AMAL TALES

September 2025

The AMCA 2025 Regional & National Specialty Show

The AMCA 2025 Regional & National Specialty Show is scheduled to take place **October 25 to November 1, 2025**, in the Southern Region (AL, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV), in **Kingsport, TN**. AMCA Co-Chairs are Dru Ann Martin-Nutzell and Jay Zandt. Rooms are going quickly! Make your hotel reservations a.s.a.p. Online:

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1729095349285&key=GRP&guestreslink2=true&app=resvlink>

We will provide more show scheduling details as we receive them.

AMAL usually participates in several of the show events. This year we will be fundraising at the AMAL table, displaying signs where we honor our AMAL rescue affiliates, and selling item at the AMCA Auction. We thank all donors who contribute items and/or volunteer efforts towards table and auction sales, provide transportation services, shipment delivery collection, and materials preparation. Special thanks goes to AMCA supporters and the donating AMAL affiliates for their support in making this such a success.

We need donations for selling this next event! Do you have breed treasures that you can part with for sales at the AMAL table and the auction. Drop off items at the AMAL table at the National, or feel free to ship them to me (no earlier than one week in advance) at the hotel address: Sharon Nichols, guest at AMCA Malamute Dog Show (from October 25th), 1901 Meadowview Pkwy, Kingsport, TN 37660.

Hope to see you there!

Sharon Nichols



Alaskan Malamute Assistance League

We Pull 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. 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 2025 - June 2026



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**

“o... I adopted a Alaskan Malamute.”

From <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/16vujJV5T/>

So... I adopted a Alaskan Malamute. And I'm starting to suspect I accidentally brought home the ghost of a Victorian theatre kid with abandonment issues and a gym obsession.

She follows me everywhere.

- Bathroom? There. Staring into my soul.
- Kitchen? Practically breathing down my neck like Gordon Ramsay.
- Taking out the trash? She watches from the doorway like I'm being shipped off to war and she's the heartbroken heroine whispering, "Come back to me..."

She doesn't sit. She poses — legs crossed, head tilted, like she's in a black-and-white Chanel ad.

Dramatic sighs if I ignore her for five seconds.

Once refused to eat dinner because her bowl wasn't "facing the right way."

And the zoomies? Lord have mercy.

One fleeting existential crisis and she's bolting through the house like she's being chased by the IRS.

She's:

- Licked every window in the house
- Learned how to open the fridge
- Once stole a banana, peeled it herself, and left the skin on my pillow like a warning from the Fruit Cartel

I've bought every so-called "indestructible" toy.

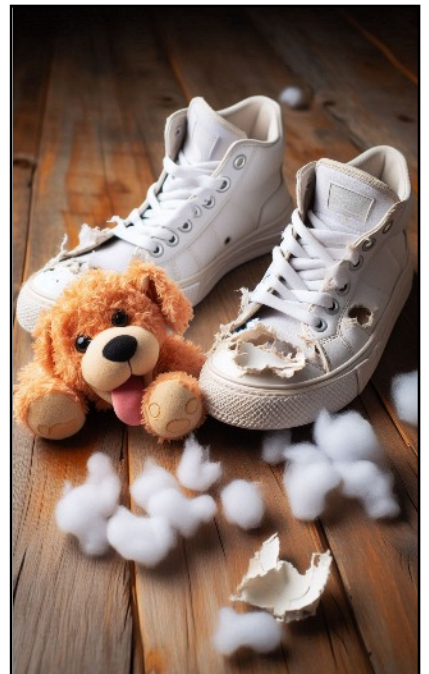
She unstuffed them all like she was digging for buried treasure.

Then — someone mentioned the magical, mythical no-stuffing octopus toy, She's been carrying it around like it's her emotional support squid ever since.

- Tosses it.
- Wrestles it.
- Sometimes just gently rests her chin on it like they've survived the trenches together.
- it's still intact.

Which is more than I can say for

- my shoes
- my remote
- and my remaining sanity.



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

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Pups in Pain: What to Do

Jeannette Wick

All of us have had a dog who experienced pain at one time or another. Pain in dogs is very similar to pain in humans. It comes and goes, and sometimes it's a minor pain. For example, when a pack of dogs runs around doing zoomies and jumping on each other, sometimes one of the dogs comes back with a limp. It may resolve overnight, or it may mean a trip to the veterinarian. Often, dog owners don't keep a medicine cabinet for their pups. Ideally, however, having a few over the counter medications for your pup would ensure that when that minor pain occurs, you have something to relieve the pain even if it's only temporarily.

Most humans keep acetaminophen, aspirin, or a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAID) like ibuprofen or naproxen in their medicine cabinets. In general, veterinarians recommend against using acetaminophen in dogs (and in case you're a cat lover, in cats it will often lead to rapid decline and death). And, NSAIDs that have been developed for humans cannot ever be used ever in dogs.

Owners can give aspirin to dogs provided that the dog does not have asthma, ulcers, kidney or liver problems, cancer, bleeding, or an allergy to aspirin. Dogs with these problems need a veterinarian consult for pain. In dogs who are healthier, using aspirin made for humans will often provide too large a dose. However, canine aspirin is available over the counter in different strengths at most pet stores and is labeled with the appropriate dosing.

A quick walk through the medication aisle at any pet store will show owners the various things that are available. As a pharmacist, I always advise against any product that's labeled "homeopathic" or "homeopathic blend." The science behind homeopathy is sketchy, and when you buy homeopathic products you are buying a bottle of water. To be clear, homeopathic products are not the same as herbal or natural supplements.

Some dogs respond well to CBD oil. In addition to providing a little bit of pain relief, it can often provide some relief from anxiety, too. Many states have made marijuana and CBD legal, but pet owners need to know that if you go to a marijuana dispensary, and if they have a pharmacist on duty, they will not be able to counsel you about the dose you need for your dog. Human pharmacists cannot provide counseling to animals unless they have specialized training in veterinary medicine. Owners usually start with a low dose of CBD and increase the dose gradually if the dog doesn't respond or isn't responding as much as they would like. The good news is that it's difficult to overdose on CBD, and your dog will not get high!

More Severe or Chronic Pain

When pain is more severe (like a bad injury or after surgery) or chronic, it's time for a veterinarian to be involved. The options for prescription medications are limited, but effective. Carprofen is often the first drug that a veterinarian will



prescribe. It's similar to the ibuprofen that we use in humans but causes fewer side effects in dogs. It's available as a generic, so it's not terribly expensive. Next, dogs can take meloxicam or deracoxib, also NSAIDs, and they are available as a generic. Grapiprant (Galliprant) is newer and only as the brand.

Next, veterinarians will step up the pain reliever to tramadol, which is a mild opioid. And in some cases, they prescribe opioids, usually if the dog is experiencing severe pain. Owners should store opioids in a safe place and dispose of unused medication carefully so it won't fall into the wrong hands!

Finally, a word about opioid overdose. Poison control centers across the United States report escalating numbers of cases of dogs who have overdosed on prescribed or illicit opioids. We know that dogs love to chew, and once they find a vial or a stash, it's a matter of minutes before they destroy the packaging and consume the contents. People in rescue need to be aware of this. We rarely know if people who adopt our malamutes use or abuse opioids. During home visits, it's critical to make sure that potential adopters store all medications securely. Healthcare providers routinely counsel patients who take opioids or use illicit drugs to keep naloxone in the house. It's currently over the counter, and it's critical to know that if a dog overdoses on an opioid, naloxone works in dogs too. If a dog consumes opioids and is lethargic, staring blankly, unresponsive, or breathing very slowly, it's time for naloxone. The dose in dogs is 4 mg/55 pounds administered in the nose. Malamute owners should have two 2-dose kits available. It's critical to know that the dog may respond initially, but may need another dose in a few minutes. In the interim, someone should call the nearest veterinary practice that's open and tell them that they are on the way with the dog. And then, go!



Margaret "Peg" Moore

Margaret "Peg" Moore passed away peacefully on June 23, 2025 in St Louis, MO at age 80.

Born and raised in Connecticut, Peg earned a degree in education from Danbury State College, married and raised two children while indulging in her lifelong passion for animals. She worked as a veterinary technician, volunteered annually at the Iditarod sled dog race in Alaska, and was a member of Gateway Sled Dog Club in St Louis. She volunteered and supported both malamute and husky rescues for the last three decades. She went to the AMCA National almost every year until her health declined. She also fostered and found homes for abandoned dogs.

She and husband David, who passed in 2021, enjoyed their shared interest in archaeology with trips to ancient sites in Greece, Turkey, and Egypt. She could also be found on weekends in the family season seats at Busch Stadium cheering on her Cardinals.

She is survived by two sons, Eric and Stephen, three grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests supporting her chosen charity for 2025 Jailbreak Husky Rescue. <https://www.jailbreakhuskyrescue.org/>

A FEW GIGGLES

Why was it so hard for the Malamute puppy to find clothes in his size?

Because he was a little Husky.

How many malamutes does it take to change a light bulb?
None. A malamute says, "Let the Border Collie do it. You can feed me while he's busy."

What do you get when you cross a malamute and a pointer?

A Moot Point, owned by...oh, well, it doesn't matter anyway.

PUMPKIN BACON DOG TREATS

Ingredients

- 2/3 c. canned pumpkin
- 2 large eggs
- 1/4 c. creamy peanut butter
- 1/2 c. packaged crumbled cooked bacon pieces
- 2 -1/3 c. whole wheat flour

- Preheat oven to 350°F.
- In a large bowl, beat the pumpkin, eggs, and peanut butter with an electric mixer on medium speed until smooth. Beat in bacon. Beat in flour. If needed, add another tablespoon or two of flour until dough is no longer sticky.
- On a lightly floured surface, roll dough to 1/4" thickness. Cut into shapes with cookie cutters. We used a variety of small and medium to large sized cutters.
- Place dough shapes 1" apart on ungreased cookie sheets. This dough barely spreads when baking. Bake for about 30 minutes, or until crisp and lightly golden. Transfer to wire racks to cool. Store in an airtight container for up to 1 month.



The Joys of Adopting an Older Dog

Mike Ulman

I adopted Toby from CHAAMP in 2019 just before his fourth birthday. I planned on having a pair of malamutes, but the foster female I tried with Toby did not work out, even after working with a trainer for six weeks. That was probably just as well because Toby went on to have two cancer surgeries and three ACL surgeries over the next two years.

After his full recovery from everything, he remained a high energy malamute who could have absorbed two or three times as much exercise as I was able to give him. Even when I walked beside him while he swam for half a mile, it didn't seem to put a dent in his energy.

CHAAMP let me know that a 9-year-old female malamute named Sasha was coming into rescue. She'd been an outside dog living with an Akita all her life. Since I'd had good experiences fostering older malamutes and fostering or adopting outside dogs, I agreed to try her with Toby. There's always a possibility that an older dog coming into rescue has medical issues the original owner didn't want to deal with, so I was prepared for a very short adoption.

Sasha did have kidney disease, but it was manageable with medication and never caused any problems. More importantly, she adapted to life at my house immediately. Because Toby had had bad experiences with the previous foster, I kept a barrier between him and Sasha for the first month indoors and out. The newcomer is crated inside for the first month anyway. The crate is in my bedroom-office where I spend most of the day, so the new dog is rarely alone. Toby's crate was next to Sasha's, and he chose to spend a good part of the day lying next to her in his crate. Initially, I took Sasha outside every few hours, but after a couple days she started asking to go out and I waited until she asked. That was the extent of her housebreaking.

There never was any tension between Toby and Sasha. Toby turned into a couch potato the day Sasha joined us, preferring to lie quietly near Sasha over walks and play time in the yard. Once they were loose together, they would spend several hours at a time in the yard, mostly lying together on a picnic table watching people and dogs walking to and from the beach.

Continued, next page





Sasha seemed to bond with both Toby and me immediately. When I watched television in bed, she would lie next to me for hours, pawing me gently if I stopped patting her. Toby joined us for a few minutes at a time but mostly stayed near us on the floor. Sasha spent a good part of the day on the bed, too. She was the first malamute I allowed to rest her head on the pillow. After nine years outside, I figured she'd deserved it. Besides, she stayed very clean spending her time inside or on the picnic table.

My vets liked both Toby and Sasha because they both enjoyed vet visits and calmly accepted being handled for examinations. It could be a little tricky to keep Sasha standing instead of dropping on the floor and rolling on her back for belly rubs. Toby is an excellent patient, but Sasha clearly was the vets' favorite.

Sasha was a few months short of 10 when I adopted her. Shortly after her 12th birthday, she began having trouble getting up the stairs to the bedroom-office. She'd always shown a little weakness in her back legs and ran much more slowly than Toby. However, the problem turned out to be non-regenerative anemia. A visit to a specialist and medication didn't help. She got weaker over the next few months. I was able to use a sling to help her on the stairs and, eventually, help her get up. One evening, she was unable to stay standing without assistance. The next morning, I took Sasha and Toby to the vet clinic. We got her settled in a room with Toby and me on the floor next her while she was euthanized, passing away peacefully.

I expected Toby to need a new companion almost immediately since he'd been so devoted to Sasha. I also expected his energy level to shoot up again. However, he remained happy as an only dog. I think Sasha taught him how to relax, and he had had more nervous energy than normal working dog energy.

Toby and I got two and a half great years with Sasha. She was one of the best dogs I've known, and it was a privilege to have her companionship, even if the time was limited.



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AMAL REMEMBRANCES

April 1, 2025 - June 30, 2025

- In honor of Chukcha Kennels, in memory of Moses the Malamute, by Graceann Manzie-Werner, Cosmopolis, WA
- In memory of Keeno, Bigby, Bailey & Taio by Holly Levinter, Canada
- In memory of Linda Jansen McWilliams, by Elaine Rubinstein, Pittsburgh, PA
- In honor of Miska Malamute, in memory of her friend Mirabel Greyhound, by Michael Paul, Fruita, CO

AMAL PROFIT & LOSS SUMMARY

April 1 through June 30, 2025

INCOME

Donations in	\$140.00
Grant	\$100.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$240.00

EXPENSES

Newsletter	\$156.46
2024 taxes	\$500.00
Annual P.O. box	\$188.00
National Specialty	1415.34
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$844.46

Quarterly Net Gain/Loss **(\$604.46)**

Checkbook balance *\$118882.69*
June 30, 2025)

CORRECTION: An astute reader pointed out that the 12/31/2024 balance was reported as \$130,492.60 in the February newsletter. It should have been \$116,271.78.

PLEASE PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES!

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

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